



Silver Taiga Foundation Progress report 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. 6
3. Model River Mezen – cooperation with local communities (V.Semyashkina, N. Shuktomov).....	p. 9
4. Model River Mezen – restoration of fish resources (N. Shuktomov, V.Semyashkina).....	p. 13
5. Evaluation of the long-term impact of forestry (logging) on water resource (Yu. Pautov).....	p. 16
6. Development of regional risk assessment for FSC controlled wood in the Komi Republic (E. Popova, V.Semyashkina).....	p. 18
7. Consultations and training (Yu. Pautov).....	p. 18

Supplementary activity (in case additional financing is involved)

8. Regional program of the Komi Model Forest development in the Komi Republic for 2013 – 2015. In case the funding is available (Yu. Pautov).....	p.19
9. Forest communities and use of natural resources. Cooperation between forest communities and large forest business (V. Semyashkina).....	p.20
10. Initiation of volunteer movement (A.Mikheeva).....	p.21
11. Support of the FSC certification in Russia (Yu. Pautov)	p.22

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.
- 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.

Other districts

- 1.1.5. 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.
- 1.1.6. Coordination of the activity of the Komi Regional FSC Controlled Wood Risk Assessment Working Group (jointly with FSC Russia office).
- 1.1.7. Participation in activity of the Priority Investment Committee of the Komi Republic Ministry of Industrial Development and Transport.

Main achievements of the subproject “Contribution to establishment of Protected Areas on the basis of pristine forests” in 2014 include:

- 1) An inclusion of the new complex regional reserves, based on the Cores of the Karpogory, Pyssa, and Verkhne-Vashka massifs of pristine forests in the Udora district on the border between the Komi Republic and Arkhangelsk region, suggested by the Silver Taiga Foundation, in the SPNA (Specially Protected Natural Areas) Strategic development plan for the time period up to 2030.
- 2) A successful resolution of the conflict over the felling in the Core of the Verkhne-Vashka massif of pristine forests (intact forest landscape IFL), signing of the Agreement on preserving high conservation value forests (HCVF) in the forestry fund leased by LLC "Lesozavod №1", and coordination of a new configuration of the Verkhne-Vashka IFL Core with all stakeholders.
- 3) A successful completion of the development of the Komi regional risk assessment for FSC controlled wood (jointly with FSC office in Russia), its harmonization and inclusion in the National risk assessment and approval of a new version of the National risk assessment for FSC controlled wood in FSC International Policies and Standards Unit.

Detailed results:

Koygorodok district

- 1.1.1. Coordination of the procedure on the inclusion of compartments 13-16, 29-32, 44-48,59-64, 83-88, 107-112, 147-153, 188-197 from OJSC “Mayskles” lease into the territory reserved for Koygorodsky National Park creation with the Department of state policy and regulation in the field of environment (V.B. Stepanitsky) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation.**

2014 saw a series of meetings and consultations with the representatives of the stakeholders at the regional and federal level, devoted to an assessment of the possibility and procedure on the withdrawal of the "moratorium compartments" from OJSC "Mayskles" lease in the Letka district forestry unit for the state needs and their further inclusion into the territory of the Koygorodsky National Park, planned to be established in 2016. Negotiations have been conducted with the following parties:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the RF (Head of the Department of State policy and regulation in the field of environment V.B. Stepanitsky),
- WWF Russia (Head of the Biodiversity Program V. Krever),
- Forest Committee of the Komi Republic (Head of the department of forest management organization A.S. Navalikhin),

- Nurgush-Tulashor Reserve in the Kirov region (Director E.M. Tarasova),
- OJSC "Mayskles" (Head of Production Technology Department D. Pentegov),
- LLC "Forest certification" (Director of certification programs A.M. Savulidi).

Over the past 2014, the situation related to the inclusion of the part of the leased compartments of OJSC "Mayskles" into the territory reserved for the Koygorodsky National Park has not changed significantly:

- Currently, the indicated territory is leased by OJSC "Mayskles", which has concluded a *moratorium agreement* with GREENPEACE Russia and Silver Taiga Foundation on *non-performance of harvesting operations* during the FSC certificate validity period until March 1, 2017. *The moratorium has been observed and monitored* during annual audits conducted by the certification body LLC "Forest certification".
- Under the current legislation, *OJSC "Mayskles" can waive only the entire lease area*, included in the tender, *but not its part*, as required in this case. *The company management has confirmed again that it is unacceptable for them.*
- A partial withdrawal of the area leased by OJSC "Mayskles" is possible *"for state needs to establish a new SPNA of federal subordination"*. *This procedure should be carried out both at the regional (renewal of the lease agreement) and federal levels (establishment of a new SPNA as a legal entity), which should be done by different authorities.*
- The handed over territory should be *simultaneously reclassified from one category (commercial forests) into another (land within SPNA).*
- *A legal entity to which an indicated territory - in this case a newly established Koygorodsky National Park - will be handed over should be defined.*

On the basis of consultations with the Head of the Department of state policy and regulation in the field of environment V.B. Stepanitsky in December 2014, the following conclusions have been made:

- under the current legal framework in the field of regulation of forest relations and establishment of SPNA of federal subordination, *legal withdrawal of a part of the territory from OJSC "Mayskles" lease* and its attachment to the territory, reserved for establishment of the Koygorodsky National Park *is impossible*, despite the fact that almost all interested parties agree on the usefulness of such attachment.
- It is advisable to wait for the beginning of an official design procedure of the Koygorodsky National Park, planned to be established in 2016.
- Usually, it is the Research Institute for Nature Protection, subordinated to the Ministry of Natural Resources of RF, which is involved as an authorized state project organization on establishment of a new national-level SPNA. However, other interested organizations, including WWF Russia and Silver Taiga Foundation can also get involved.
- At the moment, Koygorodsky National Park design and creation is not a priority issue for the Department of state policy and regulation in the field of environment of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the RF, they have more pressing and problematic territories.
- If the environmental NGOs or the Government of the Komi Republic are interested in a speedy establishment of the Koygorodsky National Park, they can provide funding to conduct the design and survey works and, upon consultation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the RF, start the design of the National Park in accordance with the existing norms and procedures.

On the basis of the above considerations, it is suggested *not to initiate a reclassification of the forest areas, located on the territory of OJSC "Mayskles" lease in compartments № 13-16, 29-32, 44-48, 59-64, 83-88, 107-112, 147-153, 188-197 of the Letka district forestry unit, from the category "commercial forests" into the category "land within SPNA" and their attachment to the territory of the designed Koygorodsky National Park*, but revisit this issue during the National Park design process.

1.1.2. The laying and description of an environmental route on the landscape dynamics of the south taiga low-disturbed forests in the designed Koygorodsky National Park for the forestry specialists, students and teachers of forest universities.

A new demonstration route on the landscape dynamics of the south taiga forests (Sedka route) is laid on the territory of the Noshul district forestry unit of the Priluzje forestry unit.

The route includes 7 demonstration points, characterizing a natural forest dynamics on various landscape types from the Luza river floodplain to its watershed - the Sedka river source on the boarder of the designed Koygorodsky National Park. The main part of the route is laid along the Noshul forest haulage road in the lease base of OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar". The total length of the route is 46 km, for its demonstration in dry season a bus is required, and in spring and autumn - a four wheel drive off-road vehicle of a UAZ type is needed. The new demonstration route is mainly designed for the forestry specialists, students, postgraduates, and teachers of environmental and forest disciplines.

