

Legal system and current management status of Geoparks in Korea

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The Korea National Geopark (KNP) is certificated park by the Minister of Environment for development of the local economy through conservation, education and tourism, for places that have Earth scientifically important areas and that have magnificent landscapes. At present, KNP members include five Geoparks (Jeju Island National Geoparks, Ulleung-do-Dok-do National Geopark, Busan National Geopark, Gangwon Peace National Geopark, and Cheongsong National Geopark) by certification criteria. The ministry of environment allows the Korea national park service (KNPS) to perform duties such as examining the required documents, evaluation and actual inspection on the spot. Therefore, the Ministry established National Geoparks Secretariat under natural park act in order for the systematic execution of geoparks-related tasks, such as examining the requirement of documents and investigating the geological heritages and geopark candidate sites, and other management as follows: (1) Investigating on geological heritages and Geosites; (2) Geopark experience program and Development and Promoting of educational program; (3) Geopark research and promoting of knowledge and information; and (4) Research and Inspection of Geopark management et al.

Presented in Theme 2