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КОМИССИЯ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ ПО ДЕЛАМ ЮНЕСКО
COMMISSION DE LA FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE POUR L'UNESCO
COMMISSION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION FOR UNESCO



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Moscow, " 30" January 2014

*pls contact
Mr. Kumray
PD
Reminder
to SP on 04/02*

Dear Mr.Rao,

In compliance with the decision of the 37th sessions of the World Heritage Committee it is my pleasure to transmit herewith reports on the state of conservation of the following world heritage sites: "Lake Baikal", "Western Caucasus" and "Virgin Komi Forests".

Please accept, dear Mr.Rao, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Grigory Ordzhonikidze
Secretary-General

MR. KISHOR RAO
DIRECTOR
WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE
UNESCO

Paris

cc. Permanent Delegation of the
Russian Federation to UNESCO

Dir. World
Heritage
31.01.14
LSE42



**МИНИСТЕРСТВО
ПРИРОДНЫХ РЕСУРСОВ И ЭКОЛОГИИ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ
(Минприроды России)**

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№ _____
на № _____ от _____

Ответственному секретарю
Комиссии Российской Федерации
по делам ЮНЕСКО,
Заместителю директора ДМО
МИД России

Г.Э. Орджоникидзе

Об отчетах о состоянии объектов
всемирного природного наследия

Уважаемый Григорий Эдуардович!

Министерство природных ресурсов и экологии Российской Федерации направляет для дальнейшей передачи в Центр всемирного наследия ЮНЕСКО отчеты о современном состоянии российских объектов всемирного природного наследия. Одновременно сообщаем, что указанные отчеты направляются в электронном виде в адрес: unescorussia@mail.ru.

Приложение: упомянутое, на 22 л. в 1 экз.

С уважением,

Р.Р.Гизатулин

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**REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATE OF THE OBJECTS OF THE WORLD
NATURAL HERITAGE «VIRGIN KOMI FORESTS», «WESTERN CAUCASUS»,
«LAKE BAIKAL», «CURONIAN SPIT»,
«PUTORANA PLATEAU» IN 2013**

**On the state of safety of the object of UNESCO world heritage
«Virgin Komi Forests» (Russian Federation, N 719) in 2013
*Virgin Komi Forests (Russian Federation, No 719)***

**1. Response of the Russian Federation in accordance with the Resolution of the
World Heritage Committee 37 COM 7B.24**

In execution of resolutions 35 and 36 of the sessions of the Committee of UNESCO world heritage the Ministry of Natural Resources of Komi Republic, National Park «Yugyd va», administrations of municipalities:

prepared materials on allocation of the reservation area along the border of the park on the eastern slope of Ural Range (Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District);

prepared materials on the borders of areas planned to be joined to the park in the upper reaches of Ilych river, in the interfluves of the Shchugor-Podcherem rivers and the area between Pechora-Ilych reserve and national park «Yugyd va»;

arranged and conducted environmental and economic research of 3 areas planned for inclusion in the lands of the park;

On 18.11.13 public hearings «Environmental and economic feasibility study of accession of 3 areas, with the total area of about 200 thousand hectares to the national park «Yugyd va» in two districts of the republic: Vuktylsky, Troitsko-Pechorsky» were conducted. Voting «For» - unanimously;

On 10.12.13 discussion of the questions of accession of the areas to the national park «Yugyd va» took place in session of the Board of MD «Vuktyl» (resolution of the Board of MD «Vuktyl» dated 10.12.2013 – to approve the borders of the territories planned for inclusion into the composition of the national park «Yugyd va», located on the territory of MD «Vuktyl» with the total area of 166,710 hectares);

The certificates of selection of the land plots planned for withdrawal, are approved;

National Park «Yugyd va», Pechora-Ilych reserve, non-Profit Partnership «Union of Specially Protected Natural Territories of Komi Republic», Center of Specially Protected Natural Territories of Komi Republic prepared the draft of the new nomination «Virgin Komi Forests» with account of the attached areas.

For the purposes of bringing in line with the Federal Law dated 14.03.1995 No 33-Φ3 «On specially protected natural territories» the specialists of the park conducted work on zoning of the territory, prepared and sent a new Regulation on the park to the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia.

Under the auspices of the park plans of nature-conservative measures for adjacent users of natural resources are developed and being implemented.

In 2013 works at Chudnoye deposit were not conducted. There is no negative effect on natural complexes of the park.

For assurance of guarantees of safety of the object of the world heritage «Virgin Komi Forests» it is planned:

to continue works on creation of the reservation area (trans-border specially protected natural territory) on the eastern slope of Ural Range along the border of the object with Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District;

to complete the procedure of accession of new areas to the park;

to approve the new borders of the reservation area and regulation on it;

to increase the number of employees of FSBI «NP «Yugyd va» (considerably);

construction of the fire-fighting and chemical station in Intinsky branch of the park;

to continue cooperation with adjacent industrial enterprises, municipalities, volunteers and native residents towards preservation of the nature of the park, development of tourism, environmental education (visit-center in Inta);

to conduct works on recultivation (cleaning from metal scrap) in the northern part of the park;

to conduct arrangement of the forestry territory.

2. Information on other current issues related to preservation of the object of heritage

By the order of the Territorial Administration of the Federal Agency for management of the state property in Komi Republic dated 27.08.2012 No 165 the right of permanent (open-ended) use of land plots with the total area of 1,894,133 ha is granted to FSBI «NP «Yugyd va».

In 2013 the Administration of State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography for Komi Republic issued the corresponding certificates to the institution.

In the southern part the national park borders on the gas pipeline. For the purpose of complex study of the state of the environment and natural and technical systems *complex environmental monitoring* of the southern districts of the national park «Yugyd va» is conducted on the route of the gas pipeline. The environmental situation on the route of the gas pipeline is under the permanent control of the environmental service of «Gazprom Transgas Ukhta» LLC, the security service of the park also patrols on the route of the gas pipeline.

It should be noted that the environmental situation on the route of the gas pipeline improved, the technogenic load reduced. Objects of the regular stage of monitoring research: the site of Samotsvetny base station; former sites of field camps and base stations; passage over water courses; karst distribution areas.

Monitoring of the state of forests is conducted annually, mainly in the places of passage of touristic routes and at the sites subjected to windfall. Large centers of damage by pests and desiccation were not revealed. Cooperation with forest arrangement organizations allowed to conduct examination of vast windfall and windbreak areas in Podcherem river basin.

On the major parts of the examined areas execution of sanitary measures is impeded in connection with their inaccessibility (remoteness, peculiarities of relief). On accessible areas (along the rivers, streams, on the areas adjacent to touristic routes and stations) it is recommended to conduct cleaning, using cut timber as firewood in arrangement of stations for tourists.

Results of *monitoring in the places of passage of basic touristic routes* indicate that impact of visitors on natural complexes is local and does not exceed the capacity of their self-restoration.

Hundreds of kilometers of popular touristic routes – water, mountain, ski – pass across the park. Basic touristic routes in the park are laid in the beds of mountain rivers, being the main traffic routes in the national park. Routes are laid so that they demonstrate vividly the most picturesque mountainous part of the park.

Solution of security issues is especially important, since touristic routes pass under mountainous conditions. An agreement of interaction in case of emergencies operates between the national park and the Chief Administration of the Emergency Ministry for Komi Republic. The park sends information on the number of groups on the routes and periods of stay weekly.

Now there are several bases on the territory of the park «Yugyd va», where tourists can stay: Sana-vozh, Orlinaya (in private property), «Indysey», «Syvyu», Ozernaya. Cordons of the park available on the territory can also be used for accommodation of tourists: «Kayuknyrd», «Pereprava» (Kozhim river), «Bolshoy Yemel», «Orlovka» (Podcherem river), «Michabechevnik», «Shchugor mouth» (Shchugor river). Besides bases and cordons, the touristic carcass of the park includes a network of stations equipped with weather sheds, toilets, fire-pits, places for tents.

Since 2004 *monitoring of tourist streams* is conducted in the park – on the basis of issued permits, with processing and formation of the database of the visitors. The basis of monitoring is registration of tourists – in advance (e-mail, fax) or before entry to the route in the recreation sub-centers of the park (the cities of Vuktyl, Inta, Pechora).

According to these data, annual attendance of the park, which made stably 4-4.5 thousand persons annually during the decade, began to grow since 2010. In 2013 attendance made about 5,300 persons, with the annual duration of visits of 5-6 days.

In 2011-2013 new stations, 8 new shelters were built, new local information boards, indicators, over 40 stations, rubbish bins, toilets were installed. A new guest Komi-house for 10 persons and a shed for processing machines are built in the village of Podcherye.

Implementation of UNDP/GEF/EU project «Strengthening Protected Areas System of the Komi Republic to Conserve Virgin Forest Biodiversity in the Pechora River Headwaters Region» and cooperation with industrial enterprises - Vuktyl gas production directorate and Vuktyl linear-production directorate of gas pipe-lines, mining enterprises, administrations of MFUD «Inta» contribute to fulfillment of works on construction and repair of the objects of the touristic service.

