



areas. Diminishing areas with minimum human influence force bears to step into urban fringes and second-home districts. This has made them "unnatural" companions; symbols of wilderness turning to garbage-eaters which, in the back yards of summer houses, are considered to be in the wrong place. Moving away from their "natural" environments, bears not only disturb human activities but challenge existing frames of governance. Bear population has traditionally been managed through measures targeted at animals: hunting quotas and removal of individuals with risky behavioral patterns. These measures do not necessarily help to solve the problems in urban environments: 1) shooting animals in densely populated areas is not acceptable or suitable and 2) the problems are equally caused by humans. By refusing to be governable by old means, "urban" bears alter the political landscape: focus is shifted from animal to human behavior, and different administrative bodies are forced to co-operate.



HUNTING AND GAME MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION IN REPUBLIC OF KARELIA

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We discuss state-of-the-art in legislation on fauna protection and management in the Russian Federation and Republic of Karelia, problems involved in its implementation, as well as the main tasks of the Republic of Karelia State Committee for Protection and Use of Objects of the Fauna and Aquatic Biological Resources as the authority for conservation and management of the fauna in Karelia.

