

DISTRIBUTION STATUS AND KEEPING AS PETS OF SLOW LORISES (*Nycticebus spp.*) AND MACAQUES (*Macaca spp.*) IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE

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Summary

The aim of present study was to investigate the information on the distribution, habitat conditions, and present status of slow lorises and macaques in order to recommend conservation measures of these species in Quang Tri province. The interviews, linetranssect surveys, and primate pets were used to collect data in regard to the research contents. The study results showed that 6 species of lorises and macaques were distributed in the province. Rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*) were mainly found in Dakrong Natural Reserve, whereas stump-tailed and northern pig-tailed macaques (*M. arctoides*, *M. leonina*) were widely recorded through the interview with the highest average frequency by persons questioned and occur in both natural reserves of Quang Tri province, in which the population of stump-tailed macaques was biggest. There have been no previous records of Assamese macaques (*M. assamensis*) in the study area. However, the information from the interviews suggested that this species may occur in the province, especially in the Northwestern areas of Bac Huong Hoa Natural Reserve. Northern slow and pygmy lorises (*Nycticebus bengalensis*, *N. pygmaeus*) were recorded to occur in the province through the interview surveys and primate pets. All 6 species of slow lorises and macaques were recorded to be rare species with the high conservation values, and their populations were reduced. Thirty five individuals of macaques and lorises were kept as pets by local people. Five main threats to species of slow lorises and macaques were identified, of which the hunting was the most serious threat.

Keywords: *Status, distribution, slow lorises, keeping as pets, macaques.*