WORLD LIST OF DARK SKY PROTECTED AREAS

Updated 23rd December 2014

This is a list of dark sky places that incorporate one or more protected heritage areas. The information is collected by members of the IUCN Dark Skies Advisory Group and is correct to the best of our knowledge on the date noted above. The list will be updated whenever we receive new information. For more details on these dark sky places, please search for authoritative web sites and/or contact the appropriate management agencies directly. Recognizing bodies such as the International Dark Sky Association, the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada and the Starlight Initiative, Spain, have more information on their web sites.

Please send corrections and additions for this list to dsag.iucn@gmail.com. Use the current entries to see which information fields and precision are required. Thank you.

Notes

- Constituent protected areas are listed.
- A central coordinate is presented in decimal latitude and longitude format.
- The areas given are 1) of the constituent protected areas, in the IUCN sense, within the dark sky place, and 2) of the whole dark sky place. A dark sky reserve, e.g. in the International Dark Sky Association sense, is typically, but not always (e.g Westhavelland, Germany), much larger.
- The recognition information refers to the year of establishment as a dark sky place, not of the constituent protected area(s).
- DSAG Class. A system of dark sky place types developed by DSAG to allow comparisons across different naming styles used in different countries and by different recognizing bodies. In cases where two or more classes could apply, the lower numbered class is given.

1 **Dark Sky Astronomy Site**: having an astronomical observatory
2 **Dark Sky Park**: protected natural area
  2a Park, reserve, habitat, natural area or other ecological protection
  2b Unpopulated area set aside for traditional or sacred practices related to the sky
  2c Rural area, area of outstanding landscape beauty
3 **Dark Sky Heritage Site**: protected heritage physical works of mankind
4 **Dark Sky Outreach Site**
  4a Urban or suburban site
  4b Rural site
5 **Dark Sky Reserve**: mix of cooperating community, rural and natural area jurisdictions
6 **Dark Sky Community**: an entire village, town or city.

Dark sky community information is not systematically collected by DSAG, as their focus is not on protected areas. However, for completion, they are listed at the end of this document.

Totals

Dark sky parks and reserves: 61
Dark sky communities: 10

Canada	Chile	Czech Republic	France
Germany	Ireland	Hungary	Namibia
New Zealand	Poland	Slovakia	Spain
United Kingdom	United States of America		

CANADA

Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve
- Elk Island National Park of Canada
- Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area

Central lat/long: 53.59, -112.88. Protected area: 29,300 ha. Total area: 29,300 ha.
Recognition: 2006, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Bluewater Outdoor Education Centre Dark Sky Preserve
- Bluewater Outdoor Education Centre

Central lat/long: 44.74, -81.23. Protected area: 130 ha. Total area: 130 ha.
Recognition: 2012, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 4b

Bruce Peninsula Dark Sky Preserve
- Bruce Peninsula National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 45.16, -81.52. Protected area: 16,700 h. Total area: 16,700 ha.
Recognition: 2009, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Cattle Point Urban Star Park
- Uplands Park (part of), City of Victoria, British Columbia

Central lat/long: 48.40, -123.30. Protected area: 6.8 ha. Total area: 6.8 ha.
Recognition: 2013, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 4a

Cypress Hills Dark Sky Preserve
- Cypress Hills Provincial Park (Alberta)
- Cypress Hills Provincial Park (Saskatchewan)
- Fort Walsh National Historic Site of Canada

Central lat/long: 49.67, -110.17. Protected area: 39,600 ha. Total area: 39,600 ha.
Recognition: 2005, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Fundy Dark Sky Preserve
- Fundy National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 45.64, -65.10. Protected area: 20,600 ha. Total area: 20,600 ha.
Recognition: 2011, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Gordon's Park Dark Sky Preserve
- Gordon's Park

Central lat/long: 45.66, -81.97. Protected area: 108 ha. Total area: 108 ha.
Recognition: 2008, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 4b

Grasslands Dark Sky Preserve
- Grasslands National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 49.12, -107.42. Protected area: 52,700 ha. Total area: 52,700 ha.
Recognition: 2009, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Irving Urban Star Park
- Irving Nature Park

Central lat/long: 45.22, -66.13. Protected area: 243 ha. Total area: 243 ha.
Recognition: 2011, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 4a

Jasper Dark Sky Preserve
- Jasper National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 52.89, -118.04. Protected area: 1,122,800 ha. Total area: 1,122,800 ha.
Recognition: 2011, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Kejimkujik Dark Sky Preserve
- Kejimkujik National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 44.39, -65.23. Protected area: 40,370 ha. Total area: 40,370 ha.
Recognition: 2010, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Kouchibouguac Dark Sky Preserve
- Kouchibouguac National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 46.82, -64.97. Protected area: 23,920 ha. Total area: 23,920 ha.
Recognition: 2009, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

