Revista de Direito Socioambiental
jan./jul. 2025

How to cite this article:

ARRUDA, Lorena Torres De; BRITO, Ailton Moreira De; Análise da Lei 9.985/2000 e a preservação do meio ambiente: o caso da Chapada dos Veadeiros. **Revista de Direito Socioambiental - REDIS**, Goiás – GO, Brasil, v. 03, n. 01, jan./jul. 2025, p. 95-114.

Submission date: 04/01/2025

Approval date: 03/07/2025

ANALYSIS OF LAW 9.985/2000 AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION: THE CASE OF CHAPADA DOS VEADEIROS

ANÁLISE DA LEI 9.985/2000 E A PRESERVAÇÃO DO MEIO AMBIENTE: O CASO DA CHAPADA DOS VEADEIROS

ANÁLISIS DE LA LEY 9.985/2000 Y LA PRESERVACIÓN DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE: EL CASO DE LA CHAPADA DOS VEADEIROS

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ABSTRACT

Recognized as one of Brazil's most significant areas for environmental conservation, Chapada dos Veadeiros, located in the state of Goiás, exemplifies the effectiveness of Brazilian environmental legislation in protecting unique ecosystems rich in biodiversity. This article aims to examine the application of Law No. 9,985/2000, which established the National System of Nature Conservation Units (SNUC), in Chapada dos Veadeiros, with the goal of understanding the impacts of sustainable development in the region and the role of environmental preservation in areas requiring protection. To this end, the study addresses legislative proposals for regulating preservation zones in Chapada dos Veadeiros and the challenges posed by agricultural pressure, tourism, and conflicts of interest following the implementation of the SNUC. Ultimately, the findings reveal that conservation measures for the Cerrado biome, such as the establishment of national parks and reserves, despite various challenges, have significantly contributed to local environmental preservation.

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Keywords: Environmental Preservation. Law 9.985/2000. Chapada dos Veadeiros.

RESUMO

Considerada uma das áreas mais importantes de conservação ambiental no Brasil, a Chapada dos Veadeiros, localizada no estado de Goiás, é um exemplo de como a legislação ambiental brasileira pode ser efetiva na proteção de ecossistemas únicos e ricos em biodiversidade. Diante disso, o presente artigo teve como objetivo analisar a aplicação da Lei n.º 9.985/2000, que institui o Sistema Nacional de Unidades de Conservação da Natureza (SNUC) na Chapada dos Veadeiros, a fim de compreender os efeitos do desenvolvimento sustentável na região e a função da preservação ambiental nas áreas que carecem de proteção e preservação. Para tanto, discutiram-se os projetos de lei de regulamentação das zonas de preservação da Chapada dos Veadeiros e os problemas enfrentados com a pressão agrícola, turismo e conflitos de interesse a partir da implementação do SNUC. Por fim, como resultado, verificou-se que as medidas adotadas para conservação do bioma do Cerrado, como a criação de parques nacionais e reservas, mesmo com os desafios, têm contribuído significativamente para a preservação ambiental local.

Palavras-chave: Preservação Ambiental. Lei 9.985/2000. Chapada dos Veadeiros.

RESUMEN

Considerada una de las áreas más importantes de conservación ambiental en Brasil, la Chapada dos Veadeiros, ubicada en el estado de Goiás, es un ejemplo de cómo la legislación ambiental brasileña puede ser efectiva en la protección de ecosistemas únicos y ricos en biodiversidad. Ante esto, el presente artículo tuvo como objetivo analizar la aplicación de la Lei n.º 9.985/2000, que instituye el Sistema Nacional de Unidades de Conservación de la Naturaleza (SNUC), en la Chapada dos Veadeiros, con el fin de comprender los efectos del desarrollo sostenible en la región y el papel de la preservación ambiental en las áreas que carecen de protección y conservación. Para ello, se discutieron los proyectos de ley de regulación de las zonas de preservación de la Chapada dos Veadeiros y los problemas enfrentados con la presión agrícola, el turismo y los conflictos de interés a partir de la implementación del SNUC. Finalmente, como resultado, se verificó que las medidas adoptadas para la conservación del bioma del Cerrado, como la creación de parques nacionales y reservas, incluso con los desafíos, han contribuido significativamente a la preservación ambiental local.

Palabras clave: Preservación Ambiental. Lei 9.985/2000. Chapada dos Veadeiros.

INTRODUCTION

Environmental preservation is an issue of global importance, especially in regions of great biodiversity and environmental sensitivity, such as Chapada dos Veadeiros. This area stands out for its ecological relevance, hosting unique ecosystems of the Cerrado biome. The enactment of Law No. 9,985/2000, which establishes the National System of Conservation Units, emerges as an essential instrument in safeguarding these precious natural resources.

