



**ПОСТОЯННОЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЬСТВО
Российской Федерации при ЮНЕСКО**

**DELEGATION PERMANENTE
de la Fédération de Russie
auprès de l'UNESCO**

8, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris

Tel.: 01. 42.12.84.30

Fax. 01. 42.67.51.99

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Subject: Reports on SoC of WH properties “Volcanoes of Kamchatka”, “Golden Mountains of Altai”, “Lake Baikal”, “Virgin Komi Forests” and “Wrangel Island”, Medium-term management plan of the Reserve “Wrangel Island”

Dear Ms. Rössler,

I have the pleasure to convey to your kind attention original reports on State of Conservation of World Heritage properties “Volcanoes of Kamchatka”, “Golden Mountains of Altai”, “Lake Baikal”, “Virgin Komi Forests” and “Wrangel Island”, as well as a detailed map of the borders of “Volcanoes of Kamchatka” and the Medium-term Management plan of the “Wrangel Island” reserve prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation in accordance with decisions of the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee.

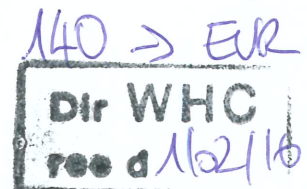
May I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, dear Ms. Rössler, the assurances of my highest consideration.

AMBASSADOR,
PERMANENT DELEGATE

Eleonora MITROFANOVA

Enclosure: 175 pages, maps.

**Ms Mechtild RÖSSLER
DIRECTOR, UNESCO HERITAGE DIVISION,
DIRECTOR, WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE**



**REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATE OF CONSERVATION
OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES
VOLCANOES OF KAMCHATKA, GOLDEN MOUNTAINS OF ALTAI, LAKE
BAIKAL, VIRGIN KOMI FORESTS, WRANGEL ISLAND IN 2015**

**Report On the State of Conservation of the UNESCO World Heritage
Property *Golden Mountains of Altai* (Russian Federation, No. 768rev)**

SUMMARY

Project works on construction of the Altai gas pipeline are not kept now.

According to the legislation of the Russian Federation, without obtaining the positive conclusion of the state environmental assessment for project documentation the corresponding construction cannot be started. Project documentation on construction of the gas pipeline "Altai" did not arrive to the state environmental assessment of federal level.

The order of the Russian Federation Government of August 13, 2013 No. 1416-r become invalid.

The Government of Altai Republic has no plans for construction and reconstruction of linear constructions and other capital construction projects in borders of the object of the world heritage.

The object of the world heritage continues to work on recommendations of UNESCO 2012 mission.

In the territory of the World Heritage, the main violations of special protection order are connected with illegal stay in the territories of the reserves.

Monitoring researches of a snow leopard and argali groups are conducted, field researches on identification of a reindeer summer habitats, works on the project "The organization of long-term monitoring system of climate changes and ecosystems of the reserve "Altaysky" are continued in the territory of the World Heritage.

The increase of a tourist stream at the territory of the World Heritage is noted. In territories of national parks and natural parks of regional value, informative tourism is dated to the developed ecological routes. The most visited object is Corbu waterfall (the territory of Altai Nature Reserve); in 2015, more than 60 thousand people visited it.

Thus, the access regulation of visitors to the sites of the territory of the reserves that are allowed for visit is carried out, monitoring of tourist streams and regulation of the recreational loading is carried out. The reserve works on improvement of tourist routes for minimization of anthropogenous impact on natural complexes.

1. Response of the Russian Federation with regard to Resolution No. 39 COM 7B.21 adopted by the World Heritage Committee

Project works on construction of the “Altai” gas pipeline are not kept now.

According to the legislation of the Russian Federation, without obtaining the positive conclusion of the state environmental assessment for project documentation the corresponding construction cannot be started. Project documentation on construction of the gas pipeline “Altai” did not arrive to the state environmental assessment of federal level.

The order of the Russian Federation Government of August 13, 2013 No. 1416-r become invalid by the order of the Russian Federation Government of May 6, 2015 No. 816-r.

The Government of Altai Republic has no plans for construction and reconstruction of linear constructions and other capital construction projects in borders of the World Heritage.

