

The background is a hand-drawn illustration of a forest floor. It features numerous blue and green leaves scattered across a yellowish-tan ground. The leaves are drawn with fine lines and some are filled with color. The ground is textured with small dots and lines, suggesting a forest floor covered in needles or small plants. The overall style is artistic and illustrative.

# Taiga Rescue Network Annual Report 2001

EDUCATION

CAPACITY-BUILDING

COOPERATION

OLD-GROWTH FORESTS

TIMBER TRADE

CERTIFICATION

SUSTAINABILITY

NETWORKING

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

COMMUNITIES

RESEARCH

HUMAN RIGHTS

ADVOCACY

OUTREACH

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Environment  
Finnish Ministry for the Environment

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World Wide Fund for Nature Switzerland  
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation  
Finnish Association for Nature Conservation  
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Friends of the Earth Netherlands  
Norwegian Society for Nature Conservation

Greenpeace Germany  
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. . . and many individuals to whom we are very grateful.

## 2001 at a Glance

The year 2001 again showed that the seeds sown in previous years by the Taiga Rescue Network and its participant organizations have yielded important results. Throughout 2001, TRN continued its commitment of promoting grassroots organizations' efforts by helping coordinate NGOs' efforts in their work for forest conservation and sustainable forest management; by building capacity of small environmental groups in Russia; by supporting indigenous peoples in their fight for self-determination throughout the boreal region; and by organizing multi-stakeholder seminars on issues as diverse as illegal logging, timber trade, non-timber forest products, and forest certification.

The year 2001 was important for boreal countries in regards to forest certification. Multi-stakeholder meetings took place in Canada, Russia, and Europe to discuss boreal standards and regional harmonization. Finalization of FSC standards were underway in Russia, Canada, and Finland, and the Swedish FSC standard was up for revision in early 2002.

The number and variety of the publications we produced in 2001 gives an indication of the issues TRN and its participants are working day after day to address in all regions of the boreal world. The year's highlights also included our international NGO coordination work related to the international policy agenda, and hard work was already underway in 2001 by TRN and our North American affiliate the Boreal Forest Network (BFN) preparing for the 6th biennial TRN conference to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in September 2002.

The following pages of our 2001 annual report include a brief introduction to TRN and the taiga, and then go on to cover the areas in which we were the most active during the past year. Pages 6-17 give a brief overview of TRN's work in the areas with which we are involved, include the highlights of work done by TRN in these areas during 2001, and also include brief articles written by members of TRN participant organizations who tell about significant developments over the past year and how TRN was instrumental in bringing about progressive change.

It is our hope that a look over our annual report will give you a clearer understanding of how TRN functions as an international network of environmental NGOs, as well as familiarize you with the work we were active in over the past year. There is no doubt that work done in previous years helped to bring about the successes of 2001; likewise, groundwork TRN and its over 200 participant organizations were laying in 2001 will help pave the way for continued successes in boreal forest issues throughout the coming years.

### **Mikhail Karpachevskiy**

Chair of Taiga Rescue Network International Reference Group  
Biodiversity Conservation Center, Moscow, Russia

## The Taiga and Taiga Rescue Network – an Introduction

The world's boreal forest – also known by its Russian name *taiga* – is the earth's largest terrestrial ecosystem. A belt of green, coniferous forests, the taiga extends 15 million square kilometers across Canada, Alaska, northern Russia, Finland, Sweden, and Norway. Although one of the most sparsely populated regions of the earth, the boreal forests are a rich habitat that contain diverse animal and plant species and provide a home and livelihood for many communities and peoples, including more than one million indigenous peoples. The taiga's vast holdings of natural resources, most notably in the form of timber, make it an area that biological diversity is under increased pressure for natural resource extraction.

Taiga Rescue Network (TRN) was established in Jokkmokk, Sweden, in 1992, by environmental non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples, and governmental and industry leaders wanting to see sensitive development throughout the world's boreal regions. Since its inception, TRN has supported, linked, and publicized local struggles, and helped coordinate efforts fighting for the conservation and sustainable use of the world's boreal forests with regards for its communities and its peoples. Today, over 200 organizations are participants of TRN, working continuously to promote socially beneficial, economically viable, and sound management of the world's boreal forests.



Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russia. Photograph by Elisa Peter.



The boreal region. Copyright: Taiga Rescue Network 2000.

The taiga covers some 15 million square kilometers, making up one third of the world's forests, and is the largest terrestrial ecosystem on earth.

### **Taiga Rescue Network's Goals**

1. Promoting socially beneficial, economically viable, and ecologically sound management of the boreal forests;
2. Ensuring indigenous peoples' rights are respected and local control of resources is guaranteed;
3. Protecting old-growth boreal forests;
4. Halting destructive extraction and wasteful consumption of products from boreal forests.

### **Taiga Rescue Network's Methods**

1. Intensive strategic information provision to TRN participants via internal media;
2. Public education and dissemination of information to external actors through the publication of *Taiga News*, reports, fact sheets, and the coordination and organization of multi-stakeholder events;
3. Coordination of joint projects between NGOs and indigenous peoples through the organization of seminars, strategic planning meetings, and joint activities;
4. Research, policy analysis, and monitoring of international forest-related processes;
5. Development of joint NGO position papers.

## International NGO Coordination in 2001

Nearly all of the projects and undertakings Taiga Rescue Network is involved with fit under the umbrella of international non-governmental organization (NGO) coordination. As an international network serving its participant organizations and other NGOs by producing information, actions, meetings, conferences, studies, policy work, field

trips, and jointly produced educational publications, much of our work is based on coordination. With over 200 participant organizations, including environmental NGOs and indigenous peoples organizations, TRN takes an active roll in bringing all of these groups together to work for the benefit of the boreal regions, its peoples, and its communities.

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### International NGO Coordination Highlights in 2001

- An evaluation of TRN's last 7 years of cooperation with Russian and Estonian NGOs, funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), was conducted by two independent consultants. The report outlines the importance of TRN as a unique agent for bringing people and organizations together across borders and for moving the conservation agenda forward in the Baltic countries and European Russia.
- TRN and its participants were actively involved in the inter-governmental climate negotiations that took place in Bonn, in July, and Marrakech, in October-November, to ensure that forests would not be reduced to yet another commodity (carbon) through the establishment of large scale "carbon sinks" plantations.
- TRN participant organizations were present at the various preparatory meetings that led to the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Convention of Biological Diversity. This conference discussed a 10-year work program for forests which included progressive objectives.



Strategic NGO meeting on Russian timber trade issues with TRN staff and participant organization members in St. Petersburg, Russia, in August 2001. Photograph courtesy Elisa Peter.

### **TRN Promotes Capacity-Building of Grassroots Organizations**

In 2001, TRN continued its special emphasis on supporting participant organizations addressing the issue of carbon sinks in the climate change negotiations and through coordination of NGO activities at the international level during the climate change negotiations held in Bonn, Germany, July 2001, and in Marrakech, Morocco, October-November 2001.

The role of forests as carbon sinks was among the most controversial of issues at the climate change negotiations in 2000 and 2001. Disputes over the validity of the concept of carbon sinks and the extent to which governments are allowed to use forests to achieve their commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol led to the collapse of the climate summit in The Hague, the Netherlands, in November 2000. Despite the concerns raised by environmental NGOs and indigenous peoples organizations (IPOs) about the scientific credibility of the concept of carbon sinks and of reducing forests to a tradable commodity (carbon), resumed climate negotiations in Bonn and Marrakech in 2001 led to significant allowances for countries to use carbon sinks to achieve their greenhouse gas emission reductions. Environmental NGOs responded to these decisions by launching two new initiatives: CDM Watch will provide support to communities affected by socially and environmentally unsound projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and Sinks Watch will scrutinize projects attempting to trade carbon credits stemming from forests or tree plantations.

