

THE FOREST CODE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION NO. 200-FZ OF DECEMBER 4, 2006

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Chapter 1. General Provisions

Article 1. Basic Principles of Forestry Legislation

The forestry legislation and other normative legal acts regulating forestry matters shall be based on the following principles:

- 1) stable forest management, preservation of forests' biological diversity, enhancement of their potential;
- 2) preservation of environmental, water-protective, protective, hygiene-and-sanitary, health improving and other useful functions of forests for the purpose of ensuring everyone's right to a favourable environment;
- 3) using forests subject to their global ecological importance, as well as subject to their growth duration and forests' other natural properties;
- 4) ensuring multipurpose, efficient, continuous and sustainable forest exploitation to satisfy the need of society for forests and forest resources;
- 5) reproduction of forests, improvement of their quality, as well as enhancement of forest productivity;
- 6) ensuring forest conservancy and protection;
- 7) participation of citizens and public associations in preparing decisions whose implementation can have an impact upon forests, as regards their exploitation, protection, conservancy and reproduction in the procedure and forms established by the legislation of the Russian Federation;
- 8) forest exploitation in ways that are not harmful to the environment and human health;
- 9) subdivision of forests into types thereof according to their designated purpose and establishment of categories of protective forests depending on their useful functions;
- 10) inadmissibility of forest exploitation by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies;
- 11) forest exploitation on a payable basis.

Article 2. Forestry Legislation

1. The forestry legislation shall consist of this Code, other federal laws and laws of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation adopted in compliance with them.

2. Forestry matters may be likewise regulated by decrees of the President of the Russian Federation, which must not be at variance with this Code and other federal laws.

3. The Government of the Russian Federation shall issue normative legal acts regulating forestry matters within the scope of authority thereof determined by this Code, other federal laws, as well as by decrees of the President of the Russian Federation.

4. The federal executive power bodies shall issue normative legal acts regulating forestry matters in the cases provided for by this Code, other federal laws, as well as by decrees of the President of the Russian Federation and decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation.

5. On the basis and in pursuance of this Code, other federal laws, laws of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, decrees of the President of the Russian Federation and decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation the executive state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation may issue within the scope of authority thereof normative legal acts regulating forestry matters.

6. On the basis and in pursuance of this Code, other federal laws, laws of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, decrees of the President of the Russian Federation and decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation local self-government bodies may issue within the scope of authority thereof municipal legal acts regulating forestry matters.

Article 3. Relations Regulated by the Forestry Legislation

1. The forestry legislation shall regulate forestry matters.

2. The property relations connected with the circulation of forest blocks and forest ranges shall be regulated by the civil legislation, as well as by the Land Code of the Russian Federation, if not otherwise established by this Code and other federal laws.

Article 4. Parties to Forestry Matters

1. As parties to forestry matters shall be deemed the Russian Federation, the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, municipal formations, individuals and legal entities.

2. On behalf of the Russian Federation, of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and municipal formations the state power bodies of the Russian Federation, the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof established by normative legal acts shall participate accordingly in forestry matters.

Article 5. The Concept of a Forest

Forests shall be exploited, conserved, protected and reproduced on the basis of the concept of a forest as an ecological system or as a natural resource.

Article 6. Land Where Forests Are Located

1. Forests are located on forest fund land and land belonging to other categories.
2. Land shall be exploited, conserved, protected and reproduced in compliance with the designated purpose of the land where these forests are located.
3. The bounds of forest fund land and the bounds of land belonging to other categories shall be determined in compliance with the land legislation, the forest legislation and the town planning legislation.

Article 7. Forest Block

As a forest block shall be deemed a land plot whose bounds are determined in compliance with Articles 67, 69 and 92 of this Code.

Article 8. Ownership of Forest Blocks

1. Forest blocks within the composition of the forest fund land shall be under federal ownership.
2. The forms of ownership of forest blocks within the composition of land belonging to other categories shall be determined in compliance with the land legislation.

Article 9. Right to Permanent (Termless) Exploitation of Wood Blocks, Right to Limited Exploitation of Somebody Else's Forest Blocks (Servitude), Tenant Right to Forest Blocks, as Well as Right to Time Exploitation of Forest Blocks on a Gratuitous Basis

The right to permanent (termless) exploitation of forest blocks, the right to limited exploitation of somebody else's forest blocks (servitude), the right of lease of forest blocks, as well as the right to exploitation of forest blocks on a gratuitous basis within a fixed term, shall rise and shall be terminated in the procedure provided for by the civil legislation and the land legislation, if not otherwise provided for by this Code.

Article 10. Subdivision of Forests According to Their Designated Purpose

1. Forests located on forest fund land shall be subdivided according to their designated purpose into protective forests, merchantable forests and reserved forests.
2. Forests located on land of other categories may be classed as protective.
3. The specifics of exploiting, preserving, protecting and reproducing protective forests, merchantable forests and reserved forests shall be established by Articles from 102 to 109 of this Code.

Article 11. Individuals' Presence in Forests

1. Individuals shall be entitled to be present freely in forests on a gratuitous basis, to store and collect wild-growing fruit, berries, nuts, mushrooms and other edible forest resources (forest food resources) for their own needs, as well as non-wood forest resources.
2. Individuals shall be obliged to follow the forest fire safety rules, forest sanitary standards, reforestation rules and rules for carding of stands.
3. Individuals shall be forbidden to store and collect the mushrooms and wild-growing plants whose species are entered in the Red Book of the Russian Federation and red books of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, as well as the mushrooms and wild-growing plants which are declared narcotic drugs in compliance with Federal Law No. 3-Z of January 8, 1998 on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.
4. Individuals' presence may be forbidden in the forests which are located on land intended for ensuring defence and security, on land pertaining to specially protected natural territories and other land to which individuals' access is banned or restricted in compliance with federal laws.
5. Individuals' presence in forests may be restricted for the purpose of ensuring the following:
 - 1) forests' fire safety and sanitary safety;
 - 2) individuals' safety while carrying out works.
6. It shall not be allowable to forbid or restrict individuals' presence in forests for reasons that are not provided for by this Article.
7. Individuals' presence in forests for the purpose of hunting shall be regulated by the forest legislation and the legislation on fauna.

Article 12. Development of Forests

1. Forests shall be developed with the aim of their multipurpose, efficient, continuous and sustainable exploitation, as well as for the growth of the forest industry.

2. Forests shall be developed subject to their designated purpose and their useful functions.

3. Merchantable forests shall be subject to development for the purpose of stable and maximally efficient production of high-quality wood and other forest resources, as well as their conversion products, while ensuring preservation of forests' useful functions.

4. Protective forests shall be subject to development for the purpose of preserving environmental, water-protective, protective, hygiene-and-sanitary, health improving and other useful functions of forests accompanied by the concurrent exploitation of forests on condition that such exploitation is compatible with the designated purpose of protective forests and their useful functions.

5. While developing forests on the basis of a comprehensive approach, the following shall be done:

1) forest exploitation shall be organised;

2) units of the forest and wood-using industry infrastructure shall be created and operated;

3) measures aimed at forests' conservation, protection and reproduction shall be taken;

4) measures aimed at the protection and exploitation of the fauna and water bodies shall be taken.

Article 13. Forest Infrastructure

1. For the purpose of forests' exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction it shall be allowable to create the forest infrastructure (forest roads, timber yards and other facilities).

2. The forest infrastructure units shall be subject to demolition after they are no longer needed, while the lands where they are located shall be subject to reclamation.

3. Forest roads may be built in the course of any type of forest exploitation.

Article 14. Wood-using Industry Infrastructure

1. Wood-using industry infrastructure (processing facilities for prepared timber, bioenergy units and others) shall be created for processing wood and other forest resources.

2. The creation of wood-using industry infrastructure shall be forbidden in protective forests, as well as in other cases provided for by this Code and other federal laws.

Article 15. Forest Zoning

1. Depending on the environmental conditions, forest vegetation zones shall be defined where forests with relatively homogeneous forest vegetation features are located (forest vegetation zoning).

2. On the basis of forest vegetation zoning forest zones shall be established with relatively similar conditions of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction.

3. Forest vegetation zones and forest regions shall be determined by the authorized federal executive body in compliance with science-based methods.

4. The felling ages of forest ranges (ages of forest ranges established for storing wood of a certain commodity pattern), rules for storing wood and other forest resources, fire safety rules for forests, sanitary safety rules for forests, reforestation rules and rules for care of stands shall be established for every forest region by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 16. Forest Ranges' Felling

1. As felling of forest ranges (trees, scrubs and lianas in forests) shall be deemed the processes of their sawing down, felling and shopping.

2. It shall be allowable to fell the following for logging, if not otherwise established by this Code:

1) mature and overmature forest stands;

2) middle-aged, ripening, mature and overmature forest stands when felling failed and damaged forest stands and when taking care of stands;

3) forest ranges of any age in the forest blocks intended for erection, reconstruction and operation of the facilities provided for by Article 13, 14 and 21 of this Code.

3. The Procedure for carrying out felling forest stands shall be determined by the Rules for the procurement of timber, the Rules for sanitary safety in forests, the Rules for fire safety, and the Rules for the maintenance of forests.

Article 17. Selective Felling and Clear Felling of Forest Ranges

1. Felling of forest ranges shall be effected in the form of selective felling or clear felling.

2. Selective felling shall be deemed felling of a part of the trees and scrub on the appropriate lands and land plots.

3. Clear felling shall be deemed felling of forest ranges with preservation of individual trees and scrub or a group of trees and scrubs for the purpose of reforestation.

4. In protective forests clear felling shall be only effected if selective felling does not ensure the replacement of forest ranges which are losing their environmental, water-protective, protective, hygiene-and-sanitary, health improving and other useful functions by forest ranges which ensure preservation of the designated purpose of protective forests and their useful functions.

5. Clear felling in forest blocks intended for logging shall be only allowed on condition of reforestation on the said forest blocks.

6. It shall be forbidden to effect clear logging in the cases provided for by this Code and other federal laws.

Article 18. Forest Ranges' Tapping

1. As forest ranges' tapping shall be deemed the process of making cuts on the trunks of coniferous trees and of individual broad-leaved trees, as well as the process of harvesting gum and wood juices.

