

MANAGEMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY STOCKS OF WALLEYE POLLOCK IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

BY TATIANA SEMENOVA AND EKATERINA KURILOVA





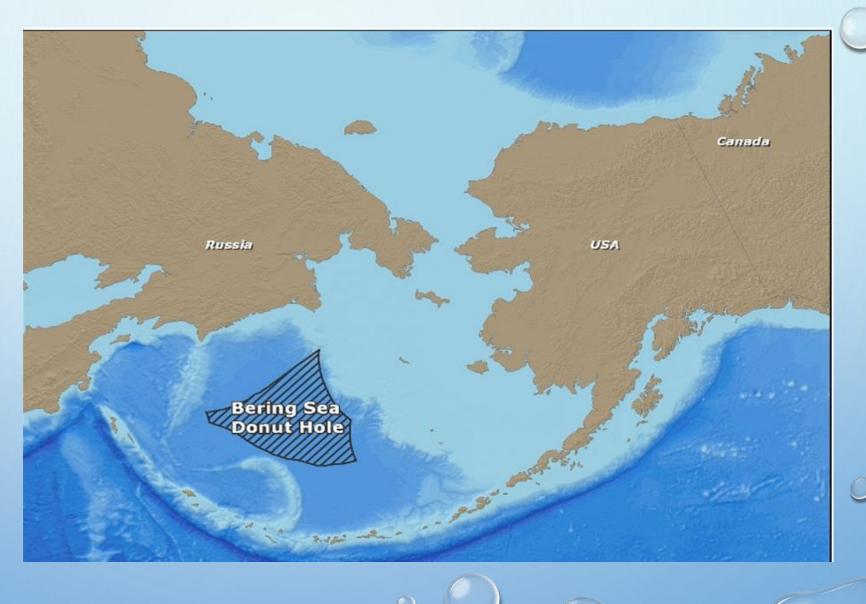
Two large reproductive stocks are found among the Bering Sea pollock—the eastern Bering Sea stock and the western Bering Sea stock. The reproduction of the eastern Bering Sea pollock takes place in a very wide geographical area starting along the central and eastern Aleutian Islands, going through the southeastern Bering Sea shelf all the way to the Anadyr Bay. The western Bering Sea pollock reproduction takes place in the western Bering Sea (Olutorskiy and Karaginskiy Bays).







CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA WAS SIGNED BY RUSSIA, USA, JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, POLAND AND CHINA IN 1994.





INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

- CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF POLLOCK RESOURCES IN THE CENTRAL BERING SEA SIGNED BY RUSSIA, USA, JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, POLAND AND CHINA IN 1994;
- US AND RUSSIAN FEDERATION FISHERY ACTS IN US AND RUSSIAN EEZS;
- RUSSIA-US FISHERY AGREEMENT (1988);
- INTERNATIONAL FISHERY AGREEMENTS WITH R. KOREA (1991), JAPAN (1984), CHINA (1988);
- INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (ICC).

Russian-US coordinated research program (2012)



2014, TINRO-Center's bottom trawl survey in the Bering Sea; coordinated trawl-acoustical survey on pollock in the north-western part of the Bering Sea in the waters adjacent to the Russian EEZ and USA waters.

