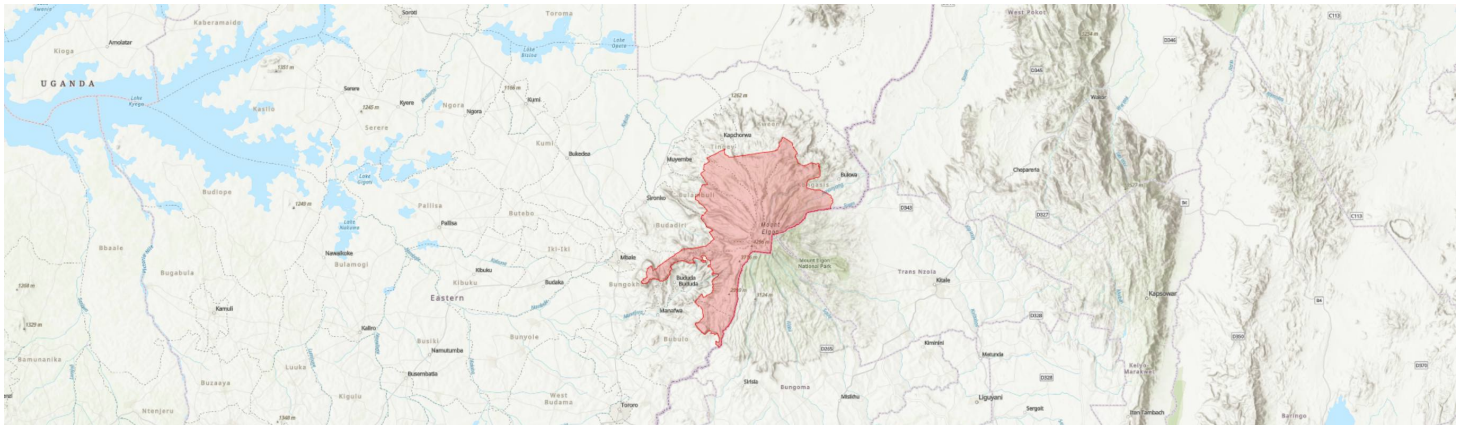


Mount Elgon

Mount Elgon (Test version)

UGATIPA20



Country: **Uganda**

Administrative region: **Eastern (Region)**

Central co-ordinates: **1.10346 N, 34.50890 E**

Area: **1114km²**

Qualifying IPA criteria

A(i), A(iii), B(ii), B(iii), C(iii)

IPA assessment rationale

Mount Elgon qualifies as an IPA under criterion A(i) as it contains globally important populations of 29 threatened taxa, of which three are Critically Endangered and 12 are Endangered and 15 are vulnerable. The presence of the endemic, Data Deficient species *Silene syngaei* also triggers sub-criterion A(iii). Mount Elgon also qualifies under criterion B(ii) as it supports populations of 2929 of the priority taxa on the agreed national list, well in excess of the 3% threshold for that sub-criterion. Mount Elgon additionally qualifies under B(iii) is also in excess of the 3% threshold of taxa found on the national list of useful plant species.

Site description

Mount Elgon Important Plant Area (IPA) is located on the Ugandan side of Mount Elgon. This mountain is an ancient inactive volcano (ACCESS 2015), spanning the border of Uganda and Kenya. Formed in the Miocene epoch, it is estimated to be approximately 24 million years old (UWA 2000). It spans 50 km from east to west, and 80 km north to south (Muhweezi et al. 2007) and covers over 1,279 km². This makes Mount Elgon both the oldest and largest solitary volcanic mountain in eastern Africa, with the largest known mountain base in the world. At the top is a vast crater, or caldera,

approximately 8 km in diameter, making it the largest intact caldera globally. Mount Elgon has 5 major peaks, with the highest peak, Wagagai at 4,321 m, found on the Ugandan side. Currently, it is the fourth tallest mountain in East Africa, and eighth in Africa (Rono et al. 2023; Howard 1991).