Taiga Rescue Network and its partners will be active participants in these new initiatives to ensure that the social and environmental consequences of carbon sink projects in the boreal region are exposed, and also ensure that attention will be given to the threat that continued, unabated climate change poses to forests and forest peoples throughout the boreal world.

- Jutta Kill, TRN participant organization Fern

## Forest Certification in 2001

The issue of forest certification is becoming increasingly important as consumers realize that their purchasing decisions can help change how the world's forests are managed. Among the various certification schemes, FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certification is the only system which carries the support of environmental and social activist groups and which attempts to balance the forests' values through a multi-stakeholder process that addresses environmental, social, and economic interests. As a re-

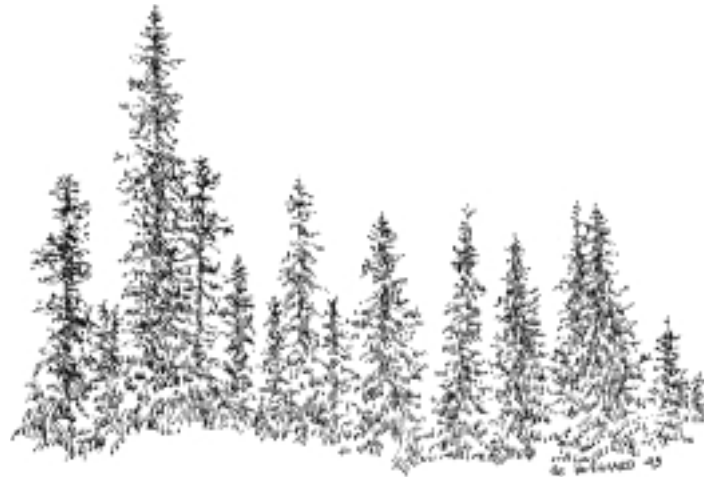
sult, many forest companies are FSC certified and many more are evaluating the best method to achieve certification to reduce consumer pressure for responsible forest management practices. In 2001, TRN and its participant organizations were involved in forest certification processes through holding meetings, coordinating multi-stakeholder field trips, and through developing and promoting policies, position papers, and presentations to various stakeholders.

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### Forest Certification Highlights in 2001

- TRN organized a 3-day certification seminar with 35 scientists, certifiers, and NGO representatives from Russia and Europe to discuss FSC standards harmonization, consultation processes, and issues linked to mutual recognition. The outcome of the meeting was a better understanding and stronger working relationships among all parties.
- TRN participant organizations the Finnish Nature League and Greenpeace Nordic published the report *Anything goes?*. The report revealed 55 cases of ecological and/or social damage caused by Finnish Forest Certification System (FFCS) certification, with a significant amount of the damage found in Finnish reindeer-herding areas. Partly as a result of the joint campaign, new negotiations between the representatives of reindeer herders and the FFCS were started in spring 2001, taking into account the effects of FFCS practices on reindeer herding.
- TRN facilitated a series of capacity-building events for the Finnish FSC working group, including ongoing support from an FSC board member, consultation visits with FSC staff, and joint NGO strategic meetings with Nordic counterparts.
- TRN and participant organization Boreal Footprint Project (BFP) published the report *Sustainable for Whom?*, which examines the experiences of four communities in Sweden and Canada with FSC certification. This breakthrough report highlights the potential benefits, and limitations, of market-based certification for forest communities' peoples.

- TRN published *Developing Forest Stewardship Standards – A Survival Guide* for all stakeholders involved in the development of FSC standards worldwide. This practical guide outlines the challenges and obstacles that arise during standard-setting processes and takes the reader step by step through every phase of the standard-setting process. It was distributed to all FSC working groups and other interested parties worldwide and is being translated into Russian.
- TRN contributed to a major report, *Behind the Logo*, published by TRN participant organization Fern. TRN contributed to this report by collecting information for the Swedish case study on various certification schemes and by distributing the joint NGO statement outlining the minimum criteria for credible forest certification systems.



