

Red Book

A Red Data Book is an official document that contains information on rare and endangered species of flora and fauna, their characteristics, numbers and state of populations, and necessary protection measures. “Red Books” can be international, national and regional in their scope. At the international level, the analog of the Red Data Book is actually the IUCN Red List (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources). This international non-profit organization, founded in 1948, is a critical indicator of the health of the world’s biodiversity, that presents news, congresses held in different countries, lists of species in need of special protection in different regions of the planet. It is the only environmental organization with observer status at the United Nations General Assembly, which allows it to communicate the policy perspectives of its members at the highest level of international diplomacy. However, what distinguishes it from the “book” format is that it is not just a list of only rare species, but a list of all species of flora and fauna inhabiting our planet, in which each species is given a particular status - “rare” or, on the contrary, “non-rare”. Currently, about 80 thousand species are included in this list.



Since 1963, the IUCN has maintained an international list of threatened animal and plant species (IUCN Red List).

The IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria are intended to be an easily and widely understood system for classifying species at high risk of global extinction. It divides species into nine categories:

Not Evaluated, Data Deficient, Least Concern, Near Threatened, Vulnerable, Endangered, Critically Endangered, Extinct in the Wild and Extinct.

Since 1979, IUCN has introduced, and later, in 1994 refined, a system that allowed all of the Earth’s protected areas have been categorized by their establishment and management objectives

IUCN defines a protected area as a clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values. The definition is expanded by six management categories (one with a sub-division), summarized below.

Ia Strict nature reserve: Strictly protected for biodiversity and also possibly geological/geomorphological features, where human visitation, use and impacts are controlled and limited to ensure protection of the conservation values.

Ib Wilderness area: Usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence, without permanent or significant human habitation, protected and managed to preserve their natural condition.

II National Park: Large natural or near-natural areas protecting large-scale ecological processes with characteristic species and ecosystems, which also have environmentally and culturally compatible spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities.

III Natural monument or feature: Areas set aside to protect a specific natural monument, which can be a landform, sea mount, marine cavern, geological feature such as a cave, or a living feature such as an ancient grove.

IV Habitat/species management area: Areas to protect particular species or habitats, where management reflects this priority. Many will need regular, active interventions to meet the needs of particular species or habitats, but this is not a requirement of the category.

V Protected landscape or seascape: Where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced a distinct character with significant ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value: and where safeguarding the integrity of this interaction is vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature conservation and other values.

VI Protected areas with sustainable use of natural resources: Areas which conserve ecosystems, together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems. Generally large, mainly in a natural condition, with a proportion under sustainable natural resource management and where low-level nonindustrial natural resource use compatible with nature conservation is seen as one of the main aims.

The category should be based around the primary management objective(s), which should apply to at least three-quarters of the protected area – the 75 per cent rule.

Red Book of Azerbaijan

Red Book of the Republic of Azerbaijan is an official state document about the status of rare and endangered wild animals and wild plant species in the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan. It reflects the information on condition of the animal and plant species, its spreading and protection measures on the whole territory of the republic, including the Caspian Sea (lake) sector belonging to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

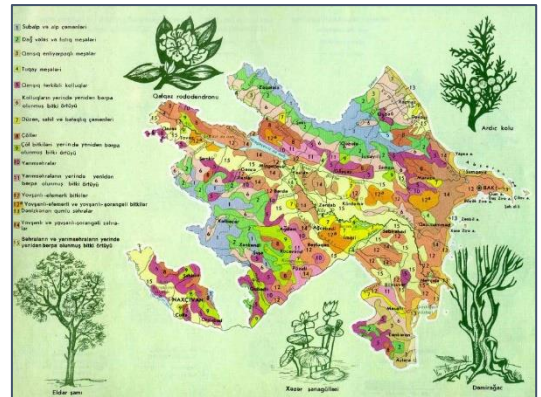


The Red Book of the Republic of Azerbaijan is maintained by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan in coordination with Azerbaijan National Academy of Science and the Ministry of Agriculture of Azerbaijan.

The current Red Book consists of 6 parts, which reflects the information on rare and endangered 14 mammal species, 36 bird species, 5 species of fish, 13 amphibians, and reptile species, 40 insect species and 140 plant species.

