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1. WCPA OCEANIA UPDATE

From the Vice Chair
Dear colleagues,
A slightly quieter time has followed the busy period of April’s Steering Committee and membership meetings in Australia and New Zealand. A membership meeting will be held in Perth on September 1st. In October I also hope to see many colleagues at the Australian Land Conservation Conference in Hobart [http://www.alca.org.au/2017-national-private-land-conservation-conference-in-hobart-tas/]

Please let me know if you are attending the next UNFCCC COP23 to be held in Bonn, Germany this year from 6-17 November. WCPA is likely to have a presence to further the vital understanding of ‘natural solutions’ in climate change adaptation and mitigation and would like to be aware of members who could assist in various events.

Thank you to Louise O Flynn, Keith Twyford, Rob Fowler and Mark Symons for their contribution to this edition of the WCPA newsletter.

Member Opportunities
Country Champions of WCPA Members are reminded of an earlier call for expressions of Interest to be a focal point for WCPA in your nation. These appointments are imminent so if you have an interest and have not yet communicated with the Vice Chair please do so on penelope.figgis@outlook.com

Recruiting new Pacific members. Those Members with good connections in Pacific nations are requested to offer names for prospective members. Please email me at penelope.figgis@outlook.com with a few lines about the person and their contacts.

All Specialist Groups and Task Forces are open to you join. Here is an update on the Health and Wellbeing theme within the WCPA which Parks Victoria has led. Since the work was first started there has been significant progress made to advance the health and wellbeing agenda, including achievements made at the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014, the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016 and more recently the bringing together of the health and conservation sectors at the 15th World Congress on Public Health in Melbourne. We are also working to raise the profile of Health and Wellbeing within the new IUCN Programme and beyond, especially given its relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We have therefore established a Health and Wellbeing Specialist Group (SG) as the successor of the Healthy Parks Healthy People Taskforce. Jo Hopkins, Manager Strategic Partnerships at Parks Victoria (Australia), has kindly agreed to Chair this group. The key roles of the SG will be to:

- Promote the health and wellbeing benefits of nature across sectors.
- Facilitate partnerships to influence policies and plans, integrating PAs into the health and wellbeing agenda.
- Build the evidence and encourage the development of metrics to measure the co-benefits of nature for human health and wellbeing.

For more information please email Jo at jo.hopkins@parks.vic.gov.au
https://www.iucn.org/theme/protected-areas/contact/wcpa-thematic-vice-chairs-specialist-groups-and-task-forces

Please play your role in distributing Maintaining Australia’s Natural Wealth: Priorities for Terrestrial Conservation
WCPA was a partner to the publication of Maintaining Australia’s Natural Wealth: Priorities for Terrestrial Conservation. This publication aims to revitalise the environment as a major national priority and inform best practice conservation policy development for Australia. You can access via the ACIUCN website: www.aciucn.org.au.
Or Download directly: http://bit.ly/NaturalWealthKDS.

Desktop Reviewers for World Heritage Nominations
Please reply only to: christelle.perruchoud@iucn.org
As you are aware, IUCN has an advisory role under the World Heritage Convention, i.e. the Union provides technical and strategic advice to the World Heritage Committee using its Commissions and networks. This includes the evaluation of new World Heritage nominations, in particular potential natural and mixed properties, as well as certain cultural landscapes for consideration by the World Heritage Committee in 2018 are listed hereafter.

We are in the process of seeking and contacting desktop reviewers for each of these nominations. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer to review any of these nominations, or if you can suggest other colleagues. Please note Reviewers should be very experienced and be able to provide sound judgement on the global importance and integrity of the nominated sites. They should also be in a position to judge site management.

