

# **Russian present MPA network and proposal for development**

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In the Russian Federation specially protected natural areas are a traditional and very efficient form of nature protection activity.

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The ecological doctrine of the Russian Federation considers establishment and development of specially protected natural areas of various levels and mode among the basic environmental directions of national policy.

Development and perfection of the network of specially protected natural areas provides fulfillment of international obligations by the Russian Federation in conservation of the environment.

Taking into account increasing hazard of natural accidents and environmental changes as a result of economic activities, the main destination of specially protected natural areas both in Russia and worldwide is social services provided by the society in:

- maintenance of environmental stability of the territories essentially changed by economic activities;

- reproduction of valuable renewed natural resources in natural conditions;

- maintenance of the healthy environment for people and providing conditions for the development of regulated tourism and recreation;

- implementation of environmental educational programs;

- carrying out fundamental and applied researches in the field of natural sciences.

The system of the state natural reserves and national parks existing in Russia was under formation for over 95 years and includes:

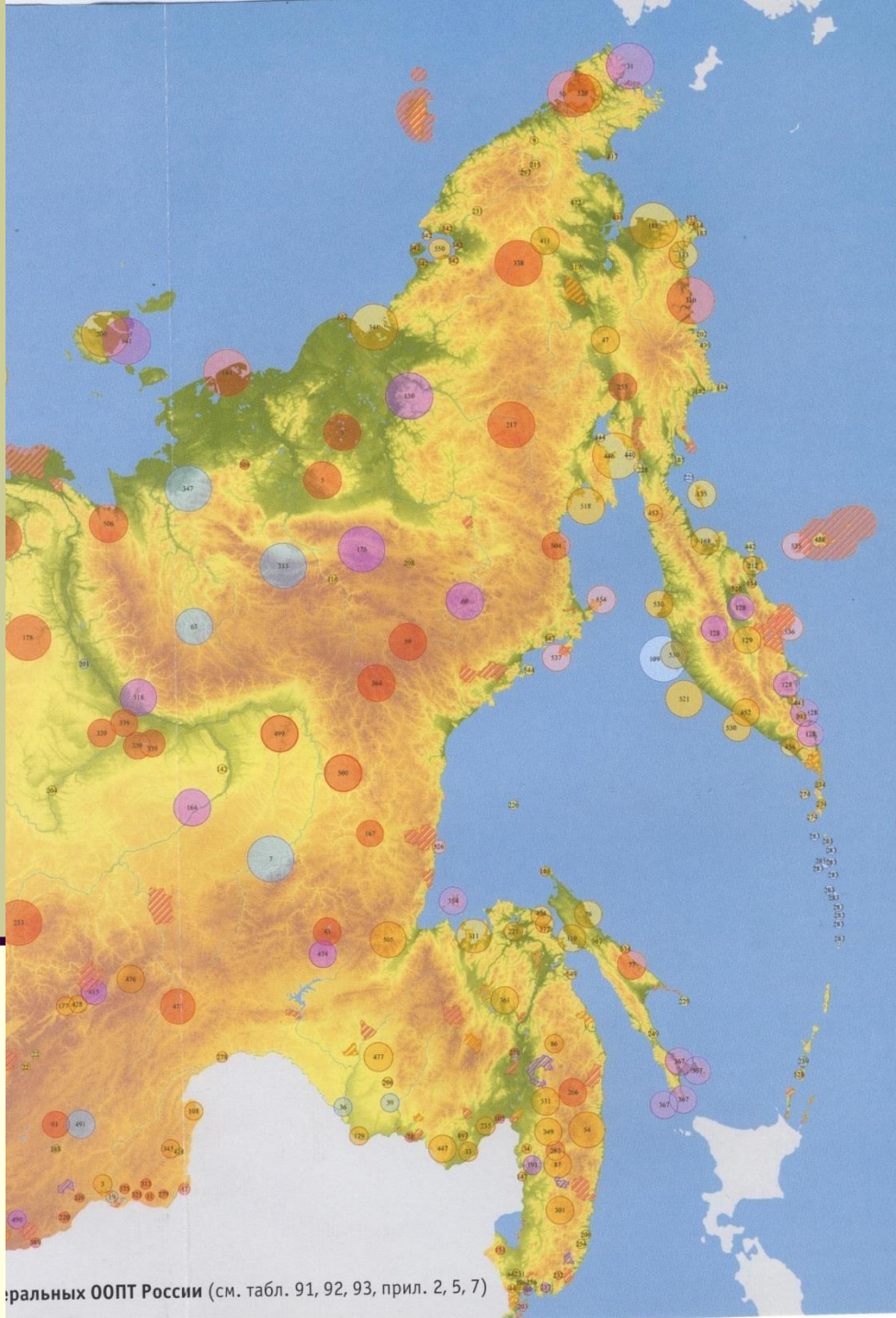
Basis of the system of specially protected natural areas consists (on 2010) of 102 state natural reserves, 42 national parks and 70 national natural refuges of federal value (hereinafter - federal refuges) which occupy 2.7 percent of the total area of the Russian Federation.

