

How to Read this Map

Biodiversity and Habitat are like two peas in a pod - one cannot expect to protect species without preserving the habitats within which they live. However, our understanding of where species live and what habitats (and how large) they need to survive is relatively nascent and evolving. How governments perform in terms of protecting both species and habitats is a further question that we're only beginning to have the tools to evaluate.



The Environmental Performance Index and the Map of Life are partnering to illuminate how countries perform on species and habitat protection. As a first step, we've put together this interactive map to start to tell the story of where countries may be performing well in protecting habitats for critically threatened or endangered species.

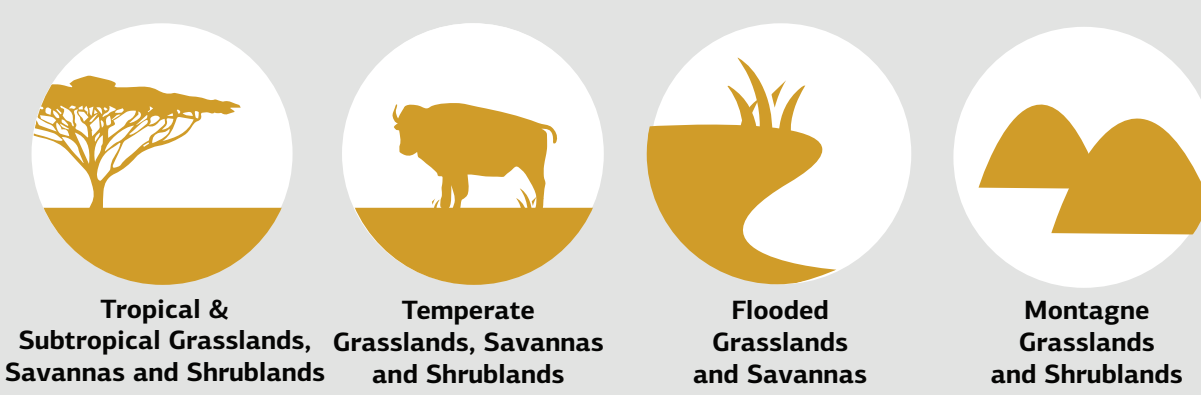
What are terrestrial habitats?

The EPI uses the WWF Ecoregions of the World (Olson, 2001), which includes 15 designations of biomes and biogeographic realms, for which the EPI scores protection for 14 (snow and ice is excluded). 'Protection' is defined as nationally-designated (not proposed) areas that are backed with legislation from a country.

