



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
PETROZAVODSK
NOVEMBER 13–17, 2017

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation
Ministry of Nature Use and Environment of the Republic of Karelia
Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences
Ministry of the Environment of Finland
Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
European Green Belt Association
WWF Russia Barents Office

Circular

Dear colleagues,

The European North is a vast region with distinct climatic, geographical and social features, unique ecosystems, historical, cultural and resource potential. Over the years, countries and regions in the European North have been working systematically to build the system of protected areas (PAs) based on existing interregional and international arrangements. The scaffold of this system is green belts (meridians) which link PAs to form one system.

One of the pivotal events in the process of building the North European PA system was the signing on February 17, 2010 of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for the Development of the Green Belt of Fennoscandia (GBF) between the Ministry of Environment of Norway, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Finland and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation. This document rendered a new impetus to the development of GBF per se and conservation work in general, which has been evidenced, among other things, by an increased number of international projects.

Considering the high interest that science, authorities, business and non-profit organizations have demonstrated for PA network development in the European North, it has been decided to organize the international conference “**International and interregional connectivity of protected areas in the European North**” within the framework of the National Year of Protected Areas, Nature Protection and Environment at the Karelian Research Centre RAS (Petrozavodsk) in November 2017.

The aim of the conference is to urge the participants to discuss the possibilities for developing the North European PA system not focusing on the conservation of unique ecosystems (biodiversity) alone but also considering the role of PAs in the sustainable development of northern regions and addressing their socio-economic problems. The conference will particularly discuss the possibilities of developing ecological innovations and ecosystem services based on the use of latest technology and more efficient utilization of the scientific and research potential of North European regions.

Organizing Committee address:
Karelian Research Centre,
Russian Academy of Sciences
11 Pushkinskaya St., 185910 Petrozavodsk
E-mail: Protect2017@krc.karelia.ru
Phone: +7-8142-780109



The provisional central themes for the conference are:

- Natural complexes of North European PAs (characteristics and protection specifics)
- Development of the PA network and establishment of the North European ecological framework based thereon
- PAs and the strategy of sustainable socio-economic development of the European North
- Ecosystem services in PAs and 'green economy' concept for the region
- Historical and cultural heritage of North European nationalities
- Environmental education and awareness, eco-tourism in PAs of the region

This listing of themes is not exhaustive: additional sessions and roundtables can be arranged following participants' suggestions.

Timeline and time limits

November 13, 2017 – arrivals and registration
 November 14–16, 2017 – sessions, roundtables
 November 17, 2017 – departures

The conference will have plenary talks – 20 min; presentations at thematic sessions – 15 min plus discussion (5 min) and poster presentations.

Venue – Petrozavodsk, Karelian Research Centre RAS, 11 Pushkinskaya St.

Conference languages – Russian, English

Several publications will be prepared within the conference framework and as its output:

- book of abstracts
- special issue of the Scientific Journal "Transactions of the Karelian Research Centre RAS", incorporating selected papers

Abstract submission and publication

Abstracts (400 words max, Times New Roman, font size 12) in .rtf or .doc format are to be submitted to the Conference Organizing Committee before 15.09.2017 via the website

<http://conf.krc.karelia.ru/index.php/protect/protect2017> in "Call for Papers" section or at the e-mail address **Protect2017@krc.karelia.ru**

Use the first speaker's surname in Latin symbols as the file name (e.g. ivanov.rtf). Abstracts are to be submitted in English. Russian-speaking applicants are required to submit their abstracts in both Russian and English. Avoid including tables, figures and list of references in the abstract. Italicize Latin names of species.

Sample abstract format

| |
|---|
| <p>TITLE OF THE PAPER N.N. Surname¹, N.N. Surname² ¹Forest Research Institute, Karelian Research Centre RAS, Petrozavodsk; e-mail ²Kostomukshsky Strict Nature Reserve; e-mail</p> |
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Text without word breaking or other special formatting.

Conference fee

The conference fee is RUB 2000 (EUR 30). Graduate and post-graduate students shall be exempt from paying the conference fee.

The conference fee for registration (and payment) after Sept. 15, 2017 or payment upon arrival is RUB 3000 (EUR 45).

The conference fee partially covers the costs of some conference components:

- participant info package
- coffee breaks
- preparation of conference proceedings for publication (minor editing, English language proofreading, layout)

The conference partner Karelika travel company (<http://karelika.ru/en/>, 7 Lososinskaya Nab., office 1, 185030 Petrozavodsk, Republic of Karelia, Russia, (8142) 57-10-89, (8142) 57-16-71, info@karelika.ru) will collect conference fees from participants under the Agreement on cooperation and contacts between KarRC RAS and OOO Karelika of 17.07.2017.

Conference fee payment options are the following:

- payment to Karelika travel company's account, under agreement concluded between an individual and Karelika company
- payment upon invoice, under agreement concluded between a legal entity and Karelika company
- in cash or by card upon arrival

Karelika travel company can also help arrange excursions for conference participants. Please contact the travel company directly for details.

Invitations and visa support

Feel free to contact the organizing committee about conference invitations or visa support.

For information about the conference visit:

<http://conf.krc.karelia.ru/index.php/protect/protect2017>

Please note that registration and abstract submission deadlines have been extended to include September 15, 2017.

Draft programme will be sent to participants at around October 15, 2017.

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You can find information about hotels on the conference website. If you choose to stay at the hotels Severnaya, Onego Palace, Fregat, Piter Inn or Zarechnaya, please contact the conference organizers directly (Protect2017@krc.karelia.ru) and you'll be able to use the corporate discounts these hotels offer to the Karelian Research Centre.

We'd much appreciate if you spread the word among colleagues.

Looking forward to seeing you at the conference!