

Tahoe-Baikal Institute
Great Baikal Trail, Severobaikalsk
Sludyanski Lakes
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Abstract: The project site consisted of a scenic trail on the West Shore of Lake Baikal, Siberia, near the city of Severobaikalsk. As one of the most heavily trafficked tourist destinations on the lake, this area is a prime location to test the feasibility of eco-tourism in practice. The goals of the project were trail interpretation and environmental education. To achieve these objectives, models were designed to inform hikers of facts, interest points, and ecological principles. For this particular trail, an informational kiosk at the trailhead included a map, estimations of distance and duration, a brief description, and rules to respect the environment. This was designed with both domestic and international tourists in mind. Cultural differences were taken into account and it was translated into Russian and English. Other models described the rich history, minerals found, botanical growth, and viewpoint facts of the area. Other forms of environmental education included organizing coastal clean-up with local school children and a public demonstration of the signs.

Figure 1: Trail map



Figure 2: Trailhead sign

