



protectedplanet.net

Charles Besançon
Head of Protected Areas Programme
UNEP World conservation Monitoring Centre
Cambridge, United Kingdom

WCPA Steering Committee
Morges, Switzerland
April, 6th 2011

World Database on Protected Areas

WDPA

- ◆ Only global database of protected areas
- ◆ 30 years old
- ◆ 150,000 + records
- ◆ Partnership between UNEP and IUCN



- ◆ Includes all nationally designated parks and protected areas
- ◆ International sites:
 - UNESCO Natural and mixed World Heritage Sites
 - UNESCO Man and Biosphere Sites
 - Ramsar wetlands of International Importance
 - ASEAN Heritage sites
 - Natura 2000 sites

WDPA Mandates

- ◆ UN General Assembly resolution of 1962 created first UN List of protected areas
- ◆ Convention on Biological Diversity Programme of Work on Protected Areas
 - Suggests that Parties:
 - ◆ **Improve and update** national and regional databases on protected areas and consolidate the World Database on Protected Areas as key support mechanisms in the assessment and monitoring of protected area status and trends
 - ◆ **Participate** in the World Database on Protected Areas maintained by UNEP-WCMC, and the United Nations List of Protected Areas and the State of the World's Protected Areas assessment process
- ◆ IUCN World Parks Congress
 - Recommendation 5.4
 - ◆ request the continuation of the process to enhance the quality of the data, and making it publicly available and accessible
 - ◆ Urges parties to CBD to provide annual updates to the WDPA
 - Recommendation 5.19
 - ◆ Category assignments in the WDPA
- ◆ IUCN World Conservation Congress
 - Too many to list!

WDPA as basis for measuring global protection and priority setting

Toward representative protection of the world's coasts and oceans—progress, gaps, and opportunities. *Conservation Letters* 2008

Percentage Ecoregion Protection Under 10% 10 - 25% 25 - 50% 50 - 100%

Working Toward High Seas Marine Protected Areas. An Assessment of Progress Made and Recommendations for Collaboration. UNEP-WCMC 2008

Percentage Forest Protection Under 10% 10 - 25% 25 - 50% 50 - 100% No forest cover

Global Ecoregion Protection. Published in Protected Areas Annual Report: UNEP-WCMC 2008

Under 10% 10 - 25% 25 - 50% 50 - 100%

Global analysis of the protection status of the world's forests. Biological Conservation 2009

Key Terrestrial EEZ
Priority level for High Seas protection 0 1 2 3 4 5

Always room for improvement



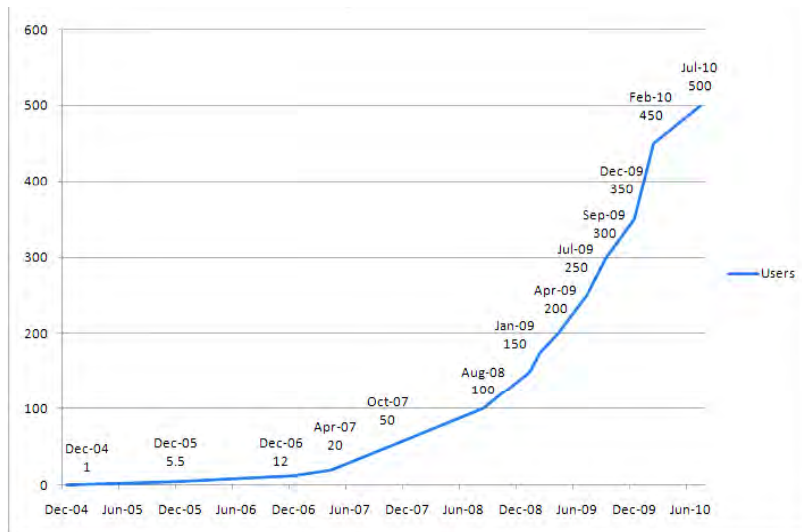
- ◆ Improve delivery of information
- ◆ Increase number of users interacting directly with the WDPA

