Specially Protected Natural Areas as a Factor in the Development of Educational Tourism in the Republic of Belarus (on the example of the Republican Biological Reserve "Dnepro-Sozhsky")

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## **Abstract**

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, due to the transformational trends in the national economy, the Republic of Belarus has been experiencing a need in developing tourism both locally and abroad. In these conditions, there is an urgent need in activating particular types of tourist activities which also include educational tourism. In this report, the author proposes to consider specially protected natural areas (SPNAs) as promising objects for the development of educational tourism. The Republican Biological Reserve "Dnepro-Sozhsky" is an example that proves this point. On its basis, a tourist educational product "Structure and Ecosystem of the Valley of Eastern Belarusian Polesie Rivers (on the example of the Dnieper and the Sozh)" has been developed for pupils of secondary schools. Moreover, mechanisms for its implementation are also proposed.