

Preservation of marine biological resources of Russian Far East (by an example of Sea of Japan and Sea of Okhotsk)

Lyudmila Yakimenko, Olga Grivanova, Vitaly Tunegolovec

Vladivostok State University of Economics and Service, 690990, Vladivostok

In terms of quantity and diversity marine fauna of Russian Far East exceeds all other seas of Russia. There are more than 5000 invertebrate species of animals (Syrenko, 1995) and only small part of them is used by the people. In the same time some of the hydrobionic resources are in the precarious situation. This work is devoted to the problems connected with the catch and preservation of crabs which are one of the most “costly” marine resources. The issues mentioned below were faced during the work on the vessels of State Marine Inspection of Federal Security Service.

Far East seas are inhabited with shelf and deep-sea crab populations. The fishery industry is focused on the catch of the most wide spread species – Red King Crab (*Paralithodes camtschaticus*). The developing of the catch of the Triangle Tanner Crab (*Chionoecetes opilio*) and Golden King Crab (*Lithodes aequispinus*) is in the progress now. Other species of the crab are not well studied and not widely caught because of the relatively small population. Crabs are very slowly growing animals. They grow up to the maximum size in the age of 15-17 years. Crab as the population with a low level of reproduction is suffered the severe losses due to the catching of during the periods of prohibition as well as the usage of banned implements of catching. Experts believe that law imperfection to be one of the reasons of ineffective preservation of marine bio-recourses. Another essential reason is the factual stimulation of poaching made by South Korea and Japan. As the result the present level of pouching is the highest during the all fishing history in the seas of Russian Far East (Shuntov, 2003). The illegal catching of the crab exceeds the total acceptable level in 5-10 times. The sanctions applied to the poachers are as small as ineffective. In the same time experts who work in the field of marine bio-recourses preservation aware of the real measures which can stop the pouching. Some of these measures include the execution of the true owner of the vessel, the confiscation of the implements of the fishing and vessels itself. The code of criminal procedures should be also reviewed and toughen. On the international level all countries of the Asian Pacific region should take the real steps to overcome the pouching.