## TERMS OF REFERENCE
### IUCN WCPA GREEN LIST SPECIALIST GROUP

### Background

The WCPA IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas (“IUCN Green List” (standard) and broader GLPCA Programme) Specialist Group will contribute to fostering an IUCN Green List Community within WCPA and across the Union that works to develop and support the IUCN Green List as a major IUCN initiative to improve the management of protected areas globally. Integral to the IUCN Green List initiative is a new global standard for protected areas in the 21st Century. In line with IUCN’s core mission of ‘A just world that values and conserves nature’ the aim of the IUCN Green List Standard is to improve the contribution that equitably and effectively managed protected areas make to sustainable development through the conservation of nature and provision of associated social, economic, cultural, and spiritual values.

The IUCN Green List has been developed as a joint initiative of the WCPA and the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme (GPAP). Its development was supported by resolution WCC-2012-41 of the World Conservation Congress in 2012. The IUCN Green List was piloted in eight countries from 2012 to 2014 and the results of the pilot were presented in a launch event and workshop sessions at the World Parks Congress in 2014. Following the completion of the pilot programme, the IUCN Green List Standard has been revised to reflect lessons learnt during the testing, and an IUCN Green List User Manual and associated information management systems are in place. The IUCN Green List is strategically managed through a Leadership Team co-chaired by the GPAP Director and the nominee of the WCPA Chair; and is operationally managed through an Operations Team led by GPAP’s Community Manager for the IUCN Green List.

WCPA has a critical role to play in the IUCN Green List as WCPA members are likely to play prominent roles in various elements of the IUCN Green List, including Expert Assessment Groups - Green List (EAGL) which provide the main expert scientific and technical assessments of candidate sites. EA+GL members who are not members of WCPA will be nominated to the WCPA Chair if they wish to become members. WCPA members are also likely to provide mentoring support for candidate sites. The Specialist Group will work closely with the Management Effectiveness Specialist Group, also Governance, Marine and other thematic specialist groups as relevant to the IUCN Green List.


### Objectives of the IUCN WCPA Green List Specialist Group

1. **At a global level,** to serve as a focal point within WCPA to coordinate WCPA members contributing (or interested to contribute) to the IUCN Green List Community globally through standard development (including recruitment to the Standards Group and thematic working groups), capacity development, communication and outreach.

2. **To support implementation of the IUCN Green List at regional and national level by:**
   - identifying, in collaboration with the relevant Regional Vice-Chair, Specialist Group members who can act as regional and/or national focal points for the GLPCA;
   - providing regional and national capacity building, peer-learning and outreach information on the Green List standard and programme;
   - directly supporting implementation or Green List training by serving as EAGL members, Mentors or Associate Reviewers (these are expected to be mostly short to medium term commitments over a few years).
3. To collaborate with members of the WCPA Management Effectiveness SG, also Governance, Marine and other thematic specialist groups as relevant to the IUCN Green List, to help ensure that work on the Green List, management effectiveness, and other relevant issues within WCPA relevant to the Green List standard remains cross-cutting across WCPA.

4. To serve as a new WCPA membership focal point for interested non-WCPA members who are part of the Green List Community.

**Governance of the IUCN WCPA Green List Specialist Group**

1. The Green List Specialist Group will be managed by a Specialist Group Chair appointed by the WCPA Chair.

2. The SG will be coordinated and report to the WCPA Steering Committee through the WCPA Science and Management Thematic Program; and will coordinate closely with the IUCN Green List operations team.

3. The Specialist Group Chair will be supported by Coordination Committee consisting of:
   - any SG members who are members of the GLPCA Standards Group
   - any SG members who are Regional Focal Points for the GLPCA
   - the Chair of the Management Effectiveness SG
   - a representative of the GPAP Director

4. The Specialist Group Chair will prepare, in collaboration with GPAP, the IUCN Green List operations teams, and relevant Regional WCPA Vice-Chairs, an annual programme of work to be submitted for approval to the WCPA Chair prior to the annual meeting of the WCPA Steering Committee.