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SUMMARY

Short communication contains new information on the records of rare and protected birds in Magadan area (Eastern Russia) for the period of 2010–2011 field seasons.

The referred figures and tables are in the original article in Russian at pages 28—32

During the field research in 2010 and 2011 in the south of the Magadan region, we collected information on some rare species of local avifauna, including the species included in the Red Data Book of the Russian Federation, Magadan, Kamchatka, and Chukotka (namely, Brent goose, Baikal teal, Pochard, Northern harrier, Black vulture, Ivory gull, Glaucous-winged gull, and Kamchatka tern).

Brent goose — *Branta (bernicla) nigricans*. Birds of this species were first observed in the study area in 1987 in the vicinity of the Talan Island (Kondratiev et al., 1992) and in 1993 near the Nedorazumeniya Island (Andreev, 2005). Starting from 1997, Brent geese are regularly observed during the spring migration in the vicinity of Ola Lagoon (Dorogoi, 1997, 2007, 2008, 2010). We saw a group numbering about 20 birds in the sea in front of the Yana River mouth on May 29, 2010. A flock of 15 birds was seen on June 3 on a sandy mud shoal in front of the Umara River mouth at Odyan Bay. Congregations of Brent geese numbering 100 to 200 birds (up to 300–350 birds per day) were observed in the central part of Ola Lagoon from May 31 to June 2, 2011 (fig. 1).

Baikal teal — *Anas formosa*. This species was observed at nesting grounds near Magadan in 1940–1950s (Vas'kovskii, 1966; Kischinskii, 1968). In the

last decade, after a long-term depression, this species occasionally nests in the south of the Magadan region in the Kava River basin (A. Krechmar, E. Krechmar, 1997; Krechmar, Kondratiev, 2006) and is periodically recorded during the spring migration in the vicinities of Magadan (Dorogoi, 2008, 2010) and in the interfluvium of Arman and Oira rivers (Andreev, 2005). During the autumn migrations, Baikal teals were encountered on the Talan Island (Kondratiev et al., 1992). In the vicinities of Magadan, this species was seen during the autumn migration for the first time. A group of four females that stayed in a large flock numbering more than 100 Green-winged teals (*Anas crecca*) were observed in an artificial reservoir in the outskirts of the Ola village on September 15, 2010. A large flock of Baikal teals comprising at least 80–100 birds was met on September 18, 2010, in the estuarine part of the Magadanka River.

Garganey teal — *Anas querquedula*. A rare vagrant, probably breeding species on the southern coast of the Sea of Okhotsk (Krechmar, Kondratiev, 2006; Dorogoi, 2008). A pair of these birds was encountered by us on June 7, 2010, on the shore of a small thermokarst lake in the lower reaches of the Shirokaya River.

Pochard — *Aythya ferina*. Vagrant birds were encountered on the Talan Island (Kondratiev et al., 1992), at the Malkachan Bay (Arkhipov et al., 2003), and in the vicinities of Ola Lagoon in the summer of 1999 and 2006 (Dorogoi, 2008). A single bird was recorded on May 27, 2010, in the vicinity of the Nyuklya Cape, approximately 10 km westward of the Ola village.

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Black vulture — *Aegypius monachus*. This species is common in the Far East during its wintering in Primorye (Shibnev, 1981; Shibnev, Glushchenko, 1988; Kalnitskaya et al., 2007). An occasional vagrant in the Amur region (Dugintsov, Pankin, 1993), Yakutia (Nakhodkin et al., 2008), and the southern Kuril Islands, in particular, the Iturup Island (Velizhanin, 1977). A single bird was observed by O.A. Mochalova at the source of the Ola River (the interfluvium of Ola and Bulum rivers, 60°64'N, 151°22'E) on August 31, 2011. The area was a ridge in the middle of a plateau at an altitude of 1200–1300 m above sea level, where the patches of mountain dwarf shrubs were interspersed with numerous outcrops of sloughing shales and slide rocks. This is a new species in the avifauna of the Magadan region.

Northern harrier — *Circus cyaneus*. The few cases of records of this species in the Magadan region (Kischinskii, 1968; Krechmar et al., 1978; Yakhontov, 1979) should be supplemented with the following observations. A male Northern harrier hovering in the air was observed on June 1, 2010, in the vicinity of Lake Solenoe, approximately 5 km eastward of the Arman River mouth. A single young female attacking a Black crow *Corvus corone* was seen on August 31, 2011, in a larch forest on the shore of Ola Lagoon.

