

1. Latest data/research on salmon stocks (chum, of pink salmon) on Iturup Isl.

What does the concept of the "Latest data on the condition of salmon stocks" mean? What indicators are to be included in the "Latest data"? We have fish size, fish weight, age, fecundity. Scientific research on chum/pink salmon on Iturup Island is generally carried out by Gidrostroy LJSC and SakhNIRO FGI (Federal Government Institution "Sakhalin scientific research institute of fisheries and oceanography).

The most recent scientific research work was conducted by Gidrostroy LJSC from January, 2006, through 15 July 2007:

- Ongoing consultation relating to the genetic organization and population dynamics of chum in Prostor Bay, Iturup Isl..
- Development of recommendations for optimization of artificial regeneration of chum stocks to improve the quality of raw fish material.

SakhNIRO annually carries out work in the collection of bio-statistical materials for monitoring the populations of chum and pink salmon, as well as for compiling TAC (total allowable catch) predictions

2. Structure of the management system – the process of managing the fish resource (chum, pink salmon) on Iturup Island.

Anton Verkhovskiy will prepare an answer.

3. Strategy for control over the harvest of pink and chum salmon on Iturup Island.

Strategy of harvest:

Harvest in the pre-coastal region using trap nets is carried out based on fish arrival (the amount of fish that enters the trap net is the amount harvested). Under adverse weather conditions and when it is impossible to harvest the fish at sea, harvest is carried out at the mouths of the rivers. At the same time, it is considered a priority to allow the natural spawning rivers to be filled with producer fish from all stages of the run (beginning of the run, major portion of the run, end of the run): the filling of the natural spawning grounds is controlled, then subsequent orders are issued to begin taking (harvesting) the fish or to let the fish pass into the rivers to their natural spawning grounds.

Strategy of control over harvest by Gidrostroy LJSC:

Anton Verkhovskiy will prepare an answer.

4. By-catch. Control over by-catch.

Dmitriy Surodin of the Fleet Department of Kurilskiy Rybak LJSC will prepare an answer.

What I know: there are 4 organizations with by-catch: Kurilskiy Rybak LJSC, Gidrostroy LJSC, Skit LLC, Kontinent LLC. 2 fish species occur as by-catch: char, *hexagrammidae*. The volume of by-catch comprises no more than 8 % of the total harvest.

5. Information and description of harvest methods, as well as fishing gear.

Dmitriy Surodin of the Fleet Department of Kurilskiy Rybak LJSC will prepare an answer.

6. Protected fish species in the area of Iturup Isl.. List...control...protection.

We don't understand the term "protected". There is the term "Endangered and rare fish species". On Iturup Isl. these are: taimen [huchen], sockeye salmon, coho salmon, king salmon. Their

harvest is either totally prohibited (taimen [huchen], king salmon) or is permitted in very small volumes for scientific research (sockeye salmon, coho salmon).

7. Harvest statistics for salmonids over the past 10 years on Iturup Island.

Harvest of Chum Salmon on the Sakhalin coast and Kurile Islands, thous. MT

Yr.	Sakhalin Oblast Sub-regions				Total
	Sakhalin	Iturup	Kunashir	N. Kuriles	
1996	1.531	1.032	0.745	-	3.308
1997	3.533	0.871	0.499	-	4.903
1998	1.813	0.636	0.187	-	2.636
1999	4.549	1.1	0.177	-	5.826
2000	3.457	0.938	0.297	-	4.692
2001	6.459	1.349	1.926	0.964	10.70
2002	5.118	3.359	3.055	-	11.661
2003	6.548	5.019	2.266	0.216	14.05
2004	4.849	3.077	1.798	0.056	10.882
2005	6.539	2.75	1.429	0.036	10.755
2006					

Harvests of pink salmon on Iturup Island (based on SakhNIRO data), thous. MT

Year	Harvest, thous. MT
1995	24,860
1996	24,970
1997	24,902
1998	23,467
1999	14,677
2000	37,250
2001	21,080
2002	32,000
2003	16,280
2004	31,544
2005	29,490

8. Life cycle of chum and pink salmon – full description (distribution, growth, reproduction).

I will send by fax. I don't understand the term "distribyutsiya [distribution]". What does this mean?

9. Interested "members" in the salmon fisheries on Iturup Island (State agencies, commercial companies, fishing industry). I.e., description of all structures that have some interest in the management of the salmon resource.

The following could be considered to be structures that have an interest in the management of the fish resources:

State agencies:

- RosSeljKhozNadzor;
- Agency of Fisheries;
- The scientific organization SakhNIRO FSI ("Sakhalin Scientific Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography" Federal State Institution).

Agency of executive authority for the Sakhalin Oblast (Department of Fisheries of the Sakhalin Oblast), Sakhalin Commercial Fisheries Council and the "Kurilskiy Rayon" municipal organization.

Commercial structures:

- Fishing organizations;
- Fish processing organizations.

The fishing industry is regulated under the RF law entitled "Fisheries and Conservation of Marine Biological Resources" (I will send via e-mail). Specifically, question number 9 relates to Article 7, Article 33 and Articles 42 – 43 of this law.

Descriptions of the functions of RosSeljKhozNadzor and the Agency of Fisheries are defined by RF government decree number 317 dated 20 May 2005 (I will send via fax).

For a complete description of the other structures it will be necessary to find/obtain the Regulations and other documents that relate to these structures, i.e., additional time is needed. Let me know if this is something that we need to do at all, or do you have enough information for now?

10. History of salmonids on Iturup Island. When was fishing started on pink salmon and chum. How many years has management been applied. Size of harvests. Growths in harvest.

The artificial regeneration of salmonids (mainly of chum) on Iturup Island began even before the war, when there were 10 Japanese Salmon Fish Farms (SFF). The total number of eggs laid exceeded 180 million. After the return of the Kuril Islands to Russia in 1946, there was one SFF on Iturup Isl. until 1956, with 25 million eggs. During the period from 1957 through 1962, another 4 SFF were rebuilt. The number of eggs laid increased to 90 million. A subsequent increase in the numbers of regenerated fish to 180 million was brought about in the years 1970-80, and this allowed harvests to stabilize at the level of 12-14 thous. MT. However, the increased harvests occurred only in the areas where the most productive SFF were located, in Kurilskiy and Prostor Bays.

At present there are 6 SFF in operation on Iturup Island. All of these SFF are under lease or belong to private companies. The largest of these are Kurilskiy and Reydivy, which have been leased to Hidrostroy LJSC and have been in operation over 40 years. The remaining 4 SFF were built in the years after the war. These are the "Osenniy", "Kuybyshevka", "Skalnyy" and "Okeanskiy" SFF.



