

Nature Reserve “Pededzes lejtece” Summary of the Nature Management Plan

Nature Reserve “Pededzes lejtece” is situated on Madonas district Indrāni, Balvu district Rugāji and Gulbene district Dauksti and Stradi municipalities. State importance level Nature Reserve was founded 1999, its size is 4150 ha, 2004 it was enlarged by 513 ha. That way total area of the Nature Reserve is 4663 ha. Nature Reserve is founded to protect the variety of the species, relict and biologically varied forest and deposits of the rare species.

2005 this Nature Reserve was incorporated in the *Natura 2000* Site List (territory code LV0519600). Main values of this territory are natural an unregulated riverbed of the Pedeze River with floodplain meadows and oak tree stands as well as forests on moist mineral soils or peat soils, providing environment to the bird species like Ural owl, Lesser Spotted Eagle, Middle Spotted Woodpecker, Hite-backed Woodpecker, Corncrake, Black Woodpecker, Grey-headed Green Woodpecker etc., mentioned in the Bird Directive Annex I. Also there are many species of the specially protected invertebrates, plants, fungus, moss and lichens.

Restricted Area represents nine biotopes, specially protected in Latvia and Europe:

- Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation (code 3150), area 5,7 ha;
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (code 6210), area 0,8 ha;
- Species-rich *Nardus* grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (code 6230), area 34,9 ha
platībā;
- Fennoscandian woodland meadows (code 6530*) 86 ha;
- boreal forests (code 9010*) 12,7 ha;
- Fennoscandian deciduous swamp forests (code 9080*), area 191,7 ha;
- Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the *Carpinion betuli* (code 9160), area 71,0 ha
- bog woodland (code 91D0*), area 9,4 ha;
- Alluvial forests Mixed ash-alder alluvial forests of temperate and Boreal Europe (code 91E0*) 14,9 ha;
- complex of mixed Northern Boreal alluvial meadows, Lowland hay meadows, Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands (6450+6510+6270*), total area 338,3 ha;
- complex of mixed Riparian forests of *Quercus robur*, *Ulmus laevis*, and *Ulmus minor*, *Fraxinus excelsior* or *Fraxinus angustifolia*, Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the *Carpinion betuli*, *Alluvial forests Mixed ash-alder alluvial forests of temperate and Boreal Europe* (91F0+9160+9020+91E0*), total area 335,3 ha.

Total number of specially protected species in the territory of the Nature Reserve is very high – 107, among them 26 plant species, 4 species of fungus, 13 species of lichens, 5 species of moss, 24 species of invertebrates, 23 bird species and 10 mammal species. Plan was elaborated 2006 and 2007 by Latvian Nature Fund within the frameworks of the project LIFE-Nature “Restoration of the floodplain meadows in Latvia” and according to the regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 234 (March 28th 2006.) „Regulations of the content and procedure of elaboration of nature management plan to the specially protected territories.

Nature Management Plan for the Nature Reserve “Pededzes lejtece” is elaborated for next 10 years. Plan includes all the possible information about the values in territory, analysis of the natural, social and economic values, declared tasks for protection and managing as well as elaborated advisable steps of managing and maintaining.

Nature Management Plan includes following long-term managing tasks:

- 1) Borders of the Nature Reserve are observable and information about the aim of the Nature Reserve creating is easy accessible to everybody;
- 2) Flood in Pededze River, minimal interference into the natural development process of forest, regular managing steps of the meadows and natural hydrological regime is providing existence of all the natural values. This is proved by a long-term monitoring;

Nature values in the Nature Reserve possess high social-economic value – important resources of recreation. Unfortunately, negative aspects of recreation as fire and littering are observed, because till now recreation here was not organized.

Territory of the Nature Reserve is divided in three separate zones: *zone with adjustable regime* with microreserves, biotopes of the natural forest, biotopes of protected forest, deposits of birds and invertebrates, *restricted zone* with all other forest and meadows with allowed maintenance and *neutral zone* with yards, gardens and fields.