



DNA analysis enables determination of the current status of the Brown Bear population in the territory of the reserve.



## POPULATION OF GAME BIRDS IN THE UPPER KET' VALLEY

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En-route surveys of birds were carried out in the Ket' River valley around the villages of Stepanovka, Maksimkin Yar and Katajga, and in the Ket'-Kass interfluve (Verkhneketsky District, Tomsk Region) in 2008-2009. The surveys covered 19 habitats, including forest, water, meadow and mire biotopes, following the technique by Ravkin (1967). The quota was 5 km in each tract, covered repeatedly every two weeks. The combined length of the routes was about 300 km. Data on bird abundances were averaged over the first half of the summer. In total, 28 species of game birds were found in Ket' area.

Among wetlands, the highest bird abundances were reported from large lakes of the Ket'-Kass interfluve (116 specimens/km<sup>2</sup>). *Anas penelope* (29%), *A.querquedula* (13%) and *Mergus merganser* (9%) dominate there. Quite many game bird species inhabit floodplain meadows (55), the leaders in abundance there being *A. querquedula* (40%) and *Crex crex* (38%). The abundance of game birds in other wetland habitats is relatively low (1-7 specimens/km<sup>2</sup>).

The population density of game birds (*Tetrao urogallus*, *Lyrurus tetrrix*, *Tetrastes bonasia*, *Streptopelia orientalis*) in forest habitats is never high (1 to 11 specimens/km<sup>2</sup>).

