

The national parks and reserves of Russia and the USA. Comparative description



© QT Luong / terragalleria.com

The structure of the project

- The problems
- The idea
- The aims
- The hypothesis
- The methods
- The stages
- The comparison of national parks and reserves of Russia and the USA
- The list of some national parks and reserves of Russia and the USA
- The list of information

The problems



The problems

The nature of Russia is in danger. It is absolutely necessary to save wildlife. But national parks and reserves in Russia have a lot of problems:

1. low financing and own income
2. the lack of employees
3. officials and businessmen's efforts to occupy the land of national parks and reserves for their egoistic purposes
4. the absence of a separate federal service for managing national parks and reserves
5. the low rate of the land for protected areas (more national parks and reserves should be set up)

The problems

- 6. the live-support of local population
- 7. the protection of cultural objects
- 8. complicated problems with legislation
- 9. high rate of poaching
- 10. Accessibility for people

It is absolutely necessary to solve these problems because otherwise the system of national parks and reserves in Russia will be in great danger



The idea

- We understand that nature conservation is a task of primary importance. If we want to solve the problems of Russian national parks and reserves, we should examine the foreign experience in this field.
- The system of national parks in the USA is one of the best in the world. That's why we decided to compare the national parks and reserves of Russia with the national parks of the USA. We believe that in this case we shall be able to offer the ways of solving our problems and make our personal contribution in the process of nature conservation.
- Also our aim is to create a reference book on the most interesting reserves and national parks in Russia and the USA. This reference book may be used at the lessons of geography and biology.



The aims of the project

- To show the main types of protected areas and the status of national parks and reserves in this aim.
- To compare the national parks of the USA and the national parks and reserves of Russia, using the following criteria:
- To compare the national parks of the USA and reserves of Russia, using the following criteria:
 - A) the quantity of the national parks and reserves
 - B) the square of the national parks and reserves
 - C) the quantity of the employees
 - D) financing and the own income
 - E) the quantity of the tourists
 - F) the development in future
 - G) the ways of management

The aims of the project

- h) the methods of protection against officials, businessmen and poachers
- i) the differences in legislation
- j) the social and cultural aspects



The hypothesis of the project

- The problem

1. Low financing and the own income

How to solve it

- a) to use private resources
- b) to develop advertisement
- c) to develop tourism
- d) to fight with corruption

2. The lack of employees

- e) to increase the salary
- f) to use modern techniques (it will be more interesting for qualified specialists)

3. Officials and businessmen's efforts to occupy the land

- g) to use volunteers' help
- h) to make the laws more drastic

The hypothesis of the project

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4. The absence of separate service | i) to create a separate service for managing the national parks and reserves |
| 5. The low rate of the land for protected areas The life-support of local population | j) to organize more national parks and reserves
k) to offer work for local people (they can be rangers, builders, guides etc,) |
| 6. The protection of cultural objects | l) to use volunteers' help
m) to use own financial resources |
| 7. The complicated problems with law | n) to put the laws to rights according to the demands of nature conservation |

The hypothesis of the project

8. The high rate of poaching

o) to improve the guard service
in the national parks and
reserves

9. Accesibility for people

p) to develop tourism

q) to create railroads
connecting the national

r) parks and reserves with cities
and towns

The hypothesis of the project

We believe that the system of the national parks and reserves in Russia has a lot of opportunities to become better. It can be as well-organized as the system of the national parks and reserves in the USA. This aim can be achieved due to:

- a) the increase of financing and the own income
- b) improving the management and the guard service
- c) putting the laws to rights and making them more drastic



The methods of investigation

Making the project we used the following methods:

- 1) Getting information from the Internet and special books
- 2) Working with the statistics
 - comparing the numerals
 - making conclusions
 - presenting them with the help of a table
- 3) Working with the facts
 - choosing the necessary information from the texts
 - comparing the facts
 - making conclusions



