

Balance (sustainable) land use and management of protected areas in Lithuania

Kastytis Gedminas

State Service for Protected Areas
under the Ministry of Environment of Lithuania

Living Lakes. Eastern Europe Network Conference in Estonia, Tartu, 19-22nd of February 2008



Content of the presentation

- **System of protected areas in Lithuania:**
 - Legislation
 - Definition of PA
 - The system of PA's and statistics
- **Planning of protected areas:**
 - Planning system of PA's
 - Contents of planning documents
 - Restrictions in PA's
- **Management of protected areas:**
 - What is important to keep the balance (sustainability)
 - Nature/culture heritage management
 - What is done up to now



Legislation

- Law on Protected Areas (1993, 2001)
- Law on Territorial Planning (1994, 2004)
- Law on Land (1994, 2006)
- Special Use Conditions of Land and Forest (1992)
- Rules for Preparation of Management Plans of PA (2002)
- Rules of Consideration (2004)
- Requirements for Preparation of Strategic Plans for PA (2004)
- Requirements for the Content of Nature Management plans (2004)
- Typical and individual protection regulations of state parks (2002, under recently)



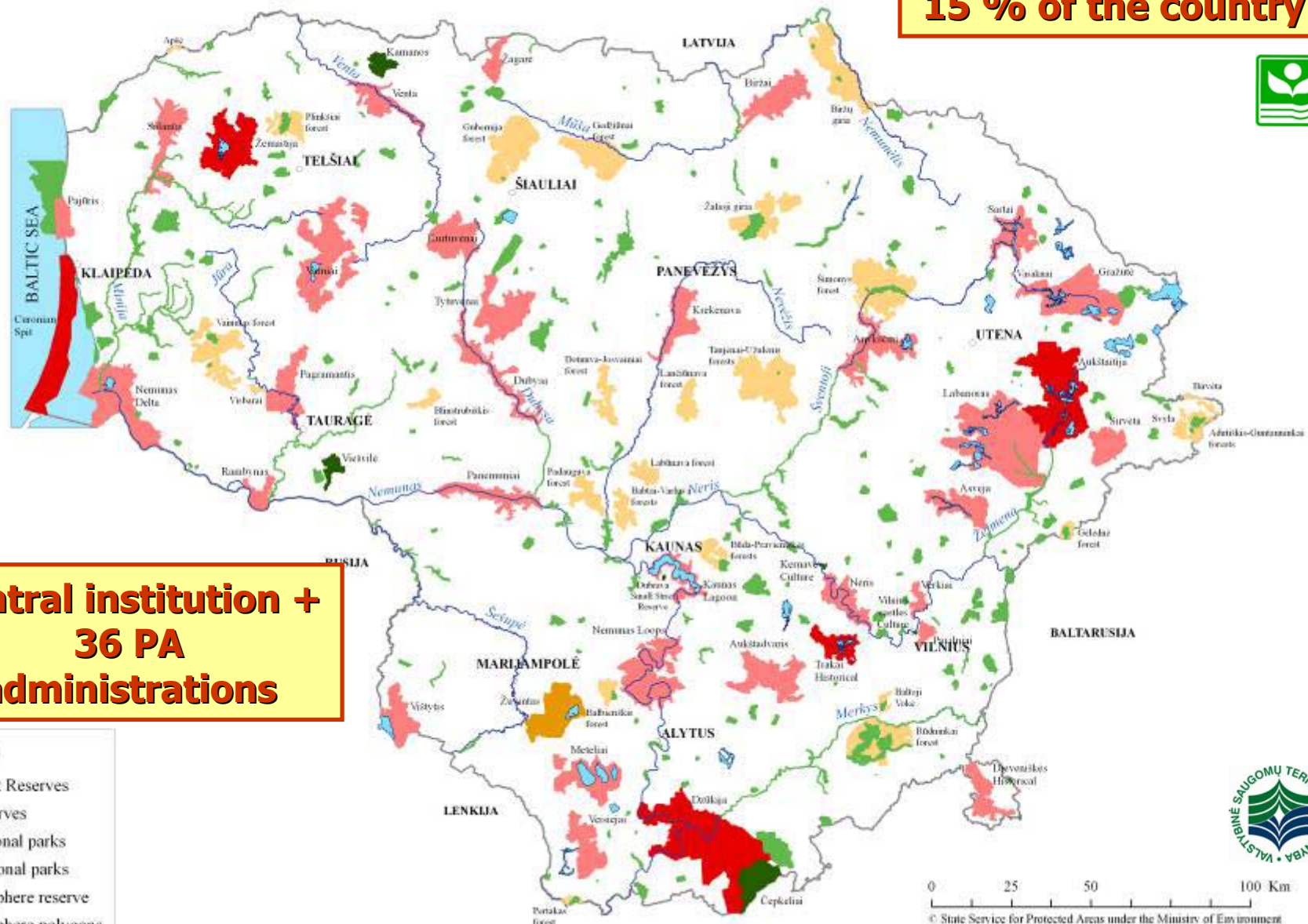
Definition of protected areas

Protected areas are established in order to preserve territorial complexes and objects (values) of the natural and cultural heritage, landscape variations and biological diversities, to ensure ecological balance of the landscape, balanced use and restoration of natural resources, to establish conditions for cognitive tourism, scientific researches and monitoring of the environment status, propagate territorial complexes and objects (values) of the natural and cultural heritage.



PROTECTED AREAS

15 % of the country



**Central institution +
36 PA
administrations**

LEGEND

- Strict Reserves
- Reserves
- National parks
- Regional parks
- Biosphere reserve
- Biosphere polygons



Classification of protected areas

- PA's are classified by goals and ways protection is organised
- national PA's of international importance are nominated:

