

limiting factors as competition for resources, predation and diseases also affect populations. Changes in the above-mentioned factors caused animal populations changes simultaneously. Wild boar endoparasites, including pathogenic ones are directly related to the human activities and further urbanisation. The prevalence of these parasites in nature has a detrimental effect on the well-being of wild boar populations. The most common parasites were identified as *Ascaris*, *Oesophagostomum*, *Strongyloides ransomi* and *Trichuris*. The wild boar distribution in forests depends on the stand age and density and the density of the local population of wild boar. For successful management of wild boar, an increase in the carrying capacity in conformity with animal density should be accomplished.

THE POPULATION STATUS OF ARCTIC FOXES (*VULPES LAGOPUS* L.) IN THE KOLA PENINSULA

K. F. Tirronen, D. V. Panchenko

Institute of biology Federal state budgetary institution of science of the Federal research center “Karelian scientific center of the Russian Academy of Sciences” (IB KRC RAS), Petrozavodsk, Russia

Present report analyzes the retrospective data and the authors own observations made during the field seasons of 2017–2018 of the state of the Arctic Fox population on the Kola Peninsula. Arctic Fox is an Arctic faunal element, a circumpolar species comprising several subspecies and populations (Chirkova, 1967; Angerbjörn et al., 2004). At the end of the 19th century (Pleske, 1887), the species inhabited the entire Murmansk coast and the interior continental areas including mountain tundra. Later, at the beginning of the last century, An. Dubrovsky (1939) noted a strong reduction of the distribution area and abundance of species due to overhunting. Continued reduction of the Arctic Fox area on the Peninsula was pointed out By p. I. Danilov and his co-authors (1979). In the mid-1960s, according To A. F. Chirkova (1967), the abundance of the species was estimated at about 1–2 thousand individuals. By the last

rough estimate made by the Swedish researchers in 2002 the population size of Arctic Fox in entire peninsula was only about 40 adult individuals (Dalén et al., 2002). Analysis of winter track counts in the area for the past several years indicates absence of the Fox in an area. This does however not prove its disappearance, but obviously shows a significant reduction in the population. At the same time, we have received reliable information on the occurrence of the Arctic Fox in the Tersky district of the Murmansk region in the summer and winter of 2014–2016 which is far away from the core breeding area in Kola Peninsula. The report also presents the results of observations in different parts of the Arctic Fox area on the Kola Peninsula. The obtained data indicate, first of all, the need for diverse studies to assess the status of resources of the species, identify threats and prospects for the existence of Arctic foxes, as well as the development of a strategy for the preservation of this unique representative of the Arctic fauna.

The study was carried out under state order № 0221-2017-0046 and partially supported by The Presidium RAS Program project No. 0221-2018-0002.

SPECIAL FEATURES OF WINERING MALLARD (*ANAS PLATYRHYNCHOS*) IN THE CITY OF PETROZAVODSK

A. O. Tolstoguzov¹, A. I. Romanova²

¹ Institute of biology Federal state budgetary institution of science of the Federal research center “Karelian scientific center of the Russian Academy of Sciences” (IB KRC RAS), Petrozavodsk, Russia

² IBEAT PetrSU

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) for Karelia is considered a migratory species. However, a number of authors (Zimin, 2002, Sazonov, 2003) indicate that in the last decades of the 20th century in Petrozavodsk and other large cities of Karelia, settled urban poplar populations began to form, which winter on nonfreezing sections of urban rivers and at sewage treatment plants in the city water supply system, at that