

Session I

Geographic Names of the Gulfs and Bays of the Far Eastern Seas.

P.F. Brovko, A.N. Vasina, A.E. Lozinsky

Far Eastern State University

Vladivostok, Russia

Geographic names are an important part of Primorskii krai exploration of any rank – from global to local. Names contain information about the area's history, its natural features, way of industrial, agricultural and transport development. The latter is the most important with regard to discovering and inhabiting new lands in the Russian Far East. Participants of Russian and foreign expeditions that took place in XVII-XIX centuries measured the depth of seas and straits, identified geographical coordinates of the capes and river mouths, built light-houses, named islands, bays and gulfs. Islands of Bering, Ratmanoff, Brouton and Rikord, gulfs of Neveloskogo, Bellingsgauzen, Senyavin, bays of Babkina, Boismana, Klykova and Telyakovskogo, straits of Laperuz, Kruzenshtern, Shpanberg were marked on the sea maps of the Far East.

Seas

The waters of the three seas wash Russian Far East coasts: the Sea of Okhotsk, the Bering Sea and the Sea of Japan. The Bering Sea is one of the largest seas of the World Ocean. Its area is 2315 thousand km² and maximum depth is 4097m. The sea is named after Vitus Bering (1681-1741) – famous researcher and captain-commander of Russian Navy, chief of the two Kamchatka expeditions to the northern part of the Pacific.

The Sea of Okhotsk has the area of 1603 thousand km², and its depth is 3521m. It was named after Okhota River or Okhotskii port (founded in 1647). The name of the sea came

from ethnic evenky words “okhat”- the river, or “a-khot” - big. In 18-19th century the Sea of Okhotsk had various names – Lamskoye, Penzhinskoye, Kamchatskotye, Tungusskoye, etc.

The Sea of Japan has the area of 1062 thousand km² and maximum depth of 3699m. Officially the International Hydrographic Organization approved the name in 1929. Before that, the most common names of the sea were: “Korean Sea” and “Oriental Sea”.

Gulfs and Bays

Gulfs and bays, as parts of the seas, go in the coast to a various depth and are of an interest mainly as storm-protected water areas, suitable for vessel shelter and docking. They were called primarily by marine travelers and participants of round-the-world hydrographic expeditions. These names represent a great scientific and cognitive interest, especially with regard to domestic and international tourism development. Such kind of research is conducted on the Geographic faculty of the Far Eastern State University.

Geographic names of the gulfs and bays as a system of coastal toponyms can be divided into several categories:

NAMES: of the Far Eastern Seas’ researchers (Bellingsgauzena Bay, Zhdanko bay), statesmen (Peter the Great Gulf, Anuchina Gulf), distinguished scientists and artists (Glena Bay, Aivazovskogo Bay), nameless (Olya Bay and Irina Bay)

EVENTS: Izmena Bay, Dobroye Nachalo (good beginning) Bay, Pamyatnaya (memorial)

NAMES OF SHIPS: Baikal Bay, Abrek Bay

NATURE: Lebyazhii (swan) gulf, Baklan Bay, Vodopadnaya (waterfall) Bay, Kitovy (whale) Bay, Krabovaya (crab) Bay, Krasnye Skaly (red rocks) Bay, Otlivnaya (low tide) Bay, Pesochnaya (sand) Bay

LOCATION: Vostok (east) Bay, Zapadnaya (west) Bay

SOCIO-ECONOMIC (Konservnaya (tin-can) and Kitoboynaya (whaling) Bays), Mayachnaya (lighthouse) Bay, Dozorny (patrol) Gulf, Kvadratnaya (square) Bay.