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**SPb CPO «Biologists for Nature Conservation»**

**Report on the implementation of the Joint EU/CoE Programme for the preparation of the  
Emerald Network of Nature Protection Sites, Phase II in the Russian Federation**

**St Petersburg**

**2014**

**Convention de Berne  
Bern Convention**



**Réseau Émeraude  
Emerald Network**

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## **1. Introduction**

### ***1.1. Project historical background***

The project on the identification of potential areas of special conservation interest of the Emerald Network (ASCI) in the Russian Federation is implemented by St. Petersburg Charitable Public Organization “Biologists for nature conservation” (also known as the Baltic Fund for Nature), under the official appointment of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation. The project implementation period is 2013-2016.

The current report describes the project implementation under the Administrative Arrangement between the Council of Europe and SPbCPO “Biologists for nature conservation” for 2013.

### ***1.2. Outcomes of the Phase 1 (2009-2011).***

In 2009-2011, the national Emerald team for the Russian Federation achieved the following results:

- the methodology of identification of potential ASCIs in European Russia is developed;
- over 200 experts working in all regions of European Russia, are involved in the project implementation;
- the working version of the List of the nature conservation designation types in the Russian Federation is completed;
- the working version of the List of species of European importance occurring in European Russia with their status assessment and biogeoregional distribution is completed;
- the working version of the List of habitats of European importance occurring in European Russia with their status assessment and biogeoregional distribution is completed;
- proposals for additions to the list of habitat types and species of European importance are prepared;
- data on habitats are converted to the EUNIS classification;
- GIS maps of 74 model species and 42 model habitat types distribution are created;
- data on 740 potential Emerald sites (28,3 mln hectares) and their digitized boundaries are collected comprising approximately 7,13 % of the total area of European Russia and 50 % of the expected total size of the potential Emerald sites in European Russia;
- the identified ASCIs include examples of 89 habitat types of European importance out of 95 types occurring in European Russia;
- the portion of the species and other taxa in the identified ASCIs in relation to the total number of taxa of European importance occurring in European Russia is the following: 6 out of 11

moss species, 56 out of 78 plant taxa, 2 out of 8 mollusk species, 29 out of 52 arthropod species, all 3 lamprey species, 14 out of 16 fish species, all 3 species of amphibians, all 6 species of reptiles, 35 out of 36 mammal species, 138 out of 146 bird species;

- the Emerald Book of the Russian Federation (part 1) including the suggestions for ASCI identification being an input made by over a hundred experts in the Emerald Network establishment is issued.

In December 2012, the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the Bern Convention adopted a List of the officially nominated candidate Emeralds sites which includes 740 potential ASCIs proposed by the Russian Federation, resulting from the work of the first Emerald project implementation in the country in the period 2009-2011.

As a result of the implementation of the Emerald project and taking into consideration their results, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation decided in 2013 to intensify the development of the Hibiny National Park project in the Hibiny potential Emerald Site.

The Kaliningradskaya, Novgorodskaya, and Murmanskaya Oblasts established in 2012-2013 several new Specially Protected Natural Areas improving the protection of the potential Emerald Sites.

## **2. Objectives for 2013**

The Administrative Arrangement defined the expected project outcomes for the Russian Federation for 2013 as follows:

- Organisation of a technical meeting between the project Emerald team and the Joint Programme Manager and scientific coordinator;
- Contribution to the consultations on the guidelines on Emerald Network sites' management, reporting and monitoring mechanisms;
- Final Emerald sites database completed and delivered to the Council of Europe through the EIONET CDR, including corrections of data and:
  - Finalisation of the distribution per biogeographical region and populations in each country of all species and habitats of Resolutions Nos. 4 and 6 of the Bern Convention and Annex I of the Habitats Directive;
  - Finalisation of the distribution maps of selected species and habitats in the Geographical Information System (GIS);
  - Finalisation of sites database for all the sites to be listed with all ecological data filled in;
  - Finalisation of digital boundaries for all sites listed in GIS.

