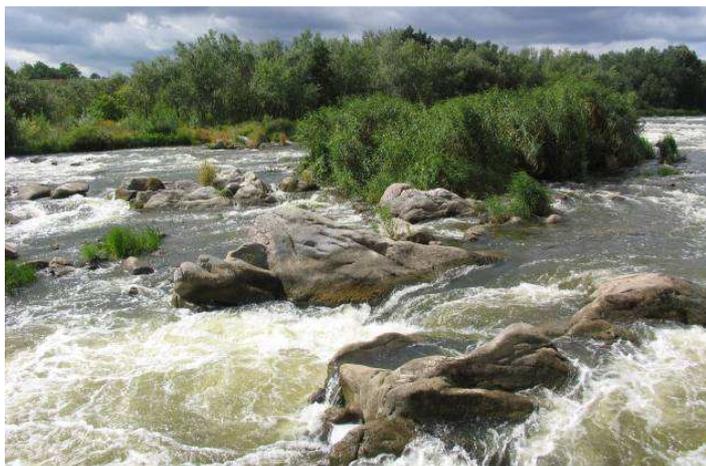


# PROTECTION OF NATIONAL NATURE PARKS CAMPAIGN

The civil campaign “For the National Parks” was a public reaction to the decision of Nikolaev Regional Council session during which deputies addressed to the President of Ukraine on the subject of actual liquidation of two National parks on the Black Sea Coast “Beloberezhie Sviatoslava” and “Bugsky Gard”. In the guise of protection of rights of several local councils the representatives of local authorities intended to change the purpose of valuable lands.



The goal of the campaign “For the National Parks” was to prevent the elimination of National parks by the President of Ukraine.

Organizers of the campaign were the Regional Black Sea network of public organizations, youth organization “Democratic Alliance” and Nikolaev regional charitable foundation “Indigo”. More than 40 public organizations and bodies of student government of Nikolaev region have joined them.

Participants in the action visited settlements, which are situated on the territory of National parks to make a public inquiry and sound the opinion of local communities about the future of the objects of the nature-reserved fund. Thousands of signatures confirmed that the majority of people supported the creation of protected territories.

Within the framework of the action, press conferences in Nikolaev and Kiev (Agencies UkrInform, UNIAN) were held; the action “Green Chain” united hundreds of volunteers in the central streets of Nikolaev. More than 50 collective and individual appeals were prepared to the President of Ukraine about invalidity of elimination of reserved objects, under which 108 ecological organizations subscribed.

The statement of the Ministry for Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine that this ministry “supports the position of citizens of Nikolaev and Nikolaev region on barring the elimination of the status of National Natural Parks of objects of nature-reserved fund “Beloberezhie Sviatoslava” and “Bugsky Gard” was the answer to the campaign.

The public managed to defend the high nature protection status of the most valuable natural territories, pearls of nature of the Black Sea Coast!