



Practical conservation through certified forestry

Public Briefing Paper for FSC forest management certification assessment of Karpogoryles OOO in Arkhangelsk region, Russia

Introduction – The SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance is conducting FSC forest management and chain of custody certification assessment of Karpogoryles OOO located in Arkhangelsk region, Russia. This assessment will be carried out by NEPCon - a regional partner and the official representative of the SmartWood Program in Eastern Europe, Scandinavia and Russia. The forest management certification assessment is scheduled to be carried out in April 16-19, 2007.

Scope of the assessment – The forest management certification assessment covers environmental, economic and social aspects of the forest management in the forest area managed by Karpogoryles OOO, operating in Pinezhskiy and Leshukonskiy Leskhozoes of Arkhangelsk region, Russia. The assessment will cover a total area of 113532 ha.

The assessment will be based upon the SmartWood Interim Forest Management Evaluation Standard for Arkhangelsk region, Russian Federation, version 1.0, May 15, 2006. To get a copy of the standards, please contact NEPCon on the address given at the end of the announcement. The SmartWood Program is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the assessment process will be conducted in accordance with the FSC requirements and SmartWood certification procedures.

Assessment Team Composition - The assessment team will be led by Nikolai Tochilov (NEPCon). The team member will be Valery Malyshev (Arkhangelsk).

Assessment Steps and Schedule – Following is a short description of certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Assessment organization – The NEPCon/SmartWood team will assemble in Karpogory, Pinezhskiy district of Arkhangelsk region on April 16, 2007.
- ◆ Field assessments – The team will visit sites managed by Karpogoryles OOO from April 16, 2007 to April 19, 2007
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – Throughout the fieldwork, the team will contact local stakeholders regarding Karpogoryles OOO forest management in villages surrounding the forest area. This will include private interviews and discussions, and public stakeholder meetings.
- ◆ Public stakeholder meetings – A public stakeholder meeting will be held in Karpogory a centrally located public meeting place for Karpogoryles OOO. Date, time, and location will be announced soon.
- ◆ Final assessment briefing – Prior to departure the team will meet with Karpogoryles OOO managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.

- ◆ Draft report production – The assessment team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to Karpogoryles OOO.
- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from Karpogoryles OOO forest managers and other general stakeholder comments SmartWood will reach a certification decision.

Your input – As a part of forest management certification assessment we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Karpogoryles OOO forest management in relation to the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the assessment process. We would, however, appreciate receiving your comments as soon as possible so we can consider these during the re-assessment. You can submit your comments in one of the following ways:

1. Call and tell your comments to Nikolai Tochilov or Alexey Klochikhin.
2. Send written comments by mail, fax or email to Nikolai Tochilov or Alexey Klochikhin. Unless you specifically indicate so, your comments will remain confidential and shall only be used to evaluate forest management by the Karpogoryles OOO.
3. Meet NEPCon/SmartWood assessment team during the assessment.

The source of any information provided will be kept confidential available to only the FSC and NEPCon/SmartWood staff.

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access SmartWood's dispute resolution procedures at www.smartwood.org.

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