### **TRN Initiates the First-Ever Nordic Multi-Stakeholder Seminar on Certification**

Until TRN took the initiative and brought together NGOs, FSC staff, certifiers, and scientists in a three-day seminar in September 2001, an exchange of ideas and experiences between NGOs from Nordic countries had never occurred. Held in Helsinki, Finland, issues discussed at the seminar ranged from harmonization, to the concept of high conservation value forests, to the issue of stakeholder consultation during the certification process.

The tone of the seminar participants was often highly critical: “Five to ten percent protection will not preserve biodiversity in the long run – this is only going to happen if forestry fully considers the environmental demands in the remaining part of the silvicultural landscape,” argued Professor Lars Ericson, from Umeå University in Sweden. In Scandinavia, the landscape is extremely fragmented and many species will go extinct even if all the remaining old-growth forests would be protected.

Another issue that caused a heated debate was stakeholder consultation during certification, with NGOs from Russia just having experienced an example of poor communication: “The position of the Russian NGOs is that there are at present no guarantees that this [poor communication] will not happen again. There should be ways to avoid this,” said Misha Karpachevskiy of the Biodiversity Conservation Center in Moscow, Russia. During a panel discussion, finding the way towards better communication was explored.

- Arjan Alkema, TRN West European Coordinator

## Forest Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management in 2001

Issues surrounding forest conservation and sustainable forest management are always heated; the year 2001 again proved this fact. Along with its participant organizations, TRN works to promote sustainable forest management and forest conservation throughout the boreal region. On the surface, forest conservation seems like a simple issue, but it takes place at many levels through legislative policies; biological and

biodiversity studies of the forests' ecological values; indigenous peoples' and boreal forest communities' needs in terms of the forests' spiritual, historical, and sustainable economic values; as well as through educating the public. TRN's work in the areas of forest conservation and sustainable management touched on all of these levels in 2001.

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### Forest Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management Highlights in 2001

- TRN helped organize forest campaigners urging the Norwegian Minister of the Environment to double forest protection in Norway at the Boreal Forest Day of the Forest Movement Europe meeting, Oslo, Norway.
- TRN received a DOEN foundation grant for its project "Promoting Forest Conservation and Sustainable Stewardship in Northwest Russia" in partnership with its participant organizations in northwest Russia. The project aims to achieve permanent protection for some of the last remaining old-growth forest areas in European Russia. TRN and its participant organizations SPOK and Kola BCC have managed to get the support of important multi-stakeholders, which has led to agreements with logging companies to refrain from logging in valuable forest areas in Karelia and Murmansk. Altogether 73,800 hectares of valuable forest area in Murmansk were set aside in an agreement with Priroda, the largest forestry company in the region.
- TRN led field trips with Russian NGOs monitoring timber flow in the Pudozh region of Karelia, Russia. The first in a series of expeditions, these field trips will help monitor timber flows in the region and will eventually ensure that there is no old-growth wood entering the mills in the region. The trip also established contacts with the local communities and gathered first-hand information about the timber flows.
- TRN helped organize a regional forest industry and NGO multi-stakeholder seminar on forest conservation and roundtable discussions in Murmansk, Russia. Roundtable discussions led to a decision by the NGOs to write a joint letter to the regional government pushing for the creation of protected areas in the region and showing the benefits such protected areas could bring to the local forest industries and the local peoples' economies. The discussion also led to a commitment from a local forest company to stop logging operations in the Kutsa area.



Meeting at the Forest Movement Europe conference with the Norwegian Minister of Environment Siri Bjerke (left), urging her to increase forest protection in Norway from the current 1% of the country's productive forests. Photograph by Haakon Mosvold.

### **TRN Helps Push for an Increase in Forest-Protection Level in Norway**

TRN's ability to help bring together five forest campaigners (from Europe, Asia, and Africa) to urge the Norwegian Minister of the Environment to increase forest protection in Norway to match the level in their home countries made a difference in changing the Norwegian forest management policy towards increased protection.