Udora district

1.1.3. Coordination of a new configuration of the Core of the Verkhne-Vashka massif of large IFL and reservation of its territory for establishment of the regional complex reserves in the Komi Republic and Arkhangelsk region with the interested parties.

On November 23, 2013 an **Agreement on conservation of high conservation value forests (HCVF) in the leased forest fund of LLC "Lesozavod №1"** was signed between the management of LLC Lesozavod №1, Silver Taiga Foundation, and Arkhangelsk branch of WWF Russia. According to this Agreement, in the lease base of LLC

Lesozavod №1, within the boundaries of the previously agreed Core of the Verkhne-Vashka IFL, a strict protection zone - A, an industrial forest exploitation zone - B, and a buffer zone - C are defined (see an attached sketch map). After the consultations with the key stakeholders: GREENPEACE Russia (A.Yu. Yaroshenko), WWF Russia (K. Kobayakov, A. Shchegolev), and Arkhangelsk environmental initiative (A. Stolpovsky) it was decided not to change the previously agreed boundaries of the Core of the Verkhne-Vashka IFL, because of the following factors: first, they are already agreed with the key leaseholders of the Verkhne-Vashka massif, second, based on these agreed Core boundaries, a feasibility study and design of the new SPNA, both in the Arkhangelsk region and Komi Republic are made, third, the industrial forest exploitation zone (B) leased by LLC Lesozavod №1 only slightly changes the massif configuration and does not require any additional alignment with other leaseholders of the massif.

1.1.4. Coordination of the proposals on the establishment of the regional reserves on the territory of the Komi Republic and Arkhangelsk region within the boundaries of the agreed Core of the Karpogory massif of large IFL with the interested parties.

Based on the SPNA inventory, conducted in the Komi Republic in 2008-2013, in 2014 UNDP-GEF project prepared a *Strategic plan for development of the system of Specially Protected Natural Areas of the Komi Republic for the period up to 2030*, which is already approved as recommendations by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Komi Republic. In 2011 the Silver Taiga Foundation took part in the SPNA inventory in the Udora district and prepared a feasibility study for the establishment of the new SPNA on the basis of the central parts (Cores) of the preserved Pyssa, Karpogory, and Verkhne-Vashka IFL.

The Silver Taiga Foundation proposals on creation of the regional reserves are included in this Strategic plan for development of the system of Specially Protected Natural Areas of the Komi Republic (Annex 3, A list of planned specially protected natural areas), according to which:

- **Karpogory Complex Reserve** within the boundaries of the agreed Core of the Karpogory IFL on the territory of the Komi Republic is planned to be established in the period from 2020 to 2025,
- **Complex Reserve “Watershed of the rivers Pyssa and Sodzim”** within the boundaries of the agreed Core of the Pyssa IFL on the territory of the Komi Republic is planned to be established in the period from 2020 to 2025,
- **Vashka Complex Reserve** within the boundaries of the agreed Core of the Verkhne-Vashka IFL on the territory of the Komi Republic - in the period from 2025 to 2030.

Thus, another step towards the acknowledgement of the high conservation value of the above-mentioned massifs of pristine forests and reservation of the least fragmented areas of their territory for creation of SPNA has been taken.

In 2014, consultations with WWF branch in Arkhangelsk (Head of the office A. Shchegolev) and Arkhangelsk Environmental Initiative (A. Stolpovsky) regarding a reservation of the border IFL were held.

On the Verkhne-Vashka IFL in the Arkhangelsk region a design of two new reserves, directly adjoining the border of the Komi Republic has already been started.

An agreement with the leaseholder concerning the moratorium imposed on the logging on the border of the Arkhangelsk region and Komi Republic in the area of the Korabelnaya Roshya (Ship thicket) Reserve joining the boundary has been reached. The target is to extend this reserve to the territory of the Arkhangelsk region.

1.1.5. Monitoring of the lend-lease and development of the massifs and fragments of pristine forests based on the ERS (earth remote sensing) data for Knyazhpogost, Ust-Vym, Ukhta, Sosnogorsk, Vuktyl, and Troitsko-Pechorsk districts within the framework of the preparation and carrying out of the voluntary forest certification for the Komi Republic companies.

The monitoring of HCVF of the second category – “Low-disturbed forests”, based on the ERS materials (LANDSAT-8 space images), has been conducted on the lease areas of the companies – holders of FSC certificates in the Komi Republic: OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”, Ilim Group – branch in Koryazhma, OJSC “Karpogoryles”, OJSC “Sevlespil”, LLC “Luzales”, OJSC “Mayskles”, at the request of the certification bodies NEPCON, Bureau Veritas, Forest certification, as well as the companies having reported about their preparation for the certification according to FSC system: OJSC “PechoroEnergoResurs” in the Troitsko-Pechorsk district of the Komi Republic and LLC “Lesozavod №1” in the Udora district of the Komi Republic. No serious violations in terms of observance of the regime for the allocated HCVF by the enumerated certificate holders in the Komi Republic have been detected.

1.1.6. Coordination of the activity of the Working group on the development of the Komi regional risk assessment for FSC controlled wood (jointly with FSC Office in Russia).

In 2014, the final elaboration of the Komi regional risk assessment for FSC controlled wood (jointly with FSC Office in Russia) was completed. Two meetings of the Working group were carried out in January and March 2014. There the Komi regional risk assessment was approved at the level of separate forestry units. Thereafter, the agreed risk assessment was forwarded to all stakeholders in the Komi Republic for information and comments, and then – to the Technical Committee of FSC Russia for coordination and approval as an annex to the National risk assessment.

After clarifications and editorial correction at the Technical Committee of FSC Russia, Komi regional risk assessment was finally approved by the members of the Working group in Komi and adopted by a majority of vote (via e-mail).

At the end of October, Komi regional risk assessment for FSC controlled wood was forwarded for approval to the FSC International Policies and Standards Unit in the framework of the updated version of the National risk assessment.

1.1.7. Participation in the work of the Committee on priority investment projects at the Ministry of Industrial Development and Transport of the Komi Republic.

In 2014, the Foundation Director Yury Pautov took part in two meetings of the Committee on priority investment projects at the Ministry of Industrial Development and Transport of the Komi Republic, where reports on the implementation and current status of six projects in the Komi Republic, including the issues related to the certification of the forest management on the lease areas of OJSC “PechoroEnergoResurs” and LLC “Azimut” in the Troutsko-Pechorsk and Vuktyl districts of the Komi Republic, were considered.

Additionally

- Participation in the BPAN project Working meeting in Finland devoted to harmonization of the strategy and priorities of collaboration in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region in the field of conservation of the intact forest massifs (Intact Forest Landscapes) (Yu.A. Pautov – June 2014).
- Participation in the Meeting of the SPNA Working group held in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Komi Republic. Discussion of the SPNA Development Strategy in the Komi Republic for the period up to 2030 – Syktyvkar – August 2014.
- Participation in the BEAR Working group meeting on nature protection held in Syktyvkar – September 29-30, 2014.

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 Industrial Development and Transport 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).

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).
- 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.
- 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.

Main achievements of the subproject “Ecosystem and landscape background for forestry and FSC planning” in 2014 include:

- 1) Development and alignment of an educational course on landscape-ecological planning of forest use with account of the FSC certification requirements for the employees of the logging organizations and contractor companies of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”.
- 2) Selection, description, and preparation of the demonstration objects for the educational course on landscape-ecological planning of forest use in the Komi Model Forest.
- 3) Holding of three educational field courses on landscape-ecological planning of forest use with account of the FSC certification requirements for the employees of the logging organizations and contractor companies of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”.
- 4) Organization and conducting of the Calibration field seminar on criteria 5.6, 6.2, 6.3 of the Russian national FSC standard for the certification bodies in Russia jointly with FSC Russia and accreditation organization ASI.

