

INSIDE ENVIRONMENT

Russian salmon fishery the first to receive sustainable certificate

Thursday September 10, 2009, 1:00 PM

by Abby Haight, The Oregonian

The <u>Marine Stewardship Council</u> has certified its first Russian fishery, recognizing the pink and chum salmon fishery on the Kuril island of Iturup for its sustainable fishing and environmental practices.

The fishery is managed by the Russian government and Gidrostroy, a joint stock company which owns and manages the fishing, processing and transport systems.

The certification is a turning point for Russian fisheries, according to the Portland-based Wild Salmon Center, which works to preserve wild salmon populations across the Pacific Rim, and the Sakhalin Salmon Initiative Center, which focuses on salmon conservation on Sakhalin Island.

"As demand for sustainable seafood increases, fishing companies that implement best practices stand to benefit economically," said Brian Caouette of the Wild Salmon Center.

The Iturup fishery has agreed to take steps to minimize the impact of hatcheries on wild salmon populations.

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