At the Forest Movement Europe (FME) conference in Oslo, Norway, in April 2001, TRN and environmental NGOs representing the three continents delivered a petition to the Norwegian Minister of the Environment Siri Bjerke, urging her to increase forest protection in Norway from the current 1% of the country's productive forests. Bjerke was also urged to halt governmental subsidies of forest-road building and logging in areas hard to reach or with limited economic value in Norway.

As a result of the meeting, the Minister ordered an evaluation of Norway's forest protection policies. A report on the policies was published, and it included a proposal that the amount of areas protected be quadrupled in order to save the biodiversity of Norway's forests.

In October 2001, newly elected officials sped up the process towards increased protection, and it is expected that the level of protection will double in 2002.

- Einar Wilhelmsen, TRN participant organization Friends of the Earth Norway and IRG member

## Timber Trade Issues in 2001

Since its inception in 1992, the Taiga Rescue Network and its participants in the producer and consumer countries of boreal forest products have drawn attention to timber trade links and strived to promote responsible timber trade and procurement policies among timber traders, importers, and retailers.

In 2001, our activities focused on illegal logging, particularly in Russia and the Baltic States. Through developing guidelines for responsible timber trade for European companies involved in Russia and the Baltic States and organizing

multi-stakeholder meetings and field trips to encourage the development of environmentally sustainable and socially responsible timber procurement policies, TRN managed to raise awareness among the forest industry about the urgent need to address the problem of illegal logging at its sources. TRN participant organizations were also involved in lobbying their respective governments and the European Commission to ensure that adequate safeguards are in place to prevent illegally sourced timber from entering the European Union.

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### Timber Trade Issues Highlights in 2001

- TRN initiated the publication of the revised NGO *Guidelines for Responsible Timber Trade* into principles that suit the current Russian trade situation. The principles outlined in the revised *Guidelines* call for conservation of old-growth forest and other valuable forest areas, transparent trade chains, and certification of all forest and forest-product operations. The revised *Guidelines* should be adopted by European companies that procure timber from Russia and be implemented in the companies' procurement policies.
- TRN gave a presentation about illegal logging stressing the urgency needed in addressing illegal boreal timber imports at a meeting organized by the European Commission's DG Trade. An estimated 50% of all timber from Estonia stems from illegal logging and trade; estimations in Russia range from 20% to 30% of all traded Russian timber.
- TRN organized a multi-stakeholder seminar "Monitoring Russian Timber Imports - From Blackbox Towards FSC," in cooperation with Friends of the Earth Netherlands. The seminar attracted more than 50 participants and focused on monitoring systems to assess the origin of wood from Russia. As a result of the seminar, several meetings between Dutch timber importers and Russian NGOs took place, discussing opportunities for protecting old-growth forests in Arkhangelsk, the main procurement area for Dutch companies.
- TRN organized a strategic NGO meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia, that brought together major NGOs from European Russia and Western Europe to discuss timber trade issues.



Wood piles in northern Sweden. Photograph courtesy WWF Sweden.

### **TRN Helps the Fight Against the Illegal Timber Trade in Estonia**

As a founding participant organization of Taiga Rescue Network, the Estonian Green Movement (EGM) forestry-working group focused primarily on illegal forestry issues in 2001. The results of our latest study showed that up to 50% of all of Estonia's exported timber was illegally harvested. The problems raised by illegal logging in Estonia are important on the European and international levels, as Estonia's illegally harvested timber is exported to foreign countries.

The widespread illegal timber harvest makes forestry regulations and planning difficult, but the EGM continues to work to combat illegal forestry. Our work in 2001 included the formation of forestry working groups; studies in the illegal forestry sector; over twenty publications, including the 52-page report *Illegal Forestry in Estonia*; joint roundtable meetings with the ministry of environment and the forest industry; a forest field trip with members of the Estonian parliament; and presentations and meetings to educate the Estonian public.

Through all of our activities in 2001, we were able to raise questions among every target group and start to find solutions for every concern. Our participation in Taiga Rescue Network has helped us to coordinate efforts educating people in Europe and throughout the world about illegal logging issues in Estonia. As an international network, TRN has been helpful in connecting us with other organizations that are doing and have done similar work in the area of illegal logging. Our working relationship with TRN both in the areas of education and coordination have been important throughout 2001.