**“But the
times,
they are a
changing”**

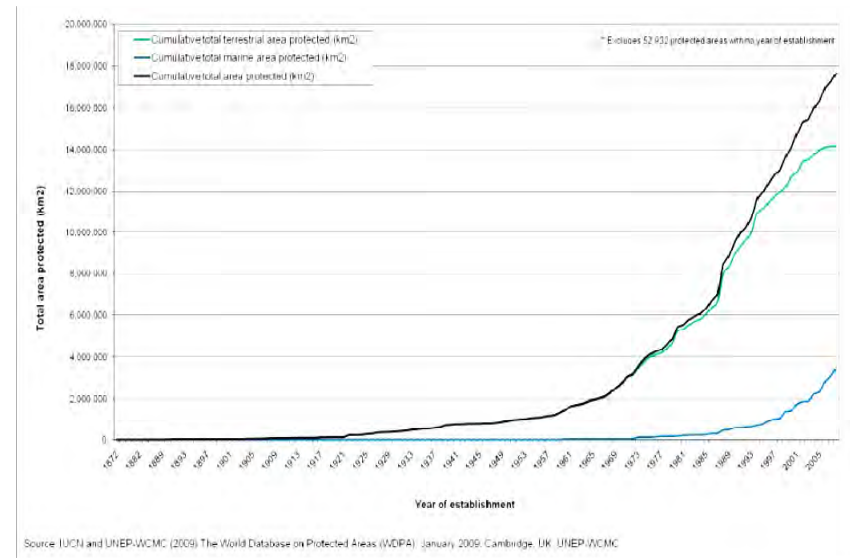


Looking for synergies

Facebook User Growth (2004-present)



Growth in nationally protected areas (1872-present)



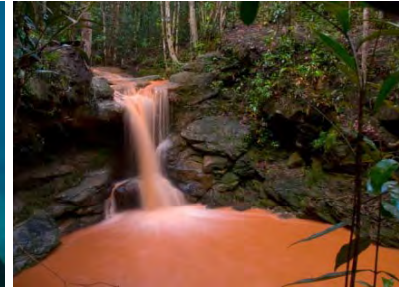
Source: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2009) The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) January 2009. Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC



protectedplanet.net

Goals:

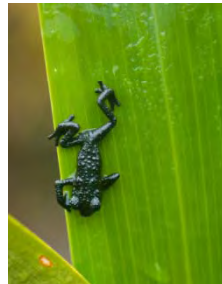
1. Information dissemination
2. Tools to improve data



protectedplanet.net



World Database on Protected Areas





WIKIPEDIA

The Free Encyclopedia

Google™

Pan^{OR}amio
from Google

flickr

Video



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Frequently asked questions' page on the Protected Planet website. The page title is 'Protected Planet - The latest initiative of the World Database on Protected Areas'. The main heading is 'Frequently asked questions'. Below the heading, there is a section titled 'What is Protected Planet?' with a video player showing a globe and the text 'Protected Planet. Discover and learn about protected areas.' To the right of the video player, there is a list of questions under the heading 'Questions about the project'. The questions include: 'What is Protected Planet?', 'How do I find protected areas?', 'Can I download data?', 'What information can I find out about each protected area?', 'How do I contribute to protectedplanet.net', 'Can anyone add protected areas data?', 'What is the difference between the authority and community versions of the data?', 'Why do we use community editing?', 'What are the data categories?', 'What are the Green checked areas on the map?', 'What are the guidelines when contributing information?', 'What are the rules for "check design"?', 'Can I get a directory of protected areas distributed by country?', 'How do I contribute to the data?', 'Can I use the data without attribution?', 'Can I use the data for commercial purposes?', and 'Can I redistribute or link to the data?'. At the bottom of the page, there is a small text block: 'Protected Planet is the exciting new website for the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). Using Protected Planet you can view protected areas worldwide.'