McDonald Park Dark Sky Preserve
- McDonald Park (Abbotsford, British Columbia)

Central lat/long: 49.10, -122.20. Protected area: 2,225 ha. Total area: 2,225 ha.
Recognition: 2003, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 4a

Mont-Mégantic International Dark Sky Reserve
- Mont-Mégantic National Park of Québec

Central lat/long: 45.46, -71.15. Protected area: 5,845 ha. Total area: 550,000 ha.
Recognition: 2007, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 1

Mount Carleton Dark Sky Preserve
- Mount Carleton Provincial Park

Central lat/long: 47.38, -66.88. Protected area: 17,427 ha. Total area: 17,427 ha.
Recognition: 2009, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Point Pelee Dark Sky Preserve
- Point Pelee National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 41.97, -82.52. Protected area: 2,000 ha. Total area: 2,000 ha.
Recognition: 2006, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

Torrance Barrens Dark Sky Preserve
- Torrance Barrens Conservation and Dark Sky Reserve

Central lat/long: 44.94, -79.51. Protected area: 1,990 ha. Total area: 1,990 ha.
Recognition: 1999, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada

DSAG Class 2a

Wood Buffalo Dark Sky Reserve
- Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada

Central lat/long: 59.80, -112.00. Protected area: 4,400,000 ha. Total area: 4,400,000 ha.
Recognition: 2013, Royal Astronomical Society of Canada
DSAG Class 2a

CHILE

Fray Jorge Starlight Reserve
- Fray Jorge Biosphere Reserve
- Fray Jorge National Park

Central lat/long: -30.67, -71.67. Protected area: 9,959 ha. Total area: 134,311 ha.
Recognition: 2013, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 1

CZECH REPUBLIC

Beskydy Dark Sky Park
- Beskydy Protected Landscape Area (includes many nature reserves and national monuments)

Central lat/long: 49.50, 18.50. Protected area: 22,230 ha. Total area: 22,230 ha.
Recognition: 2013: Czech Astronomical Society, Beskydy Protected Landscape Area and Czech Republic Forests - Forestry Office Ostravice
DSAG Class 2b
See also joint entry with Slovakia

Izera Dark Sky Park
- Jizerske hory Protected Landscape Area
- Bukovec Nature Reserve
- Raseliniste Jizery National Nature Reserve
- Rybi Loucky Nature Reserve

Central lat/long: 50.84, 15.33. Protected area: 3,600 ha. Total area: 3,600 ha.
Recognition: 2009: Astronomical Institute of the Academy of Sciences; Protected Landscape Area Jizerske hory; Liberec Regional Directorate of Czech Republic Forests
DSAG Class 2a
See also the joint entry with Poland

FRANCE

Pic du Midi International Dark Sky Reserve
- Pyrénées National Park
- Néouvielle National Nature Reserve
- Pyrénées-Mont Perdu (Gavarnie) UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Chemins de St-Jacques en France UNESCO World Heritage Site (part of)
- Aulon Regional Nature Reserve

Central lat/long: 42.94, 0.14. Protected area: 49,337 ha. Total area: 311,200 ha.
Recognition: 2013, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 1

GERMANY

Eifel International Dark Sky Park
- Eifel National Park

Central lat/long: 50.60, 6.43. Protected area: 10,700 ha. Total area: 10,700 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Rhön International Dark Sky Reserve
- Bavarian Rhon Nature Park
- Rhön Biosphere Reserve

Central lat/long: 50.45, 10.04. Protected area: 14,700 ha. Total area: 186,500 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 5

Westhavelland International Dark Sky Reserve
- Westhavelland Nature Park (extends beyond the dark sky reserve)

Central lat/long: 52.70, 12.48. Protected area: 78,660 ha. Total area: 78,660.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2c

HUNGARY

Hortobágy Starry-Sky Park
- Hortobágy National Park

Central lat/long: 47.55, 21.12. Protected area: 82,000 ha. Total area: 82,000 ha.
Recognition: 2011, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Zselic Starry-Sky Park
- Zselic Landscape Protection Area

Central lat/long: 46.38, 18.27. Protected area: 9,042 ha. Total area: 9,042 ha.
Recognition: 2009, International Dark Sky Association; 2006, Hungarian Astronomical Association
DSAG Class 2a

IRELAND

Kerry International Dark Sky Reserve
- Derrynane National Historic Park

Central lat/long: 51.8969, -10.0894. Protected area: no data. Total area: 70,000 ha.
Recognition 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2c

