

REGIONAL PROFILE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS, TO BE USED IN BPAN PROJECT	
The draft reporting framework facilitates capturing the progress in completing assessments on 13 key goals of the programme of work on protected areas and specific actions taken to implement the results of those assessments, in order to indicate the status of implementation. Progress in completing these assessments is measured from 0-4 (0 – no progress; 1 – planning phase; 2 – initial progress; 3 – substantial progress; 4 – nearly or fully completed).	
COUNTRY/region:	Russian Federation, Murmansk Region
Name of person completing survey:	Shveitser, Fedor Jakovlevich Committee of Industrial Development, Ecology and Land Use of the Murmansk Region
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Date survey completed:	26th October 2011
Please briefly describe who was involved in gathering information for this survey	Oleg Sutkaitis (WWF Russia) Viktor Petrov (Kola Biodiversity Center, Institute of the Problems of Industrial Ecology of the North, Kola Research Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences) Nadezhda Konstantinova (Polar-Alpine Botanical Garden and Institute, Kola Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences) Olga Makarova (Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve) Ivan Vdovin (Directorate of Regional Protected Areas of the Murmansk Region) Pavel Pestov (State Committee for Forestry of the Murmansk Region) Inna Shakhova (Kola Geological Information Centre and Laboratory)
1) Has a multi-stakeholder advisory committee been formed to implement the PoWPA?	NO
2) Is there an action plan for implementing the PoWPA?	NO
3) If yes, please provide a URL (or attach a pdf) of the strategic action plan:	-
4) If yes, which is the lead agency responsible for implementing the action plan?	-
5) If not, are the PoWPA actions included in other biodiversity-related action plans? (please provide a URL or attachment if so)	Included in the Concept for the development of the regional protected area network in the Murmansk Region until 2018 ( <a href="http://mpr.gov-murman.ru/09.oopt/conception2018-38.html">http://mpr.gov-murman.ru/09.oopt/conception2018-38.html</a> )  and further until 2038 (later referred to as “the Concept”) and the Forestry plan of the Murmansk Region for 2009-2018 approved by the Governor of the Murmansk Region on 29th December 2008

I.1 To establish and strengthen national and regional systems of protected areas integrated into a global network as a contribution to globally agreed goals	
1) What progress has been made in assessing the representativeness, comprehensiveness and ecological gaps of your protected area network?	STATUS: 3
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a pdf) of the gap assessment report:	A brief official assessment is included in the Concept (Article 4) but a more detailed assessment is available in the publication: Atlas of high conservation value areas, and analysis of gaps and representativeness of the protected area network in northwest Russia  Gap analysis in the framework of the Arctic WWF project <a href="http://www.wwf.ru/resources/pub/book/835">http://www.wwf.ru/resources/pub/book/835</a>
3) Do you have specific targets and indicators for the protected area system?	YES
4) If yes, please provide a URL (or attach a pdf) of the targets and indicators:	Included in the Concept (Article 4)
5) What actions have been taken to improve the ecological representativeness of the protected area network? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Protected land area	Previously assessed by state organizations – 8 % Assessed using modern GIS techniques – 11,2 %
Protected sea area	0 %
Proposed or planned PAs	Currently in the process of establishment – 1,4 % of the total area of the Murmansk Region (in addition to existing protected areas); Proposed to be established by 2020 – 4 % of the total area of the Murmansk Region (in addition to existing protected areas); Proposed to be established by 2038 – 5,2 % of the total area of the Murmansk Region (in addition to existing protected areas)
Promoted an array of different types of protected areas (e.g., different IUCN Categories, CCAs (Community Conserved Areas) etc)	STATUS: I
Other actions to improve the representativeness and comprehensiveness of the network	The establishment of protected areas for the conservation of threatened species and their habitats is legislated under the Directive on the Red Data Book of the Murmansk Region and its regulations on the Red Data Book of the Murmansk Region (Directive № 325-III of the Government of the Murmansk Region from 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2002). However, so far these normative guidelines have not been followed in practice.

