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# Understanding of the Russian Fisheries Management System

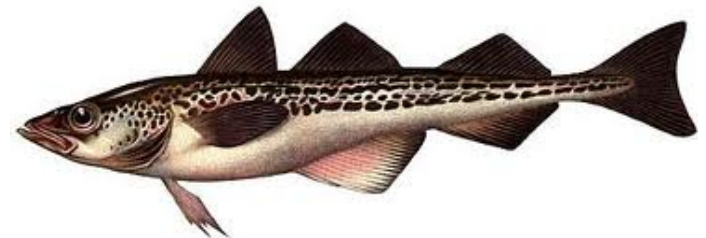
**Presentation for Site Visit Expert Assessment Team**

Vladivostok 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011

**Vasily Sokolov**

**Deputy Minister**

**Federal Fisheries Agency (FFA)**



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# **Recent History of Russian Fisheries Management**

# Recent History of Fisheries Management

Soviet  
Ministry  
of  
Fisheries

Russian  
State  
Committee  
for Fisheries

Federal  
Fisheries  
Agency  
within  
Ministry for  
Agriculture

Federal  
Fisheries  
Agency

# Reforms 2004-08

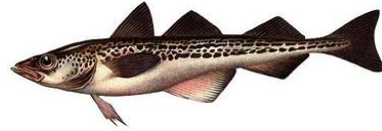
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- **Reporting directly to Government- functioning as a Ministry**
- **Devolve powers to Federal Fisheries Agency**
- **Establishment of Government Fisheries Commission (& its working groups)**
- **By Statute - a coordinating body for federal bodies for cooperation and policy**
- **Improved governance**
- **Facilitating reform and adoption of regulations**

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# **Understanding today's Russian Pollock Fisheries Management**

# Russian Pollock Fisheries Management - High Level



**Federal Fisheries Commission**

**Chaired by the First Deputy Prime Minister**

**Policy**

**Federal Fisheries Agency**

**Head of FFA is Mr Kraini**

**Science & Conservation**

**TINRO**

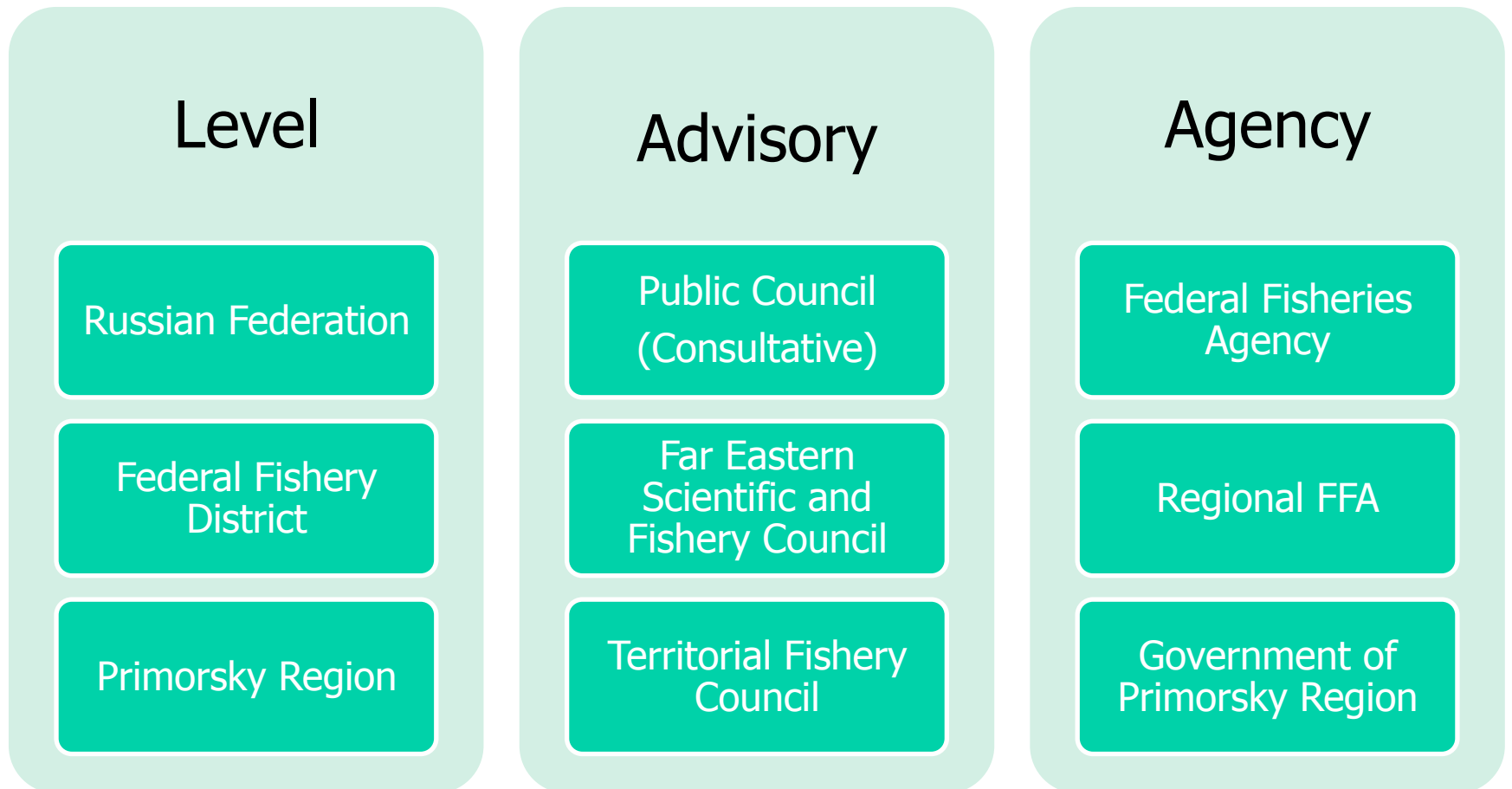
**Head of TINRO  
Dr Lev Bocharov**

**Enforcement**

**Federal Fisheries Agency**

**Federal Border Guard**

# Management & Consultative Bodies



# Governance & Policy- key features

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- **Significant improvements over the last 15 years**
- **More still in the last 3 years**
- **A fisheries culture retaining the values of integration from the Soviet Era and...**
- **A modern reformation of management organization and regime based on internationally accepted principles of fishery sustainability**



