

The EarthTrends Information Guide for Protected Areas



EarthTrends

Environmental Information

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EarthTrends

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Protected areas have been established throughout the world as a means of managing threatened ecosystems and ecosystem services, protecting species from extinction, and maintaining cultural diversity and resources. They can be terrestrial and/or marine and are typically classified in one of six categories according to criteria established by the World Conservation Union (IUCN). The earth now has more than 100,000 protected areas, covering over 10% of the planet's land area.

Still, the impacts of human activities continue to threaten species and the ability of ecosystems to provide goods and services. This is critical in regions especially rich in biodiversity. Analysis of protected areas information alongside other pertinent indicators such as population, gross national product, number of threatened species, and area of land used for agriculture is therefore essential for national and international conservation strategies.

Find the following **Protected Areas Information** and much more on **EarthTrends**.

SEARCHABLE DATABASE

[http://earthtrends.wri.org/searchable_db/index.php?theme=7]

Protected Areas: Biosphere reserves, number

IUCN categories I-V, extent and percent of total land area

Larger than 100,000 hectares, number

Larger than one million hectares, number

Marine or Littoral, Total number

Transfrontier Protected Area Complexes

Wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites), number

World heritage sites, extent, number, and number in danger

MAPS

[http://earthtrends.wri.org/maps_spatial/index.php?theme=7]

Wetlands, Dams, and Ramsar Sites in Africa

Percent of Total Land Area Protected (all designations and IUCN Designations I-V)

Protected Areas in Grasslands

Global 200 Forest Ecoregions

FEATURES

[<http://earthtrends.wri.org/datatables/index.php?theme=7>]

Bioinvasions: Stemming the Tide of Exotic Species

Domesticating the World: Conversion of Natural Ecosystems

Protecting Ecosystems in a Changing World

DATA TABLES

[<http://earthtrends.wri.org/datatables/index.php?theme=7>]

Biodiversity Overview

Protected Areas

LINKS

Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) [<http://www.biodiv.org>]

Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)

[<http://www.cites.org>]

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands [<http://www.ramsar.org>]

The World Conservation Union (IUCN) [<http://www.iucn.org>]

World Conservation Monitoring Center (WCMC) [<http://www.unep-wcmc.org>]