

FAUNA:

PALAWAN HORNBILL

ANTHRACOCEROS MARCHEI



INTRODUCTION

The Palawan hornbill (*Anthracoceros marchei*) is a large forest bird endemic to the Philippines. It is one of the 11 endemic hornbills in the country. It is only found in Palawan and nearby islands of Balabac, Busuanga, Calauit, Culion and Coron. It is locally known as 'talusi' in the language Cuyunon,



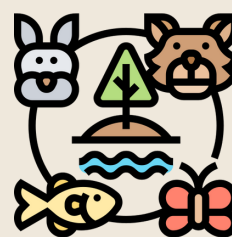
POPULATION RATE

It is officially classified as vulnerable with the population estimated at 2,500 to 9,999 mature individuals remaining with its numbers have reduced by at least 20% in the last 10 years



HABITAT

The Palawan hornbill inhabits primary and secondary Evergreen forests. Also found in mangroves, cultivated land and bushlands close to forests.



ECOLOGICAL ISSUES

Deforestation due to its habitat destruction through logging, conversion into agricultural land or urban development and mining.



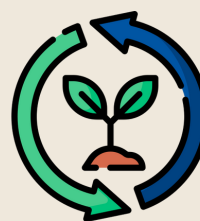
THREATS

It has been described as being very wild and wary. This suggests that in the past, the hornbill has been hunted regularly on Palawan, and has developed a cautious nature as a result. Hunting is likely to pose a continued threat today, along with the collection of eggs and chicks for food and the pet trade, and the destruction of its forest habitat



CONSERVATION STATUS

Conservation actions proposed include surveys in remaining lowland forests throughout its range. Seek greater control of the cage-bird trade and assess its impacts. Carry out awareness campaigns regarding the protected status of the species.



CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Katala Foundation implements nest monitoring schemes for Palawan Hornbill and other cavity nesting birds in the Dumarán, Iwahig and Pandanan/Bugsuk project sites. This includes research on basic biology of the species, particularly on breeding and foraging. Nest boxes for hornbills are currently designed and field-tested. Patrols in hornbill habitat are conducted to prevent or persecute illegal activities, especially logging and wildlife poaching.



FLORA:

PHILIPPINE TEAK

TECTONA PHILIPPINENSIS



INTRODUCTION

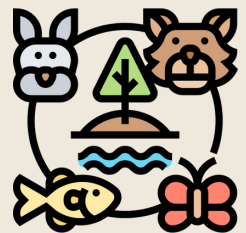
Philippine Teak (*Tectona philippinensis*) is an endemic species of the Philippines. This species is very important as it is one of the only three species that belongs to the genus *Tectona* which includes the commercial teak (*Tectona grandis*) and the molave (*Vitex parviflora*).

POPULATION RATE

It reported 2,963 individuals in Lobo, 946 in Batangas City, 98 in Taysan and 464 in San Juan. Malabrigo et al. (2016) estimated that Philippine Teak has 7,300 mature individuals in all its localities including in Nasugbu, Cavite and Ilin Island. The majority of the individuals in Batangas are pole-sized with diameter at breast height (DBH) of 11–30 cm. Only few seedlings and saplings were recorded (about 100) in a 0.18 ha sampling plots in Lobo (Caringal et al. 2015).

HABITAT

The species can be found in coastal to lowland limestone forest, and littoral cliffs. It is usually found in thickets and secondary forests at low altitudes.



ECOLOGICAL ISSUES

Threats of anomalous weather patterns like intense drought and human disturbances were also recorded. Leaf skeletonizers, shotholes, buttrot, heartrot, rootrot, illegal harvesting, charcoal making, wind damages, and intense dry season are among the most alarming threats of *T. philippinensis*.



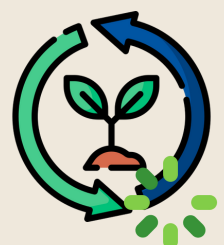
THREATS

Philippine Teak is critically endangered due to its continuing decline in area of occupancy and extent of habitat because of agricultural and urban expansion as well as direct exploitation of the species



CONSERVATION STATUS

Philippine Teak was included in the DAO 2017–11 or the Updated National List of Threatened Species in the Philippines as Endangered (DENR-BMB 2017). Through this administrative order pursuant to Republic Act no. 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, illegal and excessive tampering of the species from its natural habitats, together with other species specified therein, are inhibited. Its unauthorized utilization, trade, and disturbances made in its natural habitats are punishable by the law.



CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The IUCN recommended the implementation of a conservation program that would re-establish the stable natural population of *T. philippinensis* in its known habitat. It also suggested that a rapid assessment of the species and long-term ecological research shall be conducted, to determine the physical and biological characteristics of the habitat, coupled with a recovery and management program, public education, community consultation and resource stewardship and policy initiatives.



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Palawan Hornbill

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