The Brazilian Cerrado is the second largest biome in the country and the most biodiverse savanna in the world. Its original area covered approximately 2,045,064 km², which corresponds to approximately 24% of the national territory (IBGE, 2019). The biome extends across 11 states, predominantly in Minas Gerais, Goiás, Tocantins, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Bahia, Maranhão, Piauí, São Paulo, and the Federal District, and faces several threats that compromise the integrity of the ecosystem. Among these challenges, the expansion of agricultural and livestock activities stands out, especially the production of grains such as soybeans. These practices are identified as the main drivers of deforestation in the region, contributing considerably to habitat loss and environmental degradation (Strassburg et al., 2017). Ferreira and Lin (2021) indicate that about half of the original Cerrado area has already been converted to planted pastures, annual crops, and other uses related to agriculture and livestock.

The devastation of the Cerrado compromises the preservation of endemic species, jeopardizes the region's water security, and contributes to the intensification of climate change. In addition, the loss of native vegetation cover is closely associated with increased illegal deforestation, habitat fragmentation, and increased pressure on protected areas.

Given this worrying situation, there is a clear and urgent need for effective measures to curb the advance of deforestation and promote the conservation of the Cerrado in Chapada dos Veadeiros. In this context, the enforcement and strengthening of environmental legislation becomes important. However, it is necessary to recognize that the effectiveness of these regulations is often compromised by a lack of enforcement and by political and economic pressure exerted by sectors interested in the uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources.

Therefore, the main objective of this article is to analyze Law No. 9,985/2000 and its importance in Chapada dos Veadeiros. Its specific objectives are to analyze the
sustainable development, highlighting the environmental preservation function of conservation areas, as well as discussing the importance of Chapada dos Veadeiros for the Cerrado biome, discussing bills to regulate conservation areas.

To this end, a literature review was conducted as a fundamental step, which consisted of searching, selecting, and critically analyzing previously published materials on the topic in databases such as the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), Virtual Library Network (RVBI), and sources such as the Legal Advisor (CONJU) and the Senate website to find scientific articles, books, theses, dissertations, technical reports, and legislation. The readings provided an understanding of the current state of knowledge about the main threats facing the region, as well as the environmental laws relevant to its preservation.

1 IMPORTANCE OF THE CERRADO AND THE CHAPADA DOS VEADEIROS

The Cerrado, classified as the second largest Brazilian biome, is recognized for its vast biodiversity and ecological richness, being important both in the environmental and economic context of the country. This region, characterized by unique vegetation that mixes savannas, shrubs, and grasses, is home to an impressive variety of flora and fauna species, many of which are endemic. Its importance transcends simple natural wealth; the Cerrado is essential for maintaining water resources, mitigating climate change, and promoting sustainable agriculture. (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

One of the main attributes of the Cerrado is its role as the cradle of waters. The biome is home to important springs that feed rivers that are important for water supply in several regions of Brazil, including river basins that support large urban centers and agricultural activities. The vegetation of the Cerrado acts as a water regulator, contributing to the recharge of aquifers and the prevention of soil erosion. With climate change and increased demand for water, the conservation of this biome becomes even more relevant. (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

In addition to its ecological functions, the Cerrado is an important economic area. Its vast expanse of land is used for agriculture and livestock farming, and it is one of the regions that contributes most to grain production in Brazil, such as soybeans and corn. However, this economic exploitation must be carried out in a sustainable manner to prevent environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. The development of sustainable agricultural practices is essential to balance production and preservation, ensuring that future generations can enjoy the natural resources of the Cerrado. (Vilarinho, 2023).

The Cerrado plays a significant role in mitigating climate change. Native vegetation sequesters carbon, contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The preservation of this biome is therefore a fundamental strategy in the fight against climate change and in promoting a sustainable future. The degradation of the Cerrado, resulting from deforestation and unsustainable agricultural practices, not only compromises local biodiversity, but also exacerbates environmental problems on a global scale. (Andrade; Souza; Almeida, 2020).

Thus, the importance of the Cerrado extends to its cultural and social relevance. Traditional communities, such as indigenous peoples and quilombolas, depend on this biome for their subsistence and the maintenance of their cultural practices. The value of the Cerrado goes beyond environmental conservation, as it also involves recognizing and respecting the practices and knowledge of these communities, which have historically lived in harmony with the environment. (Vilarinho, 2023).

1.1 Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park and the main environmental threats facing the Cerrado

The history of Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park dates to the 18th century, around 1750, when the region began to be populated with the establishment of the Veadeiros Farm by Mr. Francisco de Almeida. At that time, activities such as cattle ranching and the cultivation of wheat and coffee emerged on a small scale.

