

Registration Code  
360050000.22.023.016080

**Order of the Minister of Environment  
#39, August 22, 2011  
Tbilisi**

**On preparatory stages and procedure of the methodology for  
Elaborating structure, content and thematic parts of  
The Management Plan of Protected Areas**

Pursuant to article 24, paragraph 4 of the law of Georgia on “the system of protected areas”, I order:

**Article 1.** Preparatory stages and procedure of the attached methodology for elaborating structure, content and thematic part of Management Plan of Protected Areas shall be approved.

**Article 2.** This order shall enter into force right after its publication.

Acting Minister of the Environment Protection

G. Mamatsashvili

**Preparatory stages and procedure of the methodology for elaborating structure, content and thematic parts of  
Management Plan of Protected Areas**

**Article 1**

Preparatory stages and procedure of the methodology for elaborating structure, content and thematic parts of Management Plan of Protected Areas regulate legal relationship related to Preparatory stages and procedure of the methodology for elaborating structure, content and thematic part of Management Plan of Protected Areas.

**Article 2**

Structure of the Management Plan of Protected Areas consists of the following components:

- a) Introduction;
- b) Description of protected area and its support zone (if any exists);
- c) Long-term goals of protected area;
- d) Situational analysis of protected area;
- e) Protected area zoning and its justification;
- f) Programs of Management plan of the protected area;
- g) Monitoring of protected area management plan;
- h) Annexes to protected area management plan.

**Article 3**

Introduction shall include the following components:

- a) Territorial sphere of protected area management plan;
- b) Legal grounds for protected area management plan;
- c) Land use for protected area;
- d) Goals of protected area;
- e) Goals of protected area management plan;

- f) Elaboration process of protected area management plan;
- g) Term of Validity of protected area management plan;
- h) Changes and updating of the protected area management plan.

#### **Article 4**

Description of protected area and its support zone (if any exists) shall include the following components:

- a) Biodiversity;
- b) Landscapes;
- c) Geology and hydrology;
- d) Climate;
- e) Tourism and recreational potential;
- f) Traditional activity and sustainable use of natural resources;
- g) Historical and cultural values;
- h) Potential of environmental education;
- i) Public relation;
- j) Social-economical aspects.

#### **Article 5**

Long-term goals of protected area shall include the following components:

- a) Goals related to the state of natural ecosystems, landscapes and living organisms;
- b) Goals related to the state of genepool (genofond) and biodiversity of endangered and Red List wild animals and plants in Georgia;
- c) Goals related to creating appropriate field conditions for scientific study and education at the territories of significant and invaluable objects;
- d) Goals related to the provision of favorable conditions for recreation, health protection and tourism in natural and historical-cultural environment;
- e) Goals related to the support for protection, rehabilitation and development of traditional industrial activities and maintaining original cultural and historical environment;
- f) Goals related to the sustainable use of natural resources;
- g) Goals related to the administration development;
- h) Goals related to the development of support zone.

#### **Article 6**

Situational analysis of protected area shall include the following components:

- a) Conservation and sustainable use of natural resources;
- b) Ecotourism;
- c) Eco-education;
- d) Public relation;
- e) Analysis of legislative basis;
- f) State of administration;
- g) Research and monitoring.

#### **Article 7**

1. Protected area zoning and its justification shall consist of the following components:

- a) List of protected area zones;
- b) Size and boundaries of protected area zones;
- c) List of allowed activities in each zone of protected area;

d) Issues related to leasing or other types of use of natural resources in each zone of protected areas and assets of protected areas

2. Data of the paragraph 1 of this article shall be documented.

#### **Article 8**

1. Programs of protected area management plan shall consist of the following components:

- a) Program of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources;
- b) Eco-education program;
- c) Public relation program;
- d) Ecotourism program;
- e) Protection program;
- f) Administration program.

2. Each program specified in paragraph 1 of this article shall include description, objectives, activities and action plan of the program.