The current nominations are:

Natural Properties
- Barberton Makhonjwa Mountains, South Africa
- Fanjingshan, China
- Arasbaran Protected Area, Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern Okinawa Island, and Iriomote Island, Japan
- Bikin River Valley (extension of “Central Sikhote-Alin”), Russian Federation

Mixed Properties (natural and cultural values)
- Chiribiquete National Park – “The Maloca of the Jaguar”, Colombia

Cultural Landscapes (that will require IUCN comments to ICOMOS)
- Al-Ahsa Oasis, an evolving Cultural Landscape, Saudi Arabia
- Sassanid Archaeological Landscape of Fars Region, Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Colonies of Benevolence, Belgium/Netherlands
- Tr’ondëk-Klondike, Canada
- Aasivissuit – Nipisat, Inuit Hunting Ground between Ice and Sea, Denmark
- The Archaeological Border Landscape of Hedeby and the Danevirke, Germany
- Le Colline del Prosecco di Conegliano a Valdobbiadene, Italy
- Roșia Montană Mining Landscape, Romania

News of Members
Earlier this year Chris Howe stepped down as Executive Director of WWF New Zealand after 10 years to take up the newly created role of Director of Projects and Development with the Asia Regional Office of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), based in Bangkok.
Jim Sharp, Director General of the WA Department of Parks and Wildlife and a long term WCPA member has had a major role in building Western Australia’s world-class conservation system. He recently stepped down from the agency as it became the new agency of Conservation Parks and Attractions.

In his farewell message to staff Jim highlighted some aspects of his 45 year career in WA’s public service, 32 years of which in Parks and Wildlife and its predecessor agencies.

‘While my roles and responsibilities have evolved, the constant has been my love of nature and a drive to engage more people in experiencing and valuing all that it has to offer.’

‘When we first embarked on engaging visitors, we were starting from a rudimentary basis. Park conservation was minimal, there was limited volunteer involvement or visitor research and very little infrastructure. Today we have an extensive national and marine park system, World Heritage areas, innovative and world renowned tourism infrastructure, wildlife recovery achievements and some 15,000 registered volunteers. As an agency we are at the forefront of managing natural areas and providing nature-based visitor experiences that are second to none. The 20 million visits to the places we manage each year is testament to their worth.’

‘All of this has been underpinned by the creation and fostering of partnerships, whether it be with our outstanding volunteers, numerous community groups and foundations, other government agencies or the private sector. Our working relationships have continued to grow and flourish, engaging the community in what we do and why we do it.

It has been an immense privilege to establish and lead Parks and Wildlife during the past four and half years and to work within a dynamic, focused agency which has achieved outstanding results in such a short time. Overhauling archaic legislation with the new Biodiversity Conservation Act, doubling the State’s marine parks and reserves system, adding 520 new camp sites, the application of our world class science to achieving the outstanding conservation outcomes through the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy, developing new digital technology to improve visitor experiences and delivering the best prescribed burning outcome in 29 years are some examples.

Significant steps have been taken in building and strengthening working relationships with Aboriginal traditional owners. As well as significant legislative changes, eight ILUAs have been signed and we now have more than 260 Aboriginal people working with us directly and indirectly, paving the way for a new exciting era for conservation and cultural tourism.

While I have been extremely fortunate to have been a part of achieving these outcomes, we have also been through some really tough times where we have lost colleagues, suffered major setbacks, and had to operate within tight budgetary constraints, but we have come through this together. Your support, professionalism and contribution have been greatly appreciated. I am confident that the immensely valuable natural and cultural assets for which we have responsibility are in good hands. I wish you all the very best for the future.’

WCPA congratulates Jim for his many achievements and hopes he will now have more time for WCPA!
Colin Jackson, CEO of Conservation Volunteers has retired after three decades at the helm of CVA. Colleagues have said ‘it is impossible to overstate his contribution’. Colin has led the organisation from a very early stage as a regionally based community group to a trans-Tasman organisation with strong international linkages operating from most major regional centres throughout Australia and New Zealand.

His tireless work ethic and innovative style has enabled Conservation Volunteers to become a trusted partner of governments, corporate businesses and community organisations. Colin’s leadership provided a framework for hundreds of thousands of people throughout Australia and many parts of the world to volunteer their time to contribute to environmental conservation and make our world a better place. Colin was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001 for service to conservation, and the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in 2005 for service to conservation and the environment.