At the end of the 19th century, in 1892, the Central Plateau Exploration Commission, led by astronomer Luís Cruls, conducted expeditions through the plateau and surrounding areas with the aim of delimiting and surveying the area that would later become the capital of Brazil. (Andrade; Souza; Almeida, 2020).

The region was established in 1961 and is characterized as a natural gem covering a vast area of approximately 240,611 hectares, located in the Cerrado biome. It is home to incomparable riches: varied plant formations, hundreds of springs, and watercourses, as well as rock formations over a billion years old, giving the landscape a unique beauty that changes with the seasons. In addition, the Park preserves traces of ancient mining activities, an integral part of local history. (Andrade; Souza; Almeida, 2020).

Recognized as a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site in 2001, Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park's primary objectives are the preservation of biodiversity and geodiversity, combined with the promotion of scientific research, environmental education, and public visitation. Among the activities most enjoyed by visitors are hiking and waterfall bathing, providing an immersion in the vast landscapes of Chapada and a journey through the rich Cerrado biome, following ancient paths once traveled by prospectors. (Parque Nacional da Chapada dos Veadeiros, 2025).

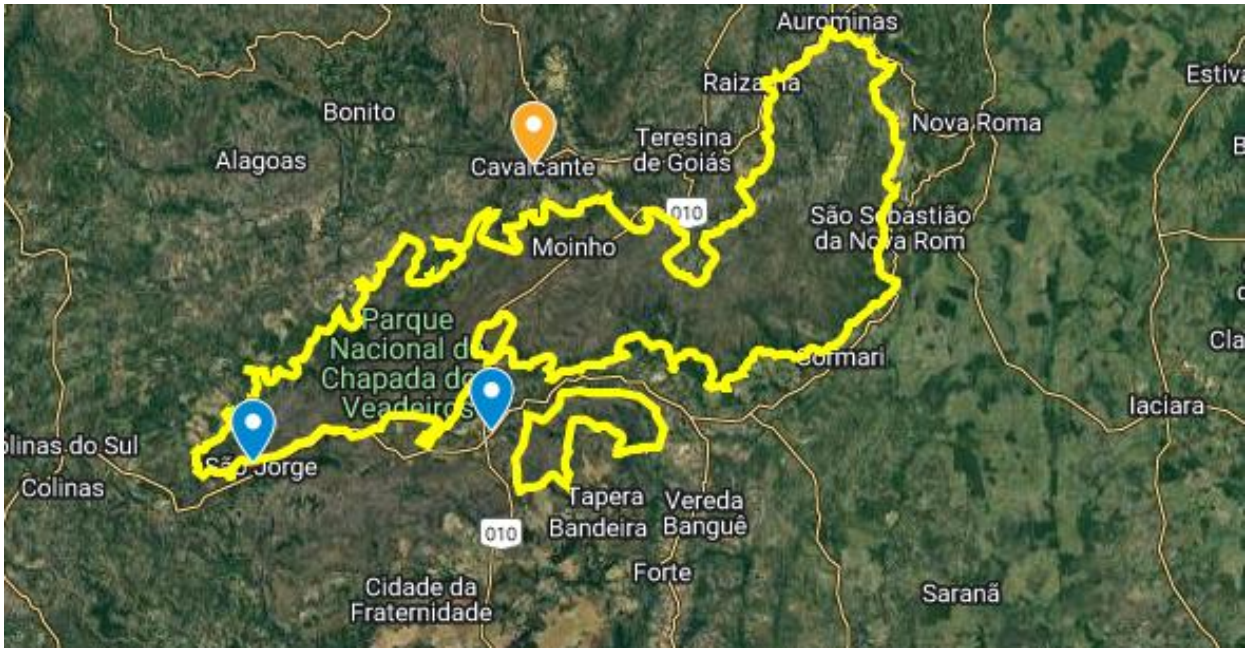
In terms of hydrography, Chapada dos Veadeiros is important as a drainage dispersal center, marked by the presence of rivers that carve V-shaped valleys. The Preto River stands out as the main watercourse in the region, a tributary of the Tocantins River, which forms several waterfalls along its course, with highlights being falls with heights of 80 and 120 meters. (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

About 50 animal species have been classified as rare, endemic, or endangered in the area, while 1,476 plant species have been identified, out of a total of 6,429 existing in the Cerrado biome. Among the most prominent plant species are the red earth tree, the wild cashew tree, the purple ipê tree, the copaiba tree, and the buriti palm, among others. As for fauna, mammals such as the marsh deer, pampas deer, jaguar, and maned wolf stand out, as well as birds such as the rhea, king vulture, and hawk. (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

In the economic context, tourism plays a significant role, with access to the park made possible by the village of São Jorge, connected to the city of Alto Paraíso de Goiás (Figure 1). The

main tourist attractions include the Preto River waterfalls, the Moon Valley, the Almécegas Waterfalls, Raizama, the hot springs, and the Abismo Waterfall, providing unique experiences of contact with nature and adventure. Managed by the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio), the unit is recognized as a regional reference in scientific research, environmental education, and public visitation. (Ribeiro; Franco, 2020).