### **3. Variations from the original planning**

The level of involvement of the Russian regions in the Emerald Network establishment has significantly varied during 2013. Therefore, we decided to invite mainly Russian Emerald team members and some activists to the national expert meeting in October 2013. It has been decided that a larger meeting, involving more exclusively regional officials and experts, should be organised in May 2014.

The preparation of a brochure about the development of the Emerald Network in the Russian regions requires a considerable time for drafting, translation and compilation of several basic documents. The brochure will be one of the main working documents for the National seminar planned for May 2014, when our main readers – the officials of regional conservation authorities and regional experts – will meet. Therefore, we expect the brochure to be prepared in April 2014.

### **4. Main actors / participants involved**

Experts from the following organizations were involved in data collection and analysis:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) of the Russian Federation;
- Institute of Geography (IG), Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS);
- All Russian Research Institute for Nature protection (ARRINP, FSI “VNII Prirody”);
- Mining Institute (MI), Ural Branch (UB) of the RAS;
- Ryazan State University (RSU);
- St. Petersburg State University (SPSU);
- Higher School of Economics (HSE);
- Institute of Ecology and Evolution (IEE), RAS;
- Main Botanical Garden (MBG), RAS;
- St. Petersburg Charitable Public Organization “Biologists for Nature Conservation” (BFN)
- St. Petersburg Naturalists Society (SPNS);
- Tver State University (TSU)

The main team of the project has undergone minor changes since 2012. Responsibilities within the team were as follows:

**Ms. Nadezhda M. Alexeeva** (SPNS) – analysis of the documents on Emerald site management and adaptation of the European approaches in this field to the conditions of Russian regions;

**Ms. Elena A. Belonovskaya** (IG) – Russian Reference Database – habitat types (materials and updates); mapping the distribution of the habitat types (materials and updates); reviewing the Interpretation manual of the Emerald habitats (Russian part);

**Ms. Anna V. Belousova (FSI «VNII prirody»)** – Emerald Database management, Russian Reference Database (summarizing materials and updating);

**Mr. Mikhail S. Ignatov (MBG)** – Russian Reference Database - mosses (materials); mapping the distribution of the 11 moss species (materials);

**Ms. Olga I. Kadebskaya (MI UB RAS)** - Russian Reference Database – Cave habitats (materials); mapping the distribution of the Cave habitats (materials);

**Ms. Marina V. Kazakova (RSU)** – Russian Reference Database – vascular plants (materials and updates); mapping the distribution of the 22 vascular plant species (materials and updates);

**Mr. Alexey V. Kuprianov (HSE)** – technical editing of distribution maps produced during the Phase 1;

**Ms. Marina L. Milutina (FSI «VNII prirody»)** – Russian Reference Database – birds (materials and updated); analysis of the distribution of the 10 birds species;

**Ms. Regina I. Nazyrova (FSI «VNII prirody»)** – Russian Reference Database – the 3 mammal species (materials and updates); mapping the distribution of the 1 mammal species;

**Mr. Ivan N. Nemkov (SPSU)** – map conversion from point to grid format;

**Mr. Dmitry M. Ochagov (FSI «VNII prirody»)** – Database of proposed Emerald sites (materials on selected regions);

**Ms. Elena S. Pushai (TSU)** – analysis of European approaches to the Emerald Network assessment and their adaptation to Russian conditions;

**Mr. Rustam A. Sagitov (BFN)** – administrative management, coordination of contacts with other institutions and experts, project evaluation, reporting; preparation of brochure publication;

**Mr. Nikolay I. Shilin (FSI «VNII Prirody»)** - Russian Reference Database – fishes and lampreys (materials and updates); analysis the distribution of the 6 fish and lamprey species (materials and updates);

