

Nature tourists monitoring and management with help of the educational nature paths

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1. Nature (or ecological) tourism in Russia and in other countries becomes during the last years more and more popular. This type of tourism allows organizing the visitor flows in such a way that will affect the nature minimally. It means that the tourists have not to make the unfavorable influence to the nature complexes of the territory where they spend their free time. Therefore this form of the recreational activity is the most acceptable in recreational and protected areas of different rank, such as national and nature parks as well as nature reserves.
2. One of the most effective methods of monitoring and management of tourists on the such territories are the ecological routes organized as the educational nature paths. Educational nature paths are the special tourist routes that allow to combine the rest with the environmental education and the nature protection. They can give the visitors all the necessary ecological knowledge and show them all the sites of importance and at the same time direct the visitors in the less vulnerable places of the territory.
3. The visitors' monitoring is conducted by their registration in the starting point of the path. Not only the visitors' number but also their arrival purpose and choosing category of the route are fixed. In a case of reaching of the maximum possible load on any of the paths the visitors are offered to use another route or they are stopped in the starting point. In necessity the recreational capacity could be raised with the help of the educational nature paths. It could be reached by the improving of the paths, by growing of duration and extension of the routes and by the widening of the paths network.