Large-scale landslides at volcanoes in Kuril-Kamchatka region

Marina Belousova (1), Alexander Belousov(2) 1-Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, Petropavlovsk, Russia 2-Institute of Marine Geology and Geophysics, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russia

Large-scale landslides

Shiveluch Kamen' Bezymianny Taunshitz

Avacha

Harimkotan

Mendeleev

XX th century
prehistorical

3 main types of large-scale landslides on volcanoes:

 on active volcanoes, associated with eruptions (XXth century – Harimkotan 1933, Bezymianny 1956, Shiveluch 1964)

 on active volcanoes, but without proved deposits of associated eruptions (Avacha 30,000 BP, Taunshits 7000BP, Mendeleev –early Holocene)

on extinct volcanoes (Kamen' volcano 10,000 BP)

XX-th century: 3 large-scale landslides on active volcanoes with accompanying eruptions

> Shiveluch 1964 Bezymianny 1956

Harimkotan 1933

Harimkotan, January 8, 1933 landslide and eruption

Harimkotan 1933 eruption was studied by Miyatake K, 1934; Nemoto T, 1934 Gorshkov, 1967



Expedition of captain Kruzenstern (1805)

For reconstruction of eruptive events we used diary of Takaki family who witnessed the eruption



Crater with the 1933 dome

Characteristics of the 1933 Harimkotan debris avalanche



L (max length) > 7 km H (dropped height) – 1.25km S (area) > 20 sq. km V (volume) > 0.5 cub. km (4% of edifice) Thickness - 10-15 m

Sketch map of 1933 deposits of Harimkotan volcano.





New shore formed by the 1933 DA



Hummocky surface



Tsunami deposits connected with entrance of the 1933 debris avalanche itto the Pacific Ocean

Structure of DA deposits:





Block facies of the deposit formed by hydrothermally altered material



Deposits of strong explosive eruption associated with 1933 DA



Topographic map, 1916



Topographic map, 1950

Large-scale landslide at Bezymianny volcano on March 30, 1956



Characteristics of Bezymianny 1956 debris avalanche L (max length) -22 km H (dropped height) – 2.4 km S (area) – 60 sq. km V (volume) 0.5 cub.km (10% of edifice) Thickness – 20-30 m



Hummocky surface of Bezymianny DA









Different kinds of hummocks.

Structure of the 1956 DA





Block facies



Mixed facies with block inside



Deposits of accompanying eruption

Large-scale landslide at Shiveluch volcano on November 12, 1964



Before 1964



After 1964

Characteristics of the 1964 Shiveluch DA

L (max length) - 16 km H (dropped height) – 2.3 km S (area) – 100 sq. km V (volume) -1.5 cub.km (15 % of edifice) Thickness - 15-20 m





Hummocks of 1964 DA

Front of 1964 DA









Structure of the 1964 DA

Contact of DA and underlying deposits



Nonerosive basal contact



Erosive basal contact



DA consists mostly of block facies



PF of accompanying eruption

Deposits of ancient DAs at Shiveluch volcano



Large—scale landslides without accompanying eruption

Kamen'

Taunshitz Avacha

Mendeleev

on extinct volcanoes

on active volcanoes, but no evident deposits of eruptions

Large—scale landslide at Avacha volcano with age 30,000 BP



V > 10 cub.km) S > 400 sq.km. L > 25 km. Thickness -30 m.



Structure of Avacha 30,000 BP DA







Block facies of Avacha DA

Large—scale landslide at Taunshitz volcano 7000 BP





Hummock composed by DA block facies





Hummocky surface

Large-scale landslide at Mendeleev volcano, early Holocene





Mendeleev vocano, Yuzhno-Kurilsk at the foreground



Block facies of DA

Large-scale landslide at Kamen' volcano 1000 BP





Block facies of DA



The largest bouldery from DA



Hummocky surface of DA



Conclusions.

- 1. Large-scale landslides frequently occurred on volcanoes of Kurile-Kamchatka region.
- 2. The landslides took place both on active and extinct volcanoes.
- 3. Most of the landslides which occurred on active volcanoes were associated with strong explosive eruptions.