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«S.Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical  
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**S.SEIFULLIN KAZAKH AGROTECHNICAL  
RESEARCH UNIVERSITY POLICY  
ON THE CONSERVATION  
OF PROTECTED SPECIES AND THEIR  
HABITATS**

## **I. Objective and Scope**

Ensure the conservation of biological diversity and prevent negative impacts of university activities on populations and habitats of species listed on the IUCN Red List and/or national conservation lists.

This Policy is mandatory for implementation by all University departments, including:

- Campus Management (construction, landscaping).
- Scientific and Educational Departments (field research, sample collection).
- The Educational Scientific and Production Complex in Shchuchinsk and its adjacent territories.

## **II. Identification and Risk Assessment (Baseline Assessment)**

The University commits to conducting a procedure for identifying protected species before commencing any work that could affect natural habitats.

- Registry Creation:

The formation and annual updating of an internal Registry of Potentially Affected Species, which includes protected species whose confirmed or probable habitats are within or in close proximity to the land utilized by the university.

The Registry must be compiled based on official Red Lists and expert data.

- 2. Conducting Environmental Surveys:

Before the start of any new construction, renovation, or significant landscaping changes in potentially sensitive areas, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on Biodiversity must be conducted.

The Assessment must include mandatory fieldwork to confirm/exclude the presence of protected species or their key habitats.

- 3. Integration into Planning:

The results of the EIA are a prerequisite for issuing permission to begin work. If a risk is identified, the project must be adjusted.

## **III. Monitoring and Control**

The University shall carry out regular monitoring of the status of habitats and populations of protected species.

- Regular Monitoring:

On territories where the presence of protected species is confirmed (especially at the Educational Scientific and Production Complex in Shchuchinsk), an annual bio monitoring must be conducted to assess the status of populations and the quality of their habitats.

Monitoring shall be carried out by specialized scientific departments or contracted experts.

- 2. Impact Monitoring:

In the event of construction projects, post-implementation monitoring must be established to evaluate the effectiveness of the harm mitigation measures and prevent long-term degradation.

➤ 3. Use of Indicators:

A system of indicator species and metrics (e.g., area and quality of key habitats, population size of control groups) shall be applied for transparent assessment of progress in biodiversity conservation.

#### **IV. Protection and Conservation Measures**

➤ Mitigation and Compensation:

Priority is given to measures aimed at avoiding negative impact (e.g., postponing work until after the breeding or migration season).

If avoidance is not possible, plans for minimizing harm shall be developed (e.g., installing protective barriers).

In case of inevitable significant impact, the university shall develop and implement compensatory measures (e.g., creating new or restoring degraded habitats).

➤ 2. Territory Management:

Special land use regimes shall be introduced in areas with identified habitats (restriction of access, prohibition of chemical use, avoidance of invasive plant species in landscaping).

➤ 3. Awareness:

Students and personnel working in sensitive areas must undergo mandatory instruction on conduct rules aimed at the conservation of rare species.

#### **V. Special Provisions for the Educational Scientific and Production Complex in Shchuchinsk**

Due to the location of the Educational Scientific and Production Complex in Shchuchinsk in an area of high environmental value, presumably serving as a buffer zone for the «Burabay» State National Nature Park, enhanced requirements apply.

➤ Enhanced Protection Regime:

The territory of the Educational Scientific and Production Complex in Shchuchinsk is considered a priority biodiversity conservation zone. All projects and activities must aim to maintain or improve the quality of local terrestrial ecosystems. Any activity that may cause damage to the forest and mountain ecosystem near the Educational, Scientific and Production Complex is strictly prohibited.

➤ 2. Partnership with SPNAs (Specially Protected Natural Areas):

The University commits to maintaining close cooperation with the Burabay National Park (or relevant regional nature protection bodies) by sharing monitoring data, conducting joint expeditions, and participating in regional flora and fauna conservation efforts.

➤ 3. Visitor Education:

Information materials dedicated to local protected species shall be displayed on the Educational Scientific and Production Complex grounds to raise the environmental literacy of students, staff, and visitors.