

Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 264

Adopted 16 March 2010

General Regulations on Protection and Use of Specially Protected Nature Territories

Refinement – L.V, 13 April 2010, No.58.

*Issued pursuant to
Section 14, Paragraph two and Section 16 of the
Law On Specially Protected Nature Territories*

1. General Provisions

1. This Regulation prescribes the procedures for protection and use of specially protected nature territories (hereinafter – protected territories), including types of permissible and prohibited activities in protected territories, as well as the sample of a special informative sign used for marking of protected territories on site and the procedures for the development and use thereof.
2. This Regulation shall apply to protected territories established by the *Saeima* and the Cabinet, which do not have individual protection and use regulations.
3. Protected territories shall be marked on site with a special informative sign, the sample and the procedures for development and use of which are specified in Annex 1 to this Regulation.
4. It is prohibited in protected territories to:
 - 4.1. establish new waste disposal sites;
 - 4.2. grow genetically modified crops;
 - 4.3. utilise species from other countries for forest regeneration and cultivation (with the exception of protected dendrological plants); and
 - 4.4. use mineral fertilisers and chemical plant protection products in forest stands, with the exception of the landscape protection and neutral zone of the North Vidzeme Biosphere Reserve, as well as except for repellents for frightening away artiodactyls and pheromones for the restriction of tree stem pests.
5. The Nature Protection Board shall determine the status of restricted access information regarding the habitats of specially protected species and the location of specially protected biotopes, the disclosure of which may affect environmental protection. Such information may only be distributed with the written permission from the Nature Protection Board.
6. The Nature Protection Board when issuing a written permission or co-ordinating the activities referred to in regulations, shall use information from nature protection plans and the latest available information regarding specially protected species and biotopes in a specific territory. Activities, for which in accordance with regulatory enactments regarding an environmental impact assessment the State Environmental Service shall issue technical

regulations or perform an initial assessment of impact on the environment, shall not require permission from the Nature Protection Board.

7. The written permission from the Nature Protection Board referred to in this Regulation shall not be required, if the relevant activity will be performed by the Nature Protection Board, in order to implement the functions and tasks prescribed for it by regulatory enactments.

2. Strict Nature Reserves

8. It is prohibited to reside or get around in the strict regime zone of a strict nature reserve, as well as undertake economic or other type of activity, with the exception of the following activities:

- 8.1. control of supervision of the protection regime of the territory;
- 8.2. implementation of fire-fighting and fire safety measures, as well as saving and searching for people;
- 8.3. maintenance of buildings and infrastructure objects, as well as renovation according to the procedures prescribed in regulatory enactments regulating building.;
- 8.4. daily and periodic road maintenance; and
- 8.5. with the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:
 - 8.5.1. scientific research activities, monitoring and forest inventory;
 - implementation of necessary measures for protection and maintenance of the ecosystems, specially protected biotopes and habitats of specially protected species;
 - 8.5.3. movement along marked nature trails; and
 - 8.5.4. road reconstruction.

9. Economic and other types of activities are prohibited in the regulated regime zone of a strict nature reserve, except for the following activities:

- 9.1. control of supervision of the protection regime of the territory;
- 9.2. implementation of fire-fighting and fire safety measures, as well as saving and searching for people;
- 9.3. moving along roads and marked nature trails;
- 9.4. maintenance of buildings and infrastructure objects, as well as renovation according to the procedures prescribed in regulatory enactments regulating building.;
- 9.5. daily and periodic road maintenance;
- 9.6. for regulated regime zone landowners, legal possessors and users, as well as residents of a regulated regime zone:
 - 9.6.1. angling;
 - 9.6.2. picking and acquisition of wild mushrooms, plants and their products. It is prohibited to utilise special auxiliary gathering equipment for picking berries;
 - 9.6.3. agricultural activity on agricultural land, without utilising chemical plant protection products and not tilling alluvial and terrace meadows; and
- 9.7. with the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:
 - 9.7.1. scientific research activities, monitoring and forest inventory;
 - 9.7.2. implementation of necessary measures for protection and maintenance of the ecosystems, specially protected biotopes and habitats of specially protected species;
 - 9.7.3. hunting or regulation of the number of huntable or non-huntable animal species, if the animal population density in the regulated regime zone territory exceeds the natural capacity of the ecosystem, resulting in the degradation of the specially protected biotope or habitat of a specially protected species or in the change of the course of natural processes, as well as to prevent the spread of epizootic diseases;
 - 9.7.4. road reconstruction; and

9.7.5. establishing of nature tourism and information infrastructure objects that are available to the public (for example, pathways, lookout towers, camping areas, parking areas, visitor centres and information centres).

