

# Proteus Data Availability

Since its inception in 2003, Proteus has invested more than £14 million in biodiversity data that meets the needs of companies and other important stakeholders such as governments and conservation organisations. Through Proteus we work to improve the quality and accessibility of biodiversity data in numerous ways. These include:

- Maintaining and improving existing authoritative global biodiversity datasets.
- Investing in new, innovative, and emerging datasets that meet the needs of companies.
- Synthesising dispersed data into consistent and user-focussed global layers.
- Working with third party data producers to align their work with private sector needs and reach users in companies.
- Building data infrastructure to support accessibility, interoperability, and interpretation.
- Supporting Partners to share their own data, for example from site-based environmental surveys and monitoring.

Delivering the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will require the best available data to be accessible to all decision makers. In the 2021-2025 phase of Proteus, UNEP-WCMC is laying the groundwork for as much of our data as possible to be made available to all sectors and companies. We see this as a crucial step towards enabling nature-positive transformation across all sectors of our global economy, in line with the ambition of the Proteus and UNEP-WCMC Strategies.

The following table provides information on how to access key business-relevant biodiversity spatial datasets that have been supported by UNEP-WCMC and Proteus.

Dataset	Where to access
<b>Protected areas</b>	
World Database on <a href="#">Protected Areas</a> (WDPA) <i>Including protected areas designated at the national level (<a href="#">IUCN Management Categories I-VI</a>), under international conventions and agreements (e.g. natural and mixed <a href="#">World Heritage sites</a>, <a href="#">Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance</a>, <a href="#">UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserves</a>), and under regional conventions and agreements (e.g. regional seas conventions, <a href="#">Natura 2000</a>).</i>	Proteus WDPA Monthly Release emails, <a href="#">IBAT</a> , or <a href="#">Proteus website</a>
World Database on areas protected through <a href="#">Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures</a> (OECMs)	Proteus WDPA Monthly Release emails or <a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Cultural <a href="#">World Heritage sites</a> (cWHS)	Proteus WDPA Monthly Release emails
<b>Scientifically recognised sites and areas of importance for biodiversity conservation</b>	
World Database of <a href="#">Key Biodiversity Areas</a> (KBAs) <i>Including <a href="#">Alliance for Zero Extinction Sites</a> (AZEs), <a href="#">Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas</a> (IBAs), and KBAs for other taxa</i>	<a href="#">IBAT</a>
<a href="#">Important Marine Mammal Areas</a> (IMMAs)	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>
<a href="#">Biodiversity Hotspots</a> (Conservation International)	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
<a href="#">Endemic Bird Areas</a> (EBAs, BirdLife International)	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>
<b>Habitat classification aligned with International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 6</b>	
Global Critical Habitat screening layer (terrestrial and marine)	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Natural and Modified Habitat screening layer (terrestrial)	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
<b>Species</b>	
<a href="#">IUCN Red List of Threatened Species</a> spatial data	<a href="#">IBAT</a>
Species rarity-weighted richness global layer (terrestrial)	<a href="#">IBAT</a>
<a href="#">Species Threat Abatement and Restoration</a> (STAR) metric global layers (terrestrial) <i>Including STAR Threat Abatement and STAR Restoration, for individual threat types and combined for all threats</i>	<a href="#">IBAT</a>
Migratory Connectivity in the Ocean (MiCO)	<a href="#">MiCO website</a>
The State of the World's Sea Turtles (SWOT)	<a href="#">SWOT website</a>
<b>Ecosystems (new data coming soon)</b>	
<b>Ecosystem services</b>	
Critical Natural Assets (Chaplin-Kramer et al. 2022)	<a href="#">OSF online platform</a>
Human Pressures on biodiversity, water and carbon	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
<b>Opportunities for ecosystem restoration</b>	
Restoration Opportunities, Europe (global layer coming soon)	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Restoration Resilience to Climate Change	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Hotspots of natural capital depletion <i>Including relative rate of depletion layers for terrestrial biodiversity, soils and sediments, water, and atmosphere, and multi-asset hotspot of depletion layers for the terrestrial and marine realms</i>	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>

<b>Marine and coastal habitats</b>	
Global Distribution of Coral Reefs	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Cold-Water Corals	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Mangroves (Global Mangrove Watch)	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution Seagrasses	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Saltmarshes	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Tidal Flat Ecosystems	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Hydrothermal Vents (InterRidge Vents Database)	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>
Global Distribution of Cold Seeps (ChEssBase)	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>
Global Distribution of Seamounts and Knolls	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Sea Turtle Nesting Sites	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
Global Distribution of Sea Turtle Feeding Sites	<a href="#">Proteus website</a>
<b>Other marine environmental designations</b>	
International Maritime Organisation (IMO) <a href="#">Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas</a> (PSSAs)	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>
International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Special Areas under the MARPOL Convention	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>
International Seabed Authority (ISA) Areas of Particular Environmental Interest (APEIs) in the Clarion-Clipperton Zone	<a href="#">Contact the Proteus team</a>

Please remember that the table above is not an exhaustive list of datasets available to support businesses in their biodiversity management. New data is becoming available all the time. For scoping potential new datasets we recommend exploring platforms such as the [UNEP-WCMC Resources website](#), [UN Biodiversity Lab](#), [Global Forest Watch](#), and the [Global Biodiversity Information Facility](#) (GBIF). To discuss your data needs, or if you have questions about any specific biodiversity dataset (including those mentioned in this document or that you find elsewhere), please get in touch with the UNEP-WCMC Proteus team ([proteus@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:proteus@unep-wcmc.org)).