

# Broghil National Park



## General features

<b>Country:</b>	Pakistan, Chitral District
<b>Date of establishment:</b>	2010
<b>Area:</b>	1,348 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Geographic location:</b>	Latitude: 36°45'N; Longitude: 73°30'E
<b>IUCN category:</b>	NA

## Overview

Broghil National Park (BNP) encompasses the Broghil valley and a small part of the Yarkhun valley. It has a number of peatland areas. Broghil is in a strategic location: it borders the Wakhan Strip of Afghanistan and is connected to Afghanistan in the northwest via the famous Broghil and Darwaza passes. Located above 3,000 masl, BNP has relatively harsh climatic conditions. The valley is globally significant role as the gateway of the Indus flyway for birds migrating to South Asia.

**People** Wakhi

## Flora

Pastures consist of grasslands, sparse grasses and trees, and peatlands. A survey identified 93 species of higher plants belonging to 40 families and 75 genera. Plant communities in the Broghil valley include small herb community and

peatland-fen community. The flora is dominated by Haemicryptophytes and Chaemiphytes. Some rare and narrow endemic flora have been recently reported in the national park. Forests are limited, consisting mainly of birch, poplar, juniper, willow, and small shrubs. The valley is rich in medicinal plants, with more than 80 recorded species.

## Fauna

Alpine pastures and rocky slopes are interspersed with wetlands providing a congenial habitat for many mammals, some endangered, such as snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*), urial (*Ovis orientalis*), Himalayan ibex (*Capra sibirica*), brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*), wolf (*Canis lupus*), red fox (*Vulpus vulpus*), long-tailed marmot (*Marmota caudata*), and lynx (*Felis lynx*). Bird species include ruddy shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*), Himalayan snowcock (*Tetraogallus himalayensis*), chukar (*Alectoris chukar*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), griffon vulture (*Gyps fulvus*), alpine chough (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*) and snow pigeon (*Columba leuconota*).

## Threats

- Excessive use of peatlands leading to loss of habitat for key wildlife.
- Reduced productivity of grazing lands and decline in wildlife due to poaching and competition with livestock.
- Habitat loss due to destruction and habitat degradation.



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*Photos: Ajaz Ahmed, Zhang Lixun*