

## Topical Tasks of Nature Protection Research in Transcarpathia

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Nowadays conservation of biological diversity of natural ecosystems is considered to be one of the priority tasks of nature protection. Gene pool and biological diversity conservation is the basis of the natural ecosystems stability and renewal of their biological resources. A starting point for solving this task is available information on the biotopes where the biocenoses and their components which need protection are concentrated. Obtained materials could be laid as the foundation of the data bank on the ecologically valuable biotopes, which would provide the latest necessary information for administrative and executive bodies as well as for engineering, conservational and research organizations.

Absence of adequate information on biotopes can be felt distinctly in the Transcarpathia. The natural life in this region has suffered much due to the "socialist methods of management" which affected destructively not only the population of the ecosystems but their other components (soils, waters, etc.)

The drive of modern privatization can catastrophically accelerate this devastating process. So, urgent development and realization of the cartographic project are necessary to define the present state and distribution of the most valuable biotopes, to study their structures, qualities and the degree of danger to their existence.

Realization of the project will allow to ensure the necessary biological diversity in the region, to reserve the valuable biotopes for expanding natural preserve network and will contribute to ecological stability of the ecosystems. Taking into consideration the geographical place of the Transcarpathia in the centre of Europe, this project will have also an international importance. It should be noted that studies of this trend according to Corine Biotope project are being carried out from 1992 in the territories of the neighbouring countries (Poland, Slovakia, Hungary).

Taking into consideration the huge scope of the work for biotopes mapping that is to cover all territory of the region it is necessary to draw the wide circle of specialists of regional research and nature protection organizations to realization of the project. Certain experience in this direction is gained by scientific workers of Uzhorod University which in previous years carried out mapping of habitats of rare, vanishing and medicinal plants as well in the Transcarpathian. They would be able to ensure elaboration of methods of biotopes mapping, inculcation unified work cards, formation of information of the data base, and carrying out the certain part of the field inspection as well.

So, the realization of the project on Transcarpathian biotopes mapping must be a topical task of the nearest future.