

Information Sheet on EAA Flyway Network Sites (SIS) – 2017 version

Available for download from <http://www.eaaflyway.net/about/the-flyway/flyway-site-network/>

Categories approved by Second Meeting of the Partners of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership in Beijing, China 13-14 November 2007 - Report (Minutes) Agenda Item 3.13

Notes for compilers:

1. The management body intending to nominate a site for inclusion in the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Site Network is requested to complete a Site Information Sheet. The Site Information Sheet will provide the basic information of the site and detail how the site meets the criteria for inclusion in the Flyway Site Network. When there is a new nomination or an SIS update, the following sections with an asterisk (*), from Questions 1-14 and Question 30, must be filled or updated at least so that it can justify the international importance of the habitat for migratory waterbirds.
2. The Site Information Sheet is based on the Ramsar Information Sheet. If the site proposed for the Flyway Site Network is an existing Ramsar site then the documentation process can be simplified.
3. Once completed, the Site Information Sheet (and accompanying map(s)) should be submitted to the Flyway Partnership Secretariat. Compilers should provide an electronic (MS Word) copy of the Information Sheet and, where possible, digital versions (e.g. shapefile) of all maps.

1. Name and contact details of the compiler of this form*:

Full name: Shin INOUE

EAAF SITE CODE FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Institution/agency: Wildlife Protection Division – Nature Conservation Bureau, Environment Agency

Address : 1-2-2 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8975
Japan

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Telephone:

Fax numbers:

E-mail address:

6. Geographical coordinates (latitude/longitude, in decimal degrees)*:

Provide the coordinates of the approximate centre of the site and/or the limits of the site. If the site is composed of more than one separate area, provide coordinates for each of these areas.

26°11'N, 127°41'E

(Dec. 23.19631, 127.68303)

7. Elevation*: (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)

Average -0.5m above sea level

8. Area*:

The total area of the site, in hectares. If the areas of discrete site units are known, please also list each of these together with the names (or labels) used to identify and differentiate these units.

58 ha

9. General overview of the site*:

A brief (two sentences) summary of the site, mentioning principal physical and ecological functions, and its importance for migratory waterbirds.

Manko is a brackish tidal flat, located in the southern part of the main island of Okinawa. It is approximately 3 km upstream of the mouth of the Kokuba and Noha Rivers which pass through the commercial district of Naha City and Tomigusuku village. The Manko Tidal Flats are an important transit point for shorebird whose migration route brings them along the Nansei Islands. The tidal flat is registered with the Environment Agency of Japan as one of 12 important shorebirds visiting sites nationwide.

10. Justification of Flyway Site Network criteria*:

Please provide waterbird count information (with year of latest count) that demonstrates that the site meets the criteria of the Flyway Site Network (Annex 1). That is:

- it regularly supports > 20 000 migratory waterbirds; or,
- it regularly supports > 1 % of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of migratory waterbird; or,
- it supports appreciable numbers of an endangered or vulnerable population of migratory waterbird
- it is a “staging site” supporting > 5 000 waterbirds, or > 0.25% of a population stage at the site.

A listing of the populations of migratory waterbirds covered by the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership and the 1% thresholds is attached (Annex 3).

The “staging site” criterion is particularly difficult to apply and application of this should be discussed with the Secretariat. Also note that some species have several populations that are very difficult to distinguish in the field.

Manko is of international importance as a staging site for Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes*, The Network Staging Criteria for this population is 63. The following counts have been recorded: 135 (27/08/1995), 130 (14/05,1995), 100 (12/05/1996), 100 (17/09/1996) and 79 (5/05/1996)

11. Wetland Types*:

List the wetland types present (see Annex 2). List the wetland types in order of their area in the Flyway Network site, starting with the wetland type with the largest area.

F – Estuarine waters; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.

G – Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.

I – Intertidal forested wetlands; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.

12. Jurisdiction*:

Include territorial, e.g. state/region, and functional/sectoral, e.g. Ministry of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment, etc.

Territorial: Ministry of Construction (Non-private owned lake)

Functional: Nature Conservation Bureau, Environment Agency (National); Department of Civil Engineering and Construction, Okinawa Prefectural Government (Local)

13. Management authority*:

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland and the title and/or name and email address/phone number of the person or persons in this office with direct responsibility for managing the wetland.

Naha City Government, Environmental Conservation Division

2-3-1, Mekaru, Naha city, Okinawa 900-0004 JAPAN

Ph: 098-951-3229, Fax: 098-951-3230

Email: k-khozen201@neo.city.naha.okinawa.jp

(Mr. Ryuji Teruya, Naha City Government, Environmental Conservation Division)

Tomigusuku City Government, Environment and Hygiene Division

Okinaga 854, Tomigusuku city, Okinawa 901-0292 JAPAN

Ph.: +81 98 850 5520 Fax: +81 98 850 5820

E-mail: kan@city.tomigusuku.okinawa.jp

14. Bibliographical references*:

A list of key technical references relevant to the wetland, including management plans, major scientific reports, and bibliographies, if such exist. Please list Web site addresses dedicated to the site or which prominently feature the site, and include the date that the Web site was most recently updated. When a large

body of published material is available about the site, only the most important references need be cited, with priority being given to recent literature containing extensive bibliographies.

