

**CONSERVATION OF AQUATIC LIVING RECOURSES UNDER CONDITIONS OF LARGE-SCALE DEVELOPMENT OF OIL AND GAS RESOURCES ON THE PACIFIC CONTINENTAL SHELF (THE SEA OF OKHOTSK)**

ZAITSEVA Zaitseva

VNIRO

17 V.Krosnoselskaya, Moskow 107140 Russia

Email: yuz@vinro.ru

Intensification of the hydrocarbon resource development on the Russian shelf indicates formation of a marine oil and gas complex which will to a greater extent determine the state power engineering and economy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Such an important fishery basin of the RF as the Sea of Okhotsk is a most vivid illustration of the fact that very promising oil-and-gas areas on the sea shelf, as a rule, overlap with areas of high biological productivity and traditional fisheries. Like any other human activities on the shelf, offshore oil production could be only allowed under condition of preserving environmental safety, sustainability of marine ecosystems and protection of respective living recourses, which, unlike the oil-and-gas resources, are self reproducing and therefore valuable. We could only meet this condition if we had a transparent and well-defined law and cooperation of all the interested parties. The fishing industry can develop sound grounds and requirements for projects of the offshore oil production at all stages of their implementation only if it provide for regular targeted surveys, monitoring, and assessment of effects and amends, as well as environmental monitoring in the areas of the offshore oil-and-das developments.