

# **Disclosure Preparation Report ReadMe**

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## **1. Introduction**

This report enables users to assess the biodiversity-related features of multiple operational locations (or any known locations within the value chain) for corporate disclosure. This report is particularly relevant for the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) [recommended disclosure](#) Strategy D and the Locate phase of the TNFD [LEAP](#) approach and, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Disclosure 101-4 'Identification of biodiversity impacts' and Disclosure 101-5 'Sites with biodiversity impacts' within GRI 101: Biodiversity 2024.

The results of the disclosure report are divided into 2 PDFs. The 'Disclosure report' PDF (1 of 2) provides information on:

- Methodology used to define sensitive sites and to determine significance scores of sensitive sites with respect KBAs, protected areas and STAR scores.
- Overall summary of sites and their classification as sensitive or not sensitive based on the overlaps with KBAs, protected areas and STAR scores.
- The prioritisation of sensitive sites based on the proximity of the sites to a KBA or protected area relative to the appropriate buffer size based on the type of operation and the maximum STAR Threat Abatement and STAR Restoration scores found within the area of impact (site + buffer).
- Guidance on interpretation of significance scores.

'Disclosure result sensitive locations' PDF (2 of 2) provides information on:

- Further information on sensitive sites ordered by potential priority.
- Map of each of the sensitive location, area of analysis (site + buffer) and overlaps with KBAs and protected areas.
- Information on the threat abatement and restoration scores for sensitive locations.

For each location, an assessment of the following biodiversity-related features is provided:

- List of protected areas and their proximity to each site (within the appropriate buffer distance).
- List of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and their proximity to each site (within the appropriate buffer distance).
- Lists and counts of Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU) species (as classified on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species) that potentially occur within 50 km of each site.
- Species Threat Abatement and Restoration (STAR) Metric scores for each site.

## 2. Taskforce for Nature Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)

This report is particularly relevant for the 'Locate' phase of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) LEAP approach and disclosure 'D' on Strategy.

### 2.1 The 'Locate' Phase

TNFD requires that organisations disclose the sites of assets and/or activities in the organisation's direct operations and, where possible, upstream, and downstream value chain(s) that meet the criteria for priority sites.

TNFD defines priority sites as:

**Material Sites:** Locations where an organisation has identified material nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities in its direct operations and upstream and downstream value chain(s); and/or

**Sensitive Sites:** Locations where the assets and/or activities in its direct operations – and, where possible, upstream, and downstream value chain(s) – interface with nature in:

- Areas important for biodiversity; and/or
- Areas of high ecological integrity; and/or
- Areas of rapid decline in ecosystem integrity; and/or
- Areas of high physical water risks; and/or
- Areas of importance for ecosystem service provision, including benefits to Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, and stakeholders.

This report provides an assessment of whether each site is a sensitive location based on the presence of protected areas, key biodiversity areas, and threatened species in and around each site. A location is identified sensitive if:

- ✓ Any protected areas or KBA fall entirely or partly within the buffered area or;
- ✓ The STAR Threat Abatement and/or STAR Restoration scores exceeds the global median value.

Protected area, KBA and species lists are provided in a separate pdf (2 of 2) that contain details about all the sites which are identified as sensitive.

**Important note:** This report currently only assesses sensitive locations that are important for biodiversity. It is important to consider the other criteria when determining whether a location is a sensitive location, and therefore potentially a priority location.

### 2.2 Strategy Disclosure D

Under the TNFD Strategy D disclosure requirement on priority locations, companies are expected not only to disclose the full list of the sensitive locations but also to provide “a description of how the organisation has defined sensitive locations, with reference to the tools, data sources and indicators and metrics used” and “a description of the process followed to identify priority locations for disclosure”.

Table 1 outlines how this report can be used to respond to Strategy Disclosure D.

