

Environment

- Protected Areas -

The *International Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN)* categorises protected areas based on the level of protection required

Ia - Strict Nature Reserve

To preserve areas in a state as undisturbed by recent human activity as possible. Disturbance is minimised by careful planning and only for approved activities. e.g. Barrow Island

Ib - Wilderness Area

Unmodified or slightly modified areas without permanent or significant human habitation, managed to preserve their natural condition. e.g. The Nullarbor.

II - National Park

Cover large areas to protect natural ecosystems. Are flexible with local scientific, educational, recreational and tourism opportunities. e.g. Blue Mountains, NSW.

III - Natural Feature

A small area to protect a natural monument or feature that holds cultural or spiritual value. eg. Birriliburu, WA

IV - Habitat Management Area

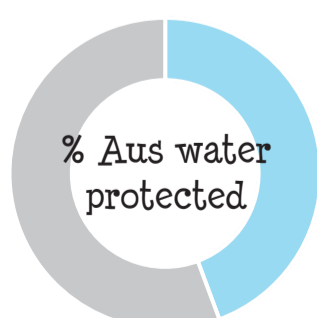
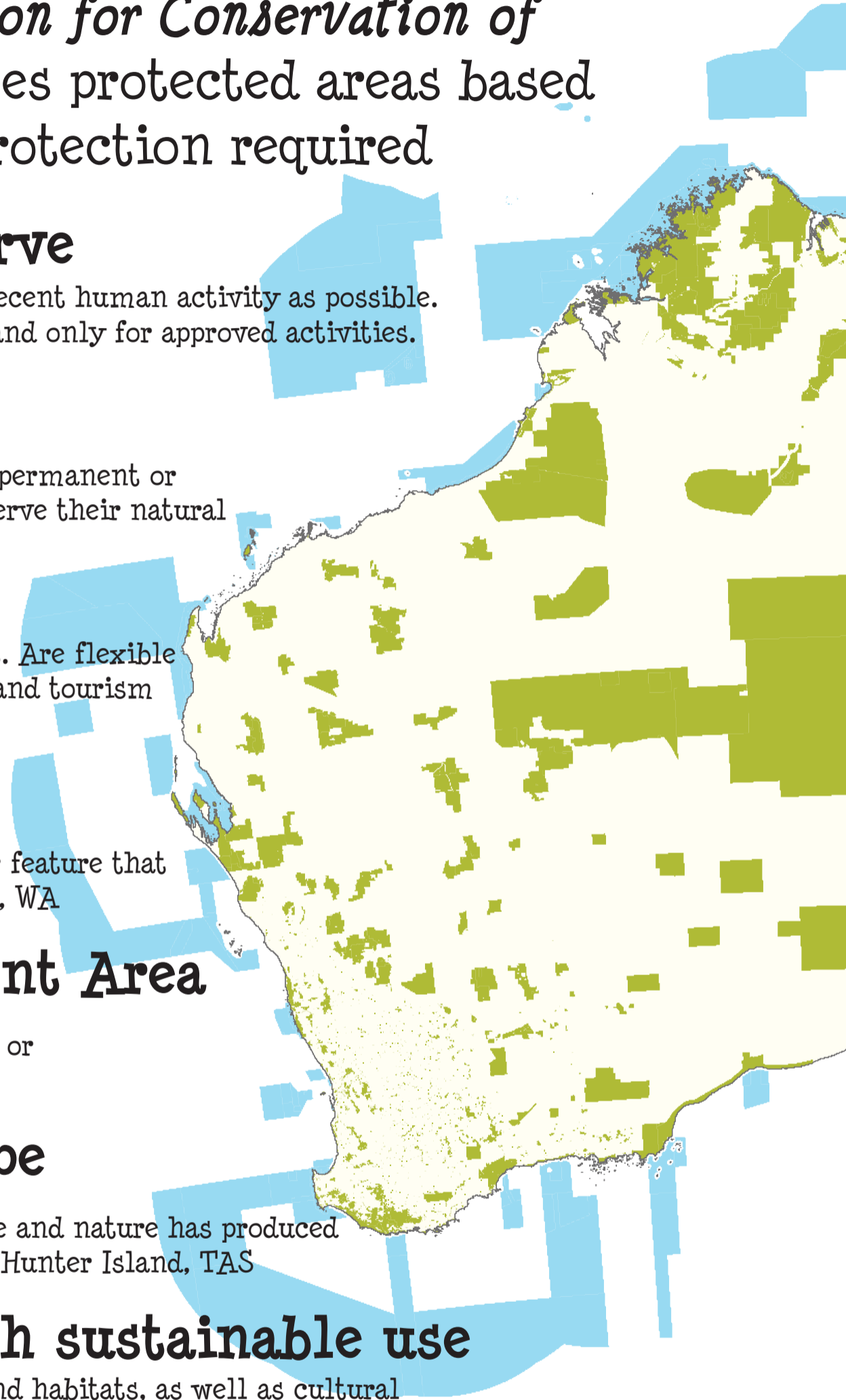
An area set aside to protect a particular species or habitat. e.g. Galapagos Islands.

V - Protected Landscape

A protected area where the interaction of people and nature has produced a distinct character with significant value. e.g. Hunter Island, TAS

VI - Protected Area with sustainable use

Typically large areas to conserve ecosystems and habitats, as well as cultural value and natural resources. Often include natural resource management and low-level non-industrial use. e.g. The Great Barrier Reef, QLD



Map adapted from *Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database (2020)*



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