Figure 1. Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park Coordination, Communication ICMBio.



Fonte: Google Maps, 2025.

The Cerrado, one of the richest biomes on the planet (MMA, 2007), faces a series of threats that compromise its ecological integrity and pose a significant challenge to its preservation. The main cause of these threats is the expansion of agribusiness over native vegetation, which has led to large-scale deforestation and habitat fragmentation. (Vilarinho, 2023).

Deforestation in Chapada dos Veadeiros, an area of extreme ecological importance in the Cerrado biome, has significant impacts not only on the soil but also on the region's water availability. The removal of native vegetation and soil compaction, often caused by the use of agricultural machinery and livestock farming, result in erosion processes that reduce the soil's water infiltration capacity.

This, in turn, intensifies surface runoff and sediment transport, compromising the quality of water resources and the sustainability of local ecosystems. In addition to environmental damage, deforestation directly affects traditional communities that depend on the Cerrado for their livelihoods,

such as indigenous peoples, riverine communities, and quilombolas, highlighting the interconnection between environmental conservation and social well-being in Chapada dos Veadeiros. (Vilarinho, 2023).

The data reveal an alarming scenario: from 2001 to 2019, more than 283,000 km² of the Cerrado were deforested, with the states of Tocantins, Maranhão, Mato Grosso, and Bahia accounting for more than 70% of deforestation during this period. The expansion of agribusiness, with grain cultivation and livestock farming, is identified as the main cause of this deforestation, with half of the original Cerrado area converted into pastures and agricultural areas. (Maboni, 2021)

Forest fires in the Cerrado Biome, whether caused by natural or anthropogenic factors, represent one of the main threats to protected areas, causing serious impacts on the environment, the economy, and society. These events result in the destruction of ecosystems, loss of biodiversity, and degradation of essential natural resources, in addition to generating significant economic losses and risks to the health and safety of local populations (Silva et al., 2024).

Deforestation of the Cerrado has profoundly affected Chapada dos Veadeiros. Although the protected area of the park functions as a refuge for biodiversity, the advance of deforestation around the park has considerable environmental, social, and ecological impacts. One example is ecological isolation (edge effect), in which deforestation in areas neighboring Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park creates a kind of island of native vegetation surrounded by monocultures, pastures, and degraded areas. This ecological isolation compromises the gene flow of animal and plant species; the migration of wildlife (such as jaguars, maned wolves, and migratory birds); and the balance of ecosystem services such as pollination, seed dispersal, and biological pest control (Fernandes, Castro, Amorin et al, 2023).

Chapada dos Veadeiros is considered one of the main water recharge areas in the Cerrado, with numerous streams, springs, and rivers. Deforestation in the surrounding area negatively affects the volume and quality of river water (Rio Preto, Tocantins, Paranã), the soil's ability to recharge aquifers, and promotes soil erosion and silting of watercourses (Fernandes, Castro; Amorin et al, 2023).

In this regard, in 2019, almost 1.5 million fires were detected in the Cerrado, with disastrous consequences for biodiversity and environmental balance. In 2021, 73 fires were recorded in the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park alone, the highest number since 2017. These fires, often deliberately started to clear land or as a form of soil management, have devastating consequences for biodiversity and contribute to the degradation of the Cerrado ecosystem (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

The replacement of native vegetation with pastures and agricultural crops favors the spread of forest fires, which can reach the interior of the park, especially during dry seasons; affecting

endemic and fire-sensitive fauna, which disrupts the natural cycle of the Cerrado, which is adapted to periodic fires but not to uncontrolled fires (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

In addition to deforestation and burning, other human activities, such as the installation of hydroelectric plants, hunting and trapping of animals, urban expansion, mining, and predatory extraction of flora species, also put pressure on the biome (MMA, 2007). These activities result in habitat loss, decreased biodiversity, and degradation of natural resources, affecting not only fauna and flora, but also local communities and indigenous peoples in Chapada dos Veadeiros who depend on the Cerrado for their subsistence and preservation of their culture (Ataíde, 2024).

The Chapada is home to a significant sociocultural diversity formed by traditional communities, quilombolas, and indigenous peoples. Among the best-known groups are the Kalunga, a remnant quilombo community composed of about 39 communities distributed in the municipalities of Cavalcante, Monte Alegre de Goiás, and Teresina de Goiás. Occupying an area of approximately 262,000 hectares, the Kalunga preserve ancestral practices of cultivation, extractivism, and sustainable management of the Cerrado. Their territory is considered an important stronghold of biodiversity, with more than 80% of the native vegetation preserved, in addition to hundreds of cataloged springs (Fiocruz, 2023).

