



Director \_\_\_\_\_ *Yury Pautov*

**Silver Taiga Foundation  
Annual Working Plan for 2014**

General Contents:

**Primary activity**

1. Contribution to establishment of Protected Areas on the basis of pristine forests (Yu. Pautov) .....	p.2
2. Ecosystem and landscape background for forestry and FSC planning (Yu. Pautov, N. Shuktomov).....	p.3
3. Model River Mezen – cooperation with local communities (V.Semyashkina, N. Shuktomov).....	p.5
4. Model River Mezen – restoration of fish resources (N. Shuktomov, V.Semyashkina).....	p.7
5. Evaluation of the long-term impact of forestry (logging) on water resource (Yu. Pautov).....	p.9
6. Development of regional risk assessment for the FSC controlled wood in the Komi Republic (E. Popova, V.Semyashkina).....	p.11
7. Consultations and training (Yu.Pautov).....	p. 12

**Supplementary activity (in case additional financing is involved)**

8. Regional Komi Model Forest Development program for 2013 – 2015 (Yu. Pautov).....	p. 13
9. Forest communities and use of natural resources. Interaction of forest communities and large forest business (V. Semyashkina).....	p. 14
10. Initiation of volunteer movement (A.Mikheeva).....	p. 15

***Approved by the Coordination Council of Silver Taiga Foundation:***

*Coordination Council Chairman* \_\_\_\_\_ / *Williams Jeremy*  
*Member of Coordination Council* \_\_\_\_\_ / *Karpachevskiy Mikhail*  
*Member of Coordination Council* \_\_\_\_\_ / *Majewski Przemyslaw*  
*Member of Coordination Council* \_\_\_\_\_ / *Sedusova Natalia*

**1. Contribution to establishment of Protected Areas on the basis of pristine forests (Yu.Pautov).**

**Objective for 2014-2016:**

- 1.1. To search and strength compromise solutions on conservation and sustainable use of pristine forests in priority regions of the Komi Republic and to spread positive experience in Arkhangelsk region.

**Planned activity:**

Koygorodok district

- 1.1.1. Coordination of the procedure of compartments 13-16, 29-32, 44-48,59-64, 83-88, 107-112, 147-153, 188-197 transition from Maiskles lease to the area reserved for the Koygorodsky National Park with the Department of State Policy and Control (V.B. Stepanitsky) of the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation.
- 1.1.2. Mapping and description of the ecoroutes with reference to landscape dynamics of South taiga virgin forests in the planned Koygorodsky National Park for forestry experts, students and teachers of forestry universities.

Udora district

- 1.1.3. Coordination with stakeholders of new configuration of Verkhne-Vashka large intact forest landscape core and reserving its area for regional wildlife refuges in the Republic of Komi and Arkhangelsk region (Forestry branch of Ilim Group in Koryazhma; Krasnoborskles; Lesozavod №1; Arkhangelsk WWF branch; Forestry and Hunting Department of Arkhangelsk region; Arkhangelsk nature conservation initiative; Forest Committee of the Republic of Komi; Komi Republic Center of Protected Areas; the Ministry of Industry and Energy of the Republic of Komi, etc.).
- 1.1.4. Coordination with stakeholders of proposals on creation of regional wildlife refuges on the territory of the Republic of Komi and Arkhangelsk region within the core of Karpogory massif of the intact forest landscape (Mondi Syktyvkar; Karpogoryles; Solombala pulp and paper mill; Arkhangelsk WWF branch; Arkhangelsk nature conservation initiative; Forest Committee of the Republic of Komi; Komi Republic Center of Protected Areas; the Ministry of Industry and Energy of the Republic of Komi; Forestry and Hunting Department of Arkhangelsk region; Komi Republic Udora District Administration, Arkhangelsk Region Karpogory District Administration; etc.).

Other districts

- 1.1.6. Monitoring of lend-lease and development of pristine forest massives and fragments on the basis of ERS (Earth remote sensing) data for Knyazhpogost, Ust-Vym, Ukhta, Sosnogorsk, Vuktyl and Troitsko-Pechorsk districts for the purposes of preparation and implementation of voluntary forest certification of the Komi Republic companies.
- 1.1.7. Coordination of the activity of the Komi Regional FSC Controlled Wood Risk Assessment Working Group (jointly with FSC Russia office).
- 1.1.8. Participation in activity of the Priority Investment Committee of the Komi Republic Ministry of Industry and Energy.

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Administration of Koigorodok region;
- Administration of Udora region;
- Forest Committee of the Komi Republic;
- Forest State Unit in Koigorodok;
- Forest State Unit in Letka;
- FSC Office in Russia;
- Greenpeace Russia;
- Ministry of Industry and Energy of the Komi Republic;
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Nature Protection of the Komi Republic;
- Mondi Syktyvkar;
- Reserve “Nurgush-Tulashor” – Kirov region;
- WWF Russia.