Detailed results:

2.1. Preparation and creation of the GIS layers for pilot watersheds №1 (the Sedka river, Priluzje district, Noshul district forestry unit) and №2 (the Yn river, Ust-Kulom district, Smolyanka district forestry unit).

2014 saw the continuation of the works on creation of the GIS layers for pilot watersheds №1 - the Sedka river watershed and №2 - the Yn river watershed, based on the ERS data, forest management documentation, topographic maps at various scales, field observations of the following things:

- a relief of the territory, including the ERS data of various special resolution;
- existing, constructed, and designed road network;
- a hydrological network of the river Sedka and river Yn watersheds;
- a natural forest dynamics by succession types and stages;
- watercourses, key wetlands (swamps, boggy or over moistened areas, hollows, dishes, and other topographic lows), important for conservation of the water resources.
- areas with over moistened forest soils sensitive to logging works in spring and autumn periods;
- areas located on the steep slopes, which are quite water-erosion sensitive after logging works.

The main source of the up-to-date information for the GIS layers were archive and up-to-date LANDSAT space images, including the ones made during different seasons, forest management materials, and expeditions survey data.

2.2. Allocation of an “ecological framework” of the pilot watersheds

A GIS layer “ecological framework” of the territory, based on the preserved and agreed with the leaseholder of the forest fund (OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”) pristine forest areas, linked with the water protective and spawning protective zones along the rivers Sedka and Yn, and also along their tributaries - rivers and streams – into a common ecological network has been prepared for both pilot watersheds. In order to update an ecological framework of the pilot watersheds, the LANDSAT-8 space images made in May during the time of the maximum spring flood have been used, which was done for the rivers, streams and temporary watercourses flood plain delineation.

2.3. Identification and allocation of the “social HCVF” on the territories of the pilot watersheds and their approval by the leaseholders of the forest fund.

The following territories, located on pilot area №1 (the Sedka river watershed) on the Mondi Syktyvkar lease area are suggested for allocation as “social HCVF”:

- The territory of the village Kol-Vozh abandoned in 1950-s (compartment 104 of the Noshul district forestry unit) with an adjacent cemetery and an old horse road leading from the village Kol-Vozh along the Suran river to the village Verkhnyaya Kobra abandoned in 1960-s. The major part of this old horse road is the border of the water protection zone of the Suran river, and, consequently, the border of the future designed Koygorodsky National Park. Therefore, it is proposed to protect it from logging.
- An old but visited cemetery in the northern part of compartment 33 of the Noshul district forestry unit in the vicinity of the former settlement Srednyaya Sedka (coordinates N 60° 07' 17, 84", E 49° 43' 39,46").

As for not leased compartments, it is suggested to classify the territory of the Verkhnyaya Sedka settlement with the preserved visited cemetery in compartment 58 of the Noshul district forestry unit as “social HCVF”.

On pilot area №2 (the Yn river watershed), on the Mondi Syktyvkar lease area, it is proposed to allocate a fragment of an old Catherine tract, represented by a well-preserved part of a horse road, which connected the city of Cherdyn of the Perm province and the villages Pomozdino and Ust-Kulom of the Ust-Sysolsk district of the Vologda province in XVIII-XIX, as the “social HCVF”. This part of the Catherine tract directly adjoins the area of HCVF in compartments 125–126, 160–161 of the Smolyanka district forestry unit at the source of the Yn river, voluntarily preserved by OJSC Mondi Syktyvkar, and bears a cognitive and historical-cultural significance,.

2.4. Assessment of the conducted and planned logging and forest management of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” on the pilot areas on conformity to the FSC certification requirements (jointly with the Wood supply department of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” and LLC “Tekhkarta”).

2014 witnessed several meetings with GIS specialists of the Wood supply department of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”, aimed at the update of the ecological HCVF leased by the mill and clarification of the preliminary logging sites allocation plan within the boundaries of the pilot areas.

In April 2014 a meeting with the Wood supply department of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” on inclusion of the certification requirements in the procedures of the wood supply long-term and short-term planning at OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” was held. It was established at the meeting that a long-term planning period is equal to 5-6 years and it’s primarily determined by the haulage roads construction and maintenance plan.

Another step of the planning is a preliminary placement of the logging sites, adjacent to the haulage roads with account of the wood supply bucking program and limitations imposed by the current Timber Harvesting Regulations (harvest areas and cutting cycles, location of the water protective zones, etc).

The next stage is clarification of the planned logging sites location, considering the existing regional and local SPNA, HCVF, and other restrictions. The clarification is conducted based on OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” own corporate GIS and database, using space imaging data, mainly LANDSAT images. This is followed by the development of a list of works to be performed for allocation of logging sites, which is submitted to contractors involved on a competitive basis.

A short-term planning of the wood supply takes place at the stage of logging sites allocation and it is carried out 1-3 years prior to the felling. The logging sites allocation includes identification and highlighting of the Key biotopes and Key forest elements, consideration of the area landscape peculiarities, determination of the type of natural forest dynamics, logging site development process chart, method of forest restoration after felling, and other ecological requirements. Thus, the main load, in terms of compliance to the FSC certification requirements during the forest use planning, falls on the logging sites allocation stage. Therefore, eventually the correctness of meeting these requirements during the logging depends on the qualification of allocators, their knowledge and understanding of the National FSC standard requirements.

In our opinion, part of the preparatory work on fulfillment of the certification ecological requirements (identification of the permanent and temporary watercourses, typical key biotopes, landscape peculiarities, and land topography, partially – identification of the types of natural forest dynamics) can be performed at the stage of preliminary wood supply planning during the space images and forest management materials analysis.

In general, the forest use planning system of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” is quite logical for provision of the wood supply to the mill. But in our view, in terms of meeting the ecological requirements of the National FSC standard, it has the following major gaps:

- An insufficient interaction between the road construction and wood supply departments at the stage of long-term planning of construction, repair, and maintenance of haulage roads.
- A low quality of the forest management materials used for the preliminary allocation of the forest sites. These materials should be supplemented by the up-to-date ERS data.
- An insufficient consideration of the landscape peculiarities, in particular, relief and watercourses location, while clarifying a preliminary logging sites placement according to the space imaging data.
- A low level of qualification of the logging sites allocators, foremen, and managers of the logging organizations and contractors of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” in terms of the National certification standard requirements.

Based on the results of the meeting, it was suggested to carry out an additional training in the field of National certification standard requirements for the personnel responsible for logging sites allocation and harvesting organization.

2.5. Based on the analysis of the introduction of “Recommendations on conservation of biodiversity during the timber harvesting in the Komi Republic” into OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” forest management in 2009-2013, the first draft of the “Recommendations on landscape-ecological planning of forest use with account of the FSC National standard requirements” in accordance with criteria 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, taken as a basis of the Field training

course on landscape-ecological planning for the staff of the logging and contractor organizations of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”, was prepared.

2.6. A Curriculum of the training course on landscape-ecological planning of forest management and forest use organization using ERS materials has been developed. It is approved by the Wood supply department of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”.

2.7. Six new demonstration objects have been selected, described, and prepared for a field training course on landscape-ecological planning of forest use in the Komi Model Forest.

2.8. In September – November 2014 three field training courses on landscape-ecological planning of forest use with account of the FSC certification requirements with further testing of the courses participants were conducted for the employees of the logging companies and contractors of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”. In total, 36 employees of the logging and contractor companies of OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar” have been trained.