NAMIBIA

NamibRand International Dark Sky Reserve
- NamibRand Nature Reserve

Central lat/long: -25.12, 15.99. Protected area: 172,200 ha. Total area: 172,200 ha.
Recognition 2012, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

NEW ZEALAND

Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve

- Aoraki/Mt Cook National Park

Central lat/long: -43.60, 170.35. Protected area: 70,696 ha. Total area: 436,700 ha.
Recognition: 2012. International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 1

POLAND

Bieszczady Starry-Sky Park

- East Carpathian Biosphere Reserve, consisting of:
  - Bieszczady National Park
  - San Valley Landscape Park
  - Cisna-Wetlina Landscape

Central lat/long: 49.20, 22.47. Protected area: 113,846 ha. Total area: 113,846 ha.
Recognition: 2013. Administrative districts Lutowiska and Komancza; Bieszczady National Park in Ustrzyki Gorne; Administration of the Carpathian Landscape Parks in Krosno; The State Forests National Forest Holding - District Lutowiska and Stuposiany; Faculty of Environmental Engineering of the University of Technology of Cracow; Pedagogical University of Cracow - Mt. Suhora Astronomical Observatory; Bieszczady Foundation; Bieszczady Regional Development Agency; The Carpathian Wildlife Foundation; Joint Schools in Lutowiska
DSAG class 1

Izera Dark Sky Park

- Torfowiska Doliny Izery Nature Reserve

Central lat/long: 50.85, 15.38. Protected area: 3,850 ha. Total area: 3,850 ha.
Recognition: 2009. Astronomical Institute of the University of Wroclaw; Polish State Forests, Forestry Commission Swieradow; Polish State Forests, Forestry Commission Szklarska Poreba
DSAG Class 2a
See also the joint entry with the Czech Republic.

SLOVAKIA

Beskydy Dark Sky Park

- Kysuce Protected Landscape Area (includes two national monuments)

Central lat/long: 49.40, 18.50. Protected area: 8,570 ha. Total area: 8,570 ha.
Recognition: 2013: Kysuce Protected Landscape Area and Slovak Astronomical Society of Slovak Academy of Sciences
DSAG Class 2b
See also joint entry with Czech Republic

Poloniny Dark Sky Park

- Poloniny National Park; villages of Kolonica, Ladomirov, Kalná Roztoka, Klenová, and Ruská Volová

Central lat/long: 49.03, 22.36. Protected area: 48,519 ha. Total area: 48,519 ha.
Recognition: 2010, Slovak Union of Amateur Astronomers
DSAG Class 2a

SPAIN

El Teide Starlight Reserve and Tourism Destination
- El Teide National Park and World Heritage site
- Corona Forestal Natural Park
- El Teide Observatory

Central lat/long: 28.3, -16.6. Protected area: 18,990 ha. Total area: 65,602.0 ha.
Recognition: 2013, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 1

Fuerteventura Starlight Reserve
- Core Area of the Fuerteventura Biosphere Reserve
- Betancuria Natural Protected Area
- Jandía Natural Park

Central lat/long: 28.44, -14.10. Protected area: 60,517.0 ha. Total area: 166,000 ha.
Recognition: 2009, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 5

La Palma Starlight Reserve
- La Caldera de Taburiente National Park
- Pinar de Garafía Natural Reserve
- Las Nieves Natural Park
- Cumbre Vieja Natural Park

Central lat/long: 28.71, -17.86. Protected area: 10,265 ha. Total area: 80,702 ha.
Recognition: 2011, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 1

La Rioja Starlight Reserve and Tourism Destination
- Core Area of the UNESCO Valles del Jubera, Leza, Cidacos y Alhama Biosphere Reserve

Central lat/long: 42.01, -2.01. Protected area: 5,983 ha. Total area: 119,169 ha.
Recognition: 2011, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 2a

Monfragüe Starlight Reserve
- Monfragüe National Park and Biosphere Reserve

Central lat/long: 39.82, -5.94. Protected area: 18,118a. Total area: 116,160 ha.
Recognition: 2011, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 5

Montsec Starlight Reserve and Tourism Destination
- Montsec Mountains Natural Area
- Fauna Reserve of Sant Llorenç de Montgai
- Natural Reserve of Noguera Ribagorçana-MontRebei (part of)
- plus six other protected areas partially within the area

Central lat/long: 42.01, 0.8. Protected area: 160,000 ha. Total area: 160,000 ha.
Recognition: 2013, Fundacion Starlight (Starlight Initiative)
DSAG Class 1

UNITED KINGDOM

Brecon Beacons International Dark Sky Reserve
- Brecon Beacons National Park

Central lat/long: 51.86, -3.47. Protected area: 134,679 ha. Total area: 134,679 ha.