On the Ugandan side, the mountain is found 235 km north-east of Kampala and 8.5 km east of the town of Mbale. Mount Elgon borders the eight districts of Bukwo, Kween, Kapchorwa, Bulambuli, Sironko, Mbale, Bududa and Namisindwa. It is contained within Mount Elgon National Park (MENP), spanning 1,121 km², and comprising 28% of the mountain's extent.

Botanical significance

Mount Elgon is a globally important site for plant and animal biodiversity, and as such is a designated UNESCO World Heritage site. The geographical isolation and large size of Mt Elgon have led to a diversity of plants found throughout the many vegetation zones on the mountain. Floristically, Mt Elgon is primarily constituted by the Afromontane archipelago-like centre of endemism (White 1983). Some of the southernmost parts of the mountain also contribute to part of the Lake Victoria regional mosaic, which extends through Uganda to Rwanda, Burundi, and parts of Congo and Tanzania (Rono et al. 2023). Its flora dates back 22 million years, as it is one of the oldest East African floristic regions. Numerous species found throughout East Africa are thought to have diversified here, spreading through the rest of the region (Rono et al. 2023; UWA 2022).

As of 2024, 1,709 plant species have been documented across Mount Elgon, covering both the Ugandan and Kenyan portions. Of those, 103 have been identified as endemic, and at least 14 species are both endemic and rare (Rono et al. 2023). Several of these strict

Ugandan-endemic species are only found on the Ugandan side of the mountain. These include the critically endangered (CR) species *Arabis elgonensis* found in moorland and alpine areas and *Bothriocline auriculata* from montane forest and bamboo. *Snowdenia microcarpha* (CR) is only known from margins of moist forests, documented from just outside the reserve boundary – and only known from type specimens. Located within the moorland are *Erucastrum elgonense* (VU) and *Rubus friesiorum* subsp. *elgonensis* (LC). *Aloe wanalensis*, currently listed as LC, is endemic to rock outcrops in the western arm of MENP as well as just outside the park's boundary, maintaining a level of protection from its inaccessibility (Cole & Forrest 2017). Additionally, *Silene syngei* (DD) has been found on rock faces in moorland but requires further surveying to understand its extent on the mountain (Rono et al. 2023, Kalema et al. 2025).

Several other species that are found only on Mount Elgon have been found on both the Ugandan and Kenyan sides of the mountain and are therefore near-endemic to Uganda. These near-endemic species include some assessed as Vulnerable such as *Erica trimera* subsp. *elgonensis* (VU), *Euryops elgonensis* (VU), *Impatiens miniata* (VU), *Luzula mannii* subsp. *gracilis* (VU), and *Swertia uniflora* (EN). Other species endemic to Mount Elgon that are on both the Ugandan and Kenyan sides have been assessed as Least Concern, usually due to populations in inaccessible places, and/or possessing adaptations such as those that enable them to survive increasingly drought and fire-prone environments. These include *Dendrosenecio elgonensis* (LC), *Helichrysum amblyphyllum* (LC), *Impatiens digitata* subsp. *phlyctidoceras* (LC), *Impatiens tweedieae* (LC), *Ranunculus crypanthus* (LC), *Senecio snowdenii* (LC), and *S. sotikensis* (LC). However, should the impact of climate change and the frequency or intensity of fires continue to increase, these species may become imperiled. Continued monitoring of these species is therefore required to understand how their populations will respond to these threats.

Within Uganda, *Tarenna pavettoides* subsp. *friesiorum* (VU) has only been documented on Mount Elgon, though it is found also in Kenya within Fourteen Falls, Embu, and Mount Kenya, as well as the South Pare Mountains in Tanzania. Similarly, *Psychotria fractinervata* (VU) is only known from seven locations across Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania – with Mount Elgon being the only Ugandan location. Some species, like *Alchemilla elgonensis* (VU), and *Bidens elgonensis* (VU) are also shared with the Cherangani Hills in the western highlands of Kenya. Ensuring the protection of vulnerable species within Uganda that span these East African borders will help to promote species' genetic diversity, especially in the face of threats to habitat and climate.