2.9. In August 2014 a Calibration field seminar for FSC accredited certification bodies in Russia was organized and conducted jointly with FSC Russia and accreditation organization ASI. It was attended by the specialists of 4 certification bodies, ASI, and FSC national office.

2.10. In December 2014 a training course on landscape-ecological planning of forest use with account of the FSC certification requirements was organized and conducted for 12 employees of the logging company LLC “Lun-Vozh” having certified lease areas in the Komi Republic and Kirov region.

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;
- Lun-Vozh Ltd.
- Ministry of Natural Resources of the Komi Republic;
- Mondi Syktyvkar;
- Non-profit partnership “Transparent World” in Moscow;
- Representative of ASI in Russia;
- 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:

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

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. March 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.
- 3.7. 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. Throughout the year.
 - Participation in the republican and international sustainable development conferences with reports on river resource management problems and the project status. Throughout the year.

Main achievements of the subproject “Model River Mezen – cooperation with local communities” in 2014 include:

- 1) Provision of access of the local population to the information about the condition of the Mezen fish resources and river resources management-related problems, organization of the functioning platforms for public discussion of the problems: regular publishing of the thematic supplement to the district newspaper, conference, seminars.
- 2) Strengthening of the contacts and progress in the development of collaboration between the residents of different administrative districts of the Mezen basin, and also between the territorial resources management bodies: since 2014 the Arkhangelsk region is represented in the project Working group; the first interregional conference (March 2014) and a joint seminar on salmon monitoring (September 2014) were held; a questionnaire survey of the population of three districts aimed at the estimation of the scale of illegal salmon catching and assessment of the fish resources reduction causes has been organized.
- 3) Provision of a partner support to the activity of the local cooperative “AgroUdora” – in the advancing towards the sustainable river resources management, based on the acknowledgement of the existing problems by the local population, their joint discussion, as well as transfer of the knowledge necessary for organization of the sustainable management. Along with the local fishermen, representatives of the government entities, municipal authorities, and NGOs have been involved in the activities under this line, which attracted public attention to the problems of river resources management, interest and readiness on the part of the district administration and government entities (Agriculture and Food Directorates of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Komi Republic, FSBI “Komirybvod”, fishery supervision department, etc.) to promote the development of the sustainable use of fish resources by a legal local resident. The local fishermen, on their part, saw a perspective and an opportunity to organize the sustainable management in partnership with other interested organizations.
- 4) Involvement of the schoolchildren and youth in the practical participation in the project implementation: two successful and fruitful expeditions along the Mezen have been carried out (in addition to acquaintance with the river, history, and sights of the villages located along the Mezen, the pupils cleaned up 17 tourist camp sites and cleaned the Mezen banks in the district boundaries from rubbish).

Detailed results:

3.1. Informing the society about the fish resources-related problems and possible ways to address them. Provision of access of the local population to this information.

- 6 editions of the thematic newspaper “Model River Mezen” – supplement to the Udora district newspaper, have been prepared, issued, and distributed (3500 thousand copies of each edition).
- Information kits on the project topic have been published in the district newspapers of the Leshukonsky and Mezensky districts.
- Meetings with population with the participation of the project Working group members A. Vaneeva and V. Semyashkina and presentation of the thematic information program “Let’s preserve Salmon!” have been carried out by the volunteers propaganda team “Green troops” – meetings and performances took place in the villages Vozhgora, Koynas, Zasulye, Politovo, and Patrakovo of the Leshukonsky district of the Arkhangelsk region and Udora district of the Komi Republic.
- The informational poster “Let’s preserve Salmon!” is published and disseminated (250 copies).
- The color flip wall calendar “Mezen Tsar-fish” with photos and popular information on the Atlantic salmon is published and disseminated.
- Based on the renewed exposition “The Mezen: history of river resources management” in the National museum of the Udora district, meetings-excursions for the AgroUdora cooperative members and local amateur fishermen have been conducted jointly with the museum employees; they conduct excursions for schoolchildren on a regular basis.

3.2. Promotion of sustainable practices of river resources management among the local users, based on the acknowledgement of the existing problems by the local residents and their joint discussion.

- Two meetings of the project Working group have been conducted, issues discussed included:
 - an implementation progress of the project initiative on the establishment of the Interregional target program on conservation and reproduction of the Atlantic salmon in the Mezen river;
 - development of the recreational fishing on the Mezen (from the practical experience of the work in the Leshukonsky district of the Archangels region): advantages and disadvantages, problems, and solution approaches;
 - from the experience of the recreational fishing organization in the Ust-Kulom district of the Komi Republic: advantages and disadvantages, problems, and solution approaches;
 - holding of a conference in the Leshukonsky district of the Arkhangelsk region with participation of the Udora and Mezen districts representatives: objectives of the conference, role and participation of the project Working group;

- the Model River Mezen project implementation in 2014: activity, results, and problems. Presentation of the preliminary working plans for 2015, discussion;
- the initiative of the municipal district “Udorsky” deputies related to the situation in the upper reaches of the Mezen.
- The seminar “Sustainable management criteria. Examples of sustainable management – from the experience of other regions and countries” (participants – members of the Glotovo branch of the AgroUdora cooperative) has been conducted.
- The seminar “Experience in public control organization (devoted to the work of the public “salmon councils” of Sakhalin and Kamchatka)” has been held. The seminar has been attended by 27 people – residents of Glotovo and Koslan villages and AgroUdora cooperative members engaged in fishing on the fishing grounds of the Irva river.

3.3. Informational-methodological and organizational support of the local entrepreneurs and initiators of the development of tourism and recreational river resources management.

- Informational and methodological support of the local entrepreneurs – organizers of the rural tourism and recreational river resources use - has been provided, including:
 - organization of the participation in the educational seminars on sustainable development of rural areas at the Center of sustainable development of Syktyvkar State University (jointly with NGO “Indigenous women of the Komi Republic”);
 - provision of the support in the development and implementation of the local projects within the framework of the grants competition “Active generation” of the charity foundation “Kind city of St. Petersburg”: two “Mezen” development projects received funding in the amount of 100 thousand rubles each.
- Rural areas development and sustainable local resources management-related problems have been discussed at the annual district conference “Komi voytyr”. Specific proposals of the project Working group members on support of the AgroUdora cooperative and local initiatives on the recreational use of resources have been approved and included into a resolution at the conference. *December 2014.*

Note. A roundtable for the local entrepreneurs and tourism organizers “From the experience of tourism and recreational river resources use organization” with participation of the invited Arkhangelsk region representatives, planned for November 2014 was postponed to February 2015 at request of the participants from the districts of the Arkhangelsk region.

3.4. Development of the collaboration between the municipalities along the river Mezen (Udora district of the Komi Republic, Leshukonsky and Mezensky districts of the Arkhangelsk region).

- An interregional conference on the river resources management problems has been conducted in the Leshukonsky district of the Arkhangelsk region. It was attended by the representatives of the Udora and Mezen districts, project Working group members, and management of the regional offices of the Russian Federal Fisheries Agency. *March 2014.*
- Upon the conference decision and in the framework of cooperation with the districts of the Arkhangelsk region located near the Mezen, a questionnaire has been developed and a questionnaire survey of the population, aimed at the estimation of the scale of illegal salmon catching and assessment of the fish resources reduction causes, has been organized (526 households in the Udora, Leshukonsky, and Mezensky districts have been inquired).

3.5. Development of the public self-government and cooperation of the population living in the settlements along the Mezen river (inside the districts and between them).