- Impact of the Inflow of Hazardous Materials on the Mangrove Ecosystem (Annual Report on Mangrove Ecosystem Research), 1992, Oyama and others
- 1998 Annual Okinawa Prefecture Hydrological Observation Report, 1998, Okinawa Prefecture Government
- Report on the Survey of Birds around Toyomi-Ohashi Bridge 1994-1998, National Roads Southern Districts Office, Okinawa Regional Management Department
- Ryukyu Conservation Group 1999. Okinawa Island Manko, *in* Waki Yoshishige (ed). 1999 Kyushu South-west Archipelago Wetlands Report. JAWAN

15. Physical features of the site:

Describe, as appropriate, the geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth, water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; downstream area; general climate, etc.

Geography:	Tidal flat
Origins:	Natural
Hydrology:	Inflow and outflow 326,061 m ³ /day (12-13 March 1998)
Soil type:	Mainly clay (Montmormillonite, illite, kaolinite), alkaline
Water Quality:	BOD 3.6-13 mg/L, pH 7.9-8.1, DO 1.7-5.5 mg/L, SS 7-82 mg/L
Water depth:	-0.5
Tidal variations:	Average water level, 119 mm; average high tide level, 212 mm; average low tide on flats, 3 mm
Downstream area:	Sea (Naha port). No flood control.
Climate:	Semi-tropical climate. Average annual temperature 22.4 degrees C; average annual temperature 22.4 degrees C; average annual rainfall, 2,036.8 mm (average figures 1961-1986)

16. Physical features of the catchment area:

Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

Catchment area: 39.8 km² (Hilly area: 22.1 km²; Flat area, 17.7 km²)

17. Hydrological values:

Describe the functions and values of the wetland in groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilization, etc.

18. General ecological features:

Provide further description, as appropriate, of the main habitats, vegetation types, plant and animal communities present in the Flyway Network site, and the ecosystem services of the site and the benefits derived from them.

Brackish tidal flats located approximately 3 kilometers upstream of the mouth of two rivers, lined by mostly Druce, *Kandelia candel*, mangroves. The area covers approximately 11 hectares. The climate is warm and constant, with no distinct seasonal changes, but the mangrove trees produce viviparous seeds during spring and summer. The mudflats exposed at low tide are the habitat for an abundance of bottom-dwelling marine life, including crabs, lugworms, gray mullet, and terapia which provide the birds with food.

19. Noteworthy flora:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the SIS.*

(Please add here the species which do not come under sec no 14)

Kandelia candel, Rhizophora mucronata, Bruguiera gymnorhiza

20. Noteworthy fauna:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 10. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the SIS.*

(Please add here the species which do not come under sec no 14)

Lugworms, crabs, fishes, birds.

Birds	<i>Platalea minor</i> (Critically Endangered: The Red List of Japan) <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (Endangered: The Red List of Japan) <i>Falco peregrinus japonensis</i> (Vulnerable: Red List of Japan, National Endangered Species: Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) <i>Sterna albifrons sinensis</i> (Vulnerable: Red List of Japan, National Endangered Species: Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) <i>Tringa tetanus ussuriensis</i> (Vulnerable: Red List of Japan) <i>Larus saundersi</i> (Vulnerable: Red List of Japan) <i>Egretta intermedia intermedia</i> (Near Threatened: The Red List of Japan) <i>Pandion haliaetus haliaetus</i> (Near Threatened: The Red List of Japan) <i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i> (Rare: The Red Data Book of Okinawa) <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> (Rare: The Red Data Book of Okinawa)
Crayfishes	<i>Laomedea astacina</i> de Haan (Rare: The Red Data Book of Okinawa) <i>Neosarmatium smithi</i> (Rare: The Red Data Book of Okinawa)
Fishes	<i>Periophthalmus modestus</i> (Threatened Local Population: The Red List of Japan)
Shellfish	10 endangered species (WWF-Japan report in Ryukyu Conservation Group 1999)

21. Social, economic and cultural values:

a) Describe if the site has any general social, economic and/or cultural values e.g., fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values:

(Social Values)

Fisheries: Gasami crabs

Others: Birdwatching and similar activities

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning? (Double-click the checkbox to check and choose "Checked" under "Default Value" from "Check Box Form Field Options" window)

If yes, tick the box and describe this importance under one or more of the following categories:

- I. Sites which provide a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland:
- II. Sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:
- III. Sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:
- IV. Sites where relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland:

22. Land tenure/ownership:

a) Within the Flyway Network site:

Non-private owned lake: 58 ha

b) In the surrounding area:

Local Government owned land, Private owned land

23. Current land (including water) use:

a) Within the Flyway Network site:

Small-scale fishery (unlicensed); unpopulated

b) In the surroundings/catchment:

Establishment nearby of city parks, residential and commercial districts

24. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:

a) Within the Flyway Network site:

Number of wintering shorebirds is said to have decreased by 20% following the construction of two bridges over the tidal flat (Ryukyu Conservation Group 1999). Dunlin numbers have declined from 1 711 in December 1993 to 155 in November 1994, 38 in December 1994 and nil in January/February 1995 (Ryukyu Conservation Group 1999).

Concern has been expressed that dredging from the construction of the bridges (and the subsequent expansion of mangroves) has caused the decline in *Cyclina sinensis* from 10/m³ to almost extinct in 1997 (Ryukyu Conservation Group 1999), Parts of the site continue to be regularly dredged to remove sediment.

b) In the surrounding area:

Factors recognised in the Ramsar Data Sheet are past construction of landfills, roads and bridges and urban development adjacent to the site.

Concern also exist about the impact of reclamation of the Yone Tidal Flat which is 4 km from Manko. It has been suggested that the loss of this area will have a large impact on the migratory birds of Mako (Ryukyu Conservation Group 1999).

25. Conservation measures taken:

a) List national and/or international category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Flyway Network site:

In particular, if the site is partly or wholly a World Heritage Site and/or a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, please give the names of the site under these designations.

The area was designated as a special National Wildlife Reserve in 1977. The area was nominated for listing as a site of international importance under the Ramsar Convention in August 1998.

All of the following are prohibited in this area: placement of man-made objects; landfill; tree or bamboo felling; wildlife hunting, etc.

b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site (tick the box or boxes as appropriate, see Annex 3):

Ia ; Ib ; II ; III ; IV ; V ; VI ; N/A

c) Does an officially approved management plan exist; and is it being implemented?:

If yes, is it being implemented?: If no, is one being planned?

d) Describe any other current management practices:

26. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:

e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

Tomigusuku Village Area Environment Plan – will address shoreline rehabilitation??

27. Current scientific research and facilities:

e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

- Monitor of tidal flat benthos (Naha City and Ryukyu Conservation Group)
- Monitor of bird breeding (Environment Agency)
- Monitoring of shorebirds ?????

28. Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:

e.g. visitors' centre, observation hides and nature trails, information booklets, facilities for school visits, etc.

- › Establishment of a bird observation space on the bridge across the lake surface
- › Conducting bird watching sessions (local associations and ornithological society)
- › Conducting tidal flats observation (autonomous local body)

29. Current recreation and tourism:

State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.

30. Threats*:

Which of the following threats is present historically – when the threat stopped but the effects are still there (H), currently (C) or potentially (P)?

	Historically	Currently	Potentially
Residential and commercial development			
housing and urban areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
commercial and industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
tourism and recreation areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Agriculture and aquaculture			
annual and perennial non-timber crops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
wood and pulp plantations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
livestock farming and ranching	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
marine and freshwater aquaculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy production and mining			
oil and gas drilling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
mining and quarrying	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
renewable energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation and service corridors			
roads and railroads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
utility and service lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
shipping lanes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
flight paths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biological resource use			
hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
gathering terrestrial plants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
logging and wood harvesting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human intrusions and disturbance			
recreational activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
war, civil unrest and military exercises	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
work and other activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural system modifications			
fire and fire suppression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
dams and water management/use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
other ecosystem modifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive and other problematic species and genes			
invasive non-native/alien species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
problematic native species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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introduced genetic material

Pollution

household sewage and urban waste water

industrial and military effluents

agricultural and forestry effluents

garbage and solid waste

air-borne pollutants

excess energy

Geological events

volcanoes

earthquakes/tsunamis

avalanches/landslides

Climate change and severe weather

habitat shifting and alteration

droughts

temperature extremes

storms and flooding

Please write here any additional threats and comments/queries you have on the threats.

Annex 1: Criteria for the inclusion of sites in the Flyway Site Network

(From the Partnership Text)

To be considered for inclusion in the Flyway Site Network, this Partnership adopts the following criteria:

- a. Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) criteria for internationally important sites for migratory waterbirds. That is:
 - Criterion 2: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities.
 - Criterion 5: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.
 - Criterion 6: A wetland should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbird.

- b. The staging criteria as applied under the Asia - Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy. That is:
 - i. A staging site should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 0.25% of individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbirds on migration.
 - ii. A staging site should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 5,000 or more waterbirds at one time during migration.