3. National Parks

10. The requirements referred to in Paragraph 8 of this Regulation shall be in force in a national park nature reserve (strict regime) zone.

11. The requirements referred to in Paragraph 9 of this Regulation shall be in force in a national park regulatory regime zone.

12. The requirements referred to in Chapter 5 of this Regulation shall be in force in a national park nature reserve zone.

13. The requirements referred to in Chapter 7 of this Regulation shall be in force in the landscape protection zone of a national park.

4. Biosphere Reserves

14. The requirements referred to in Chapter 5 of this Regulation shall be in force in a biosphere reserve nature reserve zone.

15. The requirements referred to in Chapter 7 of this Regulation except for Paragraphs 32, 33 and 34 shall be in force in a biosphere reserve landscape protection zone.

5. Nature Reserves

16. The following is prohibited in the territory of a nature reserve:

16.1. to drive off the road and travel by means of mechanical vehicles, tricycles, quadricycles and mopeds through forest and agricultural land, except for the cases, if the travel occurs along the special trails established for the visitors to the territory, or the travel is related to the land management, supervision or executing State defence duties;

16.2. to make fires outside of specially arranged sites, which prevent the further spread of fire, except for fires in courtyards and the fires for burning of felling waste in accordance with the regulatory enactments regulating forest management;

16.3. to burn off dry grass, heather and reed areas, as well as forest ground cover, except for re-establishment measures for specially protected biotopes, for the performance of which a written permission has been received from the Nature Protection Board and the authority responsible for fire safety and fire-fighting has been informed thereof in writing;

16.4. in order to reduce the loss of animal life – to mow land used for agricultural purposes and glades inward from the sides towards the centre. In conditions of uneven relief mowing shall be in the direction of the slope from the open side of the meadow (also from a courtyard, road, open ditch, fence, river or lake) towards the bushes or forest;

16.5. to drain bogs, forest stands on wet mineral soils and wet peat soils;

16.6. to use shotgun shells containing lead for hunting water birds;

16.7. to install wind power stations, with a diameter greater than five metres for the main rotor with blades or the highest point exceeds a height of 30 metres;

16.8. to travel on surface water bodies with vessels or other floating means of conveyance, for which the power of the mechanical engine or motor exceeds 3.7 kW, except for officials of State and local government authorities, who are performing service duties, as

well as authorised persons, who are performing control of the compliance with the regulatory enactments regulating the environment, including fishing control;

16.9. to travel by means of jet-skis;

16.10. to organise auto racings, moto racings and bicycle racings, rallies, training drives, test drives, as well as organise water motor sports and water skiing competitions, National Armed Forces and national guard training;

16.11. to damage or destroy (also by tilling, cultivating or afforestating) alluvial and terrace meadows;

16.12. to establish cranberry plantations in bogs;

16.13. to perform activities, in the result of which the shoreline and bed of a lake, river, oxbow lake and stream are changed, except for regeneration of the natural hydrological regime of the natural onflow of rivers or territories adjacent to watercourses and water bodies;

16.14. to extract mineral resources, excluding obtaining of groundwater for personal needs;

16.15. to perform activities, which promote soil erosion, except for preparing the soil for agricultural purposes;

16.16. to change the land use category, except for:

16.16.1. change of the land use category to “forest” or “bushes” for an agricultural holding which has naturally afforested or has been afforested prior to the establishment of the protected territory;

16.16.2. regeneration of the natural onflow of rivers;

16.16.3. with the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:

