

THE SAOLA FOUNDATION FOR ANNAMITE MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION



Saola Pseudoryx nghetinhensis

Status: Critically Endangered

Saola, discovered in 1992, is one of the world's most endangered land mammals with fewer than 100 thought to remain in the wild. Saving Saola in the wild requires capturing individuals while there is still time and using them to establish a conservation breeding program (a key component of the IUCN One Plan).

The race to save Saola is one of the highest priority conservation challenges of our time, requiring an unprecedented level of global support and cooperation.

Saola conservation to-date

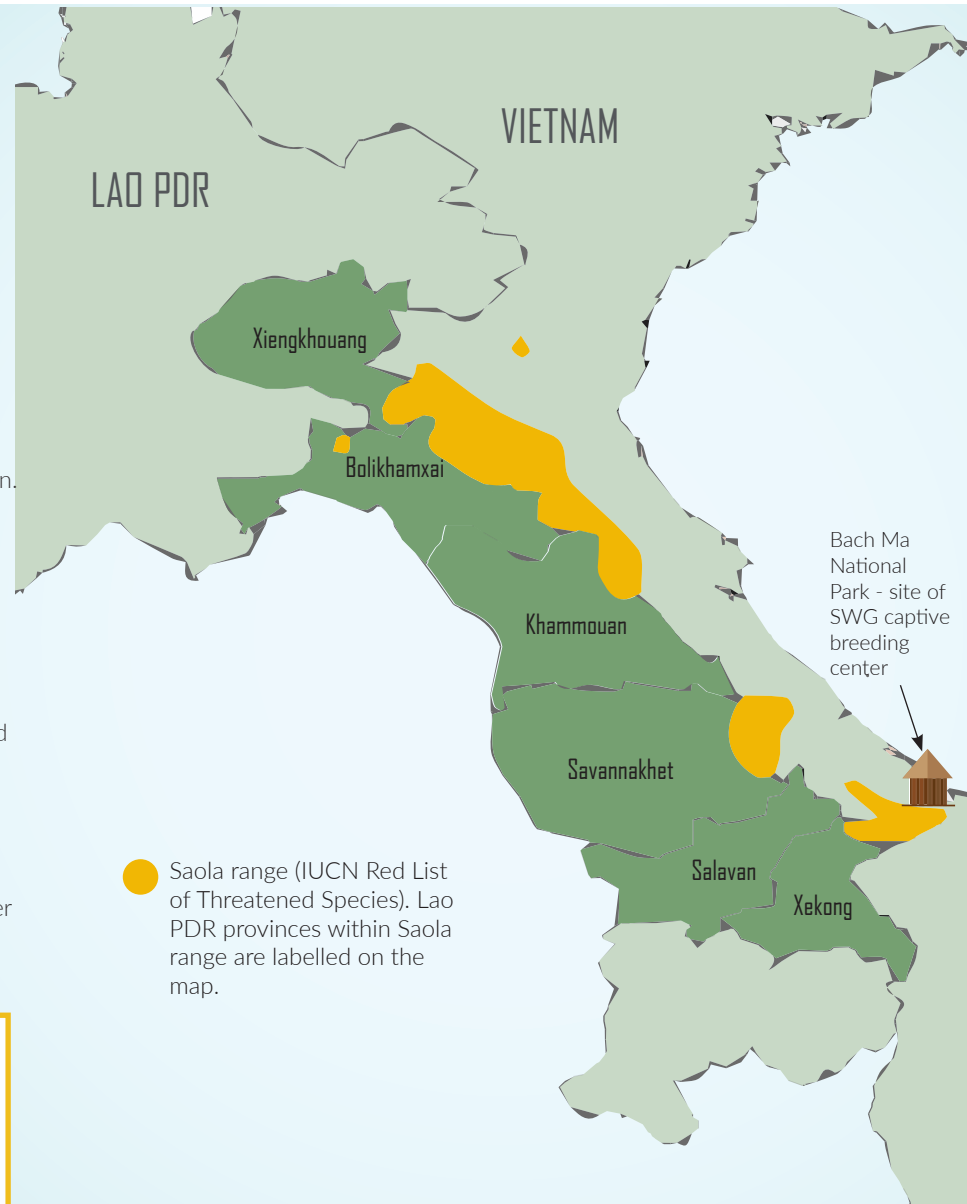
Since 2006, the IUCN SSC Saola Working Group (SWG; a coalition of interested conservationists) has significantly advanced scientific knowledge of Saola in the wild, and applied the IUCN One Plan approach to Saola conservation by developing a plan to capture wild Saolas to establish a conservation breeding program, which, if successful, will allow eventual reintroductions to the wild.

The SWG has raised political support for the One Plan, begun field searches for wild Saola in Lao PDR and Vietnam, and are constructing a captive breeding center for rare species from Saola range in southern Vietnam.

Current major needs

Funding - Saving Saola requires large-scale funding in order to mobilize a search intensity capable of detecting a species so rare in such a challenging landscape.

Search effort - Only about 10% of the required search effort to find remaining wild Saola has been undertaken so far.



Mission and priorities

The Saola Foundation is a US-based organization with a mission to help save Saola in the wild, and to conserve other threatened wildlife in the forest of the Annamite Mountains.

We support the IUCN One Plan for saving Saola from extinction. We have two initial priorities:

1. Help raise the substantial funds required for comprehensive and successful implementation of the IUCN One Plan for Saola.
2. Support, financial and technically, a two-year intensive and comprehensive Saola detection program in Lao PDR.

Through our work, we will help to raise awareness of the urgency of Saola conservation.

Lao Saola Team

In Lao PDR, where the Saola Foundation will focus on searching for wild Saolas, the Lao Saola Team is a skilled field team of Lao nationals, established by the SWG and currently hosted by Asian Arks. Once adequate funds are secured, this team will implement a comprehensive search program for wild Saola in Lao PDR.



Only about 10% of the required search effort for wild Saola has been implemented in Lao PDR.

10%

