

Abstract

The main focus of this thesis is to discover psycho-social motivations leading to nature preservation. During the research almost a hundred of (protected) areas were selected and subsequently analysed to determine what variety of psychological/social motivations are decisive for preserving the nature in the Czech Republic. The localities were selected in the way that each region of the Czech Republic is being represented.

The work explores a period since the beginning of purposeful preservation activities (circa 1800) until 1956 when the first Law on Protection of Nature was adopted by a socialist government.

The objective is to categorize revealed motivations and to determine their significance as well as to find the most common initiators and scopes of environmental protection. Based on the results we shall be able to define tactics for the encouragement of civic and private activities. This revival could subsequently lead to a further protection of nature, to enhance interest in local events and to take responsibility for the condition of the environment. This research acknowledges what kind of environmental objects will most likely be protected in the future, what initiators are most often involved or whether education is of great importance.

Key words

Nature conservation, protected area, motivation, club, society, experts, tourism, beginnings of nature conservation, history of nature conservation