

Okha Comprehensive FIP Workplan – Action 10: Demonstrate that compliance with fishing regulations is an effective anti-poaching activity.

PI 3.2.3

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As in previous years, the Okha Ltd and Rybnovskii Losos Ltd companies directed their huge efforts and funds to organize the protection of rivers. In total, 33 people were involved in security measures in 2021, three of them were registered as supernumerary employees of the Sakhalin-Kuril Territorial Administration (SKTU). The total costs of the companies Okha Ltd and Rybnovskii Losos Ltd for protection measures amounted to about 12.5 million rubles. The most protected rivers are: Bolshaya, Volchinka, Glukharka, Kobzak, Nelma, Kadylany, Bulkunar, Gilyako-Abunan, Slavyanka, Batareyka, Pilvo and Chingai. This list covers the entire range of the Okha Ltd and Rybnovskii Losos Ltd fishery.

As in previous years, stationary posts and walking groups were organized. Stationary posts operated on the Bolshaya River (6 employees who had a car and a boat at their disposal; they controlled entry into the territory by land and water), as well as on the Zubataya, Chingai, Karibul and Pilvo rivers, in the Severny Nature Reserve (Shmidt Peninsula) and in Rybnovsk.

All respondents interviewed during the FIP audit (September 14-16, 2021) noted that in 2021 the level of poaching was significantly decreased. Successful security measures of the past years allowed to "drive away" organized groups from the district. There were mostly "one-bag poachers" from the local population who poach by oneself at night.

According to the data of the Sakhalin-Kuril Territorial Administration, posted on their official website, and information from the media, as of November 1, 2021, eight cases of poaching were detected in the Okhinskii District, as a result of which significant damage was caused to aquatic biological resources. Among them, seven violations were identified by officials of the Okha Department of the SKTU with the participation of supernumerary inspectors from the security company of Okha Ltd and Rybnovskii Losos Ltd. The total damage caused to salmon fish species as a result of poaching actions amounted to 3,527,074 rubles 98 kopecks.

In the course of security measures, illegally harvested aquatic biological resources were seized from the violators in the following amount:

- salmon fish species (presumably Pink Salmon and Chum Salmon) - 82 fish,
- Pink Salmon – 189 kg,
- Pink Salmon caviar – 60.8 kg,
- Chum Salmon – 40 fish,
- Coho Salmon – 10 fish,
- Whitespotted Char – 5 fish.

The poachers' property was also seized, with the use of which they conducted illegal activities:

- 8 set gillnets,
- 7 rubber boats,
- 3 cars,
- 1 fishing outfit.

Materials on six violations identified by the specialists of the SKTU were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to resolve the issue of initiating criminal cases under Article 256 of the Russian Criminal Code (RCC) and bringing seven citizens to justice. For one violation, the list of persons brought to justice will be established during the case investigation.

Detailed information about the detected violations is given in this table:

Date	Place of violation (water body)	Number of offenders	Elements of a violation	Damage amount (rubles)	Species and amount of illegally extracted aquatic bioresources	Progress of case
Aug 16, 2021	Severyanka River	One person	Illegal Pink Salmon fishing (without permission) with a set gillnet, using the rubber boat "Lotsman" and a car, seized subsequently.	40,362.00	Pink Salmon – 42 fish	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the criminal case under Part 1 of Article 256 of the Russian Criminal Code (RCC).
Aug 19, 2021	Glukharka River	One person	Illegal Pink Salmon fishing (without permission) with a set gillnet, making salmon caviar for sale. The violation was committed using two rubber boats, an outboard motor and the UAZ-3303 car, which were subsequently seized.	2,858,026.98	Salmon caviar – 60.8 kg,	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the criminal case under Article 256 of the RCC.
Aug 21, 2021	Glukharka River	Not identified	The illegal fishing camp was organized, where illegal fishing for salmon was carried out (without permission), with a set gillnet and a metal trap. The set gillnet was seized.	157,604.00	Salmon species – 82 fish	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the criminal case under Article 256 of the RCC.
Sept 8, 2021	Bolshaya Nelma River	One person	Illegal salmon fishing (without permission) with a prohibited fishing gear - a set gillnet, using a rubber boat, with illegal complete blocking of the Bolshaya Nelma river bed. The set gillnet and the boat were seized.	78,272.00	Pink Salmon – 24 fishes, Chum Salmon – 8 fish	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the criminal case under Article 256 of the RCC.
Sept 8, 2021	Malyi Gilyako-Abunan River	Two persons	Illegal Pink Salmon fishing (without permission) with a prohibited fishing gear - a set gillnet, with illegal complete blocking of the Malyi Gilyako-Abunan river bed. The set gillnet was seized.	38,440.00	Pink Salmon – 20 fish	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the criminal case under Article 256 of the RCC.
Sept 18, 2021	Bolshaya Nelma River	One person	Illegal salmon fishing (without permission) with a prohibited fishing gear - a set gillnet, with the use of the "Fregat" rubber boat and the "Niva" car, seized subsequently. Illegal complete blocking of the Bolshaya Nelma river bed	81,400.00	Pink Salmon – 2 fish, Chum Salmon – 17 fish, Whitespotted Char – 5 fish	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the criminal case under Part 1 of Article 256 of the RCC.
Oct 14, 2021	Bolshaya Nelma River	One person	Illegal salmon fishing (without permission) with a prohibited fishing gear - a set gillnet, with illegal complete blocking of the Bolshaya Nelma river bed. The set gillnet was seized.	272,970.00	Chum Salmon – 15 fish, Coho Salmon – 10 fish	The materials were transferred to the Okha Civil Defense Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia to make decisions on the initiation of the

The fact that the level of poaching in the Okhinskii District has decreased significantly over the past 5 years since 2017 is also confirmed by comparative data of the corresponding indicators for the Okhinskii District relative to other districts of the Sakhalin Region.