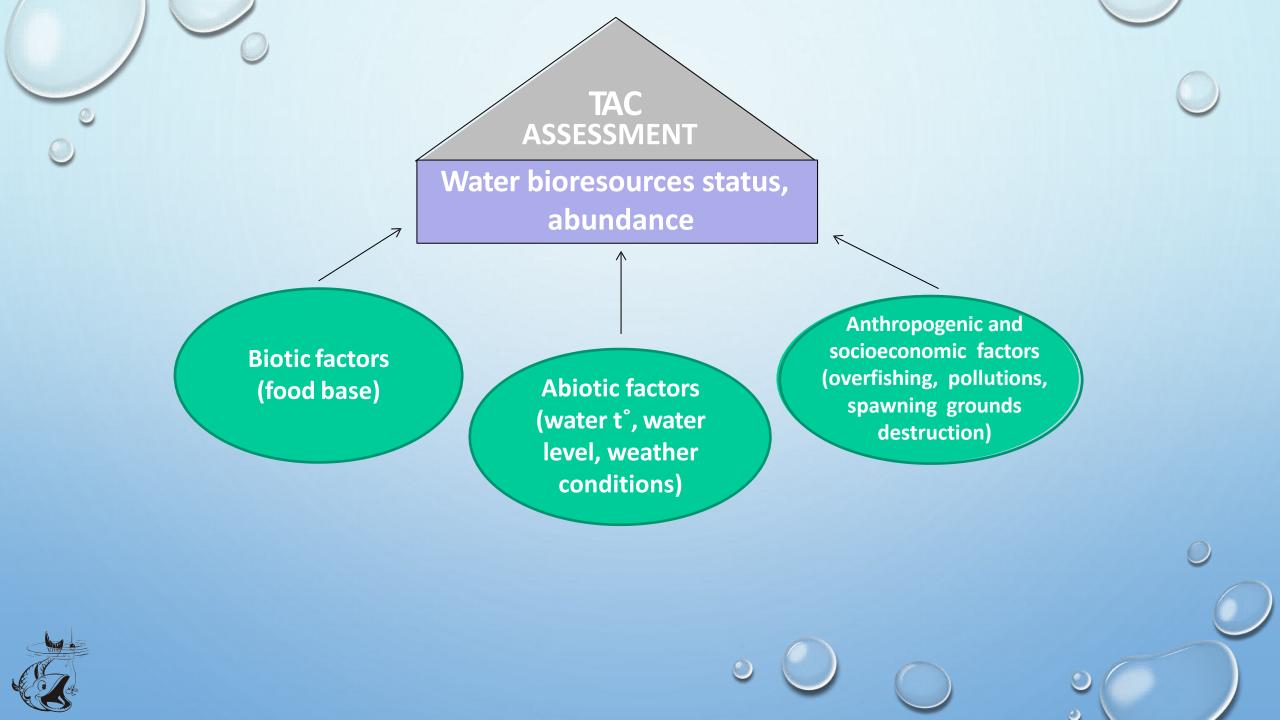




According to the data of Alaska
Fisheries Science Center on the
stocks of near-bottom fish,
including pollock in the eastern
part of the Bering Sea, USA EEZ
are in good state and not
overcaught



In the Russian legislative system peculiarities of transboundary fish management are regulated by the 14th article of the Federal Law on EEZ of the Russian Federation, launched in 1998. If the transboundary fish stock is found in the Russian EEZ as well as in the area outside it or in the adjacent waters, the Russian Federation cooperates with other countries conducting pollock fishery in the Russian EEZ adjacent area, as well as elaborates international agreements on these species conservation.



General terms

Fisheries rules regulate:

- types of permitted fishing;
- coefficients of output of water bioresources processing products, caviar and parameters and terms of the permitted fishery;
 - restrictions on fishing and other activities involving the use of water bioresources:
 - permitted by-catch of some species during the catch of water bioresources;
 - ban on fishing in certain areas and on some kinds of water bioresources;
 - minimum size and weight of the caught water bioresources;
 - seasons of catch of aquatic biological resources for groups of ships with different catch tools, power and size;
 - types and number of permitted fishing gear and ways of catch of water bioresources;
 - size and design of catch fishing gear and mesh size;
 - seasons of fishery in water zones of commercial fishery;



permitted by-catch of some species during the catch of water bioresources







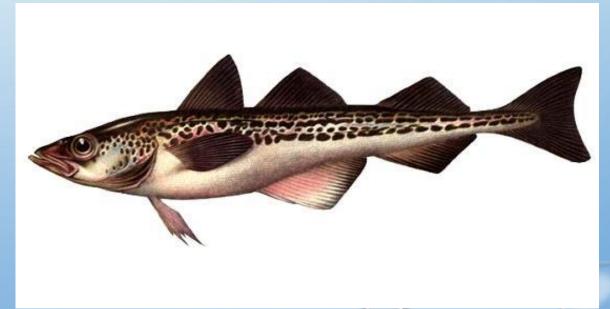


Ban on fishing in certain areas and on some kinds of water bioresources

Minimum size and weight of the caught water bioresources









Seasons of catch of aquatic biological resources for groups of vessels with different catch gear, power and size



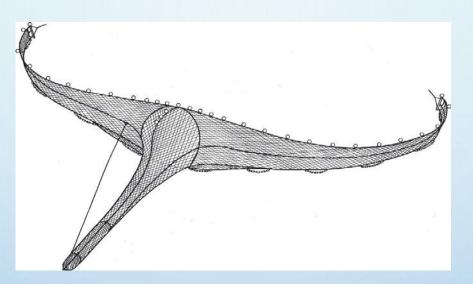


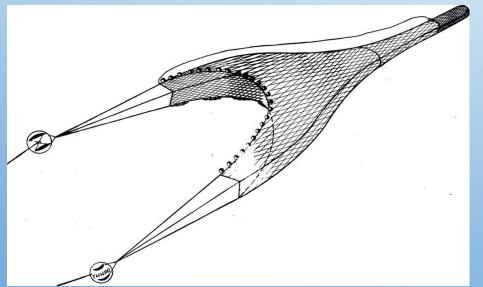


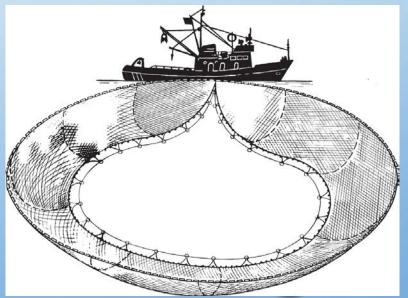




Types of permitted fishing gear









Fishery rules for conducting commercial and coastal fishery in the territorial sea and in the Russian EEZ

The following measures are listed in the rules:

It is prohibited:

- to take off set fishing gears with herring eggs on it;
- to use fishing gears with characteristics (including gear size, mesh size) which don't correspond to Fishery Rules requirements;

The Rules set a range of:

- restricted fishery periods. For Pollock: since mass spawning (but not later than 1st of March)
 till 15th of May;
- prohibited fishing gear: bottom trawls (for all fishery areas); variable depth-trawl with two-layer bags, equipped by tools which can restrict mesh size or partially close it;
- minimal commercial fish size. That is 35 cm for Pollock for commercial and coastline fishery.
 20 % bycatch of fish smaller than commercial size are permitted for one trawling.



CONCLUSIONS

Given that the stocks of walleye pollock are shared by the neighboring countries, measures of conservation of transboundary stocks as well as the regulation of commercial fishing should also be shared and well-coordinated



