

**AVIAN DIVERSITY IN MT. TAPULAO, PALAUIG, ZAMBALES**

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## ABSTRACT

**MONDRAGON, DENNISE CYRENE D.**, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, **JUNE 2019, AVIAN DIVERSITY IN MT. TAPULAO, PALAUIG, ZAMBALES.**

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This study was done to survey the diversity of birds in Mt. Tapulao, Palauig, Zambales. Mist netting was done in order to observe the birds present. Moreover, ecological parameters and diversity indices were computed to determine the diversity of birds in Mt. Tapulao. Staff from CENRO and LGU were given a checklist of the sources and levels of impacts of environmental degradation in Mt. Tapulao to determine the problems or threats in Mt. Tapulao. A total of 11 species of birds belonging to 11 families were observed, seen, and heard in Mt. Tapulao, Palauig, Zambales. A species belonging to family Accipitridae (*Haliastur indus*), Bucerotidae (*Penelopides manillae*), Columbidae (*Macropygia tenuirostris*), Cuculidae (*Centropus bengalensis*), Estrildidae (*Lonchura malacca*), Hirundinidae (*Hirundo tahitica*), Passeridae (*Passer montanus*), Phasianidae (*Gallus gallus*), Pycnonotidae (*Hypsipetes philippinus*), Strigidae (*Bubo philippensis*), and Turidae (*Turdus merula*). Among the birds that were observed, *Macropygia tenuirostris* obtained the highest Importance Value Index of 75.71%. The computed Shannon Diversity Index was 2.22 which denotes a low diversity. The human activities that posed major impacts on the forest ecosystem of Mt. Tapulao are tourism, road construction, and wildlife hunting.

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