

For Comparison's Sake: National Parks in Other Countries



But first.....

A QUIZ!



How many countries have national parks?

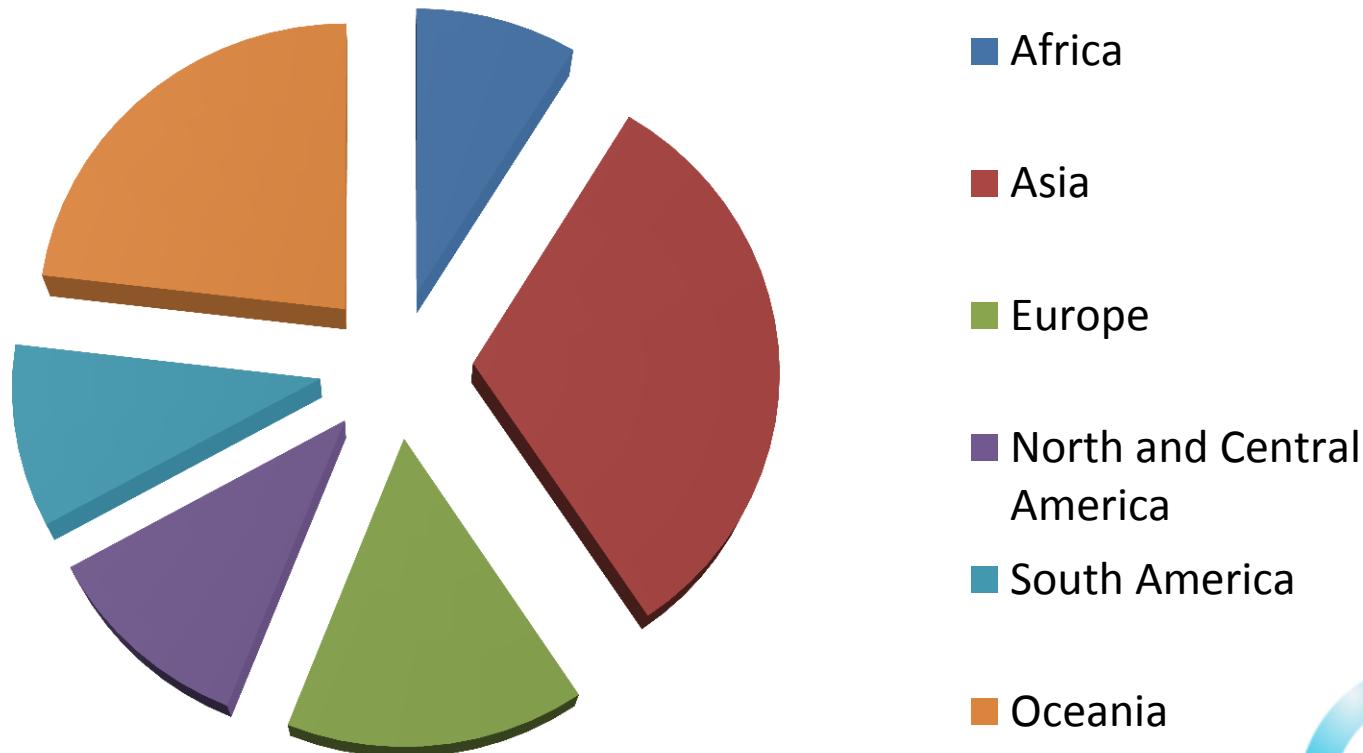
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Picos de Europa (meaning 'Peaks of Europe'), northern Spain

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) lists national parks in over 100 countries around the world.

By continent:



Which country has the MOST national parks?



Australia: over 500!

Which country has set aside the greatest % of its area in national parks?

Belize (38%)



What is the world's largest national park?

Northeast Greenland
National Park
(Denmark)



- *375,000 square miles
- *larger than 29 countries in the world
- *also an international biosphere reserve
- *no permanent human population



What is the world's smallest national park?

Penang National Park,
Malaysia

25 square km.
(9.6 square miles)



Political geographers refer to institutions like national parks as “centripetal forces”: organizations or attitudes that tend to unify people, create an identity, and strengthen the state.

NATIONAL PARKS

Britain's breathing spaces

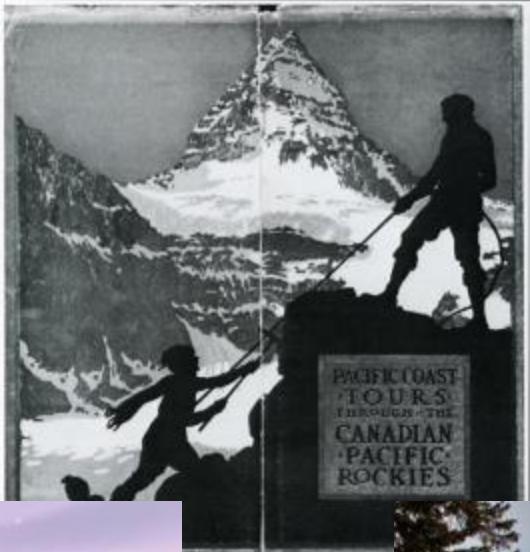


Parque Nacional
Galápagos

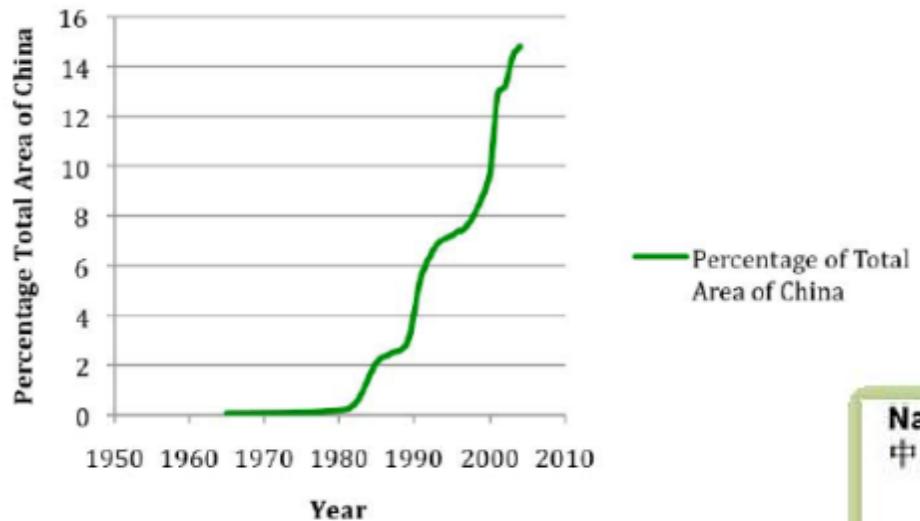


Parks
Canada Parcs
Canada

1885: Banff National Park (Canadian Rockies)



Nature Reserve Area as Percentage Total Area of China 1956-2004



Currently, China has 208 National Parks, the majority of which were established after 1982. 16% of China's land area is protected.

Local residents are employed in the Parks but do not live there.



***A national park is a park in use for conservation purposes.**

***National Park = Protected Area**

*Often it is a reserve of natural, semi-natural, or developed land that a sovereign state declares or owns.

*A common idea:

the conservation of 'wild nature' for posterity, as a symbol of national pride.