Alongside threatened species, this IPA is one of the most important sites for the nationally endangered habitat, Afromontane rainforest, hosting 35% of the national resource (REF). Significant areas of this forest have already been lost on Mount Elgon, particularly on the more sheltered southwestern slopes where this habitat is thought to have extended to lower altitudes than at present (Langdale-Brown et

al. 1964; van Breugel et al. 2015). On the drier northern slopes of this mountain, the forest transitions to Afromontane dry forest [Afromontane undifferentiated forest] and is dominated by *Juniperus procera* and *Afrocarpus* (*Podocarpus*) *gracilior*. Although there is only a small extent of this habitat within this IPA (48 km²), Afromontane undifferentiated forest is rare nationally and so it is estimated that around 20% of the national resource lies within MENP (Richards et al. 2024). Therefore, this habitat type also triggers criterion C(iii) under the IPA criteria.

Mount Elgon contains 143 useful native or naturalised plants and so exceeds the criterion B(iii) threshold. Many of these socially, culturally, and economically important species are greatly relied upon by the populations which live around MENP (See 'Key Ecosystem Services'). Further, there are at least eight crop wild relatives found here, including the grass species *Eleusine jaegeri*, and legume species *Vigna friesiorum*, both of which are also utilised for food. A collection of almost 200 ethnobotanical vouchers can be found in Makerere University Herbarium, collected by Norgrove during fieldwork in 1999, and Jewsbury in 2000 (Norgrove 2003).

Habitat and geology

Mount Elgon is situated on the Trans Nzoia Plateau, a flat, low-relief region formed from the Precambrian Basement Complex and shaped predominantly by stream erosion. The mountain is primarily composed of coarse igneous rocks with minimal quartz or feldspar content, punctuated by basaltic lava outcrops. The broader geological structure includes undifferentiated volcanic rocks, with alkaline intrusives in some areas, overlaying Precambrian granitoid batholiths, gneisses, schists, and granulites at the lower slopes (ACCESS 2015). According to Synnot (1968), the soils on Mount Elgon are relatively young, erosion-resistant, and rich in weatherable minerals, particularly from the Andisol series in Uganda. Mount Elgon is characterized by steep cliff edges separated by gently sloping shelves, with streams flowing down its slopes. It also features a 20 km-long ridge called the Nkokonjeru Peninsula, extending west toward the town of Mbale.

Due to the location and unique topography of Mount Elgon, the Ugandan and Kenyan sides vary in climate and ecology. While increasing elevation on the mountain correlates with higher average rainfall, precipitation is generally greater on the Ugandan southern and western slopes than on the northern and eastern slopes within Kenya. There is a bimodal pattern of precipitation, with rain from March to May, and again between September to November. This is interspersed with dry seasons in June to August, and again from December to March. Annual levels of rainfall vary from 1,400-2,500 mm, contributing greatly to agricultural production in the region. Locations between 2,000-3,000 m asl along the western and southern mid-slopes of Mount Elgon receive the highest levels of precipitation due to south-westerly winds from Lake Victoria (Vedeld et al. 2016; UWA 2022).

Within Mount Elgon there are several distinct zones of vegetation. The lower reaches of the MENP, between 1,520 m and 2,930 m, are comprised primarily of Afromontane rainforest. This habitat type can also be seen extending onto Nokononjeru peninsula. Here, the habitat is characterised by the tallest trees being scattered *Prunus africana* (VU), with instances of *Aningeria adolfi-friederici*, *Markhamia platycalyx*, and *Ficus* spp. There is a shrub layer of *Macaranga kilimandscharica*, and climbers stretching up out of an understorey of scramblers. The tree fern *Alsophila deckenii* can be found growing alongside streams in this vegetation zone. In the northeast of MENP near the Kenyan border, this habitat transitions into *Juniperus-Podocarpus* Dry Afromontane Forest characterised by *Juniperus procera*, *Podocarpus milanjanus*, *Afrocarpus gracilior* and *Acacia* (*Vachellia*) *abyssinica*. Additionally, two small examples of *Acacia-Cymbopogon/Themeda* Complex (totalling 3.83 km²), adjacent to Kabei and Senendet sub-counties can be found at the lowest elevations of the park.

