РосНИИВХ

RESOLUTION REPORT

XIV International Scientific & Practical Symposium
on the Implementation of the Water Strategy of the Russian Federation up to 2020

Including a workshop "Ecological restoration and rehabilitation of waters"

April 18 - 20, 2017 – Ekaterinburg (Russia)

Organisation, Participation and Programme

XIV "Clean Water of Russia" International Scientific/practical Symposium/Exhibition took place in Ekaterinburg, April 18-20, 2017/ It was organized by RosNIIVH Institute with the support of Federal Agency of Water Resources, Office of the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for the Ural Federal District, and the Sverdlovsk Oblast Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology.

More than 350 experts of Federal, regional and municipal bodies, research and educational institutions, industrial enterprises, companies, and firms involved in environment protection, water resources rational use and protection, as well as NGOs actively participated in the Symposium activities. Experts from European Center for River Restoration (ECRR) representing Finland, Italy and the Netherlands, as well as from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Belarus took part in the work of the Symposium.

Implementation of the Water Strategy of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2020 was the main topic of the Symposium. The measures were planned within the frameworks of the Year of Ecology in the Russian Federation.

The Symposium included fifteen events:

- plenary meeting " Implementation of the Water Strategy as an advance towards water safety";
- section " Implementation of the Water Strategy of the Russian Federation";
- section "Ecological rehabilitation and restoration of water bodies" with the participation of ECRR (Finland, Italy and the Netherlands);
- roundtable "Ecological problems of drinking water sources and the ways of water bodies' rehabilitation in the Ural Federal District" with the participation of Office of the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for the Ural Federal District;
- workshop "Flood risk management in the Ural Federal District. Legal/technical regulation in securing the waterworks safety";
- section "Innovative techniques in industrial and municipal water systems";
- section "Issues of water supply sources and water disposal systems modernization and municipal concessions for high-quality drinking water supply for population";
- roundtable "Development of the personnel training and job placement system for water and environment protection experts";
- roundtable "National water strategies: international cooperation for minimization of hazards to water safety";
- open seminar "Contemporary approaches to formation of the schoolchildren ecological culture in respect of care about water and water resources";
- roundtable "NGOs role and objectives in securing of ecological safety at the Federal and regional levels";
- international contest of young researchers and students research projects "Ecology of Water";
- open lecture "Water as the Source and Protector of Life";
- exhibition of the Ekaterinburg schoolchildren creative works "Blue River of the Childhood". Video presentations "Innovative forms of dealing with the Ekaterinburg schoolchildren during the Year of Ecology"; and
- technical excursion to the Uralmashzavod industrial/rainstorm drainage system waste water treatment facilities.

Aleksey V. Kuznetsov (Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology of Sverdlovsk Oblast), Andrey N. Kislitsin (Deputy Minister of Power Industry and Municipal Facilities of Sverdlovsk Oblast), Anna A. Lenskaya (Head of Department of Economic and Social Policy of Office of the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for the Ural Federal District), Shukhrat O. Muradov (Professor, Karshi Engineerin/economic Institute, Uzbekistan) welcomed the audience. Yelena V. Dovlatova (Executive Director of the Russian Association of Water Supply and Water Disposal, Moscow) made a report.

According to the Water Strategy of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2020 development of the Russian Federation water sector is one of the key factors of economic health, social stability, national security and realization of the constitutional rights of the citizens for people-friendly environment.

Federal Target Program “Development of water sector of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2010” set objectives of the water sector development that agree with amounts of funding that are stipulated by the budget in reality.

Analysis of the Water Strategy implementation has shown that the most problems happened to be associated with the choice of priority measures aimed at the water sector development and mechanisms to support the Strategy realization.

It might seem that the choice of priorities has been determined by the priority problems of a basin (a region). However, according to the all-Russians target directions, the regions invest considerable amounts into solution of problems far from being the priorities.

