UNESCO’s 42nd World Heritage Committee meeting

This week, IUCN gives advice to the World Heritage Committee, which meets in Bahrain from 24 June to 4 July. On Tuesday, the Committee followed IUCN’s advice to lift the in-danger status of the Belize Barrier Reef System after the country banned all offshore oil and gas activities. On Thursday, IUCN’s recommendations to danger-list Lake Turkana National Parks in Kenya, which is threatened by the Gibe III dam, and Socotra Archipelago in Yemen, whose ecosystems are affected by unsustainable development, will be discussed. 

Read more

Pathfinder Award for innovation in nature conservation

IUCN, UNDP and WILDArk have joined forces for the inaugural Pathfinder Award, which recognises outstanding and innovative solutions for financing and resourcing of protected and conserved areas, developed by individuals, organizations or groups. Nominations can be submitted until 15 August in English or French (Spanish version coming soon). The winner will receive 10,000 US$ towards their conservation efforts, and will be invited to the award ceremony during the CBD’s Conference of the Parties in Egypt in November. The 2018 award is organised in co-operation with the UNDP-Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) and PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet.

Read more
The Journey of the Cook Islands Marae Moana
The marine park known as Marae Moana, literally translated as Sacred Ocean, was legislated in July, 2017. This includes a 50 nautical mile exclusion zone around each of the 15 islands which are no-take fishing zones protected under Marae Moana, leaving this for island communities to use. The Marae Moana policy recognises the connectivity between terrestrial and marine environments and as such, supports conservation action on the land which may adversely impact the marine environment.

Read more

INSPIRING SOLUTIONS

Success factors for conservation in the Rio Negro basin
Jaú National Park in Brazil represents one of the largest extensions of protected tropical rainforest in the world, but its creation as a strict protection area resulted in tensions over use rights with local and afro-descendent communities. Access to natural resources has been restored through a co-management contract and a series of agreements among the 6 communities living in the park, and has been aligned with protection through a “conservation mosaics” approach.

Read more

PANORAMA

Protected area solution case studies receive makeover
PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet has been promoting success stories in protected area management and governance since the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014. Many of the less recent solutions have now been updated: learn more e.g. about celebrations to create “conservation contagion” in Manas Biosphere Reserve, India; sustainable MPA financing in California; the alignment of protection and use in Wudalianchi Global Geopark, China; or the re-enactment of a historical walk in the Blue Mountains National Park, Australia.

GREEN LIST

Testing phase of LIFE Green List for the Natura 2000 project
IUCN is currently carrying out the EU-funded LIFE project – “Improving the performance of the Natura 2000 network through a Green Listing approach” - to determine the feasibility of applying the IUCN Green List Sustainability Standard to Natura 2000. As part of the project, participants have begun testing a set of indicators in the different sites throughout the Natura 2000 network.

Read more
Caribbean Green List webinar
Management effectiveness is one of the key themes of IUCN's protected area work. For the Caribbean region, the IUCN Green List and the BIOPAMA Programme joined forces to guide countries and sites in achieving overall improvements in governance and management. A webinar introducing the IUCN Green List to the Caribbean was organized earlier this month, and was followed by a workshop in Saint Lucia, 25-27 June.

Watch the video

Read the Green List Bulletin - June 2018 for the most recent Green List updates!

BIOPAMA

The Pacific convenes key regional protected area event
With the aim to strengthen the management and governance of protected areas in the Pacific region, close to one hundred participants from governments, NGO stakeholders and other protected area actors convened in Apia, Samoa in June 2018 for a one week meeting that launched the second phase of the BIOPAMA programme and set its priority actions for the next five years. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is BIOPAMA's regional implementing partner.

Read more

BIOPAMA launched in Eastern Africa
At the end of May 2018, nearly 70 participants gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, for the launch of BIOPAMA's second phase. The workshop was successful in identifying a number of key regional priorities and areas of collaboration to strengthen protected area management effectiveness, governance and equity. The forum also provided an invaluable platform for government and non-governmental partners to meaningfully network through a number of facilitated group discussions.

Read more

GOVERNANCE

Diversity is key to good governance
As part of the ongoing IUCN Green List activities in Peru and in coordination with the Global Support Initiative for ICCAs, a national system level governance assessment workshop kicked off in Lima, on 15 June 2018 for three days. The wide diversity of participants ensured a thoughtful debate around the current recognition of the four IUCN/CBD governance types in Peru and also the current quality of the existing governance arrangements.

