

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Mt. Kuwol



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Declaration date: Oct. 2004

Surface area: 52,175 ha

Administrative division: South Hwanghae Province, DPR Korea

Human activities:

Tourism has been allowed and activated in buffer zone, as it is known as one of the 5 famous mountains of the country from the ancient times. Most of the transition area has been used traditionally for agricultural purpose. Most of the residents in the reserve engaged in the activities for agriculture, fishery and fruit farming and some of them are working for the reserve management.

Protection classifications:

Mt. Kuwol Nature Reserve (4,700ha) was designated in center of Mt. Kuwol area by the Decision of Administration Council No. 55 on 2 October 1976 and later, was nominated as a Biosphere Reserve in DPRK by the recommendation of UNESCO in November 2004.

Ecological characteristics:

The reserve is characterized by various ecosystems which include the forest ecosystem in core area, agricultural ecosystem widely spread in the transition area, and wetland ecosystem along coastline, rivers, streams and reservoirs. Therefore, the type of habitat and land cover can be classified into 3 types, i.e. forest, farmland and wetland. It has many curious rocks, cliffs, peaks, valleys, falls and ponds formed by the age-old weathering and erosion. As a typical temperate forest area, it is consisted of broad-leaved forest, coniferous forest and broad and coniferous mixed forest. The weather has a typical temperate climate that four seasons are clearly distinguished. A typical monsoon blows across the mountain. The soil is made up of 5-soil type; forest brown soil, alluvial soil, marshland soil, tidal land soil and paddy soil.



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