## 2. Ecosystem and landscape background for forestry and FSC planning (Yu.Pautov, N. Shuktomov).

### Main objective:

- 2.1. To develop ecosystem and landscape based forestry planning for FSC certification purposes with use of GIS and Remote Sensing technologies and to approve new system on Republican level.

Background data and whole system is planned as open source for all forest stakeholders.

### Objectives for 2014-2016:

- 2.1. To support forestry and FSC planning with background GIS layers based on different methods of data collection including field work linked to data bases and recommendations important for planning. Main layers to be developed:
- relief;
  - river basin as fresh water system;
  - road net;
  - forest dynamics by types and succession stages, including recommendations on logging and reforestation regimes;
  - productivity, current and optimal goal in tree species composition, including recommendations on management measures;
  - streams, wetlands and key habitats important for water protection, including recommendations on protection and management during logging operations;
  - soil sensitivity for logging operations, including recommendations on handling during logging and transport depending on weather conditions;
  - areas important for biodiversity conservation:
    - pristine landscapes, including recommendations on step wise decision making process, description of current status, level of importance;
    - habitats of rare species, including description of species and recommendations on conservation measures;
    - forest fire refuges, including description of meaning and recommendations on conservation measures;
    - key habitats for biodiversity conservation, and recommendations on identifications and conservation measures ( to be developed as adaptation of Swedish and Canadian systems);
    - other areas, including description of meaning and recommendations on conservation measures.
  - pristine forests with limited logging regime – base, meaning and recommendations on logging regime;
  - Protected Areas and areas planned or recommended for protection, including recommendations on step wise multi stakeholders process and description of obligatory and voluntary limitations;
  - connectivity network for landscapes and habitats - description of meaning, stakeholders and recommendations on logging and management measures;
  - sites of cultural and historical values, including description of meaning, stakeholders and recommendations on protective measures;
  - areas of traditional forest use by indigenous and local people, including description of meaning, stakeholders and recommendations on protective measures;
  - areas important for mushroom and berries picking by local population, including description of meaning, stakeholders and recommendations on protective measures;
  - areas recommended for intensive forest management;
  - areas determined as HCVF, including description of meaning, stakeholders and recommendations on protective measures;
  - other areas important for sustainable forestry, including description of meaning, stakeholders and recommendations on protective measures.
- 2.2. To establish first cartographic base for river catchments and first recommendations on catchment's management (watershed, slopes, terraces, wetlands of stream valleys, streams and rivers).
- 2.3. To prepare the draft of "Recommendations on HCVF and key biotopes identification, preservation and monitoring on FSC certified areas" in compliance with criteria 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4 of Russian FSC Standard (version 6-1) for various level planners (base, medium, advance).
- 2.4. To develop educational course on landscape-ecological planning of forest management on base of ERS materials in Komi Model Forest area.
- 2.5. To develop the "Recommendations on monitoring of flora and fauna on FSC-certified areas". in compliance with criteria 8.2.7 of Russian FSC Standard (version 6-1) together with FSC Russia and WWF Russia

### Planned activity:

- 2.1. Preparation and creation of above-mentioned GIS layers for pilot catchment areas №1 (the Sedka river, Priluzye district, Noshul forestry unit) and №2 (the Yn river, Ust-Kulom district, Smolyanka forestry unit) – jointly with the Komi Republic Territorial Data Bank, Komi Republic Center of Protected Areas; Tekhkarta; Forestry Division of Mondi Syktyvkar.

- 2.2. Identification of the “environmental framework” of pilot catchment areas and its coordination with forest fund leaseholders, forestry units and other stakeholders.
- 2.3. Identification and allocation of “social HCVF” on pilot catchment areas and their coordination with forest fund leaseholders, forestry units and other stakeholders.
- 2.4. Assessment of compliance of Mondi Syktyvkar conducted and planned felling and forest management on pilot areas with FSC requirements (jointly with Forestry Division of Mondi Syktyvkar and Tekhkarta).
- 2.5. Preparation of the draft of “Recommendations on HCVF and key biotopes identification, preservation and monitoring on FSC certified areas” in compliance with criteria 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4 for various level planners (base, medium, advance). Its coordination with Forestry Division of Mondi Syktyvkar, Planning Department of Luzales, and the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic.
- 2.6. Development of the training course on landscape and environmental planning for forest management with the use of ERS data, and its coordination with stakeholders and the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic.
- 2.7. Selection, description and preparation of demonstration plots for the training course on landscape and environmental planning for forest management in the Priluzye Model Forest.