Pomarine jaeger — *Stercorarius pomarinus*. A rare migratory and wandering species on the northern coast of the Sea of Okhotsk (Kondratiev et al., 1992; Arkhipov et al., 2003; Andreev, 2005; Dorogoi, 2008). A single bird was met in the Yana River estuary on May 29, 2010.

Parasitic jaeger — *Stercorarius parasiticus*. A rare passage migrant and, possibly, breeding species (Vas'kovskii, 1966; Andreev, 2005). A single bird was observed on May 28, 2010, in the vicinities of the Nyuklya Cape, and a pair of Parasitic jaegers was seen in the sea off the Talan Island on May 30, 2010. A single bird of this species was encountered on July 25, 2010, at Nagaev Bay.

Ivory gull — *Pagophila eburnea*. A rare vagrant species on the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk (Zelenskaya, Vladimirova, 2004; Dorogoi, 2007, 2008). A single bird was encountered on May 26, 2011, near a sewer in the central part of Nagaev Bay (fig. 2).

Glaucous-winged gull — *Larus glaucescens*. This inhabitant of the Aleutian and Commander Islands rarely and, apparently, not annually flies to the northern coast of the Sea of Okhotsk (Arkhipov et al., 2003; Andreev, 2005; Dorogoi, 2008). Two adult birds were observed on May 29, 2011, in southern part of Ola Lagoon.

Kamchatka tern — *Sterna kamtschatica*. In the study area, Kamchatka tern rarely (not annually) form colonies in the interfluvium of Tauu and Arman rivers as well as at Malkachan Bay (Leonovich, 1976, 1981; Dorogoi, 2004, 2007; Andreev, 2005). In recent years, cases of nesting of Kamchatka terns on the Sikulun Island at Ola Lagoon were reported. A colony numbering approximately 20 pairs was found here in summer 2010. In summer 2011, Kamchatka terns arrived to the Sikulun Island on June 1 (three birds were recorded) and began to breed at the end of the first ten-day period of June. On June 12, 2011, we found three nests with one, one, and two eggs. However, on June 14 the birds abandoned the nest with cold eggs. The most likely factor that forced the birds to leave their nests, in our opinion, was frequent visits of the island by local residents during the run of salmon.

Barn swallow — *Hirundo rustica*. Reliable data on the breeding of this species in the modern Magadan region were obtained at the beginning of the XX century, when a few breeding pairs were encountered in the vicinities of Gizhiga and Kushka (Allen, 1905). Later, a small colony was found in the outskirts of the Ola village in July 2009 (Dorogoi, 2010). A single bird was seen for a few minutes in Magadan on the right bank of the Magadanka River on May 25, 2010. Two birds flying over tundra lakes together with approximately 30 Common house martins (*Delichon urbica*) and a dozen of White-rumped swifts (*Apus pacificus*) were observed on June 7 in the interfluvium of Arman and Oira rivers. A pair of Barn swallows was observed on June 1, 2011, in the Northern outskirts of Magadan. A group of three birds was encountered in the outskirts of the Ola village on June 17. In the last case, the birds occasionally flew into an abandoned building in the outskirts of the village, but no evidence of their breeding was found.

Siberian thrush — *Turdus sibiricus*. This species was reliably found nesting only in the lower reach of the Chelomdzha River in summer 2003 (Andreev, 2005) and in the lower reach of the Tauï river in summer 2006 (Dorogoi, 2007) and presumably in the middle reach of the Khasyn River (Dorogoi, 2010). A male singing at the top of a high (more than 20 m) Chosenia for more than an hour was observed on June 7, 2010, on the bank of the Sukhaya River, a branch of the Arman River in its lower reach. Such behavior is untypical of the Siberian thrush, a secretive species.

Eurasian bullfinch — *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. The few earlier records of this species on the coast of the Sea of Okhotsk in the nesting season (Andreev, Kondratiev, 2001; Arkhipov et al., 2003; Andreev, 2005) should be supplemented with two observations. On April 15, 2011, a male Eurasian bullfinch was encountered in a larch forest in the outskirts of the Talaya Village (fig. 3). On June 20, 2011, we saw one bird of this species presumably at a nesting site in a poplar–chosenia forest in the outskirts of the Ola Village.

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