16.16.3.1. in a national park nature reserve zone;

16.16.3.2. re-establishment of specially protected biotopes and habitats of specially protected species;

16.16.3.3. establishing of nature tourism and information infrastructure objects that are available to the public (for example, pathways, lookout towers, camping areas, parking areas, visitor centres and information centres);

16.16.3.4. extending of vessel bases or establishing of berths;

16.16.3.5. restoration and reconstruction of roads (also railways), engineering communications and other engineering structures, if the width and location of a route is being changed;

16.17. to build hydrotechnical structures and establish amelioration systems, perform their reconstruction and renovation, except in order to prevent flooding of the territory adjacent to the protected territory, as well as with the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:

16.17.1. regeneration of the hydrological regime in the territory adjacent to the natural onflow of rivers, flowing water bodies and water bodies;

16.17.2. perform measures for the re-establishment of specially protected biotopes and habitats of specially protected species;

16.17.3. restoration of fish migration paths;

16.18. to establish new and extend current fenced areas for keeping wild animals in captivity;

16.19. to fell trees, the average diameter of which at a height of 1.3 metre above the root collar exceeds 60 cm, except for dangerous trees (trees, which endanger human life and health, nearby buildings or infrastructure objects);

16.20. to organise public open-air events, as well as camps, in which more than 60 people participate, without the written permission from the Nature Protection Board, except for events and camps, which are organised at specially arranged sites intended for that purpose; and

16.21. to establish nature tourism and information infrastructure objects that are available to the public (for example, pathways, trails, lookout towers, camping areas, parking

areas, visitor centres and information centres) without the written permission of the Nature Protection Board.

17. The subdivision of land units shall be allowed only in cases, if the area of each individual land unit after division is not less than 10 hectares. This condition shall not apply to land units, which are being separated for building or maintenance of infrastructure and engineering communications and the building conditions of which are prescribed in the local government spatial plan, as well as to such cases, if a land unit containing residential and household buildings, courtyard and land, which is necessary for the maintenance of the farm, is being separated from the property.

18. The following is prohibited in forest land:

18.1. to perform forestry activity between 15 March and 31 July, except for:

18.1.1. forest fire safety and fire-fighting measures;

18.1.2. felling and removal of dangerous trees;

18.2. tree felling in a final felling and improvement felling;

18.3. tree felling in a thinning (except for dry trees), if the age of the dominant stand is the following:

18.3.1. pine and oak stands - 60 years;

18.3.2. spruce, birch, black alder, ash and linden stands – 50 years;

18.3.3. aspen stands – 30 years;

18.4. to lop branches of growing trees in forest stands, except for lopping branches for establishing and maintenance of a lookout points, maintenance of electric power lines and other linear communications, as well as for traffic safety on roads;

18.5. to establish new forestry (commercial) roads;

18.6. regeneration of a forest by planting or sowing;

18.7. in order to reduce loss of animal life – to maintain the current mesh style fencing in a forest, which is not labelled for increasing the visibility thereof (for example, by using branches, tapes or other materials visible to animals);

18.8. to take moss and lichen, by damaging or destroying the ground cover;

18.9. to damage or destroy (also by tilling or cultivating) forest meadows and glades, except for the feeding glades for wild game registered in the State Forestry Register; and

18.10. to establish new feeding glades for wild game, as well as bring in and dump agricultural and food products in a nature reserve territory. If it is necessary for regulating the number of animals, automatic feeding racks may be used in locations, where they do not threaten the natural biotope or preservation of habitats of specially protected species.

19. If trees infected with diseases, infested with pests or otherwise damaged trees are causing mass proliferation of pests and may cause damage to stands outside of the nature reserve, it is permitted to fell the damaged trees in a sanitary felling after receipt of a sanitary opinion of the State Forest Service, in which the definite amount of damaged trees to be removed has been specified.

