

4. Prohibiting environmentally harmful methods of timber conversion and other forms of incompatible economic activity that have a destructive effect on forest ecosystems. Under no circumstances must overfellings of allowable cuts be permitted, nor for that matter, the barbaric, irrational use of felled timber and other forms of injurious exploitation of forests.

If we continue to practise forestry in the old way, then the country will be forced to purchase wood abroad, and the ecological consequences of this type of management will be unpredictable.

The constituent assembly of the Society of Foresters of the USSR appeals to the People's Deputies to review the question of placing the forests under the jurisdiction of the local Soviets and approach the taking of a decision with special seriousness. The assembly warns that a transfer of the prerogatives of administering the forests to local bodies which are incompetent in the very principles of organizing and conducting forestry will inevitably lead to catastrophic consequences. This has already occurred in the past and threatens us today."

Corresponding Member of the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences D.P. Stolyarov was elected President of the Society. The Central Council will consist of 30 individuals. Its address is 194021 Leningrad, Institutskii Pereulok 21. It has been decided to hold the first assembly of delegates from the republican societies of foresters and the regional divisions in 1990.

Lesnaya promyshlennost'

November 23, 1989

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