

Figure 36. Dynamics of cost of harvested and produced non-timber forest products in 2005–2007, mill. roubles (source: Rosleskhoz)

bear quotas were used only by 33.3%, wild reindeer – 37.7%, wild boar – 60.6%, moose – 68.8%. The most used quota was the sable's – 91.5%. However, in experts opinion, illegal hunting is constantly increasing in Russia for many game species.

Prices for game animals differ significantly from region to region. Some average prices and their variation are shown in Annex 5, Tables 4 and 5.

6.1.c. Revenue from forest based environmental services

The market of environmental services includes environmental protection, environmental assessment, waste removal, collection of renewable resources, cleaning of polluted soil and water, ecological consulting, providing of ecologic information, financial services. The effectiveness of this market is proved by many years of experience in the high-developed countries.

Payments for recreational activities take the second place in the revenue from forest use in Russia; in 2008 they made 1,277.3 million roubles. According to the official data, last 3 years show increment of revenue from the forest environmental services (Fig. 37).

Participation in international exchange of emission quotas is especially valuable for Russian forest sector. Increasing of pure carbon sink in Russian for-

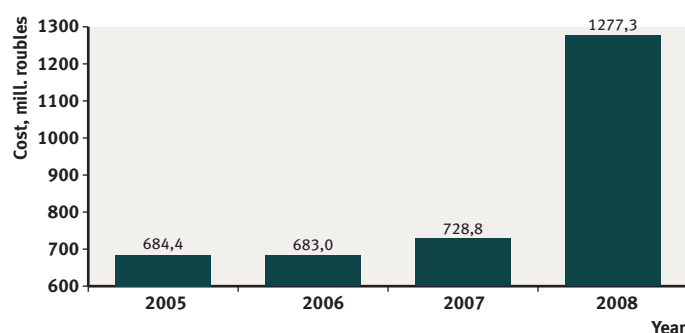


Figure 37. Dynamics of revenue from forest environmental services, million roubles

est, counted against Kyoto obligations, may be reached by active reforestation and afforestation measures and other forest management activities. Among all countries, Russia has the best potential for solving this problem. The participation in international market of environmental services can be significant for transition Russian forestry to sustainable development model.

6.1.d. Total and per capita consumption of wood and wood products in round wood equivalents

Per capita consumption of wood and paper products in Russia is much lower than in developed countries. (Thus for paper and paperboard it is 46 kg in Russia, 329 kg in the USA, 432 kg in Finland). However, domestic demand for wood products is steady increasing. Table 25 shows the dynamics of total and per capita consumption of wood and wood products in round wood equivalents.

Per capita consumption of wood and paper products in Russia in 2007:*

Logging, m ³	1.11
Sawn wood, m ³	0.042
Plywood, m ³	0.010
Particleboard, m ³	0.039
Fibreboard, m ³	0.013
Paper and paperboard, kg	45.8

*Population is taken equal to 142.1 mill. people
(Statistic data of the «NIPIELesprom»)

6.1.e. Total and per capita consumption of non-wood products

According to a scientifically grounded nutritional standard, annual per capita consumption of fruit and berry products should be 80 kg, or 11,500 thousand tonnes for the whole Russia. However, in 2005 it was only 48 kg per capita. The share of wild fruits and berries is unknown, but in the same year 4,000 thousand tonnes of fruit and berry products, or 27.8 kg per capita, was sold on the retail market. These 27.8 kg also included wild forest products. According to the official data, the total consumption of non-wood products decreased in 2007 comparing to 2006 and reached 814 million roubles (Table 26). The development of food forest resources in many Russian regions is very weak – about 5–20% of possible volumes.

Table 25.

Total and per capita consumption of wood and wood products in round wood equivalents

Parameter	2005	2006	2007
Total consumption of wood and wood products in round wood equivalents, million m ³	89.0	90.0	100.0
Per capita consumption of wood and wood products in round wood equivalents, m ³ per head	0.62	0.63	0.7

Table 26.

Total and per capita consumption of non-wood products

Parameter	2005	2006	2007
Total consumption of non-wood product, million roubles	746	886	814
Per capita consumption of non-wood products, roubles per capita	5.2	6.2	5.7

Table 27.

Average seasonal game procurement per hunter

Specie	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
European Beaver	3.70	4.43	5.26	4.04	4.60	4.35
Muskrat	-	41.7	12.3	62.6	82.6	115.3
Eurasian otter	60.16	58.05	58.82	60.03	57.29	59.74

Statistical data on procured amount of different game species per hunter bag are not available. Available from periodic sources data on hunting dynamics for some species is shown in Table 27.

6.1.f. Value and volume in round wood equivalents of exports and imports of wood products

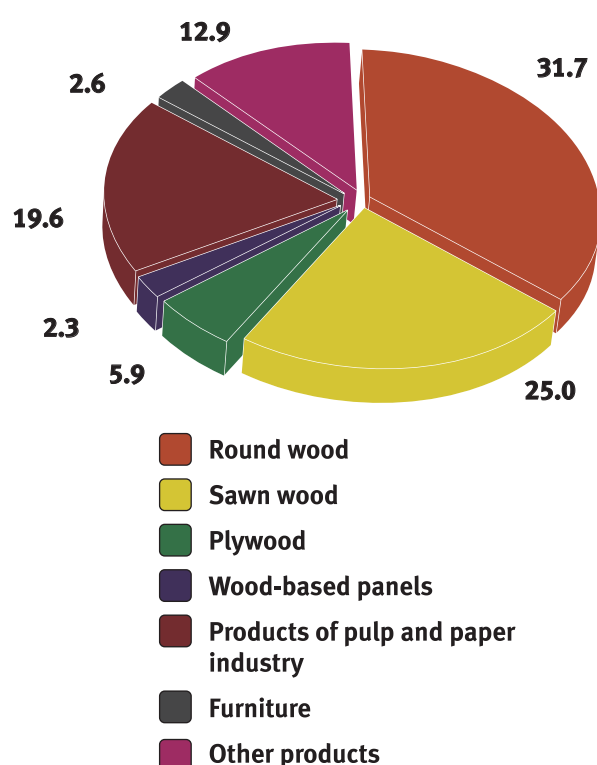


Figure 38. Structure of Russian wood and paper products export by price, 2007, %

The products of wood industry are traditionally important part of Russian export. Currently, wood processing and pulp and paper products make 3.2% of import and 4% of export. About 1/3 of the exported wood products are round wood, more than 1/4 – sawn wood. The main importers of Russian wood materials currently are China (round wood, sawn wood, and pulp), Finland (round wood), Japan (round wood, sawn wood), Egypt (sawn wood), Germany (sawn wood, paper, and paperboard), Turkey (pulp, paper, and paperboard), CIS countries (round wood, sawn wood, wood sheets, paper, and paperboard). At the same time, the Russian income from export is much behind than of the leaders of the international forest products market.

A feature of the Russian wood products export during the last years was the increment of round wood export – from 20.0 million m³ in 1998 to 51.1 in 2006 and 49.3 in 2007. But in 2008 it decreased down to 36.8 million m³.

Export of unprocessed round wood is still in the first place, making 32.7% of all wood export of Russia in 2008 (Fig. 38). The main importers of round wood are China (56%), Finland (20.3%), and Japan (9.0%). Russian round wood is the base for the production of pulp and paper in Finland and China, construction materials (LVL glued structure) in Japan and Republic Korea, veneer sheet and plywood in Japan, China, and Republic Korea. Analysis of Russian round wood export shows that in 2007 it decreased a bit to Finland and increased to China. By estimation of the Ministry of Economic Development, the importers of Russian round wood (which total cost is \$4.1 billion) produce from it high-level processed products with total cost of \$12 billion. Thus, Russian loss of opportunity is about \$8

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billion. As a comparison, all investments in the Russian forest sector are only \$2.6 billion.

Export of wood and paper products, million USD:

	2006	2007*
Currency earnings, total	1,0246.1	13,048
Round wood	3,262.6	4,138.4
Sawn wood	2,317.9	3,262.4
Plywood	560.6	765.3
Particleboard	64.9	120
Fibreboard	131.4	182.9
Commodity pulp	838.4	1,055
Paper and paperboard	1,452.2	1,502.2
Furniture	301.1	350
Other products	1,317	1,671.8

* Operative data of the Custom Committee.

In 2008, round wood export decreased by 12.5 million m³, or 25.4%, sawn wood – by 31 million m³ (17.9%), plywood – by 10.5%, particleboard – by 14.0%, fibreboard – by 28.0%. The export of pulp, paperboard, and furniture increased by 0.8%, 5.2%, and 3.0% respectively.

The main country-importers of forest products from Russia in 2008 were:

- ✓ round wood: China, Finland, Japan, Sweden, Republic Korea, Baltic states, CIS states;
- ✓ sawn wood: China, Egypt, Japan, Iran, UK, Germany, France, Turkey, Finland, the Netherlands, Baltic states, CIS states;
- ✓ plywood: USA, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Finland, Denmark, the Netherlands, Baltic states, CIS states;
- ✓ pulp: China, Poland, Hungary, Germany, Turkey, Republic Korea, Jordan, CIS states;
- ✓ paper and paperboard: Germany, Turkey, India, China, UK, Iran, Italy, CIS states.

In total, the Wood Industry export in monetary terms increased by 26.6% in 2007, gaining 12.6 billion USD. In 2008, it estimated as 12.6 billion USD.

The structure of Russian wood and paper products export is still far from perfect. The share of pulp and paper industry is only 19.6%. In 2008, non-processed round wood made 32% and sawn wood (products of low-level processing) – 25.0% of export currency earnings.

While export of pulp and paper products decreased in physical terms in 2007, its import increased almost by 20%. During 2000–2006, the same export increased in 1.8 times, but import increased in 3.6 times (Fig. 39). In the import of wood and paper products in Russia the major shares belong to paper and paperboard (24.4%), paper and paperboard products (26.7%), furniture (22.1%). In 2008, estimated import was 9.2 billion USD.

Lack of its own capacities for high-level wood processing causes Russia to import annually large volumes of paper and paperboard, while exporting pulpwood to other countries. In 2007, the import of paper and paperboard products exceeded 2.5 million USD. Herewith, rates of growth are much higher for import than for export.

The volumes of wood products import increased in 2007 (comparing to 2006) mostly due to increase of sawn wood and plywood import. Russia has almost no production of Oriented Strand Board, and Medium-density Fiberboard Production is about 0.8 million m³ only. The domestic market is satisfied mostly by import of these products, which was 1.5 million m³ in 2007.

About 2/3 of the monetary value of the Wood Industry products imported into Russia are pulp and paper products; the majority of them are kinds of high-quality and special paper that are not produced in Russia. But there are also imported products that can be produced domestically (hygienic products, tare, and other). Russian imports also include building materials (window and door blocks, parquet, and decorative panels – mostly from Finland, Slovenia, Italy, and Germany), wood-based panels (mostly from Germany, Poland, and Italy), and furniture (mostly from Italy, Poland, Italy, Germany).

6.1.g. Value of exports and imports of non-wood products

Export of wild food forest resources (mushrooms, berries, nuts, etc.) is a profitable business, with sometimes more than 100% rate of return. Domestic purchasing prices for wild food forest resources are several times lower than the export ones. Volume and value of export and import of food and medicinal plants for 2006–2007, according to the Federal Custom Service data, are shown in Table 28.

