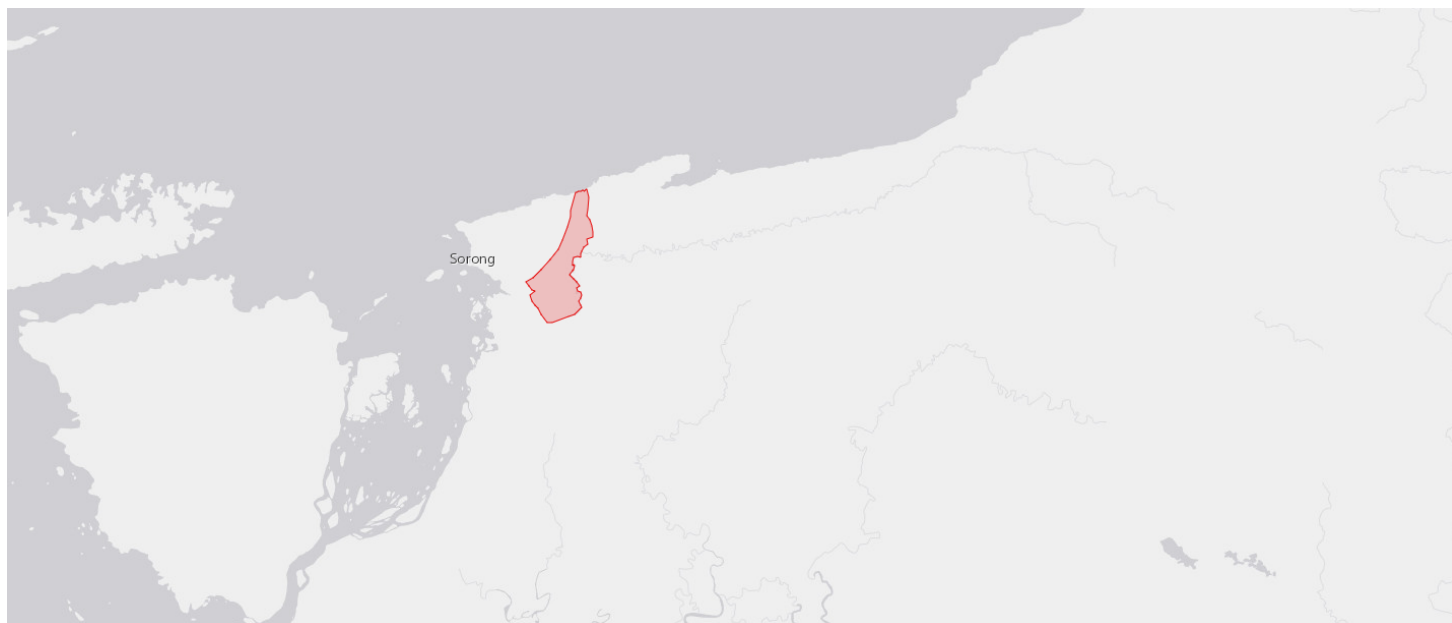


Sorong

NGUTIPA011



Country: **New Guinea**

Administrative region: **Papua (Province)**

Central co-ordinates: **-0.86311 N, 131.37627 E**

Area: **86.3km²**

area Taman Wisata Alam Sorong (Sorong Nature Tourism Park), close to the city of Sorong.

Qualifying IPA criteria

A(i)

IPA assessment rationale

At this site there are several species which are site endemics, including *Cyrtosperma prasinispathum*, *Benstonea eumekes*, *Dendrobium odoardi*, *Calamus interruptus* (DD), *Calamus maturbongsii* (VU), *Clymenia platypoda* (VU) and *Burckella magusum* (DD). There are other Bird's Head endemics with wider distributions present including *Syzygium sorongense*, *Hydriastele variabilis*, *Hibiscus pleijtei*, *Ixora doreensis*, *Tricospermum grewioides*, *Melicope exuta*, *Aristolochia manokwariensis* (EN). These lowland forests close to Sorong city are a valuable resource for forest products for local people, as well as for recreation and education.

Botanical significance

Endemic plants in this area include *Cyrtosperma prasinispathum*, *Benstonea eumekes*, *Syzygium sorongense* (VU), *Dendrobium odoardi*, *Hydriastele variabilis*, *Calamus interruptus* (DD), *Hibiscus pleijtei*, *Ixora doreensis*, *Tricospermum grewioides*, *Calamus maturbongsii* (VU), *Clymenia platypoda* (VU), *Burckella magusum* (DD), *Melicope exuta*, *Aristolochia manokwariensis* (EN). The vegetation in the Sorong forest is mostly merbau (*Intsia bijuga*), angšana (*Pterocarpus indica*), matoa (*Pometia pinnata*), and langsung (*Lansium domesticum*).

The local community uses timber in this area. The orchids *Neuwiedia veratrifolia* and *Apostasia wallichii* can be found in the Sorong forest. This includes a lowland forest ecosystem with a water catchment area. The most widely used species are *Agathis labillardieri* and *Auracaria* spp. resins.

Habitat and geology

This area comprises extensive lowland forests around the city of Sorong, on varying soil types. There are some coastal forests on the north coast, and riverine forests in the Warsamson river valley. Habitat types include low foothills with varying steepness of slope. These include hard and dense sedimentary rocks with a soil surface

Site description

The area comprises lowland forest to the east and north of Sorong city, extending to the north coast of the Bird's Head and including part of the Warsamson river valley. The TIPA includes the protected

of clay, sandstone, gravel, felsic to medium-plutonic limestone. The coastal plains do not have any flooding or inundation.

Conservation issues

Threats to the natural habitats in this area are utilization of forest land for residential development, utilization of timber and non-timber forest products, shifting cultivation activities, the creation of rice paddies for government food security programs and oil palm plantations, and infrastructure development that reduces the capacity of mining catchment areas, forest fires, and illegal hunting.

Site assessor(s)

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- Frans Karel Wambrauw, Fahutan UNIPA
- Laura Jennings, Royal Botanic Garden Kew
- Liam Trethowan, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
- Jimmy Wanma, State University of Papua

Date of first assessment:
13th Oct 2025

IPA criterion A species

SPECIES	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 1% OF GLOBAL POPULATION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL POPULATION	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	ENTIRE GLOBAL POPULATION	SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT	ABUNDANCE AT SITE
<i>Cyrtosperma prasinispathum</i> A.S.D.Irsyam & M.R.Hariri	A(iii)	✓	✓	—	✓	—	Unknown
<i>Benstonea eumekes</i> (H.St.John ex B.C.Stone) Callm. & Buerki	A(iii)	✓	✓	—	✓	—	Unknown
<i>Dendrobium odoardi</i> Kraenzl.	A(iii)	✓	✓	—	✓	—	Unknown
<i>Clymenia platypoda</i> B.C.Stone	A(i)	✓	✓	—	✓	—	Unknown
<i>Calamus maturbongsii</i> W.J.Baker & J.Dransf.	A(i)	✓	✓	—	✓	—	Unknown
<i>Calamus interruptus</i> Becc.	A(iii)	✓	✓	—	✓	—	Unknown

IPA criterion C qualifying habitats

HABITAT	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL RESOURCE	≥ 10% OF NATIONAL RESOURCE	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	AREAL COVERAGE AT SITE
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General site habitats

GENERAL SITE HABITAT	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland Forest	—	Major
Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers, Streams, Creeks [includes waterfalls]	—	Minor
Marine Intertidal - Rocky Shoreline	—	Minor

Land use types

LAND USE TYPE	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
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Threats

THREAT	SEVERITY	TIMING
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