In the period from January 1 to October 31, 2021, the monitoring of the situation related to illegal fishing of aquatic biological resources in the Sakhalin Region was carried out. During the monitoring, 77 informational reports were analyzed, including:

- 27 reports posted on the official website of the Sakhalin-Kuril Territorial Administration of the Federal Agency for Fishery;
- 28 reports posted on the official website of the Sakhalin Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- 22 articles published on the website *sakh.com*.

In total, 101 facts of poaching were recorded in the Sakhalin Region, including 82 violations related to illegal fishing of salmon species.

The monitoring data is given in the table:

No.	Sakhalin Region Municipal districts	Number of particularly significant violations						Detected violations	
		SKTU website data		MIA website data		sakh.com website data			
		In total	Incl. IUU fishing for salmon	In total	Incl. IUU fishing for salmon	In total	Incl. IUU fishing for salmon	In total	Incl. IUU fishing for salmon
1	Makarovsky	4	4	8	8	11	9	23	21
2	Korsakovsky	10	9	3	2	2	1	15	12
3	Anivsky	4	2	6	5	3	2	13	9
4	Dolinsky			5	5	5	3	10	8
5	Poronaisky	4	1	2	2	2	2	8	5
6	Okhinskii	4	4	1		3	3	8	7
7	Smirnykhovsky	3	3	2	1	1	1	6	5
8	Kholmsky					4	4	4	4
9	Tomarinsky			4	4			4	4
10	Noglonskii			3	2	1	1	4	3
11	Ulegorsky			1	1	2		3	1
1	Tymovsky	1	1			1	1	2	2
13	Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk					1	1	1	1
14	Nevelsky							0	0
15	Alexandrovsk-Sakhalinsky							0	0
16	Kurilsky							0	0
17	Severo-Kurilsky							0	0
18	Yuzhno-Kurilsky							0	0
	Total number of violations	30	24	35	30	36	28	101	82

As can be seen from the table, the indicators for the Okhinskii District are much better than in other districts of the Sakhalin Region, which indicates a high level of organization of protective measures.

During personal communication with representatives of the Sakhalin-Kuril Territorial Administration, we received information that the companies Okha Ltd and Rybnovskii Losos Ltd strictly comply with all the requirements adopted by the Anadromous Fish Commission of the Sakhalin Region. These companies also do not violate the Fishing Regulations. Okha Ltd and Rybnovskii Losos Ltd render great assistance in the protection of rivers. As in previous years, stationary observation posts were organized on the main large rivers, and several walking groups were also working to inspect the riverbeds. All these efforts were aimed at preventing and excluding the facts of poaching.

List of Internet resources:

<https://sakhalin.info/inquest/208736> ; <https://sktufar.ru/2021/17025/#more-17025>
<https://sakhalin.info/fishing/210952> ; <https://sktufar.ru/2021/17064/#more-17064>
<https://sakhalin.info/ecology/211781> ; <https://sktufar.ru/2021/17123/#more-17123>
<https://sktufar.ru/2021/17213/#more-17213>
<https://sktufar.ru/category/%d0%bf%d0%be%d0%ba%d0%b0%d0%b7%d0%b0%d1%82%d0%b5%d0%bb%d0%b8/>
<https://65.xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/rubric/7731/> ; <https://sakhalin.info/inquest/208736>;
<https://sakhalin.info/uvd/list3/206180> ; <https://sakhalin.info/uvd/list2/207408>
<https://sakhalin.info/uvd/209970> ; <https://sakhalin.info/fishing/list3/204803>
<https://sakhalin.info/fishing/list3/205111> ; <https://sakhalin.info/fishing/list3/206115>
<https://sakhalin.info/fishing/list2/207942> ; <https://sakhalin.info/fishing/list2/208825>
<https://sakhalin.info/fishing/210032> ; <https://sakhalin.info/fishing/210163>
<https://sakhalin.info/fishing/210633> ; <https://sakhalin.info/fishing/211402>
<https://sakhalin.info/fishing/211417> ; <https://sakhalin.info/news/211524/>
<https://sakhalin.info/news/211602/> ; <https://sakhalin.info/fishing/211631>
<https://sakhalin.info/uvd/211790> ; <https://sakhalin.info/ecology/211781>
<https://sakhalin.info/brakonier/213221> ; <https://sakhalin.info/customs/211374>
<https://sakhalin.info/news/213578>

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