

The macrozoobenthos structure in the rivers of the Kandalaksha coast of the White Sea and the forage base of juvenile salmonids are analyzed. 84 species (92 taxonomic groups) have been found, among which aquatic insect (Ephemeroptera, Trichoptera, and Diptera) larvae predominate. Scarce benthic communities in the mountain rivers (1.6 thousand ind./m² and 2.4 g/m²) and relatively rich ones in the lowlands (10.3 thousand ind./m² and 7.4 g/m²) were noted. The forage base development level was evaluated as medium and, in some places, high; its increase from the river sources in the mountains to the mouths was traced. Areas with much higher benthos abundance and rich forage base are shown to form in the lake outlets. Favorable conditions for the feeding and growth of juvenile salmonids were found in the rivers.