Sea Trout in the Russian part of Baltic

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Fishing and catches by sea areas

- Until 1999 there were not the special catches of Sea Trout in the Russian Part of Baltic Sea. The main part of trout spawners were caught as a by-catch by gillnets during fishing of the salmon and other species. Since 1999 the Baltic Trout was included into Russian Red Book. And as the Sea Trout is the protected species in the Russian part of the Baltic Sea, the fishing of the spawners was not carried out at all.

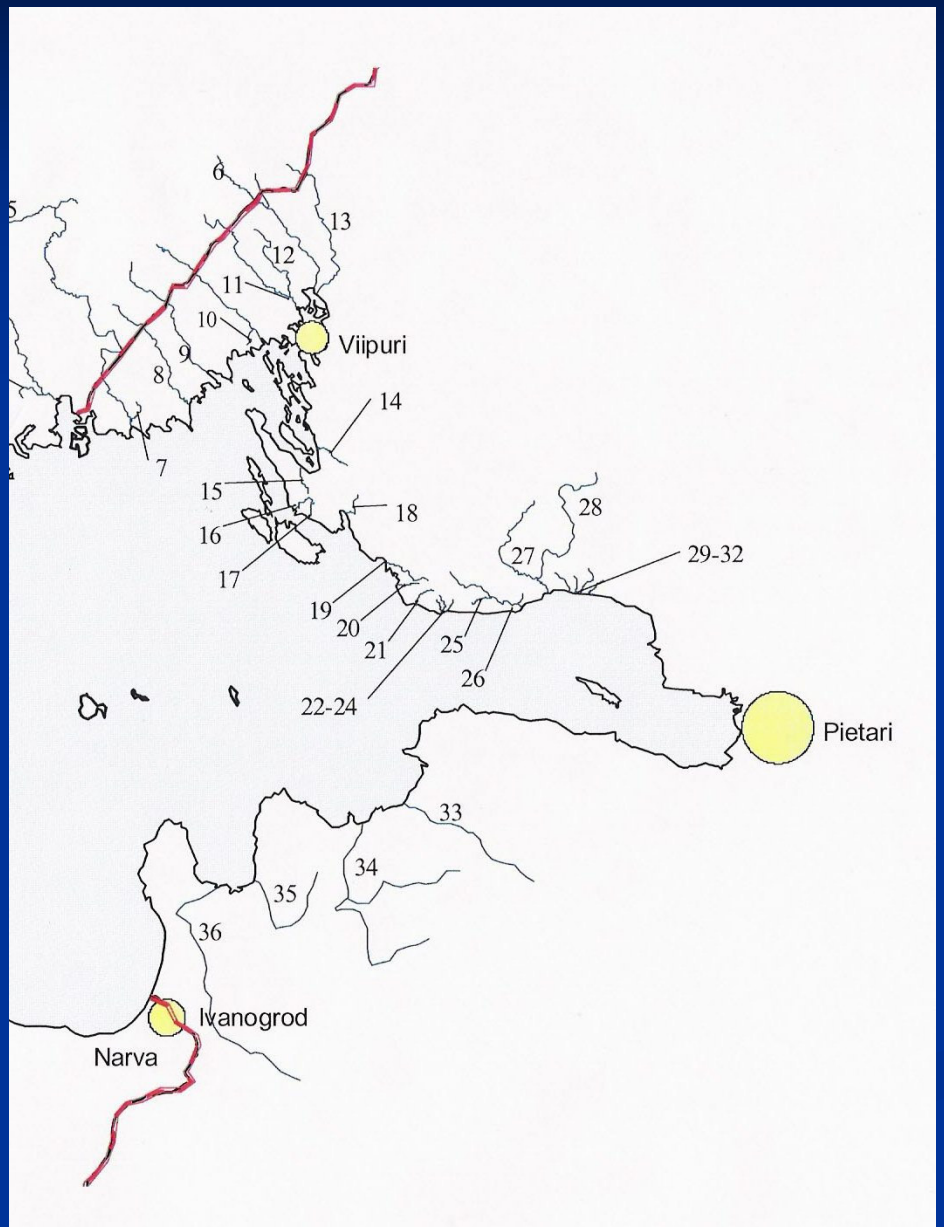
Fishing regulations

- Neither commercial, nor recreational legal fishing of Sea Trout were carried out in the Russian part of the Baltic Sea (in the rivers and in the open sea).

Sea trout stocks and their status by sea areas

Sea area	Number and status of sea trout stocks		Potential smolt production	Notes
	Original	Mixed		
Gulf of Finland	*24 poor 5 satisfactory	1 satisfactory	200 000 - 300 000	Supportive stocking in 1 trib. of Luga river
Kalinigrad Region	**3 poor	—	n.d.	—

Sea Trout Rivers of Russian Part of Gulf of Finland



- **List of the Russian Baltic Sea Trout Rivers**
- Ser'ga river (Urpalanjoki)
- Peschannaja river (Santajoki)
- Velikaja river (Vilajoki)
- Polevaja river (Tervajoki)
- Seleznevka river (Rakkolanjoki)
- Gusinaja river (Hanhijoki)
- Petrovka river (Kilpeenjoki)
- Römpötinpuro brook
- Mel'nichnyi brook (Myllyoja)
- Koivistonpuro brook
- Penttilänoja brook
- Kello-oja brook
- Lohijoki river
- Papinoja brook
- Toivola brook
- Jukkola (west) brook
- Jukkola (middle) brook
- Jukkola (east) brook
- Privetnaja river (upstreams)
- Privetnaja river (lower stream)
- Gladyshevka river
- Roschinka river
- Ushkovski brook (Tyrisevänoja)
- Bysryi brook
- Zelenogorski brook
- Huumosenoja brook
- Voronka river
- Sista river
- Khabolovka river
- Luga river

The map of Luga River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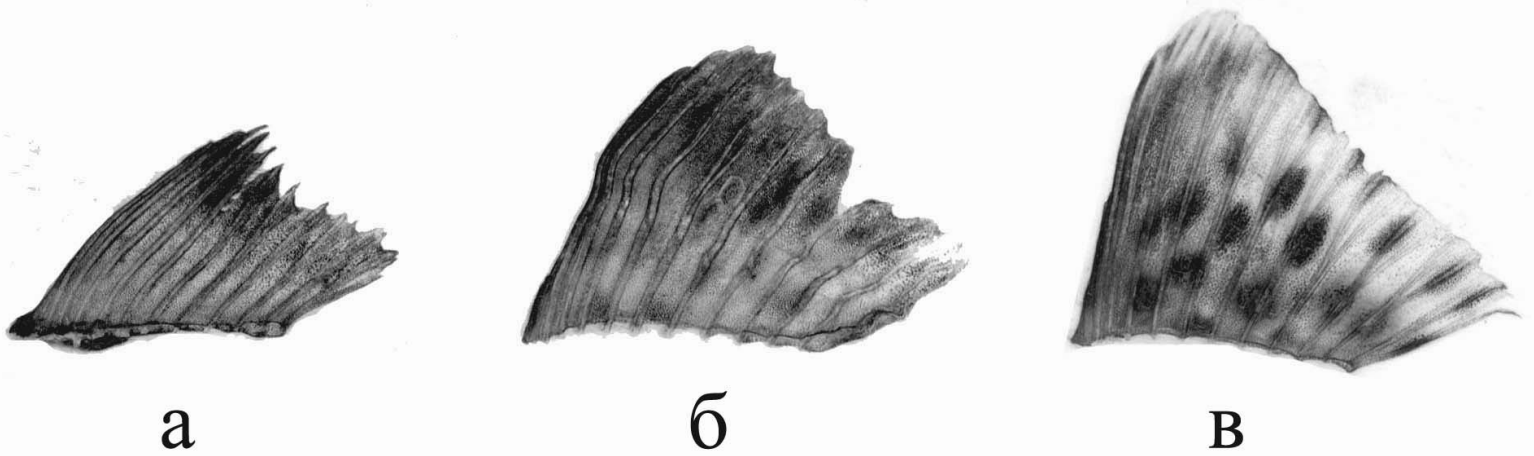
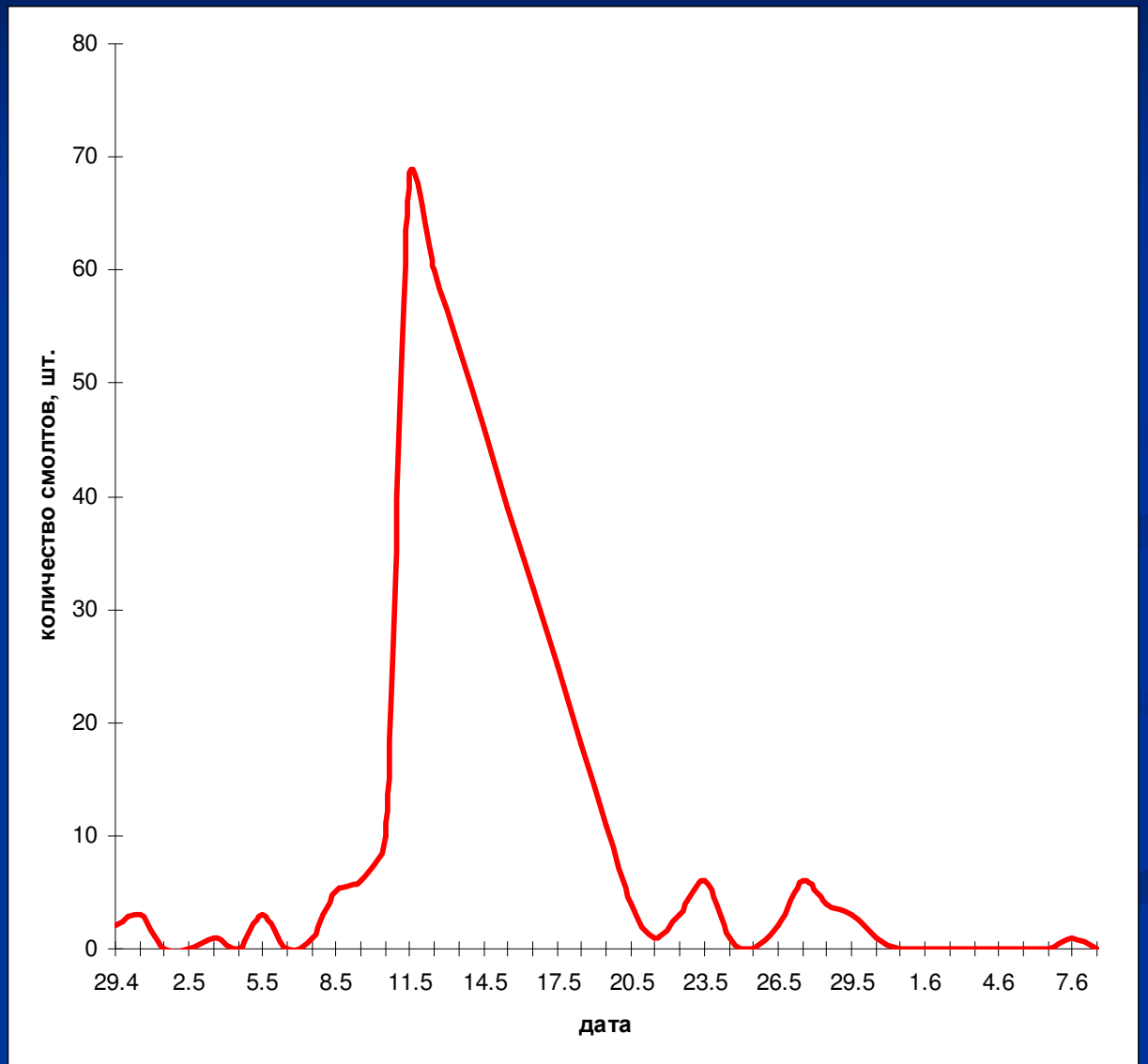