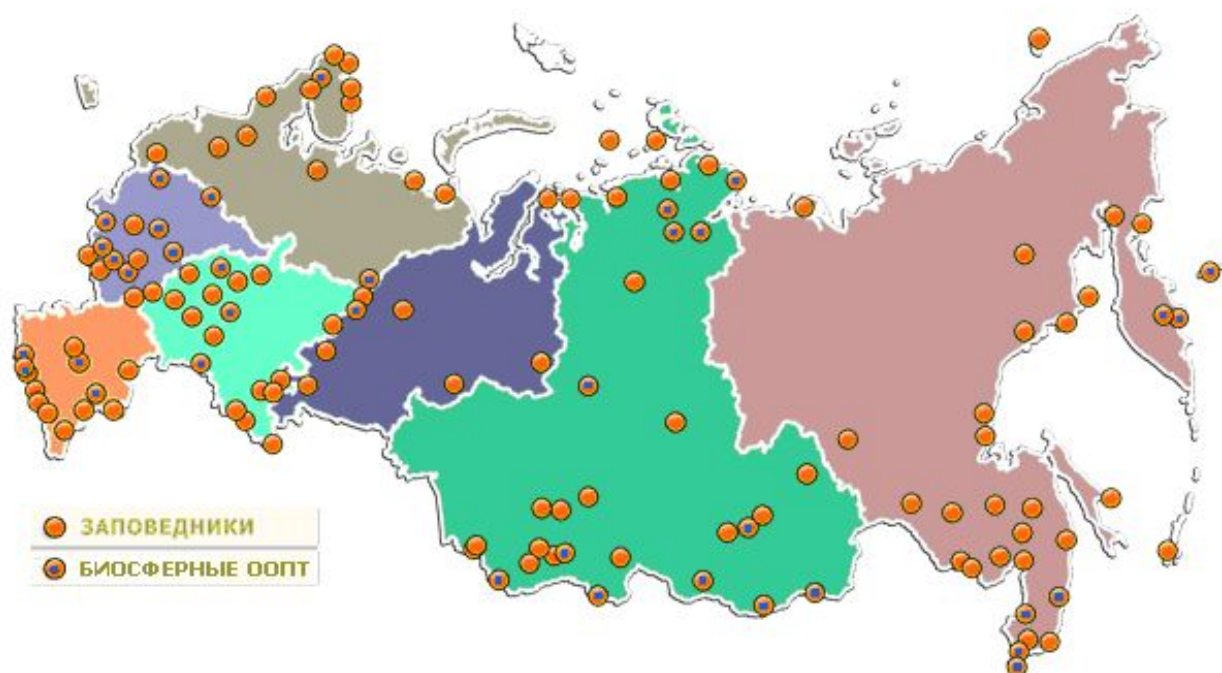
The stages of making the project

- 1) Discussing different themes and choosing the best one
- 2) Proposing the problems, ideas and the aims of the project
- 3) Proposing the hypothesis of the project
- 4) Checking the hypothesis and making conclusions (Investigation)
- 5) Showing the results of the investigation with the help of the presentation

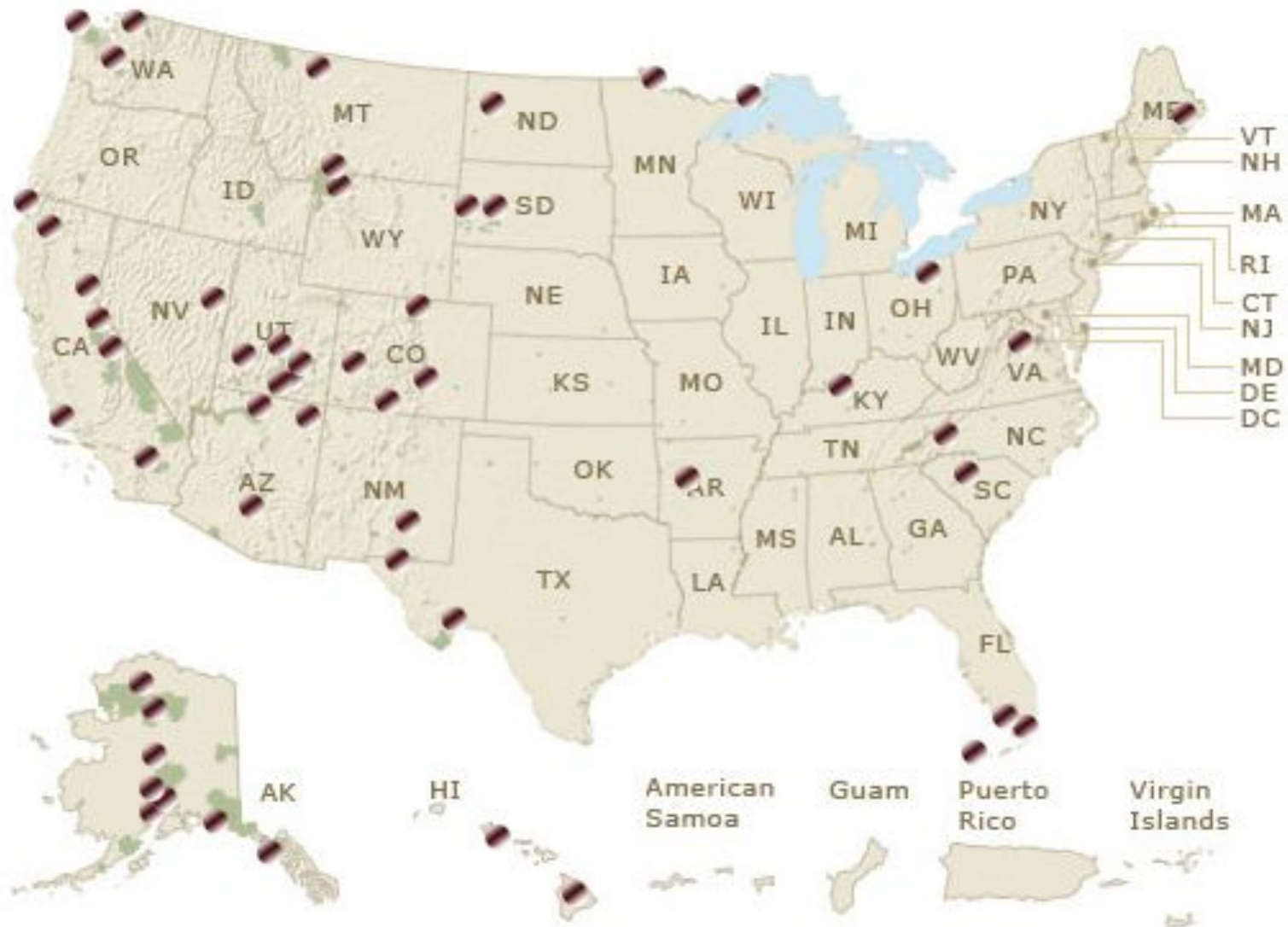
The comparison of national parks and reserves of Russia and USA

