



IUCN World Commission
on Protected Areas (WCPA)
Impact Report 2024



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Contents

Foreword	2
Message from the Chair	3
Vision and mission	4–5
2024 by the numbers	6
Publications, engagement, and technical support	7
Organisational structure	8–9
Supporting implementation of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	10
Conservation at scale: spatial planning, connectivity, and large-scale conservation areas	11
Recognising diverse governance and management regimes toward achieving conservation outcomes	12
Guiding the protection of the right places for biodiversity	14
Enhancing the effectiveness of protected and conserved areas	16
Advancing marine conservation from the coasts to the high seas	18
Building capacity for conservation	20
Positioning protection at the biodiversity and climate nexus	22
Expanding and supporting constituencies for nature	24
Influencing conservation efforts around the world	28
Delivering on IUCN World Conservation Congress Resolutions	33
Building and sharing knowledge	34
WCPA publication statistics	36
Acknowledgements and affiliations	38
Appendix I: Publications list	40
Appendix II: Summary of resolutions activities	43



Foreword



Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak
President, IUCN

The *World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)* continues to be at the forefront of global conservation, ensuring that protected and conserved areas remain essential tools in addressing the intertwined challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change.

In 2024, WCPA's leadership has helped advance the '30 by 30' target, strengthening governance, and expanding area-based conservation efforts. Through scientific expertise, policy guidance, and on-the-ground collaboration, the Commission has helped shape critical discussions at *COP16* and beyond, reinforcing the role of protected areas in securing a sustainable future.

This report is both a reflection of progress and a call to accelerate action. As we work toward achieving global biodiversity goals, IUCN remains committed to supporting WCPA's efforts in ensuring that conservation remains central to global policy, practice, and investment.



Message from the Chair



Madhu Rao
Chair, WCPA

The past year highlighted the opportunities and challenges we face as a Commission. We were reminded at every turn of the urgency of our work and the need to focus global attention on area-based conservation while celebrating achievements across a wide range of critical issues. This Impact Report details the staggering diversity of the Commission's work, from Antarctica to the Amazon, remote mountain tops to crowded urban areas.

As 2030 approaches, global interest in the 30x30 goal continues to grow. The Commission continues to engage in this global effort, supporting implementation by delivering on its core mandate to provide technical guidance and policy advice.

Our work over the past year also reinforced our understanding that while we explore the feasibility of OECMs, we must continue to focus on strengthening existing protected area systems and must recognise diverse forms of governance and management. Much of the work of the Commission emphasises the quality as well as the quantity of protected areas and protected area networks.

WCPA meets a spectrum of needs, providing the most current science-based knowledge and information on the one hand, and ensuring effective implementation on the other. The past year saw a strong delivery of knowledge products, and Commission members have also spent much effort engaging with relevant stakeholders such as Indigenous Peoples and local communities, government agencies, and national and international organisations for impact.

Forging new partnerships and alliances remains essential to achieving WCPA's ambitious goals. We continue to work alongside the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the High-Ambition Coalition, and others to catalyse aligned, collective action to foster effective and lasting conservation.

The influence and impact of the Commission depends on the tireless energy and commitment of its volunteer members. We are grateful for their extraordinary efforts. We hope you will enjoy reading this report about the Commission's extensive scope of work.



Our vision

Systems of protected and conserved areas are effective in conserving nature, and as such, are recognised and valued both as cornerstones for conserving biodiversity and as natural solutions to global challenges, providing benefits to human health, livelihoods, and well-being.



Our mission

To develop and provide scientific and technical advice and policy that promotes a representative, effectively managed, and equitably governed global system of marine and terrestrial protected and conserved areas, with a focus on areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

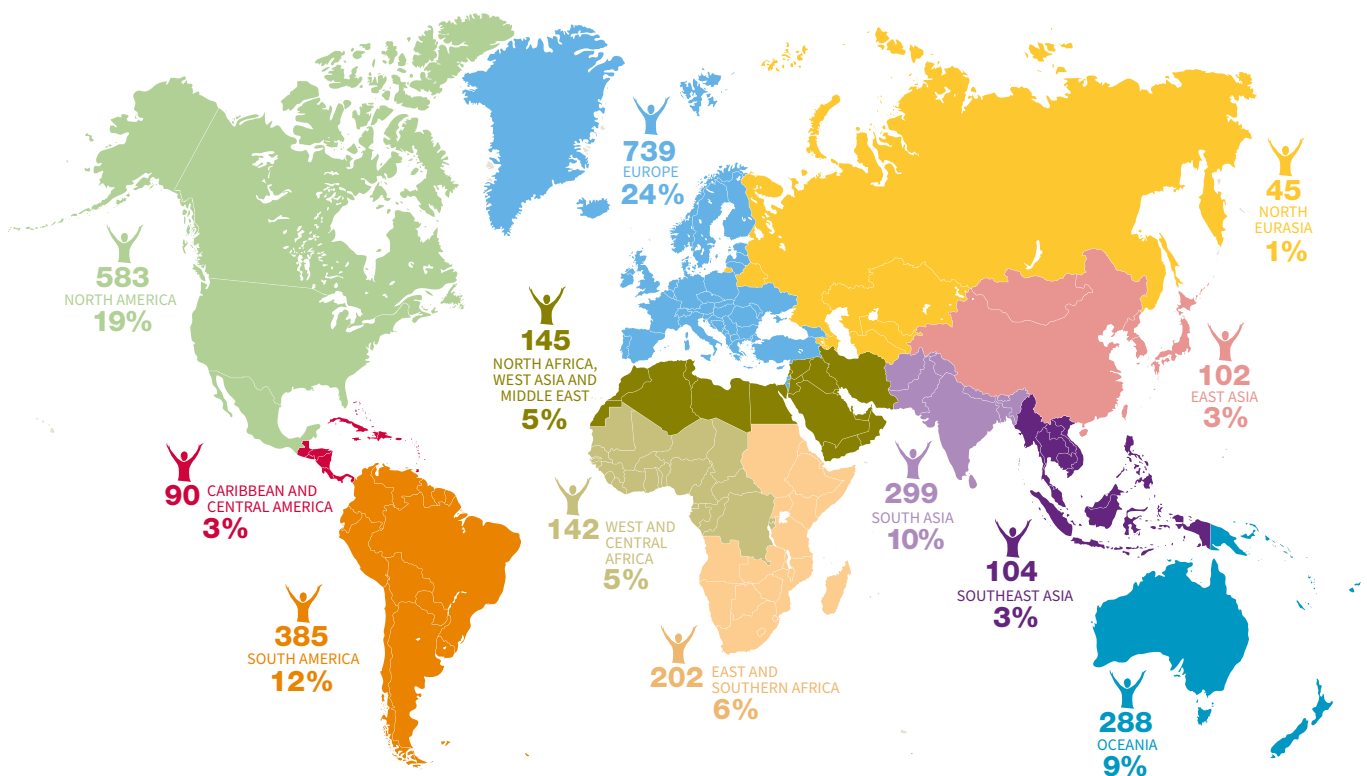


2024 by the numbers

Thanks to the vital efforts of our Commission's expert members and partners, WCPA contributed to significant gains in high quality protected and conserved areas in 2024. Our growing and increasingly diverse membership means that WCPA's network is better equipped than ever to provide strategic advice to policymakers and to strengthen capacity and investment for protected and conserved areas establishment and effective management. WCPA continues to develop and disseminate conservation standards, science, and policy guidance, and provides direction on a full suite of issues surrounding protected and conserved landscapes and seascapes with the highest conservation value and the greatest potential for impact.

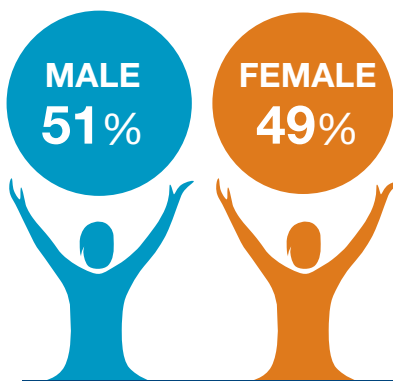


Members by WCPA region (Updated 31.12.2024)

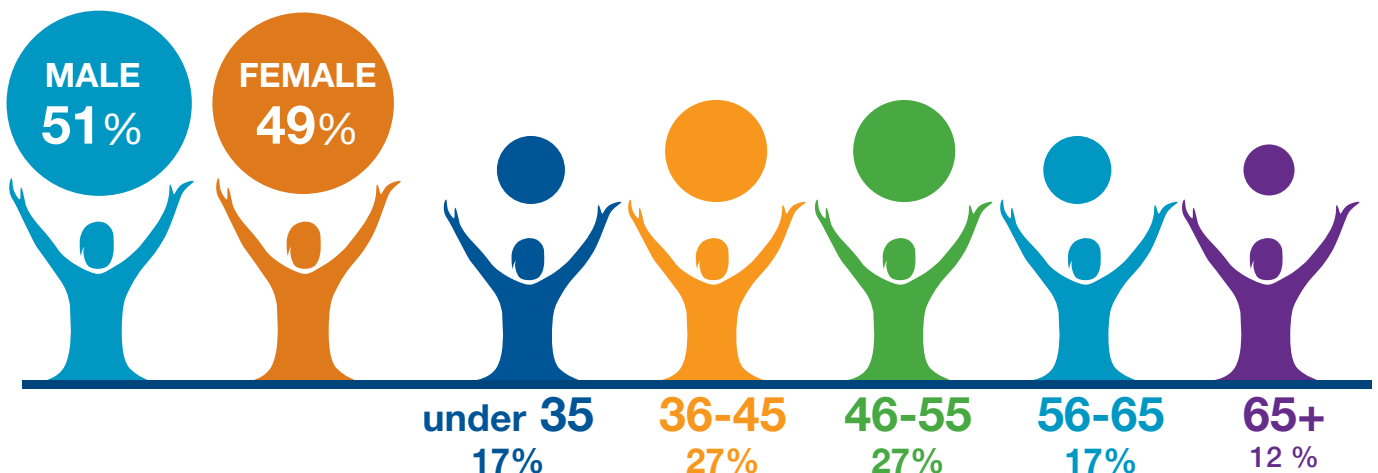


Membership demographics

WCPA Leadership gender



WCPA member age categories



Publications, engagement, and technical support



83 publications released by WCPA group members

19

WCPA-series publications (5 Issues Papers, 3 Good Practice Guidelines, 2 Technical Reports, and 9 Technical Notes)

4 books

7 book chapters

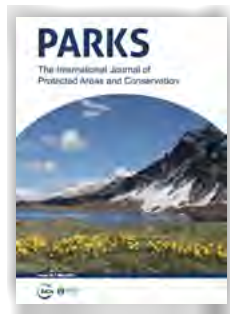
23

technical guidance documents, reports, policy briefs, and others

30

peer-reviewed journal articles

IUCN WCPA's **PARKS Journal** has a cite score of **5.8**



It is ranked **38th out of 211 journals** (top 20%) in the Nature and Landscape Conservation subject area of Scopus. In 2024, PARKS published 2 editorial essays, 12 full papers, 4 short communications, and 1 book review contributed by **77 authors** from over **15 countries**.