Phil Harrison has been appointed as CEO. He brings a wealth of knowledge and 31 years’ experience working at Conservation Volunteers throughout various departments including operations, corporate partnerships and in recent times the Federal Government Green Army Program.

2. INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PARKS AND PEOPLE: THE SALZBURG STATEMENT

Following the World Parks Congress in Sydney, the Australian Government convened the first Parks for the Planet Forum to take forward the agenda of the role of nature and parkland to human wellbeing. Salzburg Global Fellows have called on leaders to ensure all children enjoy the right to safe, free play in a nature-rich space within a 10-minute walk from home. The call to action was included in a Salzburg Statement published as a result of discussions at Session 574 - The Child in the City: Health, Parks and Play.

It was the third session of the Parks for the Planet Forum, which was supported by Parks Canada and Korea National Park. The Forum is held in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). It advances work to implement the Promise of Sydney and the Sustainable Development Goals.

During a five-day program held in March, 52 experts in urban planning, childhood development, conservation, environmental policy, and health considered how green spaces could better meet the needs, and be accessible for, children.

The growing theme that lack of contact with nature –as our world gets more and more urbanised and the dire consequences for conservation as well as human wellbeing are also outlined in a recent article.
WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING – JULY 2017
The World Heritage Committee assessed the nomination of 33 sites for inscription on UNESCO’s World Heritage List during its 41st session in Poland in July. This year’s nominations for inscription on the World Heritage List include six natural sites, one mixed and 26 cultural sites. This site illustrates some of the beauty and immense values of sites which are newly listed on IUCN’s advice https://digital.iucn.org/worldheritage/key-habitats-new-world-heritage-sites/

Another good outcome which followed an IUCN recommendation was that Comoé National Park in Côte d’Ivoire has come off the List of World Heritage in Danger. This reflects the recovery of wildlife from impacts of civil unrest. This is the first World Heritage site to be removed from the ‘danger list’ in West and Central Africa in over 10 years, where half of the region’s 20 natural World Heritage sites are listed as ‘in danger’.

An IUCN field mission earlier this year confirmed encouraging numbers of chimpanzees and elephants, which were thought to have disappeared from the park. Côte d’Ivoire has seen a decline of about 90% of its chimpanzee population since the early 1990s. Around 300 chimps and about 120 elephants are believed to live in Comoé National Park today.

“Comoé National Park serves as an inspiration, and shows that the recovery of World Heritage sites impacted by civil unrest is possible,” says Tim Badman, Director of IUCN’s World Heritage Programme. “It proves yet again that conservation action works when it is given a chance. IUCN congratulates the government of Côte d’Ivoire, and the park’s management and rangers, who have made this success possible.”

Tim also provides some interesting and well informed insights on the state of World Heritage after ten years in the top IUCN World Heritage position. https://www.iucn.org/news/iucn-41whc/201707/power-danger-listing-hasty-inscriptions-smarter-financing-and-voice-civil-society-%E2%80%93-iucn%E2%80%99s-key-takeaways-2017-world-heritage-committee-meeting

PROTECTED AREA ASSET STEWARDSHIP FRAMEWORK
Dr Paul Jepson, School of Geography and the Environment at Oxford University offers a new protected area asset stewardship framework just published in Biological Conservation. It is available here https://authors.elsevier.com/a/1VFY01R~e3D9J

The framework has been developed to restate the policy and investment case for PAs in a way meaningful to contemporary politicians, citizens and investors. It offers a means to make explicit the different forms of value that combinations of PA assets (bio-physical, human, cultural, institutional, infra-structural) generate and for whom. Among other things it a) supports identification of different forms of investment needed in PAs (at individual and system level) to generate value in the medium to long-term, and b) enhances the democratic accountability of PA policy.