**Table 1.** Overview of requirements for TNFD recommended disclosure Strategy D and the Locate phase of TNFD’s LEAP approach that can be met with the data provided by IBAT,

Strategy Disclosure D Requirements	Outputs to Use from IBAT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A list and/or spatial map of the sites where the organisation has assets and/or activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In its direct operations and upstream and downstream value chain(s), where material nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks, and opportunities have been identified, and whether any of these sites meet the criteria for sensitive sites; and;</li> <li>2. In its direct operations and, where possible upstream and downstream value chain(s), that are in sensitive sites.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Other sites where the organisation has potentially material nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maps of each site are provided. Boundaries of protected areas and KBAs are overlain to illustrate proximity to important biodiversity and conservation features.</li> <li>Each site is assessed as either sensitive or not sensitive according to the datasets hosted within IBAT. A site is identified sensitive if any protected area or KBA fall entirely or partly within the buffered area or if the STAR Threat Abatement and/or STAR Restoration scores exceeds the global median value.</li> </ul>
<p>A description of how the organisation has defined sensitive sites, with reference to the tools, data sources and indicators and metrics used;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference sensitivity scoring section of methodology. Reference</li> <li>IBAT using reference provided.</li> <li>Reference data sources used by IBAT to create this report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Database on Protected Areas</li> <li>World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas</li> <li>IUCN Red List of Threatened Species</li> <li>Species Threat Abatement and Restoration Metric (STAR)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>(References for data found in ReadMe.)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A description of the process followed to identify priority sites for disclosure.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to methodology.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A description of the level of geographic specificity achieved, if and how sites have been aggregated, and the rationale for any aggregation, with reference to general requirement 3; and;</li> <li>The organisations intentions to improve or expand its site assessment activities over the short, medium and long term.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>

**Important note:** The TNFD’s approach for identification and assessment of nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks, and opportunities – LEAP – provides guidance on how to assess an organisation’s interface with sensitive locations. This is the focus of component L4 in the Locate phase of the LEAP approach.

### 3. Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Topic Standard 101 Biodiversity 2024

This report is also particularly relevant for the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Disclosure 101-4 'Identification of biodiversity impacts' and Disclosure 101-5 'Sites with biodiversity impacts' within GRI 101: Biodiversity 2024.

Table 2 outlines how the IBAT Disclosure Preparation report can be used to disclose against each element of disclosure 304-1.

**Table 2.** Overview of requirements for Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Disclosure 304-1 that can be met with IBAT.

Disclosure 101-4 and 101-5 Requirements	Outputs to Use from IBAT
101-4-a. explain how it has determined which of its sites and which products and services in its supply chain have the most significant actual and potential impacts on biodiversity'. This is the only disclosure under 101-4. All the rest of the disclosures in the table are under 101-5.	IBAT helps determine which sites potentially have the most significant impact on biodiversity by providing information on the ecological sensitivity of the area in and around a site. Sites assessed as sensitive are sites where direct operations are likely going to have the most significant impacts on biodiversity. (The extent to which the activities at the operational sites lead to direct drivers of biodiversity loss should also be considered).
101-5-a. report the site and size in hectares of its sites with the most significant impacts on biodiversity.	The report presents the geographic site (name and coordinates) of each site assessed to be in a sensitive site.
101-5-b. for each site reported under 101-5-a, report whether it is in or near an ecologically sensitive area, the distance to these areas, and whether these are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. areas of biodiversity importance;</li> <li>ii. areas of high ecosystem integrity;</li> <li>iii. areas of rapid decline in ecosystem integrity;</li> <li>iv. areas of high physical water risks;</li> <li>v. areas important for the delivery of ecosystem service benefits to Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and other stakeholders;</li> </ul>	<p>A site is in an ecologically sensitive area when it is completely or partially located in the ecologically sensitive area. A site is near an ecologically sensitive area when the ecologically sensitive area does not overlap the site, but it falls within the area of influence or within the radius set by the organization. The organization is required to report the distance only in cases where the site is near an ecologically sensitive area. The organization should report the size in hectares of the ecologically sensitive areas within its sites.</p> <p>IBAT can provide information on areas of biodiversity importance.</p>
101-5-c. report the activities that take place in each site reported under 101-5-a.	
101-5-d. report the products and services in its supply chain with the most significant impacts on biodiversity and the countries or jurisdictions where the activities associated with these products and services take place.	