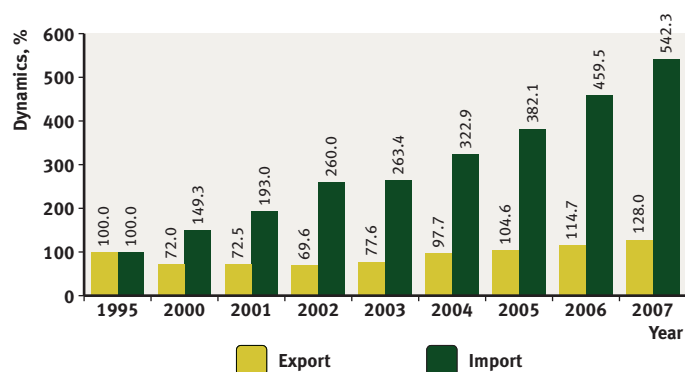


Figure 39. Dynamics of export and import of pulp and paper products (in monetary terms), % of 1995

Currently, Russia aims its foreign trade activity in forest sector on protection domestic producers of wood and paper products in order to achieve its balanced growth for external and domestic markets.

That includes such measures as:

- ✓ *increase in rates of export customs duties for raw wood*;*
- ✓ *limitation of export of sawlogs and peeler logs as a strategic resource depleted in exploited forest and required for inland wood processing;*
- ✓ *certification of services and specialized export organization, implementing of certificates of compliance with international standards ISO 9000 for wood exporters;*
- ✓ *gradual decrement and elimination of export customs duties for high-level processed wood products, implementation of operative correction of customs in response to changes of international prices for wood and paper products, and gradual increase of export customs duties for round wood;*
- ✓ *registration (1) of export contracts, expertise (2) of quality, quantity, and price of exported forest products, and adjustment (3) of application order of indicative prices as a criterion for defining of tax base of export-oriented wood industry enterprises;*
- ✓ *wide use of intergovernmental agreements, which allow, in the framework of WTO rules, to come to arrangements with other countries on most favored nation treatment in wood and paper products trade.*

In order to protect domestic producers and replace imported wood-based consumer goods it is proposed to adjust import customs duties for furniture, printing paper, and other imported wood and paper products. Recently, these rates were only 6.5% - much less than in Brazil, Canada, USA, and other major exporters.

The further improvement of the efficiency of timber and paper products export can be provided by the following measures:

- ✓ *development of networks of representatives, dealers and other facilitating agencies, mostly in countries with promising and solvent markets;*
- ✓ *creation of insurance commodity funds;*
- ✓ *legitimate selection of exporters and creation of their associations;*
- ✓ *provide the control over the activities of wood exporters, especially the facilitating agencies, in the sphere of external trade rules.*

Russian population's needs for raw materials from medicinal plants are partially covered by import. In 2004, Russia imported 2,463 tonnes of medicinal raw materials. The major importers were Ukraine, Kazakhstan, India, Denmark, Armenia, Egypt, and Cyprus.

6.1.h. Exports as a share of wood and wood products production and imports as a share of wood and wood products consumption

The share of export in Russian production is more than 50%. The share of export of non-processed wood is increasing every year and reached about

35% of the whole volume of logging. Table 29 shows the volumes of wood and paper products production in Russia in 2007 and the share of export in production and the share of import in consumption.

Total value of all wood and paper products produced by Russian enterprises in 2007 was 597 billion roubles, or 23.3 billion USD. For the same period, the value of exported products of Russian Federation forest complex was 12.6 billion USD, and value of import of wood and paper products was 7.7 billion USD.

Due to lack of its own high-level wood processing capacities, Russia has to import large volumes of top-grade paper and paperboard, and the import of pulp and paper products is growing faster than export.

According to 2008 data, Russia exports 64.5% of produced sawn wood, 52.1% of plywood, 34.4% of

* Since 2007, a government decree that provides a gradual and significant increase of export customs duties for non-processed wood until 2011 is in action. In April 2008 those customs duties reached 25% (but not less than 15 Euros per cubic meter), and 80% (but not less than 50 Euros per cubic meter) are planned starting in January 2009. Thus, Russian conditions for export of non-processed wood became one of the most tough and unfavorable in the world.

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Table 28.

Export and import of food and medicinal plants, 2006-2007 (according to the Federal Custom Service data)

Products	2006				2007			
	Export		Import		Export		Import	
	Weight, tonnes	Value, thousand USD	Weight, tonnes	Value, thousand USD	Weight, tonnes	Value, thousand USD	Weight, tonnes	Value, thousand USD
<i>Nuts</i>								
Hazel nuts	20.8	35.4	8,672.8	28,454.5	2.9	12.7	11,555.6	44,655.7
Pine nuts	9,362.5	16,632.7	395.0	1,553.1	12,249.4	16,523.0	591.0	2,960.1
<i>Fruits, berries</i>								
Barberries	0.07	0.9	29.0	21.6	0.1	1.7	26.1	16.0
Hawthorn	-	-	29.0	21.6	-	-	49.0	24.9
Cowberries	4,812.3	7,031.6	58.8	85.3	3,254.6	5,927.5	230.9	230.1
Black cowberries	-	-	-	-	191.3	18.5	-	-
Bog bilberries	20.0	59.3	143.2	241.4	20.0	59.2	228.4	462.4
Squashberry	9.9	77.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cranberries	1,695.0	3,389.1	173.2	273.7	1,801.4	4,942.4	235.9	366.2
Arctic raspberry	1.4	29.8	-	-	2.0	50.1	-	-
Cloudberries	811.6	4,064.6	-	-	413.1	3,634.4	-	-
Mountain Ash	56.0	92.2	-	-	6.3	44.4	47.6	68,600
Bird cherry	0.24	2.2	-	-	0.6	3.6	-	-
Blueberries	13,137.5	48,105.3	1,304.6	3,472.0	2,671.0	9,898.5	842.8	2,455.1
Wild rosa	-	-	2,369.4	2,444.0	4.1	24.2	3,269.7	3,388.4
<i>Other food forest resources</i>								
Fern	-	-	235.9	68.7	20.0	31.1	156.9	50.0
Ramson (wild leek)	53.7	69.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medicinal plants	-	-	361.7	344.7	-	-	316.8	438.7
Honey	210.6	667.0	379.5	476.0	148.1	554.2	493.6	886.3

paper and paperboard, and 19.6% of fibreboard. Export as a share of wood products production is 23.8%.

In 2007, import as a share of wood and paper products consumption was 40.6% for fibreboard, 22.5%, for paper and paperboard. The annual capacity of the domestic market for wood industry products is about 14.5 billion USD (without furniture), from which 4.6 billion USD (about 1/3) is covered by import. Thus, the trend of high share of non-processed wood and low share of high-processed wood in Russian export is clearly seen.

In 2008, the following changes in forest products import took place: the import increased by 35.8% - for wood-based panels, by 26.3% - for paper and paperboard, by 36.1% - for furniture. The import of paper and paperboard products was 1.8 billion roubles. In 2008, Russia had negative trade balance for wood-based panels, furniture, paper and paperboard, paper and paperboard products; this shows the unsatisfactory trade policy and structure of wood industry.

The lack of high-tech capacities for advanced mechanical, chemical, and energetic high-level wood processing is a system problem of Russian wood industry, hindering its growth and effective use of forest resources.

Criterion 6.2. Investment in the forest sector

6.2.a. Value of capital investment and annual expenditure in forest management, wood and non-wood product industries, forest-based environmental services, recreation and tourism

Financial resources for exercising of powers transferred in the field of forest relations to the state authorities of the constituent entities of the RF are provided in the form of subventions from the federal budget. The subventions are allocated depending on the areas of Production forests and Protective forests, intensity of their use, the population of the constituent entity of the RF, and factors of the forest fire danger.

In 2008, the total value of forest management expenditures was 24.91 billion roubles, including:

✓ subventions from the federal budget – 17.59 billion roubles;

Table 29.

Volume of wood and paper products production and shares of export in production and import in consumption in the Russian Federation, 2007

Title	Produced	Export	Import	Share of export in production, %	Share of import in consumption, %
Logging, mill. m ³	207.0	49.3	0.3	23.8	0.19
Sawn wood, mill. m ³	23.2	17.3	0.02	74.6	0.34
Plywood, mill. m ³	2,763	1,503	128	54.4	9.2
Particleboard, mill. m ³	5,306	479	761	9.0	13.6
Fibreboard, thousand m ²	1,578	468	756	29.6	40.6
Paper and paperboard, thousand tonnes	7,559	2,512	1,462	33.2	22.5

* Data of ISC «NIPIEllesprom»

✓ regional budgets and other sources – 7.32 billion roubles.

From that total sum, 13.42 billion roubles (53.9%) were spent for government management functions, including:

✓ subventions from the federal budget – 10.96 billion roubles;

✓ regional budgets – 2.46 billion roubles.

From that expenditures, 11.49 billion roubles (46.1%) were spent for forest protection and reforestation on Forest Fund land, including:

✓ subventions from the federal budget – 6.63 billion roubles;

✓ regional budgets – 1.31 billion roubles

✓ other sources – 3.55 billion roubles

From that sum for reforestation and afforestation, 5.39 billion roubles (46.9%) were spent for providing forest protection, conservation, and reproduction in the territory of the Forest Fund, including:

✓ 1.04 billion roubles (9.1%) for all reforestation works;

✓ 2.51 billion roubles (21.8%) for care of stands.

According to Rosleskhoz data, state investments to the forest sector increased from 2005 to 2007 (Fig. 40).

Analysis of investments in the Wood Industry shows that in 2007 investments into capital assets of large and middle enterprises increased (comparing to 2006) by 9.9 billion roubles, making 47.4 billion roubles in total. The 2007 increment of invest-

ments in pulp and paper production was 4.8 billion roubles (31.7%). In furniture production in 2006 there was an increment of investments by 1.9 billion roubles (1.6 times), but in 2007 followed the decrement by 0.7 billion roubles (16.1%). Investments into wood boards production also decreased. In total, growth of investments in 2007 reached 141.6%, which was almost twice higher than the average rate of growth in Russian economy (121.1%). 70–80% of implemented investment projects are credited by Sberbank and VTB.

Creation of motives for massive investments is the main task in the development of wood industry in Russia. First of all, it is planned to attract investments into high-level processing of wood for producing of competitive products with high added value.

The following measures were taken to achieve this: creation of regulatory legal base defining the rules of forest use; delineation of authority and responsibilities in forest management between federal and regional levels; increasing of export duties for non-processed wood and decreasing export duties for products with high-level processing.

The measures on stimulation investment into forest development are taken. Federal departments (Rosleskhoz, Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Industry and Energy) in cooperation with institutes of development (Bank of Development, Investment Fund, Russian Venture Company) prepared proposals about motivation of investments in new projects of complex forest exploitation and building of wood-processing infrastructure. Investors get favorable terms of payment for forest use, and lease agreements can be concluded without an auction. For attraction of investors (including foreign ones), the special Statute «About high-priority investment projects in the field of forest exploitation» was prepared and adopted by government Decree No 419 of Jun 30, 2007.