The absence of the integrated system of water management in Russia is one of the reasons of the current situation. The water sector of Russia, due to its great scale and multi-factor character considerably exceeds the sphere of interests of any of existing ministries.

In compliance with the Symposium’s program, all discussions and debates were aimed at development of the unified opinion of scientific community and society in respect of three main directions that were included into the draft of new Water Strategy:

1. Provision of the population of the Russian Federation with clean drinking water.
2. Use and protection of water bodies, prevention of waters negative impacts and securing of waterworks safety.
3. Engineering/scientific and personnel support of water sector, education and raising of the population awareness concerning water bodies use and protection.


ИЯ ВОДНОЙ СТРАТЕГИИ –


Галкин
Юрий Анатольевич

Seventeen reports were made at the section "Ecological rehabilitation and restoration of water bodies" with participation of European Center for Water Restoration. Bart Fokkens, associated expert of ECRR, the Netherlands; Jukka Jormola, Institute of Environment, Finland; Giancarlo Gusmaroli, Italian Center for River Restoration, Italy, presented their reports.The Russia side was presented by participants from St. Petersburg, Ekaterinburg, Nizhni Novgorod, perm, Ufa, Izhevsk, Rostov-na-Donu, and Vladivostok.

Rosvodresursy were presented by experts from Nizhne-Ob, Kama, and Neva-Ladoga basin water administrations and RosNIIVH Institute.

The speakers pointed out the Russian water basins resources depletion occurring under the economic activities impact. As a result, the basins were becoming unable to sustain biological diversity, the biota's balance and sustainability, and, consequently, that of the community as a whole.

The observed water basins degradation process might be arrested only provided the targeted influence on the technique of economic activities on the catchment and water area.

It is obvious that the whole specter of the parameters characterizing a water body, associated catchment ecosystems and their bio/geo/chemical status are to be a subject of rehabilitation. However, the country has not yet produced a unified methodology of approaching such tasks.

Draft Concepts of surface water bodies' rehabilitation and Recommendations on the choice of low-flow lakes rehabilitation optimal methods have been considered.

The Section's resolution emphasized the following:

- draft versions of the proposed methodical documents require discussion at Rosvodresursy Engineering/scientific Board after tentative discussion with water experts of various levels;
- it is important to identify sources of funding of water bodies' rehabilitation projects as early as at the level of the Concept of rehabilitation;
- the Concept lacks provisions defining connection with fishery sector as an element of the basin ecosystem;
- the European countries' experience in the river restoration projects use in flood risk mitigation and water users' cooperation in rehabilitation measures taking has been acknowledged as positive and worth dissemination;
- it was recommended to the Editorial Board of the "Water Sector of Russia" journal to increase a number of publications devoted to the water bodies' restoration with positive examples of the projects' implementation;
- it is recommended to Neva-Ladoga basin water administration to take into account the communication of Jukka Jormola (Institute of Environment, Finland) concerning the problems

with implementation of the accomplished international project of the spawning grounds restoration on the Seleznevka River;

- the state water bodies' monitoring system as a whole is an integral part of the water resources quality management system and the most important element of any projects of water bodies; restoration;
- current monitoring programs on reservoirs demonstrate incomplete and uncoordinated character of the observations, this will not enable these observations' results further application for forecasting of the water bodies' morphometric parameters changing and to plan optimal nature/protective measures with assessment of their effectiveness. The monitoring system improvement is a significant task within the rehabilitation mechanisms' development;
- the use of the Earth remote sensing data is stipulated in the methodical guidelines but any mechanisms of obtaining these data for certain stages of the regional programs and for the stage of annual observations have not been defined. Coordination between different departments is necessary in terms of application of the water bodies' occupied territories' space surveying data and regular obtaining of operative information from active spacecrafts;
- in the interests of continuous monitoring of water/protective zones it is necessary to use advanced methods of surveying with pilotless vehicles, this will significantly increase effectiveness of monitoring the water bodies' status and maintenance of the regime of water/protective zones use.