20. Not less than 20 cubic metres per hectare of dry standing trees, new windthrown trees and fallen deadwood, the diameters of which at the thickest point exceed 25 cm shall be retained in forest stands. If the total amount is greater, the thickest trees shall be retained first of all. It is permitted to remove new windthrown spruces, the amount of which exceeds five cubic metres per hectare and which in accordance with an opinion of the State Forest Service may cause damage to the forest stand due to mass proliferation of pests.

21. Dry trees and fallen deadwood in the amount referred to in Paragraph 20 of this Regulation, as well as the felled dangerous trees and the stumps of the felled trees shall be left

in the forest stand, in order to ensure the decaying (dead) timber as a niche for species important to the forest ecosystem.

22. The requirements for regeneration and tending of young stands shall not be applied to forest stands, for which, due to windfalls, broken trees, disease infections or pest infestations the basal area of a forest stand has become less than the critical basal area and the wind thrown, damaged, dry standing trees and fallen deadwood are not being removed.

23. In a thinning for each felling hectare at least 15 of the oldest and largest size viable trees (ecological trees) shall be retained, by firstly retaining the thickest (the diameter of the tree is greater than the average diameter of the dominant tree species) oaks, lindens, pines, ashes, wych-elms, elms, black alders and maples. If such trees are not in the forest stand, aspens and birches shall be retained first, as well as trees with large and thick branches, hollow trees and trees with burn scars.

6. Nature Parks

24. The following is prohibited in the territory of a nature park:

24.1. to drive off the road and travel by means of mechanical vehicles, tricycles, quadricycles and mopeds through forest and agricultural land, except for the cases, if the travel occurs along the special trails established for the visitors to the territory, or the travel is related to the land management, supervision or executing State defence duties;

24.2. to make fires outside of specially arranged sites, which prevent the further spread of fire, except for fires in courtyards and the fires for burning of felling waste in accordance with the regulatory enactments regulating forest management;

24.3. to burn off dry grass, heather and reed areas, as well as forest ground cover, except for biotope re-establishment measures, for the performance which a written permission has been received from the Nature Protection Board and the authority responsible for fire safety and fire-fighting has been informed thereof;

24.4. in order to reduce the loss of animal life – to mow land used for agricultural purposes and glades inward from the sides towards the centre. In conditions of uneven relief mowing shall be in the direction of the slope from the open side of the meadow (also from a courtyard, road, open ditch, fence, river or lake) towards the bushes or forest;

24.5. to drain bogs, forest stands on wet mineral soils and wet peat soils;

24.6. to use shotgun shells containing lead for hunting water birds;

24.7. to install wind power stations, with a diameter greater than five metres for the main rotor with blades or the highest point exceeds a height of 30 metres;

24.8. to perform activities, which promote soil erosion, except for preparing the soil for agricultural and forestry purposes;

24.9. to establish new fenced areas for keeping wild animals in captivity;

24.10. to fell trees with a diameter that exceeds 60 cm at a height of 1.3 metre above the root collar, except for dangerous trees;

24.11. without the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:

24.11.1. to change the land use category;

24.11.2. to establish nature tourism and information infrastructure objects that are available to the public (for example, pathways, trails, lookout towers, camping areas, parking areas, visitor centres and information centres); and

24.11.3. to organise auto racings, moto racings and bicycle racings, rallies, training drives, test drives off the State motor roads and local government roads, as well as organise water motor sports and water skiing competitions, National Armed Forces and national guard training.

25. It is permitted to build hydrotechnical structures and establish amelioration systems, as well as perform their reconstruction and renovation, with the written permission of the Nature Protection Board in the following cases:

25.1. in order to prevent flooding outside the protected territory or the flooding of previously never flooded nature park territory;

25.2. in order to regenerate the hydrological regime of the natural onflow of rivers and territories adjacent to watercourses and water bodies;

25.3. in order to ensure the performance of management and re-establishment measures for specially protected biotopes;

25.4. in order to restore fish migration paths; and

25.5. in order to implement an activity, which is not prohibited by this Regulation and is not in contradiction with the objectives for the establishment of the protected territory.

