

In accordance with the UNESCO program "Man and the Biosphere" a part of the preserves are currently categorized as biosphere preserves, the purposes of which consist primarily of preserving a genetic pool of plants and animals, as well as of ecological system as a whole, and also the conduct of scientific research aimed at studying the dynamics of natural processes. Biosphere preserves serve as the main global control over the state of the biosphere of our planet.

A detailed description of the preserves, listed by union republics, is to be found in the book "The Soviet Union's Nature Preserves", edited by A.M. Borodin and E.E. Syroechkovskii (Timber Industry Press, 1983). It contains descriptions of the climate, soils, landscapes, and plant and animal life.

Lesnaya promyshlennost

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White Sea (Belomorsk) Declaration Calls for an
International Convention and UN Action to Preserve
the Northern Forests

The "Belomorsk Declaration" is the name given to a document adopted by participants in an international symposium held in Archangel. Throughout the ten days of its work the participants - silvicultural scientists from 11 countries - (the USSR, USA, Canada, Sweden, Finland, Japan and others), attended innovative workshops and plenary sessions and paid visits to silvicultural and logging enterprises in the Archangel and Murmansk oblasts. The initiator of the symposium was the USSR State Committee for Forests (Goskomles). Also participating were the USSR State Committee on Science and Technology and representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organizations. The theme of the meeting was "Northern forests: their condition, dynamics and the effects of anthropogenic activity".