

DISTRIBUTION AND PRESENT STATUS OF NON-HUMAN PRIMATES IN CENTRAL VIETNAM

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Central Vietnam (Quang Tri, Thua-Thien Hue, Danang and Quang Nam Provinces; 15.2–16.7-deg.N and 106.5–108.3-deg.E) with tropical monsoon climate presents diversity of habitats, mountainous (Truongson Range) to coastal forests with disturbed forests; harbors supposedly 11 species of non-human primates. We determined their distributions by interview and pet observation. Small and big lorises, stump-tailed (*Macaca arctoides*), rhesus (*M. mulatta*) and pig-tailed macaques (*M. leonina*) were widely distributed. Although population is limited, long-tailed macaques (*M. fascicularis*) were found to range to the highest latitude in the Phong Dien Reserve. Isolated population of assamese macaques (*M. assamensis*) were found 15.4-deg.N or higher, and their population has extensively decreased. Red-Shanked Douc Langurs were found in all areas, though their local population is limited, e.g., 5 to 7 individuals per troop in Bach Ma National Park. Phayre's or Silvered langurs were only recorded in Nam Giang District, Quang Nam Province. White-cheeked crested gibbons were found in all areas of closed forests, though limited population. By the economical development and the increase of human population, non-human primates have extensively lost their habitats and been hunted (especially Assamese macaques and Douc langurs). Therefore, the abundance and diversity survey, and effective conservation measures of primates in Central Vietnam are urgently needed.

Keywords: non-human primates, Central Vietnam, habitat loss, distribution