

The Gassinskoe Model Forest in Russia

The Gassinskoe model forest in Russia's Khabarovsk Territory will include over 270,000 hectares of forest land, primarily consisting of pine and broad-leaved trees. Partners in the model forest include the Forest Service of the Khabarovsk Territory, an Association of Indigenous Peoples and the Gassinskoe forest farm. Activities within the forest include timber production and the harvesting of a variety of nuts and berries. The model forest will focus on the development of better integrated forest management and a more effectively managed infrastructure to develop and support forest activities.

The main objectives of the Gassinskoe Model Forest Project will be:

1. sustainable forest management and use;
2. integrated management of all forest resources and their processing into finished products;
3. protection of forests from fires and pests;
4. establishment of plantations of Korean pine, Manchurian nut, Manchurian ash, and Ayan spruce through rehabilitation of low-value forests;
5. adoption of methods of integrated resources management that meet world standards; and
6. recognition of the traditional rights of Aboriginal populations in all forest management activities.

Canada's Model Forest Network

The development of Canada's network of model forests is the core of the Partnership for Sustainable Development of Forests, the major forestry component of the Green Plan, the federal government's comprehensive environmental action plan.

The Model Forests Program establishes a network of large-scale projects that represent the major forest regions of Canada. The network also represents a variety of values, such as wildlife, biodiversity, watersheds and fisheries, in addition to the traditional value of fibre supply. The network is intended to demonstrate, on a working scale, how to manage forest ecosystems within the context of sustainable development.