**Mr. Nikolay A. Sobolev (IG)** – Russian Reference Database (up-dates and final review); Emerald Database (summarizing materials, up-dates and final review); mapping proposed ASCIs; review of the Interpretation manual of the Emerald habitats (Russian part); consultation on the guidelines on Emerald Network sites' management, reporting and monitoring mechanisms in Russia; co-ordination of the brochure compilation; project evaluation, reporting;

**Mr. Arkady A. Tishkov (IG)** – overall scientific coordination; scientific supervision of methodological publication.

**Ms. Tatiana A. Trofimova (BFN)** – translation, technical assistance;

**Ms. Natalia V. Lenzman (SPSU)** – translation;

**Ms. Irina S. Trukhanova (BFN)** – translation, mapping the distribution of the two marine mammal species, technical assistance;

**Ms. Marina L. Vilner (BFN)** – financial management and bookkeeping;

**Ms. Ludmila B. Volkova (IEE)** – Russian Reference Database - invertebrates (materials and updates); distribution maps of the 22 invertebrates species (materials and updates);

**Ms. Maria E. Dronova** supervised the Project on the Ministerial level and provided valuable political and administrative consultations and support.

**Mr. Marc Roekaerts** has helped as much as the CoE project coordinator.

We have received a large amount of materials due to collaboration with the **Transparent World Non-Commercial Partnership** leading the work on steppe sites inventory in Russia (UNDP / GEF / MNRE of Russia Project «Improving the Coverage and Management Efficiency of Protected Areas in the Steppe Biome of Russia») and natural area mapping in the Barents Euro-region («Barents Region Protected Areas Network» project of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council; co-ordinated by Finnish Institute of Environment).

**Birds and People NGO** has submitted proposals concerning the protection of the high conservation value wetlands as potential ASCIs (prepared under the Wetlands International project “Conservation of Transboundary Belarusian-Russian and Russian-Ukrainian Wetlands”).

**Mr. Vadim O. Mokievsky (Institute of Oceanology RAS)** generously consulted us about the distribution of marine habitats of European importance.

**Mr. Lavr V. Bolshakov (Russian Entomological Society)** prepared proposals for ASCI identification in Tula Oblast’.

The **Russian Geographic Society (RGS)** and the **Russian Academy of Sciences** in their turn have supported the expert meeting in October 2013 hosted by the **National Park “Valdaiskiy”**. Members of the **RGS Commission for Environmental Management (CEM)** actively participated in the meeting.

We are very thankful to all the contributors.

## **5. Project results for 2013**

### **5.1. Meetings and workshops**

IG RAS, BFN, RGS CEM, CoE, MNRE of Russia and VNP, with the support of the Joint EU/CoE Programme and RGS organized and implemented a series of events related to econets establishment in Eastern Europe (Attachment 1), taking place in October 2013.

- Technical meeting between the project Emerald team and the Joint Programme Manager and scientific coordinator;

- 3<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Conference «Geographic basis of the Ecological Network establishment in Northern Eurasia»;

- Special Session of the RGS Commission for Environmental Management.

32 participants met in Valdai; a rapid electronic dissemination of the materials during the conference made it possible to combine efforts of about 60 experts from CoE, Finland, Ukraine, and a number of Russian regions.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation presented the report about a system of the protected areas in the Russian Federation in a context of the Emerald network at the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Subgroup on Biodiversity and Nature Protection of Russia – EU Environmental Dialogue (Brussels, July 15-16).

We made a presentation on the Progress in the setting-up of the Emerald Network in Russia in 2012-2013 at the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Group of Experts on Protected Areas and Ecological Networks (Strasbourg, September 18-19).

Staff representatives of governmental conservation authorities from the Russian Federation took part in the Phase 2 kick-off meeting (Kyiv, April 24-26), the JP-2 bilateral meeting with the Russian Federation (Strasbourg, October 17), and the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the JP-2 Steering Committee (Strasbourg, October 18).

### ***5.2. Enlargement of the Russian Emerald Team***

In August 2013, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation appealed to the conservation authorities of Russia's sub-federal entities about supporting the establishment of the Emerald Network. Currently, we have established a correspondence with the majority of regional conservation authorities and are looking forward to a successful collaboration with them in the Emerald Network implementation in 2014-2016.