Experts of UNESCO mission visited all five Altai objects included in structure of object of the World Heritage twice: Katunsky and Altaisky state reserves, Ukok Plateau, Mount Belukha and Lake Teletskoye. Following the results of 2012 mission experts established that the UNESCO World Heritage "Golden Mountains of Altai" which was in very good shape in operating time of the previous mission in 2007 continues to remain in the same state now.

In general, it is recommended by mission to provide general strategy introduction for management of the World Heritage «Golden Mountains of Altai ". In Katunsky and Altaisky reserves, basic provisions of this strategy and the Plan of action on 2009-2015 are actively realized. In particular, in reporting year for assistance to development of alternative environmental management in the territory of the World Heritage, including the low-cost mechanisms for growth of employment and income of local population in the ecological focused activity the Altaisky and Katunsky reserves together with "Altai-Sayan Mountain Partnership" non-profit partnership realized the program of microloans for local population for the development of ecological tourism as alternatives to poaching.

To decrease possible negative consequences for natural ecosystems during organization of ecological and informative tourism in territories of the Altaisky and Katunsky reserves based on scientific researches and results of recreational facilities condition monitoring, system of quoting for recreational loadings is introduced.

Thus, coordination of activity of especially protected natural territories of federal and regional value, which are the parts of the World Heritage, is not fully adjusted. Between the Katunsky reserve and Natural Park "Belukha" the agreement on joint nature protection activity is concluded, however its realization is interfered by low material level and staffing of Natural Park.

In addition, Katunsky reserve actively develops cross-border cooperation with Katon-Karagaysky state national natural park (Republic of Kazakhstan) within the

intergovernmental agreement on creation of the cross-border wildlife reserve "Altai" signed in 2011. In 2015 work on development of the management plan for this territory, and preparation of the nomination on obtaining the status of the cross-border biosphere wildlife reserve in UNESCO was complete. It is expected that the nomination will be presented to the Secretariat of the UNESCO "Man and Biosphere" program in 2016.

2. Information about other current issues related to the World Heritage property conservation

In the territory of the World Heritage, the main violations of special protection order are connected with illegal stay in the territories of the reserves and poaching.

In the territory of Altaisky Nature Reserve 95 violations of special protection order, including 60 in connection with illegal stay in the territory of the reserve, 30 – about illegal fishing, 4 – about violation of the rules of fire safety in the woods, 1 – illegal collecting wild plants are revealed in 2015. Five criminal cases are brought.

The security service actively uses modern technical means (sensors, gps - navigators, satellite phones, photo and video recorders, gps – messengers, etc.).

In 2015, violations of special protection order in territories of natural parks of regional value are not revealed.

In the territory of the World Heritage, the complex of precaution events for prevention of the fires is held.

In 2015 according to the Program of snow leopard group monitoring in the Russian Federation works on inspection of Chikhachov Range with use of photo traps for the purpose of the accounting of number of the cross-border snow leopard group living on the both sides of border in Russia and Mongolia, Argutsky group of a snow leopard (system of Southern Chuya and North Chuya, Katunsky ridges), and also the territory, adjacent with Altai Nature Reserve, are continued. Work on inspection of the potential dwelling centers of snow leopards is continued.

According to the Program of cross-border groups of argali monitoring in the Russian Federation in 2015, the accounting of argali on all area of dwelling in Altai Republic is carried out.

Field researches on identification of reindeer summer habitats (forest subspecies) in the territory of the Altai Nature Biosphere Reserve and the adjacent territory are conducted.

Works on the project "The organization of system of long-term monitoring of climate changes and ecosystems in the Altaisky reserve" are continued.

In 2015 work on development of a network of artificial solonchic soils is begun (registration of observation posts, studying of visit dynamics, maintenance of solonchic soils in a functional state).

The increase of tourist stream at the territory of the World Heritage is noted. In territories of national parks and natural parks of regional value, informative tourism is dated to the developed ecological routes. The most visited object is Corbu waterfall (the territory of Altai Nature Reserve); in 2015, more than 60 thousand people visited it.

Thus, the access regulation of visitors to the sites of the territory of the reserves that are allowed for visit is carried out, monitoring of tourist streams and regulation of the recreational loading is carried out. The reserve works on improvement of tourist routes for minimization of anthropogenous impact on natural complexes.

3. Significant changes within the World Heritage property are not expected