In addition to the Kalunga, the Chapada is home to representatives of various indigenous peoples through the so-called Multiethnic Village, located near Alto Paraíso de Goiás. In this space, cultural encounters and immersion experiences take place with ethnic groups such as the Kayapó, Krahô, Guarani Mbyá, Fulni-ô, Kariri Xocó, Xavante, Yanomami, and representatives of the Upper Xingu (Fiocruz, 2025).

Another traditional group present in the region are the so-called chapadeiros, local populations recognized by the National Policy for the Sustainable Development of Traditional Peoples and Communities (PNPCT). These communities maintain ways of life based on family farming, sustainable use of natural resources, syncretic religious practices, and preservation of dialects and customs inherited from previous generations. Although little studied, they play an essential role in environmental conservation and the transmission of ecological knowledge about the Cerrado.

In addition, charcoal production, eucalyptus and pine monocultures, and real estate speculation also contribute to the degradation of the Cerrado, causing significant socio-environmental impacts and compromising the quality of life of local populations. Burning, which is part of the natural ecology of the Cerrado, has become a tool for soil management and a method for clearing land, but it often gets out of control and causes irreparable damage to the biome (Silva; Araújo, 2023).

The expansion of illegal construction in the Chapada dos Veadeiros region has intensified, as evidenced by the recent operation carried out by the Goiás Public Prosecutor's Office (MPGO) in Cavalcante, where more than 100 irregular plots were fined. During the 2024 inspection, developments without environmental licenses were identified, including a luxury resort and three inns, in addition to serious environmental violations, such as deforestation and contamination of water resources (ICMBio, 2024).

These illegal practices, motivated by growing interest in the region's natural attractions, not only degrade the environment but also create legal and economic risks for both sellers and buyers. The actions of the MPGO, in conjunction with environmental and safety agencies, resulted in fines exceeding R$ 500,000.00 (five hundred thousand reais) and the embargo of irregular construction projects, highlighting the urgent need for regulation and awareness to preserve the natural heritage of Chapada dos Veadeiros (Feitosa, 2024).

2 ANALYSES OF LAW 9.985/2000 AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION: THE CASE OF CHAPADA DOS VEADEIROS

Law 9.985/2000, which establishes the National System of Nature Conservation Units (SNUC), represents a significant legal milestone for environmental protection in Brazil. This legislation aims to regulate Article 225 of the Federal Constitution, establishing criteria and standards for the creation, implementation, and management of conservation units, which are essential for the preservation of ecosystems and biodiversity.

Chapada dos Veadeiros, located in the state of Goiás, is an emblematic example of the application of this law, demonstrating how conservation policies can be implemented and the challenges faced in protecting natural areas of great importance (Alvares, 2024).

Chapada dos Veadeiros, considered a Natural Heritage Site by UNESCO, is protected by several categories of conservation units that are part of the SNUC. The definition of “conservation unit” (Art. 2, I) as a legally established territorial space for conservation with defined boundaries is reflected in the management of Chapada.

This area is composed of the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, which falls under the category of integral protection, according to art. 2, VI, which implies the maintenance of ecosystems free from changes caused by human interference. The management of these units aims to ensure the long-term preservation of habitats and ecosystems, preventing the simplification of natural systems, as described in art. 2, V (Brazil, 2000).

Law 9.985/2000 also emphasizes the concept of “in situ conservation” (Article 2, VII), which is fundamental for Chapada dos Veadeiros, given that the conservation of ecosystems and the

maintenance of viable populations of species in their natural habitats are important for environmental sustainability. Proper management (Article 2, VIII) and sustainable use (Article 2, XI) are essential practices for balancing preservation with human development in the region, especially in the buffer zones and ecological corridors surrounding the park (Article 2, XVIII and XIX) (Silva et al., 2024).

However, the enforcement of Law 9.985/2000 faces significant challenges in Chapada dos Veadeiros, especially about the management of external pressures, such as the advance of agriculture, the expansion of tourism, and mining.

2.2 From the national system of nature conservation units (SNUC)

Chapada dos Veadeiros, an area of environmental, geological, and cultural importance, is a clear example of how the SNUC contributes to the protection of sensitive ecosystems. The objectives of the SNUC, such as the preservation and restoration of the diversity of natural ecosystems (Art. 4, III), and the protection of natural landscapes of outstanding scenic beauty (Art. 4, VI), are directly applicable to the management of Chapada, where scenic beauty and biodiversity are determining factors for its conservation (Lima and Franco, 2024).

