The risk of adverse effects on fauna conservation due to agricultural interests

Minh-Hoang Nguyen Quan-Hoang Vuong *AISDL*



September 05, 2023

* * * * *

The essay title is also the overarching content of the article published in *Conservation Letters*, August 2023. One of the article's most notable findings is mentioned as follows:

"Specifically, threatened vertebrate fauna with habitat capable of supporting highvalue productive lands received less protection and experienced greater habitat loss" [1].

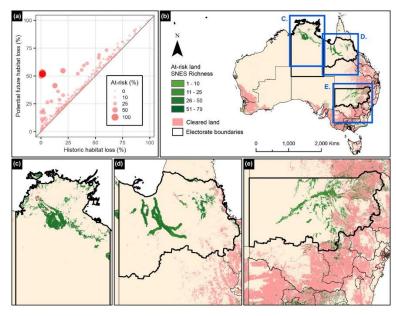


Illustration. https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/conl.12975

The article's authors assessed that land with high-value agricultural production capacity is a factor that predicts the possibility of habitat loss of vertebrate fauna and directly threatens their existence through land clearance. Agricultural production does not simply demand arable land but also requires business-supporting infrastructure, such as railway systems, irrigation systems, etc., to exploit the economic value of land. These impacts of agricultural production do not necessarily occur only in geographical areas adjacent to high-density population centers.

Although not mentioned directly, it can be seen that economic forces, specifically businesses with investments in agricultural production and supporting infrastructure related to agricultural land, have much higher financial potential and political support from development policies than local people with a desire for ecological conservation. The decline of conservation areas is, therefore, affected by financial problems [2] as well as the failure to ensure the semiconducting principle of environmental-economic value exchange, that is, the trade-off of the protected areas' ecological values is occurring to the extent that the increasing loss of natural habitats is associated with the capacity to generate monetary values from the land and climate [3].

References

- 1. Engert, J. E., Pressey, R. L., & Adams, V. M. (2023). Threatened fauna protections compromised by agricultural interests in Australia. *Conservation Letters*, e12975. https://conbio.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/conl.12975
- 2. Nguyen, M. H., & Jones, T. E. (2022). Building eco-surplus culture among urban residents as a novel strategy to improve finance for conservation in protected areas. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 9, 426. https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-022-01441-9
- 3. Vuong, Q. H. (2021). The semiconducting principle of monetary and environmental values exchange. *Economics and Business Letters*, 10(3), 284-290. https://reunido.uniovi.es/index.php/EBL/article/view/15872