

Rustenburg Herald

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Magaliesberg declared a World Biosphere Reserve

RUSTENBURG HERALD – RUSTENBURG – After nearly a decade of lobbying and sustained efforts by a small committee of dedicated environmentalists, the Magaliesberg has been declared a World Biosphere Reserve.

The announcement was made last week in Paris by the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB). In effect, this means a specific focus on safeguarding natural ecosystems through innovative approaches to economic development.

The World Network of Biosphere Reserves, which Magaliesberg now joins, counts 631 biosphere reserves in 119 countries.

"We are delighted with this final acknowledgement of the unique nature of the Magaliesberg and the powerful contribution it is making to our country, to the ecosystem services in Gauteng and the North West and the communities it nurtures over an extensive area," said Paul Fatti, chair of the Magaliesberg Biosphere Initiative Group (MBIG) that has been lobbying authorities since 2007 to support the establishment of the Biosphere.

Vincent Carruthers, past chair of MBIG and renowned author of "The Magaliesberg", the most authoritative study of the mountain range, said that this announcement was the culmination of a campaign that began in 2006.

"I'm most grateful there is now international recognition of this great mountain range that has witnessed the whole span of life, from its very origins," he said. "The Magaliesberg is almost 100 times older than Mount Everest and half the age of the earth, a unique treasure for us in this part of Africa." South Africa now has eight Biosphere Reserves.

pressreader

PRETORIA NEWS

Magaliesberg now a Unesco biosphere

It has been an arduous road, but in the interests of living with nature, this wilderness must be conserved, writes

13 Aug 2015



THE MAGALIESBERG ridge of mountainous gorges that carry streams through rugged peaks and provide natural refuge to many



Times LIVE PREMIUM

SCI-TECH

Magaliesberg proclaimed a World Biosphere Reserve by Unesco

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BY RDM NEWS WIRE

After nearly a decade of lobbying and sustained efforts by a small committee of dedicated environmentalists, the Magaliesberg has been declared a World Biosphere Reserve. The announcement was made in Paris by the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) on Tuesday, according to a statement by the Magaliesberg Biosphere Initiative Group. "This is a Unesco programme that aims to build a supportive and sustainable relationship between people and their environments. In effect, this means a specific focus on safeguarding natural ecosystems through innovative approaches to economic

Magaliesberg Biosphere PROCLAIMED 2015



it's about **life**

MAGALIESBERG BIOSPHERE

UNESCO
UNITED NATIONS



- <https://www.gov.za/news/media-statements/north-west-celebrates-magaliesburg-biosphere-reserve-23-jun-2015>
- <https://magaliesmeander.co.za/magaliesberg-proclaimed-a-world-biosphere-reserve/>
- <https://magaliesmeander.co.za/area-history/>
- <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/sci-tech/2015-06-10-magaliesberg-proclaimed-a-world-biosphere-reserve-by-unesco/#>
- <https://www.tourismupdate.com/article/magaliesberg-declared-a-biosphere>
- <https://biodiversityinvestment.co.za/unesco-biosphere-reserves-and-world-heritage-sites>
- <https://www.unesco.org/en/mab/magaliesberg>
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