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Forest Committee of the Komi Republic (State forest administration);
- Forest State Unit in Priluzje;
- FSC Russia;
- Greenpeace Russia;
- Institute of Biology of RAS in Komi;
- Luzales – wood harvesting and processing company;
- Ministry of Natural Resources of the Komi Republic;
- Mondi Syktyvkar;
- Non-profit partnership “Transparent World” in Moscow;
- Skanex – cartographic company – Moscow;
- Syktyvkar Forest Institute;
- Tefra consulting company – Syktyvkar;
- Tekhkarta – cartographic company – Syktyvkar;
- Territorial Data Bank under Komi Republic Head Administration;
- Ust-Nem forestry unit;
- WWF Russia.

**3. Model River Mezen – cooperation with local communities** (*V. Semyashkina, N. Shuktomov*).

**Main objective:**

- 3.1. To restore fish resources in Model Rivers and to manage them sustainable way in cooperation with local population and other interested parties.

**Objectives for 2014 – 2016.**

- 3.1. Creating public awareness on problems related to fish resources and possible solutions, including the ones implemented on the federal level. Ensuring public access to this information.
- 3.2. Promoting development of sustainable resource management methods among local users following local population being aware of current problems and jointly discussing them.
- 3.3. Information, tutorial and administrative support of local entrepreneurs and initiators of tourism development and recreational management of river resources.
- 3.4. Developing cooperation between municipalities along the Mezen river (Udora district of the Komi Republic, Leshukonskoye and Mezen districts of Arkhangelsk region).
- 3.5. Developing public self-government and cooperation among citizens of settlements located along the Mezen river (within districts and between districts).
- 3.6. Supporting environmental, educational and regional study activities among students and youth under the project subject (cooperating with schools and vocational education institutions).
- 3.7. Elaborating proposals for the regional legislation relating to the role of traditional resource management of the river for the sustenance of the local population.
- 3.8. Disseminating information on the project and its results (information support of the project).

**2014 planned activity.**

- 3.1. Creating public awareness on problems related to fish resources and possible solutions, including the ones implemented on the federal level. Ensuring public access to this information.
  - 6 issues of the thematic supplement to the Udora district newspaper – *throughout the year*;
  - Information materials on the project subject in the newspapers of Leshukonskoye and Mezen districts (*at regular periods by agreement with the editorial offices*);
  - Making local population aware by means of rural libraries, involving of rural librarians of Leshukonskoye and Mezen districts;
  - Trip the propaganda team «Green troopers» with the information program on the villages of the neighboring district of Arkhangelsk region – to Vozhgora and Koynas settlements (jointly with Udora central library system – *August 2014*);
  - Tours and meetings with various population groups in the district historical and regional study museum in Koslan–city – getting acquainted with the display “Mezen: River Resources Management History”, discussion. *Throughout the year*;
  - Publication of the information poster on poaching on the Mezen river (figures, pictures, children’s drawings) – *February 2014*;
  - Publication of the brochure on fish fauna of the Mezen river basin and local population traditional nature use (author – A. Vurdov) – *September 2014*.
- 3.2. Promoting development of sustainable resource management methods among local users following local population being aware of current problems and jointly discussing them.
  - Coordination of the project Working Group activity – *throughout the year*. Arrangement of the Working Group meetings – *February and October 2014*;
  - Discussion of problems and sustainable management experience exchange on the framework of the Working Group and local groups;
  - Informing AgroUdora cooperative members and other users with the sustainable management experience – based on the example of other districts (workshop). *October 2014*;
  - Support of the public control of leased areas effected by the AgroUdora cooperative members (using the experience of public “salmon councils” on Sakhalin and Kamchatka).
- 3.3. Information, tutorial and administrative support of local entrepreneurs and initiators of tourism development and recreational management of river resources.
  - Round table discussion for local entrepreneurs and tourism managers in Udora district “The experience of tourism development and recreational management of river resources” with the involvement of Arkhangelsk region district representatives. *November 2014*.
  - Involvement of rural entrepreneurs and tourism managers to training workshops and meetings devoted to sustainable development of rural areas held in the republic (jointly with the Sustainable Development Center of the Syktyvkar State University and NGO Native Women of Komi). *Throughout the year*.
- 3.4. Developing cooperation between municipalities along the Mezen river (Udora district of the Komi Republic, Leshukonskoye and Mezen districts of Arkhangelsk region).

