

**Session IV – “The First Rule of Intelligent Tinkering Is To Save All the Parts”  
1:50 PM**

**Breeding Habits of Eastern Sarus Crane (*Grus antigone sharpii*) in Yok Don National Park**

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**Abstract**

Eastern Sarus Crane (*Grus antigone sharpii*) is one of three subspecies of globally threatened cranes, and is the tallest bird that flies. Population estimates for this subspecies is 1000 birds (Archibald et al. 2003) and is declining due to lost of feeding habitats and breeding habitats as well. The biology and breeding habitats of the Eastern Sarus has not been studied in detail. Recent records indicate the Eastern Sarus nested at small wetlands in dipterocarp forest (Barzen 2003).

Yok Don National Park (YDNP) is the only protected area in Vietnam with an ecology system of dry dipterocarp forest accounting for a large area of the park. Many small wetlands in the park were believed appropriate for nesting of the Eastern Sarus. Field surveys were conducted from 2004 to 2006. Total of 127 lakes were recorded and determined, including 19 permanent lakes and 108 temporary lakes, of which, evidence of nesting of Eastern Sarus were found at 2 lakes. Additional research in more detail was undertaken to describe the breeding habitats of the Eastern Sarus.