Criteria	Russia	USA	Result
General area	33,55 mln. Sq. Hectares	40 mln. Sq. Hectares	The areas are comparable
Quantity of objects	101 reserve and 34 national parks	52 national parks	Russia has superiority
Quantity of employees	11000 employees	20000 employees and 140000 volunteers	The USA has superiority

Financing	508075000 roubles	2.6 mlrd. dollars	The USA has superiority
Own income	Is low (the expenses are higher)	11 mlrd. dollars	The USA has superiority
Quantity of visitors	~1.2 mln	438 mln	The USA has superiority
Development	It is planned to open about 10 of them by 2015. But during 5 years only one was opened.	In the USA - 2-4 national parks are opened every year	The USA has better results in this field







The investigation into the problems

The problem	Russia	The USA
The officials and businessmen's efforts to occupy the land	Fighters for nature conservation try to save these lands with the help of going to the law and appealing to the president.	
The absence of a separate federal service	Different state departments are responsible for this process.	There is a special federal service for managing the national parks and reserves (National Parks Service).

<p>The life-support of local population</p>	<p>Local population doesn't take an active part in the work of national parks and reserves.</p>	<p>In the USA people work as guides and rangers, keep shops, restaurants, hotels and motels, sell souvenirs etc.</p>
---	---	--

Complicated problem with legislation	The amendments, connected with the interests of officials and businessmen are made.	In the USA national parks and reserves are protected by law more strictly.
Accessibility for people	There are no accessible national parks and reserves near the cities in the Asian part of Russia. So, people have no opportunities to enjoy the beauty of nature.	There are a lot of railroads and highways that allow people to get to national parks and reserves.

High rate of poaching	<p>The main reasons of it are following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">•the guard service is low qualified•the level of technical supply of the guard service is low•the salary of watchers is low	<p>In the national parks and reserves of the USA the guard service is highly developed and technically supplied. It has the modern means of communication, helicopters, cars etc.</p>
-----------------------	--	---



Показатели эффективности работы служб охраны заповедных территорий в 1992—2002 гг.

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Число заповедников с оперативными группами					42	44	47	61	62	79	82
Составлено протоколов об экологических правонарушениях	2125	2227	2761	2941	2596	3503	4443	5088	6057	6094	4346
Изъято единиц огнестрельного оружия	23	111	117	174	260	219	279	279	305	308	279
Изъято сетей, бредней и неводов	306	479	1048	885	747	898	858	1180	1822	2130	1772
Взыскано штрафов (тыс.руб.)		4	37	112		247	362	703	1476	1914	2877
Взыскано исков (тыс.руб.)		3	27	166		327	663	1641	1839	2687	902

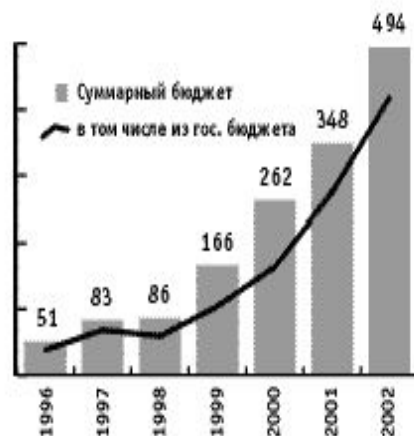


Рис. 12. Финансирование заповедников в последние годы, млн руб.

