However, the plant isn't working, but still accepts the sewage, which it then calmly proceeds to pour into the very same river, but now, of course, "purified". Who do they think they are kidding?

Barrels have become another calamity for Chukotka. They are left lying around on the seashore and river banks, and turn up on hills and in reindeer feeding grounds. They are everywhere. Why?

Over many years the fuel for cross-country vehicles, tractors, automobiles and other equipment has been brought to these remote parts in barrels. This was considered to be the most convenient method. However, at that time nobody thought what would happen to all those metal barrels, who would collect them and take them away.

Now this problem is being discussed in the media. But it is obvious that there will still need to be a lot more regulations and approvals to finally succeed in ridding the tundra of these fruits of "civilisation".

Of course, one way out of the situation could be to have a specialized fleet of shallow draught tankers capable of coming in to a shore which has no facilities and which could use hoses to pump petroleum products into on-shore tanks. People are talking about this. However, there is still a very long way to go before it actually happens.

Chukotka is a wonderful district. People very often refer to it as "golden Chukokta", both in the literal and the figurative sense of the word. They mine gold here, as well as harvest furs and sea