

17.36 WILDERNESS AS A CATEGORY OF PROTECTED AREA

RECOGNIZING that a growing number of nations are setting aside wilderness areas as important components of their systems of protected areas;

BEARING IN MIND the fact that wilderness embodies a prescription for land management that is different from that applied both to national parks and to strict nature reserves in that it entails allowing a type of low -impact recreation in an environment free of roads, and free of extraction or removal of natural resources;

RECALLING that IUCN at the 16th Session of the General Assembly (1984) urged all nations to designate wilderness areas;

AWARE that IUCN's Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas has now recommended that wilderness be included within its system for classifying protected areas, in pursuance of the implications of Resolution 16/34 of the 16th Session of the General Assembly;

The General Assembly of IUCN, at its 17th Session in San Jose, Costa Rica, 1-10 February 1988:

CONGRATULATES the Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas for developing this proposal to adopt wilderness within its system for classifying protected areas.

