

National natural parks of the Republic of Kazakhstan: analysis, problems and development

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Abstract - The issues of studying the state national natural parks are particularly relevant and important from the point of view of tourism development in the country as a whole. Currently, due to the growing popularity of eco-tourism and infrastructure development of national parks, the importance of these tourist attractions is constantly increasing. This study examines the national natural parks of Kazakhstan, the existing problems of financing necessary for the repair of roads and buildings, water-supply facilities, sewage facilities and other infrastructure components, the lack of guides personnel, the lack of accommodation facilities close to some state national natural parks – guest houses, lodges, hotels, holiday homes and motels, tent camps, the lack of volunteers among students with a specialization in "Tourism" and others. The analysis of tariffs for the provision of tourist trails, viewing platforms, bivouac glades calculated for one person per day, as well as the amount for the provision of tent camps or places in the state national parks and state natural reserves of the Republic of Kazakhstan is conducted. In the sector of tourism and recreation activities, a protection regime that ensures the preservation of natural complexes and objects of the state nature reserve fund is established, regulated tourist and recreational use is allowed (except hunting) in the territory of this fund, including the organization of tourist routes, trails, the bivouac camping and viewing platforms, beaches, boat stations, rental centers of water transport and beach equipment, taking into account the norms of recreational loads.

Keywords - state nature reserve; state national Natural Park; recreation; hunting; conservation area; ecological tourism.

I. INTRODUCTION

The relevance of the chosen research topic lies in the fact that Kazakhstan national legislation makes the state national natural parks responsible for the important tasks of development and implementation of scientific methods of nature protection, organization and conducting of environmental monitoring in order to preserve or restore the disturbed natural complexes, unique and standard natural

zones and objects. For national parks, located mainly in the forest zone, ecological monitoring of forests occupies the main place among other types of environmental monitoring - soil, groundwater, air and others.

Currently, interest in state national natural parks has increased significantly, as suggested by numerous works, as well as the close attention of state organizations. Modern tourism studies cover the development and management of state-owned national natural parks [3] and tourist satisfaction [2], population life quality [8], [9], [10].

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS (MODEL)

Methods. The following scientific research methods were used in the work: the method of deduction used to understand the essence of the national parks development; the method of analysis was used to assess the current status of the state national parks of the country, identify factors; the method of synthesis was used to obtain summarized results of the study; the method of comparison was used to justify the factors and conditions affecting the development of Kazakhstan's state national parks.

Approach. The authors use a descriptive approach to review published studies on the development of state national natural parks, with a particular focus on the analyzed elements, the scientific journals that consider this study. The study is based on obtaining, analyzing and summarizing experimental data.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the literature analysis have shown interest in the study of state national parks in Kazakhstan. This interest is explained by the attractiveness of tourists, the need to promote their sustainable management. The development of excursions by the State National Natural Park (SNNP) creates an opportunity for the development of

the country's economy, benefits the local population and its guests [7].

The State National Natural Park (hereinafter to be referred to as the - SNNP) is a specially protected natural area with the status of an environmental and scientific institution, intended for the conservation of biological and landscape diversity, using in environmental, ecological, educational, scientific, tourist and recreational purposes of unique natural complexes and objects of the state natural reserve Fund which is of special ecological, scientific, historical, cultural and recreational value [1].

The list of state national natural parks and state natural reserves is presented in table 1.

TABLE I. STATE NATIONAL NATURAL PARKS AND STATE NATURAL RESERVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

No.	Name
1	Republican state institution "State Nature Reserve "Akzhaiyk"
2	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Altun-Emel"
3	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Buiratau" ("Burabay")
4	Republican state institution "Zhongar-Alatau State National Natural Park"
5	Republican state institution "Ile-Alatau State Natural Park"
6	Republican state institution "Irgiz-Turgay State Natural Reserve"
7	Republican state institution "Karkaraly State National Natural Park"
8	Republican state institution "Katon-Karagay State National Natural Park"
9	Republican state institution "Kokshetau" State National Natural Park"
10	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Kolsay Kolderi"
11	Republican state institution "Sairam-Ugam State National Nature Park"
12	Republican state institution "State Forest Natural Reserve "Semey Ormany"
13	Republican state institution "Charyn State National Natural Park"

^a Source: Official website Zakon.kz <https://zakon.uchet.kz/rus/docs/V1700015282>

It should be noted that the Sairam-Ugam, "Burabay", "Altun-Emel" nature parks are open all year round, and the rest of the national natural parks carry out tourism activities seasonally, from April to November. Kazakhstan has officially approved the size of tariffs for the provision of tourist trails, viewing platforms, bivouac glades calculated for one person per day (table 2).

TABLE II. THE SIZE OF THE TARIFF FOR THE PROVISION OF TOURIST TRAILS, VIEWING PLATFORMS, BIVOUAC GLADES CALCULATED FOR ONE PERSON PER DAY

No.	Name	Amount (Kazakhstan tenge, KZT)	Dollar amount at the exchange rate of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan as of 24.05.2019 1 dollar = 378.01 tenge
1	Republican state institution "State Nature Reserve "Akzhaiyk"	625	1.65
2	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Altun-Emel"	800	2.12

	institution "State National Natural Park "Altun-Emel"		
3	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Buiratau" ("Burabay")	149	0.39
4	Republican state institution "Zhongar-Alatau State National Natural Park"	500	1.32
5	Republican state institution "Ile-Alatau State Natural Park"	200	0.53
6	Republican state institution "Irgiz-Turgay State Natural Reserve"	463	1.22
7	Republican state institution "Karkaraly State National Natural Park"	0,1 Monthly Calculation Index (1 MCI in 2019 year =2525) (2,525)	0.01
8	Republican state institution "Katon-Karagay State National Natural Park"	358	0.95
9	Republican state institution "Kokshetau" State National Natural Park"	400	1.06
10	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Kolsay Kolderi"	500	1.32
11	Republican state institution "Sairam-Ugam State National Nature Park"	200	0.53
12	Republican state institution "State Forest Natural Reserve "Semey Ormany"	300	0.79
13	Republican state institution "Charyn State National Natural Park"	500	1.32

^b Source: Official website Zakon.kz. <https://zakon.uchet.kz/rus/docs/V1700015282> [11]

Territories of the state national natural parks and state natural reserves of the Republic of Kazakhstan provide tent camping opportunity or places for tents per square meter per day (Table 3).