- During the trip to the Leshukonsky district a meeting of the project Working group members and the chairman of the Udora office of the interregional public movement “Komi voytyr” A. Vaneeva with the local activists of the territorial public self-government (TPSG of the village Zasulye), work experience exchange, and a joint problems discussion have been organized (TPSG of the village Yolkyb and TPSG of the village Zasulye). *August 2014.*
- Territorial public self-government and local initiatives development-related issues have been also discussed at the meeting with the public activists of the Udora district, held jointly with the Komi Regional Public Movement “Indigenous women of the Komi Republic”. *December 2014.*

Note: A seminar for the rural TPSG of the Udora district (jointly with the republican territorial public self-government association (ATOS) was postponed from November 2014 to February-March 2015 due to the business of the participants (a large number of activities).

3.6. Support of the environmental outreach activity and regional history-exploration works with the schoolchildren and youth (work with schools and establishments for the supplementary education).

- A conference of teachers on the basis of the secondary school of the Glotovo village with announcement of the results of the district contest among the methodological developments of lessons or out-of-school activities on the topic “Tsar fish - Mezen salmon” (the contest has been conducted on the project initiative) has been held. *February 2014.*
- An author educational program for the pupils of 5 – 10 grades of secondary schools “Ichthyofauna of the Mezen river and its tributaries” has been developed by the Biology teacher of the Vazhgort secondary school I.A. Klishch. The program has been presented to the members of the district methodological association of Biology, Chemistry, and Ecology teachers. It is suggested for dissemination and adaptation in the village schools of the districts near the Mezen. *December 2014.*

- Three summer expeditions of schoolchildren - regional history-exploration expedition devoted to the study of the fishing camp Polyaninstan history and two ecological - on cleaning of the Mezen banks within the boundaries of the Udora district from rubbish (jointly with the Children's art house of Usogorsk and LLC "Udora necklace") have been carried out. *June – August 2014*. On the website of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Komi Republic (<http://econom.rkomi.ru>) this work is presented as the best practice of holding children expeditions.

3.8. Dissemination of the information about the project and its results

- The project implementation progress has been regularly covered on the web-site silvertaiga.ru (16 publications).
- Publications about the project in the newspapers "Komi mu", "Ecological newsletter of Pripechorye", "Krasnoye znamya "Severa" (Red banner "of the North)", "Zvezda (Star)", on the website of PINRO <http://www.pinro.ru>; on the official websites of the Udora and Leshukonsky municipal districts <http://www.udora.info>; <http://www.leshukonia.ru>; on the information portals and sites <http://koslan-musej.ucoz.ru>; <http://udora-vt.livejournal.com>; <http://finnougr.ru>, <http://siktivkar.bezformata.ru>, etc.
- Two programs (in Komi language) about the activity within the framework of the project – results of the interregional conference in the Leshukonsky district and problems related to the fish resources use by the local population - have been prepared and broadcasted over the radio "Komi gor".
- The article "Interregional cooperation is the key condition of the Mezen salmon conservation" (about the initiative to develop an interregional program of restoration and conservation of the Atlantic salmon resources in the Mezen river) has been published in the book of reports of the Interregional scientific-practical conference "The role of universities in the implementation of Russia's Arctic strategy: technological, environmental, socio-cultural aspects", held in Ukhta at the end of 2013.
- The project Working group members have taken part in the republican Komi Book Festivities in the village Bolshaya Pyssa, where information- and photo stands about the project objectives and progress have been presented for a wide audience, and also a meeting with participation of the writer P. Stolpovsky, the author of "Fishing stories" (the best book of 2014) has been organized.
Fish resources management problems and project implementation activity have been presented at the international conference of the Finno-Ugric youth "FUROR" held in the Ust-Kulom district of the Komi Republic, *December 2014*.

Cooperating organizations (in alphabetic order):

- Administrations of Bolshaya Pyssa, Chernutyevo, 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 Komirybvod);
- 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:

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

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.

Main achievements of the subproject “Model River Mezen – restoration of fish resources” in 2014 include:

- 1) Development of the cooperation with the AgroUdora cooperative - a local user having great prospects for organization of the sustainable river resources management with account of the local population interests.
 - Stocking of the fishing grounds leased by the cooperative with fish has been started – 15000 pike larvae have been released to lakes Din-ty and Krivushev-ty (jointly with FSBI “Komirybvod”).
 - Conducting of the monitoring of the commercial fish species populations condition has been prepared by the cooperative members: theoretical and practical trainings for the local residents have been held,

monitoring logs have been developed and handed over to the users. The understanding of the necessity to carry out monitoring on the part of the user has been reached.

- 2) A potential assessment of the river Irva - Mezen tributary, having the fishing grounds of the local users on its floodplain lakes, as well as an assessment of the anthropogenic impact on the river – during the review expedition in August 2014 (jointly with the AgroUdora cooperative).
- 3) Conducting of a questionnaire survey of the population aimed at the estimation of the scale of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing on the Mezen river. This work will result in getting the sociologically reliable data on the scale of IUU fishing, which is important for taking managerial decisions and sustainable resource management, and also for adjustment of the project implementation activity when needed.
- 4) Continuation of the salmon spawning quality and conditions monitoring, with a preliminary preparation of monitoring participants and involvement of experts both from academic and applied science (Institute of Biology of the Komi Scientific Center of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Syktyvkar; SevPINRO, Arkhangelsk). Currently, the information about the spawning quality and conditions for the last 4 years is accumulated. In addition to the monitoring on the spawning grounds, for the first time in many years, the Northern branch of PINRO started the monitoring of the salmon downstream migrants (smolts) – thanks to the project initiative and with the support of the Arkhangelsk region government. Combination of different monitoring methods, provided that it will be continued in the following years, will give a more objective overview of the salmon population condition in the Mezen river.

Detailed results:

4.1. To support the development and start of implementation of the interregional target program on conservation and reproduction of salmon in the river Mezen, initiated by the project (hereinafter referred to as the Program):

- Meetings and negotiations with the partners have been carried out.
 - At the meeting of the project Working group in February 2014 the progress of the initiative on the Interregional program creation was considered, the interregional group members were clarified, the problems were defined, and their possible solutions were discussed.
 - At the meeting of the interregional Working group in June 2014 the proposals for the content of the key sections of the Interregional target program on conservation and reproduction of Atlantic salmon in the river Mezen were discussed, individuals responsible for the detail development of the sections and development timeframes (of the first draft) were determined.
 - The Northern branch of PINRO started the monitoring of the salmon downstream migrants (smolts) – the fish inventories have been checked in the Leshukonsky district of the Arkhangelsk region (after the Vashka falling into the Mezen). The work has been done with the financial support of the Arkhangelsk region government.
- Note: In view of the numerous structural and personnel changes in the partner organizations (Ministries of the Komi Republic and regional structures of the Russian Federal Fisheries Agency), the development of the Interregional program on salmon restoration has not been completed in 2014, its finalization was shifted to 2015.

4.4. To carry out seminars for the interested parties:

- The seminar “Experience in the monitoring of the Atlantic salmon in the Komi rivers” has been conducted. The goal of the seminar: strengthening of the skills and capacities of the specialists, participants of the monitoring expeditions and other activities carried out in the frameworks of the project, exchange of experience. Experts – representatives of both academic and applied science (Institute of Biology of the Komi Scientific Center of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences and PINRO) have been involved in the seminar. SevPINRO specialists from Arkhangelsk have taken part in the work of the seminar remotely.
- Two seminars on the topic “Monitoring of the fish population condition in the Irva river” and practical trainings on the leased areas with the AgroUdora cooperative members have been arranged. Monitoring logs have been developed and submitted to the fishermen.

