



**Thailand's National Report on
State of Conservation
Dong Phrayayen – Khao Yai Forest Complex
(Thailand) (N590)
February 2022**



Submitted to World Heritage Centre, UNESCO

Executive Summary

The report on the State of Conservation of Dong Phrayayen – Khao Yai Forest Complex (DPKYFC) has been drafted and is being submitted to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with the World Heritage Committee’s Decisions adopted at the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee held in Fuzhou, the People’s Republic of China, in 2021. This report is divided into three main topics: solutions against illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood; the prevention of encroachment in the World Heritage Site; and impact assessment and mitigation measures with regard to the development of mega projects.

Part One of the report showcases Thailand’s efforts to promote international cooperation on the prevention of illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood and other natural resources. From 2014 to 2019, Thailand had hosted a number of international dialogues and training activities, as well as participated in various meetings organized by other countries. Thailand also participated in 10 events at bilateral and multilateral levels organized by neighboring countries and others countries in the region. However, some of these activities were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Thailand remains committed to promoting and strengthening international cooperation on the prevention of illegal logging and trade of the Siamese Rosewood. The report on the implementation of the Action Plan on Prevention and Suppression of Illegal Logging of Siamese Rosewood in Dong Phrayayen – Khao Yai Forest Complex (DPKYFC) between 2014 – 2019 and 2020 – 2021 illustrates the continuation of intensive actions taken under the official three-year Action Plan on the protection of protected areas and forest fire control (2020-2022). The Plan focuses on proactive measures including: (1) SMART Patrol with an increase in patrol coverage and frequency; (2) use of technologies for the prevention and suppression of illegal activities in the area; and (3) skills and capacity building of field staff in the DPKYFC World Heritage Site. Following implementation of the Action Plan, the recorded number of Siamese Rosewood cases, the number of offenders, and the volume of confiscated timber showed significant declines. The patrol data generated by the SMART Patrol activities as well as the number of Siamese Rosewood cases can be readily checked and verified. Thus, Key Performance Indicators (KPI) have been designated with the quantitative measurement indicating that 38 protected areas containing the Siamese Rosewood and other precious wood species will be protected, and the qualitative measurement indicating that unlawful actions related to illegal logging of Siamese Rosewood will decrease by 5 percent compared to the average number of unlawful actions in the past three years.

Regarding encroachment in the World Heritage Site of the DPKYFC, there has been no further land encroachment for resort development since December 2014. After the proclamation of the Wild Animal Conservation and Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019), Thailand has put utmost efforts in resolving the issue by implementing Cabinet Resolutions or government policies through committee, sub-committee, and working group mechanisms. Approaches or measures developed according to Section 64 and Section 65 of the National Parks Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) and Section 57 and Section 121 of the Wild Animal Conservation and Protection Act, B.E. 2562 (2019) provide concrete solutions that are proportionate and strike a balance between land use by the communities in accordance with the government policy and forest resources and biodiversity conservation. The measures further promote sustainable solutions to the issue of land encroachment in the DPKYFC, ensuring the protection of the World Heritage Site and avoiding long-term impacts on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

With regard to the prevention and mitigation of impacts caused by the development of mega projects in the DPKYFC, namely the Highway 304 expansion and Huay Samong Dam construction projects, Thailand remains determined to mitigate and monitor possible negative impacts that may affect the OUV of the DPKYFC. Regarding the Highway 304 expansion project, mitigation plans and activities are being continuously implemented, including fire observation towers, wildlife viewing towers, artificial salt licks, and wildlife fences. For the Huay Samong Dam construction project, plans and activities to be implemented include a prevention and reforestation plan in areas around the reservoir, an encroachment prevention plan in the areas around the reservoir, forest restoration in the World Heritage Site (Thap Lan and Pang Sida National Parks), and a plan to establish new ranger stations in Thap Lan and Pang Sida National Parks. Thailand is also conducting a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the watershed area and the DPKYFC World Heritage Site in accordance with the Decision adopted at the 44th session of the World Heritage Committee.

Part Two of the report presents the results of the survey of the tiger population and a distribution of tiger prey in the DPKYFC World Heritage Site, a project on Siamese Rosewood planting in Dong Yai National Reserved Forest, ten (10) research projects under the Biological Diversity Research Programme in the DPKYFC (2020 – 2021), and proposed research projects in 2022 – 2025