



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

# Tourism Concessions in Protected Natural Areas

**Guidelines for Managers**

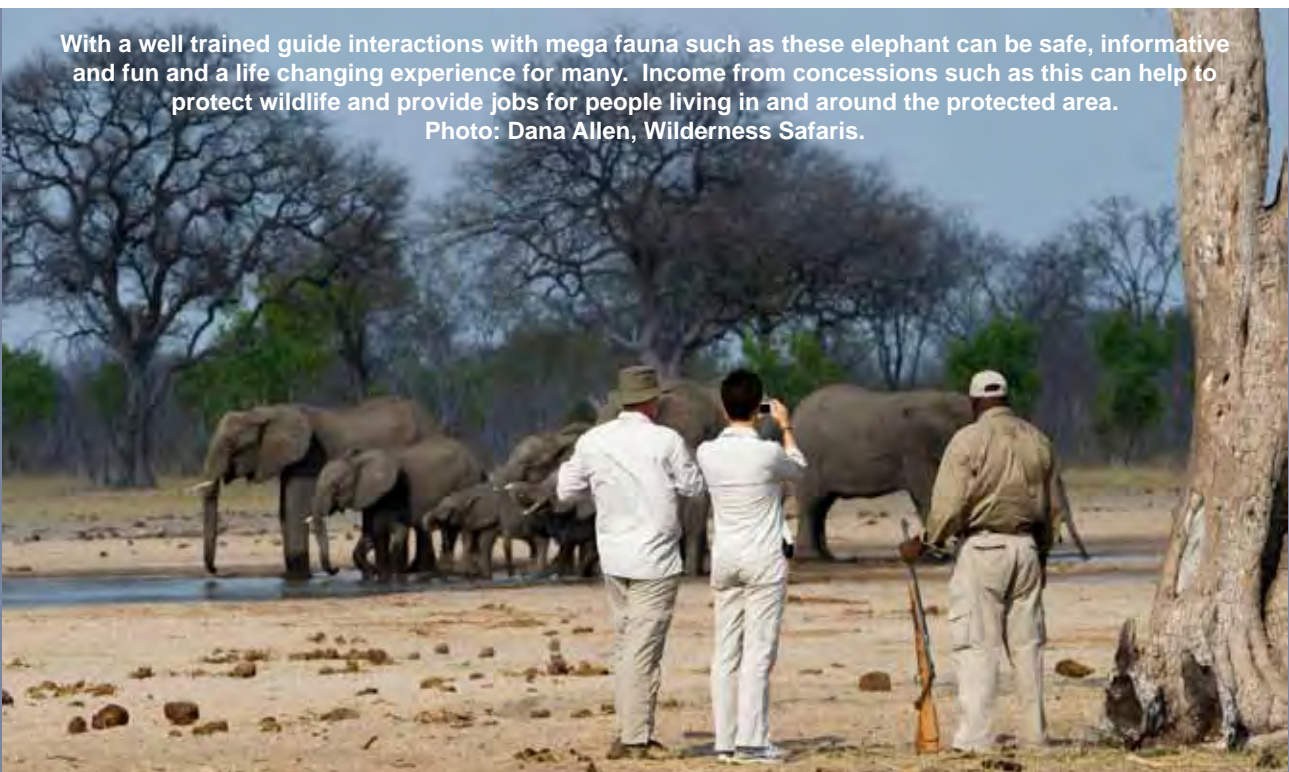


The majestic Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite National Park. Photo: Lora Uhlman, USNPS



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With a well trained guide interactions with mega fauna such as these elephant can be safe, informative and fun and a life changing experience for many. Income from concessions such as this can help to protect wildlife and provide jobs for people living in and around the protected area.  
Photo: Dana Allen, Wilderness Safaris.



## Tourism Concessions in Protected Natural Areas: Guidelines for Managers

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UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

## Acknowledgements

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I have always been a bit of a Mowgli. Not raised by wolves in a cave or talking with animals, but wildlife has consistently been an essential part of my life. I grew up in the Western Ghats in south west India. It is now designated a biodiversity hotspot. Deservedly. Bengal tigers, leopards, Asian elephants, gaur (one tonne buffalo) and many other amazing animals; these were my childhood neighbours. And they live there still. I have since had the privilege of spending over 20 years of my working life in Asia and Africa. Magnificent national parks and nature reserves were, and are still, always very close. Disappearing into the “bush” is an important part of my life. Birds of paradise in the remote highland forests of Papua New Guinea, that aching beauty of seemingly boundless expanses of savannah in Tanzania, wild and craggy coasts in South Africa with Southern Right whales lolling within a stone’s throw - these are just some of the unique places and environments on earth I have seen and they draw many visitors each year; people from all walks of life, ages and nationalities and with many motives.