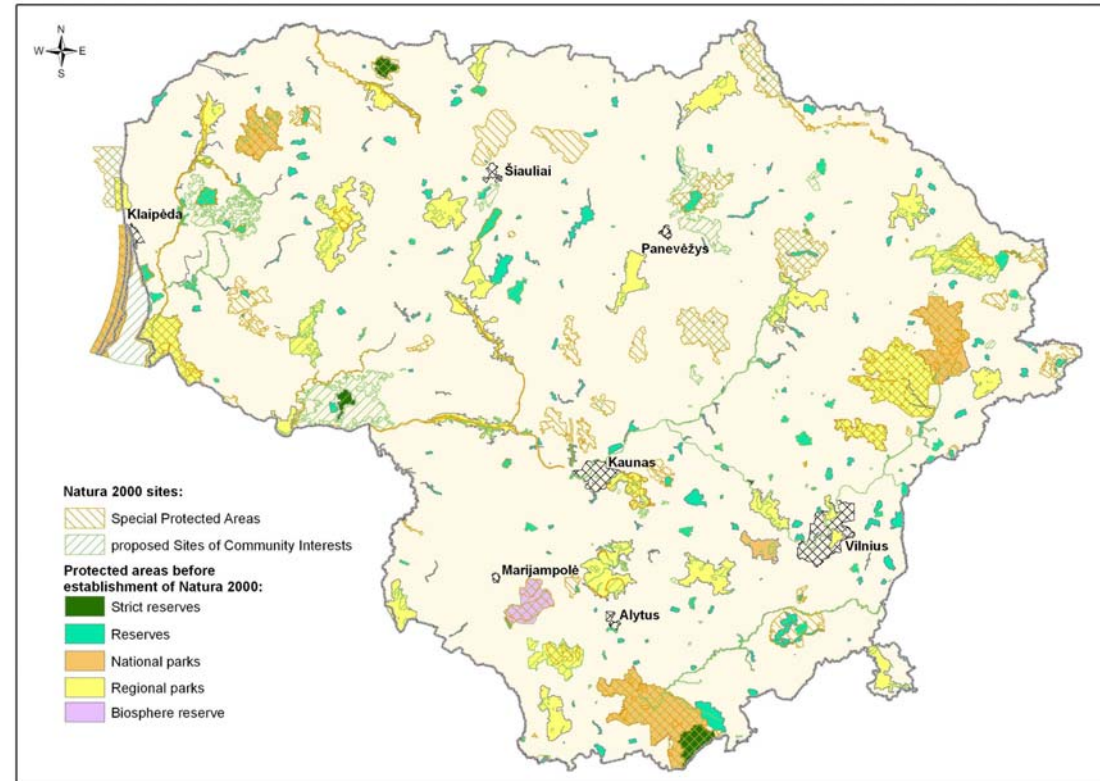
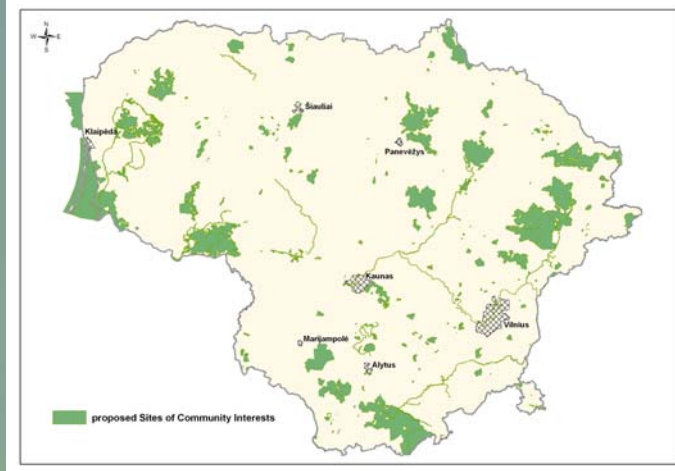
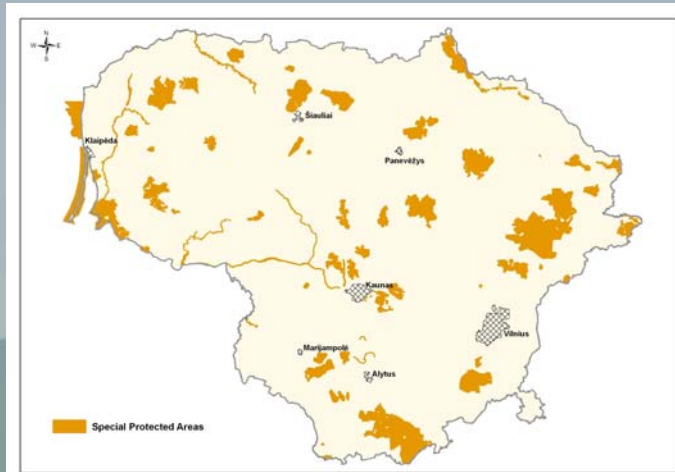
Categories of Protected Areas	Types of Protected Areas		
Conservational	<i>Strict reserves</i>	Nature	
		Culture	
	<i>Reserves</i>	Nature	Geological, geomorphological, pedological, hydrographical, telmological, talasological, botanical, zoological, botanical-zoological.
		Culture	Archaeological, memorial, ethnocultural, reserves of landscape architecture, urban.
		Complex	Landscape, kartographical.
	<i>Objects of heritage/monuments</i>	Nature	Geological, geomorphological, hydrographical, hydrogeological, botanical, zoological.
Culture		Archaeological, memorial, ethnocultural, architectural, technical.	
Prezervational	<i>Protected zones</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected zones of general ecological protection (for water bodies, cities and resorts, sea coast, intensive carst area protection); • Buffer zones (for strict reserves, national and regional parks, reserves and heritage objects); • Protected zones of physical protection (for heritage objects, technical infrastructure protection); • Protected zones of visual protection (for heritage objects, airports, etc.); • Sanitarian protected zones (for protection of industrial, communal and agricultural enterprises); • Protected zones of preservational purpose (zones for protection of mineral resources). 	
Recuperational	<i>Plots of natural resources</i>	For flora resources (forests, berries, mushrooms, medical plants) and fauna resources, marches, underground water resources recuperation.	
	<i>Genetical plots</i>	For genetic resources recuperation.	
Integrated	<i>State Parks</i>	National	Historic national
		Regional	Historic regional
	<i>Biosphere monitoring areas</i>	Biosphere reserve	
		Biosphere polygons	