The Russian Geographic Society has joined the Emerald team by taking part in organizing the expert meeting (Valdai, October 1-4) and active participation of its Commission for Environmental Management in the meeting.

### ***5.3. Contribution to the consultations on the guidelines on Emerald Network sites' management, reporting and monitoring mechanisms***

We consulted the preparation of the guidelines on Emerald Network sites' management, reporting and monitoring mechanisms in the first semester 2013. By the request of the leading expert Mrs Lyudmila Dimitrova, we prepared information about nature conservation designation types in Russia and supporting legal basis (submitted on 11 June 2013).

### ***5.4. Review of the draft Interpretation manual of the Emerald habitats***

We discussed the First draft of the Interpretation Manual of the Emerald Habitats (TPVS/PA (2011) 8). We marked the considered habitat types (occurring in European Russia) and

commented on the description of 19 types regarding their specific variation in European Russia (submitted on 29 June 2013).

### ***5.5. Preparation for the assessment of the List of proposed ASCIs***

We have started our preparation for the assessment of the proposed Emerald Network sites by developing a brochure explaining how to implement the Criteria for assessment of the National Lists of proposed Areas of Special Conservation Interest (ASCIs) at biogeographical level and procedure for examination and approval of candidate Emerald sites in Russia. Mrs. Elena S. Pushai assisted at the biogeographic seminar in Norway (Trondheim, June 18-20) in order to learn about practical aspects of carrying out the assessment procedures. She also made a presentation at the above-mentioned expert meeting in Valdai. Now Ms. E.S. Pushai is working on the text of the brochure.

### ***5.6. Specifications and additions to the Russian Reference Database***

#### **5.6.1. Habitat types of European importance**

No new habitat types of European importance are identified for European Russia.

*Lithophyllum byssoides* does not occur in Russian territorial waters (<http://www.algaebase.org/>), therefore we have to exclude “A1.141 Association with *Lithophyllum byssoides*” from the list of habitat types being present in Russia.

There is no description of the habitat type “A6.911 Seeps in the deep-sea bed” in the EUNIS database (<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2534>), therefore we have to exclude it from the further Emerald Network assessment. On the other hand, we expect the similar habitats to be present, for example, in Pechora Sea.

After having up-dated information about biogeoregional distribution and current state of habitat types we find all of them on the potential Emerald sites.

#### **5.6.2. Species of European importance**

We have added *Braya linearis* Rouy to the actual version of the Russian Reference Database.

Regarding *Crambe litwinowii* H. Gross is considered now as a junior synonym of *C. tataria* Sebeok, but recalling separated status of these taxa in the Annex 1 (2011) to the Resolution 6 (1998), we have kept the name of “*Crambe litwinowii*” for plants from its locus classicus in the Kvalynsky National Park.

We have up-dated information about biogeoregional distribution and current state of several species.

It should be mentioned that earlier we had entered in the working list some species, which actual inhabiting in Russia had not been correctly proved. Now we have verified someones of them.

Vascular plants: *Gladiolus palustris* and *Stipa syreistschikowii* are not found in their former habitats. *Corydalis gotlandica* and *Pulsatilla vulgaris ssp. gotlandica* are not found in Russia at all.

Invertebrates: *Helicigona lapicida* (a Mollusc species) is not mentioned in the Annex 1 (2011) to the Resolution No 6 of the Bern Convention.

Fishes: Data analysis on *Acipenser sturio* (Baltic population is considered now as *A. oxyrinchus*) demonstrates the extinction of this species at least in Russian territory. The current state of *Alosa alosa* is the same.

Birds: *Hydrobates pelagicus*, *Bucephala islandica*, *Cursorius cursor*, *Pterocles alchata*, *Lanius nubicus*, *Emberiza caesia* are occasional vagrant species for Russia.