4.5. To carry out field expeditions aimed at monitoring of the reproductive part of the salmon population:

- In cooperation with FSBI “Komirybvod” and Department of State control, supervision and protection of water biological resources of the Komi Republic, the local population conducted the expeditions and monitoring in the upper reaches of the Mezen and on the spawning tributaries Upper and Lowe Pyssa. The volumes of the salmon population reproduction on the spawning grounds have been evaluated and the poaching situation on the surveyed areas has been analyzed. The main conclusions:
 - monitoring has been carried out on all areas according to the uniform methodology;
 - 61 “hills”, 16 “pits”, and 5 full-grown Salmon fish were detected;
 - in spite of the conducted poaching prevention activities, its level does not go down
 - for more objective and detailed conclusions a long-term monitoring, covering the full lifecycle of salmon is required (5-6 years);
 - there is a problem related to the lack of qualified specialists able to carry out such type of monitoring, as well as insufficient technical equipment.
- The prospects for cooperation with the Republican Center of Protected Areas and Nature Management at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Komi Republic concerning the arrangement of the monitoring and participation of the Center employees in the project implementation activities, including a provision of specialists for carrying out the activities and informational support, have been discussed.
- Informational support of FSBI “Komirybvod” has been provided: the data of the annual salmon monitoring has been prepared and submitted.

4.6. To conduct a survey aimed at the estimation of the scale of illegal salmon catching in the districts near the Mezen:

In order to estimate the unregulated, uncontrolled, and illegal catching, a sociological survey of 526 residents of the Leshukonsky and Mezensky municipal districts of the Arkhangelsk region and Udora district of the Komi Republic has been held. The questionnaire is developed with account of the recommendations of the sociologist T.S. Lytkina (Institute of Economic and Social Problems in the North of the Komi Scientific Center of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences). The processing of the obtained data and their further analysis by the specialists is ongoing.

4.8. To conduct a review expedition along the Irva river:

- A review expedition along the Irva river, aimed at the anthropogenic load assessment, has been organized and conducted jointly with the AgroUdora cooperative. The participants: ecologist N.V. Shuktomov, hydrobiologist N.I. Shilov, chairman of the cooperative G.I. Politov. The total length of the way was 200 km, all cooperative fishing grounds have been visited, a survey of the local residents about the prevailing fish species of the catch; methods and time spent for catching have been made. A high economic and recreational-tourist potential of this territory – both the river and the adjacent lakes – has been noted. Fish resources, game, wild crops – mushrooms and berries, and pure water are preserved in a relatively complete volume. As for the infrastructure necessary for the area development, a special mention should go to the availability of houses suitable for living, banyas (Russian saunas), ice cellars, and hunting huts. However, a number of challenges should also be noted. The main ones are an increasing uncontrolled anthropogenic load on the ecosystem on the part of the “wild tourism” and nature-related problems: overgrowing and waterlogging of the banks, river bed and almost all lakes, accumulation of decaying organics on the lakes bed, poisonous gases emission, fish kill phenomena, presence of old piles on the river and formation of the new ones.

4.9. To support the protective activities of the Inspectorate for Fisheries and FSBI “Komirybvod” and the users activities on the restoration of nonmigratory fish species:

- Financial support of the Udora branch of FSBI “Komirybvod” in the organization of the grayling experimental reproduction on the temporary fish breeding station in the upper reaches of the Mezen river: purchase of the food products for the field trips participants; information support have been provided.
- Information support of the Udora department of state control, supervision and protection of water biological resources in the organization of the salmon spawning grounds protection in the upper reaches of the Mezen has been given.
- In May 2014 a pilot release of juvenile pike in the amount of 15000 fish to the lakes Din-ty and Krivushev-ty has been done. An agreement with the participants, FSBI “Komirybvod”, and AgroUdora cooperative on the continuation of the joint implementation of this initiative in subsequent years has been reached.
- A regular informational, advisory, and organizational support of the local user – AgroUdora cooperative, has been given within the project framework.
- An outboard motor “Yamaha 9.9” and a wooden boat manufactured by the local craftsman specially for the Mezen basin conditions have been purchased for implementation of the practical project activities on the river.

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).

Planned activity:

- 5.1. 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).
- 5.2. 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).
- 5.3. 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).
- 5.4. Collection and systematization of reporting, historical, scientific data on pilot rivers and watercourses hydrologic regime dynamics (throughout the year).
- 5.5. Collection and systematization of LANDSAT images of pilot rivers' catchment areas for the period from 1975 to 2014 (February – June 2014).
- 5.6. 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).
- 5.7. Selection and justification of rapid environmental assessment methods for aquatic and biological resources in pilot rivers (watercourses) (March 2014).
- 5.8. Expeditions for testing rapid environmental assessment on pilot rivers and small watercourses (July – September 2014).
- 5.9. 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).

Main achievements of the subproject “Evaluation of the long-term impact of logging on water resources” in 2014 include:

- 1) The analysis of the domestic and foreign scientific literature on the forestry and logging impact on the rivers and watersheds hydrological regime, based on which a corresponding Analytical review, placed on the Silver Taiga Foundation website (www.silvertaiga.ru) for interested users, has been developed.
- 2) Selection of the “pilot” medium-size rivers – the rivers Mezen and Vychegda in the upper reaches, as well as the small rivers – in the Mezen basin (the rivers Lower Puzla, Maly Irych, Irych, Purzin, Lupt), and in the basin of the river Vychegda (the rivers Voyvozh, Pomes, Cher Vychegodskaya, Yagcher, Pozheg), for which the watershed areas, clear felling areas per decades, starting from 1975, have been defined.
- 3) Carrying out of a reconnaissance survey of the “pilot” rivers with sampling for the ecological rapid assessment of the logging influence on the condition of water and biological resources. A feasibility assessment of the accessible methods for analysis of the surface waters and biological resources. It is suggested to use a bioindication method, based on the analysis of the zoobenthos using Index of Parele for assessment of the long-term impact of logging on water biological resources condition.
- 4) Carrying out of the analysis of the flood and low run-off parameters change in the river Mezen on two permanent hydrological stations for the period from 1950 to 2013 jointly with FSBI “Center for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring of the Komi Republic”.

Detailed results:

- 5.1. An analysis of the domestic and foreign scientific literature on the forestry and logging impact on the rivers and watersheds hydrological regime has been conducted. It is shown that the forest felling makes the most noticeable impact on an increase of the flood volume, whereas a low flow decreases or fully stops on the small forest rivers (Rakhmanov, 1981). Foremost, logging influences the change of the seasonal run-off structure. A deforestation of large forest areas leads to a water flow redistribution through an increase of the surface component and, consequently, a share of a spring run-off (Burenina, 2004). A destruction of the crown cover catching up to 40% of precipitation predetermines a much higher moisture supply to the soil surface. In conjunction with the debris layer disturbance and worsening of the soil hydrophysical properties it causes a heavy increase of the overland run-off both in the snowmelt period and during the heavy rains. Logging of 10–50 % of forests on the watersheds results in a surface run-off increase by 10–20 %, whereas a deep ground water run-off reduces by the same amount (Kvindesland, 2007). An analysis of the materials of the long-term researches in the Upper Volga basin has shown that the logging on the large areas using a tractor skidding resulted in an increase of an annual run-off module up to 30% (liters/sec from 1 km² of watershed) and silt (t/km²) (Mukhamedshin and others, 2003). A more detailed analysis of the scientific investigations on this topic can be found in the attached “Analytical review...”
- 5.2. Based on the analysis of various information sources, it has been suggested to choose the rivers Mezen and Vychegda in the upper reaches (to the mouth of the Lekchim river) as the “pilot” rivers for the project. Availability of the long-term observation materials at the Hydrological stations of the Hydrometeorological Service and different forest use history on the watersheds were the main criteria for selection of these rivers as the pilot ones.
- 5.3. In the basin of every “pilot” medium-size river small “pilot” rivers have also been selected. In this case the main selection criterion was a different degree of disturbance of the small rivers watersheds by the clear fellings. In the Mezen river basin these are the rivers Lower Puzla, Maly Irych, Irych, Purzin, and Lupt. The differences in the degree of disturbance of the watersheds of these rivers by the clear fellings are from 0 to 75%. In the Upper Vychegda basin the rivers Voyvozh, Pomes, Cher Vychegodskaya, Yagcher, and Pozheg have been selected. The differences in the degree of disturbance of the watersheds of these rivers by the clear fellings are from 0 to 50%.

