

Legal aspects of operating leisure activities in nature

Abstract

The purpose of the work was to examine the legal regulation of engaging in leisure activities in nature with the aim of assessing whether legislators have managed to adequately balance the public interest in environmental protection while also establishing a regime that does not hinder people's access to natural resources. The focus is primarily on the regime within specially protected areas and in forests. In the thesis, I emphasize the clarity of the legal framework, as it is immensely important due to the limited possibility of enforcement in the field of environmental protection. A well-informed operator of leisure activities is more likely to adhere to established rules and thus not harm nature. This is, in fact, the goal of the legal regulation, since environmental damage is often irreversible.

In the thesis, I arrive at the conclusions that the legal regulation of leisure activities in nature adequately protects the environment through a wide range of mechanisms, simultaneously allowing for limitations to be set in a manner that keeps natural resources accessible. However, the legal framework is not sufficiently transparent for the average user, which could lead to their resignation from adhering to the established rules. Consequently, the efforts of lawmakers to establish an appropriate regime might become entirely futile. Conversely, an unclear legal framework might result in people refraining from engaging in leisure activities in nature due to fear of violating legal regulations. This could distance people from nature and reduce their motivation to protect the environment in other areas.

I then explore the positive effects brought about by the collaboration between nature conservation authorities and organizations such as the Czech Tourist Club and the Czech Mountaineering Association. Educational and informational activities are the most crucial tools in dealing with the intricate legal framework, which, nonetheless, is necessary for environmental protection.

Klíčová slova: regulation, leisure activities, environment