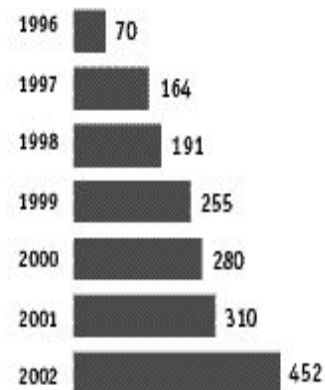
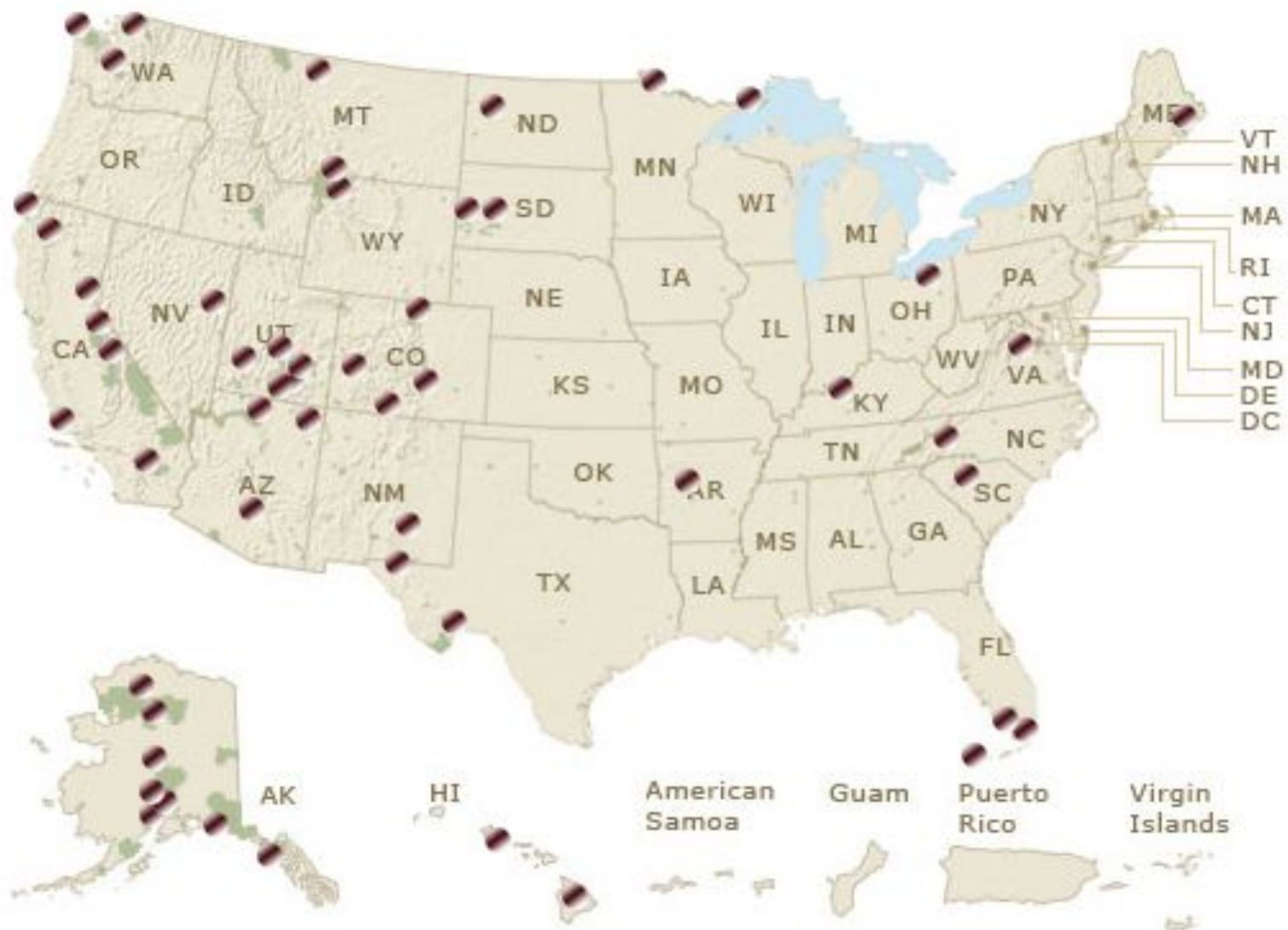