- 5.4. Scientific data and reports from the archive of the Komi scientific center and other science and design institutes and organizations have been analyzed for all “pilot” rivers and “pilot” watersheds. Unfortunately, biological exploration degree of the Komi Republic rivers remains insufficient, most of the published scientific data is descriptive. Permanent monitoring researches have not been conducted on the “pilot” rivers. The summary estimated hydrological data from the permanent hydrological stations of the Meteorological Service contained in the annual Hydrometeorological Service collections do not allow assessing of the rivers flow intraseasonal changes. The detail measurement materials of the Meteorological Service hydrological stations are available only on a paid basis.
- 5.5. The length of all “pilot” rivers has been defined and the watershed areas have been calculated using GIS methods. Using the LANDSAT images archive, clear cutting areas have been defined by decades, starting from 1985, for every pilot watershed. The earlier LANDSAT images have a lower resolution and do not allow to reliably identify the medium-size clear cuttings, therefore, for the period from 1975-1985 CORONA images have been used for the Mezen river basin.
- 5.6. Based on the analysis of the LANDSAT space images, an assessment of the watersheds area disturbance speed by the logging of different years (by 10-year periods 1975-1985-1995-2005-2015) has been carried out for the “pilot” rivers in the Mezen river basin. It is planned to match the obtained data with the change of the hydrological parameters of the river Mezen on the hydrological stations Makaryb (Upper Mezen) and Upper Pyssa (Middle Mezen). The data processing is ongoing.
- 5.7. Different methods of physical, chemical, and biological surface waters condition control have been evaluated for selection and justification of the methods of rapid ecological assessment of water and biological resourced condition in the “pilot” rivers. Physical indicators of the surface waters quality are subject to significant time deviation and depend heavily on the hydrological situation, which does not allow their use outside the system of the long-term monitoring. The methods of surface waters chemical control used at the production and in the environmental monitoring systems have also turned out to be hardly applicable for assessment of the long-term change of the waters and watercourses quality, because their results vary enormously over a year depending on the diverse external factors (precipitation, atmospheric temperature, confinement of the watercourse to the certain landscape-geological conditions, etc.). Based on the consultations with the specialists of the Institute of Biology of the Komi Scientific Center of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the methods of bioindication of the condition of the water objects with the basins subject to logging, as well as the perspective groups of bioindicators have been selected.
- 5.8. For a test rapid ecologic assessment of the “pilot” rivers, expeditions devoted to the evaluation of the physical (flow speed, turbidity) and chemical (permanganate value, NO_3^{2-} and PO_4^{3-} ions concentration) characteristics of the watercourses surface waters were organized in July – August 2014. The analysis of the obtained materials has shown that the given characteristics do not reliably change, in spite of different logging areas in the rivers basins, as well as their age. For bioindication in the “pilot” rivers 19 benthos samples, which were later distributed into groups and analyzed considering the surface water quality assessment indexes commonly used in bioindication, were selected during the expedition works. The used indexes have not shown any obvious impact of the large-scale logging on the benthos in the basins of the surveyed rivers. The water of all surveyed rivers is estimated as pure, a contamination degree cannot be determined reliably. In view of insufficiency of quantitative data on the surveyed watercourses no unified picture of the ecosystem condition has been received. However, rapid changes occasionally observed in the structure of the dominant benthos groups and quantitative indicators of its development on the biotopes located close to each other are indicative of the existing violations in the benthic biocenosis. The conducted research was of a reconnaissance type and it is suggested to carry out a more detailed research with more samples on a smaller amount of watercourses in the future.

It has been decided to postpone the 2014 surveys of the local population, aimed at the assessment of the “pilot” rivers environmental characteristics (including the fish resources) change over a maximum possible time period (30-50-70 years), until getting the results of the survey on the project “Model River Mezen: restoration of fish resources” (see the corresponding section of the report).

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 FSC controlled wood in the Komi Republic (*E. Popova, V.Semyashkina*)

See section 1.1.6. of the report

7. Consultations and educational seminars (*Yu. Pautov*)

Objectives:

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

Planned activity:

- 7.1.1. Consultations on FSC certification and other issues related to the sustainable forest management for logging companies, Forest Service, and audit companies (on request).
- 7.2.1. Organization and holding of a field seminar on natural forest dynamics and biological diversity of the taiga forests for the State Forest Service of Latvia in the Pechoro-Ilych Reserve (on request)
- 7.2.2. Organization and holding of introduction courses for the students of the Syktyvkar Forest Institute (SFI) on the topic: "History of the forest use in the Komi Republic. Natural forest dynamics and biodiversity of the taiga forests" in the Komi Model Forest (on SFI request).
- 7.2.3. Organization and holding of a field seminar on natural forest dynamics and biological diversity of the taiga forests for the sustainable forest management and certification department of OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar" in the Pechoro-Ilych Reserve (on request)
- 7.2.4. Organization and holding of a field seminar on forestry intensification for the specialists of the Forest Service of the Komi Republic in the Komi Model Forest (on request of the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic)
- 7.2.5. Creation of new demonstration facilities on intensive forestry in the Komi Model Forest (on request of the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic)
- 7.2.6. Other seminars on request.

Main achievements

- Consultations on the observance of the national certification standard requirements by the companies in the Komi Republic for the auditors of the certification bodies NEPCON, Bureau Veritas, and Forest Certification (in total, 5 meetings with the auditors) – throughout the year
- Participation in the International Independent Commission set up to investigate the complaint of OJSC "Svedwood Karelia" addressed to the audit company "NEPCON" about the suspension of the forest management and chain of custody certificate validity, based on the results of an additional control audit with ASI participation (Yu. Pautov) – February 2014
- Organization and conducting of an educational seminar "FSC certification in the Komi Republic: socio-economic aspects" for the interested representatives of the forest business and municipalities of the Komi Republic on request of the Ministry of Industry of the Komi Republic and Ministry of Economic Development of the Komi Republic (jointly with OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar" and LLC "Tekhkarta") – November 2014
- Organization and conducting of an educational course on the forest use landscape ecological planning with account of the FSC certification requirements for LLC "Lun-Vozh" having certified lease areas in the Komi Republic and Kirov region.
- Organization of a field excursion on the taiga forests natural dynamics for a group from the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry on the demonstration routes of the Komi Model Forest (Jointly with the International Relations Department of the Syktyvkar Forest Institute) – May 2014
- Organization of 8 field excursions for the first-year students of the Syktyvkar Forest Institute (specialty introductory course) on the demonstration routes of the Komi Model Forest (jointly with the SFI) – September 2014.

