

# Preserving biodiversity

**Gazprom Neft strives to minimise its impact on biodiversity in its operating regions. The company conducts environmental monitoring and assesses its impact on ecosystems while engaging with research institutions and governmental agencies and meeting legal requirements of the Russian Federation as well as internal corporate standards.**

Gazprom Neft has in place a corporate programme to preserve biodiversity, based on a list of plant and animal indicator species for healthy Arctic marine ecosystems.

The programme includes measures implemented by the company around the Prirazlomnaya offshore ice-resistant stationary platform and Gazpromneft-Yamal assets and providing for wildlife monitoring along oil transportation routes.

Gazprom Neft continues to drive a large-scale programme to study a rare Arctic animal listed in Russia's Red Data Book of protected species – the narwhal (lat. *Monodon monoceros*, or the “unicorn of the sea”).

**Maintaining environmental balance and preserving biodiversity are always given special consideration in Gazprom Neft's projects, especially in offshore and northern onshore projects**

## Achievement of the Year

In 2020, the “Narwhal: Legend of the Arctic” project won gold in the “Achievement of the Year. Corporate Social Responsibility” category at the prestigious international PR World Awards. The expert panel praised the outcomes of the project's first expedition to the Russian Arctic and related communication campaign.



**Video:**  
One year on from the  
“Narwhal: Legend of the  
Arctic” expedition

## Monitoring Arctic marine ecosystems

Gazpromneft-Yamal has developed a roadmap for implementing the corporate Biodiversity Preservation Programme for 2020–2023 based on a list of plant and animal indicator species for a healthy Arctic marine ecosystem.

In 2020, activities plotted on the roadmap included monitoring the condition of phytoplankton communities, macroalgae, benthos organisms, ichthyofauna, ichthyoplankton, and avifauna, as well as observing animals (seals, walruses, beluga whales, and polar bears) along crude transportation routes.

Plans for 2021–2023 also include observing mammals and birds (GPS animal tracking and bird ringing).

## Reintroduction of aquatic bioresources

The aquatic bioresources reintroduction programme is an important part of field development projects.

Gazprom Neft subsidiaries and joint ventures (Gazprom Neft Development, Gazpromneft-Khantos, Gazpromneft-Yamal, Gazpromneft-Zapolyarye, Meretoyakhaneftegaz and Slavneft-Megionneftegaz) work to restore aquatic bioresources by breeding rare species of fish. Every year, millions of juvenile fish are released into the rivers of the Ob-Irtysh basin, composed of the Ural and Severnaya Sosva Rivers and other water bodies.

Under an agreement with the Government of the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug-Yugra, the company continues remedial operations by releasing, as a priority, juvenile Siberian sturgeon, sterlet, muksun, and broad whitefish, all locally bred.

**45 million**  
precious juvenile fish released into water bodies

# Water resource management

**The company views water stewardship, effective wastewater treatment and preventing the contamination of natural water bodies with oil or petroleum products as its priorities.**

Gazprom Neft's water resources management projects aim to minimise water consumption, mitigate environmental risks and improve the ecological condition of water bodies and adjacent lands.

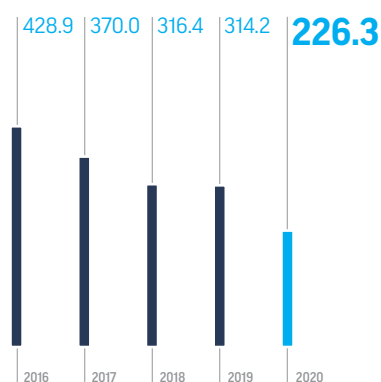
Internal water consumption decreased, mainly due to the fact that less water was produced from the Cenomanian strata and other groundwaters following a higher water cut in oil produced, coupled with an optimisation of the system for maintaining formation pressure at company fields.

Building Biosphere biological treatment facilities at the Moscow and Omsk Refineries ranks among the company's key water management projects. Gazprom Neft's total investment in these projects currently stands at more than ₹28 billion.

These facilities feature a multi-stage wastewater treatment system, which includes mechanical, physical and chemical, biological, filtration and ultrafiltration stages, as well as a reverse osmosis unit. Biosphere removes almost 100% of pollutants from wastewater.

The Moscow Refinery commissioned Biosphere towards the end of 2017. The facility recycles over 75% of water, with a threefold reduction in total water withdrawal. A similar facility is scheduled for completion at the Omsk Refinery in 2022.

Internal water consumption (mcm)



**-28%**  
reduction in internal water consumption

Gazprom Neft at a glance

Sustainable development management

Customer care

Health and safety

Environmental safety

Employee development

Social policy

Appendices