- Meetings with local population in settlements and villages for the discussion of nature use and fish resource management problems. *Throughout the year.*
  - Joint conference on the river resources management problems – in Leshukonskoye district with the participation of Udora and Mezen district representatives and members of the project Working Group. *Mapm 2014.*
- 3.5. Developing public self-government and cooperation among citizens of settlements located along the Mezen river (within districts and between districts).
- Meeting of the core group of the territorial public self-government (TPSG) of Leshukonskoye and Udora districts, work experience sharing and joint problem discussion (round table). *March – April 2014.*
  - Workshop for rural TPSGs (jointly with the republican territorial public self-government association – RTPSG). *November 2014.*
- 3.6. Supporting environmental, educational and regional study activities among students and youth under the project subject (cooperating with schools and vocational education institutions).
- Arrangement of the concluding district teachers conference on the results of the training method development contest “Salmon – the Mezen Tsar-fish” (Udora district). Initiation of a similar contest in Leshukonskoye district. *February 2014.*
  - Creation of the design educational program and training guide to acquaint 5-10 grade students with the fish-fauna of the Mezen river basin and, first of all, the Atlantic salmon in order to motivate students to understanding environmental, economic and cultural value of wild salmon and promoting awareness creation regarding preservation of the Atlantic salmon and its habitat. *Before September 2014.*
  - Distribution and adaptation of the program in rural districts near the Mezen river. *September – December 2014.*
  - Introduction of the design educational program on basics of economics for rural students (secondary school of Glotovo village, its distribution in other schools). *Throughout the year.*
  - Support of school students’ summer regional study expeditions and river bank cleaning initiatives (jointly with the Usogorsk Children Activity Center and rural schools). *June – August 2014.*
- 3.8. Disseminating data on the project and its results.
- Publications in the Komi Republic and Arkhangelsk district mass media. *Throughout the year.*
  - Information support of the project at [www.silvertaiga.ru](http://www.silvertaiga.ru). *Throughout the year.*
  - Distribution of the project information to partners and stakeholders on the regional, federal and international levels.
  - Participation in the republican and international sustainable development conferences with reports on river resource management problems and the project status. *Throughout the year.*

**Cooperating organizations** (in alphabetic order):

- Administrations of Bolshaya Pyssa, Chernutyevoye, Glotovo, Vozhgora, Koynas and other rural settlements;
- Administration of Leshukonskoye district of Arkhangelsk region;
- Administration of Mezen district of Arkhangelsk region;
- Administration of Udora region;
- Cooperative “Agroudora” operating along rivers;
- Editorial offices of “Vyl Tuyod”, “Zvezda” and “Sever” newspapers;
- Education Department of the Administration of Udora region;
- National Museum of the Udora District;
- Ozherelye Udory, company;
- Regional public movement “Native Women of Komi”;
- Secondary schools of Glotovo, Usogorsk and other settlements;
- Sustainable Development Center of the Syktyvkar State University;
- Udora branch of the Federal State Budgetary Institution “Komi Basin Fishery and Aquatic Biodiversity Preservation Administration (FSBI Komirbyvod);
- Udora centralized library system;
- Udora region NGO – “Udorachi”;
- Udora representative office of the Interregional Public Movement “Komi Voytyr” (NGO);
- Usogorsk Children Activity Center.

**4. Model River Mezen – restoration of fish resources** (*N. Shuktomov, V. Semyashkina*).

**Main objective:**

- 4.1. To restore fish resources in Model Rivers and to manage them sustainable way in cooperation with local population and other interested parties.

**Objectives for 2014-2016:**

- 4.1. To support development and start of implementation of the target interregional Mezen salmon preservation and restoration program initiated by the project (hereinafter referred to as the Program):
- 4.1.1. To coordinate the activity of the interregional working group on the Program section development.
  - 4.1.2. To organize cooperation of partners from Komi and Arkhangelsk region in the Mezen river basin.
  - 4.1.3. To develop proposals on restoration of fish resources in the Mezen river basin.
  - 4.1.4. To assess possibility and feasibility of licensed fishing by local population. To develop recommendations.
  - 4.1.5. To develop proposals on adaptation of the Mezen river fishery legislation and rules to the opinions of public organizations and citizens.
  - 4.1.6. To assess particular fishery projects implemented in the Mezen river basin and to support them, if necessary.
  - 4.1.7. To suggest mechanisms (forms) of public control and to promote establishment of such control (public fishery councils, public inspectorates, etc.).
- 4.2. To facilitate approval of the Program on the regional level and its implementation.
- 4.3. To establish monitoring of fishery projects implemented on the Mezen river.
- 4.4. To proceed with the annual monitoring of quality of spawning and salmon spawning grounds.
- 4.5. To facilitate implementation of fish protection activities.
- 4.6. To support projects on restoration of resident fish species.

