



IUCN  
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# *The Protected Area Governance and Management Book*

(A Published Book and an E-Book)



*Briefing Note*

*October 2014*

## **Welcome!**

This briefing note concerns an exciting new contribution by IUCN that will help facilitate improved biodiversity conservation on Earth. IUCN is the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, it is a Non-Government Organisation and its mission is “*to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable*”. As part of this work, one of its six Commissions, the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) has spent two and a half years in researching and preparing a comprehensive new text and information source for all aspects of governing and managing protected areas.

This new book, titled *Protected Area Governance and Management*, is a direct investment in the effective governance and management of protected areas for the long term. It will achieve this by providing the latest and best professional information needed for protected area practitioner capacity development to the highest competency standards required. The new compendium book will be a principal source of information for every new student of protected area governance and management for all nations of Earth. It will also assist current practitioners, policy makers, planners and other professionals and it will help achieve the effective management of protected areas. Consequently, this new book is a direct investment in achieving better biodiversity conservation on Earth.

## **A Free Book**

The book is a true compendium text prepared by leading protected area experts and organisations and at 1000 pages, it deals with all aspects of protected area governance and management. It will be available free to everybody in an electronic form. It is a full colour production and A4 in size. For those that would like to receive it in a printed form, the book will be available at actual cost of printing plus postage and it will also be downloadable as individual chapters in pdf format.

## **The Vision**

The vision for the book project from its inception reflected an IUCN “one programme” approach stating: “Management of protected areas for biodiversity and other heritage conservation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is effective and achieved through well-trained, competent and professional managers applying readily available best practice management information sourced from IUCN’s *Protected Area Governance and Management Book*; IUCN WCPA’s Best Practice Guidelines, peers, elders and other best practice guidance information sources”.

## **One of WCPA’s largest single book projects**

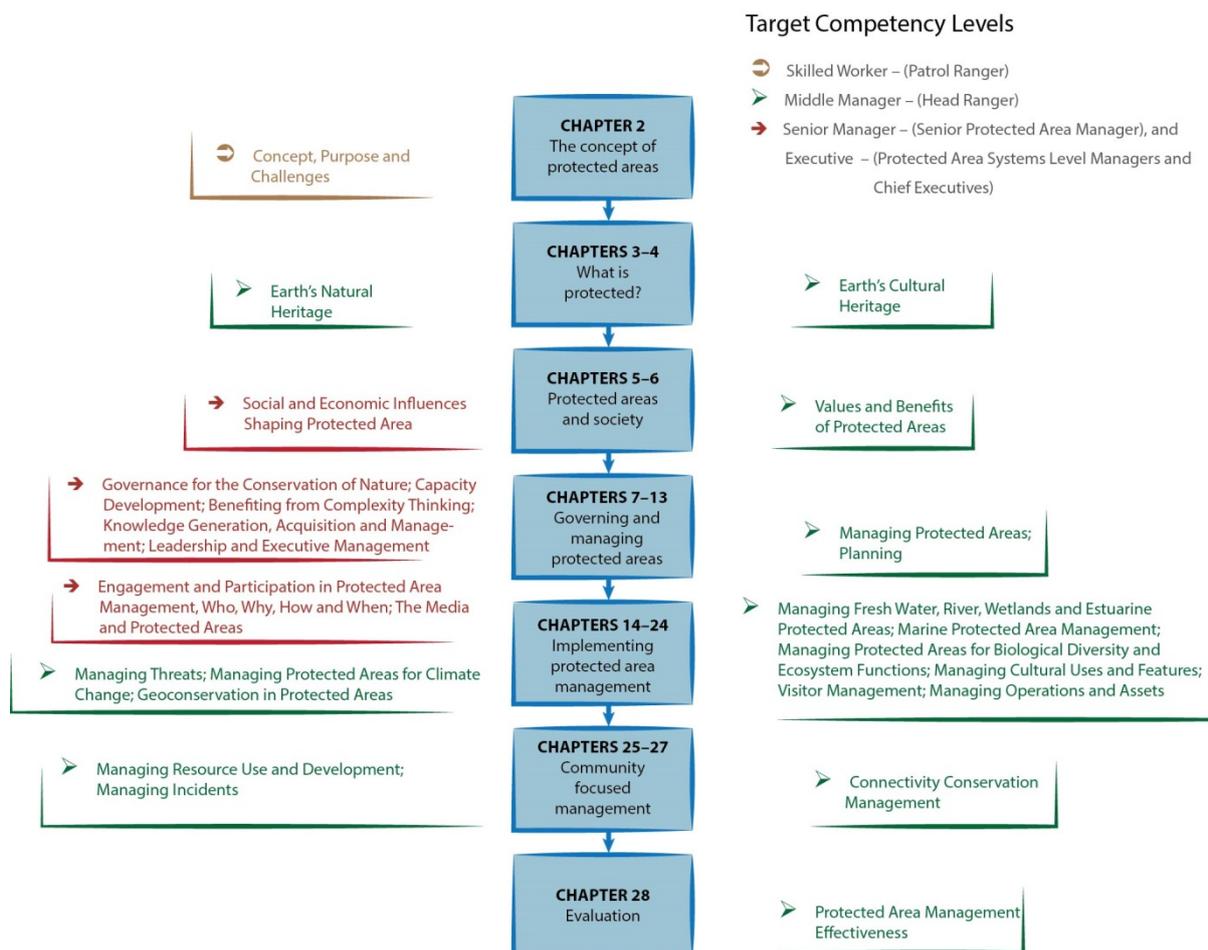
The *Protected Area Governance and Management Book* has been a remarkable volunteer project. Five editors and 164 principal and supporting authors volunteered their time over an elapsed period of two and a half years to author this book. In addition, 27 peer reviewers provided constructive comments and improvements to the text. It has been one of the single greatest WCPA volunteer efforts for an individual book project in the history of WCPA and these contributions have been conservatively valued at \$US2.9 million.