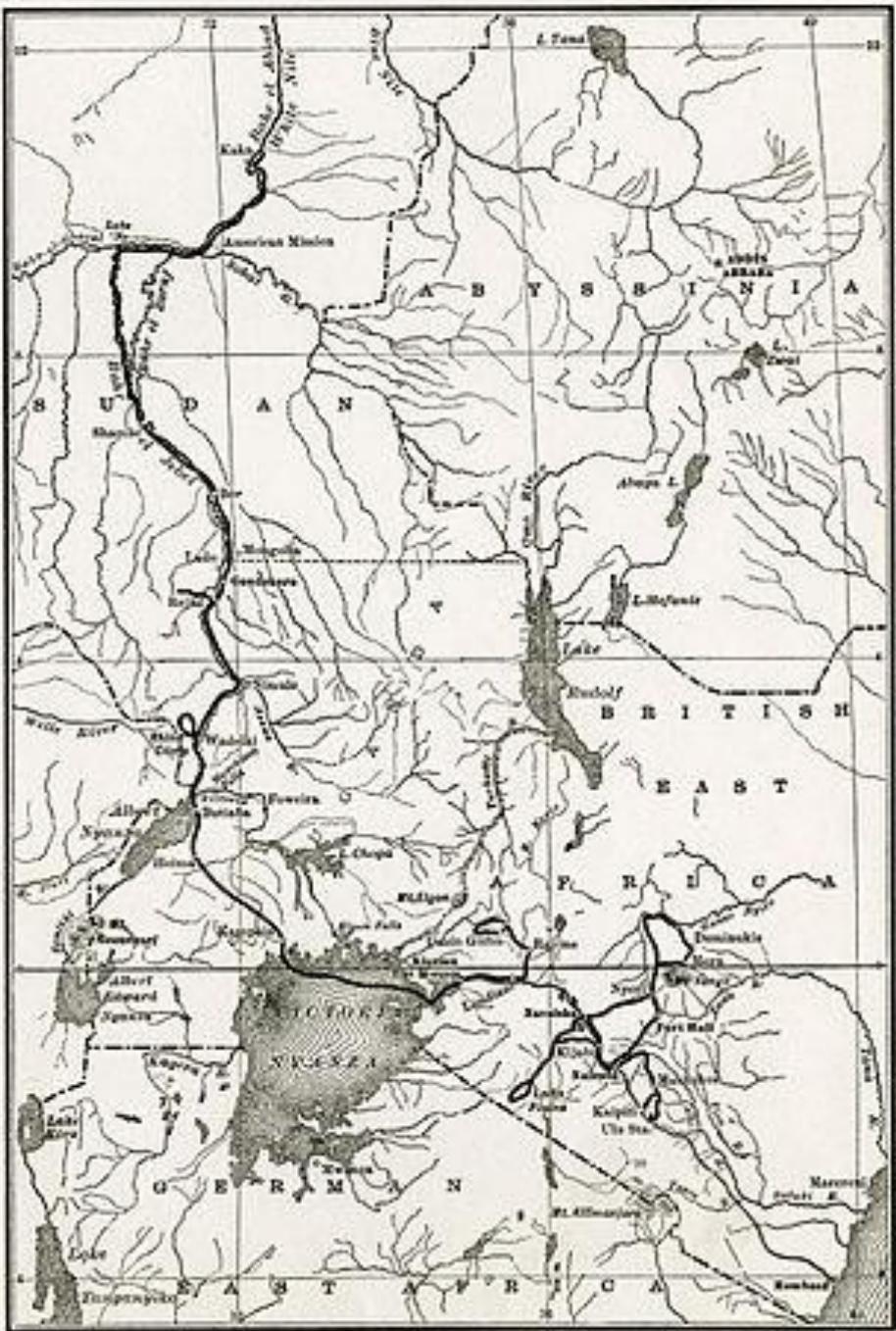
Defining Characteristics of a National Park (IUCN)

- *Minimum size of 1,000 hectares (2,470 acres) within zones in which protection of nature takes precedence;
- *One or several ecosystems not materially altered by human exploitation and occupation, where plant and animal species, geomorphological sites and habitats are of special scientific, educational, and recreational interest or which contain a natural landscape of great beauty;
- *Highest competent authority of the country has taken steps to prevent or eliminate exploitation or occupation as soon as possible in the whole area and to effectively enforce the respect of ecological, geomorphological, or aesthetic features which have led to its establishment;
- *Budget and staff sufficient to provide effective protection; and
- *Visitors are allowed to enter, under special conditions, for inspirational, educative, cultural, and recreative purposes.

American model for National Parks: closing off land and keeping human residents out. It was in Africa that the U.S. parks model for conservation was first tried out on a global stage. It began with President Theodore Roosevelt and a safari hunt.



In 1910, the recently retired U.S. president spent a year with his son in the African bush, eventually sending home more than 10,000 carcasses to the Smithsonian Institution. This was known as the Smithsonian-Roosevelt African Expedition.



“The greatest of the world’s great hunting grounds”: a primeval landscape filled with wildebeest, elephants, lions, giraffes, zebras, etc.



What Roosevelt did not understand: the landscape he saw was not primeval, but less than two decades old.



In 1887, the rinderpest virus was introduced into the Horn of Africa (Eritrea) and swept across eastern and southern Africa. It wiped out the cattle herds that had been the basis of traditional African economies for several thousand years.

People whose lives were tied to cattle also suffered:

- *1/3 of Ethiopia's population died from starvation and disease;**
- *2/3 of the Maasai died in 1891.**

Timing: coincided with the British and German push to control East and Southern Africa and the emergence of apartheid.

The loss of cattle grazing led to the growth of bush vegetation that harbored the tsetse fly, which prevented humans and cattle from returning in any numbers.

Rinderpest = Ecological Revolution = favored wildlife

Africa's great national parks – Serengeti, Okavango, Kruger – were created by conservationists in regions where rinderpest had destroyed human societies. Cattle and humans were excluded due to the mistaken belief that domesticated and wild animals could not co-exist.



River and Serengeti Plains

Perhaps the whole idea of sealing off wilderness from human activity is flawed — a misreading of our symbiotic relationships with nature.

In Eastern and Southern Africa, pastoralists had herded their cattle in the midst of wildlife for thousands of years.

A conservation ethic based on SEPARATION is artificial and harmful to wildlife, which often wander outside protected areas.

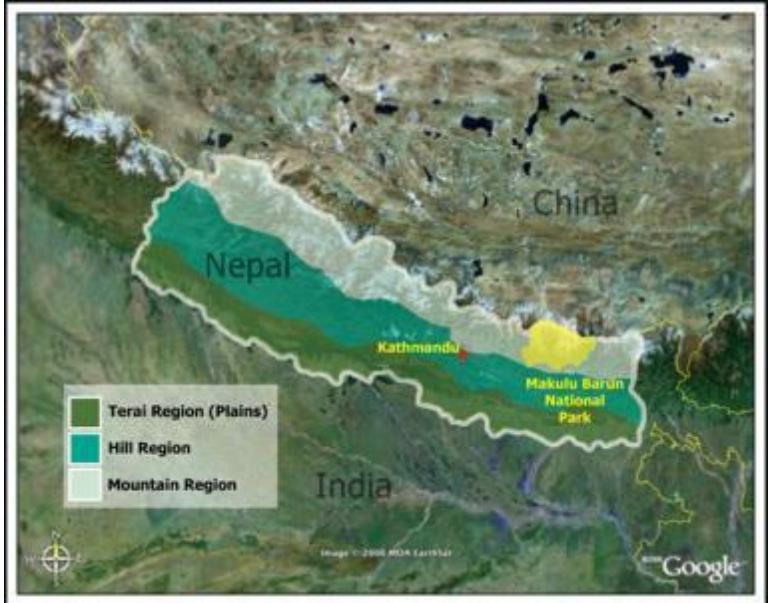


Other Models



Malaku Barun National Park, Nepal

- *32,000 people
- *Subsistence farmers – Sherpa, Rai, Gurung, Tamang, Magar, Brahmin, and Chhetri ethnic groups
- *Community-based conservation approach emphasized management of biodiversity together with local communities.
- *Ecotourism employment
- *Hunting/trapping of rare and endangered species is strictly prohibited
- *Farmers compensated for crop and livestock damage.