The authors would welcome your comments and feedback on the framework. Their hope is that it may contribute to the development of innovative approaches to PA policy and management in the 21st Century. This paper is a research output of the Project for Protected Area Resilience at the Smith School for Enterprise and Environment which we have renamed the Recapitalising Conservation project to better capture future research directions. http://www.smithschool.ox.ac.uk/research-programmes/protected-area/
UNESCO EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER CORAL BLEACHING

Almost 75 per cent of world heritage coral reefs have been exposed to heat stress that causes coral bleaching in the past three years, UNESCO says. The draft report on climate change will be discussed at the UNESCO meeting in Poland in July. The report states that three-quarters of the coral reefs listed on the world heritage list were had been exposed to conditions that cause bleaching over the past three years. It further states that the Great Barrier Reef bleaching event has been the most widely reported and that it needs to be assessed by the World Heritage Committee.

UNESCO expressed its "utmost concern regarding the reported serious impact from coral bleaching that have affected world heritage properties in 2016-17 and that the majority of world heritage coral reefs are expected to be seriously impacts by climate change". The UNESCO draft paper reiterated the importance of governments to implement and ratify the Paris Agreement as soon as possible. http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-06-20/world-heritage-coral-reefs-risk-coral-bleaching-unesco-report/8634502

PANORAMA – SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY PLANET

All members should get familiar with PANORAMA and consider providing a contribution. PANORAMA is a partnership initiative to document and promote examples of inspiring, replicable solutions across currently 3 interlinked themes (including “protected areas”), enabling cross-sectoral learning and inspiration. Such “solution” case studies are published on the online platform, broken down into their replicable key modules, or “building blocks”. The solutions are further promoted by IUCN and partners e.g. through publications, social media, newsletters, webinars and workshops, which provide excellent exposure and connect “solution providers" with potential “solution seekers” to encourage replication of experiences in other contexts. "Solution providers" become part of a global network connected to PANORAMA. Visit: http://www.panorama.solutions/en

3. AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL NEWS

SEA COUNTRY OF GROOTE EYLANDT ARCHIPELAGO ADDED TO AN INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREA

In August 2016 approximately 7,000 km2 of sea country surrounding the Groote Eylandt Archipelago in the Gulf of Carpentaria was added to the Anindilyakwa IPA by the Traditional Owners of the area and formally recognised by Federal Environment Minister.

Photo: grootefishing

Groote Eylandt, Bickerton Island and surrounding islands in the archipelago were declared an IPA by Traditional Owners in 2006. With the addition of the surrounding sea country the combined land and sea IPA now covers approximately 10,000 km2. The significant conservation and cultural values of the IPA are managed by the Anindilyakwa Rangers in collaboration with government agencies, researchers, and commercial and recreational fishing representatives through an Advisory Committee.

The sea country component of Anindilyakwa IPA, and other coastal IPAs in the Northern Territory, Queensland, and Western Australia meet the IUCN definition of a marine protected area (MPA) and are included in the Federal Government’s Collaborative Australian Protected Area Database (CAPAD). However, these innovative, Indigenous driven, collaboratively governed MPAs are currently not recognised as part of the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas (NRSMPA) because they are not established through legislation – a criteria developed in the 1990s and due for review in the
light of changes in protected area policy over the last decade. Meanwhile, the terrestrial components of all IPAs have been recognised as part of the National Reserve System (NRS) for almost 20 years.

**COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVES MANAGEMENT PLANS RELEASED**

Members with marine expertise are encouraged to have a close look at Draft management plans for 44 Australian Marine Parks that are managed by Parks Australia. These have recently been released for public comment. You can review the draft management plans and information about the proposed renaming on the marine parks website at [www.parksaustralia.gov.au/marine](http://www.parksaustralia.gov.au/marine).