We have to exclude the mentioned species from the Russian Emerald species list.

We still have no actual data on 5 Invertebrate species (*Agathidium pulchellum*, *Bolbelasmus unicornis*, *Buprestis splendens*, *Pilemia tigrina*, *Anthrenochernes stellae*) and 1 vascular plant subspecies (*Saussurea alpina ssp. esthonica*). Although we keep them in the Russian Reference Database since parts of European Russia belong to their distribution ranges, we indicate its state as “D” and exclude them from the further Emerald Network assessment.

After the more accurate data analysis, we have to mark as “need confirmation” the presence of some species in a part of previously expected biogeoregions. We will exclude such situations from the Emerald Network assessment.

### **5.7. GIS distribution data for selected species and habitats**

The GIS distribution data for selected species and habitats are presented as electronic grid-maps with 25\*25 km<sup>2</sup> grid showing the status of the target object in each gridcell.

The maps are in geographic projection, Pulkovo (1942) Coordinate system.

The attributive table contains the data on the status of the target object in the Status field. The coloured legends are developed in ArcView GIS in line with the Code field of the attributive table.

In 2013 we mapped the distribution of the following target objects:

- 1 species of mammals;
- 4 species of birds;
- 13 species of invertebrates;
- 15 species of vascular plants;

– 10 habitat types.

We have also reviewed maps of the selected species and habitat type distribution developed in 2009-2011 and updated several of them.

The developed maps include data collected by the experts of the Russian Emerald team and regional experts.

### ***5.8. Identification of potential sites of Areas of Special Conservation Interest of the Emerald network of the Bern Convention***

In addition to the sites described in 2009-2011 information about 160 potential Emerald sites was entered into the Emerald Database in 2013. In total, 900 potential Emerald sites were identified (Attachment 2) with participation of regional experts. We entered the ecological information into the Emerald Database relying as a rule on the expert judgement since we had no previous data. The proportion of area covered by various habitat types is approximate because of lack of appropriate studies. However, we can be sure that all the habitats are represented in the potential ASCIs if it is noted in the Emerald Database.

### ***5.9. Digitizing the boundaries of potential Emerald sites***

In 2013, boundaries of 160 potential Emerald sites were digitalized in accordance with the Emerald Database.

### ***5.10. Preparation and publication of project materials***

In 2013, we have issued the Emerald Book of the Russian Federation (Part 1) embracing expert proposals as were made in 2011. This edition belongs to the achievement of the JP Phase 1 and was prepared without using the resources of the JP Phase 2.

The methodological brochure and a book with other results of the Emerald Network implementation in Russia are under preparation for publication.

## **6. Elaboration of preliminary plan for future activities on identification of potential Emerald sites in European Russia in 2014 and fundraising**

The ambitious goal of our work in 2014 is to involve regional officials and more regional experts in the Emerald Network implementation. For pushing the process, we will invite officials and experts from the 54 administrative regions of European Russia to participate in the National seminar in May. We expect to transfer the resources saved under Administrative Arrangement 2013 to the Administrative Arrangement 2014. Additionally we expect to receive some funds from the Russian Academy of Sciences. Besides, we will submit the application to the Russian Geo-

graphic Society. We hope that members of its Commission for Environmental Management in its turn will actively participate in the seminar.

The collaboration with the Transparent World NCP in identification of important natural areas (like ASCIs) will continue in steppe zone and Barents Region.

### **7. Problems encountered while implementing the project**

As we have already mentioned, EUNIS classification does not contain the whole diversity of habitat types occurring in European Russia and other areas where the Emerald Network is under implementation. We think it is reasonable to perform a special project on modification of EUNIS classification in accordance with new tasks and approaches.

The involvement of many regional officials became more difficult than it was foreseen. It is related to the summer refocusing of regional conservation authorities from office to on-site work of regional conservation bodies, as well as to the lack of simple methodologies that could be suggested for their Emerald Network implementation activities. Because of this, we had to postpone the planned larger meeting of regional officials and experts till 2014.

