

Utilization of Water System of Hulun Lake Nature Reserve (in Inner Mongolia, China) and Relevant Protection Policies

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Lake and river are important components of prairie landscape. Historical changes of water systems and changes of use pattern have an enormous impact on the ecosystem and the life of aborigines. In particular, there are many protection policies for water systems in nature reserves, which have many limitations over residences in nature reserves. Hulun Lake National Nature Reserve is located in Hulunbeier City, Inner Mongolia, China. Hulun Lake water system inside the nature reserve belongs to Ergun River water system, including Khalkhyn River, Buir Lake, Urson River, Wulannuoer, Kherlen River, Dalaneluomuhe and other main tributaries, among which there are 3 rivers more than 100 km in length, 13 rivers within 20-100km and totally 64 rivers below 20km. There are totally 80 rivers and streams in the whole basin, with an overall length of 2374.9km and a total basin area of 3721400 hectare (domestic). Due to the continuous drought in Mongolian Plateau and Hulunbuir Pasture Land, Kerulen River and Urson River and other several main tributaries have got insufficient water recharge since 2000, which results in continual decline in water level of Hulun Lake and thus the ecological environment is facing a crisis. To fundamentally solve a series of problems in Hulun Lake, such as problems on ecological protection, comprehensive treatment and system establishment and the like, Integrated Management Organization of Hulun Lake Nature Reserve has devoted greater effort on ecological protection and comprehensive treatment around Hulun Lake. Focusing on the above problems, in this research, a field investigation was conducted to Hulun Lake National Nature Reserve from the beginning of January to the middle of February 2016, which has cleared up the utilization status of Hulun Lake water system and relevant protection policies.

Keywords: Nature Reserve, Water System, Protection , Policies