LAW ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNANCE IN FOREST USE, PROTECTION AND RENEWAL

Textbook

2nd edition, updated and enlarged

Recommended by the Academic Resource Association for Forestry Education for use as a textbook for students of bachelor’s and master’s degree programs in forestry

Moscow

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This textbook on Law Enforcement and Governance in Forest Use, Protection and Renewal was prepared by Consultants to the World Bank with advisory inputs from top higher education providers, practitioners and employers in the forest sector, during the second stage of the FLEG II Program implementation. The textbook consists of four modules, covering the knowledge and skills for professional performance of public functions and provision of public services related to forest governance and law enforcement.

The 2nd edition (updated and enlarged) was needed to reflect the changes in the regulatory framework. In the 2017 edition, three modules (Modules 1, 2 and 3) are updated and enlarged.

This textbook is recommended for use under bachelor’s and master’s degree programs to train specialists for public administration in forestry. Properly informed occupational accreditation will help to implement effective human resource policies of public administration in the forest sector.

The textbook is meant for faculty members and students of bachelor’s, master’s and PhD degree programs in forestry.

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INTRODUCTION

This textbook on Law Enforcement and Governance in Forest Use, Protection and Renewal is an output of the education constituent of the Country Workplan to implement the FLEG II Program (European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument East Countries Forest Law Enforcement and Governance II Program) in Russia.

The education constituent was included in the Country Workplan for Russia at both phases of the program in view of the high priority attached to strengthening the human resource policy to address strategic objectives and to guiding towards the development of the forest sector on an intensive basis. This refers to the development and modernization of forest education, including combinations of its different types and formats for training, retraining and professional development of managers and specialists for all subsectors of the forest sector.

At the first stage of the program implementation, it was decided to build up capacity for forestry authorities and private forest businesses through improving the continuous education in forestry. To this end, a textbook on Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the Russian Federation was produced and recommended by the Academic Resource Association for Forestry Education for use as a textbook for students of bachelor’s and master’s degree programs, group 250000: Renewal and Processing of Forest Resources. That textbook was the first module-based training aid for the subjects and disciplines of group 250000 in Russia, and its modular structure enables to use its parts (modules) separately for training and delivery of training programs in continuous, higher and secondary vocational education settings. That textbook contained the following modules:

1. Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks for activities to prevent illegal logging and illegal timber trade.
2. Federal forest oversight arrangements and procedures.
3. Recording of harvested timber under different forest tenures.
4. Forest certification and independent verification of forest product legality as market incentives for legality of forest use.
5. Engagement with civil society to improve forest law enforcement.
6. Corruption risks arising from the forest legislation and their economic, environmental and social implications.

That textbook was widely recognized as a good source of knowledge not only for continuous vocational education in forestry, but also for higher vocational education (bachelor’s and master’s degree programs).

However, the training modules, included in that textbook, could not fully supply students of higher vocational education programs with knowledge and skills needed to ensure sustainable forest management and transition to intensive forestry development practices. An evaluation of the existing human resources of regional forestry authorities revealed the need to enhance professional training under forestry-related bachelor’s and master’s degree programs. It defined the contents of this textbook, prepared by Consultants to the World Bank with advisory inputs from top forest higher education providers, as well as forestry practitioners and employers during the second stage the program implementation.

This textbook consists of four modules, designed to provide university students with knowledge and skills in such a scope which is expected to enable them to get employed in forestry agencies, professionally perform public functions and provide public services related to forest governance and law enforcement.

1. Governance and law enforcement in forest use.
2. Governance and law enforcement in forest pest management.
3. Governance and law enforcement in forest fire management.
4. Governance and law enforcement in forest renewal.

Each module describes the following aspects:
- Laws and regulations governing administrative activities identified in the title of the module;
- Administrative actions enabling to make managerial decisions; and
- Procedures for managerial decision-making with evaluation of economic, social and environmental performance.

To prepare the training modules, it was necessary to decide whether they should be meant for bachelor’s degree programs focused on the development of applied skills needed for forest management practitioners, or for academic bachelor’s degree programs regarded as the first step to further training under master’s degree programs. In view of the specifics of the forest estate lands as a managed asset and the functions of the regional forest management authorities (first of all, forest districts’ personnel), it was recognized that the development of occupational skills should be the first priority for bachelor’s and master’s degree programs, i.e. it was decided to focus on the development of applied skills.

The developed training modules can be delivered through networks of training providers in a highly effective manner. The legal framework of network-based training is established by Article 25 of the Federal Law on Education in the Russian Federation. According to this Law, the main goal for network training delivery is to enable students to use resources of several training providers. It is noteworthy that the most enabling conditions for network-based delivery of training programs are created through collaboration between higher and continuous vocational education institutions in the forest sector: the former ones provide fundamental knowledge and the latter ones provide training to develop occupational skills.

The 2nd edition (updated and enlarged) was prepared to reflect the changes in the regulatory framework. The 2017 edition contains three updated modules: Modules 1, 2 and 3.

It is recommended to use this textbook not only under bachelor’s and master’s degree programs to supply skills for public administration in forestry, but also as an information source for knowledge and skills certification as part of the accreditation of managers and specialists, performing public functions and providing public services. Properly informed occupational accreditation will be conducive to pursuing an effective human resource policy in public administration of forests through ongoing assessment efforts to cause managers and specialists to sustain their occupational competencies which is of particular importance when key powers, related to forest affairs, are executed by regional public authorities while the responsibility for the forest status rests with the owner of the forests, i.e. with the Russian Federation.

It is also expected to be useful from practitioner’s perspective for managers and specialists of federal and regional forestry authorities, making managerial and administrative decisions, related to forest use, protection and renewal. Private businesses will not remain indifferent to this publication as comprehensibility and predictability of all administrative/managerial decisions, related to forest use, protection and renewal are vital for them.

The Introduction and Sections 1.2, 1.3, and 1.8 of Module 1 were prepared by A.P. Petrov, Professor, Doctor of Economic Sciences, Sections 1.1, 1.2, 1.4–1.7, 1.9–1.14 of Module 1 were
prepared by N. V. Lovtsova; the author of Module 2 is A. N. Bobrinskiy; Module 3 was prepared by N. A. Korshunov, PhD in Agriculture, and M. A. Voronov; and Module 4 was prepared by N. E. Prokazin, PhD in Agriculture. The overall academic editing rested with A.P. Petrov. The work to prepare the textbook was coordinated by Zh. E. Gerasimova.

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