Neusiedlersee-Seewinkel & Fertö-Hanság



Transboundary Parks: following Nature's design instead of human maps. These cross national borders, including important ecosystems. This example straddles Austria and Hungary.



**Transboundary Park Example 2:
Podyjí-Thayatal, a nature reserve
made possible by the fall of the
Iron Curtain between the Czech
Republic and Austria.**



Cairngorms National Park of Scotland: the National Park is not owned by the state but brings together hundreds of independent landowners.

“We work with partners, business, landowners and communities to develop long term plans for the Park, in order to achieve our collective aims.” These collective aims are established and tracked by the Cairngorms National Park Authority, which compiles the Cairngorms National Park Partnership Plan.

NATIONAL PARKS

Britain's breathing spaces

Who owns the national parks land?

A large amount of land within the national parks is owned by **private landowners**. Farmers and organizations like the National Trust are some of the landowners, along with the thousands of people who live in the villages and towns. National park authorities sometimes own bits of land, but they work with all landowners in all national parks to protect the landscape.

Sutton Bank, North York Moors National Park

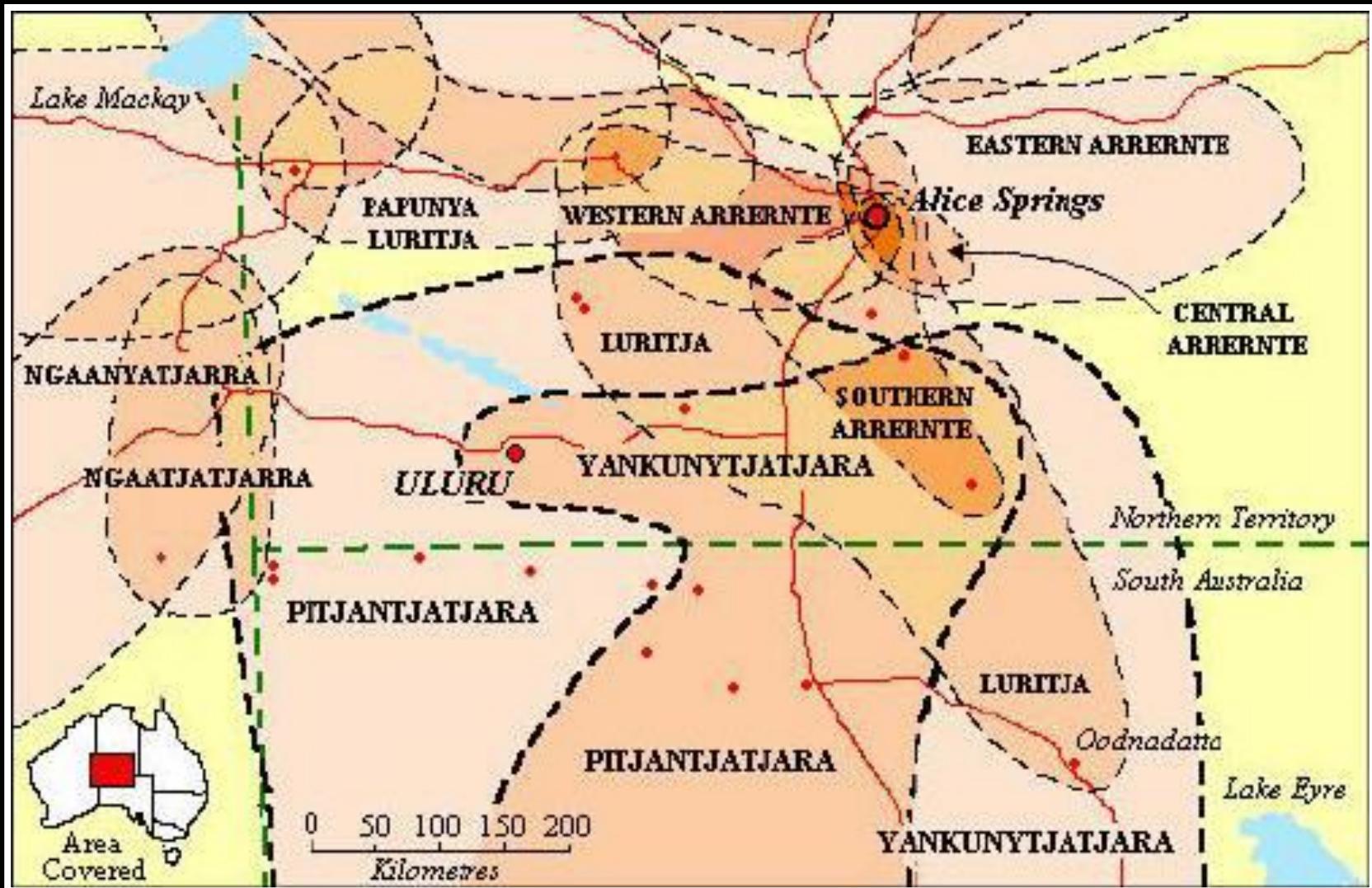


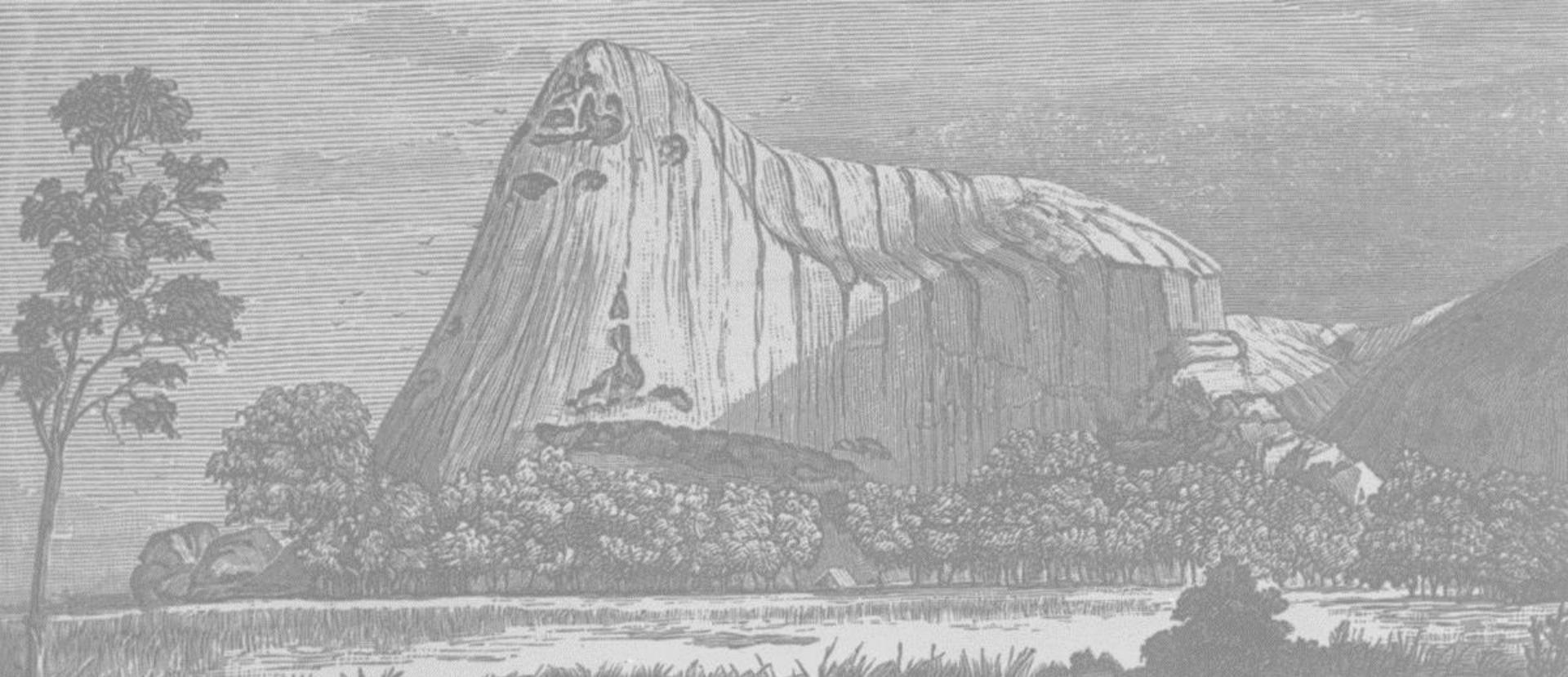


Uluru



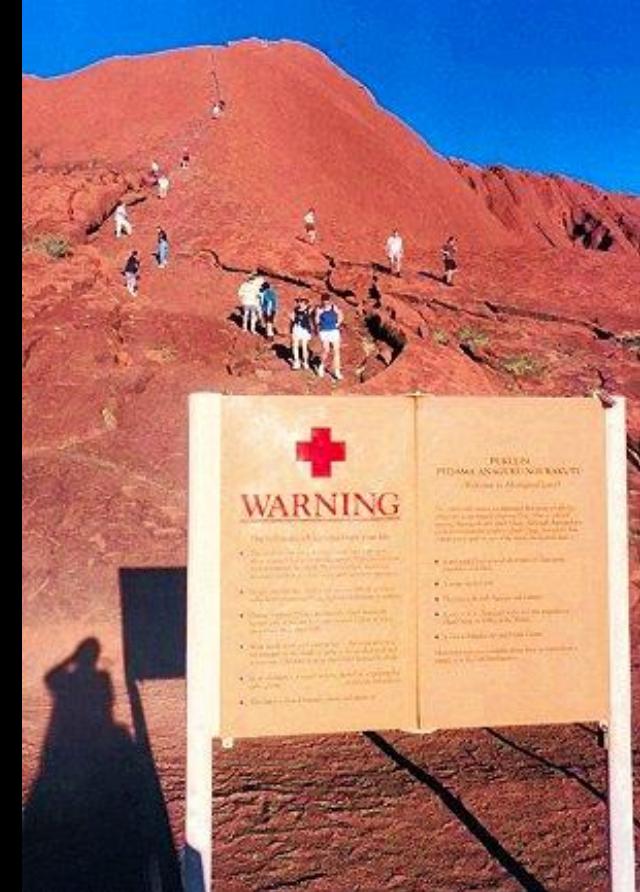
Distribution of Western Desert Languages and Dialects Associated with Uluru





1873: Government Surveyor, William Christie Goss, named Uluru “Ayers Rock” for Chief Secretary of South Australia, Sir Henry Ayers. Today, signage includes both names.





Non-Indigenous vs. Indigenous beliefs about Uluru



Rock art
Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

Anangu statement on climbing Uluru:

Please don't climb

We, the Anangu traditional owners, have this to say

Uluru is sacred in our culture. It is a place of great knowledge.

Under our traditional law climbing is not permitted.

This is our home

As custodians, we are responsible for your safety and behaviour.

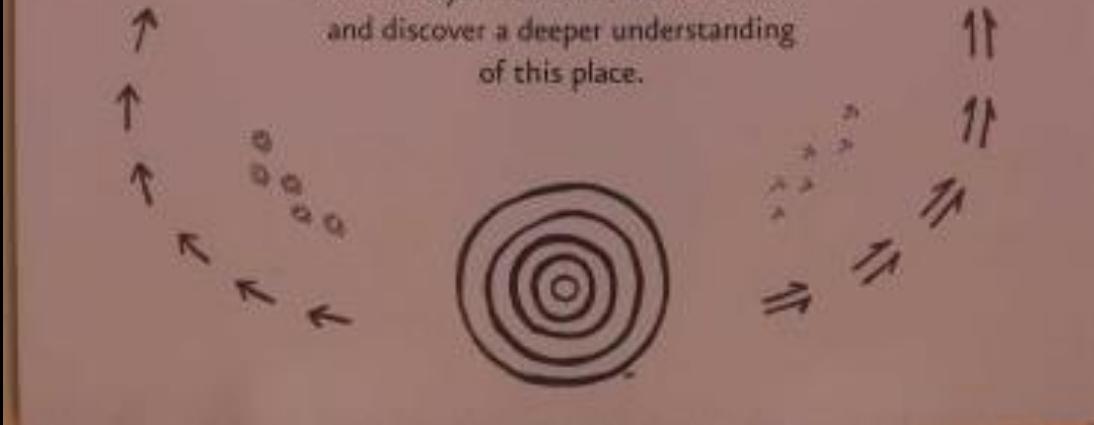
Too many people do not listen to our message,

Too many people have died or been hurt causing great sadness.

We worry about you and we worry about your family.

Please don't climb

We invite you to walk around the base
and discover a deeper understanding
of this place.



Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park

An ancient landscape, where Tjukurpa whispers the creation stories.