Рис. 9. Увеличение численности сотрудников экопросвещения в государственных природных заповедниках и национальных парках в последние годы



The national parks of the USA

1. [Yellowstone National Park](#)
2. [Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park](#)
3. [Grand Canyon National Park](#)
4. [Yosemite National Park](#)
5. [Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore](#)
6. [Everglades National Park](#)

The Yellowstone National Park

Location	Park and Teton counties in Wyoming, Park and Gallatin counties in Montana and Fremont County in Idaho, USA
Coordinates	44°36'0"N 110°30'0"
Nearest city	West Yellowstone, Montana; Gardiner, Montana; Jackson, Wyoming



Area	2,219,789 acres (898,317 ha)
Established	March 1, 1872
Visitors	3,151,34 (in 2007)

The Yellowstone National Park

- Yellowstone is at the northeastern end of the Snake River Plain, a great U-shaped arc through the mountains that extends from Boise, Idaho some 400 miles (640 km) to the west. This feature traces the route of the North American Plate over the last 17 million years as it was transported by plate tectonics across a stationary mantle hotspot. The landscape of present-day Yellowstone National Park is the most recent manifestation of this hotspot below the crust of the Earth.



The Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Location	Hawaii County, Hawaii, USA
Nearest city	Hilo
Coordinates	<u>19°23'0"N 155°</u> <u>12'0"W</u>
Area	330,000 acres (1348 km ²)
Established	August 1, 1916
Visitors	1,612,246 (in 2006)



The Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

- **Hawaii Volcanoes National Park**, established in 1916, is a United States National Park located in the U.S. State of Hawaii's on the island of Hawai'i. It displays the results of hundreds of thousands of years of volcanism, migration, and evolution—processes that thrust a bare land from the sea and clothed it with complex and unique ecosystems and a distinct human culture.
- The park encompasses diverse environments that range from sea level to the summit of the earth's most massive volcano, Mauna Loa at 13,677 feet. Kilauea, one of the world's most active volcanoes, offers scientists insights on the birth of the Hawaiian Islands and visitors' views of dramatic volcanic landscapes. The park includes 505 mi² (1348 km²) of land



Grand Canyon National Park

Location	Coconino County & Mohave County, Arizona, USA
Near est city	Fredonia, Arizona (North Rim) and Grand Canyon, Arizona (South Rim)
Coordinates	36°3'27"N 112°8'15"W
Area	330,000 acres (1348 km ²)
Established	February 26, 1919
Visitors	4,413,668 (in 2007)



Grand Canyon National Park

Most visitors to the park come to the South Rim, arriving on Arizona Highway 64. The Highway enters the park through the South Entrance, near Tusayan, Arizona, and heads eastward, leaving the park through the East Entrance. All park accommodations are operated by the Xanterra corporation. Park headquarters are at Grand Canyon Village, a short distance from the South Entrance, being also the center of the most popular viewpoints.

Some thirty miles of the South Rim are accessible by road. A much smaller venue for tourists is found on the North Rim, accessed by Arizona Highway 67. There is no road connection between the two - *Within Arizona* - except via the Navajo Bridge, near Page, Arizona, entailing a five-hour drive. Otherwise, the two rims of the Canyon are connected via Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Hoover Dam.



Yosemite National Park

Location	Tuolumne, Mariposa, & Madera Counties, California, USA
Nearest city	Mariposa
Coordinates	37°50'N 119°30'W
Area	761,266 acres (3,081 km ²)
Established	October 1, 1890
Visitors	3,242,644 (in 2006)