Feedback is sought on the draft plans or the proposed renaming by 20 September 2017, by:
2. Emailing: [managementplanning.marine@environment.gov.au](mailto:managementplanning.marine@environment.gov.au)
3. Writing (free of charge) to:
   Australian Marine Parks Management Planning
   Comments
   Department of the Environment and Energy
   Reply Paid 787
   Canberra ACT 2601

**RESORT EXPANSION PROPOSAL TO ENCROACH ON LINDEMAN ISLAND NATIONAL PARK**

In a move which could potentially create a serious precedent there are proposals to expand the former Club Med resort on Lindeman Island – closed since being battered by Cyclone Yasi in 2011, by encroaching on the national park estate.

According to the National Parks Association of Queensland White Horse Australia Lindeman Pty Ltd, jointly owned by William Han of White Horse Group China and Jianfeng Mao of Orion Group Hong Kong, proposes revocation of 37ha of existing national park for new villas, upgrades to the golf course and expansion of an existing airstrip. It is also proposing a further 9.5ha of national park to be made subject to a specific authority for glamping.

NPAQ states that State Development Minister Anthony Lynham described the expansion as “consistent with the Palaszczuk Government’s Advancing Tourism plan to drive growth and jobs in the tourism industry”.

NPAQ argues it does not meet the test of "net conservation benefits" required for revocation of national park land. Conservation groups generally are concerned that approval of this proposal would mean almost 40ha of new disturbance on Lindeman Island, within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area but also create a precedent for other proposals.

**AUSTRALIAN PANEL OF EXPERTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (APEEL) PAPERS AVAILABLE**

Australia’s system of environmental law and governance has been evolving for more than forty years. In some key respects it has served us well, such as in the reduction of industrial pollution. In other respects our environmental management has underperformed and is at a crossroads. We can continue a steady, managed decline in the state of our environment, or we can make the transition to the next phase of governance now needed to ensure a healthy and vibrant environment that benefits everyone. This would constitute a clean, safe and healthy environment that underpins a prosperous society.
In a response to this challenge, the Australian Panel of Experts on Environmental Law (APEEL) was convened just over two years ago with a view to developing a blueprint for the next generation of Australia's environmental laws. APEEL comprises academics, lawyers and a former Federal Court judge. The Panel also is supported by expert advisers who have reviewed and advised on its work.

Supported by leading environmental NGOs, APEEL, as an independent body, now has completed a series of Technical Papers outlining ideas and specific recommendations for environmental law and policy reform in Australia. The eight Technical Papers address the following issues:

1. The Foundations of environmental law
2. Environmental governance
3. Terrestrial biodiversity conservation and natural resources management
4. Marine and coastal issues
5. Climate law
6. Energy regulation
7. The private sector, business law and environmental performance.
8. Democracy and the environment

In addition, an Overview Paper presents the principal law reform themes identified by the Panel.

The papers are available at www.apeel.org.au, together with a list of the 57 recommendations presented therein. The period for review has ended however if you have any further questions or suggestions please contact rob.fowler@unisa.edu.au or the APEEL Executive Officer, Dr. Bruce Lindsay (bruce.lindsay@envirojustice.org.au).

GREATER BARRIER REEF QUANTIFIED
The Great Barrier Reef has a total asset value of $56 billion and is "too big to fail", according to a new report prepared by Deloitte Access Economics. The report commissioned by the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, has calculated the economic, social and iconic value of the world heritage site.

Some key statistics included in the report include:
- Tourism is the biggest contributor to the total asset value making up $29 billion.
- The Great Barrier Reef generates 64,000 jobs in Australia and contributes $6.4 billion dollars to the national economy.
- The brand value, or Australians that have not yet visited the Reef but value knowing it exists, as $24 billion.
- Recreational users including divers and boaters make up $3 billion

The report does not include quantified estimates of the value traditional owners place on the Great Barrier Reef and it said governments should consider doing more to protect it. It also references the back to back coral bleaching events which have devastated the reef and says climate change remains the most serious threat to the entire structure.