Visual journey



People & place



Things to do



Plan your trip



News & Alerts



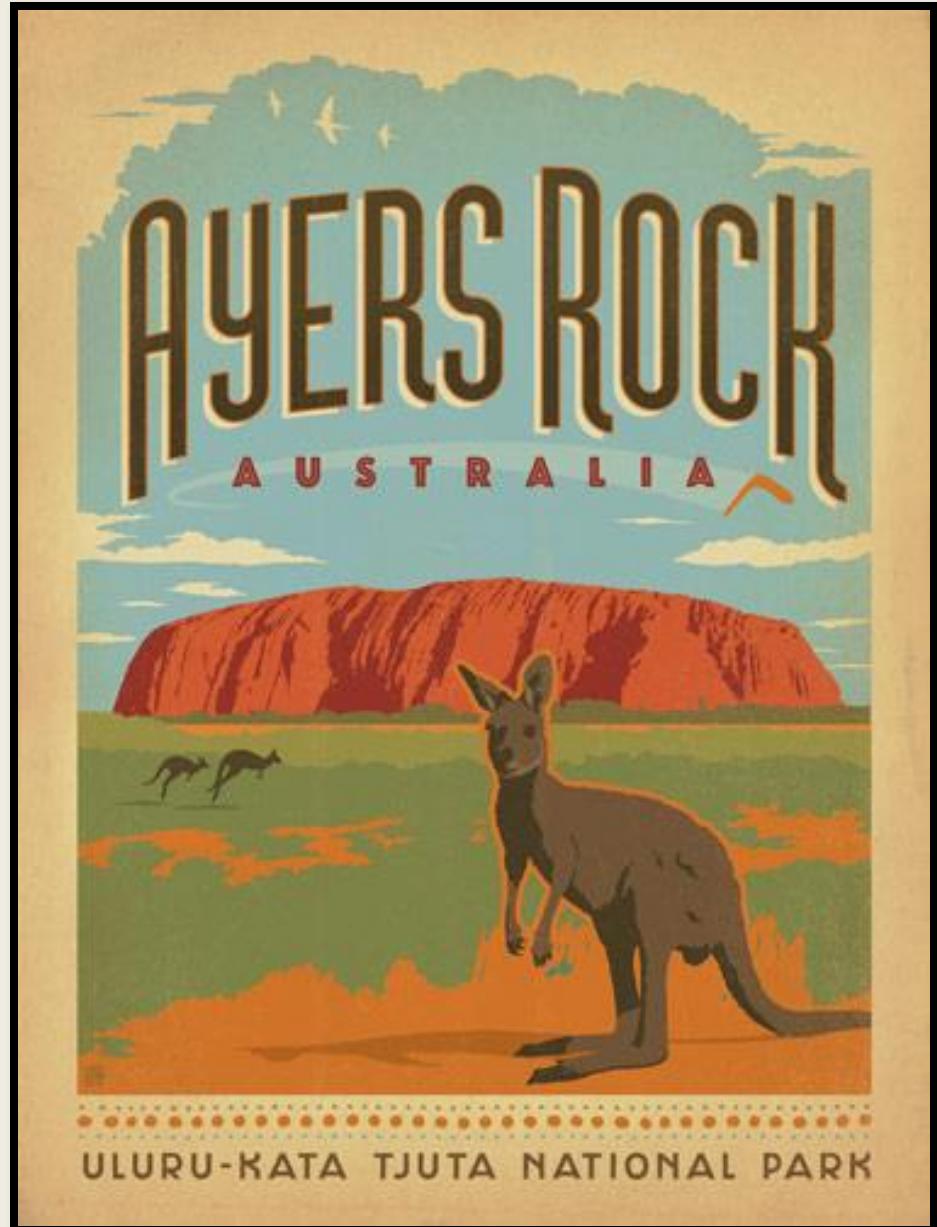
Current web page from Parks Australia

Do visitors perceive the site as a natural or cultural landscape?

How did we get here?

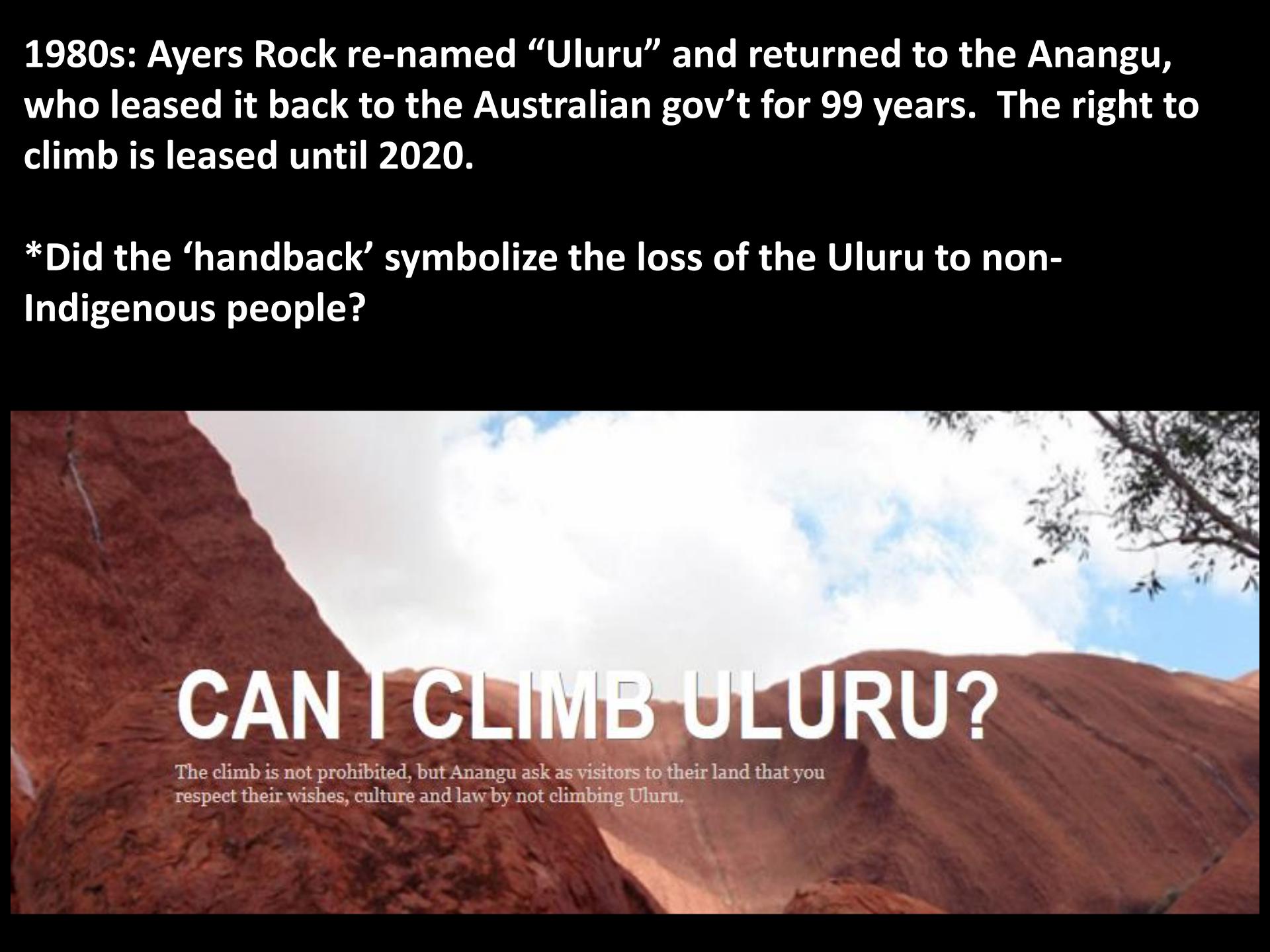
- *1950s: Ayers Rock ‘removed’ from a larger Aboriginal reserve and made a national park due to its popularity with tourists
- *1950s-1980s: Tourist space/National icon – “Heart of Australia”

Panorama Australia
ULURU AND ALICE SPRINGS - The Heart of Australia



1980s: Ayers Rock re-named “Uluru” and returned to the Anangu, who leased it back to the Australian gov’t for 99 years. The right to climb is leased until 2020.

***Did the ‘handback’ symbolize the loss of the Uluru to non-Indigenous people?**



CAN I CLIMB ULURU?

The climb is not prohibited, but Anangu ask as visitors to their land that you respect their wishes, culture and law by not climbing Uluru.

Under the terms of the lease the Anangu elders granted to the national park, 22.5 percent of all revenues is passed on to the indigenous community. There are concerns within the community concerning what would happen to those funds if the climb was banned.



Role of Marketing: The Tourist



ARRIVED PLANNING TO SEE THE WHOLE COUNTRY.
DEPARTED STILL TRYING TO GET OVER ULURU.

It's true what they say: to find yourself sometimes you need to lose yourself. In Australia they call this going 'walkabout'. And with Uluru's magical presence, sacred history and spectacular natural colour show at sunrise and sunset, it's no wonder people are finding themselves here every single day. Visit Australia.com to find out how you can go walkabout.

"Tourism marketing establishes the expectation of the visitor and, in many respects, the 'boundaries of experience' for their visit." 300,000 visit each year and 1/3 make the climb.

Uluru

Car Sunset (to Yulara (town)/ Kata Tjuta)

CAR SUNSET
A great sunrise spot!

DUNE WALK

PLEASE NOTE
The bus parking area is open to all vehicles until 4pm daily. It is then reserved for bus and coach sunset viewing.

MALA WALK
Mala carpark

LIRU WALK

URANGKATA WALK

KUNIYA WALK
Kunyti carpark

PARK HEADQUARTERS

CULTURAL CENTRE

TALINGURU NYAKUNYJAKU
Viewing area
Sunrise and sunset

LEGEND

- Toilets
- Picnic area
- Drinking water
- Emergency alarm
- Walking track
- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- Culturally sensitive site (no photos or filming)

THINGS TO DO

*Cultural Centre - visit first
Gain a greater understanding of Anangu culture.
Open 7.00 am-6.00 pm.