In addition, Law 9.985/2000 provides essential guidelines for the effective management of conservation units, including the participation of society and local populations in the creation and management of these units (Art. 5, II and III). In Chapada dos Veadeiros, this participation is fundamental, as interaction between the local community and environmental authorities ensures that economic and social needs are considered in the preservation process. The economic sustainability of conservation units (Art. 5, VI) is another vital aspect, especially in areas such as Chapada, where ecotourism is an important source of income for the local population (Alvares, 2024).

2.3 Categorizations, creation, implementation, and management

Chapter III of Law 9.985/2000 is fundamental to the structuring of the SNUC, establishing a detailed classification of conservation units based on their objectives and levels of human intervention. Integral Protection Units, which include categories such as Ecological Stations, Biological Reserves, National Parks, Natural Monuments, and Wildlife Refuges, are designed to preserve nature with minimal human interference. These units aim to protect ecosystems and species in their natural states, allowing only indirect and regulated uses of resources. Restrictions on public visitation and limitations on environmental changes ensure that the areas maintain their ecological integrity, which is essential for the preservation of biodiversity and the conduct of scientific research (Alvares, 2024).

On the other hand, Sustainable Use Units, such as Environmental Protection Areas, National Forests, and Extractive Reserves, seek to balance conservation with the sustainable use of natural resources. These categories allow for some degree of occupation and use of resources, provided that the principles of sustainability and conservation are respected. The management of these units is designed to support traditional and sustainable practices, integrate local populations, and ensure the protection of natural resources while promoting harmonious coexistence between conservation and development. The diversity in categories and objectives reflects the need for strategies adapted to the varied characteristics of Brazilian ecosystems and social demands, promoting a conservation model that is both effective and fair (Rego et al., 2021).

Chapter IV of this Law outlines the procedures for the creation, implementation, and management of conservation units, providing an essential regulatory framework for the protection and sustainable use of natural resources. Articles such as Art. 22 and Art. 22-A establish guidelines for the creation of conservation units, requiring technical studies and public consultations to ensure that areas are properly assessed and adjusted to local environmental and social needs. The possibility of imposing provisional administrative limitations to prevent environmental damage prior to the creation of a conservation unit reinforces the commitment to the early protection of ecosystems (Barbosa, Selgalerba, and Brandão, 2023).

The case of Chapada dos Veadeiros illustrates the practical application of these legal provisions. However, the implementation of the SNUC brought a more structured approach to the management of this and other conservation units. Article 27, which requires the preparation of Management Plans, is a significant example of this evolution. The Management Plan for Chapada dos Veadeiros integrates conservation practices with sustainable development, reflecting the principles established by the SNUC.

2.4 Incentives, exemptions, and penalties

Chapter V of the Law is important to ensure that protective measures are effective, assigning responsibilities and consequences to offenders who cause damage to conservation units and their natural attributes. Articles such as Art. 38 and Art. 39 detail the penalties and aggravating circumstances associated with environmental crimes, reinforcing the protection of conservation units, such as Chapada dos Veadeiros (Brazil, 2000).

Article 38 of Law 9.985/2000 stipulates that any action or omission that causes damage to the natural attributes of conservation units, including buffer zones and ecological corridors, is subject to penalties provided for by law. This is particularly relevant for Chapada dos Veadeiros, where the

protection of adjacent areas and the prevention of negative impacts are essential to maintain the integrity of ecosystems (Lima and Franco, 2024).

Article 39, by increasing penalties for damage affecting endangered species, highlights the importance of protecting the region's unique biodiversity. This increase is important for Chapada dos Veadeiros (Brazil, 2000).

Thus, Law 9.985/2000, through its provisions on penalties and aggravating factors, provides a solid legal basis for the preservation of Chapada dos Veadeiros and other conservation units, promoting more effective and responsible environmental manage.

2.5 From the biosphere reserves

Chapter VI of Law 9.985/2000 addresses Biosphere Reserves, an internationally adopted model for the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources. This model aims to balance environmental preservation with sustainable development, serving as an important tool for biodiversity conservation and improving the quality of life of populations (Alvares, 2024).

The Biosphere Reserve, as defined in Article 41 of the Law, consists of core areas, buffer zones, and transition zones. The core areas are intended for the integral protection of nature, ensuring that the critical ecosystems of Chapada dos Veadeiros are preserved with minimal human interference.

The buffer zones surround these areas and allow activities that do not cause damage to the protected core areas, while the transition zones are areas where natural resource management is planned in a participatory and sustainable manner. This structure allows for a balanced approach between conservation and resource use, which is essential for a region (Brazil, 2000).

The management of Biosphere Reserves is carried out by a Deliberative Council, which includes representatives from public institutions, civil society organizations, and the resident population. This ensures participatory and transparent management, which is important for the integration of local interests and the effective implementation of conservation policies.

