

Environmental 'Rights' Eyed

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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The presidential commission on human rights will focus on "environmental rights of citizens," commission members said Thursday.

The meeting will seek to "change current legislation causing problems" and call for better access to environmental information, Alexander Karpov, head of the Ekom environmental think tank, told reporters.

Commission member and Greenpeace Russia executive director Sergei Tsiplenkov said the body, which answers directly to President Dmitry Medvedev, planned to produce a list of environmental problems that is likely to include the Khimki forest controversy, the pulp and paper plant on Lake Baikal, and forest ownership, Tsiplenkov said.

At Medvedev's suggestion, the next session of the council in September will be held in "a region with serious environmental problems," the shortlist for which includes Buryatia, Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk and the Urals Federal District, Tsiplenkov said.

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