Biodiversity and biodiversity conservation in Yunnan

Yunnan has a vast territory with diverse and unique nature resources. There are more than 18,000 high plant species (51.6% of China's total) and 1,836 vertebrate species (54.8% of China's total) living in Yunnan on a land area of $39.4 \times 10^4 \text{ km}^2$, i.e. only 4.1% of China's total. Of its 15,000 seed plants, 151 are considered rare and endangered (42.6% of China's protected plants). Out of China's 335 priority protected wild animals, Yunnan has 243 species, accounting for 72.5% of China's total, 15% of which are species endemic to Yunnan. The province’s biodiversity is, however, threatened by the excessive exploitation of resources and changes in environmental conditions caused by the activities of an expanding human population.


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