Domestic system of reserves and national parks obtained international recognition: 27 Russian reserves and 3 national parks hold the international status of UNESCO biospheric reserves, 9 reserves and 5 national parks are under jurisdiction of the International Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,

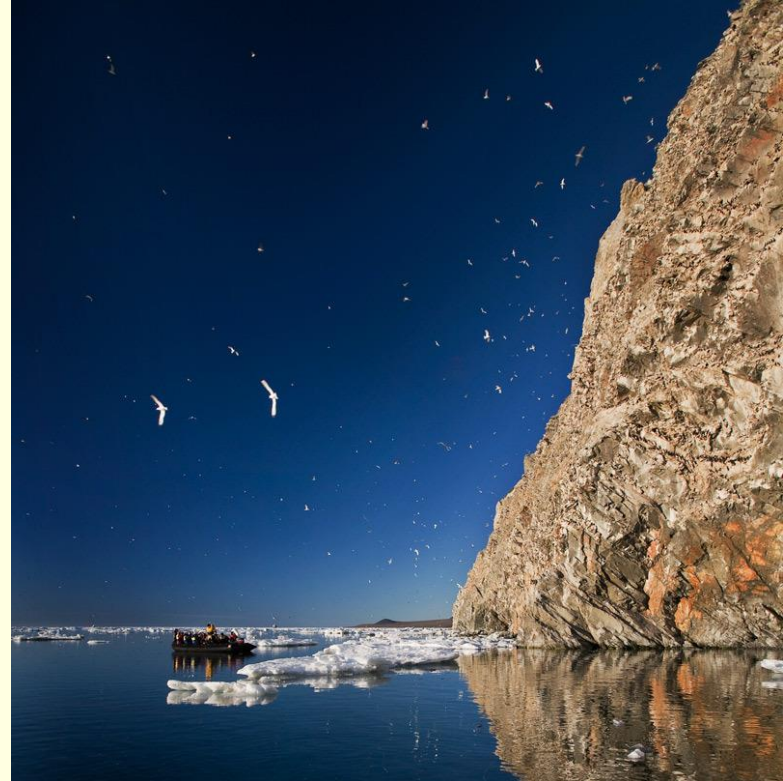
12 reserves and 1 national park are under jurisdiction of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as waterfowl habitat (The Ramsar Convention),

4 reserves have diplomas of the Council of Europe,

3 reserves (Kostomukshsky, Daursky, Khankaisky) are a part of the international transboundary specially protected natural areas.



The system of existing and future state protected natural territories and waters.



## **System of Nature conservation in Russian Far East**

Considering the whole system of SPA in the Russian Far East it is necessary to assess it in comparison with other regions of the country. The Far East of the Russian Federation on the whole, and its southern part first of all, is unique among all other regions of Russia by the variety of species of fauna and flora, particularly in coastal areas. There are unique natural objects, many of which are of international or federal importance.