Wildlife, people, landscape and places are what comprise an environment. And that is the magical lure. Hiking, bird watching, safaris, visiting communities learning about their cultures, or just being in the solitude of nature staring at the crackle and glow of a camp fire while a lion nearby starts its coughing roar – there really is a multitude of ways to enjoy these special places.

Many of these life-inspiring opportunities are granted as tourism concessions by park authorities to private sector companies, associations and communities. By having the privilege of operating tourism establishments and activities, based on contracts, concessionaires ensure provision of lifetime memory experiences to visitors, direct benefits to frequently under-funded park management, biodiversity conservation, “cash to communities” and of course profit for the private sector. Concessions provide a formula for a win-win-win scenario. Happy visitors, quality experience, jobs and incomes and thriving natural assets.

Simply stated, properly managed concessions can make the wonders of the world even more wonderful! Let’s look at Namibia as one example. Here tourism concessions offer viable tools for poverty alleviation and local and national development. Communities residing within and adjacent to parks are granted concession rights to establish camps, lodges and tourism activity operations. They are also supported by experienced and conscientious private sector partners, to realise quality tourism products. In addition to local procurement for food ingredients, crafts and materials, communities are also empowered to become future owners, managers and service providers for the operation. Revenues from concessions not only directly support park management but also increase community income and employment, empower women and give the young people a chance to meet people from many nations, exchange thoughts and conversation and expand everybody’s horizons.

Namibia’s experiences demonstrate that tourism concessions in protected natural areas are a remarkably viable tool for poverty alleviation and can help local communities benefit from all that protected natural areas have to offer.

UNDP has recognised the power of nature and its combination with people for mutual success. Under our strategic objective of supporting sustainable development pathways avoiding depletion of social and natural capital, towards the global sustainable development goals, UNDP is making significant investments in biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management work. At UNDP, we have a large portfolio of protected area strengthening projects in over 100 countries worldwide. These are financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and many other bilateral partners and foundations. In many of these projects, we promote development of a robust protected area tourism concession system and/or individual concessions, as a mechanism for strengthening protected areas, increasing financing for protected area management and for achieving sustainable, inclusive and equitable development. Run effectively, protected area concessions represent public-private partnerships that can increase employment and livelihood opportunities in a sustainable and inclusive manner. It is good business.

This book is a joint effort with the New Zealand Department of Conservation, Mongolia's Ministry of Environment and Green Development and the United States National Parks Service, with valuable case studies from many countries in particular Namibia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism's admirable work on its robust concession mechanism. It is a jam-packed collection of knowledge, lessons, experiences, documenting the know-how which many park agencies around the world have tried, tested and learned from - a manifestation of the south-south cooperation and north-south-south triangular cooperation philosophy which UNDP promotes.

Please join our world community of practice - towards the common goal of establishing the effective global protected area network as the cornerstone of biodiversity conservation, and as an extremely powerful engine for development.



*Nik Sekhran*

Nik Sekhran

Director of Sustainable Development  
Bureau for Policy and Programme Support  
United Nations Development Programme



**Katmai Air, a division of the park's primary concessioner, Katmailand, Inc., brings visitors to many locations within Katmai National Park and Preserve. Brooks Camp is one of the most popular locations in the park and can only be reached by boat or float plane. Katmai Air offers scheduled service to Brooks Camp during the busy summer season. This unique experience offers visitors a bird's eye view of the park's spectacular landscape and memories to last a lifetime. Photo: Anna Sammer, USNPS.**



## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**Please take note that you are now entering a  
PRIVATE CONCESSION  
(CONCESSION AREA No. 1 - KUNENE REGION)  
and entry is valid by permit only.**

**Permits can be obtained at the Palmwag Lodge and the  
Twee Palms, Aub and Elephant Song gates respectively  
before entry into the area.**

### **Concession Permit Price List per day:**

**Vehicles: N\$ 70.00 per vehicle (under 3 Tons)  
N\$ 250.00 per vehicle (over 5 Tons)**

**Persons: N\$ 30.00 per person**

**Overnight: N\$ 70.00 per person**

### **The Concession area boundaries are:**

**North: the northern bank of the Hoanib River**

**West: Skeleton Coast Park Boundary**

**East: road D3706 to Sesfontein**

**预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：**

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