26. The subdivision of land units shall be allowed only in cases, if in forest lands the area of each individual land unit after division is not less than 10 hectares, but for land to be used in agriculture and in other lands – less than three hectares. This condition shall not apply to land units, which are being separated for building or maintenance of infrastructures and engineering communications and the building conditions of which are prescribed in the local government spatial plan, as well as to such cases, if a land unit containing residential and household buildings, courtyard and land, which is necessary for maintenance of the farm, is being separated from the property.

27. The following is prohibited in forest lands:

27.1. to perform forestry activity between 15 March and 31 July, except for:

27.1.1. forest fire safety and fire-fighting measures;

27.1.2. felling and removal of dangerous trees;

27.1.3. forest regeneration with manual tools without a motor;

27.1.4. tending of young stands, where the average height for coniferous trees is up to 0.7 m, but for deciduous trees – up to one metre;

27.2. to fell trees in a clear felling and improvement felling;

27.3. in performing tree felling in the final felling:

27.3.1. to decrease the density of the first storey of a forest stand below 0.4, not including dry standing trees;

27.3.2. to establish in a forest stand the openings larger than 0.1 hectares; and

27.4. to take moss and lichen, by damaging or destroying the ground cover.

28. Not less than 20 cubic metres per hectare of dry standing trees, new windthrown trees and fallen deadwood, the diameters of which at the thickest point exceed 25 cm shall be retained in forest stands. If the total amount is greater, the thickest trees shall be retained first of all. It is permitted to remove new windthrown spruces, the amount of which exceeds five cubic metres per hectare and which in accordance with an opinion of the State Forest Service may cause damage to the forest stand due to mass proliferation of pests.

29. In a final felling and a thinning for each felling hectare at least 15 of the oldest and largest size viable trees (ecological trees) shall be retained, by firstly retaining the thickest (the diameter of the tree is greater than the average diameter of the dominant tree species) oaks, lindens, pines, ashes, wych-elms, elms, black alders and maples. If there are no such trees in the forest stand, aspens and birches shall be retained first, as well as trees with large and thick branches, hollow trees and trees with burn scars.

30. Dry trees and fallen deadwood in the amount referred to in Paragraph 29 of this Regulation, as well as the felled dangerous trees and the stumps of the felled trees shall be left

in the forest stand, in order to ensure the decaying (dead) timber as a niche for species important to the forest ecosystem.

31. The requirements for regeneration and tending of young stands shall not be applied to forest stands, for which, due to windfalls, broken trees, disease infections or pest infestations the basal area of a forest stand has become less than the critical basal area and the wind thrown, damaged, dry standing trees and fallen deadwood are not being removed.

7. Protected Landscape Areas

32. The following is prohibited in the territory of the protected landscape area:

32.1. to perform activities, in landscape valuable territories, if such have been prescribed in the spatial planning of the local government, which substantially change the landscape and its elements, change the cultural and historical environment features and the characteristic elements of the region or decrease biological diversity and the ecological quality of the landscape;

32.2. to drive off the road and travel by means of mechanical vehicles, tricycles, quadricycles and mopeds through forest and agricultural land, except for the cases, if the travel occurs along the special trails established for the visitors to the territory, or the travel is related to the land management, supervision or executing State defence duties;

32.3. to burn off dry grass, heather and reed areas, as well as forest ground cover, except for re-establishment measures for biotopes, for the performance of which a written permission has been received from the Nature Protection Board and the authority responsible for fire safety and fire-fighting has been informed thereof in writing;

32.4. to perform construction or establish plantations and a forest on elements and values characteristic to the landscape, which may hide the view from lookout points and scenic routes available to the public, if such have been prescribed in the spatial planning of the local government;

32.5. without receipt of the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:

32.5.1. to establish nature tourism and information infrastructure objects that are available to the public (for example, pathways, trails, lookout towers, camping areas, parking areas, visitor centres and information centres);

32.5.2. when performing road reconstruction, to change the location of the route of a scenic road (if such have been prescribed in the spatial planning of the local government); and

32.5.3. to install wind power stations, with a diameter greater than five metres for the main rotor with blades or the highest point exceeds a height of 30 metres.

