

Mt. Kalbario-Patapat, Ilocos Norte



Address: Pagudpud and Adams, Ilocos Norte

Description: Established in April 2009, this 3,800-hectare national park is a protected area located on the Patapat mountains, within the municipalities of Pagudpud and Adams, Ilocos Norte. A notable man-made attraction found here is the Patapat Viaduct in Pagudpud, an elevated bridge that winds around the mountainside to facilitate vehicular travel minus the dangers of landslides. It also offers a great view of Pasaleng Bay. Home to springs, waterfalls, and closed canopy mountain forests, and streams that lead to Pasaleng Bay, Kalbario Patapat Natural Park is listed as IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) Category III (Natural Monument).

Status: Closed

Site Profile Summary

Protection Status	Proclamation 1275, s. 2009, under RA 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas (NIPAS) Act of 1992
Area	3,800 hectares (and 1,937 hectares buffer zone)
Bio-geographic features	<p>Situated in the municipalities of Pagudpud and Adams, Ilocos Norte, Kalbario Patapat Natural Park (KPNP) is listed as a National Monument or IUCN Category III by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). KPNP and the Buffer Zone consists of forested mountains and hills covered by primary and secondary growth vegetation, which gradually slope to the sea. Mountain springs and waterfalls are common in Adams, and estuaries, beaches and reefs in Pagudpud.</p>
Flora	<p>The dipterocarp forests are home to ferns, allies, underbrush and tree species. Among 39 recorded species of ferns, one, <i>Platyserium coronarium</i>, is listed as critically endangered, while two are vulnerable. <i>Amorphophallus adamsesis</i>, the 11th species of <i>Amorphophallus</i> in the Philippines, was also found in Adams.</p>

Fauna

KPNP is home to the Small Rufous Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus subrufus*), which is both endemic and endangered; and several endemic frogs: the Luzon endemic frog (*Sanguirana luzonensis*), and a near-threatened species, *Limnonectes macrocephalus*. The most threatened bird species in KPNP include the Flame-breasted Fruit Dove, the Spotted Imperial-pigeon, the Philippine Eagle-owl (*Bubo philippinensis*), Whiskered Pitta (*Pitta kochi*), and the Green-faced parrotfinch.

Livelihood Resources

Farming, fishing, livestock and poultry-raising, tourism

Biophysical Profile

KPNP is adjacent to Cagayan and Apayao, with hilly to mountainous terrain and steep slopes. The Patapat mountains are part of the northernmost tip of the Central Cordilleras. The faults and trenches bring forth springs and waterfalls, surrounded by closed canopy forests, and streams flow into Pasaleng Bay and the West Philippine Sea.

Barangays Balao, Pancian, Pasaleng, and Adams are susceptible to natural hazards such as flooding and landslides.

Sociocultural Situation

Adams is a fifth-class municipality, while Pagudpud is a fourth-class municipality. Pagudpud is gaining popularity as a tourist destination, and houses some energy and infrastructure projects.

Adams is located within the ancestral domain area currently applied for by the Isneg-Yapayao Tribal Association.

Economic Situation

- While agriculture practices are mostly for subsistence, the municipal government facilitates traffic of goods to and from the highlands. For the coastal barangays of Balaoi, Pancian and Pasaleng, fishing is an alternative source of livelihood.
- Since KPNP is a protected area, residents, especially the indigenous Yapayao of Adams, are limited to small scale forest-related activities.
- Secondary cottage industries include rice milling, broom making, weaving, and *bugnaywine* production. Some engage in fish processing (dried fish and *bagoong*), as well as butchering and meat processing.

Threats

- Slash-and-burn farming and other agricultural activities constantly encroach on forest and wildlife habitats. Illegal logging is stripping forests, and birds are hunted for trade. The lack of education on biodiversity conservation hinders strategic natural resource management. Immediate intervention is necessary to provide alternatives.

FPE-funded Projects and Initiatives

Date

Project

Proponent