**2014 planned activity:**

- 4.1. Coordination of the activity of the interregional working group on development of detailed proposals for the salmon restoration program.
- Joint meetings – *February and November 2014*.
  - Regular data exchange and meetings in small groups for discussion of the program sections – throughout the year.
- 4.2. Continued cooperation with stakeholders in the following areas of interest:
- With FSBI Komirybvod – monitoring and preservation of salmon, activity on restoration of resident fish species.
  - With AgroUdora cooperative – information and consulting support of sustainable management development on the leased areas; joint monitoring of fish resources on the leased areas.
  - With the state aquatic bioresources inspection, monitoring and protection agency of the Republic of Komi – joint activities on fish resources protection; monitoring, public control development.
  - With the Udorachi community – establishment and search of legal forms of traditional use for local population needs.
  - With the “Komi Republican Center of Protected Areas” - on the organization and finding a legitimate forms of traditional use for the needs of the local inhabitants and participation in annual monitoring.
  - With business representatives – establishment and support of particular fishery projects of Arkhangelsk region and Komi Republic.
- 4.3. Correction, coordination with the stakeholders and approved at the official level applied in the framework of the project monitoring methods of the Atlantic salmon.
- 4.4. Organization of 2 workshops for users (tenants, local population and other stakeholders):
- Monitoring methods and salmon redd detection training (in order to train skilled personnel for monitoring and other field activities under the project);
  - Monitoring of resident fish species on the leased areas;
  - Development of training workshop programs;
  - Data collection and filing;
  - Determination of the target audience;
  - Theory and practical training courses.
- 4.5. Field tours with the purpose of monitoring of the reproductive part of salmon population. *Beginning of October 2014*.
- 4.6. Questionnaire survey to assess the scale of illegal salmon fishing in Udora, Leshukonskoye and Mezen districts and to estimate by the population the causes of mass poaching.
- Development of the questionnaire for the assessment of illegal salmon fishing and its causes.
  - Establishment of the core group for questionnaire and training for the interviewers.
  - Determination of groups (categories) of interviewees (minimal number of respondents, age, employment categories, etc.).
  - Questionnaire realization.
  - Preparation of the report on questionnaire results.

4.7. Monitoring of commercial fishing on the Irva river by AgroUdora cooperative members.

- Coordination of the monitoring method with stakeholders;
- Coordination of data collection, processing and filing duties with stakeholders;
- Practical workshop on monitoring methods for AgroUdora cooperative members (with the involvement of Institute of biology of the Komi Scientific Center of Ural Branch, RAS) – *deadlines are to be agreed with stakeholders*;
- Monitoring implementation;
- Information of the project stakeholders, local population and community on the monitoring results (publication in mass media).

4.8. Expedition to the Irva river for anthropogenic impact assessment. *August 2014.*

- 4.9. Support of fish resources protection activities conducted by Rybnadzor and FSBI Komirybvod and users' activities on restoration of resident fish species.

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Administration of Leshukonskoye district of Arkhangelsk region;
- Administration of Mezen district of Arkhangelsk region;
- Administration of Udora region;
- Agricultural consumer cooperative “AgroUdora”;
- Business representatives – the river section tenants;
- Federal State Budgetary Institution “Komi Basin Fishery and Aquatic Biodiversity Preservation Administration (FSBI Komirybvod);
- FSBI Sevrybvod;
- Institute of biology of the Komi Scientific Center of Ural Branch, Russian Academy of Science (Syktyvkar);
- Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Komi, aquaculture and fishery department;
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Komi;
- State aquatic bioresources inspection, monitoring and protection agency of the Republic of Komi;
- State Budgetary Institution of the Komi Republic “Republican Center for Specially Protected Natural Areas and Nature Management Support”;
- Udora region NGO – “Komi Voytyr”;
- Udora region NGO – “Udorachi”.



## 5. Evaluation of the long-term impact of forestry (logging) on water resources (Yu.Pautov).

### Introduction

Assessment of logging impact on the water regime of the rivers and on the hydrological regime of forest areas in boreal zone of Russia remains poorly studied. It is mainly caused by:

- The necessity of long-term and expensive stationary monitoring of water regime of the rivers;
- Technical difficulties of long-term water balance studies in the landscape;
- Dependence of flow and water regime of rivers on multiple factors (climate, landscape, precipitation and ice melting time, bedrock, natural and anthropogenic changes of the vegetation and others).

The greatest interest to this issue was demonstrated in 1960-1980 pursuant to the planned transfer of some Northern rivers' flow, in particular of the Pechora river, to the Volga river basin.

Most experimental studies of forest rivers water regime were carried out in the southern and central regions of the European part of Russia (Molchanov, 1963 – Moscow and Kalinin regions; Rakhmanov, 1984; Krestovskiy, 1986 - Vologda and Kirov regions, etc.). Their results are often contradictory.

In the Komi Republic experimental water-balance studies conducted in the 1980s by the Moscow Institute RosGIPROLes on a small catchment of the Maya river (800 ha) in Knyazhpogost forest unit. The results of these studies were published (Rubzov and others, 1990), however, the impact of logging on river runoff in these studies was not evaluated.

Now there are new opportunities to assess the logging operations impact on the hydrological regime of the forest area on the basis of the Earth remote sensing data. They allow to evaluate the level of transformation of the catchments of forest rivers within the long-term period (since 1975).

### The main project limitations:

- Insufficient scientific knowledge of the issue for the Russian taiga zone in general;
- Availability of hydrological monitoring data over a long period;
- Interrupted data collection on particular rivers after “perestroika”;
- The availability and accuracy of data interpretation of LANDSAT images 1970 - 1980 years;
- Insufficient scientific and technical capacity in this area of study in the Komi Republic.

