Project acronym: SORT

Project title: Structure of Russian Taiga

Project leader: Gareth Rees, University of Cambridge, UK

Discipline: Earth Sciences & Environment: Ecosystems & Biodiversity

Station(s): Spasskaya Pad Scientific Forest Station (Russia)

The aim of the research is to expand an existing research project on the structure and dynamics of Russian boreal forest (Taiga) by collecting data from a new site, with a different ecosystem from that previously studied. Field protocols using in situ measurements, and remote sensing from UAVs ('drones') and satellites, have been developed at another study area on the Kola Peninsula (partially using INTERACT funding) and will be applied here.

Experience of the INTERACT-funded research was very positive. The field protocols were somewhat expanded from those developed in 2018, and a high-quality dataset was collected from 11 varied forest sites. This will be used to calibrate our algorithms for the analysis of satellite data. Drone imagery was successfully collected.