

# ASSESSMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENT OF EUROREGION "SLOBOZHANSCHINA" FOR RECREATION AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

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## **Abstract**

In article is given the assessment an environment of Euroregion "Slobozhanshcina", for recreation and tourism development.

## **Keywords**

Euroregion, cross-border tourism, ecological tourism, environment, tourist and recreational resources.

Geographical research of cross-border tourism consists in studying of a complex of natural and economic communications between the adjacent territories, directed on recreational requirements realization and conducive to formation of common tourist space.

Successful development of cross-border tourism is defined by mutual interest of adjoining regions in development of the interstate and interregional communications, which promoting coordinated joint activity on implementation of tourist projects, optimization of border control system and safety of tourists [2].

The purpose of this work is the assessment of an environment of Euroregion "Slobozhanshchina" for recreation and development of tourism.

Euroregion's natural and resource potential "Slobozhanshchina" is rich and various that promotes tourism development.

One of leading factors of the territorial organization of recreational activity is natural and landscape structure of the territory. Each types of landscapes, possessing a number of characteristic properties (nature of the vegetation, relief, esthetic appeal, resistance to recreational loadings), disposes to development of this or that type of recreational activity.

Potential of recreational use of landscapes of the cross-border territory Belgorod - Kharkov is defined by high degree of their variety and creates opportunity for development of a wide range of types of tourism.

In estimation of tourist and recreational resources the lithogenic basis (a relief and rocks composing) also remains the main factor that influence on development of tourism, recreational occupations and a landscape esthetics. The relief along with other natural components, defines possibilities of tourist and recreational development of regions, raises or limits a variety of possible tourist and recreational occupations [9].

The Lithogenic basis of the studied territory promotes the organization of sports and medical foot travel, bicycle and horse walks all the year round practically. Antropogenic forms of a relief can also be used for sports tourism – foot, ski, sled.

The role of a lithogenic basis in tourist and recreational mastering of the territory of the Belgorod region can be presented by the following aspects. The relief and rocks composing very often are sources of natural sights which in tourist business are used as "objects of

excursion display". Examples of the widespread on the territory areas dome-shaped cretaceous hillocks with the vegetation which has reached us from the tertiary period: Bekaryukovsky pine forest in the Shebekinsky region and the natural boundary "Stenki-Izgorya" in the Novooskolsky region. Such pine forests have not only informative value, but also scientific. Tourist walking routes of various extension and various thematic orientation are developed during the present period on the territory of the Belgorod region [8].

Not so many areas can boast of the real sandy deserts. The Kharkov region has real desert on its open spaces. The Kitsevsky desert is a unique natural zone for the Kharkov region not only from the landscape point of view, but also and with naturalistic. After all this desert and partly the steppe district became the house for numerous rare species of insects. Hilly sand is a really picturesque place which everybody should visit.

The relief is a factor which plays a certain medical and improving role in recreational use of territories. The main improving function of a relief is use for making medical routes. Unfortunately difficult routes aren't present in Euroregion. Also the relief defines the main physiognomic lines of a natural complex and forms appearance of the territory.

In ecological tourism the relief is a powerful technology factor. In Euroregion rocks don't interfere with installation of tourist camps and almost don't influence on the possibility of the territory. Besides it isn't required considerable material inputs during the building of recreational objects, arrangement of recreation areas, laying of communications and other engineering constructions.

The fundamental factor for defining level of comfort of the environment for development of tourism in the region is the climate. Climatic factors influence on all processes of activity of the person.

On formation of climate of the Belgorod and Kharkov regions special impact have: arrival of solar radiation, circulation of air masses, remoteness of the territory from the seas and oceans and character of a relief of the territory. For tourism special value have light and ultra-violet modes [4].

The important characteristic of climate is an atmospheric precipitation. The Belgorod and Kharkov region are characterized by unevenness of loss of a precipitation within a year. During the summer period repeatability of rainy weathers which interfere with tourist occupations matters are important, but not the quantity of a precipitation.

Euroregion's climate is rather favorable for recreational activity and is characterized as moderately comfortable. Practically all seasons are suitable for these or those types of rest and tourism. For example, character of snow cover predetermines possibility of the organization of winter tourist and recreational occupations, in particular skiing and a sledge. For this purpose it is necessary to lay sports roll sking runs, to break them into sites and to equip ice slopes.

The periods of subcomfortable and comfortable weathers proceed till from 8 to 10 months in a year; discomfortable weather lasts from 3 to 4 months, slightly limiting tourist and recreational opportunities of the euro region.

Water component of a natural complex: the rivers, lakes, bogs, reservoirs, ponds and underground waters make important part of natural resources of the euroregion. In tourist and recreational activity they give great opportunities: swimming, campaigns on kayaks, the fishing and many people attracts simply rest at water from the esthetic point of view.

Surface water of the studied territory is presented by the rivers, lakes and ponds. Both Belgorod and Kharkov region has rather dense and extensive river network [3].