Yosemite National Park

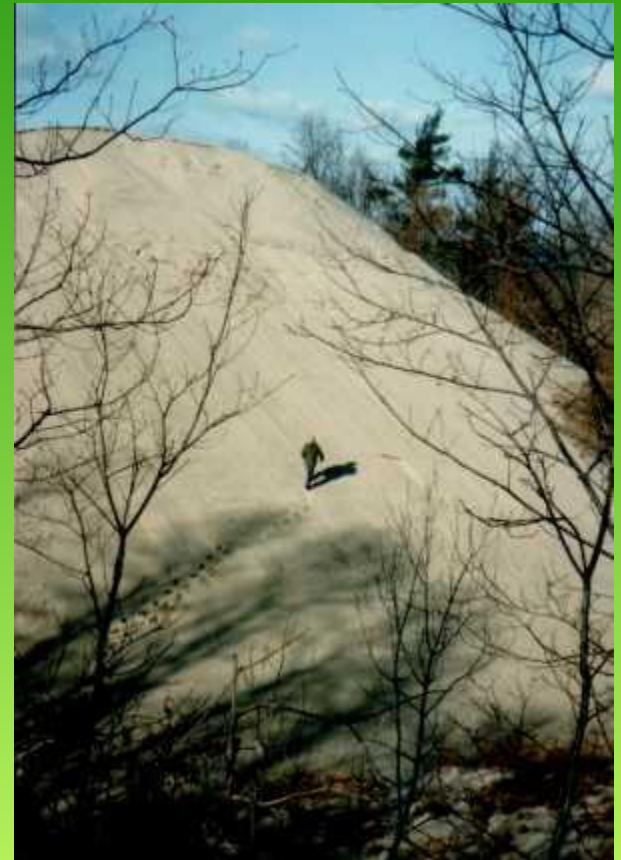
The geology of the Yosemite area is characterized by granitic rocks and remnants of older rock. About 10 million years ago, the Sierra Nevada was uplifted and then tilted to form its relatively gentle western slopes and the more dramatic eastern slopes. The uplift increased the steepness of stream and river beds, resulting in formation of deep, narrow canyons.

About 1 million years ago, snow and ice accumulated, forming glaciers at the higher alpine meadows that moved down the river valleys. Ice thickness in Yosemite Valley may have reached 4,000 feet (1200 m) during the early glacial episode. The downslope movement of the ice masses cut and sculpted the U-shaped valley that attracts so many visitors to its scenic vistas today



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Location	Porter, Lake, & LaPorte counties, I ndiana, USA
Nearest city	Michigan City, Indiana
Coordinate s	<u>41°38'53"N 87° 06'29"W</u>
Area	60.97 km ²
Establishe d	<u>November 5, 1966</u>
Visitors	2,127,336 (in 2006)



Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

- **Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore** is a U.S. national lakeshore located in northwest Indiana that was authorized by Congress in 1966. The national lakeshore runs for nearly 25 miles (40 km) along the southern shore of Lake Michigan, from Gary, Indiana, on the west to Michigan City, Indiana on the east. The park contains approximately 15,000 acres (61 km²). The National Lakeshore has development rights over the area within its boundaries, but has not purchased the full extent of the property. Its holdings are non-contiguous and do not include the Indiana Dunes State Park (1916), a separate, 2,182 acre (9 km²) parcel of protected dune land on the lakefront near Chesterton, Indiana.



Everglades National Park

Location	Miami-Dade, Monroe, & Collier counties, Florida, USA
Nearest city	Florida City
Coordinates	<u>25°19'0"N 80°56'0"W</u>
Area	6,049.9 km
Established	December 6, 1947
Visitors	1,074,764 (in 2006)



Everglades National Park

- **Everglades National Park** is a national park in the U.S. state of Florida. The largest subtropical wilderness in the United States it contains the southern 25 percent of the original Everglades marshland region of southwestern Florida. It is visited by one million people each year, and it is the third-largest national park in the lower 48 states after Death Valley National Park and Yellowstone National Park. It has been declared an International Biosphere Reserve, a World Heritage Site, and a Wetland of International Importance.



National parks of Russia

1. Sochinsky

2. Losiny Ostrov

3. Marii Chodra

4. Vodlozero National Park

5. Great Arctic Zapovednik

6. Kaluzhsky Zaseki Nature Reserve

7. Shulgan-Tash Reserve

Sochinsky

Location	<u>Western Caucasus</u> World Heritage Site.
Area	1937.37 km ²
Established	<u>May 5, 1983</u>



Sochinsky

- **Sochi National Park** (Russian: Сочинский национальный парк, *Sochinsky National Park*) is a national park in Western Caucasus, near of the city of Sochi, Russia.[1] It is Russia's second oldest national park, established on May 5, 1983. The park covers 1937.37 square kilometres within the Western Caucasus World Heritage Site.
- The park occupies the Greater Sochi area, from the border with the Tuapsinsky District between the mouths of Shepsi River and Magri River in the north-west, to the border with Abkhazia along the Psou River in the south-east, and between the Black Sea to the water divide of Greater Caucasus. From this territory, the park does not include the areas of settlement (city of Sochi and various urban and rural settlements) and the area of the Caucasian Biosphere Reserve.