33. The following is prohibited in forest lands:

33.1. to perform forestry activity between 15 March and 31 July, except for:

33.1.1. forest fire safety and fire-fighting measures;

33.1.2. forest regeneration with manual tools;

33.1.3. tending of young stands, where the average height for coniferous trees is up to 0.7 m, but for deciduous trees – up to one metre;

33.1.4. felling and removal of dangerous trees;

33.2. to fell trees in an improvement felling (except for the naturalisation of non-productive spruce pure stand and variation of the species composition, as well as in a forest stand, the basal area of which is less than the critical basal area); and

33.3. to perform clear felling in wet soil and wet peat soil forest growing type conditions in pine and black alder stands, as well as all the oak and ash stands, in order to

ensure the long-term maintenance of the biologically valuable wet and broad-leaf forest biotopes and their typical species.

34. The maximum permissible area of a clear felling shall be three hectares.

35. Along scenic roads, if such have been prescribed in the spatial planning of the local government, a forest stand adjacent to clear felling shall not be felled earlier than 10 years after a clear felling in coniferous tree stands and five years after a clear felling in deciduous tree stands, if the area of the clear felling has been recognised as being regenerated and the average height of the coniferous trees of the regenerated forest stand trees is one or more metres, but for deciduous trees – two and more metres.

36. Where possible in a clear felling trees to be preserved shall be left in groups, also preserving the advanced growth or undergrowth therein, except for the cases, if the area of the forest to be managed in one cadastre unit is less than one hectare.

37. If any construction is being performed, the local government has the right to determine additional requirements in binding regulations, in order to preserve the present landscape nature and value.

8. Nature Monuments

38. The requirements of this Chapter shall apply to the following nature monuments:

38.1. protected geological and geomorphological nature monuments, including secular stones (boulders, the aboveground volume of which is 10 or more cubic metres) and a 10 metres wide belt around them;

38.2. protected trees – local and introduced species of noble trees (trees, the circumference of which at a height of 1.3 metre above the root collar or the height of which is not less than the dimensions referred to in Annex 2 to this Regulation) and the territory around the trees in the area of the crown projection, as well as a 10 metres wide belt from it (measuring from the external edge of the protected tree crown projection);

38.3. protected dendrological plantings; and

38.4. protected avenues.

39. If a nature monument is a State protected cultural monument or a part of it is located in the territory of a State protected cultural monument or in the protection zone thereof, for the activities the performance of which is permitted by this Regulation an additional written permission shall be required from the State Inspection for Heritage Protection.

40. The following is prohibited in the territory of a nature monument:

40.1. to perform activities as a result of which a nature monument is being damaged or destroyed or its natural, aesthetic, ecological, cultural and historical value is being diminished;

40.2. to extract mineral resources, excluding obtaining of groundwater for personal needs;

40.3. to change the land use category, except for the change of the land use category in protected dendrological plantings in accordance with the regulatory enactments regarding the establishment and maintenance of parks; and

40.4. to make fires outside of specially arranged sites, which prevent the further spread of fire, except for fires in courtyards and the fires for burning of felling waste in accordance with the regulatory enactments regulating forest management.

41. The following is prohibited in the territory of a nature monument without the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:

41.1. to perform activities, which cause changes in the level of groundwater, underground water and surface water; and

41.2. to establish nature tourism and information infrastructure objects that are available to the public (for example, pathways, lookout towers, camping areas, parking areas, visitor centres and information centres).

8.1. Protected Geological and Geomorphological Nature Monuments

42. The following is prohibited in the territory of a protected geological and geomorphological nature monument:

42.1. to write, draw and engrave on a nature monument and to move it;

42.2. to fell trees in a clear felling;

42.3. to make fires in caves and to bring in any kind of burning objects, which produce smoke or heat; and

42.4. to perform construction of underground structures.

43. The following is prohibited without the written permission of the Nature Protection Board:

43.1. to organise rock climbing activities and competitions;

43.2. to organise public open-air events, as well as camps, in which more than 60 people participate, except for events and camps, which are organised at specially arranged sites intended for that purpose; and

43.3. to fell trees in the final felling.