## Distribution of SPA objects among Federal Districts of Russia. Federal district

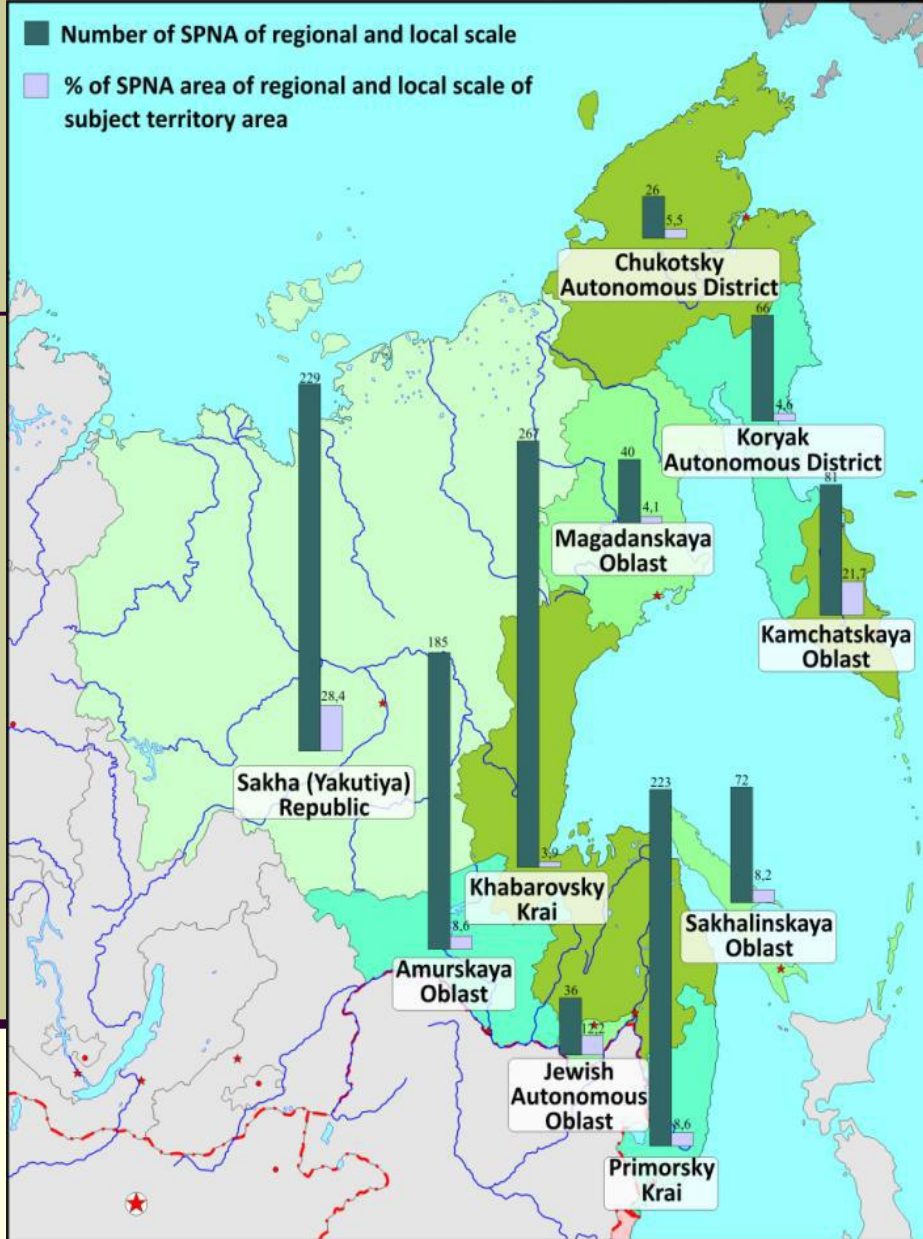
	Area of SPNA, thousand ha		Share of the federal district, %
	Total	Only land	
Severo-Zapadny	18 700	15 791	9.4
Centralny	6183	6183	9.5
Privolzhsky	6845	6845	6.6
Yuzhny	6828	6798	11.5
Uralsky	13 848	13 848	7.6
Sibirsky	34 323	33 342	6.5
Dalnevostochny	100 744	93 356	15.1



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Data of table show that considering exclusive uniqueness of Far Eastern ecosystems, including marine ones, Russia considers the region as a priority area in nature protection actions.

The Far East is the important element of SPA system of Russia, first of all its southern part. SPA system of the Far East of Russia is well developed and represented by all spectrum of SPA.



