

Report on the State of Conservation of the UNESCO World Heritage Property «*Virgin Komi Forests*» (Russian Federation, N 719) in 2016

Response of the Russian Federation with regard to Resolution No. 40 COM 7B.99

The boundaries of the site «the Virgin Komi Forests» (hereinafter referred to as the Object) within the boundaries of the Yugyd Va National Park (hereinafter referred to as the Park) have not changed. The preservation of the facility is guaranteed by the federal law on protected areas, which operates on the territory of the national park. Control over the observance of the Park's regime is entrusted to FGBU "National Park" Yugyd va ".

There are no data on the disappearance of fauna and flora species from the Site.

Exploration and extraction of minerals on the territory of the facility is not carried out.

The national park "Yugyd va" organizes and conducts specialized exhibitions and expositions, participates in various projects, international, Russian and republican-level forums, organizes other environmental activities (expeditions, seminars and etc.). Annually, the Park produces printed and souvenir products with park symbols (booklets, guidebooks, calendars, etc.). In 2017, a new design of the site of the national park www.yugyd-va.ru was developed.

The Business Plan and the National Park Management Plan for 2016-2020 have been developed and are being implemented. In the current year, the Management Plan for the Virgin Komi Forests Project has been prepared.

In 2017, the park continued to participate in the UNDP / GEF project "Strengthening the system of specially protected natural areas of the Komi Republic in order to conserve the biodiversity of primary forests in the upper reaches of the Pechora River." In 2016, projects were implemented to protect forests from fires and to preserve permafrost; on the equipment of the tourist route: Inta city – Naroda mountain.

With the support of the UNDP / GEF Project and its permafrost component within the framework of the Clime East program, the national park organized a training seminar "Approbation of the methodology for assessing the environmental performance of M.S. Stishov at the example of the National Park "Yugyd va". Following the results of the workshop, the results of the assessment showed the high conservation value and efficiency of the management of the National Park "Yugyd va" for the purpose of mitigating and adapting to climate change.

The Park successfully implements programs to introduce innovative technologies (renewable energy sources, satellite communications, etc.).

Factors affecting the object:

(i) economic development (development, adaptation, agriculture, extraction of mineral resources)

Exploration of minerals.

Works on exploration and mining of mineral resources in the territory of the national park are not conducted.

In the area of the deposit "Chudnoe" activity is not carried out, workers do not live, automobile and other special equipment are absent. According to the decision of the arbitration court of the Republic of Komi, ZAO "Gold Minerals" was granted a postponement until 01.09.2018 for removal from the site of large-sized equipment and property (car cabins, beams) in connection with the inadequate state of the road. The site's condition is satisfactory, there is no negative impact on natural complexes.

Forestry.

Mass felling in the immediate vicinity of the boundaries of the Park in 2017 was not carried out.

(ii) Environmental factors (natural pollution, climate change, desertification, etc.)

In order to monitor long-term changes in the territory of the Park, monitoring works have continued in the following line of investigation:

- monitoring of wildlife species;
- monitoring of flora objects;
- forest pathological monitoring;
- monitoring of tourist flows and regulation of recreational loads.

According to the results of monitoring works, the populations of animals and plants on the Object territory are in a stable state, there are no major foci of damage and drying of the forest. The average recreational load along the tourist routes of the park does not exceed the permissible standards.

(iii) Natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, fires, etc.) and the degree of readiness for them.

Fires:

In 2017 in the territory of the national park (Sanavozh base) a fire-chemical station (hereinafter FCS) was established and put into operation. By means of fire extinguishing, fire fighting equipment Park is provided, in addition a bulldozer is needed to create mineralized strips. In order to monitoring the fire danger in the forests, the aviation patrolling of the park territory was conducted.

In 2017, 3 forest fires with a total area of 791.6 hectares were eliminated on the territory of the Park by the staff of the park, the FCS, the forest fire center, and hired workers. The cause of fires is a dry thunderstorm. A large role in the elimination of fires was played by the presence of close foci from the FCS.

Strong (hurricane) winds:

Significant windmill phenomena in 2017 in the territory of the national park was not noted.

(iv) Visitors / tourists

15 ecological routes are developed and operate on the territory of the Park. The most popular are the water routes along the rivers Kozhim, Kosyu, Shchugor,

Podcherem and foot routes to the highest peaks of the Urals - Naroda, Karpinsky, Kolokolnya, Mansiner and the symbol of the park - Manaraga.

In 2017, the Park was visited by more than 6,000 people. The visit by foreign citizens has doubled (2017 - 126 people, 2016 - 64 people).

In 2017, a new tourist parking (shelter, bathhouse) was built, 48 resting places were equipped, new information signs were installed - 36, a trail was built on the Naroda mountain.

In 2017 4 shifts of international volunteer camps were conducted on the territory of the park. In total, 250 people took part in the volunteer campaign this year.

In order to improve the quality of tourist services, the park's employees underwent further training under the program "Effective use of modern marketing tools to attract visitors to national parks".

Object mode violation:

The number of the security service is 23 people. This year, the state inspectorate of the park conducted 174 raids on the protection of natural complexes, 138 preventive measures to prevent forest fires.

As a result of the raids in 2017, 60 violations of nature conservation legislation were detected in the Park (756 in 2016), 16 items tools of illegal nature management were seized (2016 - 15), 8 criminal cases were initiated (2016 - 1).

(v) The size of the population on the site

There are no permanent settlements on the territory of the Park.

In order to safeguard of preservation, you must:

- to approve the new boundaries of the protection zone and the regulations on it;
- continue work on the creation of a protective zone (transboundary nature conservation area) on the eastern slope of the Ural Range along the border of the facility with KhMAO;
- to increase the staff of the Park;
- increase the financing of the Park;
- create a FCS in Podcheree village;
- create a system for detecting forest fires in the northern part of the park;
- to continue work on introduction of innovative technologies.