The inclusion of Chapada dos Veadeiros in UNESCO's “Man and the Biosphere – MAB” program reinforces its global role in biodiversity preservation and sustainable development. This integration with UNESCO provides access to international networks of knowledge and support, enhancing conservation efforts and promoting sustainable development in the region (Barbosa, Selgalerba, and Brandão, 2023).

Therefore, the implementation and management of Biosphere Reserves in Chapada dos Veadeiros not only promote environmental protection and biodiversity preservation, but also

encourage community participation and sustainable development, aligning with international goals for conservation and improvement of quality of life (Barbosa, Selgalerba, and Brandão, 2023).

2.6 General and transitional provisions

Chapter VII of the law addresses general and transitional provisions, establishing important guidelines for the implementation and maintenance of conservation units, including Chapada dos Veadeiros (Alvares, 2024).

The law guarantees that traditional populations residing in conservation units, such as Chapada dos Veadeiros, will be compensated for existing improvements and relocated under agreed conditions. This measure is essential to minimize the impacts of the creation and expansion of conservation units on these communities, ensuring that their ways of life and sources of livelihood are respected. The government must prioritize the resettlement of these populations and establish rules to reconcile their presence with the objectives of the unit until the resettlement is effective (Alvares, 2024).

Article 43 determines that the government must conduct a national survey of vacant lands to define areas designated for conservation, while Article 44 establishes that oceanic and coastal islands must be prioritized for nature protection. In the context of Chapada dos Veadeiros, this guideline ensures that areas critical for environmental conservation are not disregarded or designated for inappropriate uses, preserving the ecological integrity of the region (Brazil, 2000).

The installation of infrastructure in conservation units, such as Chapada dos Veadeiros, must be previously approved by the responsible agency, and those responsible for water supply and electricity generation must contribute financially to the protection and implementation of these units. These measures aim to ensure that infrastructure development does not compromise conservation objectives and that the beneficiaries of environmental protection contribute to the maintenance of the unit (Rego et al., 2021).

The National Register of Conservation Units, maintained by the Ministry of the Environment, is an important tool for monitoring and managing conservation units. Article 51 provides for the biannual submission of reports to the National Congress on the status of federal units, which allows for continuous evaluation and the implementation of appropriate policies. Ibama is also responsible for updating lists of endangered species and regulating the capture of specimens for captive breeding programs (Brazil, 2000).

The law provides for the reassessment of conservation units created under previous legislation to ensure their compliance with the categories and functions established by Law 9.985/2000. In addition, the responsible agencies must establish working groups to deal with overlaps

between indigenous areas and conservation units, ensuring the participation of the communities involved (Brazil, 2000).

3 ANALYSIS OF EVOLVING LAWS ON THE NATIONAL PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL (PNCP)

The protection of protected areas, such as national parks, nature reserves, and conservation areas, is essential for preserving biodiversity, maintaining healthy ecosystems, and ensuring the well-being of the human communities that depend on these areas.

Environmental laws establish the legal framework necessary to create, manage, and protect protected areas. They define the criteria for the designation and delimitation of these areas, establish conservation objectives, and provide guidance on how these areas should be managed. In addition, environmental laws often assign authority to government agencies responsible for the administration of protected areas and establish penalties for those who violate environmental regulations (Boaventura et al., 2020).

Furthermore, environmental laws often include specific provisions related to the sustainable use of natural resources, including sustainable forest management. These provisions help to ensure that activities related to paper production are carried out responsibly and in accordance with the conservation objectives of protected areas (Amaral, 2022).

3.1 Decree n.º 70.492/972

O Decreen.º 70.492, May 11, 1972, represents an important milestone in the history of environmental preservation in Brazil, giving a new name and promoting significant changes to the Tocantins National Park, which was renamed Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park.

Article 1 of the decree made the name change official, recognizing the park's importance and uniqueness as part of Chapada dos Veadeiros, an area of rare natural beauty and exuberant biodiversity. With this, the government reaffirmed its commitment to protecting and conserving this environmental heritage.

Articles 2, 3, and 4 established the new territorial boundaries of the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, detailing its geographical limits and defining its total area, which covers 171,924.54 hectares. These measures aimed to ensure the ecological integrity of the park, protecting its natural ecosystems and natural resources.

In addition, the decree authorized the Ministry of Agriculture, through the Brazilian Institute of Forest Development, to carry out expropriations and obtain land donations necessary for the implementation and expansion of the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park.

Finally, the decree determined that the Ministry of Agriculture should draft the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park Regulations and the necessary instructions for their implementation, ensuring the effective application of the established protection and conservation measures.

Thus, Decree 70.492/1972 represented an important step in the consolidation of the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park as a protected area of inestimable value for Brazil's biodiversity and natural heritage.