This is followed at higher elevations by a belt of *Hagenia-Myrsine* (*Rapanea*) Moist Montane Forest and *Oldeania* (*Arundinaria*) Montane Bamboo Forest along the southwest and northeast portion of Mt Elgon, extending to 3,230 m and 3,150 m respectively. There is a distinct break in this habitat zone between the streams Sipi and Chebonet to the Bukwa, comprising *Hagenia-Myrsine* Moist Montane Forest, which sits between 2,620 and 3,210 m. Here, *Hagenia abyssinica* is dominant along the flatter edges of the slopes, with *Myrsine melanophloeos* found on the steeper inclines, and *Erica mannii* along the highest reaches. *Prunus africana* can also still be found, but in much lower abundance.

From 2,890 m to 3,840 m can be found the *Ericaceae-Seriphium* (*Stoebe*) Heath zone. On Mount Elgon, this vegetation consists of true heathers or *Erica* spp. like *Erica trimera*, as well as *Seriphium kilimandscharicum* (*Stoebe kilimandscharica*), a species of *Compositae* with a heath-like habit, plus small shrubs, herbs and graminoids such as *Hypericum revolutum* subsp. *keniense* and *Carex runssoroensis*. Arborescent rosette forming *Lobelia stuhlmannii*, *L. bequaertii* and *Dendrosenecio erici-rosenii* are also notable in this habitat, along with climbers like *Galium ruwenzoriense*. In some parts of the mountain, these heathlands have been transformed into open grassy fields due to burning and grazing (Langdale-Brown et al. 1964).

Within the caldera of Mount Elgon, beginning at 3,380 m is an *Alchemilla-Helichrysum* Moorland with the dominant vegetation being *Alchemilla elgonensis* (VU), *Helichrysum amblyphyllum*, and *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Species of arborescent *Lobelia* and *Senecio* can also be found here, like the Mount Elgon endemic and Ugandan near-endemic species *Dendrosenecio elgonensis* subsp. *barbatipes*, especially near to the crater rim in drier areas, as well as *Lobelia gregoriana* subsp. *elgonensis* (CR). Within the more boggy habitats can be found an abundance of *Carex runssoroensis* (LC), often growing on exposed rocks. (Langdale-Brown et al. 1964; Hamilton and Perrott 1981; Plumptre et al. 2021).

Conservation issues

Between 1924 and 1993, the Forest Department managed Mount Elgon in Uganda. Historically, the mountain was home to many people, including the Benet who lived in the high-altitude moorland ecosystem. It was designated as a Crown Forest in 1938, and then became a Forest Reserve in 1951, with the dual purpose of protecting the forest and extracting timber (Synott 1968). The 1975 Land Reform Decree led to a shift in land management by ostensibly opening reserve land to the public, resulting in unclear and insecure access to land for rural communities. During this period, forest governance weakened, and legitimate licensing for land use deteriorated, leading to increased grazing and agriculture on the mountain slopes and into forested areas. Consequently, between the 1970s and 1980s, nearly 25,000 hectares of the reserve land were deforested (Webster & Osmaston 2003; Cavanagh 2015). In response to these pressures, a 1983 parliamentary measure enacted the resettlement of people outside the boundary of the forest. Further to this, the Ugandan side of Mount Elgon was designated a national park in 1993, managed by the then Uganda National Parks (now Uganda Wildlife Authority). The implementation of national park status aimed to address the escalating exploitation of natural resources by enhancing protection measures. Today, the national park's use is restricted to activities related to biodiversity conservation, scientific research, recreation, scenic viewing, and other legally approved economic activities (GoU 1996). As of 2003, it is a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve (<https://www.unesco.org/en/mab/mount-elgon-0>) and has also been classified as a Key Biodiversity Area due to both its cultural importance as well as its biological diversity (Plumptre et al. 2019).