FUNDING FOR CRADLE MOUNTAIN MASTER PLAN
$21.8 million has been committed in the 2017/18 Tasmanian state budget to progress the Cradle Mountain Master Plan to implementation. The key features of the upgrades include the construction of a new visitor centre, commercial services hub and village precinct, and a new viewing shelter and viewing platform at Dove Lake as well as a plan for improved transportation within the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.

REINTRODUCTION OF LOCALLY EXTINCT SPECIES BACK INTO SYDNEY HARBOUR NATIONAL PARK

The brown antechinus is a native mammal driven to extinction from Sydney’s North Head decades ago. Although still found in other parts of Sydney, they are now being captured and reintroduced to North Head, under a program run by Australian Wildlife Conservancy. The reintroduction of the brown antechinus on the headland is also expected to assist the pollination of banksia scrub.

Photo: Australian Museum

Ecologist Dr Jennifer Anson said the project had involved a huge amount of work. Feral cats and foxes proved to be the deadliest predators of the brown antechinus but baiting and monitoring have helped to reduce that threat. North Head’s relative isolation may also serve as an advantage. “We can actually really control the predators that are coming onto the headland and give some of these species a chance of being able to re-establish throughout these areas,” Dr Anson said.


4. NEW ZEALAND NEWS

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF KĀPITI MARINE RESERVE

2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the opening of Kāpiti Marine Reserve in New Zealand. The Marine Reserve protects more than 2200 hectares across three different habitat types, including parts of the largest known Rhodolith beds in the country. Kāpiti Marine Reserve is one of New Zealand’s biggest coastal reserves and is also the fourth oldest reserve in the country. The reserve was established in 1992 against some strong opposition from a range of stakeholders at the time. However, the Department of Conservation states that many of those who initially opposed Kāpiti Marine Reserve were quickly won over by the rapid return to abundance of previously exploited species such as blue cod, butter fish and crayfish inside the reserve. Today there are 44 marine reserves dotted around the New Zealand coastline. https://blog.doc.govt.nz/2017/06/30/kapiti-marine-reserve/

SUPREME COURT NZ SAYS NO TO PARKS LAND SWAP

With land swaps and offsets a very topical issue in conservation a recent decision in New Zealand is of interest. In early July the New Zealand Supreme Court ruled against a proposal to downgrade the conservation status of part of the Ruahine Forest Park in Hawke’s Bay, to allow it to be swapped for private land and flooded as part of the Ruataniwha scheme.

In August 2016, Forest & Bird challenged the Department of Conservation decision to allow the swap. Forest & Bird argued that the 22 hectares of land that would have been destroyed by the Ruataniwha irrigation project has high conservation values. Long tailed bats, fernbird, New Zealand falcon, and rare wetlands all exist with the dam’s footprint.

NEW HEAD OF WWF NZ

In May the WWF-New Zealand Board announced the appointment of Livia Esterhazy as the conservation organisation’s new Chief Executive Officer.

Ms Esterhazy is an experienced and highly connected business leader. She was previously the Managing Director at Clemenger BBDO where she successfully led the modernisation of the Wellington-based business. She succeeds Chris Howe, along time WCPA member who has taken up a new position as Director of Projects and Development with the Asia Regional Office of IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), based in Bangkok.

5. PACIFIC ISLAND & PNG NEWS

SPREP LEADER CALLS FOR SCALING UP OF ACTION FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

The Director General of SPREP Mr Kosi Latu presented a perspective on the ‘Need for Accelerated Climate Change at the African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) Pacific and European Union joint parliamentary session in Port Vila Vanuatu, 19 – 21 July.

Photo - Samoa Observer

He said in part, “Four out of the six of the lowest and most vulnerable islands in the world which are affected by climate change are from the Pacific region, and all of them are no more than two meters high at the highest point. These include Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Tuvalu and Tokelau. We are regularly seeing extreme natural events, such as tropical cyclones, flooding and droughts, and the consequential physical, social and economic impacts on Pacific island countries are severe.