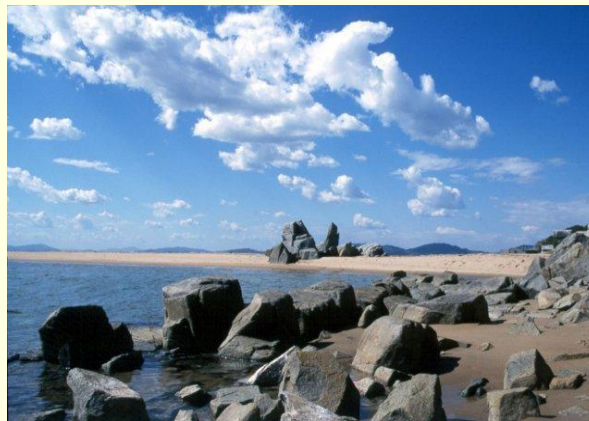
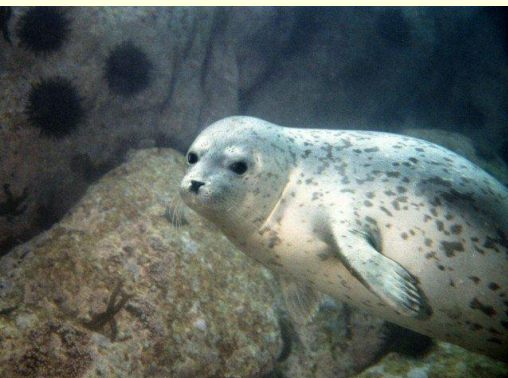
**System of protected natural areas (SPA) of the Russian Far East.**

## Marine specially protected natural areas of the Russian Far East

According to the Constitution of the Russian Federation internal marine resources, territorial waters, exclusive economic zones and the continental shelf are under the federal jurisdiction.

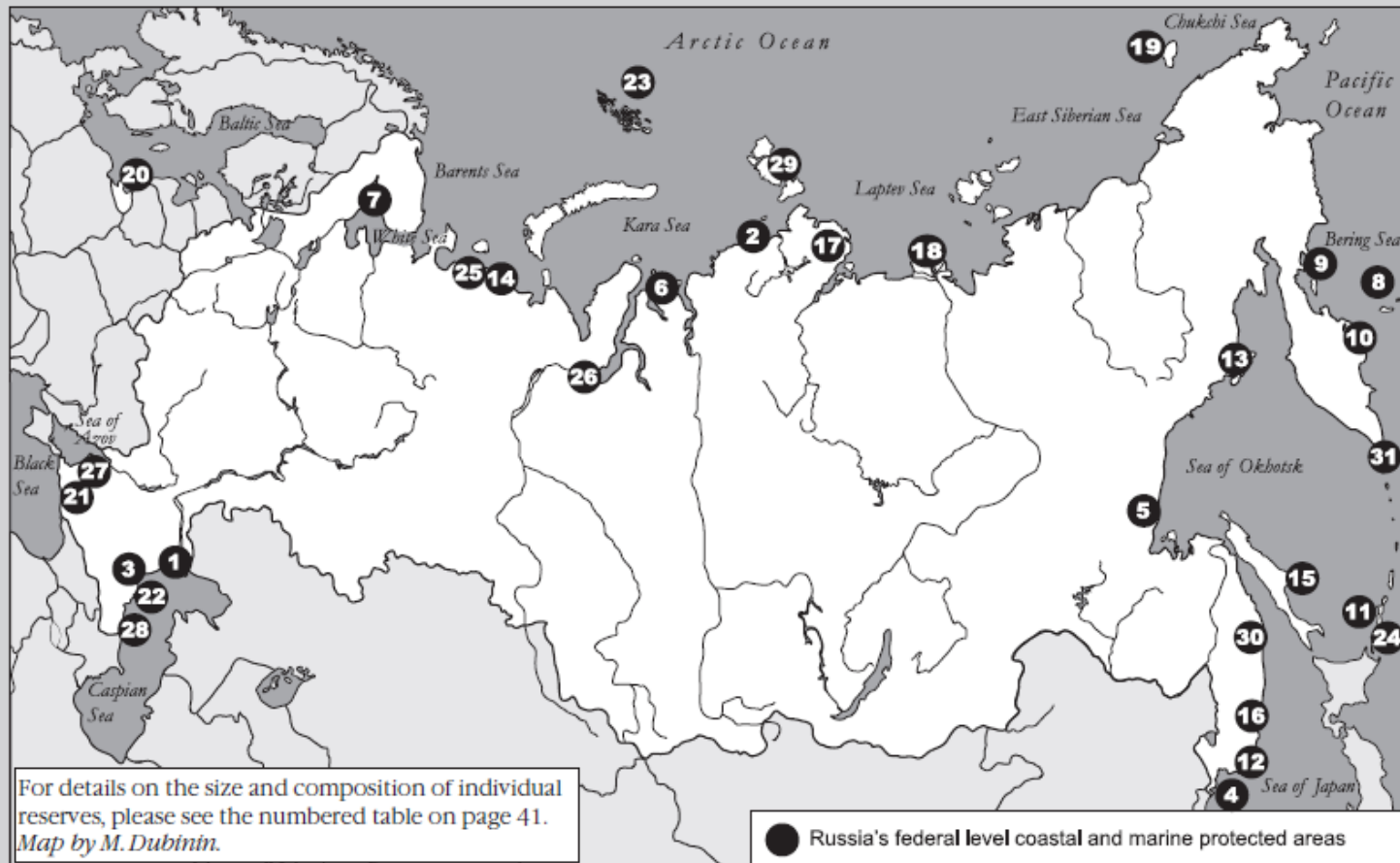
Conservation of biota in the World Ocean as a basis of stability of global ecosystem and the major source of renewed resources according to «UNEP Marine and Coastal Strategy» is among the major problems of the world nature protection activity and completely meets the priorities of the national environmental policy of the Russian Federation as a sea power.