Several large-scale investment projects in wood processing were developed, and several enterprises for production of high-level products (Medium densi-

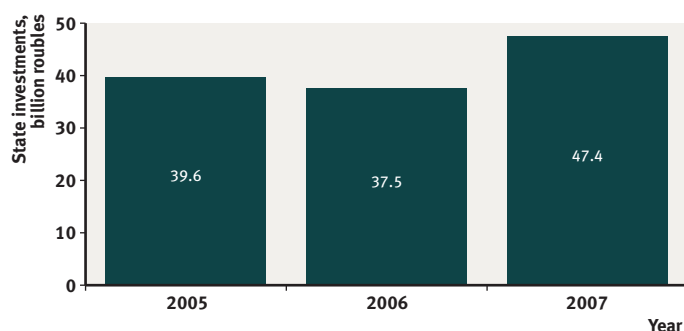


Figure 40. Dynamics of the state investments to the forest sector of the Russian Federation, 2005-2007

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ty Fibreboard, Broadside plywood) are under construction (Arkhangelsk Oblast, Khanti-Mansysky Autonomous Okrug).

In the project «Concept of Strategy of Development of the Forest Complex of the Russian Federation for 2008–2020» (adopted by joint Decree of Ministry of Industry and Trade and Ministry of Agriculture No 248/482 of Oct.30, 2008), the preliminary estimate of investment needed for innovation development in that period is 2768.17 billion roubles (in 2007 prices) (Fig. 41).

6.2.b. Annual investment and expenditure in forest-related research, extension and development, and education

Research institutions of Rosleskhoz carry out goal-oriented research in usage of forest resources, and protection, conservation, and reproduction of forest ecosystems; they develop new methods and technologies, the legal base for sustainable forest management; they also implement innovation technologies.

Research and development works are grouped in the following top-priority areas:

- ✓ strategy of forestry development;
- ✓ economics of forest use, protection, conservation, and reproduction;
- ✓ forest reproduction techniques;

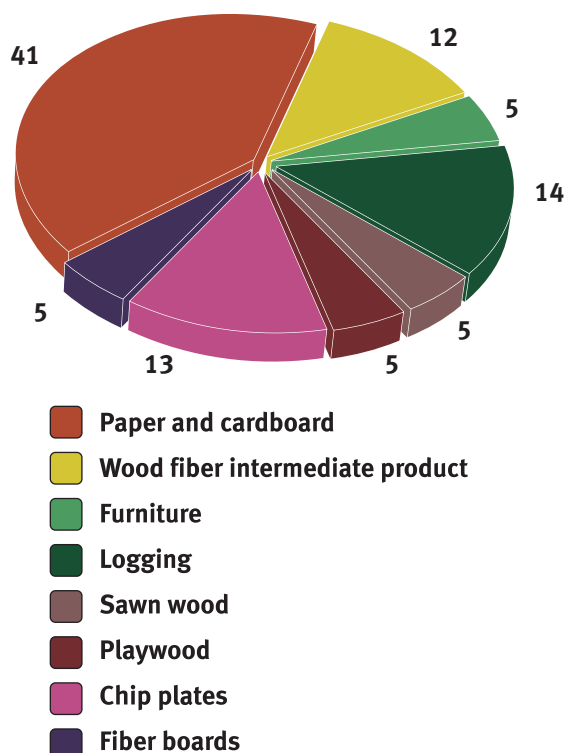


Figure 41. Structure of the investments by types of production, 2008–2020 (innovation scenario)

- ✓ forest management, protection, conservation, and use;
- ✓ improvement of legal control mechanisms in forestry;
- ✓ international cooperation;
- ✓ lowering of risks and mitigation of impacts of natural and technogenic disasters;
- ✓ bio-energy and using forest resources as alternative energy sources;
- ✓ forest resources assessment and prediction of forest conditions;
- ✓ social aspects of forest management.

In the system of Rosleskhoz all research and development works are carried out by:

- ✓ All-Russian Research Institute for Silviculture and Forestry Mechanization, Pushkino, Moscow Region;
- ✓ St. Petersburg Forestry Institute, St. Petersburg;
- ✓ Far East Forestry Research Institute, Khabarovsk;
- ✓ North Forestry Research Institute, Archangelsk;
- ✓ Forest Genetics and Selection Institute, Voronezh.

Amounts of financing of research works by Rosleskhoz are shown in Table 30.

Practical application, field researches, and long-term observations are conducted by specialists of regional subdivisions and forest experimental stations.

It is planned to create scientific-educational innovation centers to improve cooperation between science, education, and industry.

The growing amount of research and development works implemented in practice shows the effectiveness of forest research and development institutions' activities. For example, 46 research and development works, completed in previous year, were implemented in 2007. They are mostly devoted to forest reproduction, including seeding, reforestation, protection of plants, and radioactive-secure forest management. Results of these works are used in organization of different monitoring - pest, fire, forest use, and also in the work of Rosleskhoz head-quarter.

Russian Academy of Science (RAS) (www.ras.ru) and its subordinates carry out a large scientific program on forest research, assessment and develop-

Table 30. Amounts of financing of research works by Rosleskhoz, 2006–2008

Years	Amount of financing, million roubles
2006	253.65
2007	266.38
2008	287.26

ment the methods of protection of forest ecosystems of Russia, perform the work of organization, analysis and integration of results of many-years research on biodiversity of forest ecosystems of Russia. RAS institutes annually carry out several projects devoted to forest genetics: the genetic structure of more than 40 tree species' populations has been researched already.

Training the specialists for Forestry in Rosleskhoz system is conducted by 19 State Educational Institutions of intermediate vocational education: 15 Leskhoz-based Technical Schools train specialists under the basic level program and 4 Forest Colleges - under basic and advanced level programs. In Leskhoz-based Technical Schools at the expense of budgetary financing more than 9.5 thousand students studied in 2007 via on-site and off-site training models.

56 higher educational institutions of Russia train forest specialists (www.gfis.ru). Advanced training of leading employees and forestry experts for state and private forest enterprises, scientific and educational organizations is carried out by two institutions in Rosleskhoz system. They also have experience in distant education of specialists.

3 thousand of School Forest Ranger Stations are working in the system of Rosleskhoz. These voluntary groups unite 67 thousand of pupils from elementary, middle, and high school. To promote this movement, starting in 2004 Rosleskhoz holds annual Russian Junior Forest Contest. At the same time, Rosleskhoz holds an Annual International Junior

Forest Contest in order to promote interest by youth in the forest sector issues, ecology and research in the field of the forest use, silviculture, and also to support international youth cooperation, knowledge exchange and drawing of world public attention to forest problems.

Criterion 6.3. Employment and community needs

6.3.a. Employment in the forest sector

The employment in forest management is decreasing during last years. In 2008, Russian forest management had more than 180 thousand employees (Fig. 42).

Wood industry lacks employees, especially qualified workers and engineers. In 2008, the average staffing number in the wood processing sector was 328.7 thousand and in pulp and paper sector – 129.4 thousand.

In 2007, Russian forest management system was reformed due to new forest legislation.

Currently, the new system of forest management is created in all constituent entities of the Russian Federation:

✓ Executive agencies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation in forest relations were formed



Figure 42. Amount of forestry employees by constituent entities of the Russian Federation

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✓ Leskhozoes were reorganized into forest districts (with forest management functions and more than 50 thousand employees total).

As of Jan 1, 2009, the Russian Federation had 1,484 forest districts and forest parks (on 7,618 parcels of forest districts) and also commercial structures (2,373 enterprises with different business legal structure and more than 107 thousand of employees in total).

6.3.b. Average wage rates, annual average income and annual injury rates in major forest employment categories

In 2008, the monthly average wage in wood industry was: in wood processing enterprises – 10.9 thousand roubles; in pulp and paper enterprises – 16.3 thousand roubles. The wage differs between constituent entities of the RF (Fig. 43). The dynamics of monthly average wage is shown in Table 31.

The labor in forest sector has high risk of injuries. In 2007 there were 20 factory accidents in Rosleskhoz enterprises. The measures to prevent injuries in forestry organizations were complex and were carried out at the particular enterprises according to the workload. In 2007, the total funding of safety measures was 44.9 million roubles, which means 3,709 roubles per employee. The main sources of work injuries are violations of pro-

duction technology and labor discipline, lack of safety training, unsatisfactory organization of work, violation of rules of transport exploitation and traffic regulations, etc. In general, during the period 2005–2007 the rate of work injuries had reduced (Fig. 44).

6.3.d. Area and percent of forests used for subsistence purposes

Indigenous minorities of the North, Siberia and Far East live in 26 constituent entities of the Russian Federation, such as Murmansk Oblast, Nenetsky Autonomous Okrug, Yamalo-Nenetsky Autonomous okrug, Khanti-Mansysky Autonomous Okrug, former Taimyr, Evenkia and Koryaksky Autonomous Okrug, Chukotsky Autonomous Okrug, and others (Fig. 45). Areas inhabited by indigenous minorities of the North have the same borders as political subdivisions. In Republic Sakha (Yakutia) there are 70 national subdivisions of indigenous minorities. In Khabarovsk Kray 58 territories of indigenous minorities of the North are defined by law. The dispersal of peoples of the North has much in common with the dispersal of boreal forests in Russia.

Indigenous minorities of Russian North number about 300,000 persons in total. They live in dispersed groups and practice extensive forest use; their main activities in the forest are deer pasturing, horse breeding, hunting, wood harvesting for tradi-

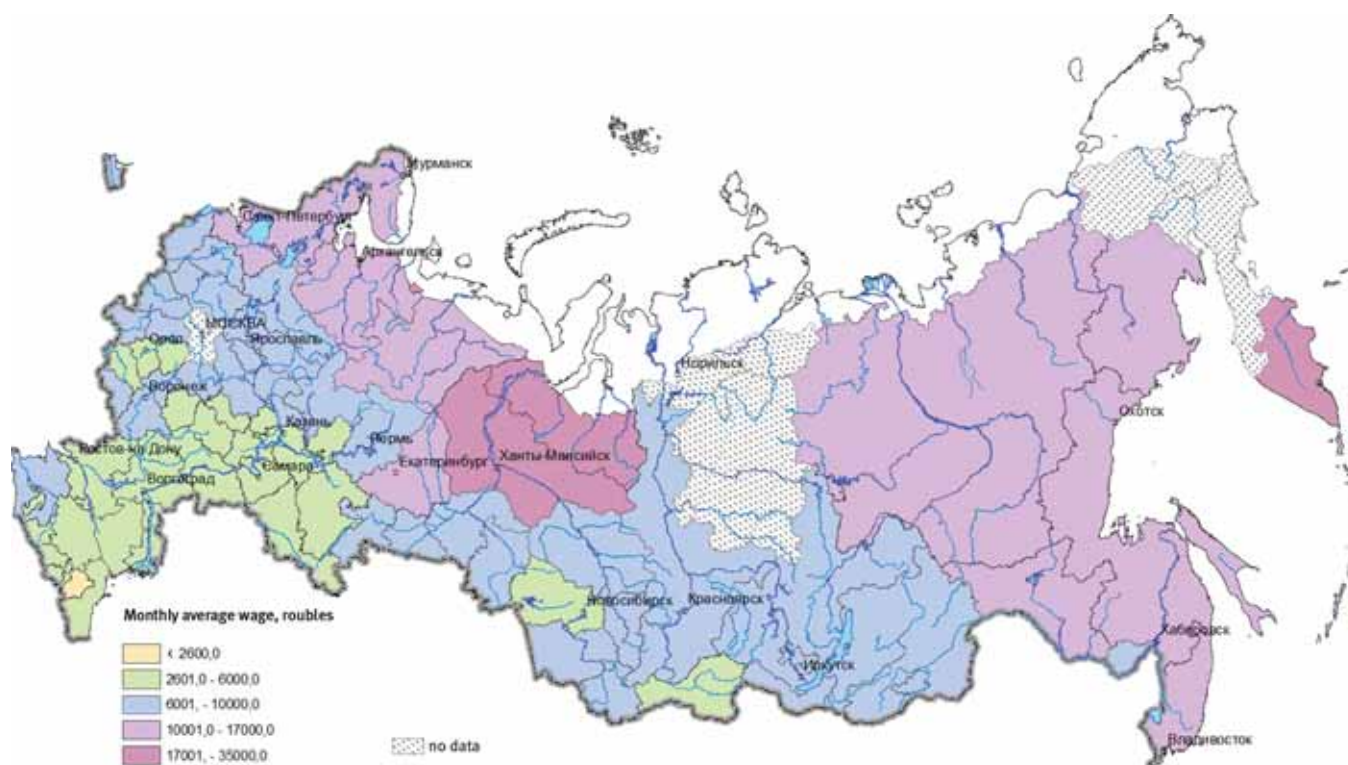


Figure 43. Regional differences in average wage of forest management silviculture employees in Rosleskhoz system

Table 31.