- c. Under exceptional circumstances a site can be nominated if it supports migratory waterbirds at a level or stage of their life cycle important to the maintenance of flyway populations. Justification of such nominations will be considered by the Partnership on a case by case basis.

Annex 2: Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type

The codes are based upon the Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type as approved by Recommendation 4.7 and amended by Resolutions VI.5 and VII.11 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties. The categories listed herein are intended to provide only a very broad framework to aid rapid identification of the main wetland habitats represented at each site.

To assist in identification of the correct Wetland Types to list in section 19 of the RIS, the Secretariat has provided below tabulations for Marine/Coastal Wetlands and Inland Wetlands of some of the characteristics of each Wetland Type.

Marine/Coastal Wetlands

- A -- **Permanent shallow marine waters** in most cases less than six metres deep at low tide; includes sea bays and straits.
- B -- **Marine subtidal aquatic beds**; includes kelp beds, sea-grass beds, tropical marine meadows.
- C -- **Coral reefs.**
- D -- **Rocky marine shores**; includes rocky offshore islands, sea cliffs.
- E -- **Sand, shingle or pebble shores**; includes sand bars, spits and sandy islets; includes dune systems and humid dune slacks.
- F -- **Estuarine waters**; permanent water of estuaries and estuarine systems of deltas.
- G -- **Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats.**
- H -- **Intertidal marshes**; includes salt marshes, salt meadows, saltings, raised salt marshes; includes tidal brackish and freshwater marshes.
- I -- **Intertidal forested wetlands**; includes mangrove swamps, nipah swamps and tidal freshwater swamp forests.
- J -- **Coastal brackish/saline lagoons**; brackish to saline lagoons with at least one relatively narrow connection to the sea.
- K -- **Coastal freshwater lagoons**; includes freshwater delta lagoons.
- Zk(a) – **Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems**, marine/coastal

Inland Wetlands

- L -- **Permanent inland deltas.**
- M -- **Permanent rivers/streams/creeks**; includes waterfalls.
- N -- **Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks.**
- O -- **Permanent freshwater lakes** (over 8 ha); includes large oxbow lakes.
- P -- **Seasonal/intermittent freshwater lakes** (over 8 ha); includes floodplain lakes.
- Q -- **Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes.**
- R -- **Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline lakes and flats.**

- Sp -- **Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.**
- Ss -- **Seasonal/intermittent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.**
- Tp -- **Permanent freshwater marshes/pools;** ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic soils; with emergent vegetation water-logged for at least most of the growing season.
- Ts -- **Seasonal/intermittent freshwater marshes/pools on inorganic soils;** includes sloughs, potholes, seasonally flooded meadows, sedge marshes.
- U -- **Non-forested peatlands;** includes shrub or open bogs, swamps, fens.
- Va -- **Alpine wetlands;** includes alpine meadows, temporary waters from snowmelt.
- Vt -- **Tundra wetlands;** includes tundra pools, temporary waters from snowmelt.
- W -- **Shrub-dominated wetlands;** shrub swamps, shrub-dominated freshwater marshes, shrub carr, alder thicket on inorganic soils.
- Xf -- **Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands;** includes freshwater swamp forests, seasonally flooded forests, wooded swamps on inorganic soils.
- Xp -- **Forested peatlands;** peatswamp forests.
- Y -- **Freshwater springs; oases.**
- Zg -- **Geothermal wetlands**
- Zk(b) – **Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, inland**

Note: “**floodplain**” is a broad term used to refer to one or more wetland types, which may include examples from the R, Ss, Ts, W, Xf, Xp, or other wetland types. Some examples of floodplain wetlands are seasonally inundated grassland (including natural wet meadows), shrublands, woodlands and forests. Floodplain wetlands are not listed as a specific wetland type herein.

Human-made wetlands

- 1 -- **Aquaculture** (e.g., fish/shrimp) **ponds**
- 2 -- **Ponds;** includes farm ponds, stock ponds, small tanks; (generally below 8 ha).
- 3 -- **Irrigated land;** includes irrigation channels and rice fields.
- 4 -- **Seasonally flooded agricultural land** (including intensively managed or grazed wet meadow or pasture).
- 5 -- **Salt exploitation sites;** salt pans, salines, etc.
- 6 -- **Water storage areas;** reservoirs/barrages/dams/impoundments (generally over 8 ha).
- 7 -- **Excavations;** gravel/brick/clay pits; borrow pits, mining pools.
- 8 -- **Wastewater treatment areas;** sewage farms, settling ponds, oxidation basins, etc.
- 9 -- **Canals and drainage channels, ditches.**
- Zk(c) -- **Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems, human-made**

Annex 3: 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

VI Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources

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Category VI protected areas conserve ecosystems and habitats together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems.