

Methodical Provision Application of Systematic Silvicultural Activities in the Forests of Water Protection Zones

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Forests located in water protection zones are the most important category of protective forests for which the Forest Code of the Russian Federation establishes a very (hard) strict legal regime what has as a positive so and a negative value and significantly affects the management of these forests and their condition. Based on the analysis and synthesis of materials of literary sources of information, as well as on the results of field studies, are explaining the establishment of target characteristics of plantations effectively performing complex water protection functions, including water regulating, sanitary water treatment, pollution prevention, contamination, siltation of water bodies, depletion of their waters, as well as the conservation of habitats of objects of the animal and plant world. As a result of comparing the characteristics of existing forest plantations with the target, provided by natural soil and forest conditions, differences from the target, is given assessment of their condition and, accordingly, the effectiveness of the activities carried out in the current legislative, regulatory and legal conditions. In connection with the revealed discrepancy between the state and characteristics of the existing plantations by the targeted and insufficiently effective implementation of silvicultural measures, it is necessary to fundamentally change the established regime for maintaining and using forests in water protection zones. To solve this problem, including with the introduction and without amendments to the Forest code of the Russian Federation, it is planned to develop and use in

forests located in water protection zones of special priority-target systems of forestry activities. Such systems include a complete set of silvicultural measures applied consistently and interrelated at all stages of the cycle of forest reproduction, complemented by off-system measures of forest protection and protection, ensuring the overall permanent preservation of dynamic forest ecosystems in the target state of effective implementation of integrated water protection functions.