The Invasive Alien Plant Species of Bataan National Park, Philippines

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The Bataan National Park (BNP) was established as a Protected Area (PA) in 1945. However, invasive species have been reported within the boundaries of the PA. One of the activities under the UNEP-GEF-funded FORIS Project – the National Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Survey aims to validate the presence of IAS in selected protected areas to aid in information and education campaigns, and in the management planning for PAs.

We surveyed the BNP to assess the IAS present inside the PA zone. Transect lines were established in different habitat. The species inside 10x10m, 5x5m and 1x1m quadrats were recorded.

**Plant IAS of BNP**

- **Ageratum conyzoides**
- **Bidens pilosa**
- **Acacia auriculiformis**
- **Chromolaena odorata**
- **Lantana camara**
- **Mimosa pudica**
- **Stachytarpheta jamaicensis**
- **Swietenia macrophylla**

Based on the Philippine Plant Conservation Committee (PPCC) White List of Plant IAS. Photos from www.cabi.org and Danilo Tandang.

We documented 69 families comprising of 187 species. Eight (8) are IAS, while seven (7) are threatened species.

**Graph: Distribution**

- Endemic
- Native
- Introduced

**IAS pathways:** residential built-ups; forest clearing; 1970’s road construction for a geothermal energy exploration; tourism and mountaineering; reforestation projects.

**Table 1: Transect Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>T1</th>
<th>T2</th>
<th>T3</th>
<th>T4</th>
<th>T5</th>
<th>T6</th>
<th>T7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>2135</td>
<td>3477</td>
<td>2954</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>2846</td>
<td>1137</td>
<td>2533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees sp.</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrubs sp.</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeds/ Grass sp.</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive Plant</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threatened</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Graphs T1-T7: % of endemic, native and introduced species per transect line**

**Recommendations:** Information dissemination among local and regional DENR on the identification and impacts of IAS; information campaigns for mountaineers; control and eradication of IAS in the BNP; implementation of the park’s zoning and land use.

Removing Barriers to Invasive Alien Species Management in Protection and Production Forests in Southeast Asia | FORIS Project – Philippines. Email: foris.phil@gmail.com

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