The preparation of the methodological brochure has faced the problem of adequate translation into Russian of several basic documents. The lack of our proper broad experience in assessment and management of the Emerald Network exacerbates the problem. Therefore, we need to discuss the draft brochure with officials in selected regions in order to up-date the text and publish the brochure in April 2014.

Traditional lack of data on identified potential Emerald sites leads to minimal justification for many of them. We expect the need of further work to improve quality of the data on identified sites. Moreover, we suspect that the list of potential ASCIs is still not completed. Some regions must be studied more thoroughly.

### **8. Evaluation of project results**

Based on the project results achieved under the Administrative Arrangement 2013 and the outcomes of the JP Phase 1 (2009-2011) 900 potential Emerald sites were identified.

The expected total area of the identified potential ASCIs is about 30 mln ha which is approximately 7,56 % of the total area of European Russia. We estimate it to be more than 80 % of the total amount of the potential Emerald sites and this can be considered as enough to begin the assessment process.

The portion of the species and other taxa in the identified ASCIs in relation to the total number of taxa of European importance occurring in European Russia is the following: all the 11 moss

species, 71 out of 73 confirmed plant taxa, 2 out of 7 mollusk species in the actual List (no additional search done), 39 out of 47 confirmed arthropod species, all the 3 lamprey species, all the 14 fish species confirmed for Russia, all the 3 species of amphibians, all the 6 species of reptiles, 35 out of 36 mammal species, 138 out of 140 confirmed bird species.

Examples of all the 93 habitat types of European importance occurring in European Russia are identified in the potential ASCIs. The methodological brochure for supporting regional activities in the Emerald Network implementation will be prepared in three months. Therefore, we have in general fulfilled the main objectives of the project. Some tasks will be completed before the National seminar in May 2014.

**Attachment 1: Agenda of the scientific meeting in Valdai, 1-4 October 2013 and List of participants**

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**Third International Scientific Conference "Geographic basis of the Ecological Networks establishment in Northern Eurasia",  
Meeting of the Russian Emerald Team,  
The Special Session of the Russian Geographical Society's Commission for Environmental Management**

**Valdaisky National Park, the Russian Federation**

**1-4 October 2013**



**Third International Scientific Conference "Geographic basis of the Ecological Networks establishment in Northern Eurasia",  
Meeting of the Russian Emerald Team,  
The Special Session of the Russian Geographical Society's Commission for Environmental Management**

**Agenda**

**01.10.2013.**

9:30-10:00 - Registration

10:00 -13:30 – Morning session.

**Opening the Conference and the Special Session.**

**PA and ECONET establishment and management.** Chairperson: Arkady A. Tishkov.

**Arkady A. Tishkov.** Aims and objectives of the Conference.

**Alexander A. Chibilev.** Objectives of the Commission for Environmental Management in Biodiversity Conservation and ECONET establishing: preparation of the National Report on the state and protection of the Russian Natural Heritage.

**Iva Obretenova.** The Council of Europe and the European Commission Joint Programme «Emerald Network of Nature Protection Sites, Phase II».

**Rustam A. Sagitov.** Establishing the Emerald Network on the regional level.

Yulia V. Gorelova, **Alexey K. Blagovidov.** Ecological network as a part of a municipal programme of sustainable development.

**Irina V. Pokrovskaya.** The international «Sea Track» project in Barents Sea in the context of the development of the Pan-European Ecological Network.

**Alexey M. Tomilin.** PA system of Russia: need of collaboration.

**Nikolay A. Sobolev, Dmitry E. Aksenov.** Potential Emerald sites and other High Conservation Value Areas in Russia: implementation of international approaches.

13:30-15:00 – Lunch

15:00-18:00 - Afternoon session.

**PA systems in regions of Eurasia.** Chairperson: Alexander A. Chibilev.

**Irina A. Danilova.** Conservation of the Natural Heritage in the Novgorodskaya Oblast: positive and negative circumstances.