Monthly average wage in Rosleskhoz sistem
(country as a whole), 2005–2007

Year	Monthly average wage, roubles	Increment to previos year, %
2005	4,807.8	-
2006	5,963.9	19.3
2007	8,075.9	26.2

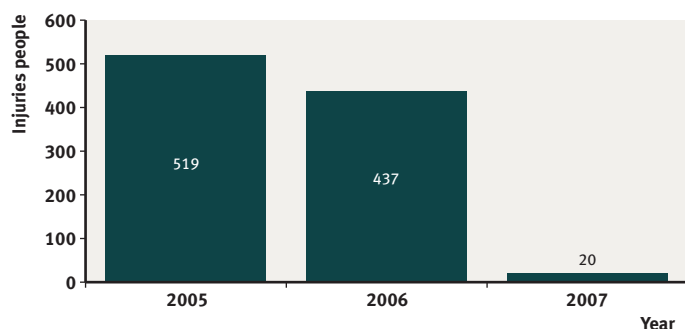


Figure 44. Dynamics of work injuries

tional life style, gathering, religious activities (worship). The list of indigenous minorities of the Russian Federation is given in Annex 6.

As their forest use is complex and extensive, the

forest area they require for hunting and deer pasturing vary from several thousand to 1 million ha and more. Currently, it is not possible to define the area of forest that they actually use for traditional life style, as they live in their native places and carry out their traditional uses of nature, despite the fact that their activities are not always legitimized.

Criterion 6.4. Recreation and tourism

Recreation is a form of use of natural conditions for people's rest. Recreational forest use is the exploitation of forest for tourism and rehabilitation. Its aim is to satisfy needs for rest in forest while providing sustainable forest use.

The recreational branch of the economy can attract external resources, promote the development of local crafts and the growth of the wealth of the territory as effectively as other basic branches. Social functions of recreational forest use, recreational needs of the population, forest recreational potential of the regions, recreational management, principles, and problems of recreational forest development are interrelated aspects of the concept of recreational

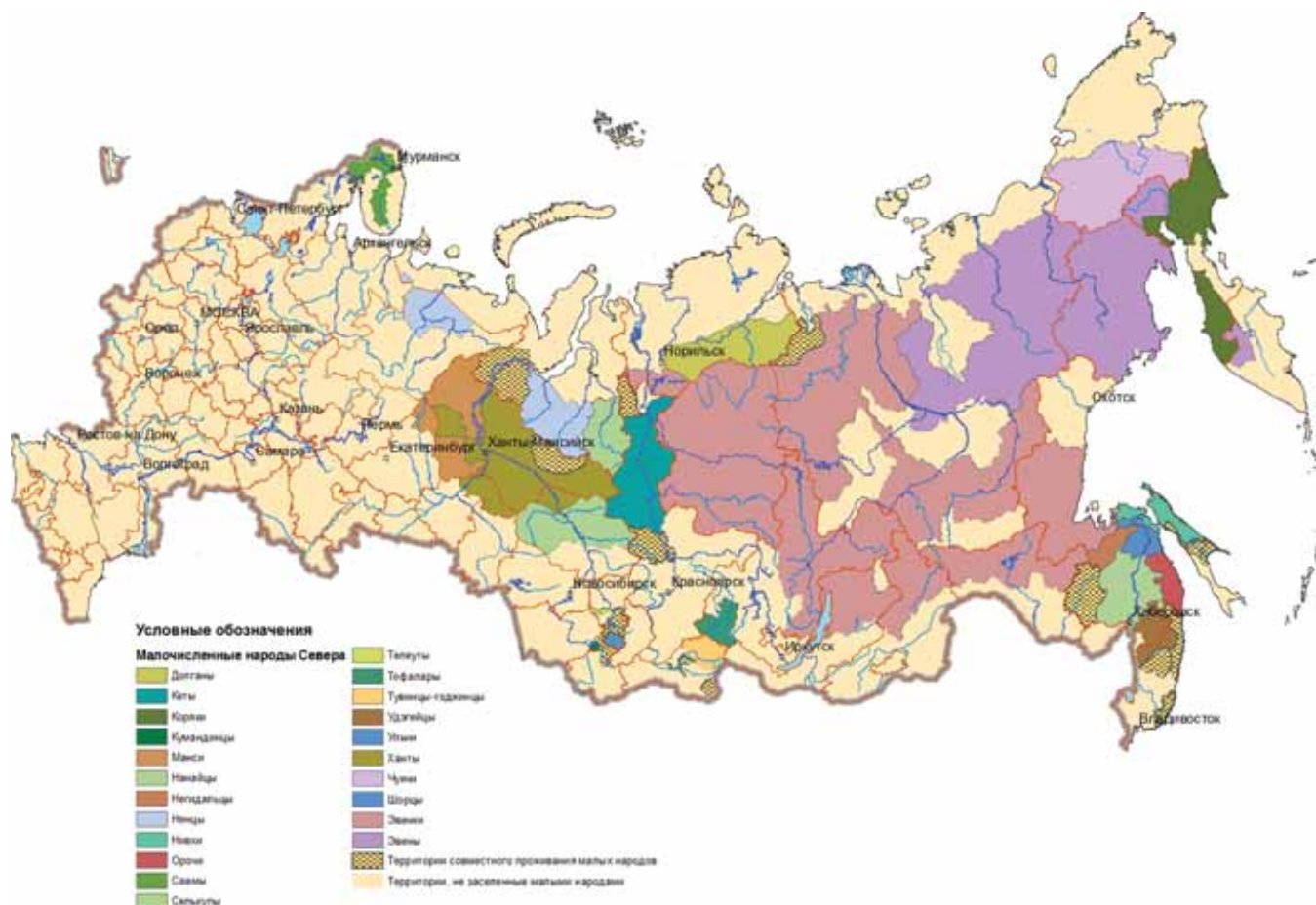


Figure 45. Dispersal of indigenous minorities of Russia (source: Institute of ethnology and anthropology of RAS)

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In Russia the forest-dependent communities mostly consist of indigenous minorities, or «peoples of the North». Their identification has several aspects: ethnic, geographic, demographic, cultural, and social.

Russian Constitution contains the term «indigenous minorities», and the state «guarantee their rights according to principles and standards of international law and international agreements of the Russian Federation», concerning the legal status of indigenous people in the whole world. Article 1 of Federal law «About the guaranties of rights of indigenous minorities of the Russian Federation» defines these minorities as «peoples which live in their traditional territories, keep their traditional lifestyle and economic forms, consist of less than 50000 persons, and consider themselves as substantive ethnoses».

So, not all indigenous minorities are in fact peoples of the North, and not all peoples living in the North are indigenous minorities (because some of these peoples, like Komi, Karelians, Yakuts, are larger than 50000).

In 2000, the government of Russia adopted the «Unified list of indigenous minorities of the Russian Federation», which included 45 nations. 40 of them live in the North or in regions with North-like severe climate. 17 of these 40 have less than 1500 persons each.

The official term «indigenous minorities of North, Siberia and Far East» appeared in Russian legislation in the beginning of 1990-s, when special programs and laws concerning these peoples were adopted.

forest development and are not yet used adequately in Russia.

The recreational potential of the region is a complex of natural healing and cultural factors of the forest with valuable ecological and aesthetic features, which are (or can be) used for different kinds of recreational activities. The value of natural recreational potential is conditioned by the size of forested area, the difference of natural features of the territory, the existence of rare and unique natural objects and valuable balneological resources allowing organization of therapeutic resorts and ecological tourism. One of the forms of sustainable nature use is the ecological tourism.

The ecological tourism is included in the list of main programs of Russian economy reformation as a profitable and environmentally safe branch, which use natural resources without their extraction or damage of natural complexes. Recently, an interest to ecological tourism in Northern territories has increased. In some regions of Russia the organization of business centers of educational ecotourism, as a new direction of national economy development, was concluded perspective. The concept of organization and self-development of multi-level (geo-ecological, ethno-ecological, cultural-historic) tourism is under development.

6.4.a. Area and percent of forests available and/or managed for public recreation and tourism

During recent years, usage of the forest for recreation and hunting has increased in Russia. (Table 32).

National Parks are the most available areas for recreation and tourism, because they include natural complexes and objects of special environmental, historical, and aesthetical value, which can be used for nature protection, education, scientific, cultural, and tourist activities (Annex 1, Table 2).

State Wildlife Reserves are prospective areas for ecotourism (Annex 1, Table 3).

The Natural Monuments are significant for regional ecotourism as the very popular natural complexes, natural and artificial objects (Annex 1, Table 4).

The Natural Parks (under jurisdiction of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation) are nature-protectional, recreational institutions with territories (aquatories) containing natural complexes and objects with high ecological and aesthetic value and are intended for nature protection, education and recreational activities (Annex 1, Table 5).

Forest land used for recreation and tourism covers 39% of the total area of Federal National Parks

Table 32.

Dynamics of lease of forests* for recreation and hunting

Parameter	2005	2006	2007	2008
Number of forest parcels leased for recreation	3,062	4,374	5,056	7,930
Area of forest parcels leased for recreation, thousand ha	27.2	18.9	28.7	29.0
Number of forest parcels leased for hunting	464	653	833	717
Area of forest parcels leased for hunting, thousand ha	36.1	35.8	41.2	49,2

* forest under Rosleshov management

(regional parks have the same ratio). Tourist activities are carried out in protected zones of about 1/3 of State Natural Reserves. Biospheric sites of some Natural Reserves (e.g. Oksky Natural Reserve in Ryazan Oblast) also serve as the recreational areas for the local population, especially near big cities.

The total area of forest land available for recreation and tourism includes more than 60% of Protective forest. This excludes forests of State Natural Reserves, prohibited and specially protected zones of National Parks, reserved forest parcels, sub-tundra forests, anti-erosion forests, forest of I and II belts of drinking water protective areas, and some others. Considering areas outside the Forest Fund, the urban forests are used for recreation. Thus, the total area of forest land used for recreation and tourism is more than 500 million ha, or 64% of Forest Fund and forest outside the Forest Fund.

Tourist-recreational activities consist of:

- legal persons and sole proprietors activities for construction, reconstruction, exploitation of tourist industry facilities and health and recreation resorts;
- tourism, reclamation and exploitation of mineral waters, therapeutic muds and other natural medical resources, sanatorium-resort therapy and preventive care, medical rehabilitation, organizing of citizen's rest, bottling of mineral waters.