3.2 Law No. 9.985/00 - Management Plan, art. 2, item XVII

Article 2, paragraph XVII, of Law no 9.985/2000 defines the management plan as a fundamental technical document for the management of conservation units, including the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park. This plan is based on the general objectives of the conservation unit and establishes guidelines for the use of the area and management of natural resources present.

One of the essential elements of the management plan is zoning, which consists in dividing the area of the conservation unit into zones with different levels of protection and permitted uses. These zones may include intensive use areas, sustainable use areas and integral protection areas, each with its own specific rules and restrictions. Zoning is essential to ensure that human activities are compatible with the conservation objectives of the unit, avoiding negative impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity (Brazil, 2000).

In addition to zoning, the management plan also establishes rules for the management of natural resources present in the protected area. This includes measures for the conservation of fauna and flora, the protection of fragile ecosystems, the prevention of forest fires, the restoration of degraded areas and other actions aimed at ensuring the environmental sustainability of the conservation unit (Brazil, 2000).

Another aspect addressed by the management plan are the physical structures necessary to manage the unit, such as trails, lookouts, visitor centers, checkpoints and accommodations for employees and contribute to the proper administration and monitoring of the protected area.

3.3 Law nº 12.651/2012 - Forest Code

Law 12.651/2012, known as the Forest Code, is a fundamental legislation for the protection of native vegetation and the sustainable management of natural resources in Brazil. It establishes general rules on the preservation of areas of native vegetation, such as the Cerrado, and defines instruments for the control and prevention of forest fires, in addition to promoting the sustainable development of the country.

In the context of Cerrado, the Forest Code is important in the conservation of this biome so important for biodiversity and environmental balance. The implementation of this law is especially relevant for the Cerrado due to the following aspects: Preservation of native vegetation; Sustainable development; incentives to conservation; Land regularization; Research and innovation.

The Forest Code establishes the mandatory maintenance of permanent preservation areas (APPs) and legal reserve in rural properties, ensuring the protection of remnants of Cerrado and other associated ecosystems. The law recognizes the importance of agricultural activity for the Brazilian economy, but seeks to reconcile it with environmental preservation, promoting sustainable management practices of soil and natural resources (Leite, 2021)

The Forest Code provides economic and financial instruments to encourage the preservation of native vegetation, such as payment for environmental services and compensation for legal reserves. In addition, it establishes rules for the regularization of irregularly occupied areas, which contributes to the reduction of illegal deforestation and the recovery of degraded areas in the Cerrado (Leite, 2021). The Forest Code encourages scientific and technological research aimed at the sustainable use of natural resources, including the development of management techniques and restoration of Cerrado ecosystems (Leite, 2021).

3.4 Decreto 5/2017 – Ampliação do Parque Nacional da Chapada dos Veadeiros

The Decree of June 5, 2017 marks an important milestone in the history of environmental conservation in Brazil by expanding the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park. Located in the municipalities of Alto Paraíso de Goiás, Cavalcante, Nova Roma, Teresina de Goiás and São João da Aliança, in the state of Goiás, this decree represents a renewed commitment to the preservation of biodiversity and natural ecosystems.

The expansion of the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, to a total area of approximately 240,611 hectares, was motivated by several noble and fundamental objectives. The expansion of the Park was intended to ensure the durability of ecosystem services, recognizing the benefits that natural ecosystems provide for the maintenance of life on Earth. Such services include climate regulation, soil conservation, water purification, among others, fundamental to ecological balance and human well-being.

Thus, the Decree seeks to provide the development of recreational activities in contact with nature and ecological tourism. Recognizing the economic and social potential of ecotourism, the government has demonstrated its commitment to promoting sustainable practices that generate benefits for local communities without compromising the environmental integrity of the region.

In addition to the physical expansion of the park, the decree also established measures related to its management and protection. This includes the definition of the buffer zone, the administration by the competent institution, the declaration of public utility of rural properties existing within the boundaries of the park, among other provisions.

4 CONCLUSION

It is concluded that, although Law 9.985/2000 is an important milestone in the protection of the Cerrado biome, there is a constant need to improve public policies and regulations, especially given the growing pressure from agribusiness and economic activities that directly impact the biome. In addition to a rigorous and updated application of environmental legislation, it is essential to promote greater integration between different sectors of society, such as government, companies and non-governmental organizations, so that joint actions can ensure the sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, sustainable development in the Cerrado requires not only the compatibility between the economic advancement provided by agribusiness and environmental conservation, but also investments in clean technologies, environmental education for local communities and tax incentives for more responsible agricultural practices. These measures are essential to protect key ecosystem services, such as climate regulation, the maintenance of water cycles and the preservation of rich biodiversity, ensuring the continuity of this natural heritage for future generations.

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This version was originally submitted in Portuguese and translated into English with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence.

Editor responsável: Thiago Henrique Costa Silva.