**Elena M. Litvinova, S.M. Getmantseva.** New ASCIs in the Ecological Network of the Novgorodskaya Oblast.

**Arkady A. Tishkov.** Conservation value of a transformed landscape: Valdai area example.

**Konstantin N. Kobiakov.** PA of Russian Arctic: current state and development perspectives.

**Rustam A. Sagitov, Tatiana A. Trofimova.** Current state of PA system in the North-West Federal Okrug of Russia.

**Jury P. Kurhinen.** PA within the Green Belt of Fennoscandia.

**Nikolay A. Sobolev.** Current state of PA system in the Central Federal Okrug of Russia.

**Svetlana V. Kobiakova.** Factors menacing rare steppe ecosystems in the Belgorodskaya Oblast.

**Natalia O. Ryabinina.** PA system development in the Volgogradskaya Oblast.

**Svetlana A. Litvinskaya.** ASCI of Krasnodarsky Krai: problems of increasing impact.

**Alexander A. Chibilev.** Main types of the Reserved Nature Fund in Steppe Regions of Eurasia.

**Tatiana P. Kalikhman.** Inventory of information about the specially protected natural areas of Federal and regional significance in Siberia.

**Arkady A. Tishkov.** Overview of extramural reports.

### **02.10.2013.**

9:30 - 13:30 – **Scientific excursion.**

**Valery I. Nikolaev.** Valdaysky NP integration in the regional context.

13:30-15:00 - Lunch

15:00-18:00 - Afternoon session.

**Conservation of Species, Habitats, and Landscapes.** Chairperson: Nikolay A. Sobolev.

**Nikolay I. Shilin.** Working out the new Red Data Book of the Russian Federation (Animals) and analysing draft red list of fishes and cyclostomatous.

**Elena A. Belonovskaya, Nadezhda G. Tsarevskaya.** Diversity and conservation value of the plant communities of the lakes in the Valdaysky National Park.

**Alexander A. Kalinin.** Identification of small ASCIs in the heavily urbanized Moskovskaya Oblast.

**Elena V. Vargot.** Water bodies in the ecological network of the Republic of Mordovia.

**Olga N. Demina.** Newly described Habitat Types identifying ECONET components.

**Olga I. Kadebskaya.** Legal basis for protecting Ural caves and their touristic use.

**Nikolay A. Sobolev.** Overview of extramural reports.

18:30 – Dinner

### **03.10.2013.**

9:30- 13:30 - Morning session.

**ASCI identification and assessment.** Chairperson: Nikolay A. Sobolev.

**Marc Roekaerts.** Development of the Emerald Network, from phase I to phase II; evaluation of proposed Emerald sites.

**Tatiana V. Rogova, Galya A. Shaikhutdinova.** Conservation of natural diversity and establishment of ecological network in Eurasia.

**Elena S. Pushai, Alexey V. Tiusov.** Potential ASCI assessment in Russia: specific issues and what data do we need to be collected on the regional level (an example of the Tverskaya Oblast).

**Nikolay G. Maximovich, Olga I. Kadebskaya.** Yanganape Range as a unique landscape of the Polar Ural.

**Anastasia M. Skripalshchikova, Olga I. Kadebskaya.** Alabatay karst field including Podarok cave as an Area of Special Conservation Interest.

**Elena E. Timoshok, Sergey N. Skorokhodov, Yulia G. Rayskaya.** Tungusky State Reserve as a key component in the ecological network of Northern Asia.

**Elena E. Timoshok, Eugeny N. Timoshok.** Assessment criteria for potential Key Natural Areas in the Altay Mountains (an example of the Aktru River basin).

**Nikolay A. Sobolev.** Overview of extramural reports.

13:30-15:00 - Lunch

15:00-18:00 - Afternoon session.

**Draft outputs discussion and adoption.** Co-chairs: Alexander A. Chibilev, Nikolay A. Sobolev.

### **04.10.2013.**

10:30 - Departure (with a visit to the Iversky monastery).