**The Far East of the Russian Federation** as a whole, and its south area first of all, is unrivalled among all regions of Russia in diversity of fauna and flora species, including in the coastal zones





## Russia's Federal Level Coastal and Marine Protected Areas



### Zapovedniks

1. Astrakhansky
2. Bolshoi Arktichesky
3. Dagestansky
4. Dalnevostochny Morskoi
5. Dzhugdzhursky
6. Gydansky
7. Kandalakshsky
8. Komandorsky
9. Koryaksky
10. Kronotsky
11. Kurilsky

12. Lazovsky
13. Magadansky
14. Nenetsky
15. Poronaisky
16. Sikhote-Alinsky
17. Taimyrsky
18. Ust-Lensky
19. Wrangel Island

### National Parks

20. Kurshskaya Kosa
21. Sochinsky

### Zakazniks

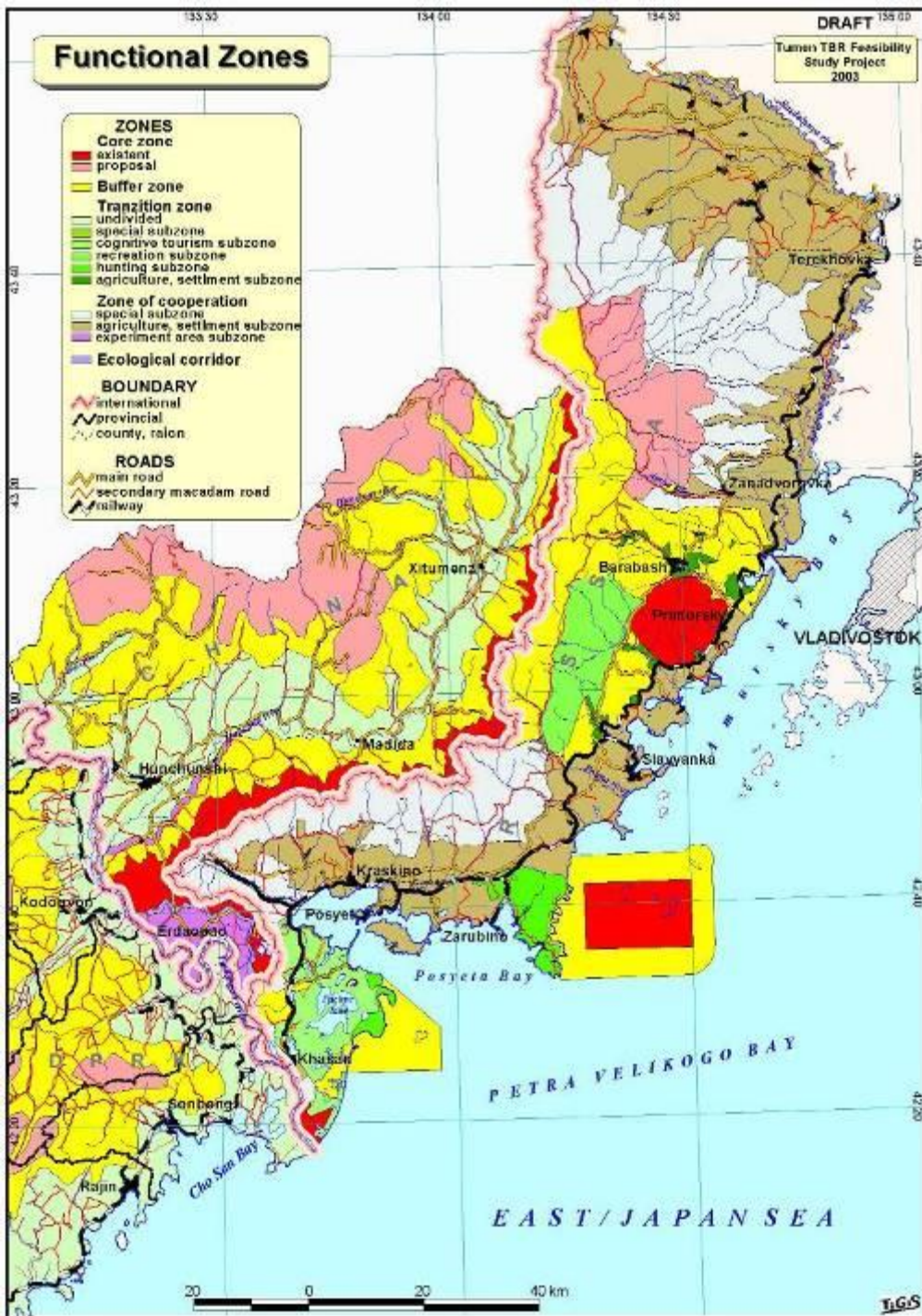
22. Agrakhansky
23. Franz Josef Land
24. Maliye Kurily
25. Nenetsky
26. Nizhne-Obsky
27. Priazovsky
28. Samursky
29. Severozemelsky
30. Tumnsky
31. Yuzhno-Kamchatsky

## Russia's Federal Level Coastal and Marine Protected Areas

Protected Area			Total Area Protected (hectares)			Buffer Zone (hectares)			
Name of Reserve	Int'l Status	Ocean, Sea, or Seas	Terrestrial/ Coastal Habitats	Marine	Total	Terrestrial/ Coastal Habitats	Marine	Total	
<b>Zapovedniks</b>									
1.	Astrakhansky	BR, RW	Caspian	56,619	11,298	67,917	10,000	21,000	31,000
2.	Bolshoi Arktichesky		Kara, Laptev	3,188,288	980,934	4,169,222	9,550	0	9,550
3.	Dagestansky		Caspian	576	18,485	19,061	1,175	19,890	21,065
4.	Dalnevostochny Morskoi	BR	Japan	1,316	63,000	64,316	1,831	86,350	88,181
5.	Dzhugdzhursky		Okhotsk	806,256	53,700	859,956	252,600	0	252,600
6.	Gytiansky		Kara	878,174	0	878,174	90,000	60,000	150,000
7.	Kandalakshsky	RW	Barents, White	20,947	49,583	70,530	0	0	0