MENP is presently divided into six zones, of which various activities are permitted or prohibited. These include plantation zone, administrative zone, tourism zone, collaborative resource management zone, restoration zone, and wilderness zone. The wilderness zone, comprising 40% of MENP makes up by far the largest proportion of the park.

On the outskirts of MENP are two large populations of Bagisu people in Mbale and Sironko Districts, as well as the Sabiny in Kapchorwa. Just upland from the Sabiny also live the Benet, who still also occupy internal portions of MENP. Together, these make up one of the most densely populated areas in the country. These communities rely mainly on intensive small-holder agricultural production of Irish potatoes and maize in Kapchorwa. Matooke (*Musa* spp.) and maize are farmed for sustenance and as cash crops in Mbale and Sironko, augmented by enterprise in passion fruit, onions and coffee production, along with market trading. The Sabiny also rely on livestock for subsistence and as work animals, especially donkeys. These populations rely heavily on the land outside Mount Elgon, and historically have utilised resources found within the MENP border (see Key Ecosystem Services). This has led to both historical and modern pressures to cultivate the lower sections of the national park, with encroachment visible along much of the park's border, into the most threatened, forested habitats

found within the park (Norgrove & Hulme 2006).

Where deforestation and agricultural transformation have occurred on Mount Elgon, particularly on the steep, north-facing, concave slopes of the mountain, landslides have occurred. This poses a major threat to the populations surrounding the mountain, as lives can be quickly imperiled by shifting ground, as well as drastically reshaping the mountain’s ecosystems. Increased stream sedimentation, fires, and habitat loss can all result from these devastating events (Mugagga et al. 2012; Discover 2022). To this end, restoration zones have been delineated in areas that have experienced severe degradation due to encroachment and resource depletion, namely a zone in the north, south of Binyin, and one on the west of the mountain, adjacent to Bugitimwa.

Significant community-based restoration activity has also occurred along the southwestern bend of MENP, just below the Nkokonjeru Peninsula, in the sub-counties of Bukinga, Bulucheke, Bukalasi, and Bududa. Within this region of MENP, a memorandum of understanding has been established to conduct taungya restoration through joint native tree planting and crop farming below restored trees throughout 767 ha of land within the national park, while allocating another combined 3294 ha in this area where resource extraction activities are limited. Subsistence and cash crops in the Taungya zone that have been planted here include maize, beans, onions, carrots, and cabbage. Above these crops are planted tree species including *Albizia coriaria*, *Bridelia micrantha*, *Croton macrostachyus*, *Khaya anthotheca*, *Olea welwitschii*, *Afrocarpus gracilior*, *Prunus africana* and *Spathodea campanulata* (Kamukasa Adonia 2015).

Mount Elgon is also home to an array of amphibian, reptile, bird and mammal species; several of which are also endemic and/or threatened. Combined with its diversity of plant species, MENP is also both an Important Bird Area (IBA) and a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). The globally endangered Barbours Vlei Rat (*Otomys barbouri*) is only found in Mt Elgon’s high-altitude grassland mosaics and moorlands (Kennerley & Taylor, 2017; Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership 2024). Additionally, the Elgon Francolin (*Scleroptila elgonensis*) (LC) has a restricted range on Mount Elgon and high mountains in Kenya; it too relies on the high-altitude grasslands and moorlands, and has been documented feeding on plant roots and bulbs in these habitats (Del Hoyo et al. 1992; BirdLife International 2024). Likewise, the Mountain Buzzard (*Buteo oreophilus*) (NT) is also found in high-altitude forests and grasslands within Mount Elgon (BirdLife International 2022; Del Hoyo et al. 1992). The Mount Elgon Forest Gecko (*Cnemaspis elgonensis*) (VU) has been documented in a few fragmented populations in the montane forests and clearings throughout the mountain. While it has also been documented in the Ruwenzori Mountains, another IPA, it is only known from a single record in Rwenzori, requiring further surveying to assess whether this population is still viable (Wagner et al. 2022).

