



PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE ANURANS OF MT. PANTARON RANGE, BUKIDNON, CENTRAL MINDANAO, THE PHILIPPINES

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ABSTRACT – A field survey of anurans was conducted in the three barangays surrounding Mt. Pantaron Range in Bukidnon to determine the species richness, conservation status and microhabitat preferences. Field sampling was performed using a combination of belt transect, opportunistic and capture-mark release sampling techniques. Field investigations were done in the agro-ecosystem and montane forest with the elevation ranging from 1,100-1,550 masl. The study documented 18 anuran species belonging to seven families and 15 genera, and approximately 61 % (11 species) are Philippine endemics. Moreover, four (4) noteworthy Mindanao island endemic namely; *Ansonia muelleri*, *Leptobrachium lumadorum*, *Megophrys stejnegeri*, and *Pulchrana grandocula*. As to the conservation status, *Limnonectes magnus* was categorized as vulnerable. Majority of the anurans were observed near bodies of water such as ponds and streams while other species were collected in the ground microhabitat especially in the leaf litters and fallen and decaying logs. The result of the survey showed high species richness of anurans in Mt. Pantaron Range and more species are likely to be documented if the place is totally explored.

Keywords: Amphibians, Endemism, Mindanao Island, Pantaron Range



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