2. It shall be only allowable to tap forest ranges located in the forest blocks allotted for procuring the forest resources specified in Part 1 of this Article.

3. The procedure for tapping forest ranges shall be determined by the rules for gum harvesting, as well as by the rules for harvesting food forest resources and the rules for gathering medicinal plants.

Article 19. Measures Aimed at Forests' Conservation, Protection and at Reforestation

1. Measures aimed at forests' conservation, protection and at reforestation shall be taken by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of their authority determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code or by the persons using forests in compliance with this Code.

2. Where the exercise of activities aimed at forests' conservation, protection and at reforestation on land which is under state or municipal ownership is not entrusted to the persons using forests, the state power bodies and local self-government bodies shall place orders to carry out works aimed at forests' conservation, protection and reforestation by holding an auction sale in the procedure established by Federal Law No. 94-FZ of July 21, 2005 on Placing Orders to Supply Commodities, Carry Out Works and Render Services for Meeting State and Municipal Needs (hereinafter referred to as the Federal Law on Placing Orders to Supply Commodities, Carry Out Works and Render Services for Meeting State and Municipal Needs).

3. When placing orders to carry out works aimed at forest conservation, protection and at reforestation, the sale of forest ranges for logging shall be concurrently effected. To this end, an agreement shall be made containing elements of the state or municipal contract for carrying out works aimed at forest conservation, protection and at reforestation and of a contract of purchase of forest ranges.

4. If the agreement provided for by Part 3 of this Article is not made, an order to carry out works aimed at forest conservation, protection and at reforestation shall be placed without selling forest ranges for logging.

5. The specifics of placing an order to carry out works aimed at forest conservation, protection and at reforestation and of concluding the contracts provided for by Parts 2 and 3 of this Article shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 20. Ownership of Wood and Other Procured Forest Resources

1. Individuals and legal entities using forests in the procedure provided for by Article 25 of this Code shall acquire the ownership of wood and other procured forest resources in compliance with the civil legislation.

2. The wood obtained while exploiting the forests located on forest fund land in compliance with Articles from 43 to 46 of this Code shall be under the ownership of the Russian Federation.

Article 21. Construction, Re-Construction and Operation of Facilities Which Are Not Connected with Creation of the Forest Infrastructure

1. The construction, reconstruction and operation of facilities, which are not connected with creation of the forest infrastructure on forest fund lands shall be allowable for the following:

- 1) carrying out works aimed at geological exploration of subsurface resources;
- 2) development of mineral deposits;
- 3) exploitation of water reservoirs and other artificial water bodies, as well as of hydro-engineering structures and specialised ports;
- 4) exploitation of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear facilities;
- 5) processing of wood and other forest resources;
- 6) exercise of recreational activity;
- 7) exercise of religious activities.

2. The construction, re-construction and operation of facilities which are not connected with creation of the forest infrastructure on land of other categories, where forests are located, shall be allowable in the cases specified by other federal laws in compliance with the designated purpose of the land.

3. The facilities connected with the exercise of the activities specified by Items 1 and 2 of Part 1 of this Article shall be subject to conservation or liquidation in compliance with the legislation on subsurface resources.

4. Hydro-engineering structures shall be subject to conservation or liquidation in compliance with the water legislation.

5. For the purposes provided for by Items from 1 to 4 of Part 1 of this Article it shall be allowable to fell trees, scrub and lianas, in particular in protective zones and sanitary protection zones intended for ensuring individuals' safety and creation of necessary conditions for operation of the appropriate facilities.

6. Land which is exploited for construction, re-construction and (or) operation of facilities which are not connected with creation of the forest infrastructure shall be subject to reclamation.

Article 22. Investment Activities in the Field of Forest Development

1. Investment activities in the field of forest development shall be exercised in compliance with Federal Law No. 39-FZ of February 25, 1999 on Investment Activity in the Russian Federation Exercised in the Form of Capital Investments.

2. As objects of capital investments in the field of forest development shall be deemed units pertaining to the forest infrastructure or the wood-using industry infrastructure which are being created or upgraded.

3. A list of top-priority investment projects in the field of forest development shall be prepared and endorsed in the procedure established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 23. Forest Districts and Park-Forests

1. As basic territorial managerial entities in the field of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reforestation shall be deemed forest districts and forest-parks.

2. The forest fund lands shall consist of forest districts and park-forests.

3. Forest districts and part-forests shall be likewise located on land:

- 1) intended for ensuring defence and security where there are forests;
- 2) of settlements where municipal forests are located;
- 3) of specially protected natural territories where there are forests.

4. The implementation of the forestry regulations in forest districts and park-forests shall be ensured by forestry officers whose working routine shall be established by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

5. The number of forest districts and park-forests, as well as the boundaries thereof, shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Chapter 2. Forest Exploitation

Article 24. General Provisions on Forest Exploitation

1. Forest exploitation shall be effected with allotment and without allotment of forest blocks, as well as with withdrawal and without withdrawal of forest resources.

2. Failure of citizens and legal entities engaged in forest exploitation to follow the forestry regulations and a project for forests' development shall be a ground for early dissolution of a lease agreements in respect of a forest block or contracts of purchase of forest ranges, as well as for compulsory termination of the right of permanent (termless) use of a forest block or of gratuitous use of a forest block within a fixed period of time.

Article 25. Types of Forest Exploitation

1. There may be the following types of forest exploitation:

- 1) logging;
- 2) preparing turpentine;
- 3) procuring and collecting non-wood forest resources;
- 4) storing up food forest resources and gathering of medicinal herbs;
- 5) game husbandry and hunting;
- 6) farming;
- 7) scientific research and educational activities;
- 8) recreational activities;
- 9) creating man-made forests and their exploitation;
- 10) cultivation of sweet woods, berry plants, decorative plants and medicinal plants;

- 11) carrying out works aimed at geological exploration of subsurface resources, development of mineral deposits;
- 12) construction and operation of water reservoirs and other artificial water bodies, as well as of hydro-engineering structures and specialized ports;
- 13) construction, re-construction and operation of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear facilities;
- 14) processing of wood and other forest resources;
- 15) exercising religious activities;
- 16) other types determined in compliance with Part 2 of Article 6 of this Code.

2. Forests may be exploited for one or several purposes provided for by Part 1 of this Article, if not otherwise established by this Code and other federal laws.

3. Forest exploitation which constitutes a business activity shall be effected on forest fund land registered in the Russian Federation in compliance with Federal Law No. 129-FZ of August 8, 2001 on the State Registration of Legal Entities and Individual Businessmen.

Article 26. Forest Declaration

1. As the forest declaration shall be deemed an application for forest exploitation in compliance with a forest development project.

2. The forest declaration shall be annually filed with the state power bodies and local self-government bodies with the scope of authority determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code by the persons to which forest blocks are allotted for permanent (termless) use or are let on lease.

3. The form of the forest declaration, procedure for its filling out and submission shall be endorsed by the authorized federal executive power body.

Article 27. Forest Exploitation Restrictions

1. Forest exploitation may be restricted solely in the cases and in the procedure which are provided for by this Code and other federal laws.

2. It shall be allowable to establish the following restrictions as to forest exploitation:

- 1) prohibition of one or several types of forest exploitation provided for by Part 1 of Article 25 of this Code;
- 2) prohibition of felling;
- 3) other restrictions as to forest exploitation established by this Code and other federal laws.

Article 28. Suspension of Forest Exploitation

1. Forest exploitation may be only suspended in the cases provided for by federal laws.

2. Forest exploitation shall be suspended in the cases provided for by the Code of Administrative Offences of the Russian Federation in a judicial procedure. In other cases, forest exploitation shall be suspended by executive power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof in compliance with the federal laws.

Article 29. Logging

1. Logging shall constitute a type of business activity which is connected with cutting forest ranges, haulage thereof, partial wood processing, storage and removal from forests.

2. Wood shall be stored up in merchantable forests and protective forests, if not otherwise provided for by this Code and other federal laws.

3. Failed, damaged and overmature forest ranges shall be primarily available for logging.

4. It shall be forbidden to fell wood in a volume exceeding a calculated felling rate (allowable volume of wood withdrawal), as well as in contravention of felling ages.

5. Felling ages and the procedure for estimating a calculated felling rate shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

6. A list of kinds (species) of trees and scrubs whose logging is not allowed shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

7. Individuals and legal entities shall be entitled to construct forest roads, timber yards, other buildings and structures for the purpose of logging.

8. Individuals and legal entities shall effect logging on the basis of contracts of lease of forest blocks or, if logging is effected without allotting a forest block, on the basis of contracts of forest ranges' purchase and sale.

9. The logging rules shall be established by the authorized federal executive power body.

Article 30. Logging by Individuals to Meet Their Own Needs

1. Individuals shall be entitled to effect logging for heating, erection of buildings and for other own needs thereof.

2. At the traditional places of residence and economic activities of the persons pertaining to aboriginal peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation and living in a traditional way, these persons shall be entitled to effect logging on a free-of-charge basis to meet their own needs on the basis of the normative standards established in compliance with Part 5 of this Article.

3. Parts 1, 2 and 7 of Article 29 of this Code shall not apply to logging by individuals for the purpose of meeting their own needs.

4. Individuals shall effect logging for meeting their own needs on the basis of contracts of forest ranges' purchase and sale.

5. A procedure for, and normative standards of, logging by individuals for meeting their own needs shall be established by laws of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Article 31. Harvesting Turpentine

1. Harvesting turpentine shall be a business activity which is connected with tapping of coniferous trees, turpentine storage and its removal from forests.

2. Turpentine shall be harvested in forests which are intended for logging.

3. Citizens and legal entities shall harvest turpentine on the basis of contracts of lease of a forest block.

4. Rules for harvesting turpentine shall be established by the federal executive power body.

Article 32. Storing Up and Collecting Non-Wood Forest Resources

1. Storing up and collection of non-wood forest resources shall be a business activity connected with the withdrawal, storage and removal of the appropriate forest resources from forests.

2. The non-wood forest resources whose storing up and collection is effected in compliance with this Code shall include stumps, birchbark, bark of trees and scrubs, brushwood, branch forage, boughs of fir-trees, silver fir-trees and pine-trees, fir-trees for New Year holidays, moss, soil covering, reed, rush and similar forest resources.

3. Individuals and legal entities engaged in storing up and collection of non-wood forest resources shall be entitled to build sheds and other temporary constructions on the land plots allotted to them.

4. Individuals and legal entities shall store up and collect non-wood forest resources on the basis of contracts of forest blocks' lease.

5. The rules for storing up and collection of non-wood forest resources shall be established by the federal executive body.

Article 33. Storing Up and Collection of Non-Wood Forest Resources by Individuals to Meet Their Own Needs

1. Storing up and collection of non-wood forest resources by individuals for meeting their own needs shall be effected in compliance with Article 11 of this Code.

2. A restriction in respect of storing up and collection by individuals of non-wood forest resources to meet their own needs may be imposed in compliance with Article 27 of this Code.

3. Parts 1, 3 and 4 of Article 32 of this Code shall not apply to storing up and collection by citizens of non-wood forest resources for meeting their own needs.

4. The procedure for storing up and collection by citizens of non-wood forest resources to meet their own needs shall be established by the laws of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

Article 34. Storing Up of Food Forest Resources and Collection of Medicinal Plants

1. Storing up of food forest resources and collection of medicinal plants shall be a business activity which is connected with the withdrawal, storage and removal of such forest resources from forests.

2. The non-food forest resources which are stored up in compliance with this Code shall include wild fruit, berries, nuts, mushrooms, seeds, birch syrup and similar forest resources.

3. Individuals and legal entities shall store up food forest resources and collect medicinal plants on the basis of lease contracts for forest blocks.

4. Individuals and legal entities engaged in storing up food forest resources and in collecting medicinal plants shall be entitled to locate on the forest blocks allotted to them dryers, mushroom cooking facilities, storage houses and other temporary structures.

5. The rules for storing up food forest resources and for collecting medicinal plants shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 35. Storing Up of Food Forest Resources by Individuals and Collection by Them of Medicinal Plants For Meeting Their Own Needs

1. Non-wood forest resources shall be stored up and collected by individuals for their own needs in compliance with Article 11 of this Code.

2. Restrictions as to storing up and collection by individual of non-wood forest resources to meet their own needs may be imposed in compliance with Article 27 of this Code.

3. Parts 1, 3 and 4 of Article 34 of this Code shall not apply to storing up and collection by citizens of non-wood forest resources for meeting their own needs.

4. The procedure for storing up and collection by citizens of non-wood forest resources for their own needs shall be established by laws of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

Article 36. Forest Exploitation for Game Husbandry

1. Game husbandry on forest blocks shall be a business activity connected with rendering services to hunters.

2. Forest blocks allotted for game husbandry shall be deemed hunting areas.

3. Hunting on the forest blocks intended for game husbandry shall be effected in compliance with Federal Law No. 52-FZ of April 24, 1995 on the Fauna (hereinafter referred to as the Federal Law on Fauna) and by this Code.

4. It shall be allowable to erect on the forest blocks allotted for game husbandry temporary structures and to improve these forest blocks.

5. Individuals and legal entities shall exploit forests for game husbandry on the basis of lease contracts for these forest blocks.

6. The rules for forest exploitation with the aim of game husbandry shall be established by the laws of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

Article 37. Exploitation of Forests by Individuals for Amateur Hunting and for Sporting Hunting

1. Exploitation of forests by individuals for amateur hunting and sporting hunting shall be effected without allotting forest blocks in compliance with Article 11 of this Code.

2. Restrictions as to exploitation of forests by individuals for amateur hunting and for sporting hunting may be imposed in compliance with Article 27 of this Code.

Article 38. Forest Exploitation for Agriculture

1. Forests may be exploited for farming (haymaking, pasture of farm animals, beekeeping, northern reindeer breeding, growing agricultural plants and other agricultural activities).

2. It shall be allowable to locate on the forest blocks allotted for farming beehives and beegardens, to erect fences, sheds and other temporary structures.

3. Forest blocks shall be allotted to individuals and legal entities for farming in compliance with Article 9 of this Code.

4. The rules for forest exploitation for the purpose of farming shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 39. Growing Forest Fruit, Berry, Decorative and Medicinal Plants

1. Growing forest fruit, berry, decorative and medicinal plants shall be a business activity connected with obtaining fruit, berry, decorative and medicinal plants and similar forest resources.

2. It shall be allowable to locate temporary structures on the forest blocks used for growing forest fruit, berry, decorative and medicinal plants.

3. Individuals and legal entities shall grow forest fruit, berry, decorative and medicinal plants on the basis of lease contracts for forest blocks.

4. The rules for forest exploitation with the aim of growing forest fruit, berry, decorative and medicinal plants shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 40. Forest Exploitation for the Exercise of Scientific Research and Educational Activities

1. Forests may be exploited with the aim of exercising scientific research and educational activities by scientific research and educational establishments.

2. Forest blocks shall be allotted for the exercise of scientific research activities to state and municipal institutions for permanent (termless) use and to other scientific and educational institutions on a leasehold basis.

3. The rules for forest exploitation with the aim of exercising scientific research and educational activities shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 41. Forest Exploitation for Exercising Recreational Activities

1. Forests may be used for recreational activities with the aim of organising recreation, tourism, physical training, health improvement and the exercise of sporting activities.

2. While exercising recreational activities in forests, it shall be allowable to erect temporary structures on forest blocks and to improve these blocks. If the forest development plan on the territory of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation (a forest plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation) specifies areas of planned forest development where it is stipulated to construct, reconstruct

and operate facilities intended for recreational activities, it shall be allowable to erect on the appropriate forest blocks facilities for physical training, health improvement and sports, as well as athletic technical constructions.

3. Wild landscapes, flora and fauna units and water bodies shall be preserved on the forest blocks allotted for exercising recreational activities.

4. Forest blocks shall be allotted for exercising recreational activities to the state and municipal institutions for permanent (termless) use and to other persons on leasehold basis.

5. The Rules for the use of forests for carrying out recreational activity shall be established by the authorised federal body of executive power.

Article 42. Creation of Man-Made Forests and Their Exploitation

1. The creation of man-made forests and their exploitation shall be a business activity connected with growing forest ranges of certain species (purpose-oriented species).

2. Forest ranges of certain species (purpose-oriented species) shall include forest ranges of artificial origin used for obtaining wood with desired properties.

3. Man-made forests may be created on the forest fund lands and on lands of other categories.

4. Forest blocks shall be granted on lease to individuals and legal entities for creation of man-made forests and for their exploitation in compliance with this Code and land plots in compliance with the land legislation.

5. At man-made forests felling of forest ranges and tapping thereof shall be done without any restrictions.

Article 43. Forest Exploitation for Carrying Our Works Aimed at Geological Exploration of Subsurface Resources and at the Development of Minerals' Deposits

1. Forests shall be exploited for carrying out works aimed at geological exploration of subsoil resources and at the development of minerals' deposits in compliance with Article 21 of this Code.

2. Forest blocks which are under state or municipal ownership shall be granted for carrying out works aimed at geological exploration of subsurface resources and development of minerals' deposits on a leasehold basis, except for the cases provided for by Part 3 of this Article.

3. It shall be allowable on the basis of decisions of the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code to carry out works aimed at geological exploration of subsurface resources on forest fund land without allotting a forest block, if the performance of such works does not entail forest range felling.

4. The procedure for forest exploitation with the aim of carrying out works related to geological exploration of subsurface resources or for the development of minerals' deposits shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 44. Forest Exploitation for Construction and Operation of Water Reservoirs and Other Artificial Water Bodies, as Well as of Hydro-Engineering Facilities and Specialised Ports

1. Forests shall be exploited for construction of and operation of water reservoirs, as well as hydro-engineering facilities and specialised ports, in compliance with Article 21 of this Code.

2. Forest blocks shall be used for construction and operation of water reservoirs and other artificial water bodies, as well as of hydro-engineering facilities and specialised ports in compliance with the water legislation.

3. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be allotted to individuals and legal entities in compliance with Article 9 of this Code for construction of water reservoirs and other artificial water bodies, as well as of hydro-engineering facilities and specialized ports.

Article 45. Forest Exploitation for Construction, Re-Construction and Operation of Power Transmission Lines, Communication Lines, Roads, Pipelines and Other Linear Facilities

1. Forest exploitation for construction, re-construction and operation of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear facilities shall be effected in compliance with Article 21 of this Code.

2. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be allotted to individuals and legal entities in compliance with Article 9 of this Code for construction of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear facilities.

3. The rules for forest exploitation with the aim of construction, re-construction and operation of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear facilities shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 46. Forest Exploitation for Processing of Wood and Other Forest Resources

1. Forests exploitation for the purpose of processing wood and other forest resources shall be a business activity connected with producing sawn timber and other products of such processing in compliance with Article 14 of this Code.

2. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be allotted to individuals and legal entities on a leasehold basis for processing of wood and other forest resources.

3. The rules for forest exploitation with the aim of processing wood and other forest resources shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 47. Forest Exploitation for Exercising Religious Activities

1. Forests may be used by religious organisations for exercising religious activities in compliance with Federal Law No. 125-FZ of September 26, 1997 on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations.

2. It shall be allowable to erect buildings, structures and constructions for religious and charitable purpose on the forest blocks allotted for exercising religious activities.

3. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be allotted to religious organisations for gratuitous exploitation within a fixed term for exercising religious activities.

Article 48. Forest Exploitation in the Areas of Traditional Residence and Economic Activities of the Persons Pertaining to Aboriginal Peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation

In the areas of traditional residence and economic activities of the persons pertaining to aboriginal peoples of the North, Siberia and Far East of the Russian Federation the protection of the original environmental conditions and their traditional way of life shall be ensured in the course of forest exploitation in compliance with Federal Law No. 82-FZ of April 30, 1999 on Guarantees of Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Federation.

Article 49. Report on Forest Exploitation

1. A report of forest exploitation (information about the volume of extracted forest resources, their commodity pattern and other information) shall be presented by individuals and legal entities, engaged in forest exploitation, to the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of their authority determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

2. The form of a report on forest exploitation and procedure for presentation thereof shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 50. Protection of Competition in the Field of Forest Exploitation

1. Monopolistic activities and unfair competition in the field of forest exploitation shall be forbidden.

2. It shall not be allowable for the federal executive power bodies, the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and other bodies or organisations exercising the functions of the said bodies to adopt acts and (or) to take actions (to omit actions), as well as to make agreements or take concerted actions in the area of forest exploitation which lead or can lead to non-admission, restriction and elimination of competition.

3. The Government of the Russian Federation may establish the maximum volume of wood to be stored up by a person or a group of persons, except for the cases provided for by Part 8 of Article 80 of this Code.

4. The state control over economic concentration in the area of forest exploitation shall be exercised in compliance with Federal Law No. 135-FZ of July 26, 2006 on Protection of Competition.

Chapter 3. Conservation and Protection of Forests

Article 51. General Provisions on the Conservation and Protection of Forests

1. Forests shall be protected from fires, pollution (in particular, by radioactive materials) and from other types of negative influence, as well as from hazardous organisms.

2. Conservation and protection of forests shall be effected by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code, if not otherwise provided for by this Code and other federal laws.

3. Failure of the individuals and legal entities engaged in forest exploitation to follow the forestry regulations and a forest development project, as regards forest conservation and protection, shall serve as grounds for early dissolution of lease contracts for forest blocks, contracts of forest range purchase and sale, as well as for compulsory termination of the right to permanent (termless) exploitation of a forest block or the right to gratuitous exploitation of a forest block within a fixed term.

Article 52. Forests' Protection from Fires

Forests' protection from fires shall be effected in compliance with Federal Law No. 69-FZ of December 21, 1994 on Fire Prevention (hereinafter referred to as the Federal Law on Fire Prevention) and by this Code.

Article 53. Fire Safety in Forests

1. For the purpose of ensuring fire safety in forests the following shall be done:

1) forests' development from the point of fire prevention, including the construction, reconstruction and maintenance of roads for fire-fighting purpose, of landing grounds for airplanes and helicopters to be used for carrying out aerial works aimed at forest conservation and protection, making cuttings and fire breaks in forests;

2) creation of the systems and facilities for forest fire prevention and extinguishing (fire engineering and equipment, firemen's outfit and others), maintenance of these systems and facilities, as well as stocking combustible-lubricant materials for the periods when fire risk is high;

3) fire hazard monitoring in forests;

4) drawing up plans for forest fire extinguishing;

5) forest fire extinguishing;

6) other fire safety measures in forests.

2. Individuals and legal entities shall be attracted for extinguishing forest fires in compliance with Federal Law No. 68-FZ of December 21, 1994 on the Protection of the Population and Territories from Emergency Situations of Natural and Man-made Nature.

3. The fire safety measures on forest blocks allotted on a leasehold basis, which are specified in Items 1 and 2 of Part 1 of this Article, shall be taken by these forest blocks' leasers on the basis of a forest development project.

4. Fire safety rules in forests shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 54. Protection of Forests

1. Protection of forests shall be aimed at detecting hazardous organisms in forests (plants, animals or pathotypes which can cause harm to forests and forest resources under certain conditions) and at preventing their spread or, in the event of emergence of hazardous organisms' concentrations regarded as quarantine objects, at their localisation and liquidation.

2. Forests shall be protected from the hazardous organisms regarded as quarantine objects in compliance with Federal Law No. 99-FZ of July 15, 2000 on Plant Quarantine.

Article 55. Sanitary Safety in Forests

1. For the purpose of ensuring sanitary safety in forests the following shall be done:

1) forest protection zoning (determining zones with low, medium and high levels of forest pathology danger);

2) forest pathology inspections and forest pathology monitoring;

3) aerial works and ground-based activities aimed at localization and liquidation of hazardous organisms;

4) sanitary and improvement measures (extraction of failed and damaged forest ranges, clearing forests of rubbish, pollution and other types of negative influence);

5) establishment of sanitary requirements for forest exploitation.

2. The sanitary safety measures on forest blocks granted on lease which are specified in Item 4 of Part 1 of this Article shall be taken by leasers of these forest blocks on the basis of a forest development project.

3. The sanitary safety rules in forests shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 56. Forest Pathology Monitoring

1. For the purpose of forest conservation and protection, information about the pathology condition of forests, in particular about the concentrations of hazardous organisms regarded as quarantine objects, shall be collected, analysed and used (forest pathology monitoring).

2. A procedure for organising and carrying out the forest pathology monitoring shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 57. Aerial Works Aimed at Forest Conservation and Protection

1. For the purpose of conservation and protection of forests aerial works aimed at forest conservation and protection shall be carried out.

2. The procedure for organising and carrying out aerial works aimed at conservation and protection of forests shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 58. Protection of Forests from Radioactive Contamination

1. For the purpose of protection of forests from radioactive pollution radiation inspections of forests shall be effected and zones of radioactive contamination shall be marked.

2. The specifics of forest protection, devising and taking of preventive and rehabilitative measures in zones of forests' radioactive contamination shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 59. Conservation of Exotic Species of Trees, Shrubs, Lianas and Other Sylvan Plants, as Well as of Those Which Are under the Danger of Extinction

For the purpose of conservation of exotic species of trees, shrubs, lianas and other sylvan plants entered in the Red Book of the Russian Federation or to red books of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation the exercise of activities whose negative impact leads or can lead to the reduction of the number of such plants and (or) to deterioration of their habitat may be forbidden or restrictions may be imposed as to the exercise of these activities.

Article 60. Report on Conservation or Protection of Forests

1. A report on conservation or protection of forests shall be submitted by individuals or legal entities to the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

2. The form of a report on conservation or protection of forests, as well as the procedure for submission thereof, shall established by the federal executive body.

Chapter 4. Forest Reproduction and Forest Breeding

Article 61. General Provisions on Forest Reproduction

1. Felled, failed and damaged forests shall be subject to reproduction.

2. Forest reproduction shall be effected by way of forest renewal and care of stands.

3. Forest reproduction shall be effected by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code, if not otherwise provided for by this Code and other federal laws.

4. Failure of citizens and legal entities engaged in forest exploitation to follow the forestry regulations and a project of forests' development shall be grounds for early dissolution of lease agreements in respect of a forest block or contracts of purchase and sale of forest ranges, as well as for compulsory termination of the right to permanent (termless) use of a forest block or to the right of gratuitous use of a forest block within a fixed period of time.

Article 62. Forest Renewal

1. Forest renewal shall be effected by way of natural, artificial and combined forest recreation.

2. On forest blocks granting on lease for logging forest renewal shall be effected by leasers of these blocks.

3. The rules for forest renewal shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 63. Forest Creation

1. Forest creation shall be effected for preventing water, wind and other kind of soil erosion, for creation of protective forests and for other purposes connected with the enhancement of forests' potential.

2. The rules for forest creation shall be established by the authorized federal executive power body.

Article 64. Care of Forestry

1. Care of forestry shall be the activities aimed at enhancing forest productivity and preservation of their useful functions (removal of a part of trees and scrubs, agroforestral and other measures).

2. Care of forestry shall be effected by persons engaged in forest exploitation on the basis of a forest development project.

3. The rules for care of forestry shall be established by the authorised federal executive body.

Article 65. Forest Seedage

1. Forest seedage shall be effected in compliance with Federal Law No. 149-FZ of December 17, 1997 on Seedage and with this Code.

2. The following shall be done for the purpose of forest seedage:

1) forest seedage zoning;

2) creation of permanent forest seed plantations;

3) forming of the federal fund of sylvan plants' seeds;

4) other measures aimed at the production, storing up, processing, storage, sale, transportation and use of sylvan plants' seeds.

3. While reproducing forests, improved and selected seeds or, if there are no such seeds, normal seeds of sylvan plants shall be used.

4. While reproducing forests, it shall not be allowable to use azonal seeds of sylvan plants, as well as seeds of sylvan plants whose planting and other properties are not checked.

5. A procedure for using zonal seeds of sylvan plants of basic species of forest trees shall be established by the federal executive power body.

Article 66. Report on Forest Reproduction and Forest Creation

1. Reports on forest reproduction and forest breeding shall be submitted by individuals and legal entities engaged in forest reproduction and forest creation to the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

2. The form of a report on forest reproduction and forest creation and the procedure for submission thereof shall be established by the federal executive power body.

Chapter 5. Forest Management

Article 67. General Provisions on Forest Management

1. Forest management shall be effected on forest fund land, as well as on the lands specified in Part 3 of Article 23 of this Code.

2. The procedure for forest management shall be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 68. Contents of Forest Management

1. Forest management shall include the following:

1) designing forest districts and park-forests;
2) designing merchantable forests, protective forests, reserved forests, as well as special protective forest blocks;

3) designing forest blocks;

4) fixing onsite the location of boundaries of forest districts, park-forests, merchantable forests, protective forests, reserved forests, special protective forest blocks and forest blocks;

5) inventory of stands (detection, registration and assessment of qualitative and quantitative characteristics of forest resources);

6) planning activities aimed at the conservation, protection and reproduction of forests.

2. Survey and cartographic works shall be carried out in compliance with Federal Law No. 209-FZ of December 26, 1995 on Geodesy and Cartography.

3. In the cases provided for by Item 4 of Part 1 of this Article the location of boundaries may be fixed onsite by means of forest estimation signs and forestry signs and (or) shown by forest maps.

Article 69. Designing Forest Blocks

1. When designing forest blocks, project documentation in respect of the location, boundaries, area and other quantitative and qualitative characteristics of forest blocks shall be prepared.

2. The location, boundaries and area of forest blocks shall be determined in accordance with compartments and (or) forest mensuration portions, their boundaries and area.

3. The boundaries of forest blocks adjacent to land plot, whose boundaries are determined in the procedure provided for by Federal Law No. 78-FZ of June 18, 2001 on the System of Land Management, shall be fixed in compliance with the land legislation.

4. The purpose and type of a permitted forest block's exploitation shall be specified in the project documentation in compliance with Articles 87 and 91 of this Code.

5. Forest blocks shall be planned within the bounds of forest districts and park-forests accordingly.

Article 70. Carrying Out Works and Rendering Services Related to Forest Management

1. Forest management works shall be carried out and forest management services shall be rendered in compliance with the civil legislation, if not otherwise established by this Code.

2. The state power bodies or local self-government bodies shall place orders to carry out forest management works or to render forest management services in the procedure established by the Federal Law on Placing Orders to Supply Goods, Carry Out Works and Render Services for Meeting State or Municipal Needs.

Chapter 6. Allotting to Individuals and Legal Entities Forest Blocks That Are under the State or Municipal Ownership

Article 71. Procedure for Allotting to Individuals and Legal Entities Forest Blocks That Are under State or Municipal Ownership

1. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be allotted to legal entities for permanent (termless) exploitation, on a leasehold basis, for gratuitous exploitation within a fixed term and to individuals for gratuitous exploitation within a fixed term.

2. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be let on lease to individuals and legal entities in compliance with this Code.

3. The regulations on lease provided for by the Civil Code of the Russian Federation shall apply to a lease contract for a forest block, if not otherwise provided for by this Code.

4. Forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be allotted to legal entities for permanent (termless) exploitation or for gratuitous exploitation within a fixed term and to individuals for gratuitous exploitation within a fixed term in the procedure provided for by the Land Code of the Russian Federation, if not otherwise provided for by this Code.

Article 72. Contract of Lease of a Forest Block That Is under State or Municipal Ownership

1. Under a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership the lessor shall grant to the leaseholder a forest block for exploitation for the purposes provided for by Article 25 of this Code.

2. As the object of lease may be deemed only forest blocks under state or municipal ownership and which are entered to the state cadastral records.

3. A contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership shall be made for a time period from 10 to 49 years or, in the instances provided for by Articles from 43 to 45 of this Code, for a term from 1 to 49 years.

4. The validity term of a contract of lease of a forest block shall be determined in accordance with the term of permitted exploitation of forests provided for by the forestry regulations.

5. A leaseholder that has properly executed a contract of lease of a forest block, which is under state or municipal ownership, upon the expiry of the term of validity thereof shall enjoy a priority right to make a contract of lease for a new term.

Article 73. Lease Payment

1. The rate of lease payment shall be determined on the basis of the minimum rate of lease payment established in compliance with Parts 2, 3 and 4 of this Article.

2. When exploiting a forest block with the extraction of forest resources, the minimum rate of lease payment shall be determined as the product of the rate of payment for the volume unit of forest resources and the volume of extracted forest resources on the leased forest block.

3. When exploiting a forest block without extracting forest resources, the minimum rate of lease payment shall be determined as the product of the rate of payment for the area unit of the forest block and the area of the leased forest block.

4. As regards granting on lease a forest block that is under federal ownership, ownership of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation or municipal ownership, the rate of payment for the volume unit of forest resources and the rate of payment or the area unit of a forest block shall be established accordingly by the Government of the Russian Federation, the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local self-government bodies.

Article 74. Making a Contract of Lease of a Forest Block That Is under State or Municipal Ownership

1. A contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership shall be made on the basis of the results of an auction of the right to make such contract, except for the cases established by Part 3 of this Article.

2. When making a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership, it shall not be allowable on the basis of the results of an auction to change the terms of the auction by agreement of the parties to it or at the request of one of the parties.

3. Contracts of lease of forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership shall be made without holding an auction in the cases:

1) provided for by Articles from 43 to 45 of this Code;

2) of implementation of priority investment projects in the field of forest development.

4. Contracts for lease of forest blocks that are under federal ownership, ownership of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation or municipal ownership shall be made accordingly by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

5. The procedure for preparing and making a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership and a model contract of lease of a forest block shall be endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Chapter 7. Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Ranges

Article 75. Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Ranges

1. Forest ranges located on the lands which are under state or municipal ownership shall be sold under a contract of purchase and sale of forest ranges.
2. Forest ranges shall be purchased and sold in compliance with this Code.
3. The provisions on contracts of purchase and sale provided for by the Civil Code of the Russian Federation shall apply to a contract of purchase and sale of forest ranges, if not otherwise established by this Code.
4. A contract of purchase and sale of forest ranges shall specify the location of the forest ranges (the compartments and (or) forest mensuration portion) and the volume of wood to be logged.
5. The validity term of a contract of purchase and sale of forest ranges may not exceed one year.
6. Exceptional instances of logging on the basis of a contract of purchase and sale of forest ranges shall be established by laws of constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Article 76. Payment under a Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Stands

1. Payment under a contract of purchase and sale, except for payment under a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands for own needs, shall be determined on the basis of the minimum payment rate established in compliance with Parts 2 and 3 of this Article.
2. The minimum payment rate under a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands shall be determined as the product of the payment rate for the wood volume unit and the volume of wood to be logged.
3. Payment rates for the wood volume unit to be logged on the lands which are under federal ownership, or ownership of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, or municipal ownership shall be established accordingly by the Government of the Russian Federation, the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local self-government bodies.
4. Payment under a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands for own needs shall be determined on the basis of the rates established by the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

Article 77. Making a Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Stands

1. A contract of purchase and sale of forest stands shall be made on the basis of the results of an auction sale of the right to make such contract, except for the cases provided for by Articles 19 and 30 of this Code.
2. When making a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands on the basis of the results of an auction of the right to make such contract, it shall not be allowable to change the terms of the auction by agreement of the parties to the contract or at the request of one of the parties thereto.
3. Individuals shall make contracts of purchase and sale of forest stands for own needs in the procedure established by the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.
4. Contracts of purchase and sale of forest stands located on land which is under federal ownership, ownership of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation or municipal ownership shall be made accordingly by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.
5. The procedure for preparing and making a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands located on land under state or municipal ownership and a model contract of purchase and sale of forest stands shall be endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Chapter 8. Auction Sales of the Right to Make a Contract of Lease of a Forest Block That Is under State or Municipal Ownership or the Right to Make a Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Stands

Article 78. General Provisions on Auction Sales of the Right to Make a Contract of Lease of a Forest Block That Is under State or Municipal Ownership or the Right to Make a Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Stands

1. Contracts of lease of forest blocks that are under state or municipal ownership and contracts of purchase and sale of forest stands shall be made on the basis of the results of auctions to be held by way of raising the original price of the subject of an auction.
2. Where a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership is not made in compliance with Part 1 of this Article, it shall be allowable to hold an auction whose results shall serve as a basis for making a contract of lease of such forest block which provides for the starting time of the lease payment upon the expiry of the first five years of the validity term of the contract of lease of the forest block.

Article 79. Organising an Auction of the Right to Make a Contract of Lease of a Forest Block That Is Under State or Municipal Ownership or of the Right to Make a Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Stands

1. As the organiser of an auction of the right to make a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership or the right to make a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands (hereinafter also referred to as an auction) shall be deemed the seller of the right to make the contract of lease of the forest block that is under state or municipal ownership, or the seller of the right to make the contract of purchase and sale of forest stands, or a specialized organisation acting on the basis of an agreement made with this seller.

2. As sellers of the right to make a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership or of the right to make a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands shall act the state power bodies or local self-government bodies in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

3. The auction organiser, at least sixty days before the date of holding an auction of the right to make a contract of lease of a forest block or at least fifteen days before the date of holding an auction of the right to make a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands, must publish an announcement about holding the auction in the periodical publication determined by the supreme executive power body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation or by the head of the municipal entity where the forest block is located (hereinafter referred to as a periodical publication), as well as to place this announcement on the official Internet web-site of the supreme executive power body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation or of the local self-government body (hereinafter referred to as an official web-site). Information about holding an auction must be accessible to all persons concerned.

4. The announcement about holding an auction has to contain the following data:

1) on the auction sale's organiser;

2) on the subject of the auction, in particular on the location of forest blocks or forest stands, on the area and boundaries of forest blocks, on the volume of forest resources to be harvested, on charging forest blocks, on limiting forest exploitation, on the cadastral numbers of forest blocks, on the types of forest exploitation and on the parameters of forest exploitation established by the forestry regulations;

3) on the place, starting and finishing dates of the time period for filing bids for participation in the auction and the date of holding the auction;

4) on the initial price of the subject of the auction determined in compliance with Articles 73 and 76 of this Code;

5) on the official web-site where the auction sale's documentation is placed;

6) on the time period within which on the basis of the results of the auction, a contract of lease of a forest block under state or municipal ownership or a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands has to be made.

5. The auction organiser shall be entitled to refuse to hold an auction of the right to make a contract of lease of a forest block at latest fifteen days before the finishing date of the time period for filing bids for participation in an auction of the right to make a contract of lease of a forest block or at least ten days before the end of the time period for filing bids for participation in an auction of the right to make a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands. A notice of the refusal to hold an auction shall be published by the auction organiser within three days in a periodical publication and shall be placed within two days on the official Internet web-site. The auction organiser shall be obliged to notify the auction participants of his refusal to hold the auction sale within two days and to pay back to them their earnest money within five days.

6. The auction organiser shall be obliged to prepare documentation on the auction which, along with the data stated in the announcement about holding the auction, has to contain the following:

1) data concerning the forest block or the forest resources to be harvested;

2) the cadastral map of the forest block or data on the location of forest stands;

3) data on the rate of rise of the initial price of the subject of the auction ("auction step"). "An auction step" shall be established at the rate of at most five per cent of the initial price of the auction's subject;

4) data on the form of a bid for participation in the auction and on the time for filing it;

5) data on the rate of earnest money, time of, and procedure for, entering it, requisite elements of the account where the earnest money has to be remitted. The earnest money shall be established at the rate from ten to one hundred per cent of the initial price of the auction's subject;

6) a draft contract of lease of a forest block or of purchase and sale of forest stands.