Read more

NATURE FOR ALL
Bioblitz Canada 150 – Results of Canada’s “Nature Selfie”

Bioblitz Canada 150, a “citizen science” project celebrating Canada’s 150th anniversary in 2017, brought Canadians of all ages alongside scientists and conservation experts to find flora and fauna using the iNaturalist App. The discoveries, of which 7,510 species were catalogued, help ensure these species and spaces remain for generations to come.

Read more

HOT OFF THE PRESS

IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2

IUCN's flagship product on natural World Heritage, the IUCN World Heritage Outlook, is now available in more languages! You can now read the 2017 report, **IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2**, in French and Spanish, with a Chinese version coming soon. The website [worldheritageoutlook.iucn.org](http://worldheritageoutlook.iucn.org) is now also in French, Spanish and Arabic, with all site assessments in the Arab region translated into Arabic thanks to generous support from the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage.

Biophysical Design Principles for Offshore Networks of No-take Marine Protected Areas

This report provides clear and systematic guidance for decision-makers on the placement and size of marine protected areas in offshore environments. It was developed by the MACBIO project, implemented by GIZ with technical support of the IUCN Oceania Regional Office and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, and launched at the BIOPAMA Inception Workshop for the Pacific earlier this month.

Read more

Gouvernance et gestion des aires protégées

The "Protected Area Governance and Management" book is currently being translated to French. The first four chapters are now available: Préface; Introduction; Concept, objectifs et défis; Le patrimoine naturel de la terre; Le patrimoine culturel de la terre.

Read more

News on African Protected Areas

The **120th edition of the NAPA** talks of the laws for conservation of protected areas in Africa. It reminds us of the online training courses (MOOC) on PA Management, Ecological Monitoring, Law Enforcement and Species Conservation.

*La NAPA n°120* nous parle de l’application des lois pour la conservation des AP en Afrique et rappelle nos formations en ligne (MOOC) sur la gestion des AP, le suivi écologique, l’application des lois et la conservation des espèces.

Pacific Protected Area News

The **Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal** (PIPAP) is the region’s one-stop resource hub to support decision-making, more effective protected area management and governance, and biodiversity conservation in the Pacific region. Implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the BIOPAMA Programme, one of the PIPAP services is to provides the most recent and relevant protected area-related news. Read more
IUCN Director General’s statement for World Environment Day and World Oceans Day 2018

We have all seen the images of plastic polluting beaches and entangling marine animals from the tropics to the Arctic. Plastic pollution has become a truly global environmental problem, just as plastic itself is an all-pervasive part of our lives. On this World Environment Day, we are reminded that this challenge has no easy solutions. Read more

EVENTS & GET INVOLVED

UNESCO World Heritage Committee Meeting, 24 June to 4 July 2018
Nominations to the World Heritage List will take centre stage during the weekend. IUCN recommends inscribing four new sites for their natural values: Pimachiowin Aki in Canada, Chiribiquete National Park – "The Maloca of the Jaguar" in Colombia, Chaîne des Puys - Limagne fault tectonic arena in France and Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Valley: originary habitat of Mesoamerica in Mexico. Follow IUCN’s news

Open Call for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries to contribute to the new Global Database on Protected Area Visitation
The European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC), in partnership with UN Environment-WCMC and the IUCN Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist (TAPAS) Group, invites protected area agencies from the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries to apply for participation in the ‘Enhancing tourism-related information on protected areas’ initiative. Submit your proposal by 15 August 2018.

A Social Media Campaign on Protected Areas in North Africa and the Middle East
The region of North Africa, Middle East and West Asia is often in the news because of the numerous conflicts. It is least known for the beauty of its nature and even less for its protected areas. An IUCN WCPA member, Rabii Ben Brahim, alias “The Dreamer” is leading a new communication campaign aimed at inciting the general public to discover the protected areas in the region, debate about their role in sustainable development, and build stronger public support for their effective management. Stories are published in Arabic and English, and will primarily use the Hashtag #مَسْتَقِبِّلَنَا، #مُحْمَيَّاتِنَا and #Our_Parks_Our_Future. Join the Dreamer’s 120,000 followers on Facebook and Instagram.

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The monthly Protecting the Planet newsletter aims to keep IUCN WCPA members, IUCN staff, and the wider IUCN network up-to-date with protected and conserved area news and announcements. Past issues are available on the IUCN Protected Areas website.

View the IUCN CEM newsletter or IUCN SSC Species e-bulletin, or sign up for other IUCN newsletters here.

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