To improve the recreational services in Russia, special tourist-recreational economic zones with specific tax privileges and rules are being created. Special Economic Zones (SEZ) are the part of Russian territory, which borders are defined by government, with special business rules (defined by federal law No 116 of Jul 22, 2005 "About Special Economic Zones in the Russian Federation"). The Federal Agency for Management of Special Economic Zones (www.rosuez.ru) has powers to manage and dispose the non-movable assets (which are in public or municipal property) on the territory of SEZ, according to the SEZ creation agreement and Russian laws.

In 2007, 7 tourist-recreational SEZ were created. Currently, such zones exist in Kaliningrad and Irkutsk Oblasts, Altai, Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays, Republic Altai and Republic Buryatia.

Planned federal financing of SEZ infrastructure creation until 2026 is 44.54 billion roubles, the main part of which should be allocated before 2013, and after that private investors are supposed to take the first role. As Ministry of Economic Development estimates, the total sum of private investments in this sector should reach about 271.4 billion roubles. The federal share of total financing is 13%. SEZ are planned to create more than 80 thousand jobs directly and about 207 thousand considering multiplicative effects.

6.4.b. Number, type, and geographic distribution of visits attributed to recreation and tourism and related to facilities available

According to the lifestyle of modern Russian citizens, they visit the recreationally exploited forest during almost the whole year. In summer the impact increases by a factor of tens and hundreds, particularly due to mass gathering of berries, mushrooms, medicinal plants, flowers, harvesting the birch sap, etc for individual (family) needs. The recreational pressure especially increases on the forest adjacent to the settlements. The average duration of this period is 120-150 days, depending on latitude.

It is hard to collect data on distribution of visits attributed to recreation and tourism in Russia, because the Russian population use forest for recreation mostly spontaneously, and the network of organized recreational facilities is underdeveloped. Table 33 shows ecology-educational and tourist activities for State Natural Reserves and National Parks in 2001–2007. The number of visitors of botanic gardens is permanently growing and in 2006 reached more than 1.5 million.

Criterion 6.5. Cultural, social and spiritual needs and values

6.5.a. Area and percent of forests managed primarily to protect the range of cultural, social and spiritual needs and values

Specially Protected Natural Territories are the lands with special nature protective, scientific, cultur-



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Table 33.

Ecologic-educational and tourist activities in State Natural Reserves and National Parks

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
State Natural Reserves					
Number of museums	45	51	56	58	60
Number of visitors	170,919	216,452	264,494	250,748	343,776
Number of visiting centers	40	53	63	72	74
Number of visitors	58,065	95,132	115,674	128,394	159,004
Number of ecological routes – total	271	434	448	479	487
including:					
Water	53	60	74	70	74
Horse riding	4	11	8	9	15
Walking	191	298	318	341	337
Number of visitors	184,219	168,977	200,426	377,789	397,714
National Parks					
Number of museums	20	21	27	28	27
Number of visitors	45,364	48,501	51,795	54,277	44,931
Number of visiting centers	27	35	45	45	48
Number of visitors	23,927	42,989	59,863	98,150	101,049
Number of ecological routes1) – total	279	366	391	384	393
including:					
Water	35	65	61	65	69
Horse riding	13	16	21	24	30
Waking	174	193	211	185	196
Number of visitors	419,731	582,855	805,203	301,970	403,147

* including ecological trails and routes in protected zone

al, historical, recreational, aesthetic, or other values. They include, in particular, territories of natural, historical, and cultural monuments. For these lands a special mode of protection is set up, they are excluded from practical use partially or completely. The legal mode of land parcels depends on the legal mode of the territories they belong to or objects situated there. In 2007, the total area of health and recreation localities and resorts was 30.7 thousand ha, of recreational territories – 200 thousand ha, of lands with historical and cultural value – 13.1 thousand ha.

Russia is represented in UNESCO World Heritage List by 23 objects, including 15 cultural and 8 natural ones. The natural objects are: the Virgin Forests of Komi, Baykal lake, Kamchatka volcanoes, Golden Mountains of Altai, Western Caucasus, Central Sikhote-Alin, Ubs Nuur basin, Wrangel island. These 8 Russian objects include about 30 different Specially Protected Natural Territories (SPNT), among them are 11 State Nature Reserves, 4 National Parks, 7 Natural Parks.

The following territories are the best candidates to World Heritage List (included in the list of nominations):

✓ State Nature Reserve "Putorana Plateau" (Krasnoyarsk Kray): an ancient lava plateau with trappean, or stepped relief, a complex of high flat-topped mountain massive divided by deep and wide stepped canyons with lakes (containing large reserves of fresh water) and waterfalls. The plateau is the only habitat of one of the most little known

hoofed animal inscribed into the Red Book of RF - the Putorana bighorn sheep (*Ovis nivicola borealis*).

✓ Nature Park "Lena Columns": beautiful part of Lena river in Yakutia with wide diversity of frozen ground relief (frozen ground karsts, silt pinnacles, bulgunnyakhs, up-warping knobs, polygonal-veined ices), small areas of fluttering sands - "tukulans", unique fossils of ancient organisms (including lower Cambrian epoch), rare species of plants.

✓ State Nature Reserve "Magadansky": very specific ecosystems almost non-existent outside the North-Eastern Eurasia – continental larch sparse forests, Bering cedar tundra, Alpine and sub-Alpine landscapes of the Kolyma highland, mixed Erman birch forests, broadleaf flood plain forests, relic flora centers. Here are the most northern reproductive lair of eared seal and one of the Far East largest sea bird colonies (auk, fulmar) at Yamsky islands, largest spawning grounds of chum salmon and silver salmon in the northern part of the Sea of Okhotsk. A line of species has been inscribed into the Red Book of Russia and the World (Steller's sea eagle, white-tailed eagle, fish owl, and others). The unique glacier relief zone of the Koni peninsula is also here.

✓ State Biosphere Natural Reserve «Daurian Steppes», a part of international level aquatic and bog preserve «Toreyskiye Lakes», part of trans-boundary object (Russia, Mongolia, China): excellently preserved ecosystems of the Central Asia steppes, the area is crossed by one of the largest migration routes of waterfowl, as well as of bird

species living near water. 37 of these species have been included into the Russian Federation Red Data Book and 20 species into the IUCN Red Data Book.

✓ State Natural Reserve «Commander Islands»: the most western part of the Aleutian islands' arc covered with the mountain tundra. The Commander shelf is one of the last shelf sections still remaining undisturbed in its natural state within the territory of a vast harvesting region of the Far East, remarkable biodiversity of marine mammals and sea birds, many of marine mammals and sea birds have been included into the Russian and IUCN Red Data Books. Several species, representatives of Asian and American flora and fauna, are common here.

Also the following territories are being prepared for nomination into WHL: Great Vasyugan Mire (Tomsk oblast), State Nature Reserve «Pillars» near Krasnoyarsk, Volga Delta, Ilmensky State Nature Reserve (Chelyabinsk oblast).

6.5.b. The importance of forests to people

As most of the Russian territory is covered with forest, the forest has played a very important role here from pre-historic to modern times. While many people still consider forest only as timber source, currently other functions of forest are being recognized more and more widely. These functions include supply (food, fiber, fresh water, firewood, biochemical components, genetical resources, decorative resources), regulation (of climate, water, pollination, influence on spread of diseases), cultural (recreation and eco-tourism, aesthetic values, traditional and formal knowledge, cultural heritage and diversity, spiritual and religious values), and support services (those that are required for other ecosystem services: soil-forming, cycle of matter, production of primary and others).

Summary Criterion 6

The Forest Complex of the Russian Federation includes Forestry, timber harvesting enterprises, wood processing, pulp and paper, and wood chemical enterprises. Currently, the Forest Complex does not belong to the main branches of Russian economy, but still plays an important role. In 2008, the share of the Forest Complex in gross domestic product of the Russian Federation was 1.1%, in the volume of shipped product – 3.75%, in investments in fixed assets – 1.0%, in export – 2.3%. Until 2008, the most of wood industry indices had positive dynamics.

In 2008, sawn wood production decreased by 9.4%, plywood – by 7.0%, fibreboard – by 0.1%, pulp on cooking – by 1.6%, paper – by 2.5%.

Financial results of Russian Wood Industry have also worsened.

In 2008, the total income from the forest land use reached 18 512.1 million roubles.

In general, the plan of collecting payments for Forest Fund use in 2008 was fulfilled by 104.6%. The Federal budget received 11796.2 million roubles, budgets of the constituent entities of the RF – 6715.9 million roubles.

Harvesting and collecting of non-timber forest resources are performed by citizens and legal persons as an entrepreneurial activity and also by citizens (including indigenous people) for subsistence needs.

Payments for recreational activities take the second place in the revenue from forest use in Russia; in 2008 they made 1277.3 million roubles (6.9%). According to the official data, last 3 years show the positive trend toward rising revenue from the forest environmental services.

Currently, wood processing and pulp and paper products make 3.2% of import and 4% of export. About 1/3 of the exported wood products are round wood, more than 1/4 – sawn wood. The main importers of Russian wood materials currently are China (round wood, sawn wood, and pulp), Finland (round wood), Japan (round wood, sawn wood), Egypt (sawn wood), Germany (sawn wood, paper and paperboard), Turkey (pulp, paper and paperboard), CIS countries (round wood, sawn wood, wood sheets, paper and paperboard).

In 2008, the monthly average wage in wood industry was: in wood processing enterprises – 10.9 thousand roubles, in pulp and paper enterprises – 16.3 thousand roubles.

Indigenous minorities of the North, Siberia, and Far East live in 26 constituent entities of the Russian Federation. Indigenous minorities of Russian North number about 300,000 persons in total. They live in dispersed groups and practice extensive forest use. Their main activities are deer pasturing, horse breeding, hunting, wood harvesting for traditional life support, and gathering.

During the recent years, the usage of forest for recreation and hunting has increased in Russia.

In 2007, 7 tourist-recreational SEZ were created. Currently, such zones exist in Kaliningrad and Irkutsk Oblasts, Altai, Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays, Republic Altai and Republic Buryatia.

Planned federal financing of SEZ infrastructure creation until 2026 is 44.54 billion roubles, the main part of which should be allocated before 2013.

Russia is represented in UNESCO World Heritage List by 23 objects, including 15 cultural and 8 natural ones. There are five remarkable territories featuring extra-ordinary natural complexes in Russia that are nominated to the World Heritage List.

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CRITERION 7

LEGAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK FOR FOREST
CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT





Indicator 7.1.a.

Legislation and policy frameworks supporting the sustainable management of forests

Legislative and policy frameworks for forest management are defined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation (1993) and Forest Code of the Russian Federation (2006). The main principles of the forest legislation are sustainable forest management, preservation of forest biodiversity, and improvement of forest potentials (Article 1 Forest Code RF).

The aims of the Russian state forest policy are: compliance with the requirements of permanent, rational, and sustainable forest use, increasing of income from the use of forest resources, timely and high-quality forest regeneration, and preservation of recreational and ecological potentials, resources, and biodiversity. The RF forest legislation reflects the principles of sustainable forest management. The Russian forest legislation consists of the Forest Code, other federal laws and corresponding regional laws. Regulations of the new Russian Forest Code (2006) provide the creation of necessary prerequisites for reaching the set aims.

The main novations of the new Code are: decentralization of forest management system, civil legal base of forest use, expansion of the allowed forms of forest use, responsibility of forest businesses for

their activities, elimination of unreasonable limitations on forest use and formation of forest infrastructure, providing the access to forest resources on the base of investment contracts related to large projects of high-level processing of wood connected with forest infrastructure development.