7. Concurrently with placing an announcement about holding an auction the organiser thereof shall ensure placement of the auction documentation on the official Internet web-site where this documentation must be accessible to all persons concerned.

8. The following shall be deemed as grounds for the refusal to admit to participate in an auction:

1) filing of a bid not complying with the established requirements;

2) filing of a bid by a person to which forest blocks may not be allotted under federal laws;

3) the existence of bankruptcy proceedings in respect of the applicant (a legal entity or an individual businessman);

4) the applicant legal entity is being liquidated or the individual applicant is terminating his activities as an individual businessman;

5) delayed remittance of earnest money to the account specified in the auction documentation upon termination of the time period for filing bids for participation in the auction.

9. It shall not be allowable to deny participation in an auction for reasons which are not established by Part 8 of this Article.

10. A bid for participation in an auction shall specify the denomination, organisational and legal form and location of a legal entity or the family name, first name, patronymic, data of the document certifying the identity and place of residence in respect of an individual businessman, as well as requisite elements of the bank account.

11. The following shall be attached to a bid for participation in an auction:

1) an extract from the comprehensive state register of legal entities - in respect of a legal entity, an extract from the comprehensive state register of individual businessmen -in respect of an individual businessman or a copy of the appropriate extract attested and certified by a notary;

2) documents proving the fact of remitting earnest money.

12. The auction organiser shall not be entitled to demand of an applicant documents which are not specified in Part 11 of this Article.

13. An applicant shall be entitled to file one bid for participation in an auction. It shall not be allowable to collect payment for participation in an auction.

14. An applicant shall be entitled to withdraw his bid for participation in an auction at any time before the end of the time period for filing bids for participation in the auction. The auction organiser shall pay back an applicant's earnest money within five working days as of the date of receiving a notice of withdrawal of a bid for participation in the auction.

15. The auction organiser shall keep a record of acceptance of bids for participation in the auction which has to contain data on applicants, the starting and finishing dates of the time period for filing bids, the earnest money paid, as well as data on the applicants not admitted to participation in the auction. A record of acceptance of bids for participation in an auction shall be signed by the auction organiser within one day as of the finishing date of the time period for filing such bids. An applicant shall become an auction participant as of the time of signing of the said record by the auction organiser.

16. Applicants admitted to participation in an auction and applicants not admitted to participation in an auction shall be notified of the rendered decision at the latest on the day following the date the auction organiser signing a record of acceptance of bids for participation in the auction.

17. An auction organiser shall be obliged to pay back to an applicant not admitted to participation in the auction this applicant's earnest money within five days as of the date of signing the record of acceptance of bids for participation in the auction.

Article 80. Procedure for Holding an Auction of the Right to Make a Contract of Lease of a Forest Block That Is under State or Municipal Ownership or of the Right to Make a Contract of Purchase and Sale of Forest Stands

1. An auction shall be held by way of rising the initial price of the subject of the auction by the "auction step". If after announcing the initial price of the subject of an auction three times none of the auction's participants declares his intention to acquire the subject of the auction at the initial price thereof, the auction shall be declared frustrated. The auction organiser shall be obliged to carry out audio recording and videotaping of the auction.

2. If after announcing three times the last bid for the subject of an auction none of the auction's participants offers a higher price for the subject of the auction, the auction organiser shall announce the auction's winner.

3. The auction's results shall be legalized by a record thereof to be signed by the auction organiser and the auction's winner on the date of holding the auction.

4. The auction organiser, within three working days as of the date of signing a record of the auction's results, shall deliver to the auction's winner one copy of the record.

5. Within five working days as of the date of signing the record specified by Part 3 of this Article the auction organiser shall be obliged to pay back to the auction's participants that did not win the auction the earnest money thereof.

6. Within ten working days as of the date of signing an auction's record, the parties shall sign a contract of lease of a forest block or a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands.

7. An auction shall be deemed frustrated if:

1) there were less than two participants in the auction;

2) after announcing three times the initial price of the auction's subject none of the auction's participants declared his intention to acquire the auction's subject at the initial price thereof.

8. If an auction is declared frustrated for the reason specified in Item 1 of Part 7 of this Article, the only auction participant at latest in ten days as of the date of holding the auction shall be obliged to make a contract of purchase and sale of forest ranges or a contract of lease of a forest block, and the state power body or the local self-government body that decided to hold the auction shall not be entitled to deny making the appropriate contract on the basis of the initial price of the subject of the auction with the only auction's only participant.

9. Information about the results of an auction shall be subject to publication by the auction organiser within three working days as of the date of signing a record of the results of the auction in the periodical publication, where the announcement about holding the auction sale was published, and shall be subject to placement on the official Internet web-site.

Chapter 9. Authority of the State Power Bodies of the Russian Federation, of the State Power Bodies of the Constituent Entities of the Russian Federation and Local Self-Government Bodies in the Field of Forestry Matters

Article 81. Authority of the State Power Bodies of the Russian Federation in the Field of Forestry Matters

The authority of the state power bodies of the Russian Federation in the field of forestry matters shall include the following:

- 1) establishing felling ages and the procedure for estimating a calculated felling rate;
- 2) establishing a list of types (species) of trees and scrubs whose logging is not allowed;
- 3) endorsing a form of the forest declaration and a procedure for its filling out and submission;
- 4) establishing the rules for logging;
- 5) establishing the rules for harvesting turpentine;
- 6) establishing the rules for harvesting food forest resources and for collection of medicinal plants;
- 7) establishing the rules for storing up and collecting non-wood forest resources;
- 8) establishing the rules for forest exploitation with the aim of growing forest, fruit, berry, decorative and medicinal plants;
- 9) establishing the rules for forest exploitation with the aim of exercising scientific research and educational activities;
- 10) establishing the rules for forest exploitation with the aim of exercising recreational activities;
- 11) establishing the procedure for forest exploitation with the aim of carrying out works related to geological investigation of subsurface resources and development of mineral deposits;
- 12) establishing the procedure for exploitation of forest blocks for construction, re-construction and operation of power transmission lines, communication lines, roads, pipelines and other linear facilities;
- 13) establishing the rules for forest exploitation with the aim of processing wood and other forest resources;
- 14) establishing the form of the report on forest exploitation and the procedure for submitting this report;
- 15) establishing the procedure for assessing the cadastral value of forest blocks;
- 16) establishing the fire safety rules in forests;
- 17) establishing the sanitary safety rules in forests;
- 18) establishing the procedure for arranging aerial works aimed at forest conservation and protection, as well as for carrying out these works;
- 19) establishing the specifics of conservation, protection and reproduction of forests, as well as of devising and taking preventive and rehabilitative measures in zones of forests' radioactive contamination;
- 20) establishing the form of the report on conservation and protection of forests and the procedure for submission thereof;
- 21) establishing the rules for renewal of forests;
- 22) establishing the rules for forest creation;
- 23) establishing the rules for care of forestry;
- 24) establishing the procedure for using zoned seeds of sylvan plants of basic forest species of trees;
- 25) establishing the form of the report on forest reproduction and forest breeding, as well as the procedure for presenting this report;
- 26) establishing the procedure for forest management;
- 27) establishing the rate of payment for the unit volume of forest resources and the rates of payment for the unit area of a forest block that is under federal ownership for the purpose of lease thereof;
- 28) establishing the procedure for preparation and making a contract of lease of a forest block that is under state or municipal ownership;
- 29) endorsing a model contract for lease of a forest block;

- 30) establishing rates of payment for the unit volume of wood stored up on the lands that are under federal ownership;
- 31) establishing a procedure for preparation and making of contract of purchase and sale of forest stands;
- 32) establishing the boundaries of forest districts, park-forests, as well as determining the number thereof;
- 33) carrying out the state forest inventory;
- 34) establishing the composition, procedure for working out and duration of forestry regulations and the procedure for amending them;
- 35) establishing the procedure for keeping the state forest register;
- 36) establishing the procedure for exercising control and supervision over forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction (the state forest control and supervision);
- 37) exercising state fire safety supervision in forests;
- 38) endorsing the rates and methods for estimation of the extent of damage caused to forests as a result of breaching the forest legislation;
- 39) classifying forests as valuable, marking out special protective forests and fixing the boundaries thereof;
- 40) determining the specifics of exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of forests located on specially protected natural territories;
- 41) classifying forests as merchantable and reserve, as well as fixing the boundaries thereof;
- 42) other powers established by this Code and other federal laws.

Article 82. Authority of the State Power Bodies of the Constituent Entities of the Russian Federation

The following powers in the field of forestry matters shall pertain to the scope of authority of the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;

- 1) possession, exploitation and disposal of forest blocks that are under ownership of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;
- 2) establishing the rates of payment for the unit volume of forest resources and the rates of payment for the unit area of a forest block that is under ownership of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation for the purpose of lease thereof;
- 3) establishing the rates of payment for the unit volume of wood stored up on the lands which are under ownership of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;
- 4) establishing the procedure and normative standards of storing up wood by individuals to meet their own needs;
- 5) establishing a procedure for harvesting by individuals of forest resources and for collection of medicinal plants for own needs;
- 6) establishing a procedure for storing up and collection by individuals of non-wood forest resources for own needs;
- 7) establishing for individuals payment rates under a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands for their own needs;
- 8) other powers established by this Code and other federal laws.

Article 83. Delegation of Some Powers of the Russian Federation in the Field of Forestry Matters to the State Power Bodies of the Constituent Entities of the Russian Federation

1. The Russian Federation shall delegate to the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation the exercise of the following powers in the field of forestry matters:

- 1) devising and endorsing forest plans of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, forestry regulations, as well as conducting the state expert examination of forest development projects;
- 2) allotting forest blocks within the scope of forest fund land for permanent (termless) exploitation, for lease, gratuitous exploitation within a fixed term, as well as making contracts of purchase and sale of forest ranges, including organisation and holding of the appropriate auctions;
- 3) issuing permits to carry out works related to geological exploration of subsurface resources on forest fund land;
- 4) organising forest exploitation, protection of forests (in particular, extinguishment of forest fires), conservation (except for forest pathology monitoring) and reproduction (except for forest seedage) on forest fund land and ensuring forest conservation, protection and reproduction on the said lands;
- 5) keeping the state forest register in respect of the forests located within the boundaries of the territory of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation;
- 6) exercising state forest control and supervision;
- 7) composing a list of officials engaged in the exercise of the state forest control and supervision.

