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Title: *Rural tourism at Extreme North: examples and tendencies for development*

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Little settlements of Extreme North have been for many years a famous destination for different kinds of tourism because of its picturesque extraordinary conditions. In recent years there has been an attempt to increase some interest to this kind of tourist activity. Clean environment, indigenous people with their folklore, traditions, local occupations and cuisine. That is why rural tourism comes there. In this work the characteristics of rural tourism at Extreme North will be presented, as well as some examples of successful practices in two locations, v. of Hatanga (Taimyr) and s. of Ivdel (Polar Urals) which gave a positive push to the local economy. Concrete action from the state is required, with a focus on infrastructure. The study on the rural tourism in two settlements regarded in the present paper is based on the use of several methods and approaches. The systematic and analytical approaches have been applied with reference to the rural tourism in two presented settlements. The methods of personal observation have been applied and a specially designed questionnaire inquiry has been carried out also. Statistical methods of collecting and processing of information have been used and the main source of statistical data is Russian Academy of Sciences. In order to review in detail the strengths and weaknesses of rural tourism at Extreme North as a whole, a SWOT analysis has been made as well. Although there are good conditions for the progress of rural tourism at Extreme North, there still exist threats in which should be given more attention.