

aviation, promptness of detection is a function of the frequency with which patrols are carried out. In the Baikal zone where they have increased the frequency of patrols, almost twice as many fires have begun to be reported. On the other hand, the area affected is much smaller, due to prompt detection and extinguishing of the fires.

"We are currently in receipt of a mass of proposals from numerous design bureaus for the development of new equipment, but we have no money for this. For the development of a tanker, for example, they are asking 240 million roubles, but in the USSR State Committee for Forestry (Goskomles) 20 million roubles have been allocated for science as a whole.

"We are ready to accept and consider all proposals aimed at the preservation and augmentation of our forest wealth.

"Finally, I would like to thank the editorial staff for arranging this meeting and organizing the "Ecological Task Force". In my view, initiatives such as this should become a regular happening, not only with respect to forest protection, but in addressing all ecological problems."

Lesnaya promyshlennost  
December 16, 1989  
Pages 4 and 5 (abridged)  
Also December 12, 1989  
Page 2 (abridged)