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organizations, institutions	E-mail
Yuri Badenkov	Institute of Geography, RAS	yubaden@mail.ru
Serguey Bakka	Dront Eco-center, Nizhny Novgorod	sopr@dront.ru
Ivan Bashinskyi	Institute of ecology and evolution, RAS	ivbash@mail.ru
Elena Belonovskaya	Institute of Geography, RAS	belena53@mail.ru
Anna Belousova	Centre for Biodiversity Protection, RAEN	anelous@mail.ru
Elena Borisova	Ivanovo State University	floraea@mail.ru
Eugeny Borovichov	Polar Alpine Botanical Garden, Apatity	borovichyok@mail.ru
Olga Burova	Kulikovo Polye State Museum and Preserve, Tula	burova@kulpole.tula.net
Svetlana Getmentseva	Direction of PA of Novgorod Oblast	nikitin.alx@yandex.ru
Natalia Kalutskova	Moscow State University	nat_nnk@mail.ru
Marina Kazakova	Ryazan State University	m.kazakova@rsu.edu.ru
Taisia Kirillova	Tver State University	t_kirillova@list.ru
Natalia Koroleva	Polar Alpine Botanical Garden, Apatity	flora01@rambler.ru
Pavel Kravchenko	Tver State University	pavel-tversu@yandex.ru
Vladimir Krever	WWF Russia	vkrever@wwf.ru
Olga Leontieva	Moscow State University	leontolga@mail.ru
Elena Litvinova	Valdaisky NP	LEM-08@yandex.ru
Svetlana Litvinskaya	Kuban State University, Krasnodar	litvinsky@yandex.ru
Marina Milutina	Centre for Biodiversity Protection, RAEN	marinamsu@mail.ru
Ramazan Murtazaliev	Mountain Botanical Garden, RAS, Makhachkala	pibreklab@yahoo.com
Alexndre Nikitin	Direction of PA of Novgorod Oblast	nikitin.alx@yandex.ru
Valery Nikolaev	Valdaisky NP	nikval.cz@live.ru
Nina Novikova	Institute of Water Research, RAS	nmnovikova@gmail.com
Iva Obretenova	Council of Europe, Strasbourg	iva.obretenova@coe.int
Oleg Prigorianu	Kovyl Centre, Oriol	ecolog67@gmail.com
Marc Roekaertz	Council of Europe, Strasbourg	marc.roekaerts@eureko.be
Irina Rotanova	Institute of Water and Ecological Research, Siberian branch RAS	rotanova@iwep.asu.ru
Rustam Sagitov	Baltic Fund for Nature, Sankt-Petersburg	rustam_sagitov@bfm.org.ru
Tatiana Silaeva	Mordovian State University, Saransk	tbsilaeva@yandex.ru
Nikolay Sobolev	Institute of Geography, RAS	sobolev_nikolas@mail.ru
Viktor Sokolov	Valdaisky NP	sokvalpark@mail.ru
Alexandre Sorokin	Tver State University	ecology@tversu.ru
Ksenia Speranskaya	Moscow State University	alatiel@bk.ru
Vladislav Starkov	Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, RAS	vladislavstarkov@mail.ru
Natalia Telnova	Moscow State University	maantiede@mail.ru
Arkadyi Tishkov	Institute of Geography, RAS	tishkov@biodat.ru
Alexey Tomilin	Baltic Fund for Nature, Sankt-Petersburg	tomiline@mail.ru
Irina Trukhanova	Baltic Fund for Nature, Sankt-Petersburg	irina_trukhanova@bfm.org.ru
Alexey Tyusov	Tver State University	sp2rt2k@mail.ru
Nadezhda Tsarevskaya	Institute of Geography, RAS	biogeo@igras.geonet.ru
Polina Zhbanova	WWF Russia	pzhbanova@gmail.com
Andrey Zinoviev	Tver State University	m000258@tversu.ru