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## Introduction

Protected areas (hereafter PAs) are an integral aspect of biodiversity conservation, and additionally preserve ecosystem services in the inside and surrounding regions (Chape et al., 2005; Watson et al., 2014) Aichi biodiversity targets were set in 2010 to protect 17% of the global terrestrial area by 2020 (Convention on Biological Diversity, 2010). This goal was not fully met, with only 15% of the global terrestrial area being deemed protected as of the end of 2020 (UNEP-WCMC and IUNC, 2020). Included in these targets was the additional goal to protect 10% of each ecoregion, in order to ensure adequate representation of various ecosystems (Convention on Biological Diversity, 2010). Protected areas are also used as indicators of success for some of the Millennium Development Goals, including: protecting land area to maintain biological diversity, ensure environmental sustainability, and integrating sustainable development into country policy and programs (Chape et al., 2005).

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Zone | Zone Name | # of Subzones | Total Area (ha) | Percent Protected |
| BAFA | Boreal Altai Fescue Alpine | 2 | 6286778.8 | 30.1% |
| BG | Bunchgrass | 2 | 257072.1 | 11.8% |
| BWBS | Boreal White and Black Spruce | 5 | 16404143.0 | 8.6% |
| CDF | Coastal Douglas-fir | 1 | 251232.2 | 4.8% |
| CMA | Coastal Mountain-heather Alpine | 3 | 3574039.1 | 17.9% |
| CWH | Coastal Western Hemlock | 10 | 10795067.4 | 19.5% |
| ESSF | Engelmann Spruce – Subalpine Fir | 43 | 17465113.0 | 17.8% |
| ICH | Interior Cedar – Hemlock | 12 | 5538842.2 | 10.2% |
| IDF | Interior Douglas-fir | 12 | 4488085.9 | 5.9% |
| IMA | Interior Mountain-heather Alpine | 2 | 1257949.1 | 29.2% |
| MH | Mountain Hemlock | 6 | 4059301.2 | 19.8% |
| MS | Montane Spruce | 8 | 2863394.3 | 9.4% |
| PP | Ponderosa Pine | 1 | 294985.3 | 7.1% |
| SBPS | Sub-Boreal Pine – Spruce | 4 | 2265365.8 | 9.5% |
| SBS | Sub-Boreal Spruce | 11 | 10337497.4 | 6.7% |
| SWB | Spruce – Willow – Birch | 6 | 8655855.9 | 23.3% |

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