PROBLEMS OF CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CHECHEN REPUBLIC: CONDITIONS AND ANALYSIS

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Abstract

The Chechen Republic has one of the highest levels of biological diversity, due to the unique natural conditions and the presence of various high-altitude zones, ranging from semi-deserts to glaciers. This diversity includes animals from Europe, Asia, Siberia, and even Africa, making it a fascinating place to explore. However, the biological diversity in the region is still poorly understood. The vertebrate fauna in the Chechen Republic includes 44 fish species and subspecies, nine amphibian species, at least 31 reptile species, more than 320 bird species that nest, and up to 88 mammal species. Unfortunately, this rich ecosystem is threatened by the devastating effects of war, which have led to uncontrolled and intensive exploitation of natural resources. As a result, preserving the biodiversity of the area is a significant challenge. Many areas have changed, losing their original appearance. The environmental conditions for many animal species have deteriorated, leading to fewer of them. Some species, such as bison, moose, tarpans, kulans, and beavers have completely disappeared, while others, like the common grouse and geese, are becoming rare. Bezoar goats, chamois, martens, otters, minks, bustards, strepets, cranes, grey partridges and ulars have become few. Taking into account the current ecological situation in the republic and to preserve the unique fauna and flora, it is essential to take measures to conserve and increase the biodiversity of the landscapes.

Keywords: biological diversity, protected areas, natural framework

I. Introduction

The development of STR (Scientific and Technical Revolution) is accompanied by an increase in the level of economic development, which inevitably leads to a decrease in biodiversity and a reduction in species. If these processes exclude each other, then saving biodiversity both of living organisms and ecosystems becomes the most difficult task. In that case, it is necessary to think about conservation of biodiversity as an integral part of sustainable development rather than just as a part of nature conservation. In this context, a special role belongs to the creation and development of special educational systems for protected natural areas. This is one of the main directions in the work of state environmental organizations. Specially protected territories are part of our national heritage, and their conservation and protection is essential [1]. The protection regime of specially protected natural territories and the status of environmental institutions located within them differ in several categories. All of these territories form a state-owned nature reserve fund, which is under the jurisdiction and management of a specially authorized state body in the field of environmental protection.

II. Methods

We live in a time of many global challenges that can only be addressed through the combined efforts of all nations. Not even the most developed countries can solve these challenges on their own, as they affect everyone and require a collaborative approach to overcome.

The issue of preserving biodiversity has reached a point where it is a concern not only for those who study biological systems, but also for scientists, economists, politicians, and the general public [2].

For countries seeking to conserve and enhance the variety of biological resources, policies should be guided by addressing environmental challenges, which in turn will facilitate sustainable economic growth.

Turning to the term "diversity", it refers to differences between groups of entities and phenomena, and the extent of these variations can be quite varied. Biological diversity, in particular, pertains to the variety of living organisms, making "biological diversity" and "biodiversity" synonymous terms [3].

As it is known, the advancement of STR (Scientific and Technical Revolution) is accompanied by an upsurge in economic development levels, which in turn inevitably leads to a decline in biodiversity and reduction in species numbers. If these trends are mutually exclusive, the preservation of biodiversity for both living organisms and ecosystems becomes a challenging and difficult endeavor. In such a scenario, it becomes necessary to conceive of biodiversity conservation not as a component of environmental protection but rather as an integral aspect of the sustainable development paradigm.

The 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Rio de Janeiro, was a significant event in this regard. The Convention was intended to serve as a foundation for environmental research and the practical application of the findings of these studies. Two key concepts were emphasized in the Convention: preservation and utilization. This meant conserving and sustainably utilizing biodiversity. The term "sustainable utilization" used in the Convention referred to the idea that the rate and extent of utilization should not lead to the depletion of biodiversity. Thus, the Convention upheld the principle of protecting biodiversity through responsible use. It was acknowledged that the solution to biodiversity loss lies in collaborative efforts to conserve and restore biodiversity[4].

The global environmental issue is no longer solely related to the threat of biodiversity, but also to the impact on human health. Catastrophic oil spills and forest fires affecting tens of thousands of hectares, as well as imperceptible, but threatening forms of pollution, often occur in nature. Their effects may not be immediately apparent, but they can manifest themselves after some time and be unexpected [5].

An integrated approach to protecting and preserving what humanity has involves a resolute system of rules and penalties as well as an environmental monitoring service. The concept of "environmental ethics" is now in use and is a rapidly developing new area of philosophy that vividly illustrates the high ethical value of nature.

Following the principles of environmental ethics can help to preserve natural and biological diversity, which should become a fundamental and priority direction for the development of both the state and society. As a result of complying with these principles, there will be a steady decrease in production and consumption levels, leading to a more sustainable approach to resource extraction and consumption [6]. Additionally, there will be an expansion of protected natural areas, helping to ensure the long-term survival of biodiversity.

