



NORTH WEST RUSSIAN RIVER NETWORK

**Public participation and
promotion of sustainable
river basin management**

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New Russian Water Code is under consideration.

Public participation and basin approach are only declared (no any mechanisms and criterias are mentioned in WC) .

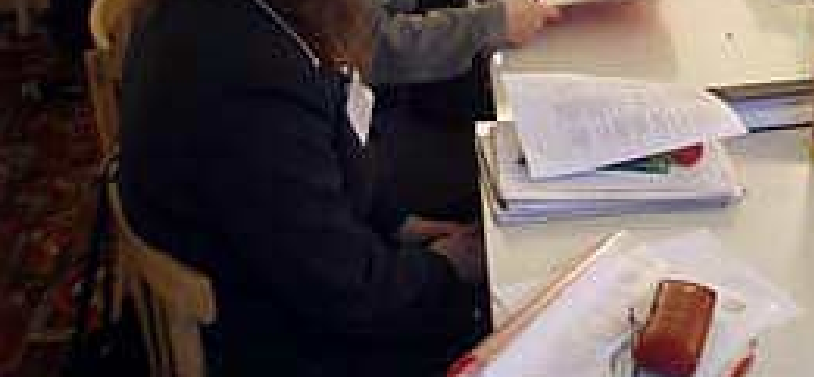
NGOs have produced comments and suggestions for Water Code, which were not taken in consideration perfectly.

NGOs now investigate legal possibility to make EIA of Water Code.

Water protection practice is not perfect because of lack of legislation and often depends on local situation.



**2004 -
establishing
NWRR network**



2005 – widening network





NORTH-WEST RUSSIAN RIVER NETWORK

- St.Petersburg and Leningrad region
- Pskov region
- Novgorod region
- Vologda region
- Murmansk region
- Karelia



NWR RN – St.Petersburg & Leningrad region

- Friends of the Baltic
- South Shore – Lomonosov Youth Center
- EFA – Laboratory of bio-monitoring of SPb Palace for Youth Creativity
- Center for Environmental Initiatives
- Nature School Island
- Slavyanka – Pavlovsk
- Vosnesenskij Most
- Ecoclub 421 school
- School 437 - Sestroretsk/Pesochnoye
- Ecoclub Domovyenok – Russko-Vysotskoye school
- Ecoclub Ecos –Lebyazhye
- Ecoclub – Annino school
- Primorsk House for Children Creativity
- Kingisepp Center for Young Naturalists
- Lodeynoe Pole Children Center – Nature Watch club



Rivers: *Karasta, Strelka, Kikenka, Lebyazhya, Slavyanka, Sestra, Chernaya, Neva, Roshinka, Luga, Svir'..... tens brooks, springs and lakes of Gulf of Finland basin*



Novgorod region

NGOs:

- Novgorod club Ecologia
- Rainbow
- NooSphere
- Club of Valdai Park Friends Borovno
- Novgorod Scouts

Rivers: Volkhov, Msta, Lovat', Pola, Pes', Kunya, Kerest', Medveda...

Lakes: Ilmen', Borovno, Ladoga

Pskov region

- House of Children Creativity, Ostrov
River Velikaya



Vologda region

- ArtEco NGO
- Youth center “Leader”

Rivers: *Sukona, Sodima, Shogrash, Komela, Lezha, Losta,*

Murmansk region

- Children Center, Apatity

Rivers *Zhemchuzhnaya, Belaya* Springs of *Kirov-Apatitsy district; Imandra lake*



NWR RN Collection of information and methodical materials



- «River Watch», booklet
- Publications of CCB members within RW activities (printed, video, CD)
- «Our Habitat Values», book
- Map of Baltic Sea river basins
- «Public monitoring of water objects», Methodical recommendations.
- «Protection of water drainage areas in USA and Russia», brochure.
- Info-materials on the WFD, international and national legislation connected to water issue.
- We have a right to know, we have a right to participate. Methodical recommendation for citizens.

Examples of PP in St.Petersburg and Leningrad region



- Kipen (Friends of the Baltic & Domovyenok) - monitoring Strelka basin, interaction with local authorities and nature protection bodies against construction of new objects with negative pressure to Kipen Lake and of Strelka river.

- Molodyezcnoye (Vosnesenskij Most) - agreement with Municipality, inventarization of illegal dump sites, questioning residents, giving to authorities recommendation on establishing recreation zones on the gulf shore, publications in mass-media.

- Primorsk (House for Children creativity) - monitoring of brooks and Gulf coast, reporting to municipality on the chemical pollutions of Bannyi brook from the laundry, Questioning citizens and publications in mass-media on Primorsk oil terminal.

- Lomonosov/South shore Center - monitoring Karasta river, informing public and authorities, public discussions on General Planning.

- Consultations in St.Petersburg

Public Hearings on Lebyazhij nature reserve (Ramsar area), NGOs have applied to government of Leningrad region against cutting territory of nature reserve (rivers Lebyazhya, Chernaya); initiated CCB statement.



Examples of PP in Novgorod region

Novgorod Club Ecologia

- Cleaning Up action on the Ilmen' lake and Volkhov river coast (1100 participants) and publications in mass-media.
- Water expeditions to Volkhov-Ladoga. Cleaning up recreation spots on the river banks, posting leaflets.
- Promotion of garbage recycling;
- Applications to courts against harmful installations (metallurgical and incineration plants).

Club Borovno, Novgorod Scouts

- Cleaning up actions, publications in mass media, informing public.

Example of PP in Vologda region

Project on restoring Shogrash river basin
in cooperation with NGOs, public and authorities.

Club Leader & Center for Independent Social Researches.

- Questioning residents;
- Round table on the river' problems;
- Establishing Public Council of River Shogrash;
- Design of Restoration Plan (experts + NGOs + children creativity);
- Wide distribution of information about plan: 3 stands in the city, mass-media;

Restoration measures (municipal specialists and equipment + NGO volunteers),

- Cleaning up the river and banks;
- enforcement of the banks,
- planting trees and bushes on the river banks;
- publication and dissemination of the booklet on the river.

Public Council of the Shogrash River plans to work after the project end.

Public participation and promotion of sustainable river basin management - lessons and conclusions

The most successful forms:

Education, information, actions for raising public awareness on river protection and river basin management.

Forms, which need more skills :

Organising or participation in public hearings, interaction with authorities on decision making.

Forms, which are possible in co-operation with experts (lawyers, scientists...):

application to court, EIA, legislative initiatives (financing for experts is needed, teaching NGO activists is necessary. These activities are more successful within special thematic projects).

Development of NWR River Network

- Cooperation with CCB RW network, All-Russian RN, other networks and NGOs.
- Sharing and learning experience.
- Developing methods of public monitoring, public participation and promotion of SRBM.
- Involving new participants.
- Initiating NWRR network projects and pilot projects on the separate river basins.
- Network Action



- Annual RW seminar + NWR RN
13-14 January 2006, St. Petersburg