Statistics

- strict nature reserves (SNR) – **3**
- nature reserves (NR) – **260** state and **112** municipal
- nature monuments (NM) – **719**
- state parks – **5** national, **30** regional
- biosphere monitoring areas – **1** biosphere reserve, **26** biosphere polygons
- recuperation plots – **3**
- protection (buffer) zones PZ
- zoning of state parks and biosphere reserves among other zones includes SNR, NR, NM, PZ
- national PA's of international importance are nominated:
 - Natura 2000 - **266** pSCI, **77** SPA
 - Unesco, Ramsar, Helcom, etc.



Natura 2000





▼ Search protected area

by name by code

Search

▶ Search by list of the protected area

▶ Search by municipality

▶ Search by city, settlement name

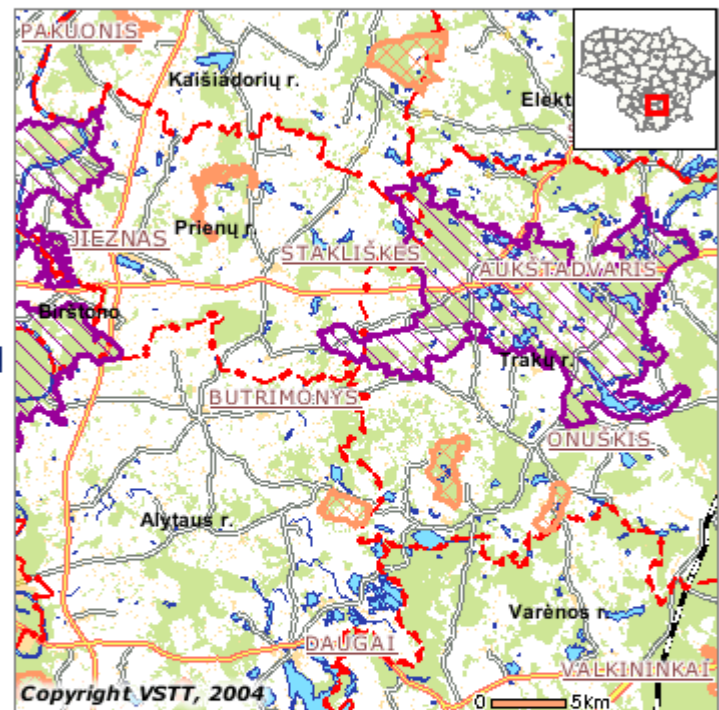
Search results

- Reserves**
 - Širvinta Hydrographical Reserve
 - Širvinta Landscape Reserve
- Nature heritage objects**
 - Didysis Širvintas Oak
 - Drevėtasis Širvintas Oak
- Regional Parks**
 - Širvėta Regional Park
- Special Protected Areas**
 - Širvintos upės slėnis (LTVLKB001)

>> Cadastre map of protected areas

When pressed on map:

Pan Zoom in Zoom out Identify Measure



Download map

Resolution:

<http://stk.vstt.lt>

Detailed information

Identification code:	0210300000025
Reserve name:	Širvinta Hydrographical Reserve
InGIS geocode (type of protected area):	nd1
Reserve status:	State

Layer management

Choose group of objects for identification

Protected areas

- Strict Reserves
- Reserves
- Recuperational Plots and Genetic Plots
- National and Regional Parks
- Biosphere Reserves
- Biosphere Polygons

Nature Heritage Objects

- Geological
- Geomorphological
- Hydrogeological
- Hydrographical
- Botanical
- Zoological