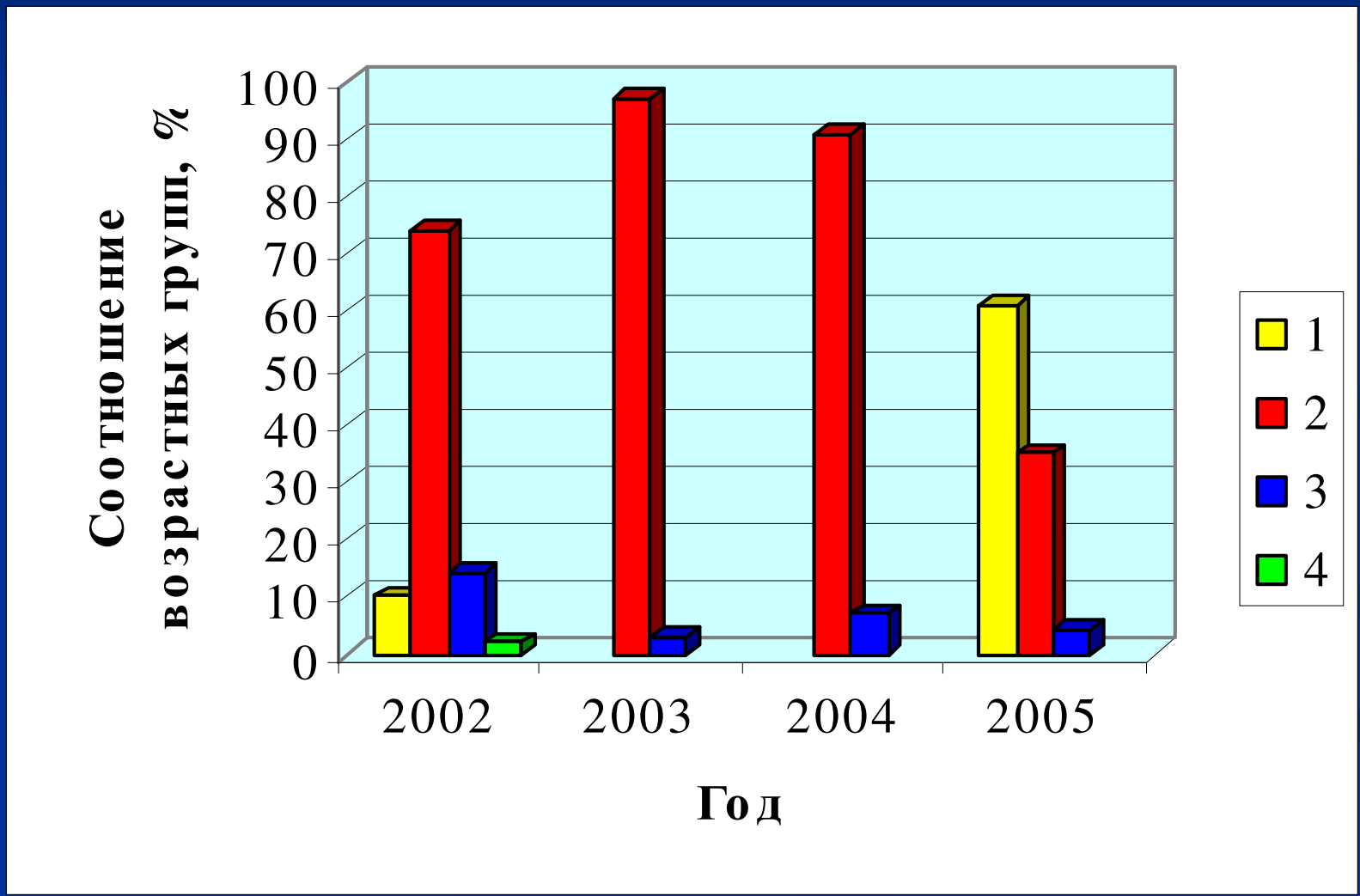
Dorsal fins: а, б – reared smolts, в – wild smolts