***Uluru Base Walk**
Grade 3 - Moderate, 10.6 km loop, 3.5 hrs
Heat exhaustion and dehydration risk.
In hot weather finish this walk by 11.00 am.

Shorter walks include

***Mala Walk**: Grade 1 - All access, 2 km return, 1.5 hrs,
****Kunyti Walk**: Grade 1 - All access, 1 km return, 30-45 mins
****Dune Walk**: Grade 2 - Easy, 500 m return, 45 mins (sunset buses only)
Talinguru Nyakunytjaku: Grade 2 - Easy, *sunrise, **sunset, picnic anytime

PLEASE DON'T CLIMB ULURU

'That's a really important thing you are climbing. You shouldn't climb. It's not the real thing about this place. The real thing is listening to everything. We are obliged by Tjukurpa (traditional law) to teach people what behaviour is appropriate.'

***FREE RANGER-GUIDED MALA WALK**
Learn more about Anangu culture and the significance of Uluru. Join our daily walk.

WARNING IF YOU CHOOSE TO CLIMB

Consider your health and fitness.
The climb is physically demanding. Over 35 people have died attempting it.

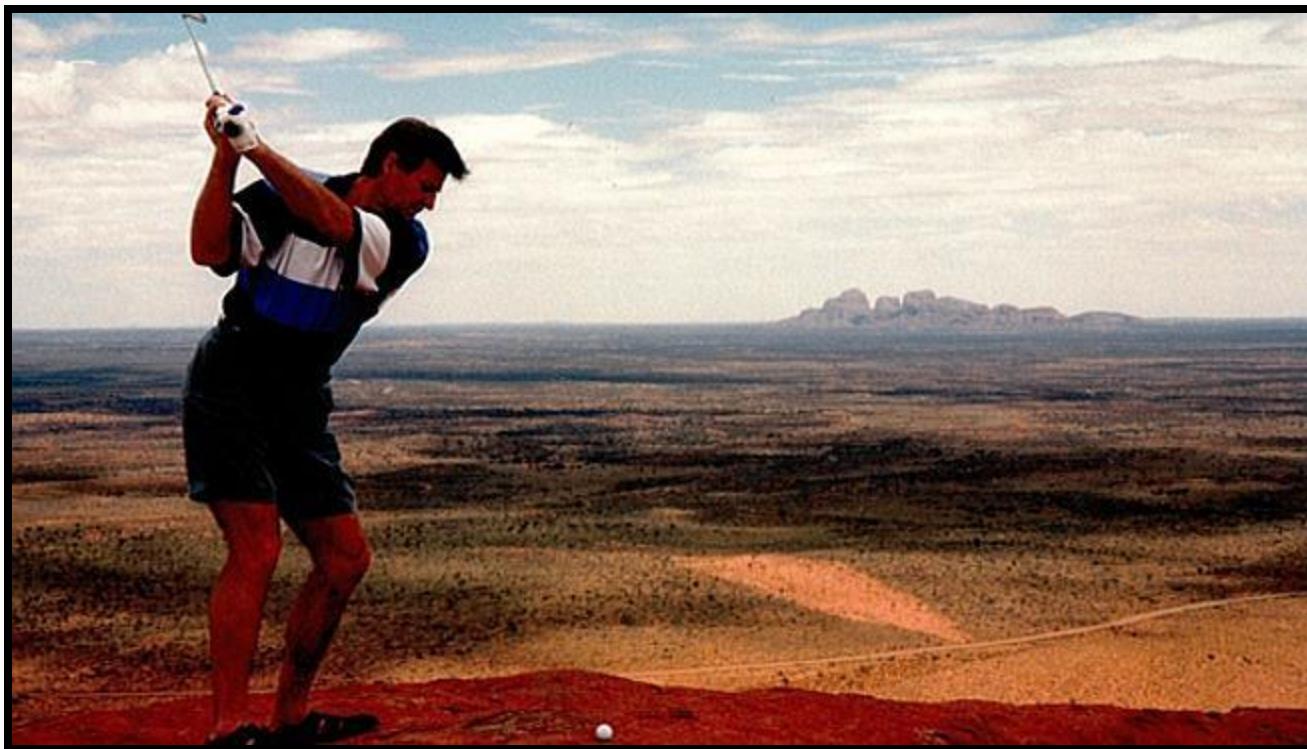
Don't risk your life!
Do not climb if you have high or low blood pressure, heart or breathing problems, a fear of heights or if you are not fit.

The climb is closed during adverse weather conditions and rescue operations. It may also be closed for important cultural reasons.

What is the role of the Uluru-Kata-Tjuta National Park in this situation?

- *narratives of nationalism/natural site
- *marketing of 'sacred' for visitor enhancement
- *Anangu view marginalized

Park drafted a proposal that recommended a blanket ban on climbing. Failed to get government backing -- concerns about loss of tourism dollars.



Sam Newman, Australian Footballer, hitting a golf ball off the top of Uluru in 2010



IUCN
WORLD PARKS CONGRESS
SYDNEY 2014

"A protected area is a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values."

**14.6% of the Earth's surface and
2.8% of Earth's oceans are
protected.**



How do humans benefit from biodiversity?



