

Earthquake and tsunami of October 4(5), 1994, on the coast of the Southern Kuril Islands (a look 30 years later)

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Abstract. On October 4(5), 1994, one of the strongest tsunamigenic earthquakes in the history of the Southern Kuril Islands occurred, which was accompanied by large-scale tectonic manifestations. Intense shaking led to the collapse of the entire infrastructure on Shikotan and Kunashir Islands; 11 people died. The tsunami that followed the earthquake reached a height of about 10 m on the ocean side of Shikotan Island and was recorded along the entire coast of the Pacific Ocean. Generally, the study of the manifestations of this event had been carried out since October 1994 and ended in 1997 with the publication of extensive reviews. For the first time, the data on the specific effects on the ocean surface (seaquake) that accompanied this earthquake have been collected and systematized. In the following years, the interest in this extraordinary event initiated further research. At the same time, the study of the deposits of the tsunami of October 4(5), 1994, in the general context of study of ancient tsunami (paleotsunami) deposits in this region came to the fore. These studies allowed us to obtain estimates of the "preservation"/ "erasure" of the traces of this tsunami and more ancient events on the coast of the Southern Kuril Islands. Some important data presented in this review are being published for the first time.

Keywords:

Southern Kuril Islands, earthquake, seaquake, deformations of the Earth's crust, tsunami, tsunami traces, paleotsunami

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