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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN ZAKARPATTYA
 (TRANSCARPATHIAN REGION OF UKRAINE) AFTER THE
 DOCUMENTS OF STATE ARCHIVES IN AREA. (LATE 1960–2001)**

Summary

This paper deals with the problems of environmental protection in Zakarpattya region in the late 1960s and early 2000s years. The significant amounts of advanced archival documents that owned by the state regional archives, and two departments – Zakarpattya Regional State Administration and Zakarpattya Regional Council regarding to the conservation of the unique nature of the area – are putting to the scientific community.

Particular attention is paid to cover the floods of 1998 and 2001, and the protection of the Carpathian forests as among the most pressing ecological problems, stressed the importance of international cooperation of the Ukrainian state in the environmental work today.

The environment of Zakarpattya (in Ukraine) is characterized by unique natural conditions that's why the government found it necessary to create a number of the state nature reserves in this area, they were declared under the protection of the state. The archival documents are covering the history of the Carpathian Reserve and measures of the work to save the forests, flora and

fauna here. The archives underline the uniqueness and beauty of Zakarpattia's nature, because a large number of species are put in the Red Book and are listed as endangered; however there was the existence of some irregularities in the conservation: lack of funding, lack of scientific personnel, the violation in special status of the territory, illegal and huge cutting of the forests, etc.

At the same time Transcarpathia is a regional ecological danger due to the high probability of flooding, particularly in 1998 and in 2001.

In 1998, on the 2-8 of November, the environmental disaster took place in Zakarpattia – the extraordinary power flood, when the water came over dozens of settlements, hundreds of hectares of farmland, roads, houses, utterly destroying everything in its path. According to the experts, the flooding in the region was caused by natural conditions, but they were burdened by anthropogenic human activities. As a result of long showers and in the highlands heavy wet snow falling - from 2 to 8 November 1998 - a highly dangerous situation has developed. The water level of the Tisza river near town Chop was of 13 meters 28 cm above the zero mark. The flood went down 340 km of roads, it destroyed and damaged 487 large and small bridges, 22 bridges were broken completely. More than 12 thousand 370 houses were flooded and destroyed and about 5161 people had to be resettled temporarily. Owing to given logistical, medical, humanitarian aid work of many specialists of ministries and departments, the fraternal support in all regions of Ukraine, of 14 foreign countries, religious and civil organizations, the situation was overcome and put under control, the problems of an emergency were solved in the Transcarpathian region.

In 2001 on March 3-5 flooding was even stronger than in 1998.

Melting snow in the mountains and intense rain that lasted several days caused the violent increase in water levels in the Tisza and its tributaries, which some areas reached by an 8-meter mark. The flood injured 12 districts and the city of Hust, 255 villages and 33,569 houses were flooding (including 1669 destroyed) and almost 12 000 inhabitants were temporarily resettled. Two thousand pieces of equipment and nearly 20 thousand specialists of the Ministry of Emergency

Situations of Ukraine were involved into the rescue and recovery work. Many foreign countries and NGOs organized the delivery of humanitarian assistance in Transcarpathia.

Thus, at the present stage the problems of environmental protection are urgent, prohibition of excessive cutting of unique forests of the Carpathians, as well as increased funding for flood protection works and international co-operation with the European Union in the field of nature protection Ukrainian state are very important.