# Policy Objectives

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- **Federal Fisheries Act – ‘protection and rationale use’ of aquatic biological resources**
- **Strategy to 2020 – socio and economic development**
- **Focus upon improved customs control, prevent overfishing, improve efficiency and economic return from fishing opportunities, food security, social welfare and fish consumption**
- **‘Rationale long term sustained use’**

# International Agreements

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**Russian Federation has signed and ratified following relevant international agreements:**

- **1982 UN Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**
- **1995 Implementation of Provisions of UN Convention of the Law of the Sea**
- **Highly migratory and straddling fish stocks**
- **Russian Constitution of 1993 places International Agreements above national law**

# Federal Fisheries Act 2004

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## A framework law of 8 Chapters and 57 Articles

- **General provisions, rights to aquatic resources, fisheries, fishing rights, fisheries management, protection of aquatic resources and the environment, dispute settlement, concluding provisions**
- **The Act is supported by other Laws- EEZ of Russian Federation, Law on Fauna, Customs Code**
- **Implemented by Regionally applicable Regulations**

# Fisheries Act - Chapter 3 - on Fisheries

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## Extensive provisions including..

- **Specific consideration of industrial, coastal, research, artisanal and recreational fishing**
- **Amended 2007** ` mandatory landing of Russian Exclusive Economic Zone - EEZ catches in Russia
- **Act implemented via a series of Regulations**

# Relationship of Act and Regulations

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- **Federal Fisheries Act applies nationally**
- **Most regulations apply at the level of a 'fishery basin' (8 basins) (e.g Far Eastern Fisheries Basin) etc**
- **Regulations set rules e.g. seasons, closed areas, gears, by-catches, min. allowable sizes etc**

# Consultation: Roles & Responsibilities

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- **Legacy of Soviet era where integration was a strong feature of management**
- **Widespread consultation of agencies, science institutions, industry organizations and user groups**  
**e.g. Research institutions are highly integrated within the Federal and Regional management structure**
- **High level of consultation of industry & science remains**
- **Now more formal, established procedures and for a are established for consultation and decision making**

# Formal Consultation: Fishery Councils

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- **Informal dialogue and consultation of industry and government in place**

## **Formal bodies established:**

- **Industry level: Federal Fisheries Council 2008**
- **At Basin level: Far Eastern Fishery Council**
- **At Regional level: Primorsky Council**

# Scientific Institutions

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- **Central level - VNIRO – All Russian Scientific Institute for Fisheries Research and Oceanography**
- **Basin level - TINRO – Far Eastern Scientific Institute for Fisheries Research & Oceanography**
- **Regions- KamchatNIRO, MagadinNIRO, SakNIRO (supporting research in WBS and SoO)**
- **Co-ordinated research across fishery stocks, fishing activities, environmental interactions, oceanographic conditions**



# Enforcement

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- **Russian EEZ- Federal Border Service (part of Federal Security Service (FSB))**
- **At sea inspection of fishery**
- **At sea inspection of transhipments**
- **At shore inspection of landings and clearance prior to export**
- **FFA retains enforcement in territorial waters**

# Reform of Quota Allocation

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- **Prior to 2000 – global TAC's**
- **2000-3 Quota Auctions**
- **Allocated on a year by year basis**
- **Reduce older fleet, improve efficiency**
- **2007 amendments - 10 year quotas**
- **Economic stability for renewal**
- **Administered by FFA and its territorial divisions**

# Improving enforcement

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- **2007 reform requires all Landing to be at Russian ports - improved ability to inspect**
- **Less incentive to overfish/under-report**
- **Quota levies also reduced for selling fish domestically**
- **Integration of Monitoring and Communication Center**

# Vessel Reporting Requirements

- **FFA Territorial Divisions implement and monitor quota use**
- **Daily vessel reporting requirements (vessels and shippers)**
- **15 day reporting requirements (vessels and shippers)**
- **Vessel monitoring requirements – VMS**
- **Central Monitoring and Communications – Federal and Regional branches- database on fishing activity**
- **Federal Border Guard Service – State Marine Inspection (GMI) – At sea and at port inspection**
- **FFA Territorial Divisions- port inspection and..**
- **EU IUU Catch Certification documentation including for fish exported for processing before EU entry**

# Monitoring and Inspection

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- **GMI (State Marine Inspection) of the Federal Security Service undertake spot checks of vessels and shippers**
- **Regional branches allow effective cover of all fishing grounds**
- **All transshipments are monitored by GMI**
- **FFA Regional branches undertake reconciliation of daily reports, 15 day reports for vessels and shippers**
- **Coordination of activities of agencies thru Central Monitoring and Communication Center**

# Consultation & Dispute Resolution

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- **Councils at different levels serve as the formal consultative fora for industry, science and government- e.g. Far East Fisheries Council**
- **The Ministry of Natural Resources 'State Ecological Expertise' has specific role for stakeholder consultation within the TAC setting process**
- **These for a serve to avoid disputes both at Policy setting level and at implementation**
- **The Russian Court system handles enforcement violation disputes**

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# Questions?