## 4. Methodology

This report uses a 2-step approach to assess the sensitivity of locations:

### 1. Sites defined as sensitive or not sensitive.

In stage 1, sites are categorised into sensitive and not sensitive locations based on their overlap with significant biodiversity features in the IBAT datasets. The WDPA, WDKBA and IUCN Red List (in the form of the derived dataset STAR) are used to assess if a location sensitive.

Sites are defined as sensitive if:

- ✓ The area of influence (site and buffer) overlaps with a protected area or KBA
- ✓ The area of influence (site and buffer) has STAR Threat Abatement and/or STAR Restoration scores exceeding the global median values of 0.01 and 0.003 respectively.

**Important note:** Locations found to be not sensitive in this report are locations that are not sensitive based on the datasets within IBAT. Sites flagged as not sensitive in this report may be shown to be sensitive based on datasets found outside of IBAT. It is recommended that other tools and datasets should be used in conjunction with IBAT to complete a holistic sensitivity mapping.

### 2. Significance score assigned to sensitive sites.

In stage 2, sites assessed as sensitive in stage 1 are assigned a significance score to aid the prioritisation of sites.

Scores of high, medium, and low are presented based on the proximity of the site to a key biodiversity area or protected area relative to the appropriate buffer size based on the type of operation and the maximum STAR Threat Abatement and STAR Restoration scores found within the area of impact (site + buffer).

Tables 3 and 4 outlines how the significance scores for sites are determined regarding protected areas, key biodiversity areas and the STAR metric. Table 5 provides guidance for the interpretation of biodiversity significance scores.

**Table 3.** Criteria used to assess the biodiversity significance of each location based on the proximity of the site to a key biodiversity area or protected area relative to the appropriate buffer size based on the type of operation.

Buffer Distance	Type(s) of operation	Biodiversity Significance			
		None	Low	Medium	High
5 km	Offices, Warehouses, Low-input agriculture	> 5 km	1.5 – 5 km	0.5 – < 1.5 km	< 0.5 km
10 km	High-input agriculture, Onshore wind, Construction, Oil and gas (terrestrial)	> 10 km	3 – 10 km	1 – < 3 km	< 1 km
20 km	Offshore wind, Oil and gas (marine), Hydropower	> 20 km	6 – 20 km	2 – < 6 km	< 2 km
50 km	Mining	> 50 km	15 – 50 km	5 – < 15 km	< 5 km

**Table 4.** Criteria used to assess the biodiversity significance of each location based on the maximum STAR Threat Abatement and STAR Restoration scores found within the area of impact (site + buffer).

	Biodiversity Significance		
	Low	Medium	High
STAR Threat Abatement	Max STAR Threat Abatement value is < 0.05	Max STAR Threat Abatement value is between 0.05 – 0.15	Max STAR Threat Abatement value is > 0.15
STAR Restoration	Max STAR Restoration value is < 0.02	Max STAR Restoration value is between 0.02 – 0.05	Max STAR Restoration value is > 0.05

**Important note:** The sensitivity scores of the sites are based on the datasets within IBAT. The sensitivity score and prioritisation of sites would likely change when datasets outside of IBAT are included in this exercise. It is recommended that other tools and datasets should be used in conjunction with IBAT to complete a holistic sensitivity mapping.

**Table 5.** Guidance for interpretation of biodiversity significance scores.

Significance Indicator	Interpretation Guidance
Protected Areas / KBAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher risk scores indicate a greater potential that activities at the site may have an adverse impact on nearby protected areas and/or KBAs.</li> <li>Proximity to, or even overlap with, a designated area does not necessarily mean that the area is being impacted by company activities. It indicates a risk that company activities may be affecting the area.</li> <li>Companies should engage with stakeholders at the specific site to identify if they have assessed whether the nearby protected areas/KBAs are impacted by operations.</li> <li>If, through on-the-ground surveys, users can validate that nearby protected areas and/or KBAs are not impacted by operations then the site may no longer be deemed to be a potential priority.</li> <li>If a site is aligning with IFC PS6, direct impacts on protected areas and internationally recognised areas will trigger application of Paragraph 20, which means that the site will have to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrate that the proposed development in such areas is legally permitted;</li> <li>Develop the site in a manner that is consistent with any management plans; Consult</li> <li>with protected area staff; and</li> <li>Develop, and implement additional programmes to 'promote and enhance the conservation aims of the' areas</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Buffers

To assess the potential risks posed to biodiversity at each location, appropriate buffer sizes need to be used. TNFD and GRI currently do not specify distance thresholds, using the terms “in the area of influence” or “in or near to”.