Losiny Ostrov

Nearest city	Moscow
Area	116 km ²
Established	1983



Losiny Ostrov

Losiny Ostrov National Park was created in 1983 on the land which since ancient times served as the strictly guarded hunting area of Russian Grand Princes and tsars. Its territory was declared reserved in 1799, the first forest management was established here in 1842, and the idea of the creation of national park was expressed as early as 1909.

This place is known from the 14th century, in particular, from the testaments of Russian princes - Ivan Kalita, Dmitri Donskoi, Vladimir of Serpukhov and their descendants. In them are mentioned the plowed lands and the forests, located on the territory of the present national park. Later, this region became the place of tsarist hunting, and the land of the future park came under protection. During the Time of Troubles, the economic activity here was abruptly reduced, the former plowed lands were overgrown with forest. The prosperity of the Losiny Ostrov as a hunting area is connected with tsar Aleksey.

Losiny Ostrov

After the transfer of the capital to Saint Petersburg, this territory lost its value as a tsarist hunting ground, but the government property continued to be guarded by imperial edicts. Approximately at this time the territory finally became named *Losiny Ostrov* or *Pogonny Losiny Ostrov*. In 1798, these forests passed to the management of the newly formed forest department. In the middle of the 19th century, the *Losinoostrovskaya lesnaya dacha* was organized and the period of systematic forestry begins. In 1934, the *Losiny Ostrov* was included in the 50-kilometer greenbelt of Moscow.

A large area of the forest was cut during World War II. From this time on, the future national park has suffered from arbitrary seizures of the land for vegetable-gardens, intensive pasturing of cattle, and arbitrary, even, illegal cuttings. In the late 1950's, construction of Moscow Auto Beltway split the forest to inner and outer (larger) sectors. In 1979, the united resolution of the Moscow urban and provincial Soviets of People's Deputies organized the *Losiny Ostrov* as a natural park, and in 1983 the decision of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR formed the national park.



Marii Chodra

Location	<u>Mari El</u> <u>Russia</u>
Nearest city	<u>Volzhsk</u>
Area	366 km ²
Established	1985



Marii Chodra

- **Marii Chodra** (Mari and Russian: Марий Чодра, *Marij Čodra*; Mari for *The Mari Forest*) is a national park, located largely in Morki, Zvenigovo and Volzhsky Districts of Mari El, Russia. The park has an area of 366 square kilometres. The national park was established in 1985.
- Marii Chodra was created to protect rare plants: more than 115 rare plant species are documented. There are 14 tourist routes in the park, the most popular attractions being the lakes Yalchik, Glukhoye, Kichiye, the rafting on the Ilet and Yushut rivers, Pugachov's Oak and the Maple Mountain.
- There are more than 14 tourist centers in Marii Chodra, which play a major role in the recreation of Mari El, Tatarstan and Chuvashia.



Vodlozero National Park

Location	Republic of Karelia
Area	covers covers some 5,800 km ² , including 6,000 km ²
Established	1996



Vodlozero National Park

- **Vodlozero National Park** and Nature Reserve in the Republic of Karelia, designated as a national park by the government of Russia, covers covers some 5,800 km², including 6,000 km² of undisturbed wetland taiga and is the second largest national park in Europe after Yugyd Va National Park. The main attraction is Lake Vygozero.



In 1996 it was considered for inclusion as a World Heritage Site but was declined. The reason for the declination was that it was not a "natural" site. Currently, it is being resubmitted under the criteria of a "cultural landscape."



Great Arctic Zapovednik



Location	Arctic
Area	1 900 000 hectare
Established	1974

Great Arctic Zapovednik

- Understandably, under these extreme weather conditions and territory, there are very few animals that are equipped to survive in this area. The animals that are found in various locations across the sections of the Great Arctic Zapovednik are a permanent reindeer population, polar bears that are usually found around the islands and the arctic foxes that are always closely located to the polar bears, to scavenge food. And where there are reindeer, there are wolverines and wolves that feed on the reindeer. Arctic and brown lemmings also live in the reserve as well as arctic hares. Seals and walruses are located on the shores and on occasion, musk oxen can be seen near the Taimyr River, as they were re-introduced into the area in the year 1974. There is a recorded amount of 124 different bird species that frequent the park, along with water birds such as eiders, herring gulls and long tailed ducks.



Kaluzhsky Zaseki Nature Reserve



Location	Moscow
Area	17 hectare
Established	1980

Kaluzhsky Zaseki

- When Slavic people began to reside in this region back in the 8th and 9th centuries the trees in the area were chopped down for construction or removed for agricultural purposes. Despite this efforts were made even back then to preserve the beautiful broadleaf forests which acted as a natural defense system. Local princes over the years continued to build up the defenses of the forests with moats and barricades, creating a remarkable defensive complex. However, when such defenses were no longer needed Kaluzhsky Zaseki's forest were used in the logging industry. During the 1980s, two scientists stumbled upon a practically untouched tract of broadleaf forest. The scientists took steps to preserve this original forest and in 1992 Kaluzhsky Zaseki Zapovednik was established.
- Kaluzhsky Zaseki Zapovednik is perfectly situated in Central Russia's Uplands, just 250km from Moscow.



