

We could cite other examples of mismanagement by loggers in Perm Oblast'. Nonetheless, the USSR Ministry for the Timber Industry has obtained permission from the government to fell timber at significantly higher levels this year and next in that Oblast'. Even in newly organized integrated enterprises permission has been granted to exceed the allowable cut for coniferous trees by more than a million cubic metres! In addition, the rules governing timber usage and removal are being grossly violated, which is only revealed during checks by forestry inspection units.

The coniferous forests of Sverdlovsk Oblast', where several integrated enterprises were established in 1985, have fared no better than the Perm forests. These complexes were recently audited by an Oblast' inspection committee. It was found that there is no set plan for timber-felling at these enterprises. Logging areas are being designated in terms of convenience. Harvesting is done before authorization is obtained, sometimes even without written consent. For instance, during preparatory work on the Massavsky forested district (Oussky Integrated Logging and Timber Enterprise) nearly 35,000 cubic metres of wood were cut instead of the 16,000 cubic metres authorized.

"I'm the boss and what I say goes" - that's the way some loggers see their right to dispose of our country's forest resources, and the USSR Ministry for the Timber Industry is supporting them in this. Last year the Alapaev Integrated Logging and Timber Enterprise was given a production plan which failed to take into account the species composition of the allowable cut and led to over harvesting of 117,000 cubic metres. This was discussed in an article by Comrade Neuimin, First Secretary of the Alapaev CPSU municipal council, which was published in the magazine "Communist" (No. 2 for the current year).

Haphazard fellings are continuing to deplete the already thinned forest cover of the Urals, destroy the ecological balance and cause economic and social harm.