Food



Aesthetic Value



Medicine



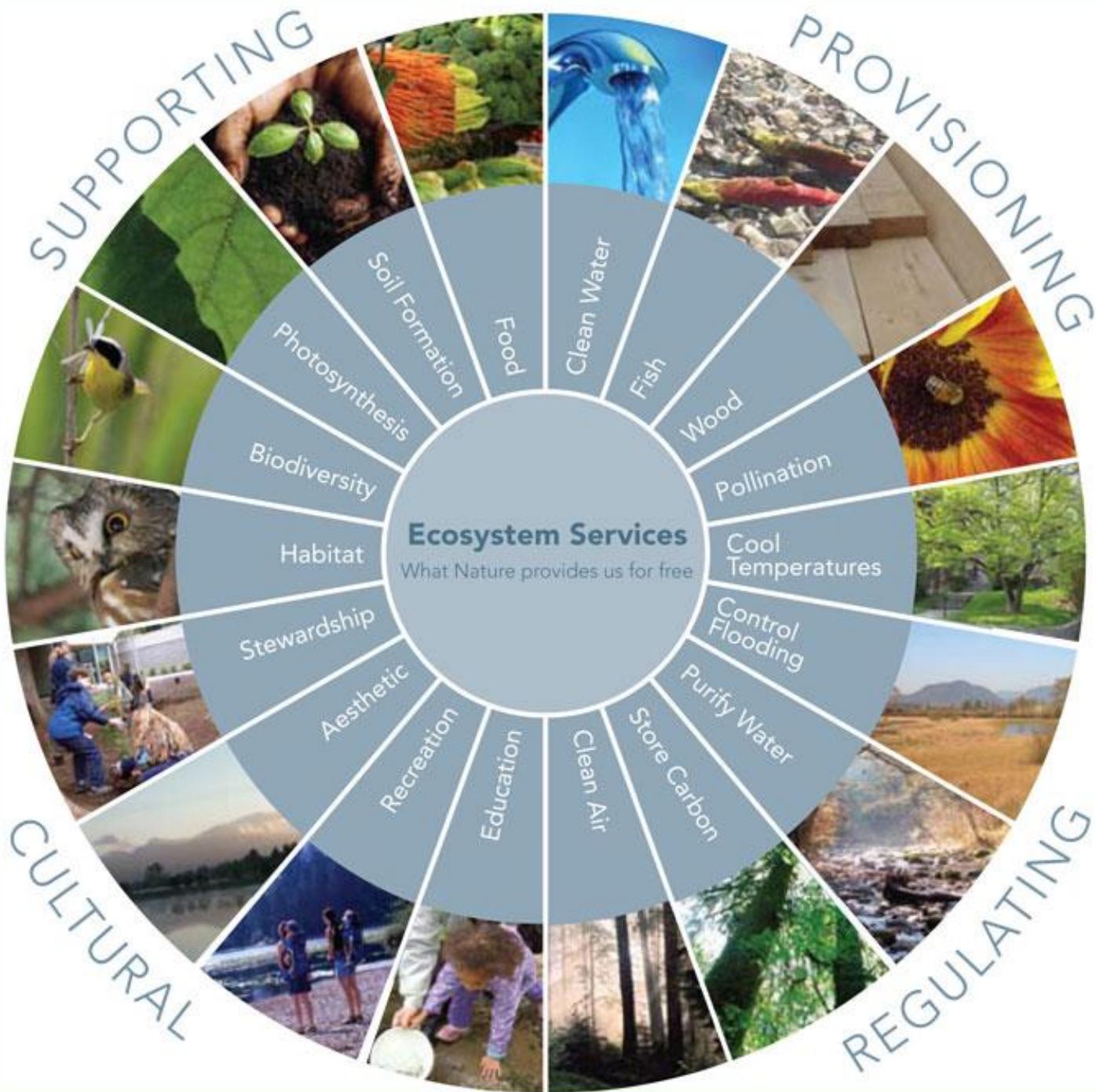
Ecosystem Services

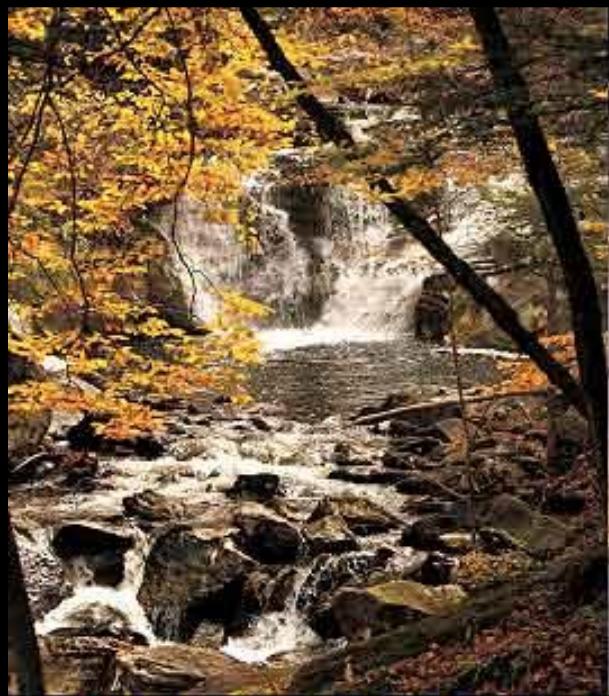
Ecosystem Services:

The important benefits for humans that arise from healthy, functioning ecosystems



4 categories of ecosystem services





HOW MUCH IS CLEAN WATER WORTH?

A lot, say researchers who are putting dollar values on... wildlife and ecosystems—and proving that conservation pays.

The City of New York purchased much of the land in the Catskills watershed that provides the water for the city – in order to protect it. As a result, the City did not have to build a **\$6 billion** water treatment plant, which would need to be upgraded on a regular basis.



It's not a pipe — it's a pond!

One in three of the world's 100 largest cities take their drinking water from protected areas.

Protected areas help quench our thirst.



Parks people places inspiring solutions
www.worldparkscongress.org



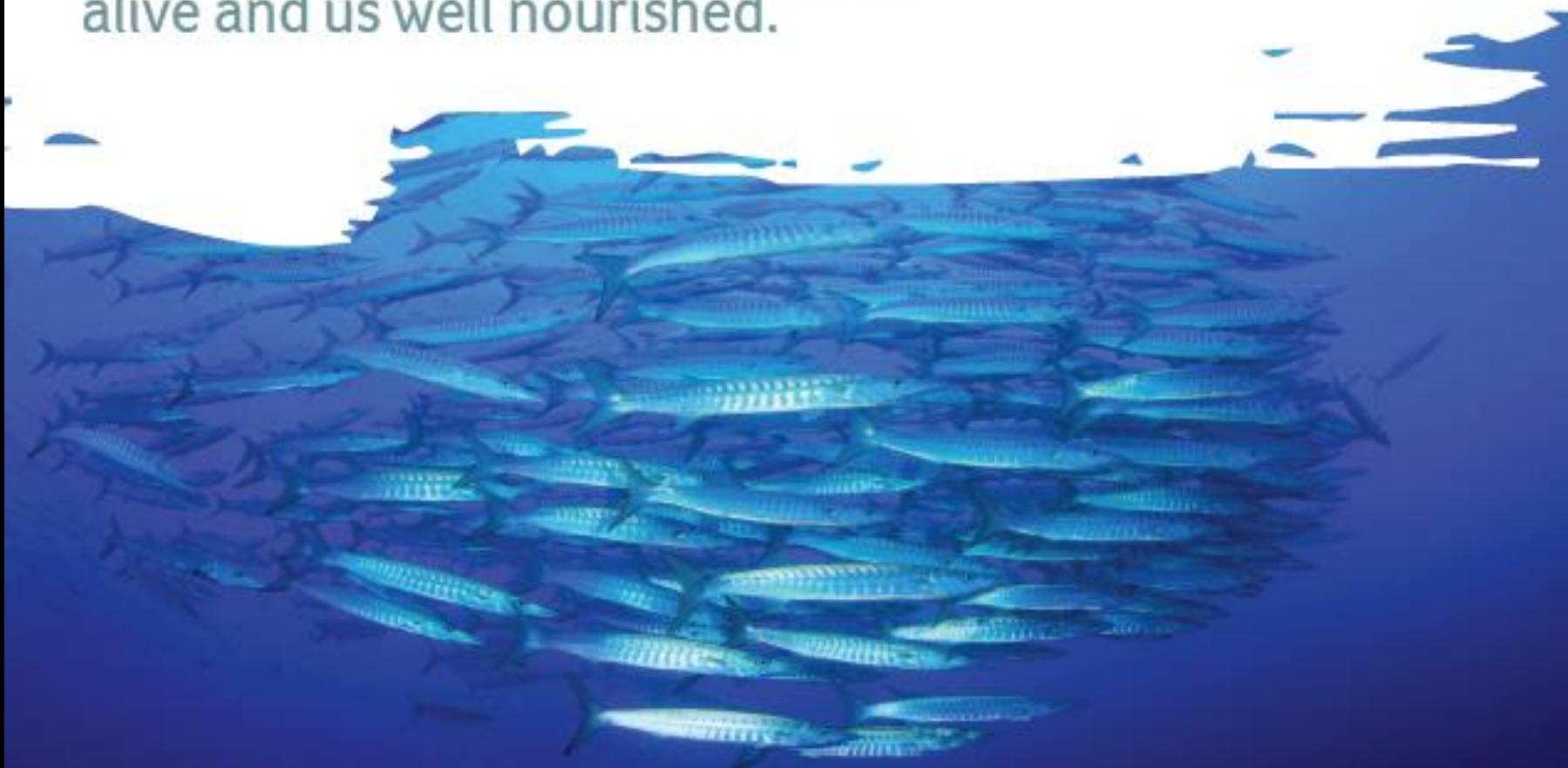
It's not a sushi bar — it's the sea!

Seafood is one of the leading sources of protein consumed by humans.

Protected areas keep our oceans alive and us well nourished.



