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# Three types of methane seepages and features of location in a coastal shallow-water zone of the Black Sea

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(Poster presentation)

Methane seeps in the near-shore of NW Peninsula Crimea were detected for the first time in 1999. Within the EU-Project METROL a research of these objects was continued, in the form of all-the-year-round scuba-diving observations.

The underwater works have enabled to determine 3 main types of methane bubble flows:

-Intensive bubble seeps. It can to influence appreciably parameters of a water column.

- Low-intensive methane seepages. The majority from detected seeps were this type. A flux of methane was insignificant for a water column. However, such seeps can to wield influence on habitats of benthos as well as near-bottom plankton.

- "Seasonal seeps" - fields with very active bubbling of new methane in zones of macroalgae decomposition. It is typical for some Crimea bays during the summer-time.

The location and intensity of gas seepages of first two types depends on geophysical structure and inconstancy of a seabed.