Forests



Grasslands, Savannas & Shrublands

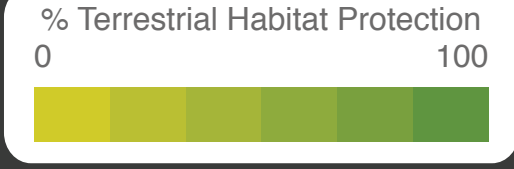


Others

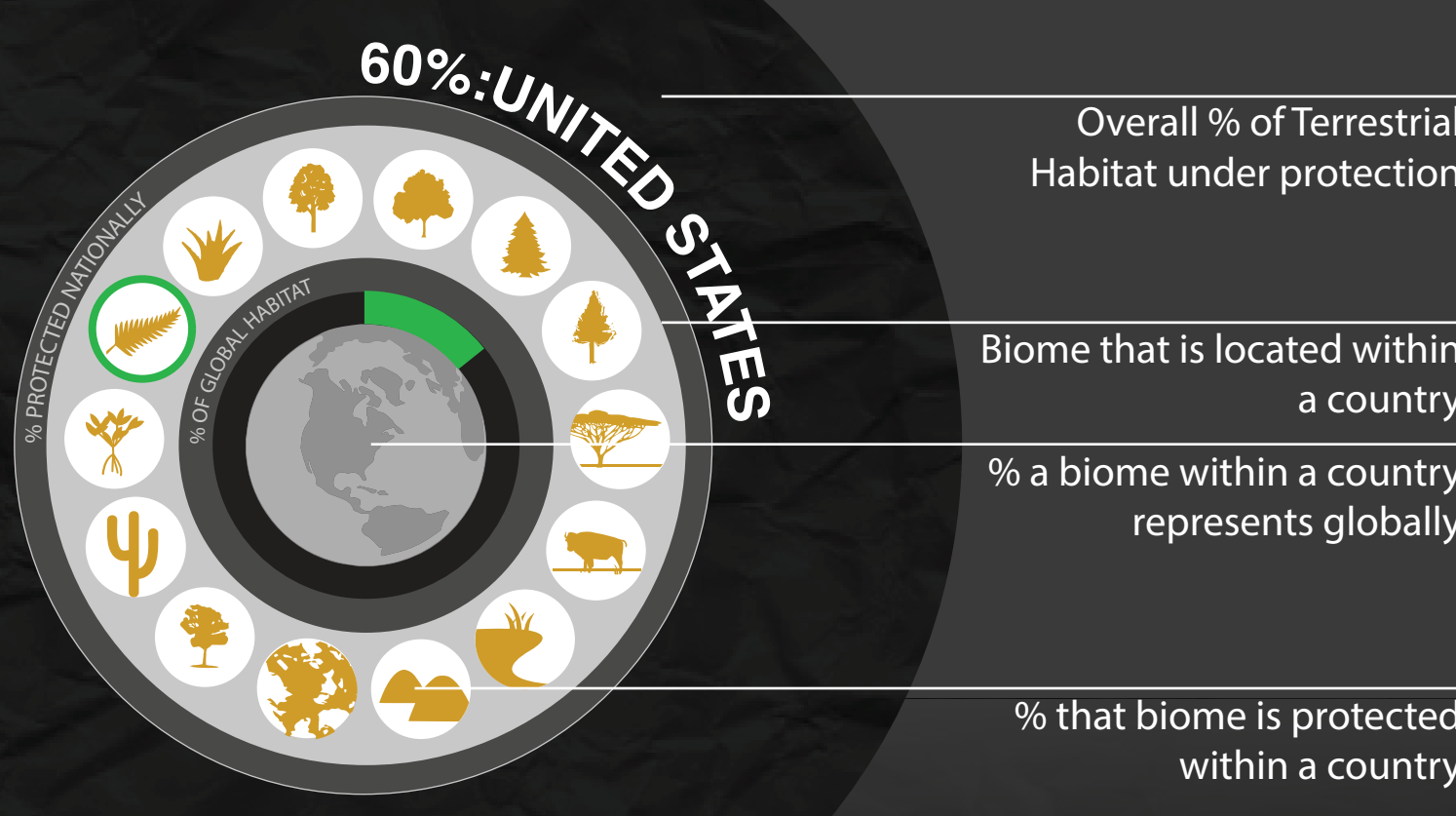


THE MAP

Countries are shaded according to the total amount of terrestrial biomes that are protected through nationally-designated parks and conserved areas. The Convention on Biological Diversity, a global agreement addressing all aspects of biological diversity: genetic resources, species, and ecosystems, sets a target of 17% protection of terrestrial and inland water protection by 2020. The map ranks countries from 0 - 100 based on their performance to meet the 17% goal.