The national park «Yugyd va» is included in the Uniform federal register of tour operators under the number BHT 010854 by the order of the Federal Agency for tourism dated 20.05.2013 № 140-Пп/13.

The national park «Yugyd va» participates in development and execution of the tourism plans, as a part of the policy; participates in the programs of social and economic development of districts, on the territory of which it is located.

In 2013 the Coordination Board is established under the Government of Komi Republic on development of entry and domestic tourism, which also included the director of the park. Main tasks of the Coordination Board: analysis of the state and development trends of entry and domestic tourism of Komi Republic; consideration and development of proposals on promotion of the development projects of the touristic and recreational infrastructure of Komi Republic; activation of tourism development support on the part of the state authorities of the Russian Federation and Komi Republic, including within the long-term republican target program «Entry and domestic tourism of Komi Republic (2013-2015)»; preparation of proposals on priority areas and forms of state support of the subjects of the touristic industry.

In 2013 the administration of the park signed an agreement on mutual cooperation on development on the territory of the municipal district of domestic and entry tourism with the administration of MP «Vuktyl». Main areas of interaction within the agreements: creation of the tourism development concept in the district for the period of up to 2020; contribution to development of the information infrastructure in the field of domestic and entry tourism.

From 2008 the national park participates in implementation of UNDP/GEF/EU project «Strengthening Protected Areas System of the Komi Republic to Conserve Virgin Forest Biodiversity in the Pechora River Headwaters Region».

«Gazprom Transgas Ukhta» LLC, as well as Vuktyl Liner Production Administration of Main Gas Pipelines and Pechora Liner Production Administration provides annual assistance to the park in implementation of such actions as: allocation of the sponsor aid within the environmental action «March of the parks»; help in delivery of the officers of the park and materials by the helicopter to hard-to-reach areas of the park; environmental landing of young specialists.

Implementation of the business plan under the support Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia, UNDP/GEF project contributes to formation of the attractive image of the park and the republic, as a touristic resources among the visitors, local population, in Russia and abroad, as well as contributes to attraction of investments to development of the touristic infrastructure, formation of the stream on incomes of the park without prejudice to its territory.

Environmental education and popularization of the world heritage.

In 2013 the Heraldic Council under the President of the Russian Federation approved the emblem of the national park, developed and agreed the firm style of the national park with the Ministry of natural resources of the Russian Federation.

The website of the national park www.yugydva.komi.com works (in Russian and in English). Pages work, groups are formed in social networks: Odnoklassniki, Facebook, Twitter, v Kontakte.

The national park «Yugyd va» is a participant of the international fair exhibition «Rest in the North». The officers of the park participate annually in international, all-Russian and republican conferences on biological and environmental matters, questions of development of the environmental tourism.

11 information points operate: Inta branch, Pechora branch, Podcherskoye regional forestry, MIC «Inta regional museum», MI «Pechora inter-settlement centralized library system», MI «Inter-settlement club association «Meridian» (Leisure house – museum of Lugovoy village), Museum of nature (administration of the park), DMIC «Vuktyl inter-settlement central library», SEI SEC «Komi republican environmental and biological center», MI «Pechora historical and regional museum», national library of Komi Republic.

Advertising and publishing activities – there are about 30 types of the advertising and printed products and souvenir products: booklets, maps, guides, sets of cards, films about the park, calendars, postcards, magnets, badges, T-shirts, pens, etc. Products are sold in the information centers of the park, as well as via private entrepreneurs.

Work with mass media: publication of articles in the central, republican, local press («Krasnoye Znamya», «Siyanie Severa», «Iskra», etcp.), broadcast by TV and radio («Komi gor», «Yurgan», «Russian Radio»), information agencies («Komiinform») contributes to distribution of information about the park.

In 2013 the park held the seminar for the mass media and photographers under the title «Peaks of Russia». 25 persons took part in the seminar, including the camera crew of TRC «Mir», photographers, representatives of the administration of MFUD «Inta», tour clubs, journalists, reporters. The film with the same name was demonstrated in the channel «My planet».

The national park participates actively in organization of nature-conservative measures: Day of reserves and national parks, Day of environment protection, Day of birds, Day of forest workers, Day of wetlands, etc. Annually the national park takes an active part in the international environmental action «March of the parks». In 2013 over 5,000 persons took part in the action.

Every summer children's environmental camps and expeditions are held on the territory of the park (about 100 children). Such expeditions allow teenagers to get acquainted with specially protected natural territory, to study its nature, historic and cultural heritage, traditions and way of life of the territory, to have an active rest.

