Emerald Russia in 2012-2013

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State programme of the Russian Federation "Environment Protection" for 2012-2020

- Approved by the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation no.2552-p of 27.12.2012
- Includes the Subprogram on Russia's Biodiversity
- One of targets for PAs: PAs will cover 13,5% of the total area of the country by 2020

Protected Areas of the federal level

lew Protected areas established:

Inezhskoye Pomorie National Park in Irkhangel'skaya Oblast' - will be studied as a Iotential Emerald site;

derengia National Park, Sayliughem National Park, and Leopard's Land National Park are in Asian part of Russia; so, we will study them when developing principles of establishment of the Emerald Network as Core Areas of the PEEN) in Asian part of the Russian Federation

Protected Areas of the regional level

5 Protected Areas - potential ASCI's - restored in Novgorodskaya Oblast'.

We expect the resolution of the First Econet Conference and our Emerald seminar in Valdai City (April 2011) has contributed to such a result.

Regional territorial planning

Wide prospective Territorial Development Scheme adopted in Leningradskaya Oblast'. It includes all the potential ASCI's in Leningradskaya Oblast' and a lot of other High Conservation Value Areas. We expect study them in 2013 as possible Emerald sites too.

International co-operation

- e large conservation project contribute essentially to the tification of potential ASCI's:
- ntory of remaining steppe areas in Russia under the UNDP / GEF IRE Russia project «Improving the Coverage and Management iency of Protected Areas in the Steppe Biome of Russia»;
- ntory of marine and coastal Protected Areas under the UNDP / / MNRE Russia project «Marine Protected Areas of Russia»;
- ssment of the conservation value and current state of Protected s and High Conservation Value Forests in northern part of pean Russia in a frame of the project «Barents Region Protected s Network», supported by the Barents Euro-Arctic Council.

Scientific activities

The Second Econet Conference in Valdai City December 2012). The Conference Output document focuses on the possible ways of the Emerald Network development in Russia and establishment of the Russian section of the Pan-European Ecological Network up to the Far East. Several memos adopted addressing problems of the concrete potential ASCI.

The written edition of regional experts' proposals concerning potential ASCI's are still in press.

Threats to several potential Emerald sites in Northern Caucasus. It is unavoidably connected with Olympic preparation. A lot of NGO's and activists are involved in discussion.

The project of a technical road menaces the potential ASCI of Khibiny in Kola peninsula. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation in collaboration of regional activists and a lot of experts from many Russian regions work on the problem. The Second Econet Conference Valdai, 2012) has required modifying the project. For the moment the situation is mproving.

The project of North Stream Extension NEXT) gas pipeline: one of its possible routes represents potential serious threat to the Kurgalskyi potential ASCI (the Ramsar Site, the Baltic Sea Protected Area, nature reserve of Leningradskaya Oblast').

The ways to minimize potential threat, in ine with Ramsar Convention, Helsinki Convention and national legislation, are under discussion.

Several potential ASCI's in Kurskaya Oblast' are still not restored as PA but the staff of Sentralny Chernoziomnyi Zapovednik take the situation under permanent control.

Nevertheless the mentioned problems are serious, the Ministry, regional conservation agencies, scientific institutions, and NGOs work on them in collaboration with other interested parties. So, we hope to reach the solution as optimal as possible in all the cases.

Fundraising

Russian Academy of Sciences has allocated money to the Institute of Geography for the Third Econet Conference in Valdai City (October 2013).

Ve have submitted the application in the Russia ociety of Geography for working with regional experts in the field on potential ASCI identification.