These aspects are subject to regulatory framework, which includes legislative acts of the government of Russia, (departmental acts, orders of the Federal Ministry that supervises Rosleskhoz) and regulatory legal acts of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Corresponding regulatory legal acts of federal level can be divided into 7 groups: (1) organization of forest management, (2) organization of forest planning and designing, (3) granting of forest use rights, (4) organization of forest use, (5) organization of forest conservation, protection, and reproduction, (6) development of reporting systems, forest state control and surveillance, (7) forming of the new system of payments for forest resources.

More than 70 regulatory legal acts on issues of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction have been developed for implementation of Forest Code RF. In 2007, the development of regulatory legal base at the federal level was mostly completed. At the regional level, the development of regulatory legal acts is also close to conclusion.

In the new legal framework forest management was decentralized. The constituent entities of the Russian Federation were granted the full powers in

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the areas of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction. Split of functions between the state surveillance of forestry and economical activities of forest management bodies is going to be conducted taking into account the certain natural, economic and social conditions of each region. Primarily, this concerns the delegation of functions of cleaning cuttings, reforestation, forest road building, forest melioration to the commercial structures.

The main regulatory legal documents that determine forest relations of sustainable forest management are the following:

- Land Code of the Russian Federation (2001)
- Federal Law «On Environment Protection» (2002)
- Forest Code of the Russian Federation (2006)
- Water Code of the Russian Federation (2006)
- Concept of Forestry Development in the Russian Federation until 2010 (2007)
- Statute of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (2008)

With the implementation of the Forest Code (2006), many new kinds of forest use were added such as agriculture, works related to geological exploration of mineral resources and development of mineral resource deposits, construction and operation of linear utilities, religious activities, and so on.

There are two main types of access to forest resources in Russian forests: lease of parcels and Sale&Purchase of forest stands. Competitive procedures for granting forest land to lease replaced by the auctions. The authorization-based procedure of forest use is declarative (submission of the forest declaration).

The basis of Russian ecological policy is enshrined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation, Federal Law «On the Environment Protection», the Presidential edicts «On the Concept of Transition of the Russian Federation to Sustainable Development» (1996) and «On the Concept of National Security of the Russian Federation» (1997 and 2000), the Ecological Doctrine of the Russian Federation (approved by the Government decree in 2002).

According to the Ecological Doctrine of the Russian Federation, the most important tasks of the state ecological policy are the protection of forest, preservation and regeneration of bio- and landscape diversity, which should be at a sufficient level for self-regulation and capable to compensate anthropogenic pressures.

The legal basis for preservation of objects that have ecological, cultural, social, and scientific value is formed by the Federal laws «On Animal World» (1995), «On the Environmental Assessment» (1995), «On Specially Protected Natural Territories» (1995, edition of Dec. 30, 2001), «On the Environment Protection»

(2002), Forest Code of the Russian Federation (2006), Water Code of the Russian Federation (2006), Strategy of Biodiversity Conservation in Russia (2001), Federal Target Program «Ecology and Natural Resources of Russia» (2002 – 2010), Strategy of Preservation of Rare and Endangered Animal, Plant, and Mushroom Species (2004).

Indicator 7.1.b.

Cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination

The ministries controlling the Forest Fund (Ministries of Natural Resources, of Agriculture, of Education, and Science) conduct coordinated forest policy. In accordance with the Forest Code, the unified system is used for Forest Fund Inventory and Planning, Forest management, Forest Cadastre, calculation of forest use norms, rules of standing wood allotment, etc. Long-term programs on use, reproduction, conservation, and protection of forest and animals are being developed in cooperation.

One of the main area of focus of cross-sectoral forest policy is the struggle against illegal cuttings. The major activities of Rosleskhoz in this field are: active participation in the realization of the ECA FLEG Ministerial Declaration, organization of aerospace monitoring, development of National Plan of Struggle Against Illegal Cuttings (2006), and Program of Measures to Prevent Illegal Cuttings and Wood Trade (2007). Interdepartmental Commission on Struggle Against Illegal Cuttings was formed (MNR of the RF together with Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Energy, Ministry of Finances, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), and it has developed the Interdepartmental Coordinated Plan of Actions for 2008.

In order to provide legal regulations to prevent illegal cuttings and wood trade, the corresponding governmental acts and ministerial orders were issued regarding state control and surveillance, and the Methodology of measurement of the exported wood volume was adopted to improve the customs control. Interdepartmental plan of measures for decriminalization of forest sphere is aimed to fight smuggling, criminal incomes legalization, taxes, and customs duties avoiding by Forestry enterprises.

Further efforts against illegal cuttings will be aimed at improving the coordination between the controlling authorities at all stages of wood processing – from cutting and logging to moving outside of the Russian territory and on refinement of accounting of wood and defining of indicative prices for exported goods – taking into account the real quantitative and qualitative cost parameters for wood.

Here are other examples of successful cooperation while developing of interdepartmental forest policy:

- creation of forest stands for water and soil protection;
- creation of tourist and recreational Special Economic Zones with tax concession and special rules that help to improve recreational services in the Russian market (see indicator 6.4a);
- decision of the Interdepartmental Commission on Ecological Safety of the Security Council of the Russian Federation regarding «Condition and Measures to Improve the State System of Lake Baykal Protection». According to this decision, the Interdepartmental Commission on Baykal Issues was formed under auspices of Minister of Natural Resources of the RF and began its work.

Indicator 7.3.a. **Clarity and security of land** **and resource tenure and property rights**

According to Forest Code of the Russian Federation (2006), forest parcels within the Forest Fund lands are subjects of federal property (Article 8 Forest Code RF). Forest parcels can be made available to legal persons and to citizens for lease. A lease agreement shall be concluded based on the results of an auction (Article 74 Forest Code RF).

Civil legislation and Forest Code guarantee citizens the right to stay in forests freely and gratis and to harvest and collect wild fruits, berries, nuts, mushrooms, and other food non-timber forest resources for their subsistence needs (Article 11 Forest Code RF).

The Federal law «On the Territories of Traditional Nature Use of Indigenous Minorities of North, Siberia, and Far East of Russian Federation» (2001) set the legal basis for defining, protection, and use of such territories for the traditional lifestyle of these minorities. According to the Article 48 Forest Code RF, in the areas of traditional living and economic activity of indigenous peoples, the protection of native life environment and lifestyle of these peoples is provided according to the Federal law «On the guarantee of rights of indigenous minorities of the Russian Federation» No. 82 of April 30, 1999.

It is not possible to define the area of forests what they actually use for traditional life support, as they live in their native places and carry out hunting, deer breeding and gathering despite the fact that their rights for the land are not properly executed as it defined by Land Code of the RF.

The forest relations are regulated in Russia by the forest legislation. The property relations, which are associated with the turnover of forest parcels and

stands, are regulated by the civil legislation and other federal laws, including the Land Code of the RF (2001). Disputes related to forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction shall be resolved through the judicial processes (Article 101 Forest Code RF).

Parties in forest relations are the Russian Federation, constituent entities of the Russian Federation, municipal entities, citizens, and legal persons (Article 4 Forest Code RF). In order to improve the efficiency of forest management, the authority to organize the use of forest, forest conservation, protection, and reproduction is delegated to the public authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation (excluding constituent entities mentioned in Part 2 of Article 83 Forest Code RF). The federal authorities keep functions of normative legal regulation of forest relations, control and surveillance over exercising of powers delegated to the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

To address the issues of ownership rights on land, forest and resources, the following laws and regulations are used:

- Land Code of the Russian Federation (2001);
- Federal law «On land development» (2001);
- Orders of Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation (2007):
 - «On the approval of Rules of forest use for construction, reconstruction, and operation of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear utilities»;
 - «On the approval of Order of forest use for geological exploration of mineral resources, and development of mineral resource deposits»;
 - «On the approval of Rules of forest use for cultivation of forest fruit, berry, ornamental plants, and medicinal plants».

Indicator 7.3.b. **Enforcement of laws** **related to forests**

The aim of state forest control and surveillance is to provide compliance with the forest legislation. The order of carrying out control and surveillance over forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction is defined by the decree of Russian government of June 22, 2007 No. 394 «On the adoption of Statute about carrying out state control and surveillance».

The state control and surveillance are carried out by Federal Service of Surveillance in the Sphere of Nature Management and executive bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation. Forest control and surveillance on the territories of municipal entities are performed by local self-governing bodies.

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State forest inspectors in the exercise of state forest control and surveillance have the rights to:

- suppress and prevent violations of forest legislation;
- perform verification of compliance with forest legislation;
- make provisions to eliminate violations found during inspections;
- inspect vehicles and conduct their detention;
- make demands to citizens and legal persons on eliminating violations identified during inspections;
- exercise other rights stipulated by federal laws.

In 2008, a staff number of state forest inspectors in constituent entities of the Russian Federation amounted to 12,721 people.

The list of officials carrying out the functions of state forest control and surveillance is established by the regulatory legal act of different levels in all constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

The total number of violations of forest law in 2008 according to Rosleskhoz was 48,947 cases, the amount of damage – 25.3 billion rubles (Table 34).

Implementation of the state forest control and surveillance is done in the form of planned inspections and unannounced inspections in compliance with the rights and legitimate interests of legal persons and citizens. The plan of inspections should be approved by the Federal Service for Surveillance in the Sphere of Nature Management, its local authorities, or by the executive authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation in accordance with their expertise.

Data about the legality of use of Forest Fund lands and resources are collected according to article 26 (Forest Declaration) and Article 49 (Forest Use Report).

The Forest Declaration and the Report on the forest use contain detailed information about the types of

forest use in forest parcels that have been leased or have been in permanent (perpetual) use. Moreover, the Forest Declaration is the source of forest information voluntarily provided by forest users to assess the legality or illegality of forest exploitation.

The Federal Forestry Agency is continuously carrying out activities to identify, prevent, and combat illegal logging and other violations of forest law.

Accounting of illegal forest use is performed according to the «National Plan of Preventing of Illegal Cuttings and Illegal Timber Trade» (2006).

Many environmental issues can be solved only after intervention of public prosecutions department. The role of special environmental public prosecutions is especially important. There are 36 inter-district environmental prosecution offices in the structure of prosecutions departments of constituent entities of the Russian Federation and one inter-regional (Volzhskaya prosecution office, which unites 15 inter-district offices located in cities on Volga river).

In 2007, Rosleskhoz created the system of control over exercising of forest-related powers by the government bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

The control is based on remote monitoring of organization and condition of forest use, of fire danger and forest pathology monitoring. Monitoring covers the whole area of intensive forest use.

FSUE «Roslesinform» accomplishes a large-scale aerial survey of forest in Russia for the benefit of Forestry. The purpose of aerial surveillance – the identification of illegal cutting and other violations of the forests use in areas of industrial wood harvesting.

In 2008, 153.8 million ha of forests had been inspected during the monitoring of wood harvesting in 22 constituent entities of the RF. 178 forest districts with 33,976 allowed cuts were tested; among them in 3,351 various violations were revealed. The inspected area was 409,177 ha, the total amount of penalties charged on the results of the monitoring was 4,477 million roubles.

Indicator 7.4.a. **Programmes, services and other resources supporting the sustainable management of forests**

The following national programs are currently active in Russia:

- Concept of Forestry Development in the Russian Federation for 2003–2010;
- Federal Target Program of Russian Wood Industry development (updated at August 28, 1997 and August 24, 2002);

Table 34.