Parks, people, planet: inspiring solutions
www.wpc2014.org



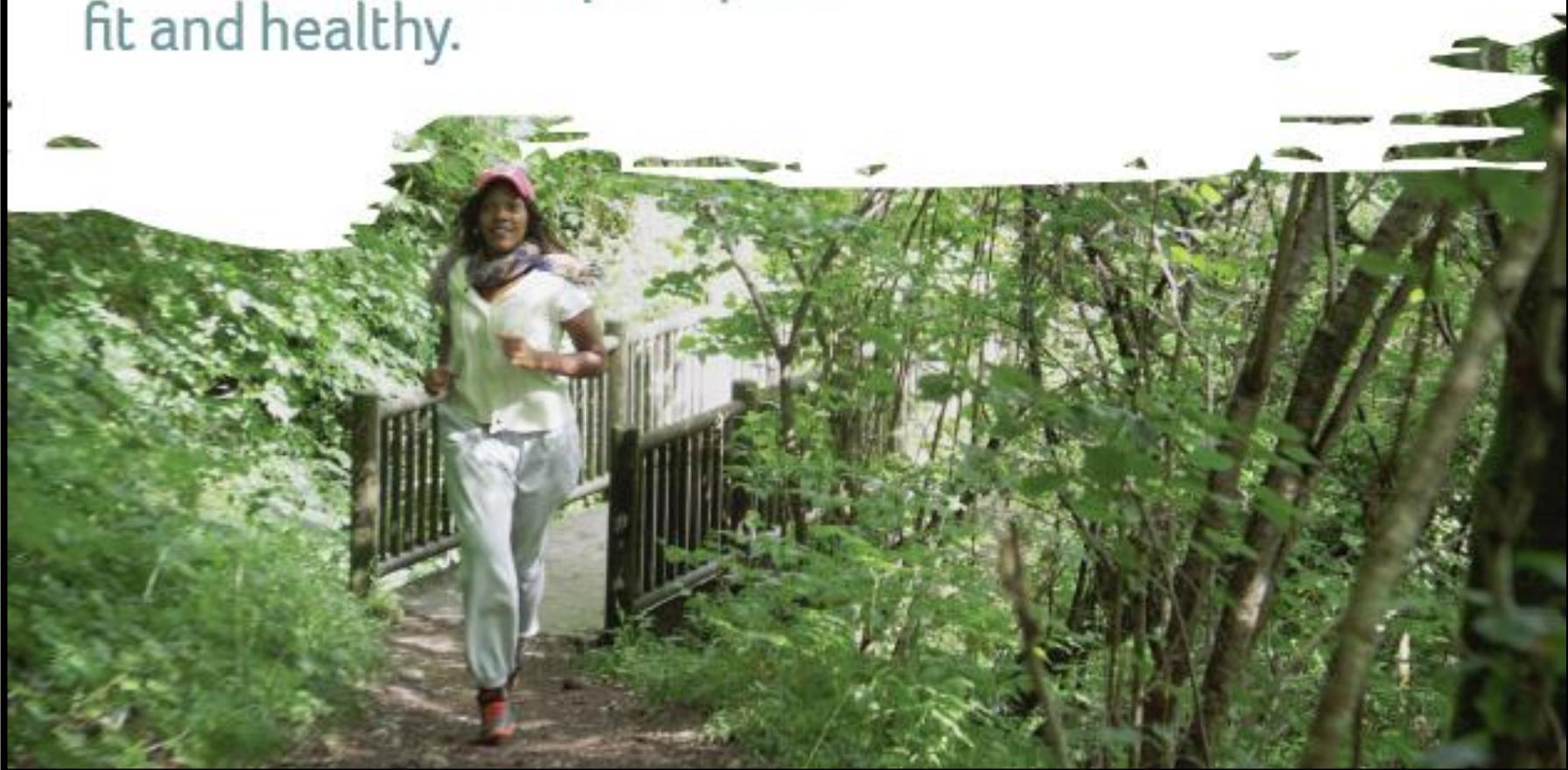
It's not a pill — it's a park!

A jog in the park reduces the risk of heart disease —
a leading cause of death.

Protected areas help keep us
fit and healthy.

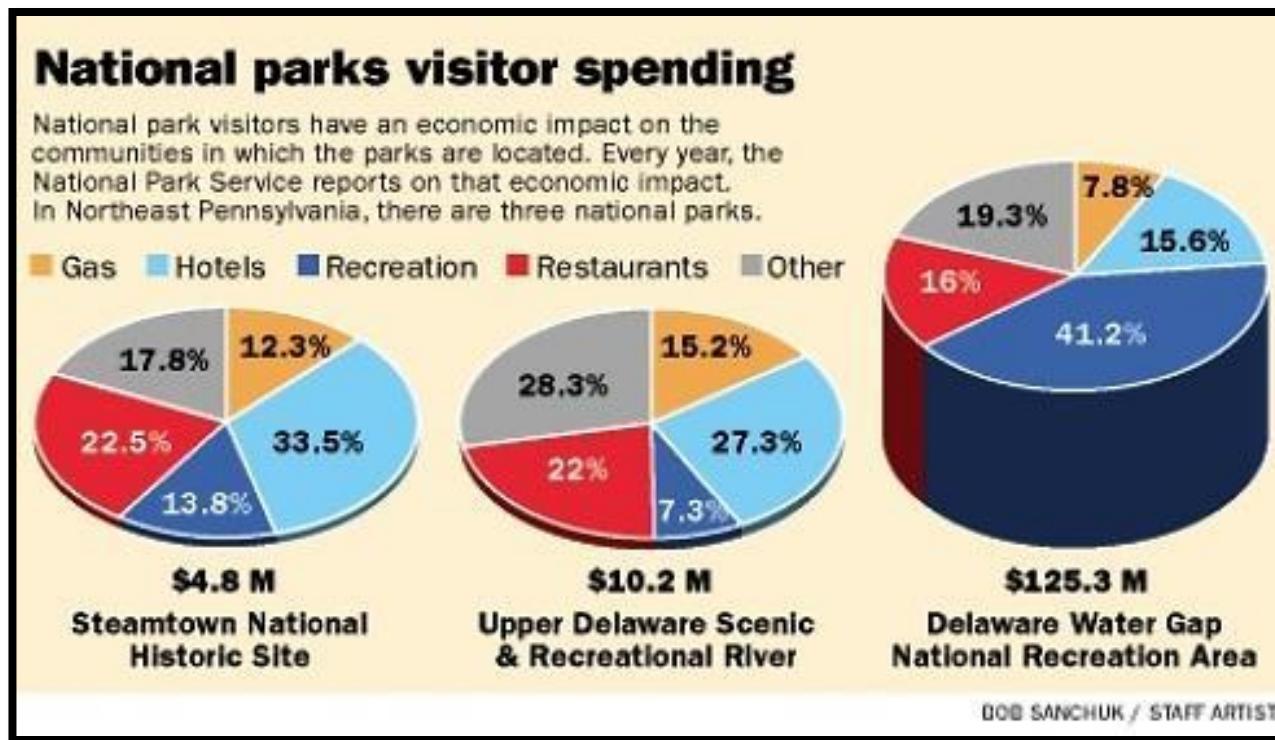


Ticks, people, places, keeping nature.
www.worldparkscongress.org



Tourism is the world's largest economic sector: \$600 billion/year.

In the U.S., National Parks contribute \$26.8 billion to the national economy.



South African National Parks (SANParks) manages a system of parks which represents the indigenous fauna, flora, landscapes and associated cultural heritage of the country.

Tourism supports 1 in 12 jobs.



**South African
NATIONAL PARKS**



Kruger National Park, South Africa

NPS Sister Park Program

Several NPS sites have established "sister park" relationships in the last few years with national parks in other countries. These partnerships are to strengthen exchanges and share lessons learned in resource conservation, planning and construction, and science advocacy and management.

...and Baihuashan National Nature Reserve, China

Shenandoah NP sisters with Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal...