8.	Komandorsky	BR	Bering, Pacific	185,379	3,463,300	3,648,679	64,498	2,112,900	2,177,398
9.	Koryaksky	RW	Bering	244,156	83,000	327,156	676,062	0	676,062
10.	Kronotsky	BR, WH	Pacific	1,007,134	135,000	1,142,134	0	0	0
11.	Kurilsky		Pacific, Okhotsk	65,365	0	65,365	41,475	32,000	73,475
12.	Lazovsky		Japan	120,998	0	120,998	15,978	0	15,978
13.	Magadansky		Okhotsk	883,817	0	883,817	55,600	38,100	93,700
14.	Nenetsky		Barents	131,500	181,900	313,400	26,400	242,800	269,200
15.	Poronaysky		Okhotsk	56,695	0	56,695	0	0	0
16.	Sikhote-Alinsky	BR, WH	Japan	398,528	2,900	401,428	62,550	5,110	67,660
17.	Taimyrsky	BR	Laptev	1,744,910	37,018	1,781,928	937,760	0	937,760
18.	Ust-Lensky		Laptev	1,433,000	0	1,433,000	0	1,050,000	1,050,000
19.	Wrangel Island	WH	Chukchi, East Siberian	795,650	1,430,000	2,225,650	0	3,240,000	3,240,000
<b>National Parks</b>									
20.	Kurshskaya Kosa	WH	Baltic	6,621	0	6,621	0	0	0
21.	Sochinsky		Black	193,737	0	193,737	0	0	0
<b>Zakazniks</b>									
22.	Agrakhansky		Caspian	27,180	11,820	39,000	0	0	0
23.	Franz Josef Land		Barents	1,600,000	2,600,000	4,200,000	0	0	0
24.	Maliye Kurily		Pacific, Okhotsk	19,800	25,200	45,000	0	0	0
25.	Nenetsky		Barents	188,500	120,000	308,500	0	0	0
26.	Nizhne-Obnsky	RW	Barents	128,000	0	128,000	0	0	0
27.	Prizovskiy		Azov	42,200	0	42,200	0	0	0
28.	Samursky		Caspian	11,200	0	11,200	0	0	0
29.	Severozemelsky		Kara, Laptev	421,701	0	421,701	0	0	0
30.	Tumninsky		Okhotsk	143,100	0	143,100	0	0	0
31.	Yuzhno-Kamchatsky	WH	Pacific, Okhotsk	225,000	0	225,000	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>				<b>15,026,347</b>	<b>9,267,138</b>	<b>24,293,485</b>	<b>2,245,479</b>	<b>6,908,150</b>	<b>9,153,629</b>