- Rein Ahas, TRN participant organization Estonian Green Movement

## TRN's Role as an Information Clearinghouse in 2001

As an information clearinghouse, the main goal of Taiga Rescue Network is to raise awareness about the global importance of boreal forests and about the struggles of the local and indigenous peoples fighting to protect them. TRN acts as an information clearinghouse by supporting grassroots organizations, by linking local, national, and international NGOs, by producing widely distributed information, by organizing meetings and joint NGO seminars, and by maintaining an up-to-date website educating the public and organizations about action alerts, policy issues, and boreal news.

*Taiga News*, our quarterly newsletter, is the mouthpiece of the network's diverse participants.

It is distributed to a wide range of stakeholders in the boreal world, as well as in the consuming countries of boreal forest products. *Taiga News* plays a key role in setting the agenda on policy debates relating to the future of the boreal forest and its people.

The TRN website, topical email lists, the monthly internal *Boreal Bulletin*, and various other reports and publications also educate the general public, NGOs, community groups, media, governments, and industry about the challenges facing the boreal world and its peoples, as well as the steps being taken at the local, national, international, and intergovernmental levels to address these challenges.



### *Taiga News* in 2001

Quarterly issues were published in both English and Russian editions.

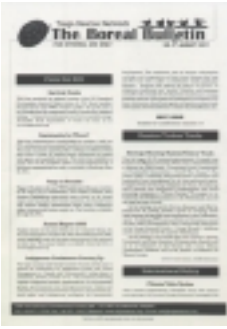
- *Issue 34: Boreal Timber Trade* featuring the environmental and social responsibility of European wood importers, the Russia-China trade, and the Canadian/U.S. softwood lumber dispute;

- *Issue 35: Community-based Forest Management* featuring FSC-certified forests managed by communities, Russian NTFPs (non-forest timber products), and an interview with a community forest group leader in Scotland;

- *Issue 36: Boreal Forest Ecology and Conservation* featuring recent findings in conservation ecology including articles on natural disturbance regimes, forest history and conservation, and extinction debts;

- *Issue 37: Pulp and Paper Industry* in the boreal region featuring the transnationalization of the industry, corporate profiles, and foreign investments in the Russian pulp and paper sector.





### ***Boreal Bulletin in 2001***

The *Boreal Bulletin* was produced 10 times in 2001, an increase of 2 issues from 2000. The *Bulletin* is now distributed to 210 organizations. Selected news items are posted on the TRN website to increase the accessibility of important information and action alerts to the general public.



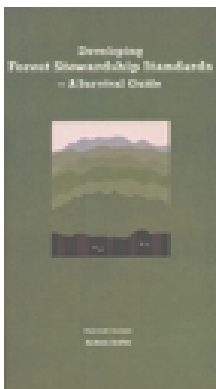
### ***Trouble in the Taiga*** (3,000 copies)

A full-color brochure was published in October to provide a reader-friendly overview of key issues in the boreal world. Each page focuses on different topics such as the boreal ecosystem and biodiversity; indigenous peoples, including two case studies from Sweden and Canada; the biodiversity crisis; climate change; consumption of pulp and paper; alternative uses of the forest; timber trade; international forest policy; and successful campaigns.



### ***Sustainable for Whom?*** (1,200 copies of the summary brochure)

This report on the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and boreal communities was produced in accordance with issues identified at the 5<sup>th</sup> biennial international TRN conference in Moscow. It was published in cooperation with TRN participant organization Boreal Footprint Project (BFP) and examines experiences of four communities in Sweden and Canada familiar with FSC forest management certification. It was produced to build awareness about the potential benefits, and the limitations, of market-based certification in relation to forest communities.



### ***Developing Forest Stewardship Standards – A Survival Guide*** (700 copies)

This guide is intended for stakeholders involved in the development of FSC standards worldwide and outlines the challenges and obstacles that have arisen during the standard-setting processes.