The main violations of forest law during the use of forest in 2008

Violations	Number of cases	Damage, thousand roubles
Illegal logging, excavation, destruction or damage to the point of termination the growth of trees, shrubs, and woody lianas	28,474	16,181,006
Illegal felling of dead trees, misappropriation (theft) of wood from windfall, wind slash	2,860	8,326
Unauthorized use of forests for agriculture, ha	2,245	144,694
Pollution or cluttering forests with municipal and industrial wastes, household and construction debris	4,574	71,577
Violation of forest fire safety	13,467	–
Unauthorized (Un-Permitted) Use Of Forest	3,824	238,808

➤ Federal Target Program «Ecology and Natural Resources of Russia (2002–2010)», subprogram "Forests";

➤ Federal Target Program «Preservation and Regeneration of Soil Fertility on Agricultural Lands and Agrolandscapes as National Value of Russia for 2006–2010».

The executors of these programs are: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation, Federal Forestry Agency, territorial forestry agencies in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, research and planning forestry institutions.

The forest legislation juridically secures the necessary procedures, tools, and documents, their periodical revision and update. These procedures, tools, and documents (Chapter 10 Forest Code RF) include:

➤ planning of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction. Development of the Forest Plan of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation ;

- Forest Management Regulation;
- Forest Development Plan;
- State or Municipal Assessments of Forest Development Plan;
- State Forest Inventory;
- State Forest Ledger;
- State Cadastral Registration of forest parcels;
- State Registration of rights to and transactions with forest parcels.

Organization of forest planning and designing are regulated by the following regulatory legal acts of the Russian government:

➤ Decrees of the government of the Russian Federation:

➤ «On the adoption of Statute about the development of Forest Plan of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation» (2007);

➤ «On Forest Inventory and Planning rules» (2007);

➤ «On carrying out the State Forest Inventory» (2007).

➤ Orders of the government of the Russian Federation:

➤ «On the adoption of the Order of calculation of Allowable Cut» (2007);

➤ «On the adoption of the Forest Inventory and Planning instruction» (2008);

➤ «On the adoption of the Contents of Forest Management Regulations, the order of their development, their duration and rules of update» (2007);

➤ «On the adoption of the Contents and order of development of forest development projects» (2007);

➤ «Order of State (Municipal) Assessment of Forest Development Plan» (2007);

➤ «Instruction on organization and performing of forest pathology monitoring in Russian forests» (2001).

Planning in the field of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction (forest planning) is aimed at providing sustainable development of territories. Forest planning underlies the development of forests within forest districts and forest parks and is documented as the Forest Plan of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation. The Forest Plan defines goals and objectives of forest planning as well as activities to achieve the forest development targets and zones of such development (Article 85 Forest Code RF). The government of the Russian Federation establishes the contents of and preparation procedures for the Forest Plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation. The Forest Plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall have the attached maps with marked boundaries of forest districts, forest parks, and zones of their intended development. The Forest Plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall be approved by the head of the highest executive body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

For forest districts and forest parks the use, conservation, protection, and reproduction of forests are based on a Forest Management Regulations of the forest district or the forest park (Article 87 Forest Code RF). Forest Management Regulations are composed for a period up to ten years and thereafter shall be revised. The Forest Management Regulations of forest districts and forest parks are approved by the authorized federal executive body or the local self-governance bodies, depending on their disposition, according to the Part 2 of Article 83 and Part 3 of Article 87 of Forest Code RF. They define:

➤ permitted forest uses defined in accordance with Article 25 Forest Code RF;

➤ ages of cutting, allowable cuts, terms of use, and other parameters of their permitted use;

➤ forest use restrictions referred to in Article 27 Forest Code RF;

➤ forest conservation, protection, and reproduction requirements.



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The Forest Management Regulations are mandatory for citizens and legal persons engaged in the use, conservation, protection, and reproduction of forest within forest districts or forest parks. Contents of, development procedures for, effectiveness periods of, and revision procedures for the Forest Management Regulations are established by the authorized federal executive body.

The Forest Development Plans shall be drawn up by the persons to whom forest parcels made available for permanent use or on a lease basis.

International principles and standards of sustainable forest management receive practical approval in Russia in the territory of the model forests. They serve as the objects for development of criteria and indicators of forest management for forest certification and of methods of preservation of forest ecosystem biodiversity and consideration of interests of local population, minorities, and other indigenous people during forest management. Model (experimental) forests currently have more than 10 years of successful development. There are 5 model forests in Russia: in Pskov, Kostroma, Murmansk, Khabarovsk regions and the Republic of Komi. All of them are serving as testing grounds for development of new methods and techniques of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction.

In 2008, a draft Statute About Model Forests of the Russian Federation, defining aims and tasks of model forests, was prepared. On the base of this Statute the conditions for creation of a Model Forest Network in Russia will be prepared.

Indicator 7.4.b. **Development and application of** **research and technologies for** **the sustainable management of forests**

The development and application of research and technologies for the sustainable management of forests are supported by the following documents:

- Statutes on:
 - Ministry of Education and Science (2004), Federal Agency of Science and Innovations (2004), Federal Education Agency (2004);
 - Concept of long-time scientific-technical development RF forecast until 2025 (2006);
 - Strategy of development of science and innovations in the Russian Federation for 2006 - 2008;
 - Federal Target Program «Ecology and Natural Resources of Russia (2002-2010)»;
 - Target Program «Oriented fundamental research in institutions of higher education of the RF (2007–2009)»;

- Federal Target Program «Research and elaboration in priority areas of the development of scientific-technical complex of Russia for 2007–2012».

The complex research of forest ecosystems are performed by research institutes subordinated to Russian Academy of Science and to Rosleskhoz (see indicator 6.2).

The central object of biological science is the research of multifunctional influence of different natural and anthropogenic factors on species and ecosystems, their dynamics, micro evolutionary processes, effects of anthropogenic pollution, and structural organization of forest ecosystems.

Conferences and Seminars organized by Rosleskhoz and RAS support the promotion of scientific information. The publishing of scientific, educational, and popular books, the creation web sites of scientific and educational institutions are also effective ways to promote the science. The International Forest Forums, Annual International Junior Forest Contests, other international meetings and exhibitions, All-Russian Congresses of Foresters, Parliament proceedings in the State Duma of Russia help to spread the knowledge about sustainable forest management.

Indicator 7.5.a. **Partnerships to support the sustainable** **management of forests**

Federal law of the RF «On Self-Regulating Organizations», adopted on December 1, 2007, significantly increased the role of associations in the regulation of economic processes in Russia. Associations, particularly in outsourcing frameworks, can receive a certain amount of functions including actualization of Forest Fund of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Currently, the following business associations work in the forest sector of Russian economy:

- Russian Lumbermen Union and Forest Exporters Association;
- Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP, <http://www.rspp.ru/>);
- Russian Association of pulp-paper organizations and enterprises (RAO «Bumprom», <http://www.bumprom.ru/>);
- Association of furniture and woodworking enterprises of Russia;
- Association of Wooden House-building;
- Russian Association of Fiberboard Producers;
- Association of Enterprises and Organizations of Wood Machinery Manufactures of Russia;
- Confederation of Associations and Unions of Forest, Pulp and Paper, Woodworking and Furniture Industry;

- Russian Association of Glulam Producers and Customers (RADeKK);
- Forestry Enterprises Association of the Russian Federation;
- Research and Educational Association of the Lumber Industry of the Russian Federation;
- Section of Forestry Sciences Russian Academy of Natural Sciences;
- The Union of Timber Industrialists and Exporters of the Tver Region;
- Association of forest entrepreneurs of the Priladogie, Pomorie, and Prionegie;
- Association of woodworker and furniture makers of Leningradskaya oblast;
- and others.

For the RF, the main goal of international cooperation in forest use and protection is the further integration of our country in the international forest community. The Russian participation in the International cooperation in environmental protection and ecological security is being developed in the framework of multilateral conventions and agreements, international organizations and also bilateral agreements with CIS and other countries. The Russian Federation participates in the following international activities in the framework of the international negotiation process on forest:

- UN Forest Forum ;
- UN Convention on Biological Diversity;
- UN Convention on Climate Change;
- Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe;
- G8 Program of Actions;
- Montreal Process on Criteria and Indicators for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Temperate and Boreal Forests;
- Program of Global Forest Resources Assessment of FAO UN;

- Ministerial Process ENA FLEG;
- Road map of the Common Economic Space of Russia and EU;
- Intergovernmental Council of CIS on wood-industrial complex and forestry.

Indicator 7.5.b. **Public participation and conflict resolution in forest-related decision making**

One of the tasks of Rosleskhoz is to increase the public interest in improving environmental condition and forming of caring and solicitous attitude to forests and their resources (Article 1 Forest Code RF). The main goal of this work is to inform public about the condition of forest resources and their local or regional management. Public participation allows the state authorities, first, to understand better the interests of different social groups and, second, to reach a concerted position on the concerned problems. According to an opinion poll, forest management authorities are ready to cooperate with the public in fire fighting, forest planting and taking care of plantations, joint forest-protection raids, joint publications in media, creation of commissions on the most important issues.

The modern forest legislation makes possible for public to participate in development of public policy and decision making in the forest field. For example, the Forest Plan of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation, and also planned forest development measures and proposed zones of such development, should pass through public hearings and consultations. Any interested parties, including forest employees, wood industry representatives, traders, Non Government Organisations, and community members can take part in these consultations.

The documented information contained in the State Forest Ledger is publicly accessible (Article 91 Forest Code RF).

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation and the Federal Forestry Agency pay significant attention to public awareness and participation in state forest policy implementation (www.rosleskhoz.gov.ru). A community Liaison Office is opened; conferences and exhibitions are organized; public ecological and expert councils are working; the Russian Museum of Forest (www.museum.forest.ru) is opened. The State reports «On the condition and use of forests in the Russian Federation» and «On the condition and protection of environment in the Russian Federation» is annually published, as well as statistical digests and forest magazines. This helps to better inform policy makers and all interested persons about forest and sustainable forest management.



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Two federal newspapers, «Russian Forest Newspaper» (www.ledsgazeta.ru) and «Forest Newspaper», are published to inform public about forest legislation, policy, monitoring, and others. Main forest news are published in the magazines «Forest Russia», «Forest Novelty», «Forest Management», «Forestry Information», «Forest Science». The wood industry is represented by the magazines "LesPromInform", "Forest expert", "Forest Bulletin", Forest portal www.wood.ru. The last one has successfully developed projects "Forest Online" and "The Forest Industry on the Internet".

In order to draw world public attention to forest problems, Rosleskhoz holds an annual International Junior Forest Contest.

The base of the public ecology movement in Russia is formed by all-Russian networks of public associations: All-Russian Society of Nature Protection, Social-Ecological Union, Forest program of Greenpeace of Russia and World Wide Fund for Nature (Russia), Russian Green Cross, Russian Ecological Union, Public Ecology Movement «Kedr» («Cedar»), Russian Ecology Movement, other non-government organizations, and also many regional and local organizations.

Indicator 7.5.c. **Monitoring, assessment** **and reporting on progress towards** **sustainable management of forests**

Statistical data about the status of forest, their quantitative and qualitative characteristics are gathered, analyzed and generalized in the framework of State Forest Inventory, State Forest Ledger, formation of Forest Management Regulation, Forest Development Plans, materials of forest-fire and forest pathology monitoring, and also on results of monitoring of assessment of forest use order and organization.

The territory of the Forest Fund of the Russian Federation has explored and brought to fame by accomplishing long-term Forest Inventory and Planning works.