International status: BR – Biosphere Reserve, RW – Ramsar Wetland of International Importance, WH – World Heritage Site.

Note: The information presented in this table was compiled by RCV editors using materials provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation and individual reserves. Data on Dalnevostochny Morskoi Zapovednik's buffer zone was calculated using the Protected Areas GIS database of the Biodiversity Conservation Center/International Socio-Ecological Union.



The system of existing federal protected natural territories and waters in the South of Russian Far East.

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At the same time, results of inventory of the status of the plants species included in the Red Data Books, carried out in MPA, has revealed that more than a half of them are not protected.

According to WWF marine and coastal SPA of federal value in existing SPA system are presented non-uniformly and non-representatively, in comparison with their continental analogues that is one of the reasons of development and expansion of MPA network with a view of conservation of unique natural heritage and a variety of coastal and marine ecosystems of Russia.





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**In 2012 Centre of International Projects of Ministry of Nature Resources prepared Draft of concept of development of marine protected areas.**

The concept of MPA development defines the following main tasks of its organization and functioning:

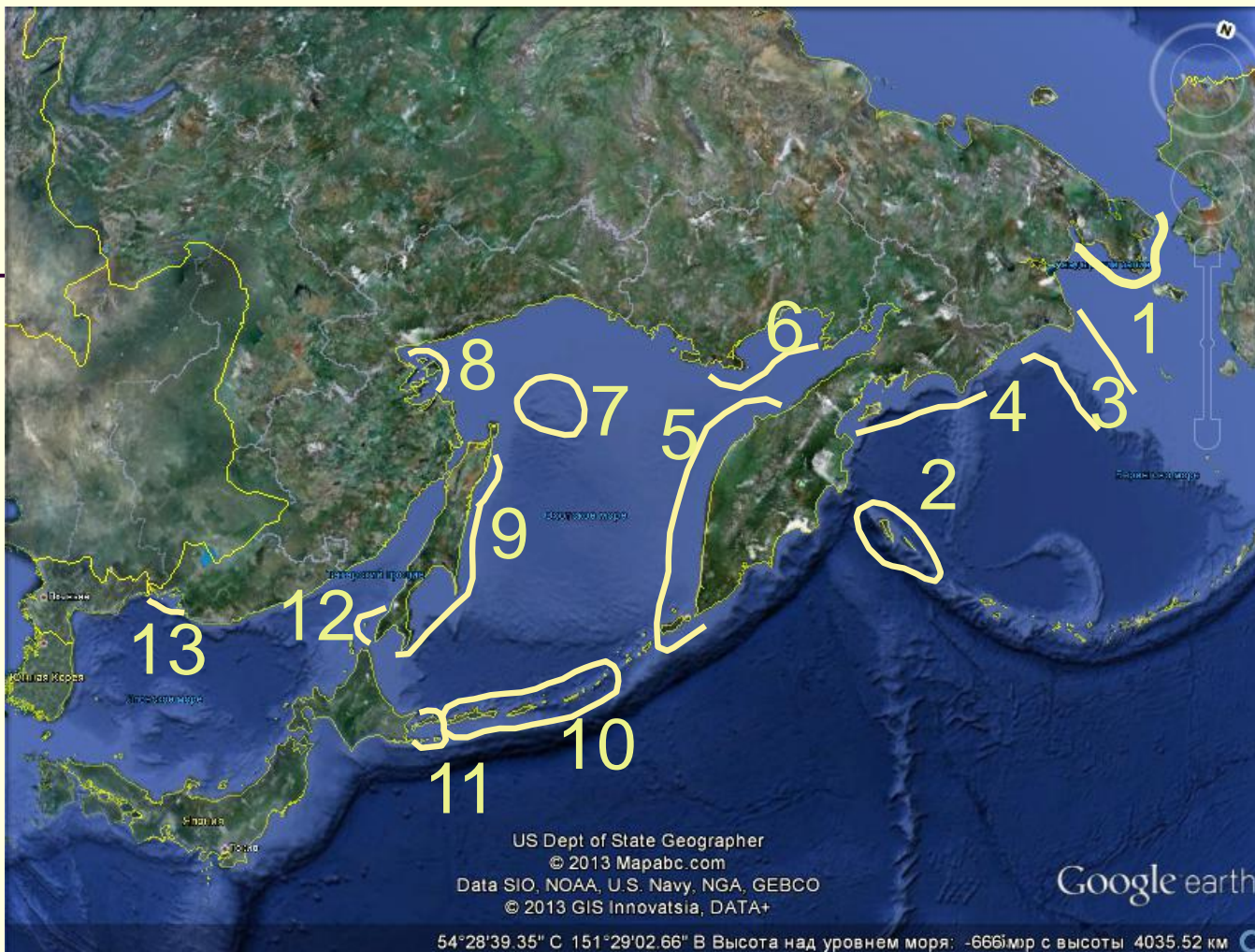
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- Maintenance of natural processes of marine ecosystem self-restoration,
- Adaptations to global changes, including climatic,
- Prevention and softening of negative influences of new anthropogenic impacts,
- Studying of the condition and features of its functioning,
- And monitoring and forecast of natural regenerative processes and reaction to the nature and intensity of external impacts, including anthropogenic impacts.