This report automatically applies different buffers to different operation types to effectively incorporate the area of influence of each location guided by available literature and expert knowledge. These buffers are also designed to account for potential inaccuracies in the global datasets (e.g., IUCN Species Ranges).

A “default” buffer size of 20 km is applied to operations which cannot be categorised under the types of operations outlined in table 6. It should be noted that this buffer size may not accurately reflect the real-world risks posed to biodiversity features, which could be greater or lower than the risks reported.

**Table 6.** Buffer distances assigned to different operation types.

Buffer distance	Type(s) of operation	Justification	References
5 km	Offices, Warehouses, Low-input agriculture.	A 5 km buffer is recommended as the minimum buffer size to be used. Low-input agriculture is placed here as the degree of freshwater pollution is expected to be lower (see 10 km buffer justification).	<a href="#">UNEP-WCMC, The Area of Influence of site-based operations – Direct Impacts (2021).</a> <a href="#">UNEP-WCMC, The Area of Influence of site-based operations – Indirect Impacts (2022).</a>
10 km	High-input agriculture, Onshore wind, Construction, Oil and gas (terrestrial)	A 10 km buffer is suggested as being likely to cover the impacts from most pressures (Amec Foster Wheeler 2015; UNEP-WCMC 2021). Freshwater pollution impacts are likely to be experienced at larger distances (e.g., average of 13.4 km for mines and oil and gas operations (UNEP-WCMC 2021)). As agriculture is one of the main contributors to eutrophication and pollution globally (Poore & Nemecek 2018) it is deemed that a 10 km buffer is most relevant.	<a href="#">Amec Foster Wheeler (2015) Habitats Regulations Assessment: 14th Onshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round (No. Doc Ref. 33917rr008i2).</a> Oil and Gas Authority. <a href="#">UNEP-WCMC, The Area of Influence of site-based operations – Direct Impacts (2021).</a> J. Poore, T. Nemecek, <a href="#">Reducing food's environmental impacts through producers and consumers. Science. 360, 987–992 (2018).</a>
20 km	Offshore wind, Oil and gas (marine), Hydropower	Marine operations have the potential to have larger areas of influence when compared to terrestrial, especially if noise is excessive. UNEP-WCMC suggested a buffer size of 20 km for marine oil and gas operations (UNEP-WCMC 2021) and a 20 km buffer is also likely to be sufficient to account for a majority of wide-ranging species (Weaver J 2020).	<a href="#">UNEP-WCMC, The Area of Influence of site-based operations – Direct Impacts (2021).</a> Weaver J, "WALES NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - Habitats Regulations Assessment" (Sefydliad Materion Cymreig   Institute of Welsh Affairs, 2020).
50 km	Mining	Mining has been observed to contribute to deforestation effects up to 50 km away (Sonter et al. 2017; Maddox et al. 2019).	L. J. Sonter, D. Herrera, D. J. Barrett, G. L. Galford, C. J. Moran, B. S. Soares-Filho, Mining drives extensive deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon. <i>Nature Communications</i> . 8, 1013 (2017). T. Maddox, P. Howard, J. Knox, N. Jenner, <a href="#">Forest-Smart Mining: Identifying Factors Associated with the Impacts of Large-Scale Mining on Forests (World Bank, 2019).</a>

**Important note:** The buffers assigned to each type of operation in this report are not based on scientific literature but provide an initial approach to differentiate buffer zones based on different geographical impacts of different operations. UNEP-WCMC is currently conducting research to create an evidence-based buffer methodology. Therefore, the buffers used in this report are subject to change.

## 5. About IBAT

The Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) provides key decision-makers with access to critical information on biodiversity priority sites to inform risk management and decision-making processes that address potential biodiversity impacts.

Developed through a partnership between BirdLife International, Conservation International, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the vision of IBAT is that decisions affecting critical natural habitats are informed by the best scientific information and in turn decision-makers will support the efforts to enhance the underlying datasets and scientific information.

