

IUCN World Parks Conference to address values and benefits of biodiversity

The World Parks Congress will meet in Sydney, Australia, November 12–19 to focus global attention on the values and benefits of parks and protected areas, including biodiversity. This once-in-a-decade event celebrates achievements of conservation policy and practice of the past decade and launches new policy initiatives for the future. Park and protected area professionals, partners, and allies will consider opportunities to create and maintain connected ecosystems that can best halt the loss of biodiversity, adapt to climate change, provide for human health, and secure food supplies and freshwater sources. The conference aims to involve governments, businesses, and citizens in taking action to marshal the most

promising solutions to achieve a healthy and sustainable planet.

Recorded sessions of the conference will be available at <http://worldparkscongress.org>. You can also join in an initiative to reach millions of youth and inspire connections to nature through a campaign called “No Walls” on Facebook and Twitter at www.facebook.com/nowallsinfo and www.twitter.com/nowallsouthere.

—Diana Allen (diana_allen@nps.gov), Chief, NPS Healthy Parks Healthy People Program