

## **Administration of national parks**

### **A. Implementation status of national park planning**

In order to conserve the natural scenery, wild life animals and plants and heritages, the Construction and Planning Agency started the national park planning in 1981 and established Kenting, Yushan, Yangmingshan, Taroko, Shei-Pa and Kinmen national parks continually started from 1984.

### **B. Area of the National Parks**

1. The area of the national parks (land areas and marine areas) is 322,804.23 hectares; if deducting the marine area (15,206.09 hectares) of Kenting National Park, the rest of the land areas are 307,598.14 hectares, which is 8.5% of the country (3,618,803.54 hectares). Yushan, 105,490 hectares (2.9% of the country), is the largest national park, and Kinmen National Park, 3,719.64 hectares (0.1%) is the smallest one.
2. The National Parks are divided into several areas: ecological conservation areas, special scenic areas, archeological protection areas, recreation areas and general protection areas according to the land usage and resources. The area of ecological conservation is 196,444 hectares (60.9%), followed by general protection areas, 88,982 hectares (27.6%) and special scenic areas, 34,984 hectares (10.8%). The national parks of high mountains are mainly composed of ecological conservation areas: Taroko National Park (72.0%), Shei-Pa National Park (67.2%) and Yushan National Park (66.9%). Other national parks have higher percentage of general protection areas: Kenting National Park (71.9%), Kinmen National Park (51.1%) and Yangmingshan National Park (47.7%).

### **C. Species and resources**

1. Analysis of animal species: Kenting National Park has the most variety of animal species: 4,176 species, includes 1,202 of fish species; and followed by 1,251 species in Taroko National Park (400 insect species), 1,025 species in Yushan National Park (780 insect species), 891 species in Yangmingshan National Park (650 insect species) and 824 species in Shei-Pa National Park (580 insect species). In addition, Kenting National Park has the most species of birds (333 species) and mammals (56 species). Kenting National Park and Yangmingshan National Park have the most species of reptiles (48 species).
2. Analysis of plant species: Yushan National Park has the most variety of plant

species (2,566) followed by Taroko National Park (2,093), Kenting National Park (1,931), Yangmingshan National Park (1,774), Shei-Pa National Park (1,304) and Kinmen National Park (542). Dicotyledons are the most common species among all national parks: Kinmen National Park (64.8%), Taroko National Park (55.7%) and Yushan National Park (54.4%).

#### **D. Violation cases of National Park Law**

The violation cases of National Park Law in all national parks in 2006 were 725, which increased 19.6% compared with the figure of last year.

1. Violating behavior: 132 vendor cases (18.2%), 128 illegal constructions (17.7%) and 79 cases of entering ecological conservation areas or forbidden areas (10.9%). All the violating behavior cases have increased in comparison with last year's (2005), except the case of vehicles entering forbidden areas; in addition, hunting animals or fish and polluting the environment cases increased more than twice this year.
2. In each National Park: 332 cases in Yangmingshan (105 cases of illegal constructions, 31.6%), 267 cases in Kenting (79 vendor cases, 29.6%), 54 cases in Taroko (11 vendor cases, 20.4%), 33 cases in Yushan (21 cases of entering ecological conservation areas, 63.6%), 21 cases in Shei-Pa (13 vendor cases, 61.9%) and 18 cases in Kinmen (5 cases of illegal cultivation or usage conversion, 27.8%).

#### **E. Important public facilities**

By the end of 2006, the important public facilities in each national park are: trails (361,797 meters), 145 parking lots, 134 public toilets, 33 tourist centers, 24 service stations, 125 scenic sites, 6,799 signboards of warning, forbidding, indicating or explaining and 18 food centers. In terms of facility categories, Shei-Pa National Park has the longest trails (118,627 meters) and Yangmingshan National Park has the most signboards (1,322 signs).

#### **F. Research development**

The 2006 national park research development plan included two parts: natural conservation and project managers and had 54 research cases with an expense of 52,092,000 dollars. The research was mostly on natural conservation:

52 (96.3%) studies and the expenses were 48,674,000 dollars (93.4%); Shei-Pa National Park had 14 cases with the expense of 14,973,000 dollars.