2. The exercise of the powers specified in Part 1 of this Article may not be delegated to the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation in respect of the forest districts and park-forests located within the boundaries of the territories of the constituent entities of the Russian

Federation where the population density is fifteen times as much as the average population density of the Russian Federation. A list of such forest districts and park-forests, as well as a list of such constituent entities of the Russian Federation, shall be endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

3. Funds for exercising powers delegated in compliance with Part 1 of this Article shall be granted in the form of subventions from the federal budget.

4. The subventions from the federal budget granted to budgets of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation for the exercise of the powers delegated in compliance with Part 1 of this Article shall be distributed on the basis of the area of merchantable and protective forests, their exploitation intensity, density of the population residing on the territories of the appropriate constituent entities of the Russian Federation and fire safety indices according to the methods endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

5. A procedure for spending and accounting for the funds intended for the exercise of the powers delegated in compliance with Part 1 of this Article shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

6. The funds intended for the exercise of the powers in compliance with Part 1 of this Article may not be used for other purposes.

7. In the event of using the funds specified in Part 3 of this Article for the wrong purpose, the authorized federal executive body shall be entitled to recover said funds in the procedure established by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

8. The authorized federal executive body shall be entitled to issue normative legal acts concerning the exercise of the powers delegated to the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, as well as methodological and instruction materials concerning the exercise of such powers to be followed without fail by the executive power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

9. The authorized federal executive power body:

1) shall coordinate the structure of the authorized executive power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation exercising the powers delegated to them;

2) shall coordinate the appointment of the head of the executive body of the appropriate constituent entity of the Russian Federation exercising the powers delegated thereto;

3) shall exercise supervision over legal regulation by the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation of the issues related to delegated powers with the right of sending orders to be followed without fail as to the reversal of normative legal acts of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation or making amendments thereto;

4) shall exercise control and supervision over the exercise by the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation of delegated powers with the right of sending orders to eliminate detected violations, as well as to make answerable the officials engaged in the discharge of the duty of exercising delegated powers;

5) shall prepare proposals concerning the withdrawal of the appropriate powers from the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and, where necessary, shall introduce these proposals to the Government of the Russian Federation for taking decisions in respect of them;

6) shall establish the contents and form of submission of reports on the exercise of delegated powers;

7) shall be entitled to issue directions to be followed without fail as to forming forest blocks and allotting them to meet federal needs in the procedure established by this Code;

10. The supreme official of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation (the head of the supreme executive state power body of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation):

1) shall appoint by approbation of the authorized federal executive power body and dismiss the head of the executive power body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation exercising the powers delegated thereto;

2) shall endorse by approbation of the authorized federal executive power body the structure of the authorized executive power body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation;

3) shall organise the activity of exercise by a constituent entity of the Russian Federation of the powers delegated thereto in compliance with the federal laws and the normative legal acts provided for by Part 8 of this Article.

4) shall ensure timely submission to the authorised federal executive body of a quarterly report on spending the subventions allocated from the federal budget, on achieving the predicted targets if they are established, on the normative legal acts issued by the state power bodies of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation, as regards the powers delegated thereto.

11. Control over the spending of funds by a constituent entity of the Russian Federation on the exercise of the powers delegated thereto shall be exercised by the authorised federal executive power body and the Audit Chamber of the Russian Federation.

Article 84. Powers of Local Self-Government Bodies in Respect of Forestry Matters

1. The powers of local self-government bodies in respect of forest blocks which are under municipal ownership shall include the following:

- 1) possession, use and disposal of such forest blocks;
- 2) establishment of payment rates for the unit volume of forest resources and of payment rates for the unit area of such forest blocks for the purpose of lease thereof;
- 3) establishment of payment rates for the unit volume of wood;
- 4) development and endorsement of forestry regulations, as well as conduct of the state expert examination of forest development projects;
- 5) exercise of the municipal forest control and supervision over such forest blocks.

2. The local self-government bodies may be vested with some state powers in the area of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction in the procedure established by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Chapter 10. Administration in the Field of Forest Exploitation, Conservation, Protection and Reproduction

Article 85. Planning in the Field of Forest Exploitation, Conservation, Protection and Reproduction

1. Planning in the field of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction (forest planning) shall be aimed at the stable development of territories.

2. Forest planning shall be grounds for developing the forests located within the boundaries of forest districts and park-forests.

3. As a forest planning document shall be deemed the forest plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

Article 86. Forest Plan of a Constituent Entity of the Russian Federation

1. A forest plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall define the forest planning goals and tasks, as well as the activities concerning planned forest development and zones of such development.

2. To a forest plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall be attached maps showing the boundaries of forest districts and park-forests, as well as zones of their planned development.

3. A forest plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation shall be endorsed by the supreme official of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation (by the head of the supreme executive state power body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation).

4. Forest plans of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation shall not be prepared in respect of the forest districts and park-forests specified in Part 2 of Article 83 of this Code.

5. The composition of the forest plan of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation and the procedure for preparation of such plan shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 87. Forestry Regulations

1. The basis for exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of the forests located within the boundaries of a forest district or park-forest shall be deemed the forestry regulations of the forest district or park-forest.

2. Forestry regulations of forest districts and park-forests shall be endorsed by the state power bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, except for the cases provided for by Part 3 of this Article.

3. Forestry regulations of the forest districts and park-forests located within the boundaries of the territories of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation specified in Part 2 of Article 83 of this Code, as well as of the forest districts and park-forests located on land intended for ensuring defence and security, on land of specially protected natural territories and on land under municipal ownership shall be endorsed accordingly by the authorised federal executive power body and the local self-government body.

4. Forestry regulations shall be drawn up for a term up to ten years.

5. Forestry regulations in respect of the forests located within the boundaries of forest districts and park-forests shall establish the following:

- 1) types of allowed forest exploitation determined in compliance with Article 25 of this Code;
- 2) felling ages, calculated felling rate, time periods of forest exploitation and other parameters of their permitted exploitation;
- 3) restrictions as to the forest exploitation in compliance with Article 27 of this Code;
- 4) requirements for forest conservation, protection and reproduction.

6. Forestry regulations shall be followed without fail by individuals and legal entities engaged in forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction within the boundaries of forest districts and park-forests.

7. The composition of forestry regulations, procedure for development thereof, their duration and procedure for their amendment shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 88. Forest Development Project

1. The persons to whom forest blocks are allotted for permanent (termless) use or for lease shall draw up a forest development project in compliance with Article 12 of this Code.

2. The composition of a forest development project and the procedure for development thereof shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 89. State or Municipal Expert Examination of a Forest Development Project

1. A forest development project shall be subject to state or municipal expert examination in the procedure established by the authorized federal executive body.

2. The state expert examination of forest development projects shall be conducted by the authorised state power body of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation, except for the cases established by Parts 3 and 4 of this Article.

3. The state expert examination of development projects of the forests located within the boundaries of the territories of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation specified in Part 2 of Article 83 of this Code, as well as of development projects of the forests located on land intended for ensuring defence and security and on land of specially protected natural territories shall be endorsed by the authorized federal executive body.

4. The municipal expert examination of development projects of forests located on land under municipal ownership shall be endorsed by the local self-government body.

Article 90. State Inventory of Forests

1. The state inventory of forests shall comprise measures aimed at inspecting the condition of forests, the qualitative and quantitative characteristics thereof.

2. The state inventory of forests shall be conducted for the following purposes:

1) timely detection and prediction of processes that have a negative impact upon forests;
2) assessment of the efficiency of measures aimed at the conservation, protection and reproduction of forests;

3) informational support in the field of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction, as well as in the field of state forest control and supervision.

3. The state inventory of forests shall be conducted in respect of forests located on forest fund land and land of other categories by way of using surface and aerospace methods.

4. The state inventory of forests shall be conducted by the authorized federal executive body.

5. The procedure for conducting the state inventory of forests shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 91. State Forest Register

1. The state forest register shall constitute a classified collection of documentary information about forests, about their exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction, about forest districts and park-forests.

2. The state forest register shall contain the following documentary information:

1) about the composition of forest fund land, composition of land of other categories where forests are located;

2) about forest districts, park-forests, their compartments and forest mensuration portions;

3) about protective forests, their categories, about merchantable and reserved forests;

4) about special protective forest blocks, about zones with special conditions for using territories;

5) about forest blocks;

6) about qualitative, quantitative and economic parameters of forests and forest resources;

7) about forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction;

8) about allotting forests to individuals and individual entities.

3. The documentary information contained in the state forest register shall be generally accessible, except for the information to which access is restricted by federal laws (classified information).

4. The documentary information provided for by Part 2 of this Article shall be presented without fail:

1) by the persons engaged in forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction;

2) by the state power bodies engaged in management in the field of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction.

5. A list of the types of information to be presented without fail and terms of presentation thereof shall be established by the authorized federal executive power body.

6. Within five working days the authorized executive power body shall provide a person concerned with an extract from the state forest register or shall send to a person concerned a reasoned refusal in writing to provide such extract to him. The refusal may be appealed against by the person concerned in a judicial procedure.

7. Extracts from the state forest register shall be issued on a payable basis. The rate of said payment and procedure for collection thereof shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

8. The documented information provided for by Part 2 of this Article shall be presented on a free-of-charge basis to the state power bodies, as well as to other persons in the cases provided for by the federal laws.

9. The state forest register shall be kept by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code in the procedure established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 92. The State Cadastral Registration of Forest Blocks

The state cadastral registration of forest blocks shall be effected in compliance with Federal Law No. 28-FZ of January 2, 2000 on the State Land Cadastre.

Article 93. The State Registration of Rights to Forest Blocks and Transactions with Them

The ownership and other real rights to forest blocks, limitation (encumbering) of these rights, their rise, transfer and termination shall be subject to state registration in compliance with Federal Law No. 122-FZ of July 21, 1997 on the State Registration of Rights to Immovable Property and Transactions Therewith.

