



## Mining Policy

The World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) of IUCN developed a Position Statement on the topic of mining and protected areas over a 12 months period. WCPA is one of the six commissions of IUCN – the World Conservation Union – and it represents the largest global network of protected area specialists.

The Statement (see page 286) defines the position of WCPA towards mining and associated activities in protected areas and in areas adjacent to them. It is based on the IUCN protected areas management category system; it is increasingly recognised and

applied around the world and a number of countries are implementing it directly in their domestic legislation.

This Position Statement was reviewed and welcomed by the IUCN Council in April 1999. The underlying principle is that any activity in a protected area has to be compatible with the overall objectives of the protected area in question. WCPA developed this Position Statement hoping that it will make a valuable contribution to issues relating to mining and conservation throughout the world. (Milena Bellini) □