### **G. Numbers of tourists and vehicles in scenic spots**

A. The statistics of 2006 tourist numbers in each national park were gathered according to the numbers of tourists in 40 recreation areas in national parks, and the total number of tourists was 18,203,000, which increased 9.6% compared to 16,611,000 tourists number in 2005. The average daily tourist number was 49,871 tourists; among all the national parks, Taroko National Park had the most visitors (17,203), followed by Yangmingshan National Park (13,215) and Kenting National Park (11,777).

1. In terms of seasons: Due to Chinese New Year's vacation and winter vacation, first season had the most tourist number: 5,334,000 visitors (29.3%), and in the third season was also during the summer vacation, the tourist number was 4,787,000 (26.3%). The fourth season had 4,199,000 (23.1%) visitors while there were 3,883,000 (21.3%) visitors in the second season.

2. In comparison with the figures in 2005, Yangmingshan National Park increased the most (15.9%), followed by Taroko National Park (12.1%). All national parks increased the number of tourists expect Kinmen National Park, which decreased 4.4%.

B. Number of vehicles entering recreation areas in national parks in 2006 was 2,106,000, which increased 6.2% in comparison with that of 2005. Among all vehicles, automobiles were the most common ones (67%). Compared with vehicle numbers in 2005, the number of large vehicles increased 12,000 (10.5%); motorcycles increased 29,000 (8.0%) whereas midsize car decreased 6,484 (3.6%).

### **H. Presentation and tour services**

#### **1. Visitors**

(a) The presentation and tour services were provided to school groups, social groups, government administrations, general tourists and foreign tourists for 138,349 groups and 4,369,586 visitors—3,849,857 general tourists (88.1%), 268,749 tourists of social groups (6.2%) and 172,526 tourists of school

groups (3.9%).

(b) National Parks: Kenting National Park had the highest tourist number – 2,172,617 (49.7%) and followed by 772,061 tourists in Yangmingshan National Park (17.7%) and 662,478 tourists in Kinmen National Park (15.2%).

(c) Foreign tourists: The presentation and tour services were provided to 31,251 (0.7%) foreign tourists in 2006; 12,324 tourists in Kinmen National Park (39.4% of all foreign tourists) followed by 9,388 in Taroko National Park (30.0%) and 6,343 tourists in Yangmingshan National Park (20.3%).

## 2 Activities

The presentation and tour service included tourist center visiting, video watching, exhibition hall tour and outdoor tour. The services were provided to 190,203 groups, in a total of 5,870,351 tourists; the most visited places were tourist centers -- 4,837,889 tourists (82.4%), followed by video watching activity – 777,915 tourists (13.3%) and exhibition hall tour – 130,122 tourists (2.2%).

### I. Issue of construction permits

1. The quantity of construction permits: In 2006, the National Park Headquarters issued 31 permits; the total floor area is 23,039 square meters. Kenting National Park issued the most permits – 11 permits, Kinmen National Park issued 9 permits and Yangmingshan National Park issued 5 permits. In terms of total floor area, Yangmingshan National Park had the largest area – 10,993 square meters, followed by Kenting National Park – 7,834 square meters and Taroko National Park – 2,482 square meters.

2. The quantity of usage permits: 47 permits were issued by all national parks in 2006, and the total floor area was 23,455 square meters. Kinmen issued 15 permits, Kenting issued 14 permits and Yangmingshan issued 11 permits. The total floor area of Yangmingshan was 11,644 square meter, 7,246 square meters in Kenting and 3,468 square meters in Kinmen.

### J. Ecological conservation area permits

According to National Park Law, each national park has established ecological conservation areas entering application; expect Kinmen National Park

which has no conservation areas. 29,598 teams (210,811 people) were allowed to enter conservation areas in 2006. Kenting had the most teams – 13,625 (46.0%) and 111,134 people (52.7%) followed by 8,583 teams (29.0%), 52,950 people (25.1%) in Yushan and 4,897 teams (16.5%), 29,380 people (13.9%) in Shei-Pa.