MOORING CURRENT OBSERVATIONS IN THE AREAS ADJACENT TO SHMIDT PENINSULA (NORTHERN SAKHALIN)

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Sakhalin Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography carried out research survey in July-August, 2006 at the areas adjacent to Shmidt Peninsula (Northern Sakhalin) aiming to investigate currents in the that local region. Work program included mooring current observations in the 4 different areas around Shmidt Peninsula (Northern Sakhalin). Four moorings were installed at July 21, 2006. Two moorings included Acoustic Doppler profilers. Another two moorings included three currentmeters Argonaut which located in upper, middle and near-bottom layers. Moorings were successfully recovered at August 26, 2006. At the same day, ADP mooring which was redeployed in the East Shmidt area for year-around current measurements. Observations of currents near the northern Sakhalin Island revealed strong diurnal tidal currents, which significantly dominate all other types of motions in this region. The highest velocities were found near the eastern coast of Shmidt Peninsula where K1 amplitude reaches 1 knot. Diurnal currents decreased with distance from shore, they were obtained relatively small in the northern part offshore of Shmidt Peninsula. Well-expressed inertial currents were significant in the research area with amplitude about 0.4 m/s. Residual currents were found relatively strong in upper layer, especially in eastern Shmidt offshore. Probably they were induced by wind force. Winter amplification of south-directed currents was found from whole year observations.