Shulgan-Tash Reserve



Location	Ural Mountains
Area	326 hectare
Established	1986

Shulgan-Tash Reserve

- Shulgan-Tash Zapovednik or Nature Reserve is magnificently located in the gentle hills of the southern Ural Mountains. The landscape of Shulgan-Tash is marked by dense forests, verdant green slopes, bare cliffs, hidden caves and sparkling rivers. Attracting the remarkable but rare Burzyan honeybees, the meadows are scattered with beautiful flowers. Kap Cave in Shulgan-Tash Nature Reserve attracts many tourists to view its ancient cave drawings. Shulgan-Tash is certainly a magical escape from the bustle of Russia's cities.

Источники финансирования	1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002	
	млн. руб.	%	млн. руб.	%	млн. руб.	%	млн. руб.	%	млн. руб.	%	млн. руб.	%	млн. руб.	%
Суммарный бюджет	50,7	100	83	100	86,4	100	166,1	100	261,8	100	348,2	100	494,2	100
Средства федерального бюджета	34,8	68,6	58,6	70,3	48,2	55,8	86,4	52	130	49,7	232,6	66,8	384,1	77,7
Средства региональных и местных бюджетных фондов	7,3	14,4	13,8	16,6	14,9	17,2	21,8	13,1	37,7	14,4	43,9	12,6	35	7,1
Собственные средства	3,8	7,5	5,2	6,3	9,1	10,5	19,2	11,6	20,2	7,7	26,1	7,5	30,6	6,2
Средства отечественных спонсоров	1,1	2,2	1,8	2,2	1	1,2	4,7	2,8	8	3,1	5,3	1,5	11,4	2,3
Иностранные гранты	3,7	7,3	3,8	4,6	13,2	15,3	34	20,5	65,6	25,1	40,2	11,6	33	6,7

Russian reserves

Статья доходов	2001	2002
Деятельность, связанная с приемом посетителей	7.1	7.6
Деятельность, связанная с заготовкой и реализацией древесины и продуктов дерево обработки	1.4	0.9
Иные доступные виды ограничения природопользования на заповедных территориях и в охранных зонах	1.7	5.1
Взыскание штрафа и иски, реализация конфиската	3.2	3.0
Договорные научно исследовательские работы	5.9	11.6
Иная деятельность	6.9	2.5
Итог	26.1	30.7

Russian national Parks

Статья доходов	2001	2002
Деятельность, связанная с приемом посетителей	26.5	36.2
Деятельность, связанная с заготовкой и реализацией древесины и продуктов дерево обработки	6.1	10.4
Иные доступные виды ограничения природопользования на заповедных территориях и в охранных зонах	35.4	35.0
Взыскание штрафа и иски, реализация конфиската	2.9	3.7
Иная деятельность	7.0	6.3
Итог	90.4	141.3

Information sources

1. www.oopt.info (Особо охраняемые природные территории России)
2. www.wikipedia.ru (Энциклопедия «Википедия»)
3. www.nparks.ru (Национальные парки и заповедники мира)
4. www.rusrec.ru (Российский региональный экологический центр)
5. www.kenozерje.by.ru (национальный парк Кенозерье)
6. www.travel.ru (Всё о туризме и путешествиях)
7. www.businesspress.ru (Информационное агентство «Деловая пресса»)
8. www.redbook.ru (Красная Книга мира)
9. www.zapoved.ru (Заповедники и национальные парки России)
10. www.council.gov.ru (Совет Федерации России)
11. www.svoboda.org (Радио «Свобода»)
12. www.ecotyrizm.com (Экологический туризм)
13. www.gov.cap.ru (правительство республики Чувашия)
14. www.nps.gov (Служба национальных парков США)
15. www.ecoethics.ru/ (сайт Киевского эколого-культурного центра)
16. В.Д. Степаницкий и др. Особо охраняемые природные территории России: итоги последнего десятилетия – М., 2003.
17. В.Д. Степаницкий, М.Л. Крейдлин. Изменения в законодательстве Российской Федерации, касающиеся заповедников и национальных парков (Информационно- аналитический обзор)
18. В.Д. Степаницкий, М.Л. Крейдлин. Государственные природные заповедники