

Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation  
Kizhi State Open Air Museum of History Architecture and Ethnography



**WORLD HERITAGE SITE «KIZHI POGOST»**  
*(RUSSIAN FEDERATION, C544)*

**STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORT**  
**2021—2022**

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## 1. SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

The long-term restoration of the Church of the Transfiguration of the Kizhi Pogost including the restoration of the interior and interior decoration of the Church has been completed. Therefore, the conservation works are ongoing. Taking into account the presence of a large number of authentic objects of the XVII, XVIII and the XIX centuries in the recreated interior of the church, careful monitoring of the state of preservation and storage requirements for items and elements of the WHS interior has been carried out, preventive measures are being provided. In 2022, they began the development of project design documentation for the further conservation of the Church of the Transfiguration, in which issues of fire extinguishing and safety systems will be worked out.

They also continued the interdisciplinary study of the ceiling painting of the Church of the Transfiguration during the reference period. The group of researchers included highly qualified specialists with long-term experience in the restoration and installation of the iconostasis of the Church of the Transfiguration

The second church of the Kizhi Architectural Ensemble – the Church of the Intercession– was also given great attention during the reference period. Scientific research on the construction history of the monument and the restoration of the interior became an important part of the work done. The work on the draft project for the conservation of the Church of the Intercession based on the results of scientific research has proceeded. They have worked out 3 variants for the conservation of the monument. The performed calculation of historical material replacement proves that the first variant – the conservation of the monument with elements of repair and strengthening – provides for the smallest replacements.

The description of the draft project of the restoration and adaption for modern use of the Church of the Intercession as well as the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) of the project on the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are in process of elaboration.

Constant comprehensive monitoring of the state of the Kizhi Architectural Ensemble is ongoing, including monitoring of deformations of facades and structures. The state of the monuments is stable.

Also, important results were achieved in terms of planning and creating conditions for the sustainable development of the territory of the buffer zone of the property and the local community.

The following most important documents have been developed and agreed with all stakeholders; presented at various local, regional and federal levels, including public hearings:

- 1) Plan for conservation of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site “Kizhi Pogost” and development of the Kizhi Island territory (Master Plan)
- 2) The Sustainable Development Plan for the Buffer Zone of the WHS “Kizhi Pogost” (2022-2032).

Both documents are included in the appendix to this Report.

The work on the documents was based on serious preliminary historical and cultural studies, fixation and analysis of the current state of historical villages in the buffer zone.

During the reference period, priority was given to cooperation with the local community in the buffer zone, including constant information, education and involvement of local residents in tourism activities and the preservation of the natural landscape.

A number of projects aimed at cooperation with the local community have received financial support from the Presidential Grants Fund. Thus, within the project “Meeting of village headmen as a driver for the development of the historic territory of the Kizhi volost”, the work on the revival of the traditional local self-government in the WHS buffer zone is being carried out. Various mechanisms are being worked out in order to involve local residents in the management and development of villages: creation and operation of Territorial Self-Government, cooperation with various support programs, interaction with stakeholders. All these efforts make it possible to form a really active community on the territory, interested in preserving traditions and developing their villages. Otherwise, it is impossible to achieve sustainable development of the territory.