

temperature in the Arctic in recent decades. A forecast is made for a further reduction of the Arctic sea ice extent, which, in turn, can lead to an increase in the depth of convective mixing along the trajectory of warm and salty waters from the Atlantic Ocean, up to the possibility of an all-year-round ice-free regime.

The article "*Changes in Freshwater Content in the Arctic Basin, Sea Ice Cover Reduction and Warming in the Arctic*" (by G.V. Alekseev, A.V. Smirnov, A.V. Pnyushkov, A.E. Vyazilova, M.Yu. Kulakov, N.I. Glok and N.E. Kharlanenkova) is devoted to the changes in the content and inflow of fresh water into the upper layer of the Arctic Basin from the 1950s to the 2010s. The temporal and spatial dynamics of fresh water content and its dependence on the continental runoff and the contribution of sea ice melt are shown. A connection with the changes in the climatic parameters over the period of research has been established and a correlation between the series of parameters of the atmosphere and the ocean has been estimated.

In the article by E.U. Mironov, S.V. Klyachkin, A.V. Yulin, R.I. May and E.A. Pavlova "*Studies of Ice Processes in the Arctic for the Developing the Forecasting Ice Conditions Models and Methods Necessary for Navigation Support in the North Sea Route Area*" presents an improved mathematical model of ice cover evolution and a short-term ice forecast method developed on its basis for all the Russian Arctic seas.

The article authored by I.P. Medvedev, M.E. Kulikov, E.A. Kulikov, A.Yu. Medvedeva, O.I. Yakovenko and D.A. Smirnova "*Extreme Level Fluctuations in the Seas of the Russian Arctic in the Context of Global Climate Change*" presents the results of detailed studies of sea level fluctuations in the Russian Arctic and the results of modeling sea level fluctuations from 1980 to 2000. The possible ranges of storm surges of different frequency (once per 20, 50 or 100 years) are

numerically estimated, and the geographic reference for the maximum heights of storm surges is given.

The impact of climate change on the socio-economy of the White Sea region is estimated on the basis of the proposed ecological-socio-economic model in the article by N.N. Filatov, O.N. Bakhmet, P.V. Druzhinin, V.V. Menshutkin and L.E. Nazarova "*Assessment of the Current State and Changes of Ecological-Socio-Economic Systems of White Sea and Watershed*". Three groups of possible scenarios for the socio-ecological and economic development of the White Sea region are proposed. The impact of the climate warming and the economic factors on various sectors of the economy and the standard of living of the population is analyzed.

In the article by G.G. Matishov, I.S. Usyagina and G.V. Ilyin "*Reconstruction of the Arrival and Migration of ¹³⁷Cs and ⁹⁰Sr in the Ecosystem of the Barents Sea*" a reconstruction of the dynamics of Caesium-137 and Strontium-90 pollution of the marine ecosystem components in the Barents Sea is presented. It is found that in the present-time pollution balance, more than 90% refers to the transboundary transport from the Norwegian Sea. It is discharged through the northern and northeastern borders of the Barents Sea. The majority of radioisotopes circulate in the water mass, with a small part of ¹³⁷Cs accumulating in the bottom sediments.

In addition to the fundamental significance of the presented results, they also contain significant applied potential. Thus, the data of expeditionary studies described by I.M. Ashik *et al.* (RFBR projects 14-05-00039, 18-05-60107, 18-05-60048) forms the basis for the published *Atlas of Tidal Currents in the Arctic Basin*. It also makes significant contribution to the restoration of the state program for monitoring the pollution and the conditions of the natural environment of Russian Arctic seas. Conclusions of V.V. Ivanov (RFBR projects 15-15-20067, 15-29-06993, 17-05-00558, 17-05-41197, 18-05-60083) clarify possible scenarios for changing conditions in the Arctic basin depending on then scenarios of climate change. The analysis carried out by G.A. Alekseev *et al.* (RFBR project 18-05-60107) refines the results of currently used global climate models. The models for long-term and short-term forecasting of the ice conditions types developed by E.U. Mironov *et al.* (RFBR project 18-05-60109) have been introduced into the Administration of the Northern Sea Route, the model forecasts are used to issue navigation permits for ships. Results of study of the frequency of the extreme non-periodic sea level fluctuations by I.P. Medvedev *et al.* (RFBR projects 18-05-60250 and 20-35-90096) are extremely important for the construction of coastal infrastructure, as well as for navigation in the Arctic. Prognostic assessments of possible changes under a different set of economic and natural conditions by

N.N. Filatov *et al.* (RFBR project 18-05-60296) can be used for the planning of White Sea region economic development. Estimates of radioactive contamination and its dynamics by G.G. Matishov *et al.* (RFBR project 18-05-60249) are important for use of the resource potential of the Barents Sea.

The presented results are clearly an important part of the efforts to achieve the results expected from the Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development.