This diversity of plant and animal species is, however, threatened by invasive species which have been documented on Mount Elgon.

Records of invasive plant species like *Lantana camara* are found on Mount Elgon, which is considered one of the most problematic invasive non-native alien species in the region (Rono et al. 2024). The invasive longhorn crazy ant, *Paratrechina longicornis*, was identified as recently as 2014, near the origin of Sasa trail, Budadiri (Vanderhaegen et al. 2019). Accidental introductions of invasive species within parks are commonly caused by people, as plant seeds, insect eggs, and pathogens can cling to footwear. The location of these primary instances of crazy ant suggests introduction through visitors and highlights the need for increased biosecurity measures taken at the park, like boot cleaning stations and signage educating visitors on these detrimental species. Such invasive species can impact the biodiversity of Mount Elgon by outcompeting other ant and insect species, as well as by encouraging other pests like scale insects, which can harm both native plants as well as crops grown just beyond the park border.

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Date of first assessment:

15th Jan 2025

Reviewed by:

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IPA criterion A species

SPECIES	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 1% OF GLOBAL POPULATION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL POPULATION	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	ENTIRE GLOBAL POPULATION	SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT	ABUNDANCE AT SITE
<i>Agelanthus entebbensis</i> (Sprague) Polhill & Wiens	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Alchemilla elgonensis</i> Mildbr.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Abundant
<i>Aloe wilsonii</i> Reynolds	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Ansellia africana</i> Lindl.	A(i)	—	—	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Arabis elgonensis</i> Al-Shehbaz	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	Scarce
<i>Bothriocline auriculata</i> (M.Taylor) C.Jeffrey	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	Scarce
<i>Crepis schultzii</i> Hochst. ex Oliv.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Dicliptera nilotica</i> C.B.Clarke	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Drimia congesta</i> Bullock	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Frequent
<i>Erica trimera</i> (Engl.) Beentje subsp. <i>elgonensis</i> (Mildbr.) Beentje	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Erucastrum elgonense</i> Jonsell	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	Unknown
<i>Euryops elgonensis</i> Mattf.	A(i)	—	—	—	—	—	Abundant
<i>Galega lindblomii</i> (Harms) J.B.Gillett	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Frequent
<i>Holothrix elgonensis</i> Summerh.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Frequent
<i>Impatiens miniata</i> Grey-Wilson	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Occasional
<i>Leucas masaiensis</i> Oliv. var. <i>tricrenata</i> (Bullock) Sebald	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Lobelia gregoriana</i> Baker f. subsp. <i>elgonensis</i> (R.E.Fr.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown

SPECIES	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 1% OF GLOBAL POPULATION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL POPULATION	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	ENTIRE GLOBAL POPULATION	SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT	ABUNDANCE AT SITE
& T.C.E.Fr.) E.B.Knox							
<i>Luzula mannii</i> (Buchenau) <i>Kirschner & Cheek</i> subsp. <i>gracilis</i> (S.Carter) <i>Kirschner & Cheek</i>	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Tarenna pavettoides</i> (Harv.) Sim subsp. <i>friesiorum</i> (K.Krause) Bridson	A(i)	—	—	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Poa chokensis</i> S.M.Phillips	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Rytigynia acuminatissima</i> (K.Schum.) <i>Robyns</i> subsp. <i>acuminatissima</i>	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Silene syngaei</i> (Turrill) T.Harris & Goyder	A(iii)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	Scarce
<i>Snowdenia microcarpha</i> C.E.Hubb.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	Scarce
<i>Swertia uniflora</i> Mildbr.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Trifolium lugardii</i> Bullock	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Zaluzianskya elgonensis</i> Hedberg	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Bidens elgonensis</i> (Sherff) Agnew	A(i)	—	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Psychotria fractinervata</i> E.M.A.Petit	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Senecio crispapilosus</i> C.Jeffrey	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Unknown
<i>Prunus africana</i> (Hook.f.) Kalkman	A(i)	—	—	✓	—	—	Unknown

