

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A
BILL

to provide for the protection, preservation, conservation, and management of Nature in the Islamabad Capital Territory

WHEREAS humanity exists within nature and all life depends on the integrity of the biosphere and the interdependence of ecological systems and there is therefore a close relationship between human rights and nature conservation and protection, and there is a fundamental importance of ecological integrity;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government recognises the contribution of nature conservation law principles to conservation and sustainability, and supports the evolution of such principles;

AND WHEREAS the Federal Government recognises the existing gaps and shortcomings that prevent nature conservation and wildlife management law from achieving adequate nature conservation and protection;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the protection, preservation, conservation and management of Nature in the Islamabad Capital Territory;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

PART I
PRELIMINARY

1. **Short Title, Extent and Commencement.** – (1) This Act shall be called the Islamabad Nature Conservation and Wildlife Management Act, 2023.

(2) It shall extend to the whole of Islamabad Capital Territory.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. **Definitions.** – In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context:—

(a) **“Animals”** means mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, or arachnids, their young and also in the cases of amphibians, reptiles and birds, their eggs excluding livestock and poultry;

(b) **“Authorised officer”** means any officer authorised by the Board to carry out functions under this Act;

- (c) **“Board”** means the Nature Conservation and Wildlife Management Board constituted under section 3;
- (d) **“Board Member”** means a Member of the Board appointed under section 3;
- (e) **“Capture”** means the taking alive of any wild animal;
- (f) **“Court”** means Court established under section 34;
- (g) **“Exotic Species”** means species, both flora and fauna, which does not occur in an area naturally and it is introduced or intended to be introduced from outside of its natural occurrence;
- (h) **“Fund”** means the Conservation of Nature Fund constituted under section 11;
- (i) **“Habitat”** means natural environment, including biotic and a-biotic factors essential for free survival of an animal, plants or any other living organism;
- (j) **“Hunting”** means any act directed to the killing or capturing of a wild animal, and includes but is not limited to fishing, angling, netting, the taking of nests or eggs of such animals and their parts, products or derivatives thereof;
- (k) **“Humus”** means the layer of dead organic matter below the fallen leaves, where the phenomenon of degradation by the soil biodiversity takes place;
- (l) **“Indigenous”** means an animal species native to a specified area, a country or a region;
- (m) **“Invasive species”** means invasive alien species introduced in a habitat where they outgrow the native species and may reach a level where they could become a weed or a pest;
- (n) **“ICT”** means the Islamabad Capital Territory;
- (o) **“National Park”** means an area declared as such under section 12;
- (p) **“Nature”** means the phenomena of the physical world collectively, including plants, animals, the landscape, and other features and products of the earth, as opposed to humans or human creations;
- (q) **“Plant”** means a living organism of the kind exemplified by trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses, ferns and mosses, typically growing in a permanent site, absorbing water and inorganic substances through its roots, and synthesising nutrients in its leaves by photosynthesis using the green pigment chlorophyll;
- (r) **“Protected Animal”** means a wild animal included in Schedule- I whose hunting, killing, trapping, capturing, possession or trade is not allowed;
- (s) **“Protected Area”** means an area declared as under Part V of this Act;
- (t) **“Trophy”** means the dead body of a wild animal or any horn, antler, tooth, tusk, bone, claw, hoof, skin, hair, feather, egg, shell or other durable part of any wild animal, whether or not included in a manufactured or processed article;
- (u) **“Wild Animal”** means an animal which is usually found in a natural wild environment and is not predisposed to be domesticated or tamed. Such animals shall also include any animal which has been declared a protected animal in Schedule I or notified by Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination as protected or wild animal; and
- (v) **“Wildlife”** means the natural flora and fauna and their habitat including organic soil with humus and natural water bodies.

PART II
THE BOARD