Recognition: 2013, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 5

Exmoor International Dark Sky Reserve
- Exmoor National Park

Central lat/long: 51.14, -3.65. Protected area: 69,200 ha. Total area: 181,400 ha.
Recognition: 2011, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 5

Galloway Forest International Dark Sky Park
- Galloway Forest Park

Central lat/long: 55.09, -4.37. Protected area: 77.700 ha. Total area: 80,700 ha.
Recognition: 2009, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 5

Northumberland International Dark Sky Park
- Northumberland National Park
- Kielder Water and Forest Park

Central lat/long: 55.32, -2.34. Protected area: 148,200a. Total area: 148,200a.
Recognition: 2013, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2c

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Big Bend International Dark Sky Park
- Big Bend National Park

Central lat/long: 29.22, -103.24. Protected area: 324,219 ha. Total area: 324,219 ha.
Recognition: 2012, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Blue Ridge Observatory and Star Park International Dark Sky Park
- Blue Ridge Observatory and Star Park

Central lat/long: 35.93, -82.02. Protected area: 2 ha. Total area: 2 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 4b

Chaco Culture International Dark Sky Park
- Chaco Culture National Historic Park

Central lat/long: 36.06, -107.97. Protected area: 13,749 ha. Total area: 13,749 ha.
Recognition: 2013, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 3

Cherry Springs Dark Sky Park
- Cherry Springs State Park

Central lat/long: 41.65, -77.82. Protected area: 49 ha. Total area: 49 ha.
Recognition: 2000, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
DSAG Class 2a

Clayton Lake Dark Sky Park
- Clayton Lake State Park

Central lat/long: 36.58, -103.31. Protected area: 231 ha. Total area: 231 ha.
Recognition: 2010, International Dark Sky Association

DSAG Class 2a

Copper Breaks International Dark Sky Park
- Copper Breaks State Park

Central lat/long: 34.11, -99.75. Protected area: 769 ha. Total area: 768 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Death Valley International Dark Sky Park
- Death Valley National Park

Central lat/long: 36.51, -117.08. Protected area: 1,363,000 ha. Total area: 1,363,000 ha.
Recognition: 2013, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Enchanted Rock International Dark Sky Park
- Enchanted Rock State Natural Area

Central lat/long: 30.51, -98.82. Protected area: 665 ha. Total area: 665 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Goldendale Observatory Dark Sky Park
- Goldendale Observatory State Park

Central lat/long: 45.84, -120.82. Protected area: 2 ha. Total area: 2 ha.
Recognition: 2010, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 1

Headlands International Dark Sky Park
- Headlands Park

Central lat/long: 45.78, -84.78. Protected area: 243 ha. Total area: 243 ha.
Recognition: 2011, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Hovenweep International Dark Sky Park
- Hovenweep National Monument

Central lat/long: 37.28, -109.12. Protected area: 318 ha. Total area: 318 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG class 3

Lake Hudson Recreation Area Dark Sky Preserve
- Lake Hudson Recreation Area

Central lat/long: 41.83, -84.26. Protected area: 890 ha. Total area: 890 ha.
Recognition: 1993, Michigan legislation
DSAG Class 2c

Natural Bridges Dark Sky Park
- Natural Bridges National Monument

Central lat/long: 37.60, -110.01. Protected area: 3,091 ha. Total area: 3,091 ha.
Recognition: 2007, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Observatory Park International Dark Sky Park
- Observatory Park

Central lat/long: 41.56, -81.20. Protected area: 418 ha. Total area: 418 ha.
Recognition: 2009, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 1

Oracle International Dark Sky Park

- Oracle State Park

Central lat/long: 32.61, -110.73. Protected area: 1,619 ha. Total area: 1,619 ha.
Recogntion: 2014, International Dark Sky Association
DSAG Class 2a

Parashant International Night Sky Province

- Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument

Central lat/long: 36.46, -113.63. Protected area: 411,515 ha. Total area: 424,242 ha.
Recognition: 2014, International Dark Sky Association, as an International Dark Sky Reserve
DSAG class 2a

Potawatomi Dark-Sky Preserve

- Potawatomi Wildlife Park

Central lat/long: 41.23, -86.11. Protected area: 130 ha. Total area: 130 ha.
Recognition: 2009, Indiana Council on Lighting Education, Indiana legislation
DSAG Class 2a

DARK SKY COMMUNITIES

The International Dark Sky Association and the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada also recognize the following dark sky communities. All are DSAG Class 6.
Canada: North Frontenac Township.
Poland: Sopotnia Wielka.
United Kingdom: Isle of Coll; Sark.
United States of America: Beverly Shores; Borrego Springs; Dripping Springs; Flagstaff; Homer Glen; Sedona.