**Project «Evaluation of the long-term impact of forestry (logging) on water resources» is scheduled for 3 year 2014 - 2016 with a possible extension.**

### The plan of the project.

1. We are planning to conduct the assessment of the logging impact on water resources in 2 stages:
  - A. The watersheds of the medium rivers (tributaries of 2-3 orders of a large river with the flow measurement data available for the long-term period).

**Potential river - candidates:**

    - The Upper and Middle Mezen – water stage gauge - Bolshaya Pyssa village;
    - The Upper Luza – water stage gauge – Verkholyuzye village;
    - The Middle Luza – water stage gauge – Obyachevo village;
    - The Upper Vychehda – water stage gauge – Pomozdino village;
    - The Voch-river (the North .Keltma-river tributary – the Upper Vychehda tributary) – water stage gauge – V.Voch village;
    - The Prupt-river (the North .Keltma-river tributary – the Upper Vychehda tributary) – water stage gauge – Klimovo village;
    - The Lokchim-river (the Middle Vychehda tributary) – water stage gauge – Boyarkeros village;
    - The Pozheg-river (the Middle Vychehda tributary) – water stage gauge – Shilador village.
  - B. The catchment area of small rivers, streams, swamps – we are planning to select demonstration watersheds in the basins of the above-listed medium-sized rivers.
2. On each elected catchment we are planning to evaluate character and the rate of change of the catchment, transformed by logging of different years, using the materials of the remote sensing data (LANDSAT) from 1970 to the present for each 10-year period: 1970-1980-1990-2000-2010.
3. For each watercourse (river) we are planning to collect the data available for the following hydrological indicators:
  - changing of the water patterns;
  - fluctuation of the maximum value of the spring flood;
  - duration of the flood;
  - minimum periods of low water in summer;
  - duration of the summer steady low water level;
  - the maximum value of the autumn flood;
  - duration of the autumn flood;
  - water turbidity in the observation periods.
4. For each of these rivers we are planning to collect the available scientific and reporting data on changes of the ecological parameters (if available) or to conduct interviews with local residents in order to assess changes in the ecological characteristics (fish resources) for the longest period possible ( 30-50-70 years).
5. For each catchment medium and small rivers we plan to collect the available scientific, reporting and other data on the change in hydrological regime of the area (catchment).

6. For each of these rivers, we are planning to hold the environmental rapid (impact) assessment of water and biological resources with the use of available and demonstration scientific and practical techniques.
7. We are planning to find the so called “twin” rivers allowing comparison of disturbed and undisturbed water courses.
8. On the basis of the analysis of the obtained materials we are planning to undertake an overall evaluation of the impact of logging on water resources, including:
  - Modification of hydrological regime of main, medium and small-size river watersheds;
  - Change the water availability and hydrological regime of river catchment areas;
  - Change of ecological characteristics of watercourses;
  - The impact of these changes on the status of fish and other biological resources of selected rivers (watercourses).

**Expected results:**

1. Evaluation of character and rate of change of forest cover after clear cuts on watersheds of small, medium and main (if possible) rivers of Komi Republic based on the Earth remote sensing data.
2. Assess the logging impact on the change of forest rivers water regime.
3. Assess the impact of changes in the landscape hydrological characteristics on the fish resources of rivers after logging.
4. Recommendations for logging companies and forestry planners on logging planning in basins of medium and small rivers.

**Objectives for 2014-2016:**

1. To analyze scientific data (first of all, from international sources) on forestry and logging impact on hydrological regime of rivers and catchment areas.
2. To evaluate influence of logging regime on state of rivers and streams based on comparisons of rivers covered by monitoring.
3. To evaluate influence of logging on state of small wetlands along streams and on flooded part of river valley.
4. To develop recommendations for the logging industry and forestry planners on how to avoid or reduce negative influence of logging on streams and rivers.

**2014 planned activity:**

1. Analysis of scientific data (primarily, the ones from international sources,) on forestry and logging impact on hydrological regime of rivers and catchment areas (*throughout the year*).
2. Justification and selection of pilot medium-size rivers with various logging regime for comparison of long-term impact of logging activities on aquatic resources (*February – March 2014*).
3. Justification and selection of pilot small-size rivers (watercourses) with various logging regime on catchment basins of medium-size rivers for comparison of long-term impact of logging activities on aquatic resources (*February – March 2014*).
4. Collection and systematization of reporting, historical, scientific data on pilot rivers and watercourses hydrologic regime dynamics (*throughout the year*).
5. Collection and systematization of LANDSAT images of pilot rivers’ catchment areas for the period from 1975 to 2014 (*February – June 2014*).
6. Assessment of catchment area change rate for pilot rivers disturbed by logging at various times on the basis of LANDSAT images for 10-year periods: 1975-1985-1995-2005-2015 (*throughout the year*).
7. Selection and justification of rapid environmental assessment methods for aquatic and biological resources in pilot rivers (watercourses) (*March 2014*).
8. Expeditions for testing rapid environmental assessment on pilot rivers and small watercourses (*July – September 2014*).
9. Local population interviewing in order to assess ecological characteristics fluctuations (including the ones of fish resources) of pilot rivers for the longest period possible (30-50-70 years). Filing of the data obtained (*throughout the year*).

