

Performance audit of the state budget funds, allocated to development of nature reserve management and preservation of nature reserve fund of national significance in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea

From July to October 2013, the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine conducted performance audit of the state budget funds, allocated to development of nature reserve management and preservation of nature reserve fund of national significance in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

Audited entities: Yalta Mountain-Forest Nature Reserve, Kazantynsky Nature Reserve, Opuksky Nature Reserve, Karadag Nature Reserve of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Crimean Nature Reserve, Nature Reserve “Cape Martian”, the State Administration of Livadia, Massandra, Miskhorsky Parks-Monuments of Landscape Art of National Importance.

Key findings:

In order to create appropriate conditions for the implementation of the common state policy in the sphere of nature reserve management and preservation of natural reserve fund, the legislative and regulatory support in this area needs to be improved in terms of ensuring environmental management and implementation of comprehensive long-term scientific researches of unique ecosystems.

The regulation on authorities of nature reserves of national importance on the territory of the Crimea needs for amendments.

The system of planning and funding allocations for conservation and development of reserve management must be improved in order to ensure effective functioning of nature reserves of national significance.

It is necessary to activate the measures of project development of areas of nature reserve fund and land management projects in organizing and establishing the limits of protected areas, in particular by providing adequate budget allocations for these purposes.

The scientific activity of the entities of the nature reserve fund of national significance in the Crimea needs to identify priority areas of development and preservation of natural resources.

In order to expand scientific research topics for the development and preservation of natural resources and the further effective use of their results in practice, the number of researchers of nature reserve fund must be reviewed.

The activity of nature reserves in terms of public procurement and preparatory and construction works requires strengthening of the internal control over compliance with the current legislation in these areas.

Given the high level of fire danger on the territories of the reserves, the key resource managers must continuously monitor the condition of the planning and implementation by the reserves of construction of gutter trenches and repair of fire-fighting equipment.