

REPORT ON MARINE RESEARCH IN THE CHUKCHI SEA BY *THE RUSSIAN-AMERICAN LONG-TERM CENSUS OF THE ARCTIC* "RUSALCA" 27 AUGUST - 16 SEPTEMBER, 2012 Leg 2



Photo by Aleksey Ostrovskiy

RUSALCA

(Russian-American Long-term Census of the Arctic)

Expedition Leader: Vladimir Bakhmutov, State Research Navigational Hydrographic Institute, RF

Russian Mission Coordinator: Aleksey Ostrovskiy, Group Alliance, RF US Mission Coordinator: Kathleen Crane, NOAA, USA

Chief Scientist: Terry E. Whitledge, University of Alaska Fairbanks, USA

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Russian Federation Permissions for Research

МИН «ГОС НА	ИСТЕРСТВО ОБОРОНЫ І Открытов акционе СУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ НАУЧІ ВИГАЦИОННО-ГИДРОГР ОАО «ГН	РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ врное общество но-исследовательский афический институт» инги»
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Генеральному директору ООО "Группа Альянс" КЕОНДЖЯНУ В.П.

Уважаемый Виталий Павлович!

Сообщаю Вам, что План морских научных исследований во внутренних морских водах, в территориальном море, в исключительной экономической зоне и на континентальном шельфе Российской Федерации утвержден приказом Минобрнауки России от 26 января 2012 г. № 50.

В соответствии с пунктом 9 Плана ОАО «ГНИНГИ» запланировано проведение морских научных исследований в Беринговом и Чукотском морях на нис «Профессор Хромов» в период с 09.07 по 16.09.2012 г. по международной Российско-Американской программе изучения Арктики «РУСАЛКА».

В настоящее время готовится процедура разработки документации для издания Распоряжения Правительства Российской Федерации о многократном пересечении государственной границы. Разрешение на проведение экспедиции «РУСАЛКА - 2012» будет выдано в установленном порядке.

С уважением,

Генеральный директор

С.П.Алексеев

«го	СУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ НАУЧИ АВИГАЦИОННО-ГИДРОГР ОАО «ГН	ОЧО-ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬСКІ АФИЧЕСКИЙ ИНСТИТУТ ИНГИ»	ай 💚
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Генеральному директору ООО «Группа «Альянс» В.П.КЕОНДЖЯНУ

Уважаемый Виталий Павлович!

Сообщаю Вам условия и действующие правила проведения морских научных исследований по Российско-Американской программе «Русалка» в 2012 г.

В соответствии с Разрешением Министерства образования и науки Российской Федерации от 19 апреля 2012 г. № 40 ОАО «Государственный научно-исследовательский навигационно-гидрографический институт» имеет право выполнять заявленные морские научные исследования на НИС «Профессор Хромов» в территориальном море и в исключительной экономической зоне Российской Федерации.

Вместе с тем, планируемые исследования, связанные с пересечением Государственной границы Российской Федерации, должны выполняться в соответствии с требованиями ст. 9, 11 Закона Российской Федерации от 1 апреля 1993 г. № 4730-1 «О Государственной Границе Российской Федерации», ст. 3. гл.І Федерального Закона Российской Федерации от 15 августа 1996 г. № 114-ФЗ «О порядке выезда из Российской Федерации и въезда в Российскую Федерацию», п. 1 ст. 28 гл. IV Федерального Закона Российской Федерации от 31 июля 1998 г. № 155-ФЗ «О внутренних морских водах, территориальном море, исключительной экономической зоне и континентальном шельфе Российской Федерации», которые предусматривают обязательный заход в ближайший пункт пропуска через Государственную границу.

В ходе консультаций с руководством Пограничного управления по Чукотскому Автономному Округу получено подтверждение возможности выполнения морских научных исследований на НИС «Профессор Хромов» в исключительной экономической зоне РФ в соответствии с выданным Разрешением без ограничений по пограничному режиму, а так же определены ближайшие пункты пропуска через Государственную границу: п. Провидения и порт Анадырь для оформления при пересечении Государственной границы РФ для работы в территориальном море РФ.

Прошу довести эту информацию координатору проекта от НОАА Катлин Крейн и руководителю проекта от ООО «Группа «Альянс» Островскому А.А. в возможно короткий срок на НИС «Профессор Хромов».



Primary objectives of the RUSALCA project

The primary objectives of the 2012 RUSALCA Leg 2 expedition, as well as the scientific goals are:

- Observations of the thermohaline structure and dynamics of water masses passing across the Bering Strait into and beyond the East Siberian and the Chukchi Seas;
- investigation of the change in the oceanographic transport pathways of Pacific Water and its thermodynamic processes in frontal zones and in areas that have been newly subjected to the loss of sea ice cover for the purpose of determination of vertical and horizontal changes in convection and mixing;
- evaluation of heat-mass exchange processes between water masses transiting from the Bering Strait through the Chukchi Sea and East Siberian Sea into the Arctic Ocean Beyond.
- determination of the influence of wind-wave mixing on the structure of the water column in conditions where sea ice cover is disappearing
- Investigating the ecosystem responses to these physical changes in the Pacific part of the Arctic Ocean: the most rapidly changing region of the most rapidly changing ocean on the planet.