WCPA group members actively participated in **256 events** across the world in 2024 and **helped organise 111** of them, including workshops, webinars, side events, and global convenings

1

MOOC developed



4

New Task Forces

88



WCPA provided technical support to at least **88 government departments and agencies** from over **76 countries** around the world through engagement at events and meetings



WCPA publications from the good practice and technical series were downloaded over **250,000 times** in 2024 — well over double the downloads in 2023

WCPA ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Task Forces and Leads

(8 existing, 4 new)

WCPA Task Forces work on a specific issue, within a determined time period

1. **IUCN SSC-WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Inter-Commission Task Force** (Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara and Erich Hoyt)
2. **IUCN WCPA Defining and Measuring Conservation Effectiveness or Outcomes Task Force** (Nick Salafsky and Paola Mejia Cortez)
3. **IUCN WCPA Harmonizing Classifications and Nomenclature Task Force** (Brent Mitchell)
4. **IUCN WCPA Integrating Human Wildlife Co-existence into PCA Standards Task Force** (Duan Biggs and Isla Hodgson)
5. **IUCN WCPA Protected Area Downgrading, Downsizing, and Degazettement Task Force** (Rachel Golden Kroner and Alta De Vos)
6. **IUCN WCPA Protected Areas and One Health Task Force** (Skylar Hopkins and Sarah Olson)
7. **IUCN WCPA Restoration Task Force** (Stephanie Mansourian-Stephenson)
8. **IUCN WCPA Spatial Planning Task Force** (Hedley Grantham and Vanessa Adams)
- 4 newly formed Task Forces:
9. **IUCN WCPA Large Scale Conservation Areas Task Force** (Scott Brennan)
10. **IUCN inter-commission (WCPA, CEM, and SSC) Dams Task Force** (Ian Harrison and Felix Feider)
11. **IUCN WCPA and CEESP Advancing Indigenous and Community-led Governance of PCAs Task Force** (Barbara Lassen, Neema Pathak, and Ahmad Hameed)
12. **IUCN WCPA Fisheries and MPAs/OECMs Task Force** (Fabrice Stephenson, Beth Pike, and Jenna Sullivan-Stack)

Partnerships

Partnerships reflect shared interests and objectives between WCPA and other institutions and organisations on topics of significant global concern

- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD)
- Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Partnership
- Protected Planet (UNEP-WCMC)
- International Ranger Federation (IRF)
- Global Partnership on Ecological Connectivity (GPEC)
- High Ambition Coalition (HAC)

Thematic Groups

WCPA currently has nine Themes, each with a Thematic Vice Chair who sits on the WCPA Steering Committee. Themes work on broad areas of enquiry and key strategic directions towards meeting the WCPA mandate

1. **Capacity** (Mike Appleton)
2. **Marine** (Felipe Paredes and Fabrice Stephenson)
3. **#NatureForAll** (Karen Keenleyside)
4. **Conservation Outcomes** (Nick Salafsky and Paola Mejia Cortez)
5. **World Heritage** (Outgoing: Cyril Kormos; New: Alfred DeGemmis)
6. **Governance, Equity and Rights** (Helen Tugendhat)
7. **Science and Biodiversity** (Stephen Woodley)
8. **Scaling Natural Solutions** (Brent Mitchell)
9. **Young Professionals Network** (Outgoing: Erinn Drage; New: Josh Taylor)

Steering committee

Regions

WCPA is divided into 12 operational regions. WCPA members are linked to a Commission region according to their registered country of residence

**Chair
WCPA**
Madhu Rao

**Deputy
Chair**
Andrew Rhodes

**Chair's
Office**

Executive Officer (Erinn Drage)
Temporary Executive Officer (Yen Parico)
Programme Officer (Mitali Sharma)
Finance Officer (Augusta Almeida Ferri)
Communications Officer (Pablo López Guijosa)
WCPA Advisors (Kent Redford, Penny Figgis, Dan Laffoley, Kathleen Fitzgerald, and Marc Hockings)

Specialist Groups and Leads
(17 existing, 1 new)

WCPA Specialist Groups work on long term thematic activities relating to specific topics of study addressed by the Commission mandate

- Protected Areas and Climate Change** (Risa Smith and Lauren Wenzel)
- Connectivity Conservation** (Gary Tabor and Jodi Hilty)
- Cultural and Spiritual Value of Protected Areas** (Bas Verschuuren and Edwin Bernbaum)
- Freshwater** (Natalie Shahbol and Rebecca Flitcroft)
- Geoheritage** (Kyeong Sik Woo)
- Governance, Equity and Rights** (Terence Hay Edie, Heidi Kretser, and Phil Franks)
- Green List and Management Effectiveness** (Marc Hockings and Sandra Valenzuela)
- High Seas** (Guillermo Ortuño Crespo, Nichola Clark, and Emily Stokes)
- Health and Well-Being** (Jo Hopkins and Robyn Molsher)
- Mountains** (Peter Jacobs)
- Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)** (Harry Jonas and Stephen Woodley)
- Privately Protected Areas and Nature Stewardship** (Miquel Rafa)
- Sustainable Finance** (David Meyers and Candice Stevens)
- Tourism and Protected Areas** (Thiago Beraldo Souza)
- Transboundary Conservation** (Piet Theron and Stefania Petrosillo)
- Urban Conservation Strategies** (Outgoing: Ted Trzyna; New: Hoda Gray and Carolina Figueroa)
- Wilderness** (Vance G. Martin and John Waithaka)

New Specialist Group and Leads:

- Protected Planet Specialist Group** (Heather Bingham and Binbin Li)

**Commissions
Support Unit**

Director, Membership and Commission Support Unit (Iain Stewart)
Manager, Commission Support Unit (Michelle Kimeu)
Commissions Officer (Laksith Fernando)
Commissions Administrator (Nishamini Amunugama)

Programme Finance Manager (Nestor Soler Del Toro)
Communications Assistant (Vivian Ejezie)
Commissions Finance Administrator (Donall McLoughlin)

- Caribbean and Central America** (Allan Valverde)
- East and Southern Africa** (Harriet Davies Mostert)
- East Asia** (Yoshitaka Kumagai)
- Europe** (Erika Vaida-Bela)
- North Africa, West Asia, Middle East** (Nizar Hani)
- North America** (Mariana Bellot Rojas)
- North Eurasia** (Tanya Rosen)
- Southeast Asia** (Amran Hamzah)
- West and Central Africa** (Florence Palla)
- South America** (Paula Bueno)
- South Asia** (Sonali Ghosh)
- Oceania** (Lou Sanson)

**Publications
Group**

Co-Chairs: Sue Stolton and Nigel Dudley.
 Malcolm Hunter, Kent H. Redford, Ivy Farheen Hussain, Erinn Drage, Paulina G. Karim, Sanna-Kaisa Juvonen, and Harrison Nnoko

PARKS (Outgoing Editor: Marc Hockings; New Editor: Margaret Kinnaird)

Supporting implementation of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

WCPA is committed to supporting governments, NGOs, Indigenous peoples, local communities, and other stakeholders in achieving the ambitious and crucial goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The Commission is working closely with parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), of which the GBF is a key part, with a specific focus on area-based conservation.

WCPA was a key partner in developing the [Protected Planet Report 2024](#), the first official review of global progress towards Target 3.

WCPA was deeply involved in the 16th Conference of the Parties to the CBD (CBD COP16), held in Cali, Colombia, in October 2024. WCPA, HAC, and CBD organised a Target 3 Action Day at COP16 where ministerial and high-level roundtables provided an opportunity for in-depth discussions on critical issues to advance progress towards Target 3, including the qualitative components of Target 3 (management, effectiveness, impacts, governance, and connectivity) and financial and economic considerations.



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Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Box 1

Adopted in December 2022 at the 15th meeting of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is an urgent seven-year plan to reverse alarming declines of nature by 2030, as a step toward living in harmony by 2050.

Target 3 calls for terrestrial, inland water, and marine areas to be “effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected, and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognising indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable.” Target 3 thus falls squarely within WCPA’s mandate and work programme.

Strategic Partnerships for 30x30 Box 2

WCPA collaborates with other organisations in pursuit of its mandate. This is especially true with Target 3 of the Global Biodiversity Framework. WCPA has a cooperation agreement with the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People (HAC), a voluntary association of 120 countries to implement the 30x30 target. The Commission also collaborates frequently with the Biodiversity Science, Policy and Governance Unit of the CBD Secretariat (SCBD). WCPA complements the work of these organisations by providing technical expertise. In turn, both the HAC and CBD provide WCPA with connections to Parties to the GBF, including their networks of national focal points, as conduits for guidance on area-based conservation and Target 3 implementation. In addition to partnering for Target 3 Day at COP16, WCPA supports the HAC and SCBD in delivering sub-regional workshops on Target 3 in Pacific, Caribbean, and Latin American countries, and most recently for 32 countries of Central, Eastern and Southern Africa. WCPA and SCBD are discussing how the Commission might support planning for a new Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA), mandated for the next SBSTTA in October 2025. Additionally, the HAC and WCPA work very closely in maintaining [30x30 Solutions](#), the online toolkit of curated guidance on Target 3 implementation.

Conservation at scale: spatial planning, connectivity, and large-scale conservation areas

Achieving the ambitious GBF targets will require working across complex landscapes with mosaics of protection and use. WCPA is working on several fronts to support innovative science and policy that promotes conservation at the scale necessary to address the current challenges and to foster ecological connectivity that is key to maintaining the integrity of protected areas, saving biodiversity, and increasing resilience to climate change.

Spatial planning

WCPA's [Spatial Planning Task Force](#) provided guidance for conducting [biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning](#) under the GBF (Target 1). The Task Force developed definitions and guidance for bringing the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance and ecosystems of high integrity close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities. These guidelines also included guidance on marine spatial priorities.

Select publications

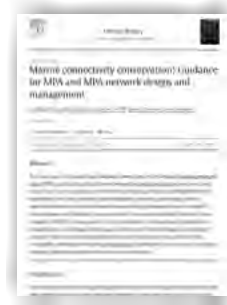
[Biodiversity inclusive spatial planning](#)



[Version 1.0: Practical Guidance on Indicators of Connectivity for the KMGBF](#)



[Marine connectivity conservation: Guidance for MPA and MPA network design and management](#)



[From oceans apart to the global ocean: Including marine connectivity in global conservation targets](#)



© Tamara Elizabeth Richards

Connectivity

Enhancing connectivity is a key element of spatial planning and achieving Target 3. Leadership and members of the [WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group](#) participated in the 14th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species in Samarkand, Uzbekistan to promote and mainstream ecological connectivity as a central

focus of the convention and its activities. Additionally, WCPA is a member of the [Global Partnership on Ecological Connectivity](#), which will help implement key recommendations of the State of the World's Migratory Species—the flagship report of the Convention—which calls for increased actions to identify, protect, connect, and effectively manage important sites for migratory species.

Large-scale conservation

The need for connected landscapes is also a core interest of the new [Large-Scale Conservation Areas Task Force](#), which examines how mosaics of formally protected areas, conserved areas, and corridors can contribute to reaching Target 3 by scaling conservation while potentially advancing other targets as well. The group's work is informed by the recognition of the need to include not just protected areas, but other forms of area-based conservation and to elevate co-existence within and beyond conserved areas.

Restoration Box 3

WCPA established the [Task Force on Restoration](#) to strengthen knowledge and guidance to improve restoration implementation in the framework of the GBF targets. The Task Force co-developed [recommendations](#) for putting people at the center of ecosystem restoration and integrating people-centered and rights-based approaches to ecosystem restoration into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and their implementation as part of the effort to achieve Target 2 of the GBF, which calls for restoring 30 percent of degraded land by 2030.

Recognising diverse governance and management regimes toward achieving conservation outcomes

WCPA recognises seven management categories and four governance types for protected areas, the majority of which are the responsibility of government agencies. Achieving Target 3 requires urgently recognising diverse governance and management regimes, such as governance shared by diverse rightsholders and stakeholders, private entities, or Indigenous peoples and/or local communities.

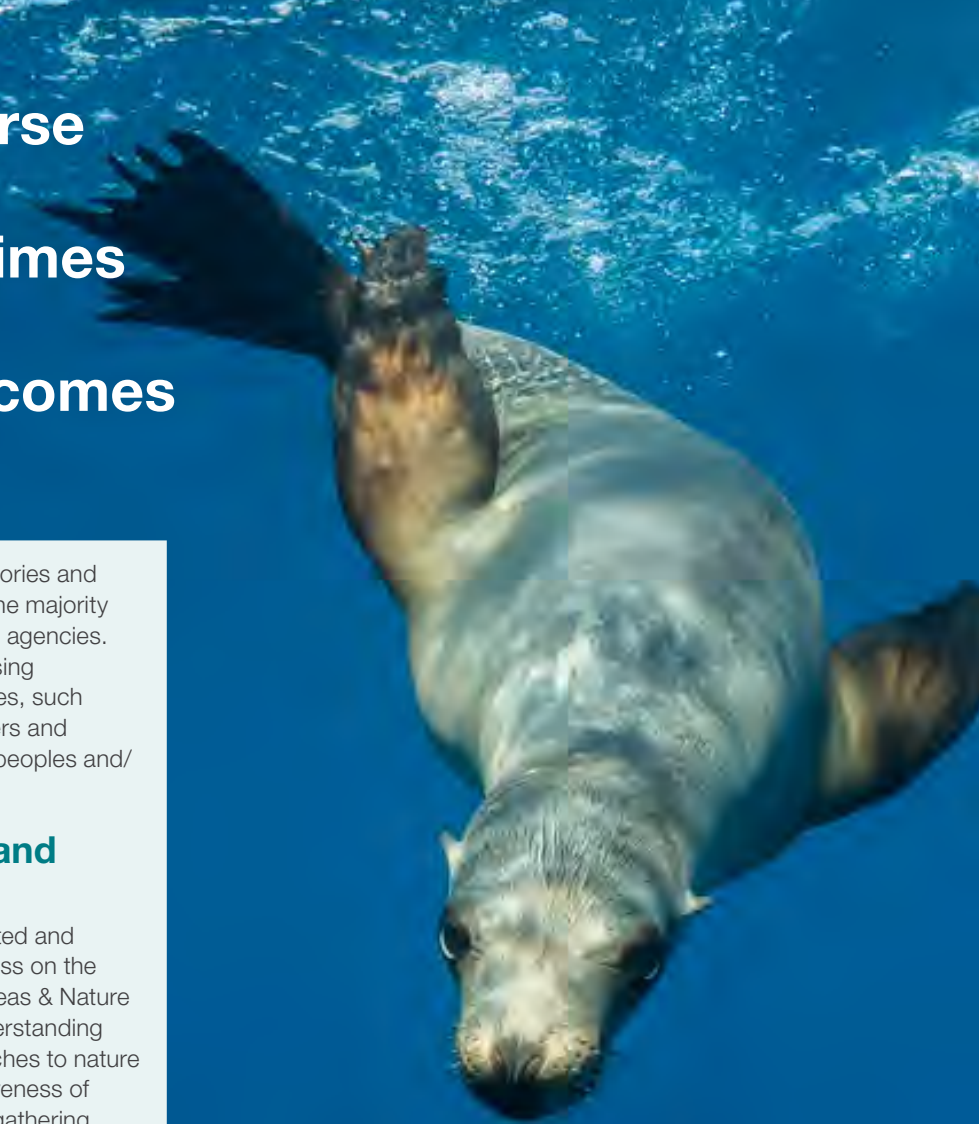
Privately protected areas and nature stewardship

Few governments recognise privately protected and conserved areas when reporting their progress on the 30x30 target. WCPA's Privately Protected Areas & Nature Stewardship Specialist Group improves understanding and recognition of the role of private approaches to nature conservation, and helps enhance the effectiveness of privately protected and conserved areas by gathering information and sharing it at the global level. WCPA, for example, helps [Fundacion Biodiversidad](#) (IUCN member) promote stewardship as a social tool for the conservation and restoration of nature by boosting collaboration amongst public administrations, the private sector, and NGOs for nature conservation and restoration in Spain.