TABLE III. PROVISION OF TENT CAMPS OR PLACES FOR TENTS IN STATE NATIONAL NATURAL PARKS AND STATE NATURAL RESERVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

No.	Name	Amount (Kazakhstan tenge, KZT)	Dollar amount at the exchange rate of the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan as of 24.05.2019 1 dollar = 378.01 tenge
1	Republican state institution "State Nature Reserve "Akzhaiyk"	-	-
2	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Altun-Emel" (Note:	2000	5.29

	counting per one tent)		
3	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Buiratau" ("Burabay") (Note: per square meter per day)	39	0.10
4	Republican state institution "Zhongar-Alatau State National Natural Park" (Note: per square meter per day)	1050	2.78
5	Republican state institution "Ile-Alatau State National Park" (Note: per person)	575	1.52
6	Republican state institution "Irgiz-Turgay State Natural Reserve"	-	-
7	Republican state institution "Karkaraly State National Natural Park"	750	1.98
8	Republican state institution "Katon-Karagay State National Natural Park" (Note: per square meter per day)	1050	2.78
9	Republican state institution "Kokshetau" State National Natural Park"	-	-
10	Republican state institution "State National Natural Park "Kolsay Kolderi" (Note: one camping site per day)	750	1.98
11	Republican state institution "Sairam-Ugam State National Nature Park"	-	-
12	Republican state institution "State Forest Natural Reserve "Semey Ormany"	45	0.12
13	Republican state institution "Charyn State National Natural Park" (Note: per square meter per day)	25	0.03

^c Source: Official website Zakon.kz. <https://zakon.uchet.kz/rus/docs/V1700015282> [11]

Table 3 shows that three state national natural parks and one state natural reserve of the Republic of Kazakhstan do not have accommodation places, causing difficulties for tourists [4].

There are few permanent guides in the territories of the state national natural parks. Other national parks – Altun-Emel, Buiratau, Kokshetau, Katon-Karagay, Charyn, Sairam-Ugam and Karkaraly have on average 2 guides. SNNP Ile-Alatau, Burabay, Kolsay Kolderi do not have guides. In this regard, it is recommended to announce a competition of volunteers among the students with the specialization in "Tourism", as well as practical traineeship of students and etc.

The problem of catering service in the territories of state national natural parks. Let us consider the availability of food facilities, places of accommodation in the state national parks. In the territory of state national

natural parks - Altun-Emel, Ile-Alatau, Kolsay Kolderi, Karkaraly, Charyn, Sairam-Ugam there are food facilities. In the territory of other parks - Burabay, Buiratau, Zhongar-Alatau, Katon-Karagay, Kokshetau there are no food facilities.

Let us consider the availability of accommodation facilities in the territories of state national natural parks [5]. It is revealed that many national parks have in their territories the following accommodation facilities – hotels, guest houses, lodges, holiday homes and motels.

State national natural parks hold various marketing activities to attract tourists. A lot of colorful booklets, brochures, guidebooks, maps, posters, books, billboards and advertising panels have been designed, Internet resources, websites are actively working, videos have been made. State national natural parks and reserves of Kazakhstan actively participate in exhibitions and fairs.

The increase in the attractiveness of national parks for tourists should be constantly supported by the development of tourism infrastructure and the expansion of the range of services that require certain investments and organizational measures at the local level [6]. For example, the building of small hotels and cottages tourists accommodation, equipment of trails and campsites, rental of tourist equipment, restoration and repair of historical and cultural monuments, the organization and maintenance of local crafts, national holidays and others, in order to expand transport infrastructure and ensure transport accessibility of tourist facilities.

Problems of transport accessibility of the state national natural parks. Taking into account that the most popular tourist places (resort areas, tourist bases, sanatoriums, national parks, tourist routes) are located outside the regional centers, one of the main factors of choosing a vacation destination is the condition for a comfortable and safe journey to the destination. In Kazakhstan, huge funds are massively invested in the repair of roads, but there are remote areas where poor road quality is clearly noticeable, buses/private taxi services refuse to drive there or overprice transport services.

IV. CONCLUSION

There are problems in the activities of national parks: the lack of viewing platforms and the possibility of horse and camels riding in the national parks - the lack of its own vehicle park, as a consequence, transport services inside the parks are not provided; the lack of electricity in tourist bases, hotels and foresters' houses located in the Park; the lack of grader road to improve the road surface of the unsealed road between the objects; the lack of water resources for the inhabitants of the national natural Park; lack of transport for movement in the national nature Park for tourists; no signposts along the roads leading to the national nature Park.

The main problem is financing. Bureaucratic and tax barriers arise in the process of gaining financial assistance. The state budget provides funds for the payment of wages, special clothing, combustive and lubricating materials, but federal funds are not provided for the improvement of the

national natural Park territory. There is a need for training courses for tour guides in the parks.

In order to create conditions for the development of tourism and recreation in the context of sustainable development of the following activities it is advisable: to attract investment in tourism infrastructure; promote competitive tourist offer in the territory of state national parks; stimulate the entrepreneurial activity of the local population in the field of tourism.

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