DEMO



protectedplanet.net

19 October 2010 Last updated at 11:03 GMT



UN turns to wiki power for wildlife conservation

By Richard Black

Environment correspondent, BBC News, Nagoya, Japan

The UN Environment Programme is turning to the wiki-world in an attempt to improve protection of the natural one.

Its new venture - [protectedplanet.net](#) - aims to help people visit little-known protected areas, so generating revenue and improving knowledge about them.

The launch at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) meeting came amid reports warning that protection of the sea needs to be increased rapidly.

A target to protect 10% of oceans by 2012 will be missed by a long way.

Protected areas are one of the most effective ways of safeguarding plants, animals and ecosystems, said Charles Besancon, head of the protected areas programme at the UN Environment Programme (Unep).



The website allows surfers to virtually visit the world's wildlife refuges and protected areas

**Biodiversity:
The threat to nature**

Top Stories

**EU frames eurozone crisis rules****Hopes fade for tsunami survivors****UN nature deal is 'on knife-edge'****Microsoft lifted by record sales****Flaws were 'known before BP leak'**

Features & Analysis

**Losing hope**

Pakistan's forgotten flood victims still wait for help

**Back from the dead**

Could cloning be the ultimate back-up plan for biodiversity?

**Churchill's secret war**

The 'starving' of India during World War II

**It's quiz time!**

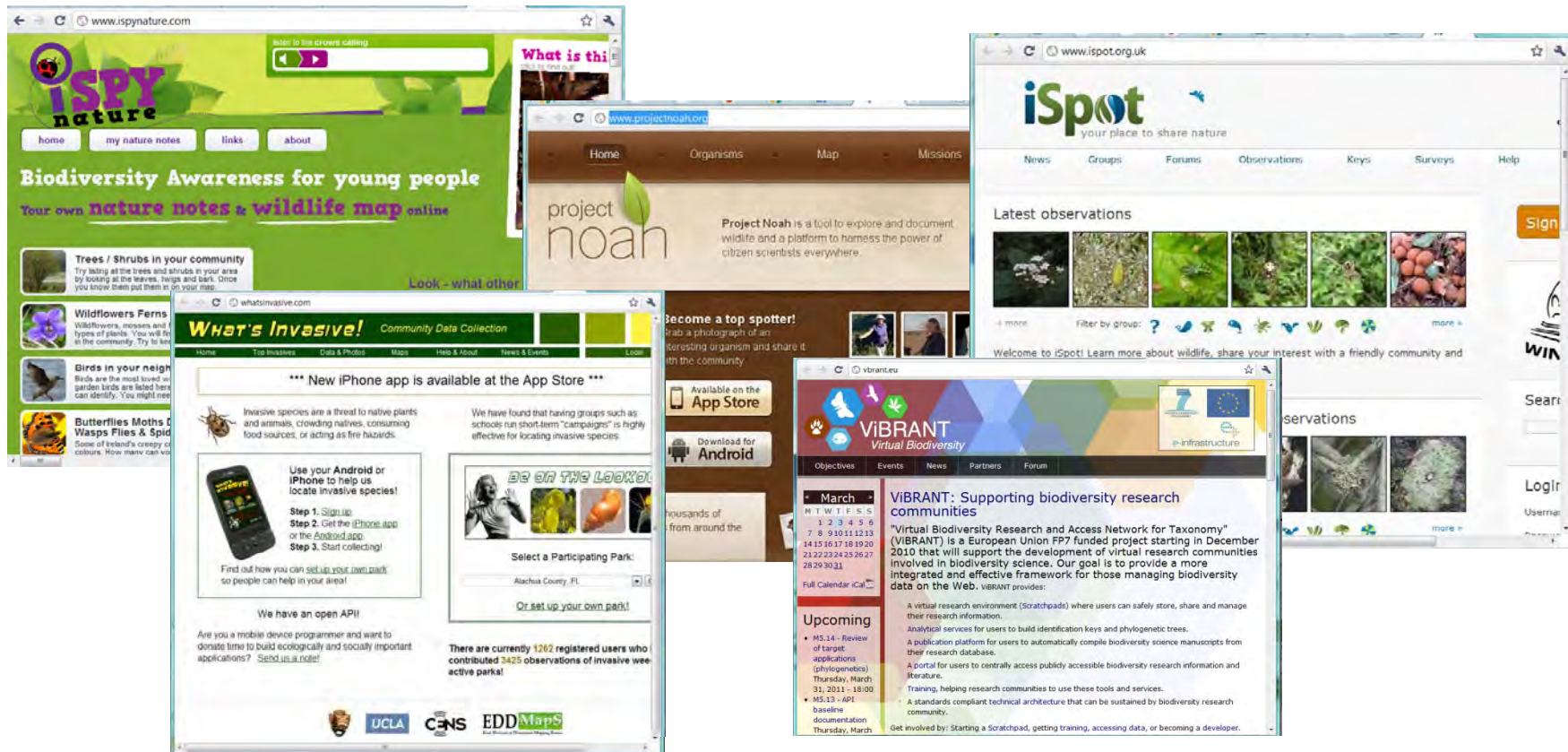
Sir, dude, bro, buddy - how was

19 October 2010

Protected Planet, the numbers...

- 3,000** Registered users
- 600** edits to protected areas information
- 500** Wikipedia articles added to site pages
- 200** full dataset downloads
- 40,000,000** protected areas downloaded
- 15,000** photos ranked
- 920** views of Protected Planet video online

Social Networks For Nature Conservation



a new paradigm to manage global databases?

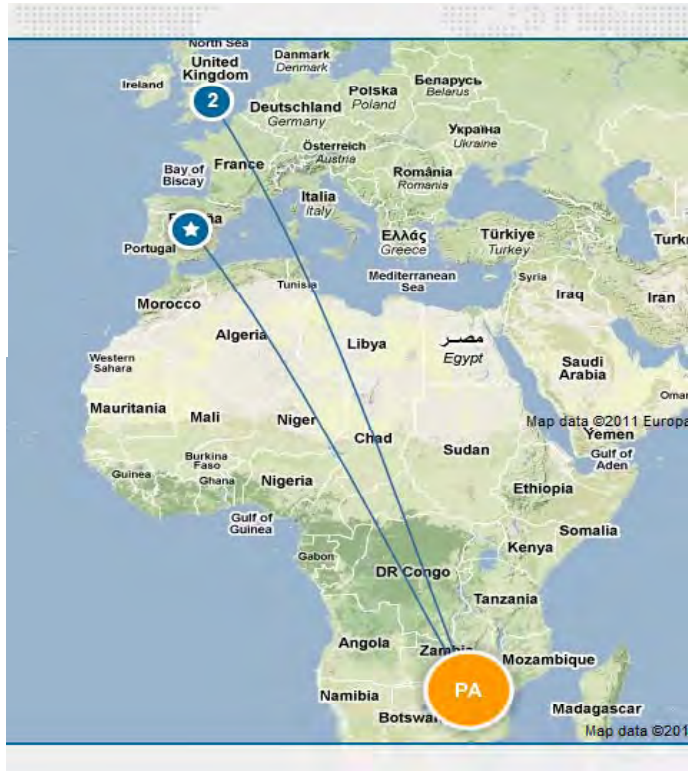


protectedplanet.net

Goals:

1. Information dissemination
2. Tools to improve data
3. Build communities of interest around protected areas (not just about the data)

Communities of interest



Grade this photo!

Top graders

	arianna 450 votes	6th
	ecoandres 417 votes	7th
	craigmmills 398 votes	8th
	saleiva 397 votes	9th
	elviodalmonete 392 votes	10th

2nd POSITION | **888** POINTS

[grade photos](#)



What's next?