Other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)

OECMs are important examples of the kind of diverse governance and management that will be needed to achieve global ambitions. The commitment to GBF Target 3 has sparked significant global interest in OECMs and WCPA has been actively engaged in the effort to define, implement, and report on OECMs over the past year.

WCPA's [OECM Specialist Group](#) released new [Good Practice Guidelines](#) updated with case studies to inform OECM recognition. The new guidelines are intended for use by a wide range of rightsholders and stakeholders to promote understanding of whether a site meets the CBD criteria for identifying an OECM, how to report OECM data at the national and global levels, and how to monitor and strengthen OECMs. The Specialist Group also translated the [site-level tool for identifying other effective area-based conservation measures](#), released in 2023, into eight new languages.



Defining OECMs Box 4

The Convention on Biological Diversity defines 'other effective area-based conservation measures' as:

A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values. (CBD Decision 14/8)

In November 2018, Parties to the Convention adopted this definition of OECMs, as well as guiding principles, common characteristics, and criteria for their identification.

While protected areas must have a primary conservation objective, this is not necessary for OECMs. OECMs may be managed for many different objectives but they must deliver effective conservation. They may be managed with conservation as a primary or secondary objective or long-term conservation may simply be the ancillary result of management activities.

Governance, equity, and rights

WCPA has a unique leadership role as an advocate for equity and rights within the context of area-based conservation. The Commission fosters, coordinates, and engages in initiatives to bring governance practices that reflect equity and human rights to the centre of protected and conserved area management discourse, and develops concrete recommendations for practice.

With financial support from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Arcadia Fund, WCPA co-convened an international workshop in Nanyuki, Kenya, to develop guidelines for the delivery of more equitable governance and respect for rights in area-based conservation. The workshop resulted in a new global [Roadmap for Advancing Rights and Equity](#) detailing 11 priority areas with 32 actions.

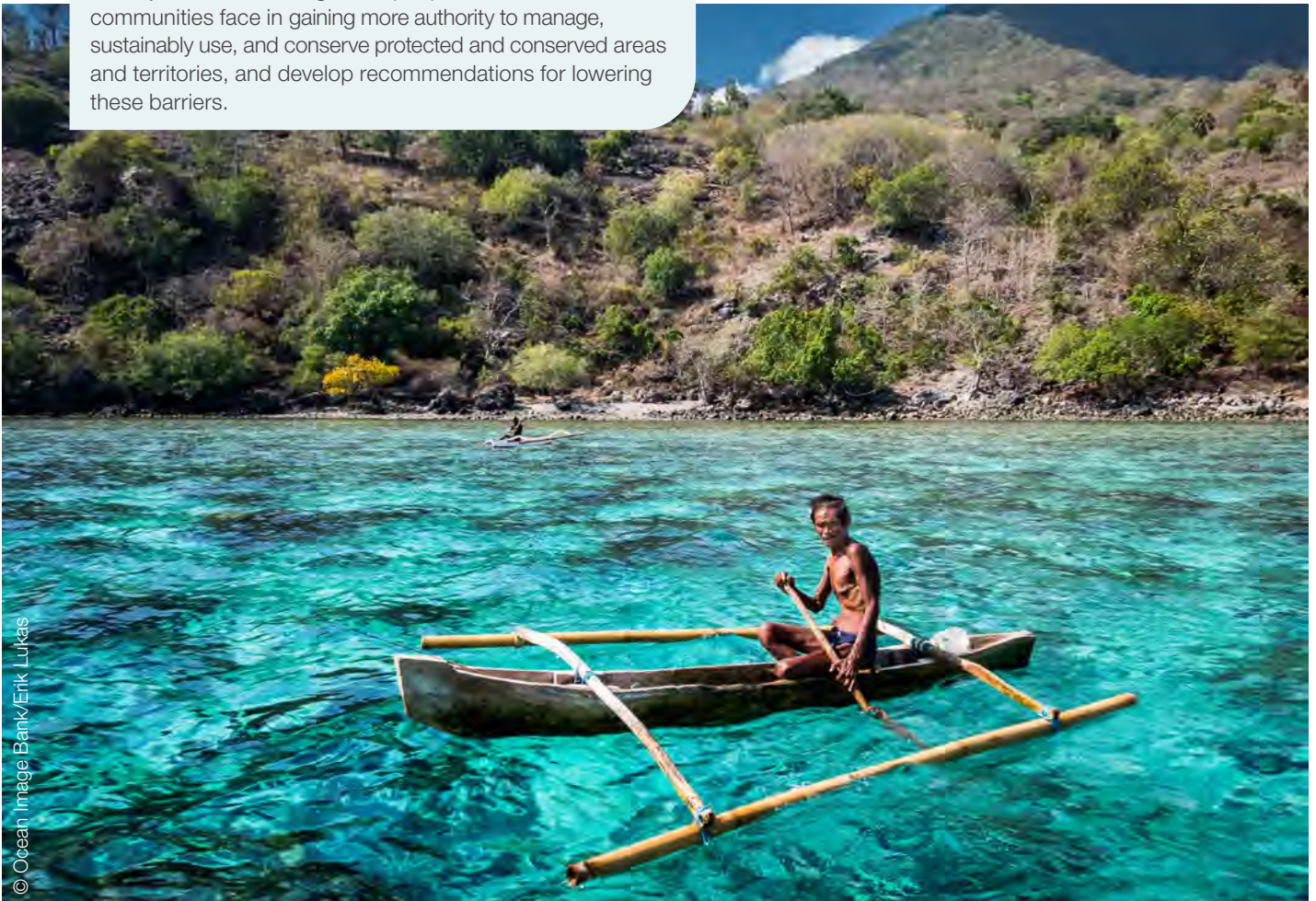
These priority areas are considered to be those most critical to advancing equitable governance and respect for rights in the effort to achieve Target 3. The intended audience for the Roadmap is any actor interested in advancing the achievement of the Target in diverse ways, such as Indigenous peoples and local community organisations, governments, and other supportive actors such as donors, NGOs, and large global organisations.

Additionally, WCPA and the Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP) have established a joint Task Force to advance the equitable governance of protected and conserved areas. The Task Force, which will operate until the World Parks Congress in 2027, will help identify the barriers Indigenous peoples and local communities face in gaining more authority to manage, sustainably use, and conserve protected and conserved areas and territories, and develop recommendations for lowering these barriers.

Protected areas and ICCAs Box 5

Many protected areas worldwide overlap with territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs). This is both a major challenge and an opportunity for realising rights-based conservation. In 2024 WCPA published new guidelines on Indigenous peoples, local communities, and protected areas that provide much-needed clarity on appropriately recognising, respecting, and supporting ICCAs as effective area-based conservation measures, and in situations in which they are overlapped by protected areas. Overlapped ICCAs include traditional territories, lands, and waters; collectively managed commons such as community forests, rangelands, marine areas, and inland waters; sacred places; and Indigenous and community protected areas.

The new [guidelines](#) identify six key approaches and 20 good practices for recognizing and respecting overlapped ICCAs. Much of the guidance also applies to ICCAs overlapped by OECMs governed by governments and private entities that do not represent or include Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.



© Ocean Image Bank/Erik Lukas

Guiding the protection of the right places for biodiversity

Expanding the area of lands and waters included in effective area-based conservation measures will be a critical task over the next five years. Just as important will be ensuring that these measures are located in areas that have the best chance of halting and reversing biodiversity loss, such as Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). KBAs are among the most diverse places on Earth and have proven to be a key tool for guiding decisions on conservation and sustainable management. WCPA is an observer with the [KBA Partnership](#), which seeks to enhance global conservation efforts by systematically mapping internationally important sites and ensuring that scarce resources are directed to the most important places for nature.

Areas important for marine biodiversity

Identifying and conserving areas of particular importance for biodiversity is a fundamental element of the GBF and there are a number of standardised approaches to do this in the marine realm. WCPA, in collaboration with the Species Survival Commission (SSC), has published a [summary](#) of these approaches that highlights the biodiversity considered, identification process, and outputs, and showcases how they can be used to inform conservation planning. These include Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs), Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs), Important Shark and Ray Areas (ISRAs), and more.

Inland waters

Inland waters—such as rivers, lakes, and other wetlands—are among the most biodiverse ecosystems on the planet. The loss of these ecosystems has cascading effects on human livelihoods, cultures, and our overall well-being. While protected and conserved areas can play an important role in bending the curve of inland water biodiversity and ecosystem loss, they have rarely been designed, designated, and managed for that purpose. WCPA's [Freshwater Specialist Group](#) helped produce a new [report](#) that provides guidance in employing effective area-based conservation measures to benefit these ecosystems and the biodiversity they support.

Mountains

Mountain areas hold a vast variety of life forms due to their breadth of physical conditions related to altitude and slope, and they make up half of the world's biodiversity hotspots. The WCPA Mountains Specialist Group promoted its [paper](#) and decision support tool on identifying global priorities for new mountain protected and conserved areas at WILD12 and the II International Congress of Mountains. The tool provides a six-step process for empirically identifying opportunities for possible new or increased protection of landscapes in mountains around the world that align with Key Biodiversity Areas, biodiversity hotspots, and low levels of current protection.

Transboundary

Political boundaries divide ecosystems across the globe, exposing them to many different policies, legal and institutional structures, management and governance regimes, and often complex relations between countries. Transboundary conservation has emerged as a practical way to overcome these differences. In 2024, WCPA's Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group began efforts to increase the visibility and participation of transboundary conservation initiatives in the American continent, including pioneering work in the Maya Forest that encompasses seven protected areas across Mexico, Belize, and Guatemala. In addition, the Specialist Group facilitated a study tour to Slovenia for a Lao and Vietnamese delegation that visited Triglav National Park and Škocjan Caves World Heritage Site to exchange knowledge and strengthen transboundary conservation cooperation.

Geoheritage

Together with biodiversity, geodiversity—the variety of the geological physical elements of nature—constitutes the natural diversity of planet Earth. WCPA's Geoheritage Specialist Group facilitates the conservation and effective management of geoheritage sites in protected areas and provides specialist advice on all aspects of geodiversity in relation to protected areas and their management. The Specialist Group provides input to WCPA and IUCN on global issues regarding geoheritage and geoconservation, such as the Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection, which has now been translated into nine languages, and The Meaning of Nature, which examines the abiotic component of nature and its importance.

Wilderness

WCPA's Wilderness Specialist Group provides coordination and a connecting point within IUCN as a whole for wilderness-related issues including the strengthening of Protected Area Category 1b, a classification developed specifically to protect wilderness areas. The 12th World Wilderness Congress (WILD12) convened in the Black Hills (South Dakota, USA). WCPA leadership played a significant role in Executive Committee planning and in promoting two specific outcomes: an emerging publication—"Wise Practices for Wilderness Management: Indigenous and Local Community Stewardship of Wilderness Protected Area"—and the Hé Sapa Resolution and Declaration: On Sovereignty and Wilderness: Deepening the Wilderness Concept Through Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom, which will be the basis for a Technical Note currently underway. Numerous WCPA members lead concurrent sessions. Another major achievement was the official launch of the Chinese edition of Wilderness Protected Areas: Management Guidelines for IUCN Category 1b Wilderness. This occurred in China at the Hainan National Park Conference, with copies presented to senior officials in the National Forest and Grasslands Administration and Hainan Governor's office.

Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMA) Box 6

WCPA's Marine Mammal Protected Area Task Force (a joint Task Force with the Species Survival Commission) published The IMMA Handbook with selection criteria and practical guidance on their use for the identification of IMMAs. In 2024, the Task Force helped identify 43 new IMMAs in the North West Atlantic Ocean and Wider Caribbean that highlight important habitats for marine mammals, including habitats for blue whales, North Atlantic right whales, Rice's whales, sperm whales, manatees, and polar bears. To date, 79 percent of the ocean has been examined for IMMAs, with IMMAs comprising nearly 18 percent of the ocean area examined. Worldwide, 323 IMMAs have now been identified.

Green List data Box 7



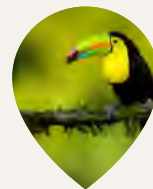
35
new sites awarded the
Green List Certificate



21
newly
listed sites



14 sites
re-listed



247
sites under
assessment
including



158 applicants



89 candidates
for Green Listing

Enhancing the effectiveness of protected and conserved areas

Monitoring progress towards Target 3 requires a robust methodology for assessing both the quantity and quality of lands and waters under conservation management. Unfortunately, effectiveness is an easy concept to understand intuitively but difficult to define and measure in a standard manner, especially in the complex ecological and social systems in which protected and conserved areas are implemented.

Defining and measuring conservation effectiveness

To help meet this challenge, the WCPA [Defining and Measuring Conservation Effectiveness and Outcomes Task Force](#) continues its efforts to establish a [Global Framework to Assess Protected Area and OECM Effectiveness](#) to help managers of protected and conserved areas improve their work over time and give broader society confidence that efforts to reach the ambitious 30x30 targets are progressing. The Task Force identified critical gaps in existing frameworks, primarily relating to assessing outcomes and understanding whether the strategies implemented by managers are leading to desired outcomes. The Task Force developed a draft framework designed to overcome these gaps, and in 2024, tested the framework in collaboration with CONAF (National Forest Corporation), Chile, and began preparations for further testing in Croatia.

In parallel, there is ongoing interest and attention linking the Protected Area Management Effectiveness framework with threat monitoring tools such as [SMART](#) and [EarthRanger](#).

Human–wildlife conflict and effectiveness

Conflicts over resources between human communities and wildlife can have immediate and lasting impacts on the effectiveness of PCAs for conservation. WCPA's Human–Wildlife Conflict and PCA Standards Task Force is integrating human–wildlife coexistence considerations into PCA design, management, and evaluation. The Task Force, for example, is evaluating the existing IUCN Green List Criteria, and other relevant standards, to determine whether they are adequate for dealing with the challenges of achieving sustainable human–wildlife coexistence.

Where there are gaps in the existing criteria, indicators, means of verification, and guidance notes, the Task Force will develop additional indicators and criteria for human–wildlife coexistence projects.

Protected area downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement (PADDD)

Protected and conserved areas are designed to deliver conservation outcomes for generations. Yet, they are not always permanent. Legal rollbacks to protections—protected area downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement (PADDD), or the legal tempering, reduction, or elimination of PAs—can compromise PA objectives and their effectiveness, though PADDD itself is a neutral descriptor. WCPA's PADDD Task Force provides capacity and technical support to [defend the integrity of PCAs](#) as a means to reduce unrestrained and poorly-governed PADDD events, such as mining, oil and gas, and [industrial-scale infrastructure](#), and encourages governments and non-state actors to report on PADDD.

Victory for PCAs in Nepal Box 8

WCPA, working with the Species Survival Commission and Nepal National Committee, has helped secure PCAs in Nepal from a potentially devastating new law. The controversial legislation passed in July threatened to rezone protected areas to facilitate development projects such as hotels and cable cars inside protected areas. A group of lawyers mounted a legal challenge to the law, leading to an interim stay until Nepal's highest court could rule on the issue. WCPA helped inform all parties of the potentially devastating impacts of the law, and in January 2025, the court overturned the law, a decision hailed as a significant victory for conservation efforts.





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WCPA and World Heritage ^{Box 9}

WCPA supports IUCN in its role as the technical advisory body on nature to the World Heritage Convention. In 2024, IUCN prepared over 40 State of Conservation Reports on natural and mixed World Heritage sites, presented seven evaluations of sites nominated under natural criteria, and contributed to the evaluation of five cultural landscapes. The World Heritage Committee inscribed six new sites following recommendations by IUCN, which has extended international protection to the world's most impressive dunes, exceptional cave-dwelling species, peat bogs and mires, as well as important bird migratory routes. The World Heritage List now covers 271 sites inscribed for their nature conservation values, encompassing 478.5 million hectares.

WCPA continued to support the IUCN Secretariat in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and production of a technical expert brief on the role of World Heritage in the implementation of the GBF. WCPA is also supporting the fourth edition of the IUCN World Heritage Outlook, the most comprehensive assessment of the conservation prospects of World Heritage sites inscribed for their natural values. Planned for release in 2025 at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, World Heritage Outlook 4 represents a chance to gauge the efforts to protect the world's most important protected areas, identify priority conservation needs, and reflect on the critical role of World Heritage in achieving global biodiversity and climate goals by 2030.



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Advancing marine conservation from the coasts to the high seas

Significant challenges remain to designating and implementing effective marine protected areas (MPAs), particularly for achieving Target 3. WCPA's [Marine Thematic Group](#) includes the [Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force](#), [High Seas Specialist Group](#), and working groups dedicated to other marine issues such as connectivity, management effectiveness and financing, spatial planning, and climate change. The group promotes the establishment of a global, representative system of effectively managed and lasting networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) and OECMs within National Economic Exclusion Zone areas as well as in the High Seas and Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions.

In 2024, WCPA created the Fisheries and MPA Task Force, which will update and consolidate [WCPA's guidance on the management of fisheries within MPAs and OECMs](#), and further develop a risk-based approach that considers 'likely' fishing impacts applicable to a variety of fisheries.

IUCN WCPA at the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings

WCPA members constituted the IUCN delegation which participated as an Invited Expert to the meetings of the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM46) and the 26th Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP26). Every year the Parties to the Antarctic Treaty meet "for the purpose of exchanging information, consulting together on matters of common interest pertaining to Antarctica, and formulating and considering and recommending to their Governments measures, decisions and resolutions in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty".

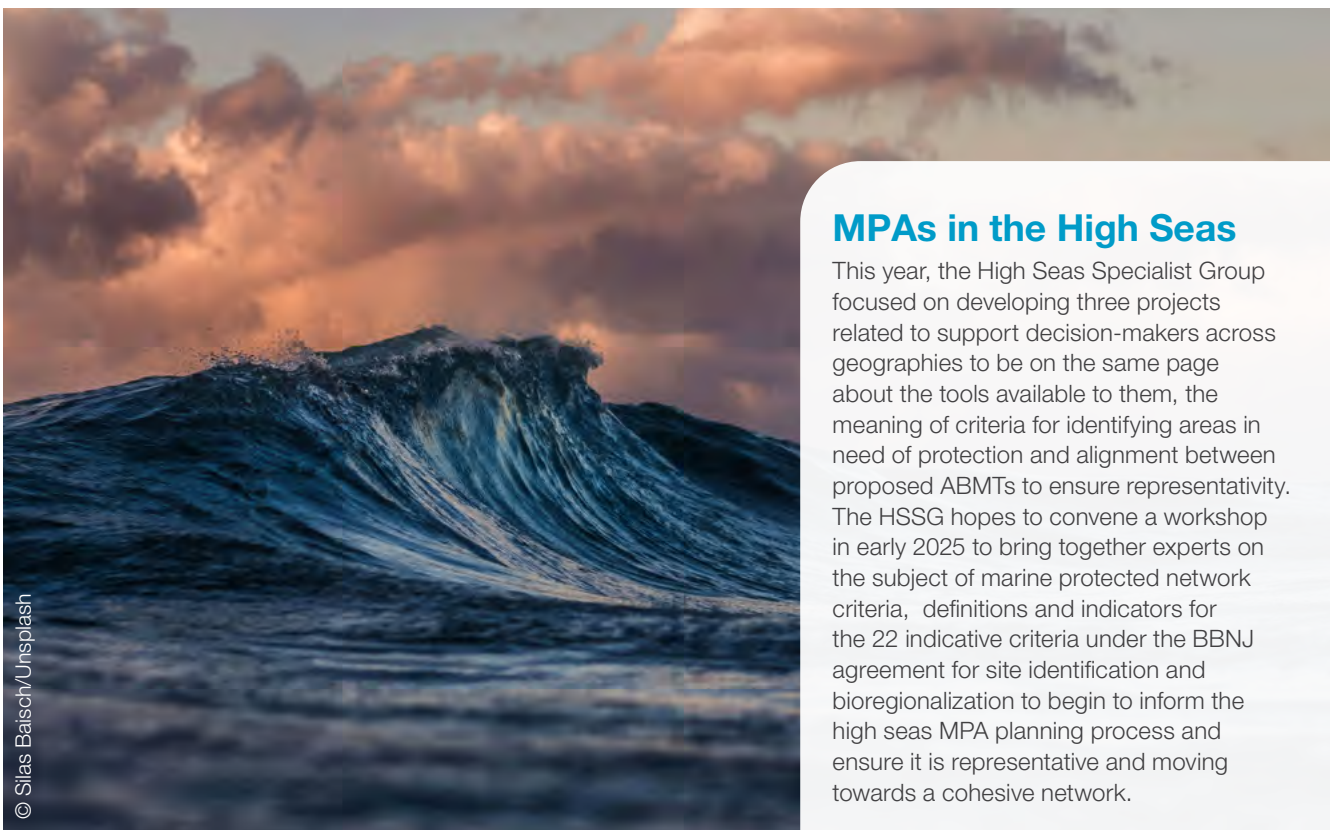
IUCN (with WCPA engagement) submitted two informational papers for this year's ATCM CEP meetings: one in collaboration with Portugal, Canada, France, and Italy (IP 167) focused on the importance of Marine Spatial Planning for a sustainable and climate-resilient Antarctic Ocean, one with the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (IP 173) supporting the development of a comprehensive and consistent framework for Antarctic tourism management. IUCN further advocated with specific Consultative Parties in the hope of increasing the chance of reaching consensus on the proposal of designated emperor penguins as an Antarctic Specially Protected Species.



Antarctic and Southern Oceans Box 10

WCPA has developed a new Working Group to focus on species-based area-based protection in the Antarctic and Southern Oceans. The Group aims to engage in science-based advocacy to promote area-based protection measures in addition to strengthening regulatory measures to address tourism-related impacts in the region.

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MPAs in the High Seas

This year, the High Seas Specialist Group focused on developing three projects related to support decision-makers across geographies to be on the same page about the tools available to them, the meaning of criteria for identifying areas in need of protection and alignment between proposed ABMTs to ensure representativity. The HSSG hopes to convene a workshop in early 2025 to bring together experts on the subject of marine protected network criteria, definitions and indicators for the 22 indicative criteria under the BBNJ agreement for site identification and bioregionalization to begin to inform the high seas MPA planning process and ensure it is representative and moving towards a cohesive network.

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Building capacity for conservation

Ensuring that both new and existing PCAs have a properly trained and equipped workforce to manage them effectively and fairly will be critical to reaching Target 3. Doubling the area protected will require a six-fold increase in the workforce: around 3 million people, including 1.5 million rangers. WCPA was a founding member of the Universal Ranger Support Alliance and continues to advocate for rangers and strengthen the ranger agenda.



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New State of the Ranger Report Box 11

The International Ranger Federation published the first State of the Ranger Report and presented it at the World Ranger Congress. The objective of the report, supported by WCPA, is to establish global indicators on the status of the ranger profession to track progress, guide decisions and investments, and catalyse change to enhance rangers' roles as



essential planetary stewards. It presents results from ranger and employer surveys and represents the first global baseline of the ranger profession, including the assimilation of the best available, internationally comparable data on the ranger workforce.

Building trust with communities and rangers

WCPA has released the first volume in its Good Practice Guidelines that is predominantly by rangers, for rangers. Building Trust with Communities and Rangers collects good practices and stories from rangers worldwide, reflecting global experience and lessons learned. The guidelines focus on actions that rangers, and to a lesser extent, managers, can do themselves. While institutional changes are often necessary, they require intervention at the government level and, hence, are out of the hands of individual rangers. WCPA has produced 25 short videos of rangers giving advice on good practices.

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Sustainable Finance Specialist Group

The IUCN WCPA Practice Guidance for Protected and Conserved Area Finance is in the final design stage and will be released shortly. The Sustainable Finance Specialist Group (SFSG) has worked with the Blue Nature Alliance to develop and launch a global survey of Marine Protected Area finance. The SG is supporting sustainable finance for PCAs across Africa through CBD engagements including support for 37 countries in Africa at the CBD 30x30 Workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya with the High Ambition Coalition. The Sustainable Finance Coalition's Finance Model, through support from the SFSG, has been built into the 30x30 Toolkit with the High Ambition Coalition to support countries reach Target 3 goals with the aid of sustainable finance.

The goals of the SFSG to advance knowledge sharing on PCA finance have also been supported through the Finance Solution Inventory, an open-source Africa-led platform showcasing finance solutions in user-friendly materials, hosted by the Sustainable Finance Coalition and supported by the SFSG.

Sustainable financing for protected and conserved areas

WCPA's Sustainable Finance Specialist Group supports the development of new, innovative, and resilient sources of finance that are critical if PCAs, OECMs, and Indigenous and Traditional Territories are to reach their full potential and deliver cross-cutting benefits to people and the planet. Through the organisational affiliation of its Co-Chairs, the group works closely with the Sustainable Finance Coalition and the Conservation Finance Alliance.



Positioning protection at the biodiversity and climate nexus

Protected and conserved areas will be critical to solving the inseparable and interdependent climate and biodiversity crises. Only by considering climate and biodiversity as parts of the same complex problem can we develop solutions that maximise benefits while minimising risk.

PCAs are the most effective tool to address biodiversity loss and climate change with the required urgency and WCPA is working on a number of fronts to highlight the role of PCAs for climate resilience.

WCPA published extensive guidance related to climate change and protected areas in 2024. [WCPA Technical Note 15](#) focuses on how including protected and conserved areas in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and Nationally Determined Contributions (climate-related strategies) offers cost-effective, win-win options for governments. [Technical Note 20](#) explains what natural ecosystems provide to climate control strategies, why protected and conserved areas are important, and how to maximise their benefits.

WCPA recognises the critical importance of ensuring that the green energy transition does not impact biodiversity or undermine the integrity of protected areas. WCPA's [Technical Note on renewable energy and an information brief on calling for a work programme to establish priorities for synergistic](#)

climate and biodiversity action were included as part of IUCN's publications list for UNFCCC COP29. WCPA and the Shan Shui Conservation Center (IUCN member) hosted a side event at CBD CoP to share knowledge and experience in promoting best practices in Renewable Energy Development toward a nature-positive outcome.

WCPA's [Protected Areas Climate Change Specialist Group](#) is finalising Good Practice Guidelines for Climate Change Mitigation in Protected Areas, to be released at the World Conservation Congress in 2025.

WCPA's collaborations with the IUCN Secretariat

WCPA has collaborations and partnerships with several parts of the IUCN Secretariat. WCPA works with programme units including Protected and Conserved Areas, Oceans, World Heritage and the Forest and Grasslands Teams within the Centre for Conservation Action, the Centre for Policy & Law, and the Centre for Science and Knowledge at the IUCN HQ. WCPA also partners with regional and national IUCN offices on specific projects.



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Expanding and supporting constituencies for nature

Advancing deliberate transformative change for global sustainability requires a shift in values, norms, and beliefs that recognise human–nature interconnectedness. That shift is essential to implementing the broad-based action required to bring about a transformation in societies’ relationships with biodiversity as called for in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

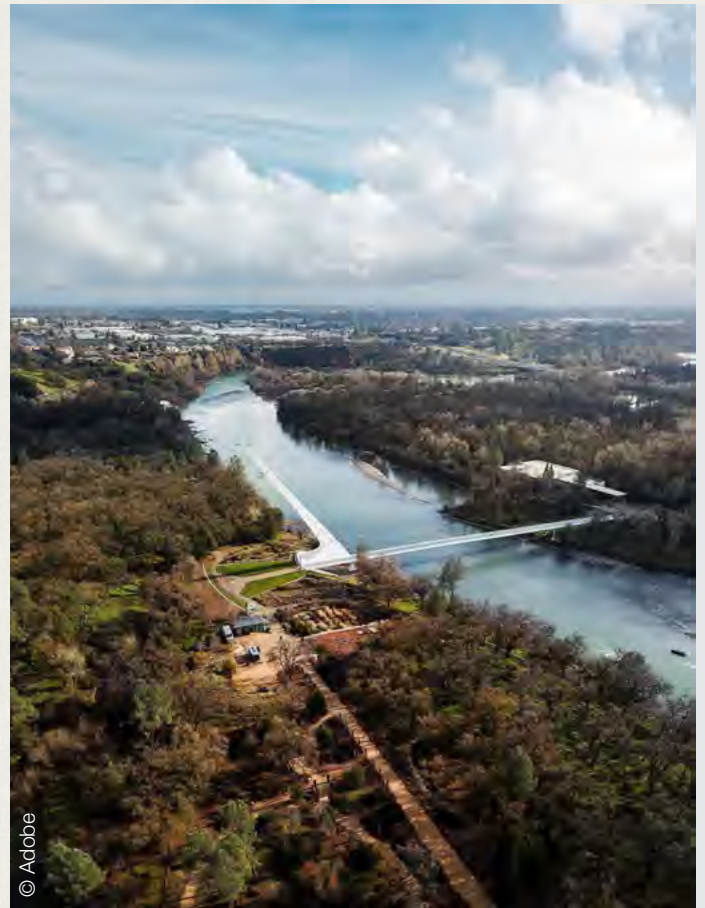
#NatureForAll

The #NatureForAll initiative continues to play an important role in effectively engaging all sectors of society in implementing strategies that will inspire action to reverse biodiversity loss and address climate change. This growing community of more than 600 interested organisations and individuals, led by WCPA, IUCN's Commission on Education and Communication, the Alana Institute, the Children and Nature Network, Parks Canada, and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, continued to expand global constituencies for conservation in 2024. This included hosting a second Love Fest, a two-week-long online global celebration of love and action for nature, and a #NatureForAll Youth Oasis (pavilion) at the World Wilderness Congress.

Health

Land managers and policymakers at all scales are increasingly aligning their activities with the One Health framework: “an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimise the health of people, animals, and ecosystems.” To this end, WCPA launched a new Task Force on Protected Areas and One Health in 2024. This Task Force published an [overview in PARKS](#) that describes how PCAs can be a nature-based solution for reducing pathogen spread, with emphasis on the relevance, challenges, and opportunities for integrating PCAs with One Health.

In addition, WCPA's Health and Well-Being Specialist Group is finalising a Technical Note on the benefits of visiting protected areas and coming into direct contact with nature on human health and well-being. Specifically, it recommends that a reconnection with nature will help to address interrelated environmental and health crises.



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Urban Conservation Strategies

WCPA's Urban Conservation Strategies Specialist Group focuses on PCAs in metropolitan areas. It works, for example, to control light pollution as a form of urbanisation that affects the circadian rhythm of plants and animals in natural ecosystems. The Group also works on promoting a vision of trails as both recreational infrastructure and conservation tools that offer opportunities for trailside interpretation and education through a dedicated Working Group on Trails and Conservation in collaboration with the Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group. In 2024, the Working Group strengthened its alliance with the World Trails Network, a global NGO focused on recreational trails, and brought the conservation message to the World Trails Conference held in Ottawa, Canada. In addition, it helped found the Pan American Trails Network, which aims to connect existing trails to create a route from Alaska to the southern tip of South America.



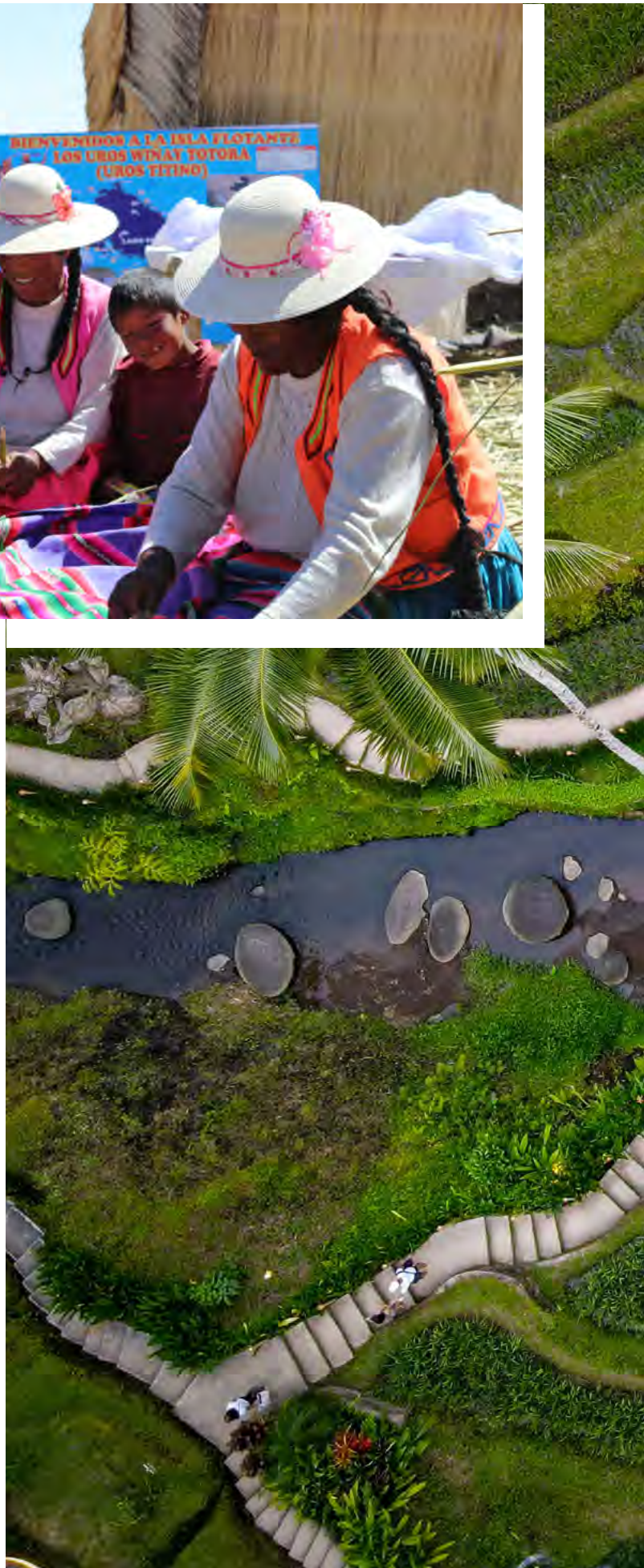
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Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas

WCPA's Specialist Group on Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas is concerned with cultural and spiritual values that support, foster, and respect the interrelated character of nature and culture in protected areas. The Specialist Group developed Good Practice Guidelines on the Cultural and Spiritual Significance of Nature in the Management and Governance of Protected and Conserved Areas and translated those guidelines into Spanish in 2024. In addition, Specialist Group members facilitated workshops on the cultural and spiritual significance of nature in managing diverse landscapes and participated in key global and regional policy events.

Sustainable tourism in protected areas

WCPA's Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group (TAPAS) supports the oversight of sustainable tourism in protected area systems and helps develop innovative approaches that recognise the fundamental role of nature in the travel and tourism industry. A key milestone in 2024 was TAPAS' advocacy for the adoption of WCC 2020 Resolution 130, which underscores the critical role of sustainable tourism in biodiversity conservation and strengthening community resilience. TAPAS has also played a pivotal role in supporting the implementation of the Nature Positive Travel and Tourism framework in collaboration with the United Nations World Tourism Organization, World Travel & Tourism Council, and Sustainable Hospitality Alliance.





WCPA Young Professionals Network

The IUCN WCPA Young Professionals (YP) Network brings together WCPA members from the ages of 18 to 35. The YP Network supports engagement within broader Commission activities and encourages the integration of young professionals into WCPA's Specialist Groups, Task Forces, Themes, and Regions. The network also works to facilitate and promote intergenerational collaboration and knowledge exchange between established and emerging protected area leaders and professionals.

The YP Network has made targeted efforts to expand its membership in countries and regions with less representation of young people within the Commission. It also continues to support the professional development of young people passionate about protected and conserved areas, including facilitating engagement within Specialist Groups and Task Forces across the Commission. The Network is currently reviewing its governance, structure, and strategy to ensure its continued success.

WCPA regional mentorship programmes Box 12

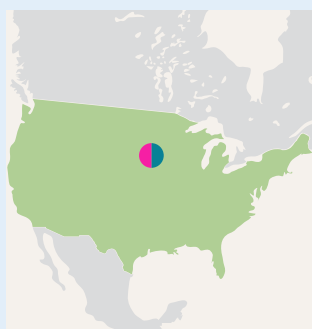
WCPA has started to foster the development of young professionals through regional mentorship programmes. The Latin America and Caribbean virtual mentorship programme, which concluded in 2024, engaged 18 pairs of mentors and mentees from the region, united by their dedication to protected and conserved areas. Participants exchanged knowledge and experiences related to the region's PCAs and planned their professional careers. WCPA also launched the Europe Mentorship Programme in 2024, which brought together emerging junior environmental leaders and senior conservation professionals to develop skills related to PCA challenges, help young people learn about the diverse realities of conservation, prepare them to face the global future challenges of sustainability, and to build up collaborative and cross-generational solutions for PCA challenges.

Influencing conservation efforts around the world

WCPA engaged in extensive policy advocacy, outreach, and capacity development through events that influenced efforts across all seven continents. Commission leaders and members played pivotal roles in advancing the Global Biodiversity Framework, advocated for effective protected and conserved areas in local, national, and international forums, and provided science-based expertise and guidance on nature conservation.



Key WCPA-supported convenings



The 12th World Wilderness Congress (WILD12), held in the Black Hills of South Dakota, USA from August 25 to 31, 2024, gathered more than 700 Indigenous leaders, conservation professionals, and wilderness advocates from 36 countries, including representatives from over 50 Tribes and Indigenous Nations, government agencies, Indigenous organisations, NGOs, academics, and the private sector. Held once every four years, the World Wilderness Congress is unique among civil society environmental forums as it provides the public a direct and

concrete instrument for setting the global environmental agenda. The event focused on reinterpreting wilderness through Indigenous perspectives, fostering collaborative efforts to protect biodiversity. WILD12 highlighted the crucial role of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in safeguarding the planet's remaining wild spaces. The outcomes of WILD12 included a set of Resolutions that will be incorporated into the global environmental agenda and adopted by individual organisations; the central He Sápa Resolution urges that the language used around conservation respect the rights and roles of Indigenous peoples, Indigenous knowledge and wisdom systems, and natural and customary law.

Fred Packard Awards Box 13

WCPA awarded two Fred Packard Awards for Outstanding Service to Protected Areas at WILD12. Named after the former Secretary of WCPA, the award honours individuals who have shown extraordinary valour and dedication to the preservation and protection of nature.

Vance Martin, Co-Chair of the IUCN WCPA Wilderness Specialist Group, was celebrated for his lifelong commitment to wilderness conservation. Through this award, WCPA recognised Vance's unique passion and lifelong commitment and work on wilderness protected areas.

Alan Watson, co-author of the Management Guidelines for IUCN Protected Area Category 1b (Wilderness) and committed wilderness researcher, was recognised for his long standing service to wilderness and the World Wilderness Congresses. Alan's leadership as Executive Editor of the International Journal of Wilderness has further cemented his legacy as a key figure in wilderness research and conservation.



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13th World Protected Areas Leaders Forum (WPALF)

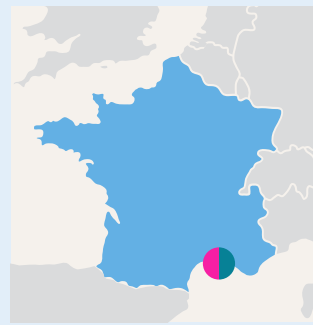
WCPA helped organise the 13th World Protected Areas Leaders Forum (WPALF), held in Turku, Finland, from July 1 to 5, 2024. The Forum convened 33 leaders from 16 countries to tackle critical issues in global conservation, and the agencies represented collectively manage over 23,000 PAs covering nearly 200 million hectares. The forum centered on three primary themes: mainstreaming protected areas, advancing natural capital and finance, and enhancing protected area management effectiveness. The Forum culminated in the adoption of the Turku Declaration, reaffirming the central role of PCAs in combating biodiversity loss and climate change and committing WPALF members to advancing global leadership, fostering cooperation, and integrating PCAs into broader economic and policy frameworks.



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10th International Ranger Federation (IRF) World Ranger Congress

In early October 2024, WCPA, through its role as a partner in the Universal Ranger Support Alliance (URSA), was one of the many sponsors of the 10th International Ranger Federation (IRF) World Ranger Congress (WRC10) in Hyères, France. The Congress, organised by the IRF and the Gardes Natures de France, brought together 450 rangers and supporters from 88 countries for a week of discussions and events. The importance of diversity, equity, and equality was a strong thematic focal point at WRC10. Dr. Madhu Rao, the Chair of WCPA, gave a keynote address, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between WCPA and IRF to continue close collaboration, and launched the first volume of the IUCN WCPA Good Practice Guidelines aimed at rangers.



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Influencing conservation efforts around the world map

- organised and/or facilitated
- participated

Large global convenings

- 1.** 19th Meeting of the UN Tourism Committee on Tourism and Sustainability (CTS) (San José, Costa Rica, 9–11 January 2024) ●
- 2.** Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) COP 14 (Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 12–17 February 2024) ●
- 3.** 9th World Fisheries Congress (Seattle, Washington, USA, 3–7 March 2024) ●
- 4.** SMART Congress (Windhoek, Namibia, 10–14 March 2024) ●
- 5.** Society for Ethnobiology Conference (St Louis, Missouri, USA, 26 April 2024) ●
- 6.** UNESCO International Conference "Cultural Heritage and Peace: Building on 70 years of the UNESCO Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict" (The Hague, Netherlands, 13–15 May 2024) ●
- 7.** 26th Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-26) (Nairobi, Kenya, 13–18 May 2024) ●
- 8.** 7th International Conference for the European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment (Potsdam, Germany, 17–19 May 2024) ●
- 9.** ATCM 46 and CEP 26 (46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting and 26th Committee for Environmental Protection Meeting) (Kochi, India, 20–30 May 2024) ●
- 10.** Immersed In Change 2024 (San Jose, Costa Rica, 7–8 June 2024) ●
- 11.** Sacred Waters: An International and Transdisciplinary Conference (Buxton, England, 30 June–4 July 2024) ●
- 12.** World Protected Area Leaders Forum (WPALF) 2024 (Turku, Finland, July 2–4 2024) ●
- 13.** 12th World Wilderness Congress (WILD12) (South Dakota, USA, 25–31 August 2024) ●
- 14.** 2024 Infrastructure & Ecology Network Europe (IENE) International Conference (Prague, Czech Republic, 9–13 September 2024) ●
- 15.** World Trails Conference (Ottawa, Canada, 30 September–3 Oct 2024) ●
- 16.** 10th International Ranger Federation (IRF) World Ranger Congress (Hyères, France, 7–11 October, 2024) ●
- 17.** Global Nature Positive Summit 2024 (Sydney, Australia, 8–10 October 2024) ●
- 18.** 7th International Marine Conservation Congress (Cape Town, South Africa, 13–18 October 2024) ●
- 19.** International Land Conservation Network (ILCN) Congress 2024 (Quebec, Canada, 16–18 October 2024) ●
- 20.** Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of the Parties (COP) 16 (Cali, Colombia, 21 October–1 November 2024) ●
- 21.** II International Congress of Mountains (CIMAS II) (Granada, Spain, 7–9 November 2024) ●
- 22.** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP 29 (Baku, Azerbaijan, 11–22 Nov 2024) ●
- 23.** UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) COP 16 (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2–13 December 2024) ●

Regional convenings and workshops

- 24.** Asia ISRA Workshop (Bali, Indonesia, 22–26 January 2024) ●
- 25.** Workshop on advancing rights and equity in area-based conservation (Nanyuki, Kenya, 31 January–3 February 2024) ●
- 26.** Second regional consultation meeting on updating the national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP) and adopting national biodiversity targets (NBTs) in alignment with the GBF (Assam, India, 6–7 February 2024) ●
- 27.** Second meeting of the Technical Expert Group on Financial Reporting (Istanbul, Türkiye, 26 February–1 March 2024) ●
- 28.** Consultative Meeting on the Role of the Ranger Workforce in Enhancing Implementation of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (Washington, DC, USA, 5 March 2024) ●
- 29.** Second Africa Protected Area Directors Meeting (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, 5–8 March 2024) ●
- 30.** Subregional workshop on Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework for Pacific Countries (Nadi, Fiji, 22–23 March 2024) ●
- 31.** Mexico, Central America & the Caribbean Regional Conservation Forum (RCF) (Mexico City, Mexico, 16–19 April 2024) ●
- 32.** Subregional workshop on Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework for Caribbean countries (Georgetown, Guyana, 18–19 April 2024) ●
- 33.** 11th edition of the Regional Coastal and Marine Forum of West Africa (Bissau, Guinea Bissau, 22–26 April 2024) ●
- 34.** International Capacity Building Workshop (Winter Harbor, Maine, USA, 12–17 May 2024) ●



- 35.** Important Marine Mammal Area Regional Workshop for the North West Atlantic Ocean and Wider Caribbean (Playa del Carmen, Mexico, 13–17 May 2024) ●●
- 36.** Congo Basin Forest Partnership 20th Meeting of the Parties (Kinshasa, DRC, 3–5 June 2024) ●
- 37.** European Man and the Biosphere (EuroMAB) Conference 2024 (Wittenberg, Germany, 3–7 June 2024) ●●
- 38.** Subregional workshop on Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework for Latin American countries (Punta Leona, Costa Rica, 9–13 June 2024) ●
- 39.** Northeastern North America / Turtle Island Landscape Connectivity Summit (Montreal, Canada, 11–13 June 2024) ●
- 40.** North American Congress for Conservation Biology 2024 (Vancouver, Canada, 23–28 June 2024) ●
- 41.** National Workshop on Advancing India's 30x30 Target Through Exploring Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) (Goa, India, 26–27 June 2024) ●
- 42.** Africa RCF (Nairobi, Kenya, 26–28 June 2024) ●●
- 43.** APAP regional OECMs workshop (Tokyo, Japan, 8–9 July 2024) ●●
- 44.** IUCN PA & OECM exchange meeting (Beijing, China, 16 July 2024) ●
- 45.** USA RCF (Arlington, USA, 20–22 August 2024) ●
- 46.** IUCN “One Health in Nature Conservation—Enhancing landscape resilience to zoonotic disease emergence by consolidating nature conservation systems in Central Asia” (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 28–29 August 2024) ●●
- 47.** EUROPARC TransParcNet meeting (Háldi Transboundary Area, Finland–Norway, 2–5 September 2024) ●
- 48.** Asia RCF (Bangkok, Thailand, 3–5 September 2024) ●●
- 49.** Connecting Continents: From Asia to Europe to Share on World Heritage and Transboundary Experiences (Bled, Slovenia, 9–11 September, 2024) ●●
- 50.** West Asia RCF (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 9–11 September 2024) ●●
- 51.** OECMs Collaborative Agenda 2025–2030: Towards Achieving Target 3 of the Global Biodiversity Framework in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 11–13 September 2024) ●●
- 52.** Management Effectiveness Feedback workshops for Taiwan National Parks (Taipei, Taiwan, ROC, 12–21 September 2024) ●
- 53.** Oceania RCF (Suva, Fiji, 16–20 September 2024) ●
- 54.** Europe, North and Central Asia RCF (Bruges, Belgium, 30 September–3 October 2024) ●●
- 55.** Canada RCF (Ottawa, Canada, 1–2 October 2024) ●
- 56.** South America RCF (Santa Marta, Colombia, 14–18 October) ●●
- 57.** Regional workshop to launch the Green List process in Central Africa (Yaoundé, Cameroon, 11–15 November 2024) ●●
- 58.** Southern African Development Community (SADC) Transfrontier Conservation Area (TFCA) Network Meeting (Cresta Mowana, Botswana, 19–21 Nov 2024) ●



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Delivering on IUCN World Conservation Congress Resolutions

IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) Resolutions are derived from the motions process, the mechanism by which members influence third parties and guide the organisation's policy and programme. These Resolutions represent the main body of IUCN's general policy.

Calls to action from over **67 Resolutions** and **2 Recommendations** from the 2020 IUCN WCC in Marseille and 2016 IUCN WCC in Jeju are relevant to WCPA's mandate and programme of work (Appendix II). Resolutions and Recommendations calling for specific action from WCPA are prioritised through the work of the Commission's Themes, Specialist Groups, and Task Forces.

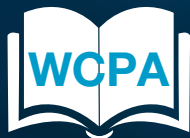
New WCPA publications supported calls to action across **21 IUCN Resolutions**

WCPA groups worked on **35 IUCN Resolutions through other engagement and advocacy efforts**

Three new Task Forces were created to further address 9 IUCN Resolutions: (i) An inter-commission Task Force on dams, (ii) a Task Force on Fisheries and MPAs/OECMs, and (iii) a Task Force on advancing Indigenous and community-led governance of PCAs (see associated Resolutions in Appendix II).



67 resolutions
from the 2020 and 2016
WCCs are relevant to
the 2021–2025 WCPA
work programme



publications
addressed
21 resolutions



WCPA groups
engaged with
35 IUCN
resolutions



three new
Task Forces
address
nine resolutions



Building and sharing knowledge

WCPA has several publication series, developed with global contributions and peer review, often in multiple languages, along with a peer-reviewed journal, a regular newsletter, and shorter technical notes.

Technical Report Series

Launched in 2014, this series focuses on specific methodologies or provides an overview of key issues relating to conservation and management. Eight have been published to date.

New Technical Reports included monitoring biodiversity in protected areas and protected areas and inland waters. Translations of OECM guidance appeared in Korean, Chinese, and Arabic.



Good Practice Guidelines Series

Since 1998, WCPA has published 36 widely-downloaded Good Practice Guidelines, including four in 2024 that focus on topics relevant to WCPA's mandate. Typically taking several years to produce, they draw on global experience and provide state-of-the-art guidance to practitioners.

New Good Practice Guidelines included overlaps between ICCAs and protected areas, building trust between rangers and communities, and guidance on OECMs, the last updated from an earlier report.

Technical Note Series

Short publications that are quick and easy to produce. They do not go through the IUCN peer review process but provide clarity on a technical issue or dialogue on a topic of concern.

New Technical Notes included natural climate solutions, renewable energy and PADDD, avoiding PADDD, freshwater OECMs, marine protected area planning, PAs for linked climate and biodiversity targets, defining "long term" for OECMs, reporting on the effectiveness of Target 3 of the GBF, and FAQs for marine OECMs.



PARKS: The International Journal of Protected Areas and Conservation

A peer-reviewed, open-access journal with no publication fees published in English with French and Spanish summaries. It aims to build global knowledge and best practices related to protected and conserved areas, corresponding to Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Some key issues covered in 2024: protected areas and One Health, rangers as first responders, OECMs, invasive alien species in protected areas, World Heritage Convention and its application, landscape approaches, management effectiveness, and species resilience.



Issues Paper series

A new series addressing topical issues related to protected areas and OECMs, aiming for a quick publication process, with five titles already published.

New Issues Papers included OECMs in Europe, climate and protected areas, equitable governance, biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning, and the meaning of nature.



IUCN WCPA's
PARKS Journal
 has a cite score of

5.8

Progress in 2024

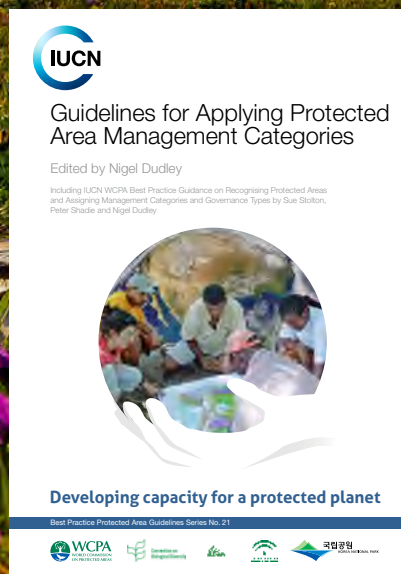
In 2024,
WCPA released



new publications
and **3** translations
of existing
reports



Guidelines for applying protected area management categories including IUCN WCPA best practice guidance on recognising protected areas and assigning management categories and governance types was once again by far the most downloaded document from the IUCN library, with over 46,000 downloads.



WCPA publication statistics

Good Practice Guidelines series



19. Guidelines for applying the IUCN protected area management categories to marine protected areas
 2019. English
1,594 downloads (2024)
 2,513 downloads (2023)
 6,590 downloads (2022)



20. Governance of protected areas: from understanding to action
 2013. **4 languages.** English, French, Spanish, Portuguese,
14,477 downloads (2024)
 8,998 downloads (2023)
 15,293 downloads (2022)



21. Guidelines for applying protected area management categories
 2008 & 2013. **9 languages.** English, Chinese, Arabic, Korean, Japanese, Romanian, Czech, French, Spanish
46,511 downloads (2024)
 53,891 downloads (2023)
 36,434 downloads (2022)



22. Urban protected areas: profiles and best practice guidelines
 2014. **3 languages.** English, French, Spanish
6,020 downloads (2024)
 2,602 downloads (2023)
 5,141 downloads (2022)



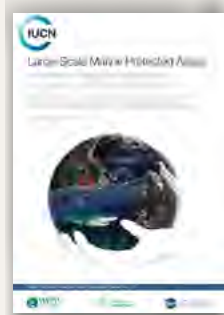
23. Transboundary conservation: a systematic and integrated approach
 2015. English
2,130 downloads (2024)
 2,231 downloads (2023)
 2,536 downloads (2022)



24. Adapting to climate change
 2016. English
3,963 downloads (2024)
 4,435 downloads (2023)
 4,153 downloads (2022)



25. Wilderness protected areas
 2016. English
5,031 downloads (2024)
 3,358 downloads (2023)
 1,526 downloads (2022)



26. Large-scale marine protected areas
 2017. English
2,227 downloads (2024)
 2,067 downloads (2023)
 2,021 downloads (2022)



27. Tourism and visitor management in protected areas
 2018. **6 languages.** English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Mongolian
22,703 downloads (2024)
 23,789 downloads (2023)
 28,876 downloads (2022)



28. Tools for measuring, modelling, and valuing ecosystem services
 2018. **2 languages.** English, Korean
2,247 downloads (2024)
 2,694 downloads (2023)
 4,515 downloads (2022)



29. Guidelines for privately protected areas
 2018. **6 languages.** English, French, Spanish, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese
7,618 downloads (2024)
 7,505 downloads (2023)
 6,562 downloads (2022)



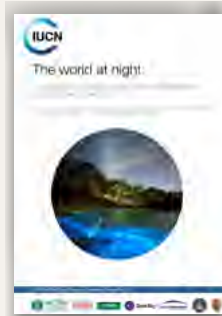
30. Guidelines for conserving connectivity through ecological networks and corridors
 2020. **5 languages.** English, French Spanish, Mongolian, Korean
3,651 downloads (2024)
 6,345 downloads (2023)
 15,729 downloads (2022)



31. Guidelines for geoconservation in protected and conserved areas
 2020. **6 languages.** English, French, Spanish, German, Arabic, Chinese
6,101 downloads (2024)
 10,078 downloads (2023)
 6,721 downloads (2022)



32. Cultural and spiritual significance of nature
 2020. **2 languages.** English, Spanish
5,459 downloads (2024)
 4,064 downloads (2022)



33. The world at night
 2024. English
7,011 downloads (2024)



34. Recognising territories and areas conserved by Indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas

2024. English

1,215 downloads (2024)



35. Building trust between rangers and communities

2024. English

831 downloads (2024)



36. Guidance on other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs)

2024. English

1,379 downloads (2024)

250,000 downloads in 2024

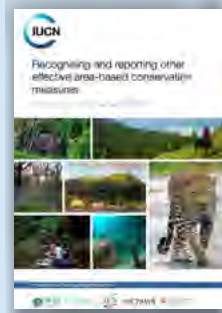
Technical Report Series



A global register of competences for protected area practitioners

2016. **5 languages.** English, French, Spanish, Nepali, Burmese

2,622 downloads (2024)
2,140 downloads (2023)
1,626 downloads (2022)



Recognising and reporting other effective area-based conservation measures

2019. **6 languages.** English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Chinese

10,457 downloads (2024)
6,549 downloads (2023)
5,334 downloads (2022)



Protected Areas Benefits Assessment Tool + (PA-BAT+)

2020. English

1,079 downloads (2024)
1,132 downloads (2023)
1,654 downloads (2022)



Site-level tool for identifying other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs): first edition

2023. **5 languages.** English, French, Indonesian, Portuguese, Spanish

3,824 downloads (2024)
2,140 downloads (2023)
1,626 downloads (2022)



Addressing ecological connectivity in the development of roads, railways and canals

2023. English

2,147 downloads (2024)
2,272 downloads (2023)



A framework for monitoring biodiversity in protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures

2024. English

6,678 downloads (2024)



Designing and managing protected and conserved areas to support inland water ecosystems and biodiversity

2024. English

1,675 downloads (2024)

New publications in 2025

There are more publications in the pipeline for 2025:

- Good Practice Guidelines on sustainable finance (Sustainable Finance Specialist Group).
- Guidance to enhance climate change mitigation in protected areas (Climate Change Specialist Group)
- Publication on Key Geodiversity Areas (Geoheritage Specialist Group).
- Technical guide to the SMART monitoring system (Capacity Development Thematic Group)
- An Issues Paper on the conservation of very large areas (Large Scale Conservation Task Force).
- A series of technical papers from the Restoration Task Force.

Several other publications are in early stages of development.

Acknowledgements and affiliations

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Any omissions to this list are inadvertent.

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Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara (Tethys Research Institute, Italy)

Ecological Integrity (Jointly with Commission on Ecosystem Management)

John Robinson (Wildlife Conservation Society, USA)
Emily Nicholson (University of Melbourne, Australia)

Protected Area Downgrading, Downsizing, and Degazettement

Rachel Golden Kroner (WWF-US, USA)
Alta DeVos (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)

Harmonizing Classifications & Nomenclature

Brent Mitchell (QLF International, USA)

Spatial Planning

Hedley Grantham (Bush Heritage Australia, Australia)
Vanessa Adams (University of Tasmania, Australia)

Integrating Human Wildlife Co-existence into Standards for PCAs

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Dams (inter-Commission)

Ian Harrison (Northern Arizona University, USA)
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Advancing Indigenous and Community-led Governance of PCAs (jointly with CEESP)

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Dan Laffoley (Independent, UK)
Kathleen Fitzgerald (Enduring Earth, USA)

Appendix I: Publications list

Area-based conservation and Target 3

- Doumenge, C., Nchoutpouen, C., Palla, F., & Laurencier-Le Boru, J. (2024). *30x30 target and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM) in Central Africa. Reconciling the protection of biodiversity and the sustainable development of human societies*. OFAC.
- Dudley, N., Timmins, H. L., Stolton, S., & Watson, J. E. M. (2024). Effectively incorporating small reserves into national systems of protected and conserved areas. *Diversity*, 16(4), 216.
- Redford, K. H. & Dudley, N. (2024). Areas of hope: Ensuring the conservation of future values of nature. *Oryx*, 58(3), 273–274.
- UNEP-WCMC & IUCN (2024). *Protected Planet Report 2024*. UNEP-WCMC & IUCN.
- WPALF (2024). *Report of the 2024 meeting of the World Protected Areas Leaders Forum*. Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Protected and Conserved Areas Team, & IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA).

Coastal and marine/oceans

- Carmine, G., Crespo, G.O., & Greenpeace International. (2024). *Untangled: How the Global Ocean Treaty can help repair high seas mismanagement*. Greenpeace International.
- Crespo, G. O., Griffiths, S., Murua, H., Österblom, H., & Lopez, J. (2024). Adaptive spatiotemporal management to reduce shark bycatch in tuna fisheries. *Conservation Biology*, 38(4), e14324.
- Delgado, J. P., Brennan, M. L., Stokes, E., & Wagner, D. (2024). A forgotten maritime highway: Maritime cultural heritage of the emperor seamounts with implications for high seas conservation. *Journal of Maritime Archaeology*, 19(1), 41–80.
- Hoyt, E., Braulik, G., Lanfredi, C., Minton, G., Panigada, S., Politi, E., Zanardelli, M., & Notarbartolo Di Sciara, G. (2024). Important Marine Mammal Areas celebrated—Yet some are now in danger. *Oryx*, 58(2), 146–147.
- Iorns, C., Leung, Y.-F., Caijiao, D., & Hotchkiss, C. (2024). *Report on ATCM 46 - CEP 26*. IUCN.
- IUCN SSC-WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force. (2024). *Final Report of the 10th IMMA Workshop*. IUCN SSC-WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force.
- IUCN SSC-WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force. (2024). *The IMMA Handbook March 2024*. IUCN SSC-WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force.
- IUCN WCPA. (2024). *IUCN WCPA policy guidance on fishing in MPAs*. IUCN WCPA.
- Jones, K.R., Bandimere, A., Boyd, C., Chaisson, S., Davies, T., Hoyt, E., Jabado, R., Neugarten, R., Notarbartolo di Sciara, G., Palmer, C., Paredes, F., Rathbone, V., Rodríguez, J.P., Stephenson, F., Wallace, B., Woodley, S., & Yerena, E. (2024). *Approaches for identifying areas of particular importance for marine biodiversity*, Technical Note No. 16. IUCN WCPA.
- Nocito, E.S. & Crespo, G.O. (2024). *Achieving the 30x30 target through the global ocean treaty*. Greenpeace International.

Cultural and spiritual values of protected areas

- Bernbaum, E. (2024). The sacred identity of mountains. In F. O. Sarmiento & A. Gunya (Eds.), *Mountain Lexicon* (Vol. 2, pp. 69–72). Springer Nature.
- De Pater, C., Verschuuren, B., Greil, S., & Wals, A. (2024). Exploring spiritual values in forest management practices in the Netherlands. *Trees, Forests and People*, 16, 100522.
- Deák, B., Bede, Á., Süveges, K., Dózsai, J., Ormsby, A. A., Dixon, A. R., & Valkó, O. (2024). Synergies and trade-offs between cultural and natural values of sacred sites – a case study of ancient burial mounds in Central Europe. *Human Ecology*, 52(4), 743–756.
- Georgiadis, C. Tsiakiris, R., Stara, K., Memtsas, G., Petsopoulos, D., Bataka, A., Legakis, A., & Avtzis, D.M. (2023). An army of ants in the defense of the sacred: The myrmecofauna (Hymenoptera, formicidae) of the sacred trees of ipeiros(North west greece). *International Journal of Zoology and Animal Biology*, 6(6), 1–12.
- Infield, M. (2024). *Beautiful beasts, beautiful lands: The fall and rise of an African national park*. Whittles Publishing.
- Marini Govigli, V., Healey, J. R., Wong, J. L. G., Stara, K., Tsiakiris, R., & Halley, J. M. (2024). Exploring spatial and temporal resilience in socio-ecological systems: Evidence from sacred forests in Epirus, Greece. *People and Nature*, 6(3), 1206–1219.
- Rössler, M. (2024). Europe: Heritage and Quality of Life. In A. Kamińska & M. Daszewska (Eds.), *Jacek Purchla: Connecting worlds, connecting people* (pp. 205–216). International Cultural Centre.
- Rössler, M. (2024). Trockensteinbau: Immaterielle praktiken und UNESCO weiterbe kulturlandschaften. *Paragrana*, 33(2), 185–195.
- Sarmiento, F. O., & Bernbaum, E. (2024). Named and gendered mountains. In F. O. Sarmiento & A. Gunya (Eds.), *Mountain Lexicon* (Vol. 2, pp. 79–87). Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Stara, K. (2024). Walking the path of the centuries-old sacred trees of Zagori. In J. M. Halley & K. Stara (Eds.), *PALASE: A field station in the heart of the Pindos mountains* (pp. 80–85). University of Ioannina.
- Stara, K., Tsiakiris, R., Wong, J.L.G., Healey, J.R., Marini Govigli, V., & Halley, J.M. (in press). Can spirituality save centuries-old trees and forests? A study from the mountains of NW Greece. *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science*.
- Tsiakiris, R., Stara, K., Marini-Govigli, V., & Wong, J.L.G. (2024). Walking in sacred forests with Oliver Rackham: a conversation about relict landscapes in Epirus NW Greece. In I. D. Rotherham & J. A. Moody (Eds.), *Countryside History: Collected essays in honor of the late Professor Oliver Rackham* (pp. 212–215). Pelagic Publishing.
- Wang, S., Blasco, D., Verschuuren, B., & Hamzah, A. (2024). Seeking transcendence in the depths of the soul: An exploration into current spiritual journeys. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 1–13.
- Wood, K. A., Jupe, L. L., Aguiar, F. C., Collins, A. M., Davidson, S. J., Freeman, W., Kirkpatrick, L., Lobato-de Magalhães, T., McKinley, E., Nuno, A., Pagès, J. F., Petruzzella, A., Pritchard, D., Reeves, J. P., Thomaz, S. M., Thornton, S. A., Yamashita, H., & Newth, J. L. (2024). A global systematic review of the cultural ecosystem services provided by wetlands. *Ecosystem Services*, 70, 101673.

Ecological connectivity

- Bezaury, J. (2024). *Conectividad para la conservación de la biodiversidad en México. Estado actual, retos y perspectivas*. Agencia Francesa de Desarrollo.
- Center for Large Landscape Conservation & IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group. (2024). *Ecological Connectivity in Updated NBSAPs*. Center for Large Landscape Conservation & IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group.
- Gardner, J. P. A., Lausche, B., Pittman, S. J., & Metaxas, A. (2024). Marine connectivity conservation: Guidance for MPA and MPA network design and management. *Marine Policy*, 167, 106250.
- González-Gallina, A., Rizo-Aguilar, A., & González-Zariñana, B. (2024). Ando volando bajo. *Therya Ixmana*, 4(1), 6–7.
- Kindel, A., Zank, C., Teixeira, F. Z., Beduschi, J., Gonçalves, L. O., & Menger, T. (Eds.). (2024). *Protocolos de avaliação de fatalidades de anfíbios em rodovias e de monitoramento da efetividade de medidas mitigadoras*. UFRGS IB Centro de Ecologia.
- Martínez, N., Goossen-Lebrón, T., Bauer, F., Espínola, V., Ortiz, M. B., & Gonçalves, L. O. (2024). Unveiling the hidden impact: Wildlife roadkill assessment in the Paraguayan Chaco. *Austral Ecology*, 49(9), e13599.
- Metaxas, A., Harrison, A.-L., & Dunn, D. (2024). From oceans apart to the global ocean: Including marine connectivity in global conservation targets. *Npj Ocean Sustainability*, 3(1), 1–5.
- Theobald, D., Keeley, A., Laur, A., Oppler, G. (2024). *Practical Guidance on Indicators of connectivity for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*. Center for Large Landscape Conservation & IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group.

Freshwater

- IUCN WCPA Freshwater Specialist Group. (2024). *The role of OECMs for inland water biodiversity outcomes*, Technical Note No. 17. IUCN WCPA.
- Moberg, T., Abell, R., Dudley, N., Harrison, I., Kang, S., Rocha Loures, F., Shahbol, N., Thieme, M., & Timmins, H.L. (2024). *Designing and managing protected and conserved areas to support inland water ecosystems and biodiversity*, IUCN WCPA Technical Report Series No. 8. IUCN.

General conservation action

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Geoheritage

- Justice, S., Crofts, R., Gordon, J.E. & Gray, M. (2025). *The Meaning of Nature: Clarification for strengthened protection and management*, IUCN WCPA Issues Paper Series No. 5. IUCN.

Health and well-being

- Hewlett, D., Gray, D., Gunton, R., Munro, T., Agarwal, S., Breed, M., Skelly, C., Weinstein, P., Terradillos, A., Lavrushkina, N., & Byrne, D. (2024). Significant spaces: Exploring the health and wellbeing impacts of natural environments. In N. Finneran, D. Hewlett, & R. Clarke (Eds.), *Managing Protected Areas: People and Places* (pp. 167–192). Springer International Publishing.
- Hopkins, S. R., Olson, S. H., Fairbank, H. T., Redford, K. H., Adams, J., Mitchell, B. A., Nova, N., Muylaert, R. L., Morand, S., Miller, A., & Rao, M. (2024). Editorial essay: Protected areas and one health. *PARKS*, 30(1), 6–13.
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OECMs

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Appendix II: Summary of resolutions activities

Res/Rec #	English title	New WCPA publication released in 2024	Continued WCPA group engagement and advocacy in 2024	New Task Force created in 2024
WCC-2016-Res-030	Recognising and respecting the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas	yes	yes	yes
WCC-2016-Res-032	Achieving representative systems of protected areas in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean		yes	
WCC-2016-Res-033	Recognising cultural and spiritual significance of nature in protected and conserved areas	yes	yes	yes
WCC-2016-Res-034	Observing protected area norms in the Wild Heart of Europe			
WCC-2016-Res-035	Transboundary cooperation and protected areas		yes	
WCC-2016-Res-036	Supporting privately protected areas	yes	yes	
WCC-2016-Res-039	Protected areas as natural solutions to climate change	yes	yes	
WCC-2016-Res-041	Key Biodiversity Areas	yes	yes	
WCC-2016-Res-050	Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation	yes	yes	
WCC-2016-Res-055	Concerns about whaling under special permits			
WCC-2016-Res-064	Strengthening cross-sector partnerships to recognise the contributions of nature to health, well-being and quality of life	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Rec-024	For an improved management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADs) in purse seine fisheries			
WCC-2020-Rec-052	Dams in the Alto Paraguay River Basin, the Pantanal and the Paraguay-Paraná Wetland System			
WCC-2020-Res-034	Ecological Integrity in the Global Biodiversity Framework		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-035	Promoting IUCN leadership in the implementation of the UN Decade on Restoration 2021–2030	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-002	Strengthened institutional inclusion concerning indigenous peoples	yes	yes	yes
WCC-2020-Res-008	Protecting rivers and their associated ecosystems as corridors in a changing climate	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-009	Protecting and restoring endangered grassland and savannah ecosystems			
WCC-2020-Res-013	Supporting the Lower Mekong Basin countries with the transboundary management of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity			
WCC-2020-Res-014	The importance of a cross-border approach to prioritise biodiversity conservation, adaptation to climate change and risk management in the Río de la Plata Basin			
WCC-2020-Res-015	Cooperation on transboundary fresh waters to ensure ecosystem conservation, climate resilience and sustainable development		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-016	Conservation of spring ecosystems in the Mediterranean region			
WCC-2020-Res-017	Protection of natural flows of water for the conservation of wetlands	yes		
WCC-2020-Res-018	Valuing and protecting inland fisheries	yes	yes	

Res/Rec #	English title	New WCPA publication released in 2024	Continued WCPA group engagement and advocacy in 2024	New Task Force created in 2024
WCC-2020-Res-030	Enhancing the resilience of coastal areas in the face of climate change, biodiversity crisis and rapid coastal development			
WCC-2020-Res-032	Ocean impacts of climate change		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-036	Declaration of global priority for conservation in the Amazon Biome			
WCC-2020-Res-041	Ensuring funding to secure rights and secure ecologies			yes
WCC-2020-Res-049	Mainstreaming the Cerrado in international cooperation and global environmental funds			
WCC-2020-Res-055	Guidance to identify industrial fishing incompatible with protected areas			yes
WCC-2020-Res-057	Accounting for biodiversity: encompassing ecosystems, species and genetic diversity			
WCC-2020-Res-060	Promotion of the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions			
WCC-2020-Res-064	Promoting conservation through behaviour-centred solutions		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-065	Enhancing knowledge of natural resource conservation and alternative sustainable energy models through faith-based organisation networks			
WCC-2020-Res-067	Call for Nature in Cities agendas and Strengthening the IUCN Urban Alliance		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-068	Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area			
WCC-2020-Res-069	Eliminate plastic pollution in protected areas, with priority action on single-use plastic products			
WCC-2020-Res-071	Wildlife-friendly linear infrastructure		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-073	Ecological connectivity conservation in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework: from local to international levels	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-074	Geoheritage and protected areas	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-075	Transboundary cooperation for conservation of big cats in Northeast Asia			
WCC-2020-Res-076	Building and strengthening wildlife economies in Eastern and Southern Africa			
WCC-2020-Res-080	Recognising, reporting and supporting other effective area-based conservation measures	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-081	Strengthening national spatial planning to ensure the global persistence of biodiversity	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-083	Ensuring the compatibility of human activities with conservation objectives in protected areas			
WCC-2020-Res-084	Global response to protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADDD)	yes		
WCC-2020-Res-085	Rewilding	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-101	Addressing human-wildlife conflict: fostering a safe and beneficial coexistence of people and wildlife		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-104	Next IUCN World Parks Congress		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-105	Conserving and protecting coral reefs through the post-2020 global biodiversity framework			

Res/Rec #	English title	New WCPA publication released in 2024	Continued WCPA group engagement and advocacy in 2024	New Task Force created in 2024
WCC-2020-Res-106	Protection of Kakadu World Heritage site and rehabilitation of the Ranger uranium mine and Ranger Project Area			
WCC-2020-Res-107	Reducing the impact of fisheries on marine biodiversity		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-111	Protection of Andes-Amazon rivers of Peru: the Marañón, Ucayali, Huallaga and Amazonas, from large-scale infrastructure projects			
WCC-2020-Res-112	Planning of maritime areas and biodiversity and geodiversity conservation			
WCC-2020-Res-113	Restoring a peaceful and quiet ocean		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-114	Integrated solutions to the climate change and biodiversity crises	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-116	Develop and implement a transformational and effective post-2020 global biodiversity framework			
WCC-2020-Res-122	Protection of deep-ocean ecosystems and biodiversity through a moratorium on seabed mining		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-125	Setting area-based conservation targets based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-127	Strengthening the protection of primary and old-growth forests in Europe and facilitating their restoration where possible			
WCC-2020-Res-128	Acting for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the ocean beyond national jurisdiction		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-129	Avoiding the point of no return in the Amazon protecting 80% by 2025			
WCC-2020-Res-130	Strengthening sustainable tourism's role in biodiversity conservation and community resilience		yes	
WCC-2020-Res-133	Call to withdraw draft-permit mining of fossil fuels underneath UNESCO World Heritage Site Wadden Sea			
WCC-2020-Res-134	Protecting the Lower Congo River from large hydro-electric dam developments			yes
WCC-2020-Res-135	Promoting human, animal and environmental health, and preventing pandemics through the One Health approach and by addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss	yes	yes	
WCC-2020-Res-118	Recognising and supporting indigenous peoples' and local communities' rights and roles in conservation	yes	yes	yes
WCC-2020-Res-115	Protecting environmental human and peoples' rights defenders and whistleblowers			yes
WCC-2016-Res-075	Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts			yes
Total	21	35		9

IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations



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