Since it takes into account the state of the total forest area and the ecological and economic characteristics of dissimilar regions, monitoring is called upon to solve a wide range of problems.

In the first phase of implementing forest monitoring it is necessary to decide upon the most important tasks ensuring the rational use and reproduction of the valuable resources and properties of the forest. For example, insofar as our taiga zone is concerned, this means protection of the forests from fires, insect pests and other unfavourable influences, and arranging for the rational use of forest resources and for timely reforestation with economically valuable arboreal species. Forest monitoring must function in such a way that an important environmental and national economic benefit is conferred.

Naturally, a full treatment of all aspects of the work being carried out in space for the benefit of our forests is impossible within the limitations imposed by a newspaper article. However, even the facts presented here will serve to convince the reader in some measure of the advantageousness of the programme.

Lesnaya promyshlennost'
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Page 3 (Slightly abridged)