1.2 To integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function	
1) What progress has been made in assessing protected area landscape and seascape connectivity?, see: <a href="http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-44-en.pdf">http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-44-en.pdf</a>	STATUS: 0
What progress has been made in assessing protected area landscape and seascape sectoral integration?	STATUS: 0
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a pdf) of the assessment of protected area connectivity and sectoral integration:	
3) What actions have been taken to improve protected area connectivity and sectoral integration? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Changed the legal status and/or governance in key connectivity areas	–
Created new protected areas in key connectivity areas	Partly: The establishment of the Lapland Forest nature reserve (Laplandsky les zakaznik) is a step towards a practical connection between the Lapland Strict Nature Reserve (zapovednik) in Russia and Urho Kekkonen National Park in Finland.
Improved natural resource management to improve connectivity	–
Designated connectivity corridors and/or buffers	–
Created market incentives to promote connectivity	–
Changed awareness of key stakeholders in key connectivity areas	Partly: NGOs and timber companies have made an agreement on a forest management regime, preserving the ecological corridor between the Lapland Strict Nature Reserve in Russia and Urho Kekkonen National Park in Finland.
Improved laws and policies within or around key connectivity areas	–
Restored degraded areas in key connectivity areas	–
Changed land use planning, zoning and/or buffers in key connectivity areas	–
Removed barriers to connectivity and ecological functioning	–
Integrated protected areas into poverty reduction strategies	–
Other actions to improve connectivity and integration	–

I.3 To establish and strengthen regional networks, transboundary protected areas (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across national boundaries	
1) What progress has been made in identifying conservation priorities and opportunities for establishing transboundary protected areas and regional networks?	STATUS: 1
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a pdf) of the assessment of opportunities for transboundary protected areas and regional networks.	
3) What actions have been taken to strengthen the regional protected area network and foster transboundary PAs? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
Created transboundary protected area/s	Partly: Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve is a part of the Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park, certified by the EUROPARC Federation (September 2008). However, this international status has not been recognised in Russian regulatory acts.
Contributed to the creation of regional-scale conservation corridors	Currently, the Kutsa nature reserve (zakaznik) is proposed to be included as a part of the Paanajärvi National Park. This would allow creating a joint protected area in the southern parts of the Murmansk Region and the northern parts of the Republic of Karelia.
Participated in the establishment of regional networks	–
Created enabling policies to allow for transboundary protected areas, such as Green belt, park to park etc.	STATUS: 1
Established a multi-country/regional coordination mechanism	Activities to promote the nomination of the “Green Belt of Fennoscandia” to the UNESCO World Heritage list
Other actions to foster regional networks and transboundary areas	Cooperation agreement between the Metsähallitus Natural Heritage Services, Lapland (Finland), Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve (Russia) and the Office of the Finnmark County Governor (Norway) from 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2008, available in English, Finnish, Russian and Norwegian languages.

I.4 To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management	
1) What progress has been made in developing protected area management plans?	STATUS: 2
1) What percentage of your protected areas has an adequate management plan?	27 %
2) What percentage of the total surface area of protected areas does the management plan(s) cover?	99,5 %
3) Please provide a URL (or pdf attachment) of a recent example of a participatory, science-based management plan	Regulation for the Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve Regulation for the Lapland Forest (Laplansky les) nature reserve
4) What actions have been taken to improve protected area management planning? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
Developed guidelines and tools for developing management plans	–
Provided training and/or technical support in management planning	–
Developed management plans for protected areas Do you have good scientific basis of existing management plans	Regulations for all protected areas, including strict nature reserves (zapovednik) and nature reserves (zakaznik), and ecological passports for three natural monuments have been prepared. Management plans (concerning conservation regimes only) have been prepared for natural monuments on the land of the “forest fund”.
Conducted protected area resource inventories	–
Other actions to improve management planning	Inventories of natural resources and nature in protected areas are carried out regularly and the results of these inventories are published. At present, inventories are carried out on the territories of the regional nature reserves “Kutsa”, «Seidjävvr», «Simbozersky» and «Ponoi» (which is an ornithological reserve) as well as 24 natural monuments.

1.5 To prevent and mitigate the negative impacts of key threats to protected areas	
1) What progress has been made in assessing the status of protected area threats, and opportunities for mitigation, prevention and restoration?	STATUS: 2
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a pdf) of the assessment of the status of threats and opportunities for mitigation, prevention and restoration.	Some elements of the assessment are included in the Concept (Articles 3 and 4)
3) What actions have been taken to mitigate or prevent protected area threats, or restore degraded areas? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description	
ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
Changed the status and/or governance type of a protected area	–
Improved staffing numbers and/or skills to prevent and mitigate threats	In August 2011, the Directorate of Regional Protected Areas was placed under the Committee of Industrial Development, Ecology and Land Use of the Murmansk Region. This has resulted in an increase in working hours directed towards the management of regional protected areas.
Included measures to address threats in a management plan	Annually, the Directorate of Regional Protected Areas and local directors of protected areas make an agreement on protecting forest from forest fires with “Avialesookhrana”, an organization in possession of special aircraft aimed at fighting forest fires.
Improved management practices to prevent or mitigate threats	In August 2011, the Directorate of Regional Protected Areas was placed under the Committee of industrial development, ecology and land use of the Murmansk Region. As a result, the Directorate (having the necessary technical equipment) helps control the conservation regime of regional protected areas.
Increased threat mitigation funding	In 2001 funding for the protection of forests against forest fires was increased.
Developed a plan to address the impacts of climate change	–
Changed market incentives to reduce or prevent threats	–
Improved monitoring and detection of threats	–
Evaluated the efficacy of threat-related actions	–
Improved public awareness and behaviour regarding threats	Public awareness campaigns are organized on environmental threats as a part of the annual activities of the Directorate of Regional Protected Areas (lectures, ecological camps).  The general public is regularly informed about environmental threats through public awareness campaigns of ongoing projects.
Changed laws and policies related to threats	–
Restored degraded areas	Measures have been taken to recultivate forests polluted by industrial transmissions around the cities of Monchegorsk and Nikel (including forests within Lapland and Pasvik Strict Nature Reserves).
Developed and/or implemented strategies to mitigate threats	–
Other actions to mitigate and prevent threats	In protected areas, nature trails have been constructed to prevent and mitigate environmental stress from recreation.

2.1 To promote equity and benefit-sharing	
1) What progress has been made in assessing the equitable sharing of costs and benefits of establishing protected areas?	STATUS: 0
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a pdf) of the assessment of equitable sharing of costs and benefits of establishing protected areas.	-

3) What actions have been taken to improve equitable benefits sharing? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Developed compensation mechanisms	
Other actions to strengthen equitable benefit--sharing	
4) What progress has been made in assessing protected area governance? STATUS: 2	
5) What percentage of protected areas has been assigned an IUCN category?	Officially assigned IUCN categories – 0 %; However, all protected areas in the Murmansk Region have been assessed unofficially in accordance with the IUCN criteria.
6) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a pdf) of the assessment of protected area governance:	Assessment of the management of regional protected areas in northwest Russia ( <a href="http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/julkaisut/show/16">http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/julkaisut/show/16</a> )
7) What actions have you taken to improve and diversify governance types? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Created new protected areas with innovative forms of governance, such as community conserved areas	–
According to IUCN guidelines reference...	–
Changed laws or policies to enable new governance types	
Other actions to diversify governance types	–

2.2 To enhance and secure involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders	
1) What is the status of participation of indigenous and local communities and other key stakeholders in key protected area decisions?	STATUS: I
2) What actions have been taken to improve indigenous and local community participation? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Assessed opportunities and needs for local community participation in key protected area decisions	–
Improved laws, policies and/or practices to promote participation	–
Developed policies for prior informed consent for resettlement	–
Improved mechanisms for participation of indigenous and local communities	–
Increased participation of indigenous and local communities in key decisions	Public hearings (open discussions with local people, municipalities and other communities about borders, protection regime and other specific characteristics of planned PA), are normally held in local communities during the process of establishing protected areas, in accordance with Russian legislation.
Other actions to promote participation	–

3.1 To provide an enabling policy, institutional and socio-economic environment for protected areas	
1) What progress has been made in assessing the policy environment for creating and managing protected areas?	STATUS: 0
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of the assessment of the policy environment:	-
3) What actions have been taken to improve the protected area policy environment? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Harmonized sectoral policies or laws to strengthen management effectiveness	–

Integrated PA values and ecological services into the national economy	–
Developed incentive mechanisms for private protected areas	–
Developed positive market incentives to support protected areas	–
Removed perverse incentives that hinder effective management	–
Cooperated with neighboring countries on transboundary areas	Only between social and scientific organizations, in support of the “Green Belt of Fennoscandia”
Other actions to improve the policy environment	
4) What progress has been made in assessing the contribution of protected areas to the local and national economies?	STATUS: 0
5) What progress has been made in assessing the contribution of protected areas to the Millennium Development Goals?	STATUS: 0
6) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) with the assessment of the contribution of protected areas to the local and national economy and to the Millennium Development Goals:	
7) What actions have been taken to value the contribution of protected areas? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Created finance mechanisms linked to protected area values (e.g., payment for ecosystem services)	

3.2 To build capacity for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas	
1) What progress has been made in assessing protected area capacity needs?	STATUS: 1
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of the assessment of capacity needs:	-
3) What actions have been taken to strengthen protected area capacity? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Created a professional development programme for protected area staff	–
Trained protected area staff in key skills	Professional training and courses for protected areas staff and the Directorate of regional protected areas, organised with the support of nature protection NGOs.
Increased the number of protected area staff	–
Other actions to improve capacity	There is some experience in using volunteers in practical conservation activities (e.g. in Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve) as well as promoting the management of protected areas.

3.3 To develop, apply and transfer appropriate technologies for protected areas	
1) What progress has been made in assessing the needs for relevant and appropriate technology for protected area management?	STATUS: 2
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attached a PDF) of the assessment of the technology needs:	
3) What actions have been taken to improve the access to and use of relevant and appropriate technology? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Developed and/or used appropriate technology for habitat restoration and rehabilitation	–
Developed and/or used appropriate technology for resource mapping, biological inventories and rapid assessments	–
Developed and/or used appropriate technology for monitoring	<p>Geotagging of monitoring images in regional protected areas, introduced in the Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve.</p> <p>Aerial monitoring using ultralight aircraft in the Simbozersky nature reserve (zakaznik).</p> <p>Scientific monitoring of protected areas (namely strict nature reserves, or zapovedniks) is carried out using the most modern methods available (e.g. genetic monitoring of the bear population near the national border in the Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve).</p>
Encouraged technology transfer and cooperation between protected areas and agencies	–
Other actions to improve access to and use of appropriate technologies	–

<b>3.4 To ensure financial sustainability of protected areas and national and regional systems of protected areas</b>	
1) What progress has been made in assessing protected area finance needs?	STATUS: 1
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of the assessment of finance needs:	
3) What progress has been made in developing and implementing a sustainable finance plan that incorporates a diversified portfolio of financial mechanisms?	STATUS: 0
4) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of the sustainable finance plan:	
5) What actions have been taken to improve the sustainable finance of your protected areas? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Developed new protected area funding mechanisms	–
Developed protected area business plan or plans	<p>Pilot business plan for the development of the Kutsa nature reserve (in the framework of a Russian-Finnish project).</p> <p>A business plan for the development of the Sejdjävvr nature reserve is being prepared.</p>
Improved resource allocation procedures	–
Provided financial training and support	–
Improved accounting and monitoring	–
Improved financial planning capacity	–
Removed legal barriers to sustainable finance	–
Other actions to improve sustainable finance	–

<b>3.5 To strengthen communication, education and public awareness</b>	
1) What progress have you made in conducting a public awareness and communication campaign/programme?	STATUS: 2
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of the public awareness and communication plan:	
3) What actions have you taken to improve public awareness and strengthen education programmes? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Identify core themes for education, awareness and communication programmes relevant to protected areas	–
Conducted an awareness campaign on the value of protected areas to local and national economies	–
Conducted an awareness campaign on the value of protected areas in climate change adaptation and mitigation	–
Established or strengthen communication mechanisms with key target groups, including indigenous and local communities	–
Developed protected area curricula with educational institutions, regarding to environmental education	Lecture courses on practical work in nature reserves (“Zapovednoje delo”) have been prepared for university and college students in the Murmansk Region.
Produced public outreach materials	Scientific publication and popular scientific books, brochures and other material on protected areas (circa 40 % of publication costs are covered by federal and regional budgets).
Conducted public outreach programmes, such as Junior ranger, Europarc	–
Other actions to improve communication, education and awareness	Public hearings and meetings, presentations on existing and planned protected areas, ecological camps in existing and planned protected areas.  Directorate of Regional Protected Areas and its local staff support the management of websites on protected areas in the Murmansk Region.

<b>4.1 To develop and adopt minimum standards and best practices for national and regional protected area systems</b>	
1) What progress has been made in developing best practices and minimum standards?	STATUS: 0
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of examples of protected area best practices and minimum standards.	-
3) Is there a system in place for monitoring protected area outcomes achieved in line with the programme of work on protected areas	NO
4) What actions have been taken related to best practices and minimum standards? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Developed standards and best practices for protected area establishment and selection	
Developed standards and best practices for protected area management planning	
Developed standards and best practices for protected area management	
Collaborated with other Parties and relevant organizations to test, review and promote best practices and minimum standards, such as Emerald Network, Natura 2000, BPAN	
Other actions related to best practices and minimum standards	

4.2 To evaluate and improve the effectiveness of protected areas management	
1) What progress has been made in assessing the management effectiveness of protected areas?	STATUS: I
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of the assessment of protected area management effectiveness:	Elements in the report "Assessment of the management of regional protected areas in northwest Russia" <a href="http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/julkaisut/show/16">http://julkaisut.metsa.fi/julkaisut/show/16</a>
3) In what percentage of the total area of protected areas has management effectiveness been assessed?	0 % (partly assessed for some protected areas)
4) In what percentage of the number of protected areas has management effectiveness been assessed?	0 % (partly assessed for some protected areas)
5) What actions have been taken to improve management processes within protected areas? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
Improved management systems and processes	–
Improved law enforcement	–
Improved stakeholder relations	–
Improved visitor management	Access to the border zone (i.e. arrangement of permissions) has become easier for visitors to the Pasvik Strict Nature Reserve.
Improved management of natural and cultural resources	–
Other actions to improve management effectiveness	Borders of the following protected areas have been marked on the ground: Varzugsky, Simbozersky and Kutsa nature reserves, Ponoï animal reserve and (partly) Ponoï fishing reserve as well as natural monuments "Ivanovskaya Bay" and "Sea bird colonies of Dvorovaya Bay" and cave paintings near the village of Chalmny-Varre.  Small bridges and river-crossings in the Seidjävvr nature reserve have been repaired.
Have you submitted management effectiveness results to UNEP-WCMC's WDPA	–

4.3 To assess and monitor protected area status and trends	
1) What progress has been made in establishing an effective monitoring system of protected area coverage, status and trends?	STATUS: 0
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of a recent monitoring report.	
3) What actions have been taken to improve protected area monitoring? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
ACTION	CURRENT STATUS
Assessed the status and trend of key biodiversity	Rare species and game animals have been assessed in strict nature reserves ( <i>zapovedniks</i> ) and some nature reserves ( <i>zakazniks</i> ). Results for the nature reserves are presented in the "Report on the state of the environment in the Murmansk Region".
Monitored the coverage of protected areas	Nature monitoring chronicles (" <i>Letopis prirody</i> ") is mandatory and therefore conducted regularly in all strict nature reserves ( <i>zapovedniks</i> ).
Developed or improved a biological monitoring programme	–
Developed a database for managing protected area data	–
Revised management plan based on monitoring and/or research results	–
Changed management practices based on the results of monitoring and/or research	–

Developed geographic information systems (GIS) and/or remote sensing technologies	–
Other monitoring activities	Strict nature reserves ( <i>zapovedniks</i> ) participate also in other monitoring projects (e.g. international forest condition monitoring, ICP-Forest).

4.4 To ensure that scientific knowledge contributes to the establishment and effectiveness of protected areas and protected area systems	
1) What progress has been made in developing an appropriate science and research programme to support protected area establishment and management?	STATUS: 2
2) If available, please indicate the URL (or attach a PDF) of a recent research report:	Atlas of high conservation value areas, and analysis of gaps and representativeness of the protected area network in northwest Russia
3) What actions have been taken to improve protected area research and monitoring? Please check all that apply, and provide a brief description:	
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>CURRENT STATUS</b>
Identified key research needs	–
Assessed the status and trends of key biodiversity	Assessed for strict nature reserves ( <i>zapovedniks</i> ; materials are managed by the strict nature reserves), and partly for regional nature reserves ( <i>zakazniks</i> ) and natural monuments (materials are managed by the Committee of Industrial Development, Ecology and Land Use of the Murmansk Region).
Developed or improved a biological monitoring programme	–
Conducted protected area research on key socio-economic issues	–
Promoted dissemination of protected area research	–
Revised management plan based on monitoring and/or research results	Proposals for reorganization of the Simbozersky nature reserve based on studies by the Directorate of Regional Protected Areas in Murmansk Region.
Other research and monitoring activities	–