

Recommendations

Based on a comprehensive assessment of the status and issues of biodiversity in Nepal, future work must address the following issues and tasks.

1. Biodiversity explorations of ecological 'blank spots', such as the High Mountain regions and the Western region, with focus on lower plants (algae, fungi, etc) and invertebrates (insects, among others)
2. Protection of five vegetation types not represented under the current 16 protected areas by adopting appropriate strategies such as community forestry, and botanical gardens
3. Development and regular updating of flora checklists, including that of lower plants, as 4,134 species and subspecies of flowering plants including 269 endemic species, grow outside the 23 protected sites (16 protected areas, four Ramsar sites, and four World Heritage sites and monuments)
4. Development and regular updating of checklists of fauna, including invertebrates of the protected sites on a regular basis
5. Focused research on particular species such as the Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*), Black musk deer (*Moschus fuscus*), Pigmy hog (*Sus salvanius*), and the Indian chevrotain (*Moschiola meminna*) remains subject to debate in terms of their existence and distribution in the country but is vital
6. The 28 species of fauna found only outside the 23 protected sites (16 PAs, four RSs and four WHS/monuments) merit further scrutiny
7. Protection of bat habitats, caves, and trees, is vital as 15 of the 37 species of bats live outside protected sites
8. Lateral linkages of NBRB information with existing national and global biodiversity databases covering flora, fauna, and protected sites of Nepal, as well as with websites maintained by conservation organisations pertinent to Nepal
9. Studies of the population dynamics and habitats of mammals, birds, herpeto, and fish need to be carried out in relation to the IUCN Red List
10. Review and update of the National Red Data Book of Nepal from the following perspectives:
 - a. Four extinct and four new additions of mammal species
 - b. Reappearance of four species of birds previously believed to be extinct
 - c. Updated checklist of herpeto and fish
11. Implementation of the 2003 Working Policy on Wild Animal Farming, Breeding and Research.
12. Continuous review of current activities and priorities of the botanical gardens and herbaria, as well as the zoos and natural history and wildlife museums
13. Review of existing government policies on banning commercial exploitation of plant species, and the working policy on wild animal farming from the perspectives of the updated NRDB, IUCN Red List, CITES Appendices, and the list of economically important species

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