

**Save The Snow Leopard - road and gas pipeline project threatens ecology of Siberia  
- Brief Article**

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An interregional organisation called Siberian Accord plans to construct a road and gas pipeline to China. This association, which has vast political powers, exists to create favorable conditions for investing in Siberia.

The proposed route for the road/pipeline project runs through the Ukok plateau in the Altay Mountains of Siberian Russia, precious because of its rich biodiversity and ancient archeological sites. It is also the home of the few remaining Snow Leopards in Siberia. For these reasons, the Ukok plateau was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1998. The road/pipeline project would irreparably destroy this unique and delicate ecosystem, as well as invading land sacred to the indigenous Altay people.

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