

## Veal Srongae

Criteria A1, A3 &amp; A4i

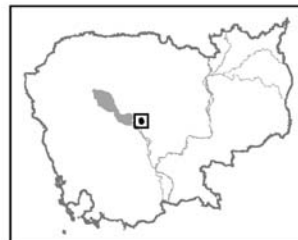
Province(s): Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Thom

District(s): Kampong Leng and Kampong Svay

Area (ha): 5,873

Altitude (m asl): 4 to 16

Central coordinates: 12°36'N 104°39'E



### General description

The IBA is an area of seasonally inundated grassland, dominated by Wild Rice *Oryza rufipogon*, located within the inundation zone of Tonle Sap Lake, along the border between Kampong Thom and Kampong Chhnang Provinces. The seasonally inundated grassland is surrounded by dense tall scrub and swamp forest and there are numerous seasonal pools and lakes. The southern part of the IBA is situated within Tonle Sap Multiple Use Area, designated under the 1993 Royal Decree on Protected Areas, and Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve. During the dry season, the IBA supports a breeding population of Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis*. Also during the dry season, the IBA is visited by a number of non-breeding large waterbirds, including Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala*, Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*, Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus* and Greater Adjutant *L. dubius*. In addition, White-shouldered Ibis *Pseudibis davisoni* has been recorded at the IBA, although the precise status of this species is unclear.

### Key bird species

Common name	Scientific name	IBA criteria
Bengal Florican	<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>	A1
Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	A1
Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	A1
Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>	A4i
Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	A1
White-shouldered Ibis	<i>Pseudibis davisoni</i>	A1
Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>	A1
Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	A1
Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	A4i
Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	A1, A4i
Greater Adjutant	<i>L. dubius</i>	A1
Manchurian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus tangorum</i>	A1
Asian Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus hypoxanthus</i>	A1

### Biome restricted species

One species is restricted to the Indo-Gangetic Plains (see Appendix 4).

### Globally threatened primate species

Long-tailed Macaque *Macaca fascicularis* and Silvered Langur *Semnopithecus cristatus*.

### Threats to biodiversity

During the dry season, as the waters of the Tonle Sap recede, large numbers of people move into the IBA from a radius of well over 50 km to fish, collect firewood and graze cattle. These activities cause considerable disturbance to waterbirds and nesting Bengal Floricans. In addition, opportunistic hunting and collection of eggs and chicks represent additional threats.

### Recommendations

- Law enforcement and community awareness activities should be initiated based on the successful model at Stung Sen/Santuk/Baray IBA (KH021). These should focus on controlling the hunting and trade of key species, particularly Bengal Floricans and large waterbirds and the potential benefits to local communities.

- The status of White-shouldered Ibis at the IBA should be further investigated.

**References**

Goes, F. and Davidson, P. eds. (2002) Recent sightings. *Cambodia Bird News* 9: 47-59.

Seng Kim Hout, Pech Bunnat and Long Kheng (2002) *A rapid survey of seasonal wetlands in Stung Sen in Kampong Thom province*. Unpublished report to the Wildlife Conservation Society Cambodia Programme and the BirdLife International Vietnam Programme.

Seng Kim Hout, Kuy Tong, Pech Bunnat, Hor Pheach and Eames, J. C. (2002) *Rapid survey of seasonal wetlands in Kampong Thom province, Cambodia*. Unpublished report to the Department of Forestry and Wildlife, the Department of Nature Conservation and Protection, the Wildlife Conservation Society Cambodia Programme and the BirdLife International Vietnam Programme.