

## Abstract

Presented work studies the possibilities of recently established protected landscape area (PLA) Brdy for a systematic use in teaching nature and biology related subjects at schools closely neighboring the PLA.

The theoretical part of this diploma work makes a resume of basic information regarding the legal status of PLA's and introduces the reader into main facts about the PLA Brdy focusing on its natural aspects and specifics. General methods of education are reviewed briefly, followed by a more detailed discussion about the educational form of field trip and about possibilities how such trips or excursions to the PLA Brdy can be used in the education practice.

The key part of this work is a relatively large questionnaire research for teachers, pupils and students of elementary and secondary schools next to Brdy. It establishes a database of their approaches to and existing experiences with field trips generally and excursions into PLA Brdy in particular. Two separate questionnaires have been used: one for teachers (16 questions, 26 respondents) and another one for pupils and students (30 questions, 152 respondents). Therefore, the database is composed of nearly 5000 responses which have been analyzed.

The results show that interviewed pupils and students are clearly interested in the nature and they have got surprisingly high level of knowledge about the PLA Brdy. There is also a broad support of field trips from the side of teachers and school managements but just about 1/3 of actually undertaken excursions has aimed to the directly neighbouring PLA Brdy.

It is why several field trips to Brdy have been included into the presented work. They are proposed based on the author's long personal experience with spending time in the Brdy's nature either for sport or recreation or simply enjoying lessons from the direct contact with the unharmed nature.

**Keywords:** elementary school, secondary school, natural history and biology, field trip, educational excursion, protected landscape areas (PLA) , PLA Brdy, nature protection