

International
Biological
Programme
Handbooks

Handbook No. 4

**Guide to the
Check Sheet
for IBP Areas**

G. F. Peterken

The Conservation section of the International Biological Programme plans to collect information about national parks, nature reserves and other areas of scientific importance throughout the world, as an essential step towards establishing the necessary scientific basis for a comprehensive world programme of preservation and safeguarding areas of biological or physiographical importance. This information will be collected on a standard Check Sheet.

This Guide is primarily intended to assist surveyors. It describes the aims and operation of the survey and guides surveyors in the selection of sites and completion of check sheets. But it is also of wider interest, for the theoretical and practical problems of this kind of survey it discusses, and presents a Classification of vegetation specially revised by F. R. Fosberg for IBP use.

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 - Classification of Vegetation (F. R. Fosberg)
 - Classification of Soils (D. F. Ball)
 - Geocode (F. H. Perring)
 - Example of a Completed Check Sheet

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International Biological Programme Handbooks

The IBP Handbook series has been planned to provide up-to-date guidance for biologists participating in this world programme. Some volumes deal with a whole section of IBP, others with comparatively narrow branches of the programme. The methods described are not agreed but rather recommended for the purposes of IBP, usually after a series of international consultations: they provide some guarantee that the results obtained by their use all over the world will be comparable.

Some of the Handbooks have been written by individual scientists who have consulted other specialists in the process of drafting; others contain chapters written by a number of different specialists under the guidance of a general editor. It is expected that revised and more definitive editions of several of them will be called for before the conclusion of IBP in 1972, and that they will be useful to biologists for many years thereafter.

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