

ПОКМАРКИ ВОСТОЧНОГО СКЛОНА ОСТРОВА САХАЛИН
POCKMARKS OF THE EASTERN SAKHALIN SLOPE

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The paper provides original data on bathymetric and seismo-acoustic investigation of the Eastern Sakhalin Slope carried out in frames of the Russian-German KOMEX (Kurile-Okhotsk Marine EXperiment) Project. For the first time, pockmarks (conical depressions originating in sea bottom due to gas escape from sedimentary cover) were mapped in this region. Except one zone which adjoins the Kurile Basin, pockmarks are numerous at the eastern slope of Sakhalin Island. They were detected at depths from 500 to 1400 m. Their size and distribution vary within a single zone of the slope and from one zone to another. Existing data allow suggesting that pockmarks in the southern zone are inactive. Currently active gas emission is just observed at pockmarks of the central and northern zones and was probably caused by strong seismic activity within these zones.

Keywords: Eastern Sakhalin Slope; pockmarks; morphology, size, distribution and activity.