The flora and fauna species have been included in 2 categories in Red Book: rare species and endangered species.

The first category includes the species with reduced number and narrowed habitat as a result of the influence of negative factors (to be perished and the destruction of habitat) and significantly declined in a number and reached a crisis level. Species with a tendency to decrease in a number and met in small areas are related to rare species. But animal and plant species less studied, having a scanty information on the number and stocks in nature, causing some difficulties in the work of the organization of their protection are considered as rare species.



According to the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan it is expected that Red Book will be published in each 10 years. The first edition of Red Book was published in 1989. The Red Book of the Azerbaijan Republic included 108 species of animals, including 14 species of mammals, 36 species of birds, 13 species of reptiles and amphibians, 5 species of birds, and 40 species of insects.

The rare plants and animals included in Red Book of the Republic of Azerbaijan are as follows:

Plants in the Red Book

- Hirkan box tree
- Iron tree
- Chestnut leave oak
- Hirkan fig
- Hirkan pear (*Pyrus hyrcana*)
- Caspian plume
- Ikak acacia
- The Caucasian palm
- Heart shape leave alder
- Danaya branched
- Hirkan bigavar
- Eldar pine
- Caucasian rhododendron
- Shepherd bindweed
- Laqodekh (achichichek)bitterflower
- Clean kladokheta

Garachohra
Eastern Plane
Caucasian khadijagulu
Velvet Guilder rose
Nakhichevani gavan
Araz oak
The Caucasian saffron
Water lily
The Caucasian iron tree

Animals in the Red Book

Talysh pheasant
Hirkan blue tit
Black stork
Curly tail pelican
Marble poult
White tail Sea Eagle
Grave Eagle
Golden eagle
Hawk
Partridge
Trout fish
He-goat
Kopgar (qaranaja)
Mouflon
Caucasian tetra
Caucasian ular
Desert Eagle
Juniper agyriyli
Falcon
Eagle taking sheep
Pink pelican
Little bustard
Bustard
Sultan hen

Scaper beak (ersindimdik)
Flamingo
Red breast goose
Swan
Small swan
Gazelle
Pit nose jullut (Cokekburun jullut)
White tail pit nose (agquyruq cokekburun)
Field fork shaped tail jullut
Turan tiger
Wild cat
Asia leopard
Caucasian mountain sheep
Caucasian bezoar goat
Caucasian brown bear
Striped hyena
Lynx
Manul cat
Ordinary uzunqanad
South horseshoe nosed
Wide ear fold lip (enliqulaq bukukdodaq)
Dressed safsar
Syria garlic frog
Ordinary triton
Comb triton
Ordinary (gray) dry frog
Asia Minor adder
Eskilon snake
Caucasian talkha
Mediterranean sea turtle
Slumdog pangolin
Golden mabuya
Lane naked eye(chylpaqgoz)
Arrow-snake
Caucasian takir round head

White Crane
Baloban
Sheep taking eagle (toglugoturen)
Falcon
Jack
River black bird
Fine beak curlew (hook-beaked)
Snake eater
The Caspian donkey
Tetrachalan
Turkistan tuvik
Qaraqarın bagrıqara
White neck nightingale
Desert snow bird
Mountain goat

The animal world of Azerbaijan is very rich, partly due to the diversity of its natural complexes. There are 97 species of mammals, 357 species of birds, 67 species of reptiles and amphibians, 97 species of fish, and over 15 thousand species of invertebrates in Azerbaijan.

In 2023, with the joint efforts of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, the third edition of the Red Book was published. With the liberation of Karabakh from occupation and the restoration of Azerbaijan's sovereignty, a historical opportunity has arisen for the preservation and efficient use of the biological diversity of the region, and the publications have also covered the liberated territories. The current edition of the Red Book includes 241 rare and endangered animals, 460 plants and fungal species. The third edition of the Red Book is an important contribution of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences and the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, scientific institutions and scientists.

In order to protect and increase the number of animals in the Republic of Azerbaijan, reserves, a number of wildlife sanctuaries and national parks are being established, as well as hunting regulations are being improved in the country.