

- RESOLUTION #:** 3
- TITLE:** International Definition of Wilderness, Biodiversity Conservation, and Ecosystems Services.
- WHEREAS:** Recent work has conclusively demonstrated the key role played by wilderness areas for the conservation of biodiversity resources and the provision of ecosystems services as defined by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, globally;
- None of the international definitions of the protected area category: Wilderness Area (e.g. of IUCN & the World Wilderness Congress) list biodiversity conservation and the provision of ecosystems services as primary objectives/functions for wilderness areas;
- None of the statutes of the various nations that have to date set wilderness systems aside, specify these as objectives/functions for wilderness areas.
- THEREFORE:** While the traditional objectives for wilderness (such as the provision of solitude and control of forms of access) are fully recognised, the definition of ecosystems services incorporates these and should therefore be retained. It is essential that vital functions of biodiversity conservation and ecosystems services also be recognised as primary objectives/functions for wilderness areas.
- RESOLVED:** That the 8th World Wilderness Congress:
- Recommends to IUCN that it should amend its definition to include biodiversity conservation and ecosystems services as primary objectives; and also
- Recommends to nations that maintain wilderness systems to amend their legislation accordingly.
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