IPA criterion C qualifying habitats

HABITAT	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL RESOURCE	≥ 10% OF NATIONAL RESOURCE	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	AREAL COVERAGE AT SITE
Afromontane rainforest (EN)	C(iii)	✓	✓	✓	349
Afromontane dry forest (CR)	C(iii)	✓	✓	✓	47.97
Dry Combretum wooded grassland (VU)	C(iii)	—	—	—	0.18
Moist Combretum wooded grassland (EN)	C(iii)	—	—	—	1.27

General site habitats

GENERAL SITE HABITAT	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Montane Forest	49	Major
Artificial - Terrestrial	45	Major
Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical High Altitude Shrubland	7	Minor
Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands [generally over 8 ha]	24	Major
Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Shrubland	21	Major

Land use types

LAND USE TYPE	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Agriculture (arable)	5	Minor
Forestry	15	Major
Harvesting of wild resources	20	Major
Nature conservation	100	Major
Tourism / Recreation	30	Major

Threats

THREAT	SEVERITY	TIMING
Agriculture & aquaculture - Annual & perennial non-timber crops - Shifting agriculture	Medium	Ongoing - increasing
Agriculture & aquaculture - Livestock farming & ranching - Small-holder grazing, ranching or farming	Medium	Ongoing - increasing
Agriculture & aquaculture - Annual & perennial non-timber crops - Agro-industry farming	Medium	Ongoing - stable
Agriculture & aquaculture - Annual & perennial non-timber crops - Small-holder farming	Medium	Ongoing - stable
Agriculture & aquaculture - Livestock farming & ranching - Nomadic grazing	Low	Ongoing - stable
Biological resource use - Hunting & collecting terrestrial animals - Unintentional effects (species being assessed is not the target)	Medium	Ongoing - stable

THREAT	SEVERITY	TIMING
Biological resource use - Logging & wood harvesting - Intentional use: large scale (species being assessed is the target) [harvest]	Low	Ongoing - stable
Climate change & severe weather - Droughts	Medium	Ongoing - increasing
Invasive & other problematic species, genes & diseases - Problematic native species/diseases - Named species	Medium	Ongoing - stable
Natural system modifications - Fire & fire suppression - Suppression in fire frequency/intensity	Medium	Ongoing - increasing

Protected areas

PROTECTED AREA NAME	PROTECTED AREA TYPE	RELATIONSHIP WITH IPA	AREAL OVERLAP
Mount Elgon National Park	National Park	protected/conservation area overlaps with IPA	1105
Mount Elgon	UNESCO Biosphere Reserve	protected/conservation area overlaps with IPA	1107

Conservation designation

DESIGNATION NAME	PROTECTED AREA	RELATIONSHIP WITH IPA	AREAL OVERLAP
Mount Elgon National Park	Key Biodiversity Area	protected/conservation area matches IPA	1114
Mount Elgon National Park	Important Bird Area	protected/conservation area matches IPA	1114
Mount Elgon National Park	Alliance for Zero Extinction Site	protected/conservation area matches IPA	1114

Management type

MANAGEMENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION	YEAR STARTED	YEAR FINISHED
Site management plan in place	Mount Elgon National Park (Menp) Man & Biosphere Reserve (MAB) General Management Plan (GMP) Year 2022/2023-2031/2032	2022	2031

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