At the UN Ocean conference held in NY last month, Pacific Leaders identified the need to link climate change to oceans. The absence of any reference to ocean was perceived as a major gap in the Paris Agreement. The point here is that we need to build the resilience of our marine and coastal ecosystems not just for ecosystem services that they provide in the form of food security and tourism – but by maintaining the integrity of ecosystems, means that we will have strong corals reefs and mangroves that will act as natural barriers to natural disasters. Many of our coral reefs in various part of the region are dying or are badly affected by coral bleaching, and mangroves are being cleared for development and infrastructural purposes.”

“An effective response to climate change will include a suite of soft and hard options. This is where support from key Partners will be important… that support needs to be scaled-up and accelerated. Currently the majority of the European Union development support goes to Africa – and for good reasons. But if we are dealing an "emergency" as is the case with the Pacific, then the European Union needs to scale up and accelerate its support for climate change action in the Pacific region.”

FIJI TERRESTRIAL PROTECTED AREAS LEGAL REVIEW PROCESS

In 2016 IUCN was commissioned by the Fiji Protected Areas Committee and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to review all existing policies, legislations and institutional
structure and arrangement governing forest management and carry out the Fiji Terrestrial Protected Areas Legal Review process.

A team from the IUCN Oceania Regional Office conducted community consultations in May this year at three targeted terrestrial protected areas communities who are engaged at the different level of management. The objective of the consultation was to raise awareness to target communities and outline the importance of terrestrial conservation work in Fiji.

According to Etika Qica IUCN Oceania’s Regional Project Officer the consultations were well attended by the targeted communities and fruitful as it helped the team identify community terrestrial management issues as well as specific issues related to legal and policies. He added that the team would identify key actions to address the threats and issues and provide recommendations to existing policies and management practices and enabling mechanisms.

The consultations will enable the establishment of protected areas and management of terrestrial ecosystem in Fiji as well as a recommendation for a Framework for Fiji Protected Areas Legal and Effective Management of Terrestrial Ecosystem.


6. UPCOMING

ISLAND BIOSECURITY FIJI
The special theme on “Island Biosecurity” is the focus for the Island Arks Symposium being held October 23-27 2017 in Nadi Fiji.

IMPAC 4, CHILE
Many WCPA members will be attending the 4th International Marine Protected Areas Congress, IMPAC4, which will be held in La Serena – Coquimbo from September 4th– 8th, 2017. This official IMPAC4 Chile 2017 website provides detail on the Congress for the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) community. You can for example see all the accepted workshops and other events.

2018 GLOBAL CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAND CONSERVATION NETWORK (ILCN)
From Communities to Countries: Visionary Conservation in a Changing World
January 24-26th, 2018 | Hotel Noi | Vitacura, Santiago, Chile

Join private, NGO, and local community land conservationists from around the world at the International Land Conservation Network’s (ILCN) 2018 Global Congress! The ILCN is soliciting Congress presentations. Please read on to learn more about the Congress and how you can share your important work with this global community.
https://www.lincolninst.edu/courses-events/courses/ilcn-2018-global-congress-santiago-chile

2017 WORLD FORUM ON NATURAL CAPITAL IN EDINBURGH, UK.
The 2017 World Forum will take place at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre on 27-28 November and will bring together the latest developments and the leading actors, with a focus on mainstreaming natural capital considerations into decision-making. Senior figures from the United Nations Environment Programme, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature), Natural Capital Coalition and the Green Economy Coalition will be joined by high profile leaders in business, politics, finance and media, as well as thought leaders from academia and prominent NGOs.
The theme for the 2017 World Forum is "Better Decisions for a Better World" and the programme will be focused in four streams:

Taking nature into Account
Impact through Innovation
Cities of Tomorrow
Prosperous & Resilient Economies

A growing body of evidence, including analysis of S&P 500 companies, suggests that companies which build natural capital and sustainability into their strategies are out performing their competitors. With growing environmental pressures and global political change.

http://naturalcapitalforum.com/