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Federal State Budgetary Institution “Komi Basin Fishery and Aquatic Biodiversity;
- Preservation Administration (FSBI Komirybvod);
- Forest Committee of the Komi Republic (State forest administration);
- Institute of Biology of RAS in Komi;
- Institute of Economy of RAS in Komi;
- Meteorological center of Komi Republic;
- Ministry of Natural Resources of the Komi Republic;
- Non-profit partnership “Transparent World” in Moscow;
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences SLU, Department of Forest Resource Management, NILS program of landscape monitoring, Umea, Sweden;
- Syktyvkar State University;
- Tekhkarta – cartographic company – Syktyvkar.

**6. Development of regional risk assessment for the FSC controlled wood in the Komi Republic (E. Popova, V.Semyashkina).**

**Objective:**

- 6.1. To complete the process of regional (Komi Republic) FSC controlled wood risk assessment development and coordination launched in 2013. To develop recommendations for FSC controlled wood audit on the basis of the regional risk assessment for the Komi Republic.

**Planned activity:**

- 6.1.1. Collection of additional data on indicators under dispute (regarding native peoples). *January.*
- 6.1.2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Revision Regional Risk Assessment Working Group Meeting. *January.*
- 6.1.3. Submission of the Regional Risk Assessment Revision aligned by the Working Group for approval to the National FSC Working Group. *February.*
- 6.1.4. Development of recommendations for FSC controlled wood audit on the basis of the regional risk assessment for the Komi Republic. *February – May 2013.*
- Development of recommendations in the first revision;
  - Meeting of developing experts to discuss recommendations in the first revision;
  - Review of recommendations with the account of the joint discussion results;
  - Recommendation text distribution among the working group members, collection of comments;
  - Final Recommendations development with regard to the comments and ideas of the Working Group members.

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Institute of biology of the Komi Scientific Center of Ural Branch, Russian Academy of Science (Syktyvkar)
- Mondi Syktyvkar
- National FSC Working Group
- Native People Community – “Udorachi”
- NGO Pechora Rescue Committee
- Public Forest Council of Priluzye district
- Tefra – consulting company

## **7. Consultations and training (Y. Pautov).**

### **Objectives:**

- 7.1. Forest stakeholders have an opportunity to get the consultations on certification and sustainable forest management.
- 7.2. Forest stakeholders are getting a new knowledge and experience based on the organized educational seminars and demonstration routes to the Komi Model Forest.

### **Planned activities:**

- 7.1.1. Consultations on FSC certification and other issues related to the sustainable forest management for the logging companies, Forest Service, and audit companies (by request).
- 7.2.1. Organization and holding of a field seminar on the natural forest dynamics and biodiversity of the taiga forest for the Latvia's State Forest Service in the Pechora-Ilych Reserve (by request).
- 7.2.2. Organization and holding of the introductory courses for the students of the Syktyvkar Forest Institute on the topic "The history of the forest use in the Komi Republic. Natural forest dynamics and biodiversity of the taiga forest" in the Komi Model Forest (by the request of the Syktyvkar Forest Institute).
- 7.2.3. Organization and holding of a field seminar on the natural forest dynamics and biodiversity of the taiga forest for the Sustainable Forestry Management and Certification Department of OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar" in the Pechora-Ilych Reserve (by request).
- 7.2.4. Organization and holding of a field seminar on the forestry intensification for the specialists of the Forest Service of the Komi Republic in the Komi Model Forest (upon the request of the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic).
- 7.2.5. Establishment of new demonstration objects on the intensive forestry in the Komi Model Forest (upon the request of the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic).
- 7.2.6. Other seminars by request.

### **Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Audit companies;
- Forest committee of the Komi republic;
- OJSC "Latvia's State Forests";
- OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar";
- Syktyvkar State University;
- Syktyvkar Forest Institute;

**Additional activity** (in case of financial support).

**8. Regional Komi Model Forest Development Program for 2013 – 2015** (*Yu. Pautov*).

**Objectives:**

- 8.1. Administrative and training support to the Model forest development.
- 8.2. Economic justification of forestry intensification.
- 8.3. Qualification upgrade for Komi Republic forestry specialists.
- 8.4. Local population participation in sustainable development.

