

The Current Status and Development Trend of Nature Reserves in Heilongjiang Province

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The 20th century is one in which human society has made tremendous progress. But the progress and development of human society have also brought about the worsening of the natural and human environment, which is threatening the survival and development of the human race.

The establishment of nature reserves is an important measure to protect the natural and ecological environment.

Heilongjiang Province has set up 104 nature reserves, with a total land area of 2,641,700 hectares, or 5.88% of the total area of the province. These constitute a network of nature reserves comprehending most important types of nature reserves, and play an active role for improving the protection of the province's ecological environment and for the province's continuous economic and social development.

But in the management of these nature reserves, there are still some problems with people's ideas, with educating the public, and with capital investment. These problems should be treated seriously.

In order to preserve our natural heritage and biodiversity and to promote the sustainable development of our society and economy, and in accordance with the concrete conditions of the province, it is projected that by the year 2000, the number of nature reserves in Heilongjiang is to reach 109, covering 6.17% of the total land area of the province. This percentage is further to increase to 8.62% by 2010, at which time the network of nature reserves is to have a proper distribution and comprehend all important types of nature reserves. This will ensure the healthy development of the cause of nature conservation, with systematic planning, active protection, and sustainable use, so that ecological benefits and social benefits can be developed hand in hand with economic benefits.