8.2. Protected Trees

44. The following is prohibited in the territory of a protected tree:

44.1. to perform activities which could negatively affect the growth and natural development of the protected tree. If the protected tree is located in a city or populated area, construction of infrastructure or engineering communications or renovation thereof, as well as building reconstruction, shall be permissible;

44.2. to place items (for example building materials or wood), which block the view of the tree, restricts access to it or decreases the aesthetic value thereof;

44.3. to change the environmental conditions – the water regime and tree nourishment regime; and

44.4. to destroy the natural ground cover.

45. If a protected tree is being oppressed or overshadowed by younger trees and bushes, in accordance with the regulatory enactments that regulate tree felling in forest land or outside of it, it is permitted to carry out thinning or another felling in the projection of the crown of the protected tree and its adjacent area, forming a 10 metres wide belt (measuring from the crown projection of the protected tree to the crown projections of the surrounding trees).

46. The felling (removal) of a protected tree shall only be permissible in such cases, if it has become dangerous and there is no other alternative to prevent the dangerous situation (for example, to lop branches, establish supports), and a written permission has been received from the Nature Protection Board.

47. If a protected tree has broken or been sawn down, the tree trunk and branches, the diameter of which is greater than 50 cm, shall be preserved in the forest land at the place where the tree grew or in its nearest vicinity.

8.3. Protected Dendrological Plantings

48. It is permissible to fell (remove) dangerous trees, if there is no other alternative to prevent the dangerous situation (for example, to lop branches, establish supports, put guard barriers and speed restriction signs) and written permission has been received from the Nature Protection Board.

49. Tree felling and regeneration of a dendrological plantation shall be permitted in accordance with the protected dendrological plantation reconstruction project after receipt of a written permission from the Nature Protection Board.

50. After receipt of a written permission from the Nature Protection Board, construction of infrastructure or engineering communications or restoration thereof, as well as building reconstruction, in the territory of a protected dendrological plantation shall be permissible.

51. The requirements referred to in Paragraphs 40, 41 and 46 of this Regulation shall not be applicable to protected dendrological plantings – the National Botanic Garden of Latvia and Kalsnava Arboretum.

8.4. Protected Avenues

52. It is permitted to fell (remove) an avenue tree, if the tree has become dangerous, threatens road traffic or people safety and there is no other alternative to prevent the dangerous situation (for example, to lop branches, establish supports, put guard barriers and speed restriction signs). The tree shall be felled (removed) after receipt of a written permission from the Nature Protection Board.

9. Closing Provisions

53. Cabinet Regulation No. 415 of 22 July 2003, General Regulations on Protection and Use of Specially Protected Nature Territories (*Latvijas Vēstnesis*, 2003, No. 112; 2004, No. 173; 2005, No. 178; 2007, No. 108) is repealed.

54. To those protected territories, for which individual protection and use regulations have come into force until 10 November 2005, this Regulation shall apply insofar as it does not contradict the individual protection and use regulations of the protected territories.

Informative Reference to European Union Directives

This Regulation contains legal norms arising from:

- 1) Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds; and
- 2) Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

Prime Minister

V. Dombrovskis

Minister for Environment

R. Vējonis

Sample of the Special Informative Sign, Procedures for the Use and Creation Thereof

1. The special informative sign for marking of a protection territory (hereinafter – sign) shall be a green square field surrounded by a white frame with a stylised oak leaf pictogram.



2. The colours (the colour requirements are indicated in the *PANTONE*, *CMYK* and *ORACAL* systems) of the sign shall be the following:

2.1. square field (the oak leaf background) – light green (*PANTONE 362C* or *C70 M0 Y100 K0*, or *ORACAL ECONOMY 064 (yellow green)*);

2.2. oak leaf pictogram – white;

2.3. contour of the oak leaf pictogram and oak leaf vein pattern – dark green (*PANTONE 3425C* or *C100 M0 Y78 K42*, or *ORACAL ECONOMY 060 (dark green)*); and

2.4. frame of the sign – white.