Main tasks of MPA should be support of natural processes of self-regeneration of marine ecosystems, prevention and reduction of new anthropogenic impacts, studying of condition and features of their functioning, as well as monitoring and forecast of natural regeneration processes and reaction to the character and intensity of external impacts, including anthropogenic.

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**To 2020 10 % of the coastal and marine areas especially valuable for biodiversity conservation and providing of ecosystem services should be protected through efficient management and systems of environmentally representative and interconnected marine protected areas.**



**Summary of proposed ecologically and biologically significant areas in the North-west Pacific (waters under Russia's jurisdiction) (Spiridonov V.)**

This MPA development concept is based on the following positions:

- The ecological doctrine of the Russian Federation (approved by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation of 31.08.2002),

- Concepts of long-term social and economic development of the Russian Federation before 2020 (approved by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation of 17.11.2008 ),

- The Climatic Doctrine (2009),

- The Maritime Doctrine of the Russian Federation before 2020 (approved in 2001),

- Water Strategy of the Russian Federation before 2020 (2009),

- The Water Code of the Russian Federation (edition of 27.12.2009),

- The Federal Law «On Conservation of the Environment» (edition of 27.12.2009),

- The Federal Law «On Specially Protected Natural Areas» (edition of 27.12.2009),

- The Federal Law «On Domestic Sea Waters, Territorial Sea and Adjoining Zone of the Russian Federation» (edition of 27.12.2009)

A photograph of two tigers in a snowy, wooded environment. One tiger is standing on the left, looking down at a third tiger lying on the snow. The second tiger is sitting on the right, looking towards the camera. The background consists of snow-covered trees and branches.

**Thank You Very Much for your  
attention**