**2014 planned activity:**

- 8.1. Coordination and approval of Komi Model Forest plans as part of the republican program “Development and Introduction of Komi Forest Sustainable Management Model Solutions” (jointly with the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic).
- 8.2. Development of proposals on cost effective scenarios for intensive forestry in Komi.
- 8.3. Selection and establishment of demonstration polygons and demonstration plots for intensive forestry in the Komi Model Forest.
- 8.4. Updating of materials and taxation data on demonstration polygons № 1 и № 2 in Komi Model Forest “Priluz’e”.
- 8.5. Support of the Public Forest Council of Priluz’e district.
- 8.6. Support of regular publication of supplement to the Forest Council, a district newspaper, and other informational support of the population.

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Branch of the Federal State Institution “Forest Inventory Enterprise”;
- Forest Committee of the Komi Republic;
- Government of the Republic of Komi;
- Lesnaya alternativa – company;
- Luzales – company;
- Mondi Syktyvkar;
- Priluzye forestry unit;
- Public Forest Council of Priluzye district;
- Priluzsky Leskhoz – company;
- Syktyvkar Forestry Institute;
- Tekhkarta – company;
- Territorial Data Bank.

**9. Forest communities and natural resource management. Interaction of forest communities with big wood businesses (V. Semyashkina).**

**Objectives:**

- 9.1. Preservation of facilities for the residents of remote forest villages to practice traditional nature management.
- 9.2. Facilitation of development of forest business social responsibility policy relating to forest area population.
- 9.3. Development of the Forest Dialogue as the scene for democratic debate on natural resource management.

**2014 planned activity:**

- 9.1.1. Support of the public initiative on identification and mapping of traditional nature management areas in Ust-Kulom district of the Komi Republic – jointly with the district representative offices of the Interregional Public Movement “Komi Voytyr”.
- 9.2.1. Monitoring of social and economic impact of logging companies’ activity in rural districts (jointly with public forest councils of Priluz’e, Udora, Ust-Kulom and Kortkeros districts, representative offices of the Interregional Public Movement “Komi Voytyr” in forest districts).
- 9.2.2. Facilitating awareness of the local population and building up a dialogue (support of publication of the Forest Council newspaper in Priluzye district).
- 9.3.1. Establishment of Forest Dialogue on practical issues of forest policy in Russia – jointly with the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Komi Republic, FSC Russia and other governmental and non-governmental organizations of Russia.

**Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):**

- Administrations of “forestry” districts and rural settlements of the Komi Republic;
- Forest Committee of the Komi Republic;
- FSC Russia;
- Komilesbusiness – company;
- Mondi Syktyvkar;
- Regional public movement “Native Women of Komi”;
- Representative offices of the Interregional Public Movement “Komi Voytyr” (NGO) in forestry districts of the republic;
- WWF Russia.

**10. Initiation of volunteer movement (A.Mikheeva).**

**Objective:**

10.1. Volunteers' involvement into the Silver Taiga Foundation projects implementation, as well as dissemination of the information on the nature protection and social problems of sustainable development within the frameworks of the Foundation activity.

**Planned activity:**

10.1.1. Attraction of the initiative and motivated people for extension of the volunteer movement (up to 10-15 people) by means of the information posting:

- On the Foundation website [www.silvertaiga.ru](http://www.silvertaiga.ru);
- In the group of the social network "Vkontakte" ([vk.com/silvertaiga](http://vk.com/silvertaiga));
- In the Republican mass media, including the youth mass media of the Republic;
- Through the cooperation with the youth NGOs of the Institutions of Higher Education (Syktyvkar Forest Institute, Syktyvkar State University).

10.1.2. Organization of the round table "Mutual interests and collaboration" with the volunteers.

10.1.3. Organization of the meetings (seminars, discussions, etc.) on the sustainable development topic for the volunteers on a monthly basis.

10.1.4. Organization of the field seminar on the topic "History of the forest use in the Komi Republic. Natural dynamics and biodiversity of the taiga forest" for the volunteers in the Komi Model Forest in August-September.

10.1.5. Support and popularization of the "Silver Taiga Foundation volunteers" group in the social network "Vkontakte" ([vk.com/silvertaiga](http://vk.com/silvertaiga)).

10.1.6. Support of the section devoted to the volunteers movement on the Foundation website [www.silvertaiga.ru](http://www.silvertaiga.ru).

10.1.7. Coverage of the volunteers' activity in the mass media and through the contacts with the Institutions of Higher Education.

10.1.8. Organization of the volunteers for the support in the implementation of the following objectives:

- Annual renewal of the educational routes in the Komi Model Forest;
- Preparation of the educational routes in the planned Koygorodok National Park;
- Support in the Foundation field educational seminars organization;
- Support in the Foundation activities organization;
- Support in the Foundation website [www.silvertaiga.ru](http://www.silvertaiga.ru) maintenance;
- Participation in the implementation of other objectives when required.

**Cooperating organizations:**

- Academy of State Service and Administration;
- Association of the territorial self-government bodies of the Komi Republic;
- Ministry of Natural Resources;
- Pedagogical college;
- Syktyvkar State University;
- Syktyvkar Forest Institute;
- Youth Committee (Ministry of Education).