Hard copies of publications can be requested from the TRN International Coordination Center, or publications are available in PDF format and can be viewed and/or downloaded (free of charge) on our website at: <http://www.taigarescue.org/publications/reports.shtml>

## Indigenous Peoples, Communities, and Forestry Issues in 2001

As a network helping to promote sustainable use of the boreal forests' ecosystem, TRN works with indigenous peoples, indigenous peoples' participant organizations, and communities living in the boreal region. Land use rights, sustainable forest extraction practices,

community forest land use, and protection of traditional lands are issues important to indigenous peoples and communities within the boreal regions. With and through its participant organizations, TRN works to promote the visibility of these issues.

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### Indigenous Peoples, Communities, and Forestry Issues Highlights in 2001

- TRN, together with participant organization the Boreal Footprint Project (BFP), undertook a review of the best practices of integrating indigenous rights into protected-areas management in Canada. The joint review allowed the BFP and TRN to contract the National Aboriginal Forestry Association, a sustainable development-oriented non-profit in Canada, to conduct this study. The research is underway by an indigenous policy analyst, and the research findings will be translated into Russian, edited, and published in 2002.
- BFN (Boreal Forest Network), the North American affiliate of TRN, in partnership with Hollow Water First Nation, Trent University, and the University of Manitoba, launched a three-year environmental education pilot program entitled Soaring Eagle – Gaa Bi Ombaashid Migizi. An eight-week course, it is delivered in the local communities and provides an opportunity for remote First Nations participants to learn about environmental issues that affect them by combining both traditional ecological knowledge and Western environmental science.
- BFN assisted the Anishinaabe Turtle Island Protectors with the organizing of “The Spirit of the Lands – Lands of the Spirit.” This three-day event was a traditional gathering of Aboriginal Elders and traditional land users, and took place in September. Over 70 elders and traditional land users were in attendance to discuss resource development projects that would have severely adverse impacts on their traditional way of life. In the end, the elders and traditional land users drafted an elder’s declaration, which has since run as full-page ads in two major First Nations newspapers in Canada.



Reindeer separation near Jokkmokk, Sweden. Photograph by Elisa Peter.

### **TRN and Environmental NGOs Promote Sustainable Forestry in Northern Finland**

Old-growth forest logging in eastern and northern Finland adversely affects many livelihoods that depend on forests, especially tourism and reindeer herding. In some areas, one or the other of two these livelihoods, alone, provides more benefits for the local community than do mechanized forestry operations. Finnish environmental NGOs such as the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation work continuously to raise the public's awareness about the adverse affects of old-growth logging. During 2000 and 2001, the longstanding grassroots contacts between environmental NGOs and reindeer herders resulted in concrete cooperation when several herders agreed to join with the environmental NGOs to publicly defend old-growth forests.

Through its experience working with the Sami people in Sweden, TRN was able to support the joint efforts between the Finnish environmental NGOs and the reindeer herders. The cooperative work between the environmental NGOs and the reindeer herders highlighted the social, as well as the ecological, shortcomings of the Finnish industry-led certification scheme FFCS. In 2000, extensive interviews and mapping were carried out at the local level to identify the threats and actual damage done to reindeer herding in Lapland by FFCS-certified state forestry operations. Results of the survey were published in the report *Anything goes?* (see under Forest Certification Highlights in 2001 section, page 8).

While increasing awareness about social issues surrounding forestry in Finland, TRN has also proved important to Finnish environmental NGOs through its work as a network by sharing contact information, organizing meetings, distributing information, and through financial support. As the issues related to indigenous peoples, communities, and social sustainability in the boreal are even more complex than the ecological ones, it is evident that intense cooperation, as well as skill- and experience-sharing are greatly needed. This role is well carried out by TRN, and as shown through its work in Finland, TRN's role as a network is successful.