## 6. Limitations of this report

This report provides an indication of biodiversity-related features (protected areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and species) whose distributions overlap or fall close to the specified site. While it provides an early indication of potential biodiversity concerns, the report does not provide details of potential direct, indirect, downstream or cumulative impacts. Furthermore, the report provides an assessment based on global datasets and is not a substitute for additional investigation and due diligence, especially concerning national and/or local conservation priorities.

Species do not occur throughout their distributions, and population densities and the relevance and severity of threats may vary across their ranges. STAR scores in this report do not reflect such local variations. Overlap with a species' current Area of Habitat does not necessarily indicate that the species occurs within the particular Area of Interest.

STAR scores included in this report are calculated for species of amphibians, birds and mammals for which current or historical Area of Habitat occurs in the Area of Interest. Only species assessed as Near Threatened, Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species are included – Data Deficient species do not contribute to STAR scores but would also be important for accessing biodiversity in the area.

The STAR layers are currently only available for terrestrial habitats. Therefore, for sites which partially overlap with marine areas (i.e. coastal sites), the STAR scores will only be generated for the terrestrial part of the Area of Interest. Additionally, the STAR scores only cover 3 taxonomic groups at the moment – birds, mammals and amphibians.

The values used to generate the STAR categories in the global maps closely approximate but do not exactly match the values used to calculate the scores for the Area of Interest in this report. This is due to how the STAR values underlying the scores for the Area of Interest are generated vs the way they are generated for the global maps. The differences are marginal however, so it can be assumed that both site and global maps are sufficiently accurate for comparing within and between sites.

Geographical regions have significant differences in their Protected Areas and/or Key Biodiversity Areas. For example, the KBA identification process has not been completed in every country, nor for all taxa, and is biased towards key sites for bird conservation. The protected areas database is based on records provided primarily by national governments and is also incomplete in various ways. Protected areas in certain countries might not be publicly available as well and hence, might not portray a holistic global perspective.

## **7. Disclaimer**

The designations employed and the presentation of material on IBAT maps do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the IBAT Alliance concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city, or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

## **8. Recommended citation**

The report should be cited as:

IBAT Disclosure Preparation Report. Generated under licence 4449–21453 from the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool on 01 September 2021 (GMT). [www.ibat-alliance.org](http://www.ibat-alliance.org)

Datasets should be cited as:

- UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, 2021. Protected Planet: The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)[On-line], Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC and IUCN. Available at: [www.protectedplanet.net](http://www.protectedplanet.net) – October 2021.
- BirdLife International ([year e.g. 2017]). The World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas. Developed by the KBA Partnership: BirdLife International, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, Amphibian Survival Alliance, Conservation International, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, Global Environment Facility, Re:wild, NatureServe, Rainforest Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Wildlife Conservation Society and World Wildlife Fund. Available at [www.keybiodiversityareas.org](http://www.keybiodiversityareas.org). [Accessed (please insert date of download dd/mm/yyyy)].
- IUCN. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2019–3. (2019). <https://www.iucnredlist.org>

## **9. How can I make IBAT better?**

IBAT data span all continents, tens of thousands of species, and are collected and maintained by thousands of experts. It can always be improved. You can help make IBAT better in three key ways:



1. Share any feedback on things we are doing well, things we could do better or any ideas around new ways we could apply IBAT. Please contact the IBAT Alliance, via <https://www.ibat-alliance.org/contact-us>
2. Promote sharing of any corrections or updates to data collected during your work with IBAT Alliance data partners at the national or international level.  
The most valued data relates to species occurrences, which should be shared with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility or an appropriate citizen science platform (such as eBird, iNaturalist, or observation.org), and the boundaries of protected areas.

## 10. Glossary

**Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) site:** highest priority KBAs. AZEs will trigger critical habitat status due their extreme importance for the last known populations of highly threatened (CR and EN) species.

**Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs):** Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) are priority sites for bird conservation because they regularly hold significant populations of one or more globally or regionally threatened, endemic or congregatory bird species, or highly representative bird assemblages.

