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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
Anu Purnay
PDI*
*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 W.H.C.
REC 31.01.14
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**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

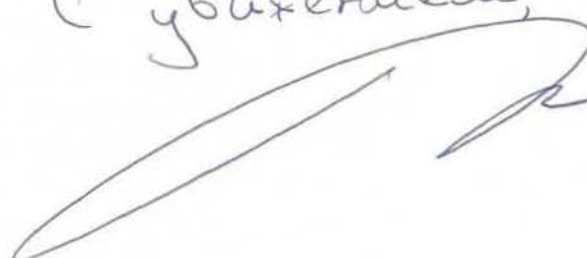
Г.Э. Орджоникидзе

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

Викулова Е.Г.
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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
«Western Caucasus» (Russian Federation) (№ 900) in 2013
*Western Caucasus (Russian Federation) (№ 900)***

**1. Response of the Russian Federation in accordance with the Resolution of the
World Heritage Committee 37 COM 7B.23**

- Designing and construction of the touristic objects of Lagonaki mountain climate resort can be performed after settlement of the question on adjustment of the borders of the object of UNESCO world heritage «Western Caucasus» (within the new nomination), in the borders of which Lagonaki biosphere polygon of the Caucasian reserve is located, in case of loss of the outstanding world value of the areas, confirmed by the results of the scientific research, in accordance with the international obligations of the Russian Federation as per the Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage 1972 r.

- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation informs of its intent by June 2015 again to establish the special protection regime of Lagonaki biosphere polygon of the Caucasian reserve within its borders, having approved the regulation on Lagonaki biosphere polygon within the new regulation on the Caucasian reserve. A part of the biosphere polygon is proposed by the Russian Federation for inclusion into the composition of the territories of the new nomination «Western Caucasus». It is planned to use the remaining part for construction of the mountain resort in accordance with the order, provided for by the law of the Russian Federation. The draft regulation on the Caucasian reserve was prepared by FSBI «Caucasian reserve» jointly with Non-State Environmental Center «NABU-Caucasus» within the project «Protection of climate by means of preservation of forests of the object of the world natural heritage «Western Caucasus» and its formed buffer zone».

- The comprehensive strategy of sustainable tourism and comprehensive plan for the object of the world heritage «Western Caucasus» is at present time at the stage of preliminary discussions with the persons concerned (stakeholders). The uniform coordination body of the object of heritage will be established within this strategy of development of sustainable tourism.

- The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation confirms its intent by the end of 2014 to create the reservation area of the Caucasian state natural biosphere reserve named after K.G. Shaposhnikov. A part of the area of the indicated reservation area has already been included by the Russian Federation in the composition of the territories of the project of the new nomination «Western Caucasus». It is planned to include other part of the reservation area of the Caucasian reserve into the buffer zone of the object of the world natural heritage «Western Caucasus». The draft regulation on the reservation area of the Caucasian reserve was prepared by FSBI «Caucasian reserve» jointly with Non-State Environmental Center «NABU-Caucasus» within the project «Protection of climate by means of preservation of forests of the object of the world heritage «Western Caucasus» and its formed buffer zone».

- Be informed that in the borders of the existing object of heritage «Western Caucasus» all upper reaches of the Mzymta are within the Caucasian reserve. The regime of

protection of this territory is the best legal circumstance, absolutely ruling out the possibility of construction of facilities.

In accordance with «Plan of actions on the questions of restoration of the ecosystem of the Mzymta, complex environmental monitoring and preparation of compensatory measures within the environmental support of XXII Winter Olympic Games and XI Winter Paralympic Games 2014 in Source» (approved by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation S.Y. Donskoy on 01.10.2012 and brought to execution by the order of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 23.10.2012 № ДК-П9-6417) the territory of Sochi reserve is prepared for transfer to the Caucasian reserve. So, all upper reaches of the Mzymta will be closed within the Caucasian reserve with clear environmental regime. The Russian Federation proposed to include the territory of Sochi reserve and a part of adjacent lands of Sochi national park in the composition of the object of heritage in accordance with the order renomination of this object. So, it is planned to extend the highest international status to all upper reaches of the Mzymta.

- FSBI «Caucasian reserve», Non-State Environmental Center «NABU-Caucasus», Institute of Applied Ecology of Caucasus and Fun «Protection of natural heritage» prepared the project of the new nomination «Western Caucasus» with account of the attached areas, as well as adjustment of the borders on Lagonaki plateau.

- *On natural landmarks*

As per the certificate of the “*Buyniy Range*” natural landmark of republican significance, approved by the order of the Administration of natural resources and environment protection of the Republic of Adygea dated 17.11.2008 № 41-пп, the following *is prohibited* on the territory of the landmark: **felling of all kinds, except for clearance of toppling trees, standing and fallen deadwood**; construction of capital buildings and structures, roads and overpasses, power transmission lines and other communications; other activities disrupting natural development of environmental processes, posing a threat to the condition of the natural complex and sites; movements beyond the established and designated paths.

Permissible types of use: laying tour itineraries with due consideration given to potential threats of hazardous natural phenomena threatening to life of humans; performance of scientific research including environmental monitoring; exercising recreational activities, for the purposes of organization of rest, tourism, recreational and sports activity touristic stations, touristic paths and tracks can be arranged, holding of cultural events, hiking, bicycle, ski and riding tours, graphic arts classes, cognitive and environmental excursions on the established routes, paths and tracks on the territory of the landmark subject to observation of the following mandatory conditions:

erection of **temporary buildings only**, positive opinion of the state ecological expert review on construction projects of temporary buildings; possibility of one-off stay of people on the territory of the landmark based on scientifically substantiated limit permissible recreational loads on natural complexes and facilities; holding a comprehensive audit of the real condition of the natural landmark with engagement of specialized organizations; clearance of forests of littering, pollution and other negative effects.