All rivers of the euroregion belong to typically flat and have a slow and quiet current. On these reservoirs it is preferable to develop family boating. For fans of sports tourism on the rivers it is possible to organize of alloys by boats, rafts and kayaks. Types of a bottom and the coast are rather favorable for the organization of beach and bathing rest. Duration of a swimming season is from the middle of June and until the end of August.

The rivers are actively used for boating. Now is developed a number of tourist water routes on the territory of both regions. The Seversky Donets - the cross-border river flowing on the territories of the Kharkov, Donetsk and Lugansk regions of Ukraine, and also on the territory of the Belgorod and Rostov regions of Russia can become an example [7].

The Seversky Donets is considered one of the most picturesque rivers of the East European Plain. Along its coast are laid many pedestrian and bicycle routes. As the main objects of tourism on the river the Seversky Donets can be: 1) river source, 2) Belgorod town, 3) Belgorod and Pechenezhsky reservoir, 4) settlements of city type: Pechenegi and Chuguev, 5) right inflow: Bereka, left inflow: Oskol.

The river Seversky Donets to Lisichansk keeps rather clear water for bathing, and on its coast there are a lot of sandy beaches therefore on the river summer rest and bathing is also popular. It should be noted that wild tourism with tents is more developed, than civilized, but, nevertheless, on river banks there are a lot of recreation facilities and boarding houses which during a season aren't empty. On the river the alloy on kayaks enjoys special popularity.

Within the international cooperation "Slobozhanshchina" was realized need of improvement of an ecological condition of a river basin the Seversky Donets. The governments of two areas created the joint Interregional commission on ecological improvement of the river basin.

Thus, recreational comfort of river basin of Euroregion is characterized as satisfactory and depends both from natural and on antropogenic factors.

In determination of recreational and resource capacity of the region the qualitative and quantitative characteristic of vegetable resources of the studied region has a great importance.

The specific structure of flora of the Belgorod region includes 1475 species of the vascular plants united in 578 childbirth and 125 families. The structure of flora of Kharkovshchina is typical for steppe and partially forest-steppe natural zones of Ukraine. In the territory of region grows more than 1500 species of plants (about 300 species of trees and bushes) [1].

The natural cretaceous pine forests extended in Shebekinsky (Bekaryukovsky pine forest) and Novooskolsky (a reserved site of "the Wall of Izgorya") areas are relic for the Belgorod region. The largest sites of pine forests meet on the rivers: Oskol, Vorskla, Seversky Donets and Nezhegol. The great interest represents a reserved site of the mountain oak grove located on the right high coast of the Vorskla River. It is the only old oak wood which has remained up to now in the territory of the Central Chernozem region. The age of some oaks reaches 300 years.

The Botanical garden of the Kharkov national university of a name of V. N. Karazin, the Krasnokutsky arboretum, Staromerchiksky, Sharovsky and Natalyevsky farmstead parks belong to the largest protected objects of the Kharkov region [5].

Unique vegetable community of the Belgorod region are steppes. Sites in original state practically don't meet in region. The only remained corner of a natural landscape of the forest-steppe in the European part of Russia is the national natural park "Belogorie" (a site "the Yamsky steppe").

Site soils "Yamsky steppe" have a special value as on stocks of nutrients yamsky chernozems (postal black) haven't equal in Europe.

Steppes, along with meadows and the woods, form the unique forest-steppe complex which survey causes at any time admiration, so, they can be object of scientific, informative and ecological tourism, a venue of excursions [6].

Resources of wild animals in Euroregion's territory use in the esthetic, recreational purposes and for hunting. The hunting fauna of the studied territory is very various, but doesn't differ large number. In Euroregion's forest grounds meet: elk, deer noble, European and spotty, roe, boar, fox, lepus, marten, otter, squirrel, wolf, polecat, mink, muskrat, etc.; from birds – the gray goose, a partridge, sung a cover, some species of ducks, pigeons, etc. In recent years among the population grows popularity of occupation by hunting that promoted by rather high number of the main objects of hunting, first of all wild hoofed animals. Hunting becomes popular way of rest for the population of the region and its guests. On reservoirs of regions are widespread sports and amateur fishery. It is more characteristic for early spring and summer. The greatest number of fishers during the spring period falls on April, during the summer period for August. The pike, sazan, the bream, crucian, perch, pike perch, carp, small fry, the rudd, etc. is found in reservoirs [10].

Representatives of local flora and the faunae that cause huge scientific and informative interest, represent resource base for ecological tourism, excursion display. The vegetable cover has improving impact on subject of tourist and recreational activity, thanks to ionization and phytoncide, medicinal properties. Character of vegetation also determines the esthetic value of the territory and it is important technology factor in tourism.

As a result of research it is established that Euroregion "Slobozhanshchina" possesses the high natural and resource potential and considerable recreational opportunities that creates conditions for development of different types of tourism.

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