

HCV 6 Cultural Identity of Local Communities

This is defined as: "Forest area is critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity.

A forest is considered HCV 6 if it has been important for a local (particularly indigenous) community's cultural, ecological, or religious activities. The community may be living either in or adjacent to the forest. Examples of such sites within a forest include burial grounds or sacred areas, which cannot be replaced with alternative and/or would cause drastic cultural change within the community. Identification and management of this HCV must always involve participation of the communities themselves.

Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The mixed dipterocarp forest and limestone vegetation of VJR Batu Timbang are categorised as HCV 6 to depict the cultural value importance for nine teriti of Kg Kuamut.
Management Prescription	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Establish a long term biodiversity monitoring system for critical forest ecosystem (HCV 6).NGR management team are to constantly conduct meeting with the village representatives to mitigate any potential issues pertaining to the management of HCV 6.
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The designated HCV 6 should be jointly monitored and maintained by the NGR management team and the nine teriti of the edible bird's nest collection.

Findings

The edible nest collection at VJR Batu Timbang is carried out by nine teriti or heirs from Kg Kuamut and they have obtained the collection permits from Sabah Wildlife Department. The continuous survival of the swiftlet that produce edible nests is highly dependent of the quality of food that are found outside of the limestone caves. The abundance of food source, especially airbourne insects, namely flying ants that are found residing in the forested area within and surrounding the limestone karst system could significantly impacted the population of swiftlet (Lourie & Tompkins, 2000). Therefore, the protection and preservation of mixed dipterocarp forest and limestone vegetation is crucial in order to support the cultural value of some Kg Kuamut villagers.

Rationale for HCV boundary delineation

The mixed dipterocarp forest and limestone vegetation of VJR Batu Timbang are categorised as HCV 6 to depict the cultural value importance for nine teriti of Kg Kuamut.