The goals of today's Forest Inventory and Planning include:

- planning Forest Districts and Forest Parks;
- planning Production, Protective, and Reserve Forests, and also Specially Protected Areas of forest;
- planning of forest parcels;
- determination and marking the exact forest boundaries for Forest Districts, Forest Parks, Production, Protective, and Reserve Forests, Specially Protected Areas of forest and forest parcels;

- Forest Evaluation (identification, registration, evaluation of qualitative and quantitative characteristics of forest resources);

- planning activities for the conservation, protection, and reproduction of forest.

The entire Forest Fund territory went through the Forest Inventory and Planning process many times. All forests have detailed taxation descriptions and planning cartographic materials (Fig. 46).

Digital maps of forest are made for 70% of the Forest Fund of the Russian Federation.

The State Forest Inventory is a complex of activities for evaluation of forests condition, their quantitative and qualitative characteristics. The objectives of the State Forest Inventory are the following:

- timely detection and prediction of processes that have a negative impact on forest;
- assessment of the effectiveness of conservation, protection, and reproduction of forest;
- provision of information to management in the use, conservation, protection, and reproduction of forest, as well as state forest control and supervision.

The State Forest Inventory throughout the all Russian Federation territory is carried out by Rosleskhoz.

FSUE «Roslesinform», using the statistical samplings from permanent inventory plots, examines the forest condition, determines the quantity and quality characteristics of forests, identifies and takes into account changes resulting from the use of forests, evaluates the effectiveness of measures on conservation, protection, and reproduction of forest.

FGD «Roslesozaschita» conducts forest pathology monitoring.

FGD «Avialesookhrana» provides fire danger monitoring in forests.

The full cycle of the State Forest Inventory should be completed by 2020. On the results of full-cycle inventory in the Russian Federation for the first time will be received reliable, statistical data about the quantity and quality of forest condition.

High levels of State Forest Inventory system creating in Russia are planned to make compatible with requirements for the European and global information systems (GFRA FAO, CEO, GTOS, GCOS, and other reports of Russia on UN conventions on biodiversity and climate change, Montreal and Pan-European processes).

In accordance with the Forest Code 2006, there are several types of forest accounting works:

- monitoring of fire safety in forest (Article 53);
- forest pathology monitoring (Article 56);
- radiation pollution surveys of forest (Article 58);
- Forest Inventory and Planning (Chapter 5, Article 67–70);

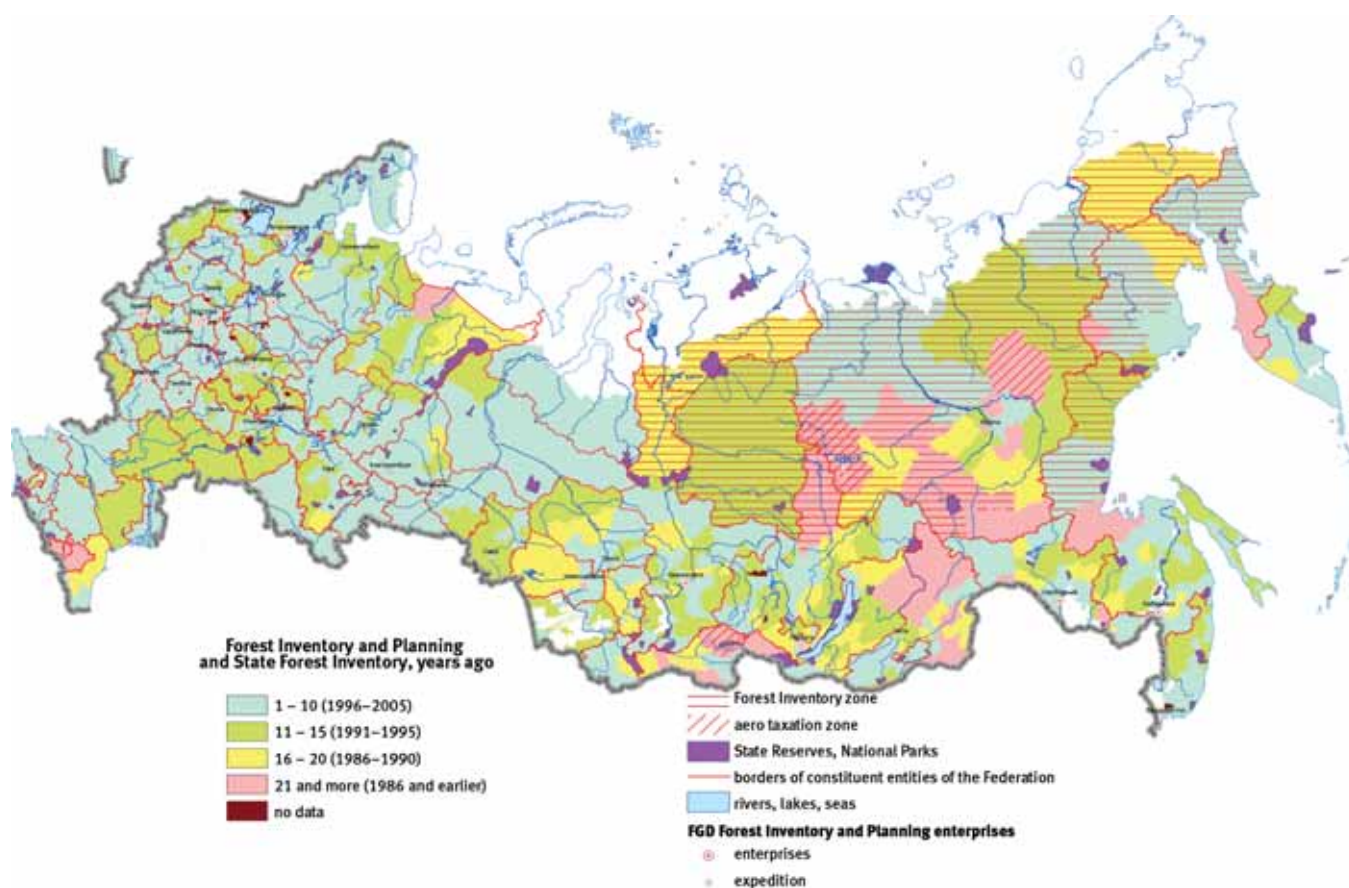


Figure 46. Forest Fund Study Coverage Status (as of 01.01.2006)

- State Forest Inventory (Article 90);
- State Forest Ledger (Article 91);
- State Cadastral Registration of forest (Article 92).

Rare and endangered tree, shrub, vines, and other forest plant species are accounted during assessment of forest resources in accordance with Article 59 Forest Code (Protection of Rare and Endangered Tree, Shrub, Liana, and Other Forest Plant Species). The development of methodological

topics of monitoring is performed in the framework of the Federal target scientific-technical programs: «Global changes of environment and climate», «Russian forest», «Biodiversity».

In addition to the international criteria and indicators, Russian forest management uses national ones. They are used for the additional analysis of the activities of state forest management bodies in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation for the compliance with the principles of sustainable forest management that are recommended by the international community. The national criteria are based on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management developed for European forest (Helsinki process) and for temperate and boreal forest (Montreal process). 6 criteria of sustainable RF forest management are defined:

- 1) Maintenance and preservation of forest productivity (9 indicators);
- 2) Maintenance of acceptable sanitary status and vital capacity of forest (4 indicators);
- 3) Maintenance and preservation of protective functions of forest (4 indicators);
- 4) Maintenance and preservation of biodiversity of forest and their deposit in global carbon cycle (7 indicators);
- 5) Maintenance of socio-economic functions of forest (7 indicators);



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6) Tools of forest policy for preservation of sustainable forest management (5 indicators).

Order of Rosleskhoz No. 23 of Feb. 28, 2005 adopted «Indicators for assessment of forest management agencies work for the constituent entities of the Russian Federation» and implemented the corresponding routine reporting of the territorial bodies. The system of target forecast indicators, identified for each of the constituent entities of the RF, was further developed in 2007. The Order of the MNR of Russia No. 87 dated 11.04.2007 "On approval of the target forecast indicators and forms of reports on the performance of subventions from the federal budget to the regional budgets to implement by the state government authority of the constituent entities of the RF certain powers of RF in the field of forest relations and the achievement of target forecast indicators" identified 11 indicators.

The meaning and use of national criteria and indicators increase due to redistribution of powers and responsibility between federal and regional bodies according to the Forest Code (2006).

Summary Criterion 7

Legislative and policy frameworks for forest management are defined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation (1993) and the Forest Code of the Russian Federation (2006). The main principles of the forest legislation are sustainable forest management, preservation of forest biodiversity, and improvement of forest potentials (Article 1 Forest Code RF).

The aims of the Russian state forest policy are: compliance with the requirements of permanent, rational, and sustainable forest use, increasing of income from the use of forest resources, timely and high-quality forest regeneration, and preservation of recreational and ecological potentials, resources, and biodiversity.

The Russian Federation forest legislation reflects the principles of sustainable forest management.

The Russian forest legislation consists of the Forest Code, other federal laws, and corresponding laws of the constituent entities of the RF. Regulations of the new Russian Forest Code (2006) provide the creation of necessary prerequisites for reaching the set aims.

In the new legal framework, the constituent entities of the Russian Federation were granted the full powers in the areas of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction. Split of functions between the state surveillance of forestry and economical activities of forest management bodies is



going to be conducted taking into account the certain natural, economic, and social conditions of each region.

Forest parcels within the Forest Fund lands are subjects of federal property. Forest parcels can be made available to legal persons and to citizens for lease. A lease agreement shall be concluded based on the results of an auction.

Civil legislation and Forest Code RF guarantee citizens the right to stay in forests freely and gratis. It is permitted to harvest and collect wild fruit, berries, nuts, mushrooms, other food forest resources, and also non-timber forest resources for subsistence needs.

The modern forest legislation makes possible for public to participate in development of public policy and decision making in the forest field.

Planning in the field of forest use, conservation, protection, and reproduction (forest planning) is aimed at providing sustainable development of territories. Forest planning underlies the development of forests within forest districts and forest parks and is documented as Forest Plan of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation. The Forest Plan defines goals and objectives of forest planning as well as activities to achieve the forest development targets and zones of such development (Article 85 Forest Code RF). The government of the Russian Federation establishes the contents of and preparation procedures for the Forest Plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation. The Forest Plan of

a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall have the attached maps with marked boundaries of forest districts, forest parks, and zones of their intended development. The Forest Plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall be approved by the head of the highest executive body of the constituent entity of the RF.

Statistical data about the status of forest, their quantitative and qualitative characteristics are gathered, analyzed, and generalized in the framework of State Forest Inventory, State Forest Ledger, formation of Forest Management Regulation, Forest Development Plans, materials of forest-fire and forest pathology monitoring, and also on results of monitoring of assessment of forest use order and organization.

The State Forest Inventory based on sampling observations from permanent inventory plots spread over the territory in accordance with the laws of mathematical statistics and natural rela-

tionship between the taxation parameters of forest plantation within the boundaries of forest areas. There is a plan to establish about 100 thousand permanent plots total.

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation and Federal Forestry Agency pay significant attention to public awareness and participation in state forest policy implementation (www.rosleshoz.gov.ru). A community Liaison Office is opened; conferences and exhibitions are organized; public ecological and expert councils are working; Russian Museum of Forest (www.museum.forest.ru) is opened.

Russian forest management has and actively uses national criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management. They are used for additional analysis of the activities of state forest management bodies in the constituent entities of the RF for the compliance with the principles of sustainable forest management recommended by the international community.

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