- Kaisa Raitio, board member of TRN participant organization Finnish Association for Nature Conservation and TRN IRG Finnish representative

## Financial Report for 2001

(1 SEK = 0.109473 EURO)

<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b>SEK</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Grants	1,575,915	172,520
Participant organizations	323,492	35,414
Information material and <i>Taiga News</i> subscriptions	19,138	2,095
Miscellaneous donations	5,165	565
<b>GRANT TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,923,710</b>	<b>210,594</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
Staff Costs (salaries and social charges)	744,971	81,554
Meetings (travel, visas, and accommodation)	212,755	23,291
Office costs (supplies and equipment)	16,002	1,752
Communication costs (postage, phone, fax, email, website)	99,427	10,885
Production costs ( <i>Bulletin</i> , <i>TN</i> , brochures, reports, website)	652,910	71,476
Office rent	30,708	3,362
Miscellaneous (bank fees, volunteers, etc.)	26,779	2,932
<b>GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,783,552</b>	<b>195,251</b>
<b><u>BALANCE</u></b>	<b>140,158</b>	<b>15,344</b>

### Looking into 2002

In 2002, Taiga Rescue Network and its participant organizations will be celebrating a decade of grassroots initiatives, international campaigning, and partnership building to promote the sustainable use of the boreal forest and its peoples' issues on the public agenda.

We will build on the last 10 years' achievements as we continue to measure our successes. Through a series of initiatives including a special issue of our quarterly newsletter *Taiga News*, a 10-year evaluation of TRN, and our 10-year-anniversary conference to be held in Winnipeg, in September 2002, we will also address the challenges that we have encountered and how we have worked through them as an international environmental NGO network.

The year 2002 will also see a series of changes with some of the TRN staff heading in new directions. These changes provide opportunities for the network to integrate new energies and fresh ideas and develop a new set of strategic priorities and targets for the decade that lies ahead!

- Elisa Peter, TRN International Coordinator, TRN International Coordination Center

## TRN International Reference Group (IRG) Members and TRN Staff

### IRG Chair

Mikhail Karpachevskiy – Biodiversity Conservation Center, Russia

### IRG Members

Karen Baltgailis – Yukon Conservation Society, Canada

Gavin Edwards – Greenpeace Canada

Chris Genoali – Raincoast Conservation Society, Canada

Greg Higgs – Forest Action Network, Canada

Colleen McCrory – Valhalla Wilderness Society, Canada

Geoff Quaile – Grand Council of the Cree, Canada

Charles Restino – Canada's Future Forest Alliance, Canada

Leanne Simpson – Manitoba's Future Forest Alliance, Canada

Sarah Winterton – Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Canada

Rein Ahas – Estonian Green Movement, Estonia

Kaisa Raitio – Finnish Nature League, Finland

Rudolf Fenner – Robin Wood, Germany

Gudrun Henne – Greenpeace International, the Netherlands

Hilde Stroot – Friends of the Earth, the Netherlands

Gjermund Andersen – Friends of the Earth Norway

Einar Wilhelmsen – Friends of the Earth Norway

Andrei Laletin – Friends of Siberian Forests, Russia

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Vladimir Tchouprov – Greenpeace Russia

Alexander Yumakaev – The Fund for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Altai, Russia

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Feja Lesniewska – Future Roots Organization, U.K.

Saskia Ozinga – Fern, U.K.

Phil Knight – Native Forest Network, U.S.A.

Sarah Lloyd – U.S.A.

David Martin – Pacific Environment, U.S.A.

Chanda Meek – Boreal Footprint Project, U.S.A.

Pat Rasmussen – Counterpart International, U.S.A.

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TRN is also grateful for the hard work done by the volunteers who worked at the Jokkmokk office in 2001: Katelijne de Frankrijker, Alissa Boardley, and Caroline Stein. Many thanks!!

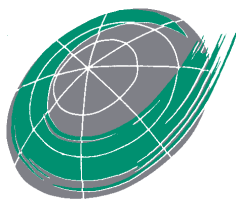
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**Taiga Rescue Network, TRN, is an international network of non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples working for the protection and sustainable use of the world's boreal forests.**

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