III. Results

There are several arguments in favor of the ethics of biodiversity conservation, regardless of the economic value of each species. In this context, all species contribute to the overall goal of survival. It is important to consider the diversity of species, rather than focusing on their numerical value, geographical location, age, or economic importance. Each species has a unique role in the natural and human world, and their extinction can have a significant impact on other species and ecosystems. This connection between all living things is essential for maintaining balance and harmony in nature [7,8].

In Russia, biodiversity conservation efforts began with the signing of Decree No. 236 by the President of the Russian Federation on February 4, 1994, titled "On the State Strategy of Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development in the Russian Federation".

In 2001, the National Strategy for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Russia was developed. This strategy highlighted the main directions and principles and set priorities for the long-term conservation of biological diversity in Russia.

The leading principles of this strategy included the following:

1) preservation of genotypes and reproductive capacity;

2) maintenance of population numbers and habitats;

3) protection of species and their natural habitats;

4) restoration and preservation of biocenoses;

5) preservation of natural ecosystems;

6) protection of natural complex territories;

7) conservation of the species composition of the biosphere as a whole.

But the preservation of biodiversity on the planet is a challenge that can only be addressed through the efforts of all nations. This issue is comparable to other global challenges that humanity has faced. We must recognize that this is not simply a matter of protecting nature, but rather a fundamental shift towards a more sustainable development model [9].

In its importance, this issue is of international concern and the solution to biodiversity problems lies in each country fulfilling its obligations. To this end, national legislation must be aligned with international standards.

Addressing biodiversity issues is crucial not only for the environment but also for human wellbeing. Surprisingly, conservation of biodiversity has been shown to be a leading factor in reducing poverty. As most people in underdeveloped countries live in rural areas, addressing biodiversity conservation issues would allow them to secure food and income.

The population of the Earth, depending on their place of residence, are oriented towards certain sources of livelihood. More than 3 billion people feed and live at the expense of marine and coastal areas. For 1.6 billion, forests and forest products are the source of livelihood, and the loss of biodiversity threatens the well-being of over 1 billion humans living in arid and semi–arid areas.

IV. Discussion

Summing up, biodiversity, its conservation, and protection are essential for the normal function of ecosystems and human well–being. This applies not only to economic development but also to health, food security, water supplies, and disaster prevention.

The steady growth of the world's population and, as a result, the proportional increase in its needs, which can be met by expanding industrial and agricultural production and developing transport, creates increased anthropogenic pressure on the environment.

The Law of the Chechen Republic No.10-RL (Russian Law) on Environmental Protection of July 4, 2006 with amendments regulates relations in the "nature-society" system in order to maintain dynamic balance.

Based on this, it follows that efforts must be made in order to create a natural ecological framework in the territory of the Republic to create conditions for sustainable development and conservation of landscapes and biological diversity.

To fully understand the role of natural and ecological systems, it is important to consider not only specially protected areas, but also other features such as forest belts, parks, green zones, and water protection areas. These additions to the protected framework will help reduce human impact on natural landscapes and ecosystems [10].

Additionally, it is essential to create areas where nature management can be approached with reference to cultural and historical traditions. This approach can help ensure a more gentle approach to environmental management, using traditional methods that have been proven effective over time. Finally, including disturbed lands within the natural and ecological system is crucial for maintaining balance and sustainability [11].

However, all these measures and proposals need to be supported by financial resources in order to ensure that they are implemented. Therefore, it is essential that all measures related to specially protected areas are included in the socio-economic development plans of the republic, as well as in the territorial schemes and district planning schemes, and in all forest management plans.

Another important condition for the use of SPNT (specially protected natural territories) is that it is possible only with the permission of relevant authorities in the field of environmental protection.

In this regard, we cannot ignore the "Red Book of the Chechen Republic", which was first published in 2007. Although the purposeful study of flora and fauna in the Chechen Republic has been going on for much longer, the Red Book summarizes a list of rare and endangered plant and animal species that require special protection.

It is a great responsibility for the Directorate of Specially Protected Natural Territories in the Chechen Republic to preserve and protect endangered plant and animal species listed in the "Red Book". The Directorate is responsible for implementing special protection measures for protected areas in order to ensure their survival. The Directorate should strengthen the special protection regime and monitor the functioning and management of protected areas to ensure that they are properly protected [12].

It is also important to pay attention to the lack of warning and signage along the perimeter and boundaries of protected areas, as well as to organize proper records of owners, landowners, and users in order to establish clear responsibility for compliance with special protection regulations.

The task of ensuring proper control over specially protected natural areas is a challenging one, but it is essential for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity. This task begins at the local level and extends to the level of administrative and municipal authorities.

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