#### **Article 9**

Monitoring of protected area management plan shall consist of the following components:

- a) Indicators and substantiation of their selection;
- b) Conduction of monitoring including monitoring goals, activities and action plan.

#### **Article 10**

Annexes to protected area management plan shall consist of the following components:

- a) List of flora and fauna distributed in protected area;
- b) Species of wild animals and plants distributed in protected area which have been registered in the Red List of Georgia;
- c) Information about historical-cultural monuments existed in protected area;
- d) Maps:
  - d.a) area map;
  - d.b) zoning map;
  - d.c) infrastructure map;
  - d.d) map of distribution of significant species;
  - d.e) maps of zones associated with fire risk;
  - d.f) routes of patrolling;
  - d.g) map of natural resource management.

#### **Article 11**

Preparation of protected area management plan consists of the following stages:

- a) Data collection required for the preparation of protected area management plan;
- b) Processing data required for the preparation of protected area management plan and planning of obligatory measures;
- c) Public hearing of the draft management plan of protected area;
- d) Assessment of comments and proposals provided on the draft plan of protected area management, adjustment and redesign of draft plan of protected area management.

#### **Article 12**

1. information gathered for the protected area management plan shall include information on:

- a) Current state of protected area, influencing factors and development tendencies;
  - b) Main directions of social-economic development and cultural significance of protected area, based on which support zone program is to be designed.
2. Obtained information shall be grouped by following features:
    - a) Natural resources and their condition;
    - b) Cultural resources and their condition;
    - c) Infrastructure;
    - d) Major characteristics of social-economic environment;
    - e) Characteristics and influence of visitors on the protected area;
    - f) Development prospects for above listed factors;
    - g) Land resource use and planning status of adjacent territories, description of occupied and leased territories.
  3. Information included in descriptive part shall consist of the following data:
    - a) Location with coordinates;
    - b) Size (area);
    - c) Presumable category corresponding to the classification of International Union for Conservation of Nature and justification;
    - d) Form and name of property, access roads, different conditions and restrictions;
    - e) Current state of land use;
    - f) Historical information (data on land use and landscape, archeology, facilities);
    - g) Information on biological resources (biomes, flora and fauna);
    - h) Data on physical factors (climate, geology, geomorphology, hydrogeology, soil features);
    - i) Data on zones associated with fire risk;
    - j) Data on cultural and aesthetic values (landscape and its features);
    - k) Social-economic data (basic data on local population and tendencies).

### **Article 13**

1. While processing information required for the preparation and planning of protected area management plan, the following components shall be used:
  - a) Management of habitats and species (care, protection, rehabilitation and multiplication);
  - b) Research and monitoring;
  - c) Sustainable use of renewable resources;
  - d) Infrastructure;
  - e) Means of visitors' service;
  - f) Education and capacity building;
  - g) Social and cultural characteristics;
  - h) Income generation.
2. Permitted activities shall be detailed in the protected area management plan by zones taking account of the following factors:
  - a) whether the object is a special sample of natural landscapes, views, geological, scientific, ecological, flora/fauna and recreational values;
  - b) whether it has specific biological attributes, plant types and landscape forms (if yes, then what kind of them);
  - c) areas necessary for the maintaining ecological integrity of protected area;
  - d) areas and resources (from economic, cultural and other standpoints) vital for local communities ;
  - e) areas and resources playing significant role for the communities outside the protected areas;
  - f) rare and endemic species of plants and animals;
  - g) rare and endangered plants, animals and habitats;
  - h) natural resources especially susceptible to utilization by humans;
  - i) special archaeological and historical objects;

- j) rare examples of geological significance;
- k) special cultural monuments;
- l) world recognition (e.g. of cultural heritage);
- m) the extent of efficiency of material resources to be expended for development of each zone;
- n) analysis of possible conflicts;
- o) analysis of the capacities of local co-management;
- p) possibility and efficiency of alternative sources of income to be suggested in case of restriction or prohibition of natural resource utilization.