Chapter 11. Payment for Forest Exploitation and Assessment

Article 94. Payable Nature of Forest Exploitation

1. Forest exploitation in the Russian Federation shall be for payment.

2. Lease payment or payment under a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands shall be made for forest exploitation.

3. The rate of lease payment and the rate of payment under a contract of purchase and sale of forest stands shall be determined in compliance with Articles 73 and 76 of this Code.

Article 95. Forest Assessment

1. Forest assessment (assessment of forest blocks and assessment of real rights rising in the course of forest exploitation) shall be effected in compliance with Federal Law No. 135-FZ of July 29, 1998 on Valuation Activities in the Russian Federation.

2. For the purposes of this Code, the cadastral value of forest blocks may be determined in the procedure established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Chapter 12. State Forest Control and Supervision

Article 96. State Forest Control and Supervision

1. The purpose of state forest control and supervision shall be ensuring the observance of the forest legislation.

2. State forest control and supervision shall be exercised by the state power bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

3. The officials engaged in the exercise of state forest control and supervision (the state forest inspectors) shall be entitled to do the following:

1) to suppress and prevent violations of the forest legislation;

2) to monitor observance of the forest legislation;

3) draw up reports on the basis of the results of inspections and to present them for familiarization to individuals and legal entities engaged in forest blocks' exploitation;

4) to issue orders to be executed without fail in respect of elimination of breaches of the forest legislation detected in the course of inspections and to exercise control over execution of said orders at the established time;

5) to search, in the established procedure, transportation vehicles and to detain them, where necessary;

6) to notify in writing individuals and legal entities engaged in forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction, as well as in forest breeding, of the results of inspections of the observance of the forest legislation, and of detected violations;

7) to make demands with respect to individuals and legal entities for elimination of the breaches detected in the course of inspections;

8) to bring actions with a court of law or an arbitration court within the scope of authority thereof;

9) to attract in the established procedure scientific research, design-and-exploration and other organisations for making the appropriate analyses, taking samples and examinations, as well as for preparation of the appropriate opinions;

10) to exercise other rights provided for by the federal laws.

4. A state forest inspector shall be given an official identification card and uniform of a standard type.

5. Decisions of the executive bodies engaged in the exercise of state forest control and supervision shall be fulfilled without fail by all participants in forestry matters. The said decisions may be appealed against in a judicial procedure.

6. The procedure for exercising state forest control and supervision shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article 97. State Fire Safety Supervision in Forests

State fire safety supervision in forests shall be exercised by the authorized federal executive power body in the procedure provided for by the Federal Law on Fire Safety and by this Code.

Article 98. Municipal Forest Control and Supervision over Forest Exploitation, Conservation, Protection and Reproduction

Local self-government bodies shall exercise forest control and supervision over forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction (municipal forest control and supervision) in compliance with Federal Law No. 131-FZ of October 6, 2003 on the General Principles of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation.

Chapter 13. Liability for Breaching the Forest Legislation

Article 99. Administrative and Criminal Liability for Breaching the Forest Legislation

1. Persons guilty of breaching the forest legislation shall be held administratively and criminally responsible in the procedure established by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

2. Being held responsible for breaches of the forest legislation shall not relieve guilty persons of the duty to eliminate a detected violation and to compensate for the harm caused by these persons.

Article 100. Compensation for Harm Caused to Forests as a Result of Breaching the Forest Legislation

1. Persons that have inflicted harm upon forests shall compensate for it on a voluntary basis or in a judicial procedure.

2. The rates and methods of assessing the extent of harm inflicted upon forests as a result of breaching the forest legislation shall be endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Chapter 14. Settlement of Disputes in the Field of Forest Exploitation, Conservation, Protection and Reproduction

Article 101. Settlement of Disputes in the Field Forest Exploitation, Conservation, Protection and Reproduction

Disputes in the field of forest exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction shall be settled in a judicial procedure.

Chapter 15. Protective Forests and Special Protective Forest Blocks

Article 102. Protective Forests and Special Protective Forest Blocks

1. Protective forests shall be deemed forests developed for the purposes provided for by Part 4 of Article 12 of this Code.

2. Subject to the specifics of the legal regime of protective forests the following categories of the said forests shall be defined:

1) forests located in the specially protected natural territories;

2) forests located in water protection areas;

3) forests exercising protective functions in respect of natural and other objects:

a) forests located in the first and second belt areas of zones of sanitary protection of drinking and domestic water sources;

b) forest protective belts located along railways of general use, federal motorways of general use and motorways of general use which are under ownership of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation;

c) green belts and park-forests;

d) city forests;

e) forests located in the first, second and third zones of sanitary (mountain-sanitary) protection districts of therapeutic territories and resorts;

4) valuable forests:

a) the state protective forest belts;

b) conservation afforestation;

c) forests located in desert, semi-desert, forest-prairie and tundra-forest zones, prairies and mountains;

d) forests of scientific or historical importance;

e) nut harvesting zones;

f) forest sweet woods;

g) band coniferous forests.

3. Special protective forest blocks shall include the following:

1) bank-protection and soil protective forest blocks located along water bodies and ravine slopes;

2) forest edges bordering on forest-free fields;

3) permanent seed plantations;

4) forest preserve blocks;

5) forest blocks with relict and endemic plants;

6) habitat areas of exotic wild animals and of those under the threat of extinction;

7) other special protective forest blocks.

4. Special protective forest blocks may be marked out in protective forests and merchantable forests.

5. In protective forests and special protective forest blocks it shall be forbidden to exercise activities which are not compatible with the purpose and useful functions thereof.

6. Forests shall be classified as valuable, special protective forest blocks shall be marked out and their boundaries shall be established by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of their authority determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

Article 103. Legal Regime of Forests Located in Specially Protected Natural Territories

1. Forests located in specially protected natural territories shall include the forests located in the territories of state nature reserves, national parks, natural parks, natural monuments, the state wildlife areas and other specially protected natural territories established by federal laws.

2. It shall be forbidden to fell forest stands on the forest plots where any human interference into natural processes are impermissible in the forests located in the territories of state nature reserves. It shall be allowable to carry out selective felling of forest stands on other forest blocks, if it is not at variance with the legal regime of special protection of territories of the state nature reserves, for the purpose of ensuring the functioning of the state nature reserves and vital activity of individuals residing within their boundaries.

3. It shall be forbidden in the forests located in the territories of national parks, natural parks and state wildlife areas to carry out clear felling of forest stands, if not otherwise provided for by legal regime of the functional zones established within the bounds of these specially protected natural territories.

4. The specifics of carrying out selective felling of forest stands and, in the cases established by the federal laws, of carrying out clear felling of forest stands shall be determined by regulations on the appropriate specially protected natural territories.

5. In the forests located in specially protected natural territories, except for the territories of biosphere testing grounds, it shall be forbidden to use toxic chemicals for forest conservation and protection, in particular for scientific purposes.

6. The specifics of exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of the forests located in specially protected natural territories shall be established by the authorised federal executive power bodies.

Article 104. Legal Treatment of Forests Located in Water Protection Areas

1. In the forests located in water protection areas, except for the territories of biosphere testing grounds, it shall be forbidden to carry out clear felling of forest stands and to use toxic chemicals for forest conservation and protection, including for scientific purposes.

2. The specifics of exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of the forests located in water protection areas shall be established by the authorised federal executive power bodies.

Article 105. Legal Regime of Forests Exercising Protective Functions in Respect of Natural and Other Objects

1. In the forests exercising protective functions in respect of natural and other objects it shall be forbidden to carry out clear felling of forest stands, except for the cases provided for by Part 4 of Article 12 of this Code and the cases of establishment of a legal regime of zones with special conditions for using the territories in which the relevant forests are located.

2. Selective felling of forest ranges in the forests exercising protective functions in respect of natural and other objects shall be only carried out for the purpose of felling failed and damaged forest stands.

3. The following shall be forbidden in green belts and in park-forests:

1) use of toxic chemicals for conservation and protection of forests, including for scientific purposes;

2) game husbandry;

3) farming;

4) development of mineral deposits;

5) placement of capital construction units, except for wood trails, and hydro-engineering structures.

4. The specifics of exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of forests exercising protective functions in respect of natural and other objects shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 106. Legal Regime of Valuable Forests

1. In valuable forests it shall be forbidden to carry out clear felling of forest stands, except for the cases provided for by Part 4 of Article 17 of this Code.

2. The specifics of exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of valuable forests shall be established by the authorized federal executive body.

Article 107. Legal Regime of Special Protective Forest Blocks

1. Special protective forest blocks shall be marked out in protective, merchantable and reserved forests.

2. In forest protective blocks it shall be forbidden to carry out felling of forest stands. In other special protective forest blocks it shall be forbidden to carry out clear felling of forest stands, except for the cases provided for by Part 4 of Article 17 of this Code.

3. In special protective forest blocks selective felling shall be only allowable for the purpose of cutting failed and damaged forest stands.

4. The specifics of exploitation, conservation, protection and reproduction of forests located in special protective forest blocks shall be established by the authorized federal executive power body.

Chapter 16. Merchantable and Reserved Forests

Article 108. Merchantable Forests

1. Merchantable forests shall include forests to be developed for the purposes provided for by Part 3 of Article 12 of this Code.

2. It shall be allowable to exploit all types of forests provided for by Article 25 of this Code in merchantable forests.

3. Forests shall be classed as merchantable and their boundaries shall be established by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of authority thereof determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

Article 109. Reserved Forests

1. Reserved forests shall include those in which logging is not planned for twenty years.

2. In reserved forests aerial works aimed at forest conservation and protection shall be carried out.

3. It shall be allowable to exploit reserved forests after classing them as merchantable or protective.

4. Forests shall be classed as reserve and their boundaries shall be established by the state power bodies and local self-government bodies within the scope of their authority determined in compliance with Articles from 81 to 84 of this Code.

President of the Russian Federation

V. Putin

The Kremlin, Moscow

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