

They include a procedure for updating information on forest management in the taiga regions, evaluating the course of natural regeneration of the forests in burnt over and felled areas and at felling sites, compiling inventories of windbreak forests and the planning of drainage improvement measures. A list of the main problems in forestry, the solving of which is both desirable and possible through the use of remote sensing data, primarily from satellites, has been compiled and validated.

Assessments based on predictions and experience in the industrial application of aerial and satellite survey data compiled when studying forests and monitoring their state have led to the conclusion that multidisciplinary solutions to the main forestry problems are both necessary and possible within the framework of specialised aerospace monitoring, initially on a regional level and subsequently for the Union as a whole.

We regard forest monitoring as the sum total of remote and terrestrial methods and facilities for obtaining information on the state of the forests and their ecological and resource related functions. The technical foundation for the monitoring is the aerospace survey utilising optical and computerised electronic equipment which is capable of deriving and converting task-oriented information and documenting the results of it. Thus, in the monitoring process it is necessary to collect, transmit, process and analyse information on the total forest area and selectively bring it to the attention of users at various administrative levels in forestry and the national economy, ranging all the way from enterprises to ministries (State committees).