











APPENDIX 9: IUCN Reserve Definitions	

DEFINITIONS OF IUCN CATEGORIES		
IUCN 1a	Strict Nature Reserve: Protected Area managed mainly for science.	
	Area of land and/or sea possessing some outstanding or representative ecosystems,	
	geological or physiological features and/or species, available primarily for scientific	
	research and/or environmental monitoring.	
IUCN 2	National Park: Protected Area managed mainly for ecosystem conservation and	
	recreation.	
	Natural area of land and/or sea, designated to:	
	1. protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for this and future	
	generations:	
	2. exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the	
	area: and	
	3. provide a foundation for spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor	
	opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible.	
IUCN 3	Natural Monument: Protected Area managed for conservation of specific natural	
	features.	
	Area containing one or more specific natural or natural/cultural feature which is of	
	outstanding value because of its inherent rarity, representative or aesthetic qualities	
	or cultural significance.	
IUCN 4	Habitat/Species Management Area: Protected Area managed mainly for conservation	
	through management intervention.	
	Area of land and/or sea subject to active intervention for management purposes so	
	as to ensure the maintenance of habitats and/or to meet the requirements of	
	specific species.	
IUCN 5	Protected Landscape/Seascape: Protected Areas managed mainly for	
	landscape/seascape conservation and recreation.	
	Area of land, with coast and seas as appropriate, where the interaction of people and	
	nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant	
	aesthetic, cultural and/or ecological value, and often with high biological diversity.	
	Safeguarding the integrity of this traditional interaction is vital to the protection,	
	maintenance and evolution of such an area.	
IUCN 6	Managed Resource Protected Areas: Protected Area managed mainly for the	
	sustainable use of natural ecosystems.	
	Area containing predominantly unmodified natural systems, managed to ensure long	
	term protection and maintenance of biological diversity, while providing at the same	
	time a sustainable flow of natural products and services to meet community needs.	