MAPING DESERTIFICATION PROCESSES AT MODEL SITES OF THE CENTRAL ASIA

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Elaboration and carrying out nature protection activities requires exact notion of the territory, its landscapes and their sustainability to various types of anthropogenic influence. Such information may be presented by environmental thematical maps. One of them, is a map of natural desertification processes (exogenic processes are taken in mind) which lead to formation of simplified ecosystems, that under extreme environmental conditions result in further soil aridization. Such a map has been compiled for regions of Trans-Altai Gobi, that may serve a model for deserts of the Central Asia. The region under investigation is characterized by a majority of low-hill, foot-hill and inter-mOuntaineous flat landscapes. In compiling the map space photo-information has been used: black-and-white shots (1:200000) got in a wide electro-magnetic range from the satelite of the Cosmos series and photo-plans of the same scale which were used when outlining the contours of the map. All the materials were of a high view capacity, that made it possible to mark practically all the important natural objects. The precise of deciphering has been checked up by ground surveys. The following exogenic processes present at this region and having negative influence upon environmental conditions are reflected at the map: linear erosion, defliation, accumulation of sand, surface salinization. Landscape convey of various stages in development of these processes has been shown against te background of litho-geomorphological conditions of their formation (the type of surface sediments, forms of relief). All in all, 40 variants of combinations of litho-geomorphologic conditions and more than 10 types of processes' development in a landscape structure has been shown at the map.