**IUCN Protected Area Management Categories:** ([Explore the World's Protected Areas \(protectedplanet.net\)](https://protectedplanet.net)) Assigned to legally protected areas by national government agencies to allow international comparison between national protected area networks, based on management objectives of a protected area. Assigning IUCN categories to protected areas is encouraged, although their use is voluntary, and therefore not all protected areas have an IUCN category assigned to them. These protected areas are designated or recognised at the national level and should not be treated as less important than protected areas to which a management category has been assigned or reported. The six categories are:

- **Ia:** To conserve regionally, nationally, or globally outstanding ecosystems, species (occurrences or aggregations) and/or geodiversity features: these attributes will have been formed mostly or entirely by non-human forces and will be degraded or destroyed when subjected to all but very light human impact.  
Strictly protected areas set aside to protect biodiversity and also possibly geological/geomorphological features, where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values.
- **Ib:** To protect the long-term integrity of natural areas that are undisturbed by significant human activity free of modern infrastructure and where natural forces and processes predominate, so that current and future generations have the opportunity to experience such areas.  
Large area of unmodified or slightly modified land, and/or sea, retaining its natural character and influence, without permanent or significant human habitation, which are protected and managed so as to preserve their natural condition.
  - **II:** To protect natural biodiversity along with its underlying ecological structure and supporting environmental processes, and to promote education and recreation. 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:** To protect specific outstanding natural features and their associated biodiversity and habitats. Areas 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.
  - **IV:** To maintain, conserve and restore species and habitats. 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:** To protect and sustain important landscapes/seascapes and the associated nature conservation and other values created by interactions with humans through traditional management practices. Areas 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:** To protect natural ecosystems and use natural resources sustainably, when conservation and sustainable use can be mutually beneficial. Generally large areas, 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.

**IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN RL or Red List):** international standard for

assessing threat status for species. The Red List is compiled by IUCN's global network of experts, specialist groups and partners. For further information, please see the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species [website \(https://www.iucnredlist.org\)](https://www.iucnredlist.org). Red List categories are:

- **Critically Endangered (CR):** Highest risk of extinction. A taxon is Critically Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Critically Endangered, and it is therefore considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- **Endangered (EN):** Very high risk of extinction. A taxon is Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Endangered, and it is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.
- **Vulnerable (VU):** Risk of extinction. A taxon is Vulnerable when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Vulnerable, and it is therefore considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- **Near Threatened (NT):** A taxon is Near Threatened when it has been evaluated against the criteria but does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered, or Vulnerable now, but is close to qualifying for or is likely to qualify for a threatened category in the near future.
- **Least Concern (LC):** A taxon is Least Concern when it has been evaluated against the criteria and does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, or Near Threatened. Widespread and abundant taxa are included in this category.
- **Data Deficient (DD):** A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat. Listing of taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that threatened classification is appropriate.

**Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs):** Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) are 'sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity', in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Sites qualify as global KBAs if they meet one or more of 11 criteria, clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and, irreplaceability. KBAs comprise an "umbrella" set of internationally-recognized priority sites for biodiversity that include Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs); and Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites. For further information please see the Key Biodiversity Areas [website https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/](https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/).

**Protected Area designation:** Within IBAT users can filter protected areas data by designation in the following categories:

- National: Protected areas designated or proposed at the national or sub-national level
- Natura 2000: A European network of protected sites under the European Habitats and Birds Directives, aiming to protect the most valuable and threatened European habitats and species.
- Regional Seas: Protected areas established under Regional Seas Conventions such as OSPAR.
- World Heritage: A landmark or area which is selected by the UNESCO as having cultural, historical, scientific or other form of significance, and is legally protected by international treaties. The sites are judged important to the collective interests of humanity.
- Ramsar: Wetlands protected by national governments to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (commonly called the Ramsar Convention).
- MAB: A global network of sites established by countries and recognized under UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme to promote sustainable development based on local community efforts and sound science.

**Protected Area governance:** Within IBAT users can filter protected areas data by governance in the following categories:

- Governance by government, which includes federal or national ministry or agency, subnational ministry or agency, and government-delegated management.
- Shared governance, which includes transboundary governance, joint governance, and collaborative governance.
- Private governance, which includes individual landowners, non-profit organisations, for profit organisations, governance by indigenous peoples and local communities, including indigenous peoples and local communities.