Tasks of the Expedition

The following observations were undertaken during 2012:

- vertical profiles of temperature, conductivity, fluorescence, light transmission, CDOM fluorescence and water samples along transects of stations in the Chukchi Sea, western and eastern channels of the Bering Strait and several transects across the Chukchi Sea using a CTD- Rosette system provided by both the University of Alaska and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institutions
- sediment sampling of the seafloor to assess the location, concentration and degassing of gas-hydrates from the Chukchi and East Siberian Seas;

- sampling of the biomass and distribution of benthic, and water column invertebrates, plankton, fish and marine mammals to better understand the consequences of climate change on the Arctic ecosystems in the region where sea ice thawing has been a maximum.
- Observations of marine mammals and seabirds for the purpose of completing a census in both U.S. and Russian Federation waters.



STATION LOCATIONS

Lat	Lon

Sta#	Name	North	West	13	CL6	68.518	171.4	62
1	CS4	66.934	170.986	14	G1	68.907	172.6	86
2	CS6	67.189	170.287	15	CL6A	68.331	171.74	42
3	CS8	67.431	169.610	16	CL7	68.155	172.0	51
4	CS12	67.874	168.314	17	S7	69.395	5 172.88	372
5	CS16	68.127	167.627	18	G3	69.611	175.0	93
6	CS17	68.298	167.044	19	CEN5	69.684	174.84	43
7	CL1	68.949	166.916	20	CEN4	69.982	175.6	86
8	CL2	69.024	167.922	21	CEN3	70.284	176.6	69
9	CL3	69.005	168.896	22	CEN2A	70.433	177.1	94
10	CL4	68.880	169.608	23	CEN2A	70.570	177.6	42
11	CL5	68.753	170.423	24	CEN1B	70.624	177.9	63
12	CL5A	68.643	170.937	25	CEN1A	70.711	178.2	91
26	CEN1	70.795	178.567		44 H	HC15	71.558	175.790
27	S2	70.533	174.3725		53	G4	72.200	175.967
28	HC1	70.920	173.900		54	G5	72.367	175.967
29	HC2	70.900	175.010		55	G6	72.450	175.967
30	HC3	71.020	175.990		56	G7	72.500	175.967
31	HC26	71.790	174.396		57	G8	72.650	175.967
32	HC25	71.767	174.522		58 I	HC70	72.872	174.454
33	HC24	71.747	174.646		59	G9	72.524	173.326
34	HC23	71.727	174.778		60	G11	72.130	172.409
35	HC22	71.709	174.887		61	G12	71.398	171.257
37	HC21	71.686	175.028		62	G13	70.843	170.994
39	HC20	71.663	175.160		53	G14	70.477	170.764
40	HC19	71.644	175.285		54	SD1	70.000	170.000
41	HC18	71.622	175.412		55	G10	69.165	171.661
42	HC17	71.601	175.538					
43	HC16	71.580	175.665		56	CL3	69.005	168.896

57	CL6	68.518	171.462
58	CL8	67.867	172.553
59	CL9	67.675	173.192
60	CL10	67.404	173.604
61	CS4	66.934	170.986

62	CS6	67.19	170.29
63	CS8	67.431	169.610
64	CS10	67.63	169.02
65	CS12	67.874	168.314

RUSALCA 2012 Leg 2 Participants

#	Name & Surname	Country	Science group	Organization
1.	Aleksey Ostrovskiy	Russia	Oversight	Group Alliance
2.	Alexander Bosin	Russia	Geology	POI RAS
3.	Alexander Kolesnik	Russia	Geology	POI RAS
4.	Alexander Savvichev	Russia	Microbiology	INMI RAS
5.	Alexey Merkuliev	Russia	Epibentos	ZIN RAS
6.	Andres Lopez	Columbia	Fish ecology	UAF
7.	Arve Lynghammar	Norway	Fish diversity	U. of Tromsö
8.	Bodil Bluhm	Germany	Epibenthos	UAF
9.	Brenda Holladay	USA	Fish ecology	UAF
10.	Catherine Mecklenburg	USA	Fish diversity	Indep. researcher
11.	Daria Petrova	Russia	Fish diversity	ZIN RAS
12.	Declan Troy	Canada	Seabirds	Indep. researcher
13.	Elena Vologina	Russia	Geology	IEC RAS
14.	Elena Voronina	Russia	Fish ecology	ZIN RAS
15.	Elena Zakharova	Russia	Microbiology	INMI RAS
16.	Elisaveta Logvina	Russia	Geology	VNIIO
17.	Elizabeth Bell	USA	Epibenthos	UAF
18.	Elizabeth Carvellas	USA	Benthos	U. of Maryland
19.	Elizaveta Ershova	Russia	Zooplankton	IO RAS
20.	Imme Rutzen	Germany	Zooplankton	UAF
21.	louri Pashchenko	Russia	Deck equipment	FERHRY
22.	Jacqueline Grebmeier	USA	Benthos	U. of Maryland
23.	Jang Lee	Korea	Productivity	KOPRI
24.	Jeffrey Pietro	USA	CTD	WHOI
25.	Jung Woo Park	Korea	Productivity	KOPRI
26.	Kathleen Stafford	USA	Marine mammals	U. of Washington

#	Name & Surname	Country	Science group	Organization
27.	Katrin Iken	Germany	Epibenthos	UAF
28.	Kelly Walker	USA	Fish ecology	UAF
29.	Ksenia Kosobokova	Russia	Zooplankton	IO RAS
30.	Maria Pisareva	Russia	CTD	IO RAS
31.	Marshall Swartz	USA	CTD	WHOI
32.	Michael Kong	USA	Nutrients	UAF
33.	Mikhail Zhukov	Russia	UAF	ZIN RAS
34.	Monika Kedra	Poland	Benthos	U. of Maryland
35.	Rebecca Garley	United Kingdom	CTD	BIOS
36.	Russell Hopcroft	Canada	Zooplankton	UAF
37.	Sergey Yarosh	Russia	Deck equipment	FERHRY
38.	Stanislav Denisenko	Russia	Epibenthos	ZIN RAS
39.	Susan Mills	USA	CTD	WHOI
40.	Tatyana Matveeva	Russia	Geology	VNIIO
41.	Terry Whitledge	USA	Chief Scientist	UAF
42.	Vladimir Bakhmutov	Russia	Head of Expedition	GNINGI
43.	Vladimir Skvortsov	Russia	Epibentos	ZIN RAS

RUSALCA STATIONS Leg 2

The research during the expedition was carried out in the Bering Strait, the East Siberian and the Chukchi Seas during two legs. A description of the oceanographic moorings and physics during Leg 1 from 10 to 20 July 2012 is contained in a separate report. At the beginning of leg 2 an additional special recovery leg was undertaken from Anadyr to Provedenia, Russia to retrieve three moorings that were deployed in the Russian EEZ during 2010. All moorings were recovered, data were downloaded and all instruments were brought by ship to Nome, USA . Participants in the Leg 2A mooring recovery operation included: Kathleen Crane, NOAA; Aleksey Ostrovskiy, Group Alliance; Vladimir Bakhmutov, GNINGI; Marshall Swartz,WHOI; Jeff Pietro WHOI; Jonathan Whitefield, UAF; Mike Kong, UAF; Alexander Bosin, POI; Alexander Kolesnik, POI; and Elena Vologina,IEC-RAS. After that mission was accomplished, leg 2B commenced with the arrival of R/V Professor Khromov and scientists in Nome, Alaska on 26 August 2012.

On the 27 of August, 2012, at 21.00 RV "Khromov" left the port of Nome for passage to the designated research area in the Chukchi Sea. During the period from 28 August through 3 September, RV "Khromov" sampled the combined oceanographic/biological stations in the sections CS and CL. This was a period of strong winds from the North and Northeast that were the long distance consequences of a typhoon that transited through the North Pacific. Several of the desired stations were aborted due to the poor weather conditions.

During the period from 4 through 6 of September, RV "Khromov" worked on the CEN transect that extended to Wrangel Island during which time moderate (0.3-0.5 ice coverage) was encountered at the northern end. During the period from 7 through 9 September, RV "Khromov" worked on the multiple Herald Sea Valley (HC) transects during which moderate to heavy (0.6-0.8 ice coverage was encountered on the western ends of the lines. Stations HC17 through HC 32 were abandoned due to heavy sea ice conditions.

During the period from 9 through 11 September, RV "Khromov" steamed northward to sample stations G4 through G8 and to deploy an ice- tethered profiler (ITP) at 76N and 175W in 1500m of water. Passage through the heavy ice was slow and required multiple course changes and navigation through scattered leads that resulted in being farther away from the ITP site after 30 hours than when the effort was started. A difficult decision was made to abort the attempt to deploy the ITP due to lack of available time and the uncertainty of ice conditions for the return transit. Station HC70 was sampled at the turnaround location.

During the period from 11 through 15 September, RV "Khromov" steamed southward sampling sediments (G9 through SD1) on a transit to the CL and CS transect



stations which were not sampled due to the bad weather earlier in the expedition.

After the completion of the work on the 15 of September the vessel arrived at the port of Nome on 16 September for disembarkation of the scientific equipment and the participants of the expedition. Unfortunately, due to the shortened number of cruise days, bad weather conditions and unpredictable ice conditions several desirable transects and stations on the East Siberian Shelf and around Wrangel Island could not be sampled. Details of the observations will be reported as they

become available.

2012 RUSALCA Leg 2 Stations

