Project Update: September 2006

In September 2006 our team attended the 4th international conference "Marine mammals of Holarctic" which took place in St.Petersburg, Russia. We have made the oral presentation and the poster about the status and population structure of killer whales from Avacha Gulf, Kamchatka.

Our data shows that the numbers of killer whales in the area is much less than it was estimated before, and the population structure of Kamchatkan orcas is similar to the population structure of the Northeast Pacific killer whales, where the number of animals in the population is usually less than 600 individuals. This data strongly supports our opinion that capturing of killer whales can have serious negative impact on their population.