As per the certificate of the “*Upper Reach of the River Tsitsa*” natural landmark of republican significance, approved by the order of the Administration of natural resources and environment protection of the Republic of Adygea dated 09.10.2008 № 31-пп/1, the following is forbidden on the territory of the landmark:

felling of all kinds, **excluding sanitary felling in cases and in accordance with the order, provided for by the Rules of sanitary safety in forests**, and felling carried out for the purposes **of reconstruction of existing linear facilities**; construction of capital buildings and structures, roads and overpasses, power transmission lines and other communications, except for

those required for provision of permitted kinds of recreation, safety of visitors and drinking water supply facilities.

Permissible types of use: preservation of natural complexes in the natural condition, restoration, as well as prevention of changes of natural complexes and their components as a result of human intervention; assurance of sanitary and fire safety of people, animals, natural complexes and facilities; laying tour itineraries with due consideration given to potential threats of hazardous natural phenomena threatening to life of humans; performance of scientific research including environmental monitoring; execution of environmental educational work; inventory check of the objects of the historical and cultural heritage; execution of control and supervision functions; execution of recreational and touristic activities on the territory of the landmark subject to observation of the following mandatory conditions:

development of the project of planning and development of the landmark and its agreement with the Administration of natural resources and environment protection of the Republic of Adygea (hereinafter referred to as the Administration); erection of **temporary buildings and structures only** in the places, agreed with the Administration (points for stops and shelters for brief stay of citizens on the territory of the landmark); possibility of one-off stay of people on the territory of the landmark based on scientifically substantiated limit permissible recreational loads on natural complexes and facilities approved by the Administration; execution of construction works on reconstruction of existing linear facilities.

In accordance with the certificate of the “Upper Reaches of the Rivers Pshekha and Pshekhashkha” natural landmark of republican significance, approved by the order of the Administration of natural resources and environment protection of the Republic of Adygea dated 11.04.2008 № 7-пп, the following is forbidden on the entire territory of the landmark:

felling of all kinds, except for clearance of toppling trees, standing and fallen deadwood; construction of capital buildings and structures, roads and overpasses, power transmission lines and other communications.

Permissible types of use: preservation of natural complexes in the natural condition, restoration, as well as prevention of changes of natural complexes and their components as a result of human intervention; assurance of sanitary and fire safety of people, animals, natural complexes and facilities; laying tour itineraries with due consideration given to potential threats of hazardous natural phenomena threatening to life of humans; performance of scientific research including environmental monitoring; execution of recreational and touristic activities on the territory of the landmark subject to observation of the following mandatory conditions:

development of the project of planning and development of the landmark and its agreement with the Administration; erection of temporary buildings and structures only in the places, agreed with the Administration (points for stops and shelters for brief stay of citizens on the territory of the landmark); possibility of one-off stay of people on the territory of the landmark based on scientifically substantiated limit permissible recreational loads on natural complexes and facilities approved by the Administration; holding a comprehensive audit of the real condition of the natural landmark with engagement of specialized organizations; execution of construction works on **reconstruction of existing linear facilities.**

In accordance with the regulation on the natural park of the Republic of Adygea «*Bolshoy Tkhach*», approved by the decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Adygea dated 19.01.1998 № 21, the following is forbidden on the territory of the natural park: construction of buildings and structures, roads and overpasses, power transmission lines and other communications, excluding those, required for assurance of operation of the natural park; final felling.

The following actions can be conducted within the territory of the natural park: actions on preservation, restoration and prevention of changes of the natural objects as a result of human

intervention; required veterinary actions for liquidation of especially dangerous diseases, common for humans and animals; actions on creation of conditions and organization of tourism and rest, acquaintance of individuals with flora and fauna of the natural park, organization and arrangement of environmental touristic routes.

The following is permitted on the territory of the traditional nature management zone in addition to the above actions: pasture of livestock, belonging to the natural park and its employees, including retired ones, as well as other individuals, living permanently on its territory; procurement of firewood, required to meet the needs of the natural park and its employees; amateur fishery by the employees of the natural park; shooting and sale of film and photo products; establishment of bee houses; collection of nuts, mushrooms, berries by the employees of the natural park for personal consumption (without the right of sale); procurement of industrial wood to meet the needs of the natural park and its employees, living permanently on its territory, shall be made as per the limits, established in accordance with the applicable law.

Assessment of environmental impact for the projects within the borders of heritage, which could affect the outstanding universal value of the object, was not held due to absence of these at the stage of the project implementation.

So, as per the certificates (regulations) on natural landmarks of republican significance within the object of heritage «Western Caucasus», felling of forest ranges (except for sanitary one), construction of roads, trestles, power transmission lines, other linear facilities and all objects of capital infrastructure is forbidden.

Sanitary felling of forest ranges in specially protected natural territories cannot be forbidden in accordance with the Rules of sanitary safety in forests and Rules of fire safety in forests, approved by the decrees of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 29.06.2007 № 414 and 30.06.2007 № 417.

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

In clause 1.

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.