3. Procedures for the use of the sign:

3.1. when installing a sign on site, one of the following dimensions shall be selected:

3.1.1. 300 x 300 mm;

3.1.2. 150 x 150 mm;

3.1.3. 75 x 75 mm;

3.2. the dimensions of the sign in printed material, maintaining the square proportions, shall be chosen in accordance with the dimensions to be used, but shall not be less than 5x5 mm;

3.3 in other cases, which are not referred to in Sub-paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of this Annex, different size signs may be used, maintaining the square proportions;

3.4. the sign shall not be installed on roads (as well as railway tracks).

4. The Nature Protection Board in co-operation with the relevant local government shall develop (prepare) and place the signs.

Minister for Environment

R. Vējonis

Protected Trees – Noble Trees of Local and Introduced Species
(according to circumference or height)

No.	Name in Latvian	Name in Latin	Circumference at a height of 1.3 m (in metres)	Height (in metres)
I. Local Species				
1.	White birch	<i>Betula pendula (Betula verrucosa)</i>	3.0	33
2.	Grey alder	<i>Alnus incana</i>	1.6	25
3.	Goat willow (pussy willow)	<i>Salix caprea</i>	1.9	22
4.	European spindle-tree	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	1.0	6
5.	Hybrid alder	<i>Alnus x pubescens</i>	1.5	32
6.	Black alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2.5	30
7.	Wild pear	<i>Pyrus pyraster</i>	1.5	13
8.	European crab apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	1.5	14
9.	Common aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3.5	35
10.	Common Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>	3.0	37
11.	Wych-elm	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	4.0	28
12.	Sweet cherry	<i>Padus avium</i>	1.7	22
13.	European yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	0.6	8
14.	Norway maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	3.5	27
15.	Little-leaved linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	3.5	33
16.	Common Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	3.5	34
17.	English oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	4.0	32
18.	European rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	1.5	21
19.	Scots pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2.5	38
20.	European hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	1.5	20
21.	European white elm	<i>Ulmus laevis</i>	4.0	30
22.	European white birch (Hairy birch)	<i>Betula pubescens (Betula alba)</i>	3.0	32
23.	Bay willow	<i>Salix pentandra</i>	1.6	22
24.	Crack willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>		
25.	Common juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	0.8	11

No.	Name in Latvian	Name in Latin	Circumference at a height of 1.3 m (in metres)	Height (in metres)
II. Introduced Species				
26.	White willow	<i>Salix alba</i>	4.5	20
27.	Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	1.9	20
28.	Balsam fir	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	1.5	24
29.	European silver fir	<i>Abies alba</i>	2.7	32
30.	Swiss stone pine	<i>Pinus cembra</i>	1.6	22
31.	European larch	<i>Larix decidua</i>	3.2	39
32.	European linden	<i>Tilia x europaea</i>	2.8	26
33.	Sycamore maple	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	2.2	20
34.	Russian larch	<i>Larix ledebourii</i>	3.0	34
35.	Crimean linden	<i>Tilia x euchlora</i>	1.9	20
36.	Common field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	1.5	18
37.	Manchurian walnut	<i>Juglans mandshurica</i>	1,6	18
38.	European black pine	<i>Pinus nigra</i>	1.9	23
39.	Douglas-fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	2.4	30
40.	Poplar	<i>Populus spp.</i>	5.0	35
41.	Horse-chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	3.0	23
42.	European beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	3.8	30
43.	Green ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	2.0	23
44.	Broad-leaved linden	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	3.1	27
45.	White walnut	<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	2.8	20
46.	Eastern white cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	1.5	16
47.	Sweet cherry	<i>Cerasus avium</i>	1.6	12
48.	Northern red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	1.9	27
49.	Hybrid crack willow	<i>Salix x rubens</i>	3.1	25
50.	Siberian fir	<i>Abies sibirica</i>	1.8	30
51.	Siberian pine	<i>Pinus sibirica</i>	1.9	22
52.	Silver maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	3.2	26
53.	White pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	2.7	36
54.	White fir	<i>Abies concolor</i>	1.7	32

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