State of natural complexes of Pechora-Ilych State Natural Biosphere Reserve

The following facts affect the state of natural complexes of the reserve:

1. Forest fires. Local forest fires emerge on the territory of the reserve not every year. They are stipulated, mainly, by the natural factor – «dry storms» and occur mainly in dry summer periods, both in Ural and in pinewood (Yakshinsky) area of the reserve. For the period from 1995 to 2013 22 fires were registered on the territory of the reserve with the total area of 1,350 hectares. In order to fight forest fires fire-fighting units operate on the territory of all four forest districts of the reserve from the forest security officers, equipped with the required fire extinguishing media.

2. Windfalls. In old forestlands, which include the forests of the reserve, windfall phenomena are a part of natural serai process. However, as a result of clear felling in immediate proximity from the Western border of the Ural area of the reserve, the wind load on the reserve forests increased. This led to emergence of considerable windfalls by their area in this district, not related with the natural processes of forest restoration.

3. Tourism. In 2008 Rock pillars on Manpupuner plateau, located on the territory of the reserve, are declared one of seven wonders of Russia. This led to considerable growth of the number of tourists, which strive to visit this object. By 2013 the number of tourists, that visited Rock pillars officially, grew almost by 10 times in comparison with 2007. For the purpose of reduction of a negative effect of the stream of tourists on the natural complexes of the reserve two environmental routes across the territory of the reserve on Manpupuner plateau were developed and approved. The total length of the routes across the reserve made 46 km. Development of the project of accomplishment of one of these routes is scheduled for 2014. Simultaneously monitoring of man's impact on the natural complexes of the reserve is held in this district in order to determine maximum permissible touristic load.

Since a considerable flow of illegal tourists to Manpupuner plateau from Sverdlovsk region via the eastern border of the reserve has formed in recent years, in 2014 it is planned to organize a permanent security base in the area of entry of unauthorized tourists to the territory of the reserve and strengthening of control of this area by the security inspectors of the reserve with engagement of the officers of law enforcement authorities.

5 cordons are located on the territory of the reserve, on which 10 persons (officers of the reserve) reside permanently as of 2013.

Two settlements are located on the territory of the buffer zone of the reserve: villages of Svetly Rodnik and Berdysh. The total number of inhabitants, residing permanently in these settlements, makes 15 persons.

The reserve can contribute to development of traditional and other forms of environmentally safe nature utilization on the adjacent territories, including buffer zone. Support of by-crafts of local population by the reserves on these territories (manufacture of skis, souvenirs, boats, etc.), organization of preparation, processing and sale of products of agriculture and traditional crafts, training of specialists for the purposes of development of cognitive tourism (training of guides, service personnel) will contribute to formation of the positive attitude to the reserve, distribution of environmental ideas and knowledge among the populations.

In accordance with the order of the Government of Komi Republic dated 20.08.2012 № 335-p the Ministry for economic development of Komi Republic developed long-term

republican target program «Entry and domestic tourism on the territory of Komi Republic (2013-2015)»; approved by the Government of the Government of Komi Republic dated 28.08.2012 № 427.

Executors of the program: Ministry for economic development of Komi Republic, Permanent representative office of Komi Republic under the President of the Russian Federation, Representative office of Komi Republic in the North-Western region of the Russian Federation.

Purpose of the program – development of entry and domestic tourism in Komi Republic. Period of implementation of the program – 2013-2015.

For the purposes of implementation of the Concept of long-term social and economic development of the Russian Federation for the period of up to 2020, approved by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 17.10.2008 № 1662-p the long-term target program “Development of tourism on the territory of Troitsko-Pechorsky district (2011-2014)” is developed. Purpose of the program – creation of conditions for development of entry and domestic tourism in Troitsko-Pechorsky district.

Tasks of the program: rational use of natural and cultural heritage of the district; attraction of investments in the sphere of tourism for the purposes of improvement of the touristic infrastructure; creation of additional jobs in the district; creation of public touristic services to the population, improvement of the quality of provided touristic services; preparation of the touristic staff and improvement of qualification of the employees in the sphere of tourism; contribution to development of small and medium entrepreneurship in the sphere of services, artistic people's trade and crafts, commerce; development of new touristic products and improvement of competitiveness of the existing touristic products in the district; implementation of actions on improvement of the touristic image of Troitsko-Pechorsky district. Period of implementation of the program - 2011 - 2014.

3. Serious changes within the reviewed object of the world heritage are forecast in connection with adjustment of the borders of the object of heritage.