## **The Book Contents**

The book includes 28 very carefully selected Chapters determined by input from an expert WCPA working group; from research into competencies needed for protected area practitioners; from inputs by the WCPA Steering Committee, the WCPA Executive and the IUCN Global Protected Area Programme; and, from inputs drawn from the direct experience of the book Editors. IUCN WCPA research has identified five competency levels for the profession of protected area managers. This book targets four of these competency levels, with the fifth level being vocational based, practical and best implemented on the ground.

The chapters have been prepared and organised as a “learning journey” that commences with the “Concept and Purpose” of protected areas and finishes with a chapter on “Evaluation” (Figure One). The learning journey particularly benefits students aspiring to be managers-in-charge of one or more protected areas, but chapters such as “Leadership”; “Complexity” and “Social and Economic Influences” extend this capacity development to executive level and systems level managers. Any of these chapters could be “cherry-picked”

for use in specific training curricula, with the executive level chapters being used (for example) in Masters of Business Administration type courses in the future.



**Figure One**

## Sponsorship

IUCN WCPA has received critical sponsorship support from BIOPAMA; the United States National Park Service; United Nations Environment Program, World Conservation Monitoring Centre; the Australian National University; the University of Tasmania and the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative. This financial and in-kind support has meant that the book can be provided free to all readers, but especially to students of protected area management.

## **Book Editors**

The book has been edited by Graeme Worboys, Michael Lockwood, Ashish Kothari, Sue Feary and Ian Pulsford. Mike, Graeme and Ashish prepared the 2006 IUCN compendium text titled “*Managing Protected Areas, A Global Guide*” published by Earthscan, and Sue and Ian are experienced editors who have produced other important conservation and management related books.

## **Book Steering Committee**

Book policy guidance, content advice, and integration and co-ordination with IUCN was provided by an informal Steering Committee comprising Nigel Dudley; Dan Laffoley; Kathy MacKinnon Eduard Muller; David Reynolds and Graeme Worboys.

## **IUCN Capacity Development**

The *Protected Area Governance and Management* Book is an integral part of a larger IUCN WCPA “Protected Areas Capacity Development Programme”. The Book will be a principal source of information for the IUCN WCPA professional development program. The content of the Book has also been developed as an integrated product with another IUCN WCPA initiative, the “Global Partnership for Professionalising Protected Areas Management” (GPPAM).

## **An IUCN “One Programme” Initiative**

The Book development has involved at least three Commissions, IUCN Members, IUCN Council Members and IUCN staff consistent with IUCN’s “One Programme” approach. It has been supported by many IUCN partners and experts from around the world.

## **Availability**

The Book will be officially launched at the IUCN Sydney World Parks Congress in November 2014 and it is planned to be available in print copy and on-line in February 2015 through Australian National University Press at <http://press.anu.edu.au/titles/protected-area-governance-and-management/>.