

Shaping of students' attitudes in geographical education - the issue of *Ips typographus* outbreaks

Abstract

The diploma thesis deals with shaping the students' attitudes by utilising various texts during the geography classes. This experiment is shown on particular problem of Spruce Bark Beetle in the National Park of Šumava. There are two main streams towards this issue of Spruce Bark Beetle-one of them promotes the idea of incorporating the human intervention, while reducing the disaster, the other follows the opposite attitude towards the outbreak of the Spruce Bark Beetle, and that is not to intervene at all and to leave the destructed vegetation to regenerate. The backbone of the thesis is represented by a survey that aims at finding attitudes towards the problem mentioned above. Moreover, the survey also questions the way the attitudes change depending on critical reading of distinctive texts. Two main questions are posed in this research. The results are graphically depicted and commented upon in the thesis. The research shows the extent to which it is possible to influence the students' opinion utilising quality study texts.

Key words: Spruce Bark Beetle (*Ips typographus*), National park Šumava, Spruce Bark Beetle outbreak, geographical education, critical thinking, active reading, shaping of attitudes