Planned and preapproved educational courses and seminars on natural forest dynamics and biological diversity of taiga forests for:

- the State Forest Service of Latvia in the Pechoro-Ilych Reserve (on request) and
 - the sustainable forest management and certification department of OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar" in the Pechoro-Ilych Reserve
- were cancelled by the customers at the last moment for reasons beyond the control of the Silver Taiga Foundation.

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

Supplementary activity (in case additional financing is involved)

8. Regional program of the Komi Model Forest development in the Komi Republic for 2013 – 2015 (Yu. Pautov)

Objectives for 2014:

- 8.1. Economic justification of the forestry intensification.
- 8.2. Advanced professional training of the Komi Republic forestry specialists.
- 8.3. Participation of the local population in the sustainable forest management.

Planned activity for 2014

- 8.1.1 Harmonization and approval of the Komi Model Forest plans within the framework of the Republican program “Development and implementation of model solutions on sustainable forest management in the Komi Republic” (jointly with the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic)
- 8.1.2 Development of proposals on implementation of the economically viable scenarios of intensive forestry in Komi.
- 8.1.3 Selection and laying of the test grounds and demonstration facilities on intensive forestry in the Komi Model Forest
- 8.2.1 Update of the materials and taxation data for test grounds № 1 and № 2 in the Komi Model Forest
- 8.3.1 Support of the Public Forest Council activity in the Priluzje district.
- 8.3.2 Support of regular publishing of the supplement to the district newspaper “Forest Council” and other forms of information work with the population.

All planned activity included in section **8. Regional program of the Komi Model Forest development in the Komi Republic for 2013 – 2015** has been fully suspended in view of the unexpected resignation of the Head of the Forest Committee of the Komi Republic V.M. Osipov in May 2014, followed by his arrest and investigation carried out by the public prosecutor's office of the Komi Republic.

Main achievements

- Laying of a new ecological demonstration route on the landscape dynamics of the south taiga low-disturbed forests (the Sedka route) for the forestry specialists, students, and teachers of forest universities.
- Renovation of the infrastructure (clearing of the paths and demonstration plots, repair of the walkways and passages, renewal of information boards) of the existing demonstration routes and test grounds of the Komi Model Forest – May – June 2014.
- Participation in the Jubilee International Conference devoted to the 10-year anniversary of the Vilhelmina Model Forests (Sweden) with presentation of two reports on the Komi Model Forest experience and Natural dynamics of taiga ecosystems – October 2014.

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 Priluzje district;
- Priluzsky Leskhoz – company;
- Syktyvkar Forestry Institute;
- Tekhkarta – company;
- Territorial Data Bank.

9. Forest communities and use of natural resources. Cooperation between forest communities and large forest business (V. Semyashkina)

Objectives:

- 9.1. Preserving the possibilities of traditional natural resources use by the local population in remote forest villages.
- 9.2. Development of a policy of forest business social responsibility in respect of the forest communities.
- 9.3. Development of Forest Dialogue as a form of democratic debates on natural resources management.

Planned activities for 2014:

- 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.

General results:

- Organizing and holding the meetings of the indigenous communities of the Udora and Kortkeros districts of the Komi Republic with the developer of the first version of the FSC Guidelines for the implementation of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) Wolfgang Richert – aimed at collection of the information required for further improvement of this document and its adaptation for Russia (jointly with FSC Russia and OJSC “Mondi Syktyvkar”). In October 2014.
These guidelines suggest a step-by-step approach to implementation of the FPIC process applicable to the FSC certified forestry enterprises. In order to improve and adapt these guidelines to the practical situation in different countries and regions, meetings with the indigenous inhabitants of the forest regions, aimed at getting more complete information about the problems under study and developing the final version of the FSC Guidelines for the implementation of the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), are needed.
- Participation in the meetings with the representatives of audit companies (auditors) – consultations on observation of the national certification standard requirements in terms of social criteria by the companies working in the rural districts of the Komi Republic – throughout the year.
- Continued contacts with the public forest councils of the Priluzje and Kortkeros districts, representative offices of the interregional public movement “Komi voytyr” in the forest districts, aimed at the monitoring of the impact of logging companies activities on the socio-economic situation in the rural districts.
- Preparation of the Reference information on the traditional forest use by the indigenous people in the forest districts of the Komi Republic – with indication of the settlements with preserved traditional forest use, in which it is crucially important for sustaining the livelihoods of the local residents, with comments and names of contact persons – for the Working group engaged in the risk assessment development for the FSC controlled wood.

The planned activity included in the section “Forest communities and use of natural resources. Interaction of forest communities and large forest business” has not been fully implemented, due to lack of funding.

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:

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. Attraction of the initiative and motivated people for extension of the volunteer movement (up to 10-15 people).
- 10.2. Organization of the round table "Mutual interests and collaboration" with the volunteers.
- 10.3. Organization of the meetings (seminars, discussions, etc.) on the sustainable development topic for the volunteers on a monthly basis.
- 10.4. 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.
- 10.5. Support and popularization of the "Silver Taiga Foundation volunteers" group in the social network "Vkontakte" (vk.com/silvertaiga).
- 10.6. Support of the section devoted to the volunteers movement on the Foundation website www.silvertaiga.ru.
- 10.7. Coverage of the volunteers' activity in the mass media and through the contacts with the Institutions of Higher Education.
- 10.8. 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 maintenance;
 - Participation in the implementation of other objectives when required.

Main achievements

- Organization of a cognitive seminar for the foundation volunteers in the Syktyvkar State University on the topic of sustainable development, in order to introduce them to the Foundation's fields of activity – May 2014.
- Organization of a field seminar for the volunteers on the topic "History of the forest use in the Komi Republic. Natural forest dynamics and biodiversity of the taiga forests" in the Komi Model Forest, in parallel with the preparation of the model forest demonstration routes and grounds infrastructure to the field season – May 2014.
- Maintaining and filling with the up-to-date information about the Foundation activities of the sections, devoted to the volunteer movement, on the pages in the social network "VKontakte" and on the Foundation website.
- Volunteers engagement in the conducting a questionnaire survey of the population within the framework of the "Model River Mezen – restoration of fish resources" project implementation. The major work has been done at the stage of the survey conducting – June, July 2014.
- During the work with the volunteers it was decided to change the form of interaction: from a "team" to an "agency", which is determined by an unsteady work load, the volunteers are involved on an as-needed basis. This mode does not require much time both from the employees and volunteers.

Cooperating organizations:

- Syktyvkar State University;
- Syktyvkar Forest Institute.

11. Support of the FSC certification in Russia (Yu. Pautov)

Main achievements

- Governing of the FSC Russia Coordination Council's activities. Participation in five meetings (2 in-person and 3 remote – by Skype) of the Coordination Council (Yu. Pautov) - throughout the year.
- Organization and holding of a remote General meeting of the FSC Russia members, preparation and presentation of a report on the activities of the FSC Russia Coordination Council for 2013 (Yu. Pautov) – April 2014.
- Participation in the preparation and holding of a meeting of the FSC Russia members and partners with the FSC's Director General Kim Carstensen and FSC Global Network Director Gemma Boetekees (Yu. Pautov) - December 2014.
- Participation in the visiting session of the Association of Environmentally Responsible Timber Producers of Russia at OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar" with the presentation of the development process of the Komi regional risk assessment for FSC controlled wood (Yu. Pautov) (Jointly with WWF Russia and OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar") – April 2014.

Cooperating organizations:

- FSC Russia
- OJSC "Mondi Syktyvkar"
- WWF Russia