Zones

- Zones of Functional Priority
- Buffer zones

Natura 2000

- Sites of Community Importance
- Special Protected Areas
- Habitats

• Clear selections

1:

Refresh



Planning system of Protected Areas

Territorial (physical) planning

General planning

Special planning

Detailed planning

Special planning:

For a part of or the whole system of the PA, for values of natural and cultural heritage

- Network schemes of the PA's;
- Schemes of the Nature Frame and/or ecological network formation;
- Schemes of the ecological protection zones network;
- Border plans of the PA's;
- Management plans;
- Nature management and/or heritage management projects.

Strategic planning

- Special Programs;
- Heritage management plans;
- Action plans;
- Monitoring programs;
- Nature management plans.



Territorial (physical) planning of PA

Territorial planning is a **process and procedure** for regulating the land use planning for defining the intended **purpose** of the territory and land use, the priorities, the environmental, monument **protection** and other conditions, for **developing** a system of land, waters, residential areas, industry and infrastructure, for **regulating** the population employment, and for determining the **rights** of natural and legal entities engaged in the development of the territory

- Law on Territorial Planning
- Rules of preparation of different kinds of plans



Goals of management (territorial) plans

- Guidelines of protection and management
- Landscape management zones and regulations
- Proposals for means of landscape protection, recreational infrastructure development, etc.
- Creation of the conditions for conservation of ecosystems, flora, fauna and fungi species
- Means for restoration of natural landscape, ecosystems and objects

Proposals of MP = graphical part (schemes) + text (explanatory document) + documents of procedures



Content of the scheme of MP

- Boundaries of administrative units
- Boundaries of PA
- Zones of landscape management
- Nature and culture heritage objects (monuments) and their buffer zones
- The system of recreation
- Places for construction



Content of the text of MP

- Introduction
- General part (geographic review)
- Nature, inhabitants, economy, etc.
- Analysis of nature and culture heritage and recr. potential of landscape
- Proposals (principles for management, the system of landscape mng. zones and their regulations, means for conservation, restoration, guidelines and means for env., recr., forests and agriculture development, etc.).



Restrictions in PA

- Law of Protected Areas
- Special use conditions of land and forest
- Regulations of PA
- Management plans of PA etc.



Restrictions in PA

- Law of Protected Areas

- General restrictions in PA of:
 - economic activities
 - construction
 - changes of hydrological regime
 - land parcel segmentation, etc.



Restrictions in PA

- Special use conditions of land and forest
- Restrictions by individual types of protected areas



Restrictions in PA

- Regulations of PA
- Regulations of individual protected areas



Restrictions in PA

- Management plans of PA, etc.
- Regulations of individual protected areas and it's parts



Public opinions

PA – restrictions, prohibitions – additional problems

PA – possibilities to preserve values, keep clean environment for visiting, eco-friendly activities and production, education



Management of PA's.

What is important to keep the balance (sustainability)?

- Political support
- Proper planning
- Visibility of management measures and outcomes = public awareness = support on local level = political support
- Cooperation with stakeholders on national and local level
- International cooperation and experience exchange
- Management Effectiveness Evaluation prepared in 2006 following the methodology created by IUCN and WWF



Management of PA's. What is done up to now

- Management activities for nature and culture values and NATURA 2000 areas
- Recuperation of the violated areas
- Visitors facilities



Management activities during recent years

- Installations made during Phare'2003 ISMP Project:
 - 680 road signs
 - 88 information boards
 - 3 observation towers (15 m height)
 - + 7 cars for maintenance, control and prevention
- Installations made with support of EU Structural funds:
 - Informational infrastructure (info-boards, signs and other) and minimal visitors facilities in **13** State Parks
 - **9** visitor centres are reconstructed, built or are under construction
 - **8** violated areas are rehabilitated
- **118** nature management plans prepared (**48** adopted)
- Nearly **150** documents of territorial planning are prepared or under preparation



Thank You for attention!

