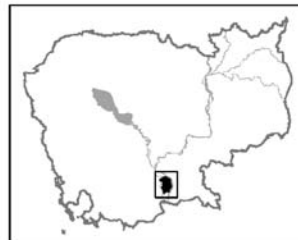


Bassac Marsh

Criteria A1 & A4i

Province(s):	Kandal
District(s):	Kean Svay, Saang, Leuk Dek and Koh Thom
Area (ha):	52,316
Altitude (m asl):	4 to 5
Central coordinates:	11°17'N 105°09'E



General description

The IBA comprises an extensive area of wetlands between the Mekong and Bassac Rivers. The vegetation of the IBA is dominated by seasonally inundated shrub and savanna swamp, which is surrounded by agricultural land. During the wet season, the IBA is inundated, and is characterised by large areas of deep, open water, with substantial areas of emergent, floating and submerged aquatic vegetation. The IBA supports large numbers of commoner waterbirds, as well as small numbers of Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*, Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis* and Asian Golden Weaver *Ploceus hypoxanthus*. In addition, the IBA regularly supports more than 1% of the Asian biogeographic population of Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*.

Key bird species

Common name	Scientific name	IBA criteria
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	A4i
Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	A1
Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	A1
Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>	A1
Asian Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus hypoxanthus</i>	A1

Threats to biodiversity

The inhabitants Prasat Tuyo fishing village depend on the natural resources of the IBA, and their activities are potentially a source of disturbance to waterbird populations. A more serious threat to biodiversity at the IBA is hunting of waterbirds, particularly the use of poison.

Recommendations

- Enforcement activities should be initiated as soon as possible, focusing on hunting of waterbirds and illegal fishing methods.

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