

IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

PARKS Journal Editorial Policy

The Journal *PARKS* is published to strengthen international collaboration among protected area professionals, to enhance understanding of the values and benefits derived from protected areas of all kinds and, to assist professionals in all their roles, status and activities by:

- (i) Ensuring that protected areas fulfill their primary role in biodiversity conservation while addressing contemporary environmental issues such as ecologically sustainable development, social justice and climate change mitigation;
- (ii) Building on the established network of IUCN WCPA, maintaining and improving an effective network of protected area policy and management specialists throughout the world;
- (iii) Serving as a leading global forum for the exchange of information on issues relating to protected areas, especially case studies of applied ideas.

Publishing Frequency.

IUCN WCPA will normally publish two editions of the *PARKS* Journal every year.

Content.

- (i) Articles in the *PARKS* Journal will normally be peer-reviewed, although some content may not be (at the discretion of the Editor).
- (ii) Articles may be organised around a specific theme but not all editions will have a themed group of articles.
- (iii) An article submitted for publication should be evidence-based, using accepted scientific methods or be based upon precise observations to support the conclusions.
- (iv) The style of writing should be suited to fellow protected area specialists, policy makers and managers with a minimum of jargon. Articles may vary in length from brief case studies of a specific protected area management issue and solution to a longer review of policies or issues with regional examples, or a succinctly reported piece of relevant research.
- (v) Previous issues of *PARKS* Journal provide an indication of the style and length that might be considered appropriate (previous editions are available on the IUCN WCPA website).
- (vi) The Editor will attempt to ensure articles published cover situations across all the IUCN regions. IUCN WCPA Regional Vice-chairs should actively promote submissions from their region and all IUCN Vice-Chairs will assist in the content review process.
- (vii) Authors of articles do not have to be members of the IUCN WCPA but the principal readership in every case will be protected area specialists, policy makers and managers from across the world. It is not expected that articles will primarily address a research community as there are other more appropriate journals for pure research publication. However, applied research that informs protected area management practices would be very welcome.
- (viii) Articles that challenge conventional practice or that encourage debate about protected areas and society will also be appropriate.

Criteria for Acceptance.

- (i) Does the article convey valuable guidance to protected area policy makers and managers?
- (ii) Is publication likely to be seen as beneficial across a wide spectrum of protected areas and regions?
- (iii) Is the article written in a suitable style?
- (iv) Does the article address a major IUCN WCPA theme?

The final decision on acceptance or rejection of an article will be made by the Editor (following appropriate consultation with the Editorial Committee).

Submission of articles

Submission should be by email attachment in Word format to the Editor:

peter.valentine@jcu.edu.au

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