Fisheries in the Sea of Okhotsk High Seas Enclave—The Russian Federation’s Attempts at Coastal State Control

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Increased pressures on most commercial fish stocks have given rise to an extensive debate over the conservation and management of fisheries in the last decade. The most important fish stocks concerned are stocks which straddle between the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and adjacent areas of the high seas and highly migratory fish stocks. Presently, the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UN Fisheries Conference) is involved in elaborating the international regime for the conservation and management of such stocks.\(^1\) For stocks which straddle between the EEZ and adjacent areas of the high seas\(^2\) international law, as reflected in the LOS Convention,\(^3\) provides that their conservation and

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1. The mandate of the UN Fisheries Conference provides that it is to take into account relevant activities at the subregional, regional and global levels with a view to promoting effective implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (LOS Convention) on straddling fish stocks and high migratory fish stocks (see United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/Res.47/192 of 22 December 1992).

2. The term "straddling stocks" will be used in this article to refer to stocks that occur both within the EEZ and in an area beyond and adjacent to the EEZ. The conservation and management of stocks which straddle between the EEZs of two or more coastal states are not addressed in this article.

Figure 1 The Sea of Okhotsk