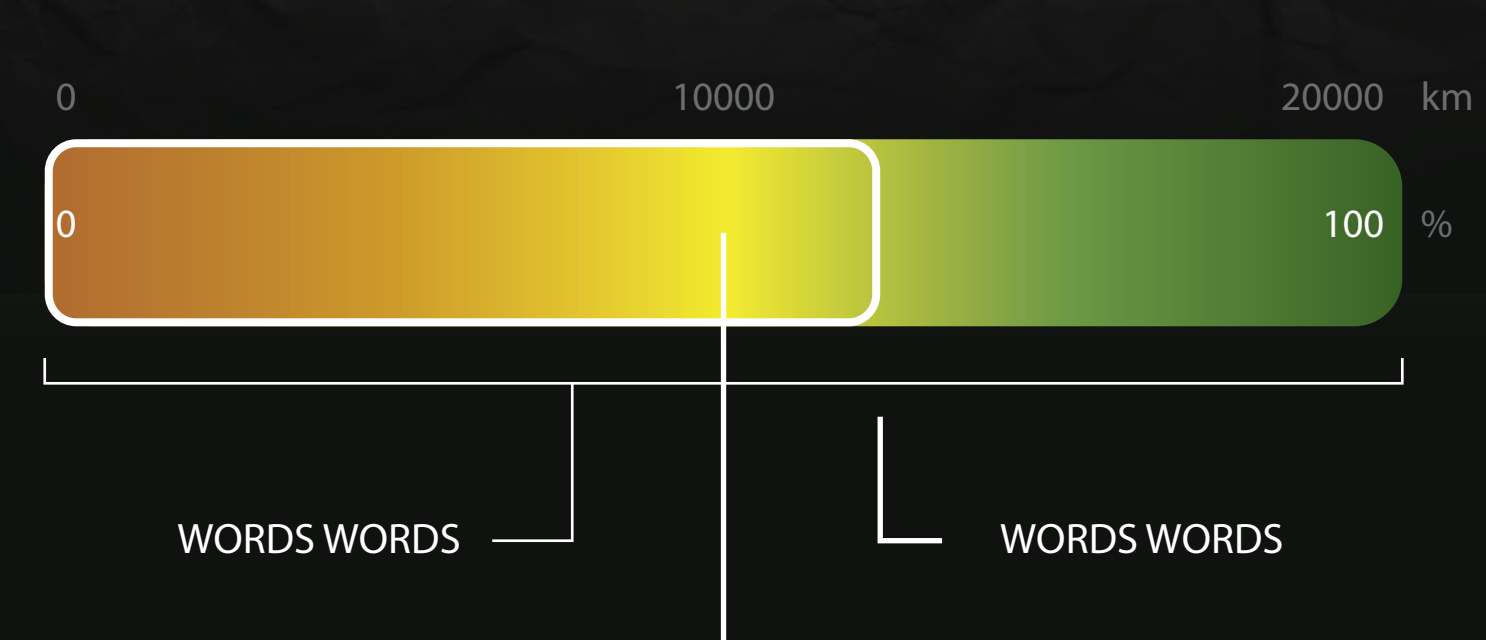
17% = 100



Species Examples

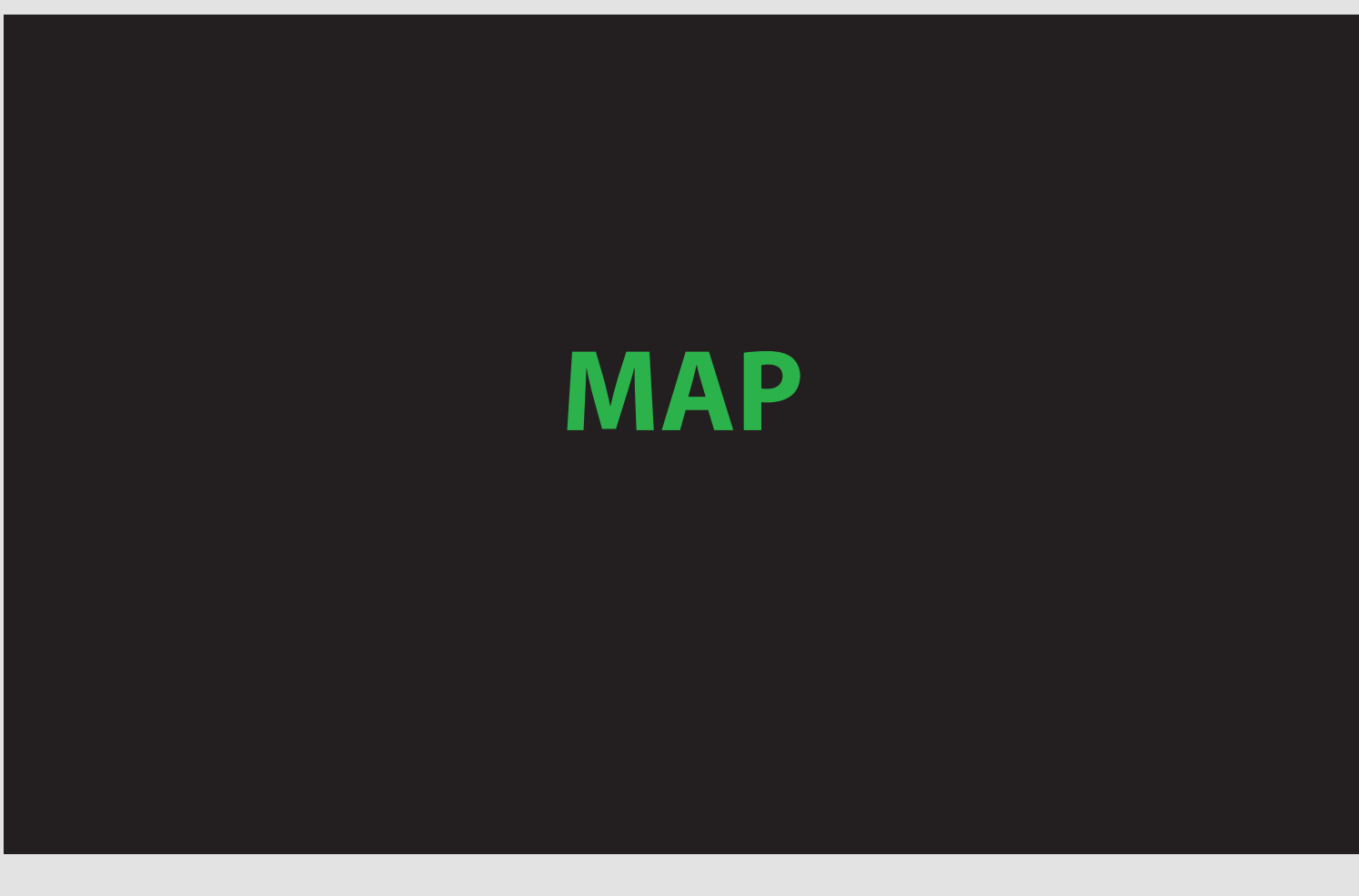
Brown-Throated Barbet


The brown-throated barbet (*Megalaima corvina*) is a species of bird in the Ramphastidae family. It is endemic to Indonesia. Its natural habitats are subtropical or tropical moist lowland forests and subtropical or tropical moist montane forests.



Detailed National Parks

Clicking the 'Explore National Parks' button will reveal a layer from the World Database on Protected Areas. This map layer gives you an idea of where nationally-designated protected areas are found, although more detailed information can be found on www.protectedplanet.net.





Environmental Performance Index

About the EPI

The EPI is a global biennial ranking of how well countries perform on high-priority environmental issues. It is a joint initiative between the Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy, the Center for International Earth Science Information Network at Columbia University, and the World Economic Forum. www.epi.yale.edu.



MOL
Home OF LIFE

About the Map of Life

The Map of Life assembles and integrates different sources of data describing species distributions worldwide. These data include expert species range maps, species occurrence points, ecoregions, and protected areas from providers like IUCN, WWF, GBIF, and more. www.mol.org

References

Olson, D.M., Dinerstein, E., Wikramanayake, E.D., Burgess, N. D., Powell, G.V.N., Underwood, E.C., D'Amico, J.A., Itoua, I., Strand, H.E., Morrison, J.C., Loucks, C.J., Allnutt, T.F., Ricketts, T.H., Kura, Y., Lamoreux, J.F., Wettengel, W.W., Hedao, P., Kassem, K.R. (2001). Terrestrial ecoregions of the world: a new map of life on Earth. *Bioscience* 51(11):933-938.

UNEP-WCMC (2013), The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) June Release. Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC.