



Submission on Statewide Assessment of Public Land

Geoff

to:

veac

14/05/2015 12:37 PM

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From: Geoff

To: <veac@delwp.vic.gov.au>,

## USE OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES

1) With regard to the question of what are the most appropriate categories for protected areas I believe it is important for there to be an agreed national approach and for this to comply with international recommendations.

2) Regarding the establishment of a national protected area data base this is published every 2 years in the 'Collaborative Australian Protected Area Database' (CAPAD). The data consists of information submitted by the various States and Territories to the responsible Commonwealth agency . The last data published was for 2014.

3) Included in CAPAD is a presentation of the data according to the *IUCN Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories* (2008). There are seven categories as follows:

Category 1a: Strict nature reserve

Category 1b: Wilderness area

Category 11: National Park

Category 111: Natural monument or feature

Category 1V: Habitat/species management area

Category V : Protected landscape /seascape

Category VI: Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources

4) Most of these categories involve public land but some contain a mixture of private land and public land. For instance in the case of Melbourne's Green Wedges their boundary often takes in areas of public land as well as private land. As an example the Nillumbik Green Wedge includes part of Kinglake National Park. The Shire of Nillumbik has recommended to the Victorian Government that the Green Wedges (Category V) be included in the Victorian data submitted to CAPAD along with Heritage Rivers (already submitted).

### 5) Recommendation

That VEAC recommend that the most appropriate classification of values relevant to management effectiveness is the international system of protected area categories developed by IUCN in *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*.

## NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE LISTING

6) Other systems involving assessment of values and determining appropriate management regimes on public land are the inclusion of areas on either the The Victorian Heritage Register, The National Heritage List, or The World Heritage List . In the case of inclusion on the National Heritage List these decisions are made by the federal Government. The National Heritage List replaced the Register of the National Estate. In the case of World Heritage Areas the decision to include an area on the country's Tentative World Heritage List and to nominate the area for the World Heritage List is made by the federal Government after consultation with the relevant State or Territory Governments.

7) Whereas the Register of the National Estate(closed in 2007) comprised over13,000 sites there are currently only 125 sites on the National Heritage List. This is the result of underfunding with the consequence that many worthy sites such as Wilsons Promontory National Park have yet to be assessed. Sites considered by the Australian Heritage Council to be likely to have national heritage values but which are not placed on a 'priority assessment list' (PAL) have to be renominated. Wilsons Promontory National Park was placed on PAL when originally nominated but has not been renominated. There is a similar situation with regard to World Heritage nomination. There is no longer an Australian ministerial body with the task of cooperating on world heritage matters and assessment efforts have stalled. This means that long term proposals for nomination of sites with Outstanding Universal Value such as the Australian Alps and Forests are in limbo. The same situation applies to renominations for additional values and extensions.

8) Recommendation That VEAC draw attention to the current situation whereby areas with important national and international heritage values are not being assessed because of system failures and call for action to resolve the impasses.

Geoff Mosley

(Dr) Geoff Mosley



FW: Acknowledgement of Submission

Geoff

to:

Amanda.Stajewski@delwp.vic.gov.au

22/05/2015 01:07 PM

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From: Geoff

To: "Amanda.Stajewski@delwp.vic.gov.au" <Amanda.Stajewski@delwp.vic.gov.au>,

History: This message has been replied to.

Dear Amanda

I tried without success to copy and paste that web link. So I am afraid all I can do is give you the link and ask if you could add it to my submission. It is [www.iucn.org/pa\\_categories/](http://www.iucn.org/pa_categories/)

Regards

Geoff

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Achieving quality

Categories

Home About IUCN How we work Programmes Global Protected Areas Programme Achieving Quality Categories



conserving nature



developing capacity



respecting people



offering solutions

### IUCN Protected Areas Categories System

IUCN protected area management categories classify protected areas according to their management objectives. The categories are recognised by international bodies such as the United Nations and by many national governments as the global standard for defining and recording protected areas and as such are increasingly being incorporated into government legislation.

#### Ia Strict Nature Reserve

Category Ia are strictly protected areas set aside to protect biodiversity and also possibly geological/geomorphical features, where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values. Such protected areas can serve as indispensable reference areas for scientific research and monitoring [more...](#)

#### Ib Wilderness Area

Category Ib protected areas are usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence without permanent or significant human habitation, which are protected and managed so as to preserve their natural condition. [more...](#)

#### II National Park

Category II protected areas are large natural or near natural areas set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes, along with the complement of species and ecosystems characteristic of the area, which also provide a foundation for environmentally and culturally compatible, spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational, and visitor opportunities. [more...](#)

#### III Natural Monument or Feature

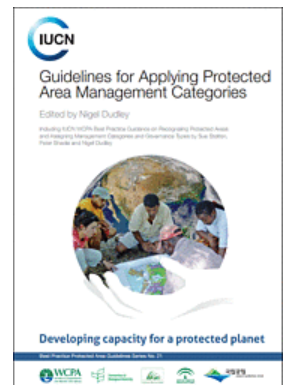
Category III protected areas are set aside to protect a specific natural monument, which can be a landform, sea mount, submarine cavern, geological feature such as a cave or even a living feature such as an ancient grove. They are generally quite small protected areas and often have high visitor value. [more...](#)

#### IV Habitat/Species Management Area

Category IV protected areas aim to protect particular species or habitats and management reflects this priority. Many Category IV protected areas will need regular, active interventions to address the requirements of particular species or to maintain habitats, but this is not a requirement of the category. [more...](#)

#### V Protected Landscape/ Seascape

A protected area where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant, ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value: and where safeguarding the integrity of this interaction is vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature conservation and other values. [more...](#)



Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories 2013 version  
Photo: Helen Miller

## **VI Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources**

Category VI protected areas conserve ecosystems and habitats together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems. They are generally large, with most of the area in a natural condition, where a proportion is under sustainable natural resource management and where low-level non-industrial use of natural resources compatible with nature conservation is seen as one of the main aims of the area [more...](#)