

ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM OF FOREST MANAGEMENT IN SIBERIA

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It is generally known that deforestation leads to the serious environmental problems.

Firstly: it has great impact on climate. Deforestation is a contributor to global warming, and is often cited as one of the major causes of the enhanced greenhouse effect.

Secondly: the water cycle is also affected by deforestation. Trees extract groundwater through their roots and release it into the atmosphere. When part of a forest is removed, the trees no longer transpire this water, resulting in a much drier climate.

Thirdly: deforestation is known to cause the extinction of many species. Forests support biodiversity, providing habitat for wildlife; moreover, forests foster medicinal conservation [1].

Moreover, deforestation also affects on economy. The forest products industry is a large part of the economy in both developed and developing countries. Short-term economic gains made by conversion of forest to agricultural, or overexploitation of wood products, typically leads to loss of long-term income and long-term biological productivity.

The aim of this paper is to consider the problem of deforestation in Siberia.

Nowadays Siberia's forests suffer from severe ecological degradation. Much of this damage is caused by careless logging practices, including over logging, use of heavy equipment, overuse of herbicides, poor road-building techniques, illegal logging and low regeneration success. Excessive forest fires, acid rains, and air particulate pollution also contribute to the damage.

Ecological recovery of Siberia's forests will require separation of industry from government regulators, preservation of ecologically unique areas, a ban on clear cutting in permafrost regions, and further scientific research into boreal forest ecology.

Many Siberian environmental organizations are focusing their forest protection efforts on creating or expanding nature preserves and national parks. While laudable and often successful, these efforts do not address the health of the Siberian forested land that has been logged or is open for logging [2].

The recommendations would include:

1. Set aside forest areas of unusual character or especially high biodiversity.
2. Ban clear cutting in permafrost forest lands.
3. Respect traditional forest lands of native peoples.
4. Establish greater interaction between scientific institutes and foresters. Scientific field support should assist with forest restoration.
5. Develop alternative logging practices that preserve native ecology.
6. Preserve diverse local economies which rely on traditional hunting, fishing, beekeeping, food-gathering, and recreation in addition to, or instead of, timber.

Nowadays more and more people are starting to understand how it is important to save nature. The authors suggest that this tendency will develop in the future.

Reference

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2. Tracy L.A. Forest Industry Lecture Series // Edmonton, Alberta Canada. – 1994.