

Kalyakin, V.N. 2001. Novye dannye po faune ptits Novoi Zemli i Zemli Frantsa-Iosifa [New data on bird fauna of Novaya Zemlya archipelago and Franz-Josef Land]. // Ornitologiya [Ornithology]. M., MSU "Logos" Press. No.29. Pp.8-28. In Russian.

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**Red-throated Loon- RTLO (*Gavia stellata*).** Adult female, trapped in a fishing net, was investigated 14/VII 1990 on Krest-To Lake of Yuzhnyi [South] Island of Novaya Zemlya. In this bird the finial of upper mandible was clean white. Skeleton was taken from this bird: already after several days the finial became dark and was not distinguished by colour from other parts of body. As far as we know, the mentioned feature was not described by anybody as diagnostic for scaly Red-throated Loon *Gavia stellata squamate*, Portenko (1939), though it is practically one of the most striking features of this form (see Photo from Mehlum, 1990 and Kalyakin, 1993, 1998a). Dissection of the given specimen revealed, that this bird recently has laid eggs, and that confirms breeding of scaly Loon in the south of Novaya Zemlya. Analogous specimen, also trapped in the fishing net of local fishermen, was investigated in the (kutovaya?) part of Pukhovaya Guba (Inlet) 19/VII 1994.

According to our observations, the RTLO at the present time is rare and is distributed sporadically on Novaya Zemlya: in addition to the above records we observed only a few other birds – a pair on Lichutin Island, two single birds near western shore of Gusinoe Lake in the north of Gusinaya Zemlya Peninsula, several single birds in Pukhovaya Guba and in the southernmost part of Novaya Zemlya. In southern part of Mollera Bay in 1995 this species was observed considerably more often, than earlier, but nests and broods were not found. In 1996 in Gusinoe Lake region the RTLO was completely common. On the pygmy island in the north-eastern part of Gusinoe Lake 23/VII a nest with incubating bird was found. Then, 25 and 27/VII on two small lakes to the north of Gusinoe Lake the broods with two downy chicks in each were registered. Another predated nest was found on the small lake in 1997. Two non-breeding pairs were recorded at the beginning of August 1999 along western shore of Belush'ya Guba shore.

In the mouth part of Dolgaya Guba 26/VII 1995 one adult non-breeding female, in which the colour of upper mandible was the same as in specimens of the nominative subspecies, and character of coloration of feathering was as in *G.s.squamata*. On the small lake on Rudakova Island 4/VIII 1995 we observed a group of 5 RTLOs, which we could see clearly. In two birds the finial of bill was white, in the rest of the birds it was dark. Thus, the mentioned feature is typical not for all *G.s.squamata*. It is not excluded, that Novaya Zemlya is a zone of intergradation and hybridization of two subspecies. We should record, that on Vaigach Island the birds of only nominative race breed.

**Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*).** Extremely rare, but continues (Gorbunov, 1929) to nest. On Svyatoe (Holy) Lake near Malye Karmakuly on 28/VII 1992 a pair with chick was observed. Single birds were recorded near Britvin Nos Cape 27/VII 1994, near southern edge of Mezhdusharaskiy Island – 19/VII 1992. Several birds, including a family with non-flying chick, stayed to the end of August 1993 near western part of Gusinoe Lake. In 1995 on many occasions we observed the Yellow-billed Loon in southern part of Mollera Gulf. In 1999 we have received a photo of adult Yellow-billed Loon, trapped in a fish net on Nekhvatova Lake several years ago.

Morozov, V.V. 2001. Materialy k poznaniyu fauny ptits ostrova Vaigach [Materials to the knowledge of ornithofauna of Vaigach Island]. // Ornitologiya [Ornithology]. M., MSU Logos Press. No.29. Pp.29-46. In Russian.

#### Red-throated Loon.

Common breeding species. In the north of the island it occurs more frequently than in the east. Nesting density in vicinities of Dolgaya Guba in 1991 was 0.4-0.5 pair / sq km. On one of the most favourable plots on peninsula, limited by Voronova and Dolgaya Bays, 7 pairs per 12 sq km nested, and in 1994 here on the plot of 14 sq km - 4 pairs nested. As everywhere within its range it prefers the small shallow lakes amidst extensive oligotrophic bogs in depressions of relief and on the gentle watersheds, and also settles in similar conditions in bottoms of slightly developed valleys of the tundra rivers.

Beginning of nesting in Dolgaya Guba (Inlet) is registered 30/VI 1991 and 19/VI 1994, when first nests with yet incomplete clutches of 1 egg were found. By 4/VII 1991 all RTLOs completed egg-laying in this region. In 1994 the period of egg-laying was quite extensive, and the last pairs laid the last eggs only on 12/VII. All 9 investigated nests contained 2 eggs (each). Outer diameter of nests (n=5) varied within limits 28-53 cm, being on the average 41 +/-2.8 cm (n=10); cup diameter – 17-23 cm, on average 19.8+/-0.9 cm (n=10); cup depth –2.0-4.7 cm, on average 3.7+/-0.5 cm (n=5). Sizes of eggs – 70.3-76.0x44.2-46.4 mm, on average 72.8+/-0.8 x 45.1+/-0.3 mm (n=6), weight of unincubated eggs – 75.3-83.6 g, on the average 79.0+/-1.3 g (n=6).

In the upper parts of Talaty-Karskaya River on 5/VIII 1991 2 families of RTLOs were sighted, chicks in one were half the adult size, chicks in the other family reached 2/3 size of adult bird. 7/VIII 1991 on watersheds near Droyvanaya River a family was discovered with both chicks equal to 3/4 of adult birds.