HISTORY OF FORESTS IN THE MIDDLE IRTYSH AREA
FROM THE IRON AGE TO THE PRESENT

M. A. Kharitonenkov

Center for Problems of Ecology and Productivity of Forests of the Russian Academy of Sciences (CEPF),
84/32 Profsoyuznaya st., Moscow, 117485, Russia
E-mail: kharitonenkov.ma@gmail.com

Abstract. Based on a complex chronological analysis of palynological, archaeological and historical data, the reconstruction of the history of forest ecosystems in one of the major historical and geographical regions of Western Siberia, the Middle Irtysh region, is presented. The main stages of transformation in the region's forests have been traced, starting from the early Iron Age (2500 years ago). The role of various aspects in the traditional economy, as well as the major migration processes in the formation of modern natural zonality of the region, is analyzed. The data of three new palynological sequences laid on the territory of the present subtaiga and forest steppe in the Middle Irtysh region and significantly reduced the unevenness of the palynological study of the West Siberian Plain is published for the first time.

Key words: forest ecosystems, palynological analysis, archeology, historical ecology, history of ecosystem exploitation, West Siberian Plain.