Scales: а- reared smolts; б, в – wild smolts

The migration dynamics of the sea trout smolts through the mouth of the Luga River in 2005.



Percentage of different year classes of wild trout smolts



Densities (real and potential) of Sea Trout parr in some tributaries of Luga River basin.

River	Densities, parr/100 m²	
	potential	real
Vidon'	10	6,0
Lemovzha	100	22,3
Vruda	100	4,4
Ukhora	100	13,0
Lubenka	10	10,0
Azika	50	90,0
Solka	100	38,7

Densities (real and potential) of Sea Trout parr in some rivers of Gulf of Finland.

River	Densities, parr/100 m²	
	potential	real
Gladyshevka	100	10,9
Velikaja	95	3,3
Ser'ga	100	1,5
Peschannaja	85	10,0
Bystryi	100	3,3
Ushkovskyi	100	16,1
Khabolovka	100	8,1
Voronka	100	4,0

Needs for national conservation and management measures

- Management plans for sea trout rivers
- Effective guarding on trout rivers
- Restoration of spawning areas on trout rivers
- Recovery plans for potential sea trout rivers
- Seek for such management measures for fishing of other species which prevents sea trout postsmolts to get caught as a by-catch.
- Excluding Baltic Sea Trout from the Russian Red Book

Needs for international cooperation in research

- Fisheries related subject at the stock recovery phase: selectivity/catchability (gear, time, area)
- Improvement of habitats
- Tagging programs / exchange of tagging data (releases and recoveries)
- Genetic studies: exchange of baseline samples
- Joint projects: surveys and monitoring of joint Finnish-Russian trout Rivers

Needs for international cooperation in management

- Baltic sea trout action plan
- Planning and implementation of joint management plans in the Gulf of of Finland (FIN – RUS – EST)
- Action Plan in management of joint Finnish-Russian trout Rivers

Main conclusions

- The main part of sea trout stocks in Russia are in poor state.
- The main reason for the present decline is the illegal fishing (poaching) pressure in the rivers and sea area.
- Large part of sea trout smolts and adults are caught premature as a by-catch by gillnets for other species.
- Immediate management actions are needed to be taken in all sea areas to avoid the risk of extinction.
- Improving of the spawning and rearing habitats is needed.
- Restocking plans for potential sea trout rivers should be established

Main conclusions

- Excluding Baltic Sea Trout from the Russian Red Book is a need.
- Investigation and monitoring of real and potential trout rivers in Kaliningrad Region is needed.
- Promotion of international communication in research and management is still needed
- Critical status of many wild sea trout stocks has been clearly acknowledged by the experts. Political decisions are needed for improving management actions.
- The Russian National Programme "Baltic Sea Trout" is still needed.
- Regular (one at year or one at 2 years) joint Baltic Sea Trout Workshops are needed.