

Tomkovich, P.S., Solov'yov, M.Yu., Syroechkovskiy, E.E. Jr. 1994. Ptitsy arkticheskikh tundr Severnogo Taimyra (raion bukhty Knipovicha) [Birds of Arctic tundras of Northern Taimyr (Knipovich Bay region)]. // Arkticheskie tundry Taimyra i ostrovov Karskogo morya [Arctic tundras of Taimyr and Kara Sea Islands]. Vol. I. Moscow, IPEE RAN. Pp.44-110. In Russian with Engl. summ.

Translated by Jevgeni Shergalin, edited by Oksana Lane

Red-throated Loon (RTLO)- *Gavia stellata* (Pontopp.).

Small numbers recorded during nomadic movements. The flying birds or their voices were registered mainly 8 times in 1990 and 6 times in each of subsequent seasons, and in July – almost always on excursions to Knipovich Bay. The first RTLOs were recorded on 18/VI 1990, 14/VI 1991 and 26/VI 1992. In June in all 6 cases, when the direction of flight was visible, the Loons followed as 1-2 birds (once – 30/VI 1992 – 5 birds) in direction of eastern quarter.

In three latest observations (19/VII – 7/VIII) loons flew in western or south-western directions, also by 1-2 birds. RTLOs don't breed in vicinities of Knipovich Bay for the reason of exceptionally low number of lakes and their extremely late ice melting due to snow abundance in lowlands. Nevertheless, in July the RTLOs visit Gornoe Lake, a small lake to S-E of Knipovich Bay and lagoons on Baklund Peninsula.

Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii* (G.R.Gray)).

Rare vagrant species. A single swimming bird was sighted once on 30/VII 1992 on the floods amidst ice, near southern bank of the eastern part of Knipovich Bay.

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Syroechkovskiy, E.E. Jr., Lappo, E.G. 1994. Materialy po faune i ekologii ptits ostrova Sverdrup I ostrovov Izvestiy CIK (Karskoe more) [Data on fauna and ecology of birds of the Izvestiy TSIK Islands and Sverdrup Island]. // Arkticheskie tundry Taimyra i ostrovov Karskogo morya [Arctic tundras of Taimyr and Kara Sea Islands]. Vol. I. Moscow, IPEE RAN. Pp.111-152. In Russian with Engl. summ.

Red-throated Loon – *Gavia stellata* Pontoppidan, 1763.

According to communication of Babko, the RTLO in small numbers, but regularly breeds on lakes of Troinoi Island. He could observe this loon with chicks in the region of Uglovatyi Island Lake. We sighted flying loons practically annually near polar station and in different parts of the island. From 3 to 6 July the RTLO pair regularly stayed on “zabereg” (near shore) of Bezymyanni Lake near Inlet close to Polar Station. The only nest with two egg clutch was found on 15 July on the eastern bank of Polyarnika Bay, on isthmus between lakes, separated from the sea by alluvial pebble spits, at 2 m from water and 100 m from the sea. Nest was 1-year construction with height up to 15 cm, built from dry stems of plants and small splinter. During investigation on 19 July the clutch was safe. At 50 m from this point the old nest was found.

Also concentrations of non-breeding loons were sighted as well: on 20 July 12 birds were feeding in the sea to the north of Polar Station. 27 July 36 loons were sitting in a complex group on the Bezymyannoe Lake near polar station, 4 birds were feeding not far in the sea near fast shore ice, and about 10 were flying above them and calling. On many other lakes of the island we did not observe loons with nesting behaviour. Probably, the late opening of lakes in cold spring 1992 and the presence of Arctic Foxes limited possibilities of the species breeding this year, though the food

supplies were quite favourable. According to our assessment, in the year favourable by meteorological and feeding conditions on Troinoi Island at least 5-7 pairs of RTLOs can nest.

According to the reports of the Polar Station since 1953 the RTLO was recorded regularly.

On Sverdrup Island in 1992 the RTLOs did not nest, though in the south-western part of island on the plain with tundra vegetation there are several small lakes, suitable for nesting, where this species was also sighted more often in 1992. Flying in different directions single birds and groups of 2-3 birds were observed every day. On the big lagoon in the western part of the island on 28 and 29 July the flocks with 10-13 loons were sighted. 2 August after strong wind, when the ice was driven out from the southern bank of Island, from two to eight loons were feeding regularly in the shallow sea waters at 30-100 m from the bank, even during light storm.

Yellow-billed Loon – *Gavia adamsii* G.R.Gray, 1859).

This species by single individuals can be sighted during nomadic movements. On Troinoi Island two birds, flying in western direction, were sighted 22 July. On Sverdrup Island 28 July a pair was recorded, taking off from lagoon in the western part of the Island.

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Volkov, A.E., Pridatko, V.I. 1994. Materialy po faune i naseleniyu ptits Severo-Zapadnoi chasti ostrova Bolshhevik (Arhipelag Severnaya Zemlya) [Materials on the fauna and bird population of the North-Western part of Bolshhevik Island (Severnaya Zemlya Archipelago)]. // Arkticheskie tundry Taimyra i ostrovov Karskogo morya [Arctic tundras of Taimyr and Kara Sea Islands]. Vol. I. Moscow, IPEE RAN. Pp.152-160. In Russian with Engl. summ.

RTLO (*Gavia stellata* Pontop.).

A pair of birds was recorded 2 August on the lake in Dolina Somneniy [Valley of Doubts]. Taking into account the published data (Bulavintsev, 1984) the RTLO can be considered as a breeding species also in the north-western part of Bolshhevik Island.

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Tomkovich, P.S., Vronskiy, N.V. 1994. Ptitsy nizov'yev reki Uboinoi (Severo-Zapadnyi Taimyr) [Birds of lower parts of Uboinaya River (North-western Taimyr)]. // Arkticheskie tundry Taimyra i ostrovov Karskogo morya [Arctic tundras of Taimyr and Kara Sea Islands]. Vol. I. Moscow, IPEE RAN. Pp.161-206. In Russian with Engl. summ.

RTLO (*Gavia stellata* (Pontopp.)).

Relatively regularly appear by 1-2 birds in the estuary part of Uboinaya River and on the seas near river mouth. The first single RTLO passed over the mouth in the eastern direction on 4 July. 5 July in the same direction the flock of 11 of these loons flew away. This flock preliminary circled above the mouth. 14, 15 and 28 July in the fishing nets in Uboinaya R. mouth correspondingly 2, 12 and 2 RTLOs have been entangled. We have no data on breeding birds, while Kolyushev (1933) found their nests in Pyasinskiy Gulf.

Gavia adamsii (Gray).

Rare, does not breed. The YBLO was recorded in Pyasinskiy Gulf by Kolyushev (1933). The first four YBLOs were flushed on "polynia" (unfrozen patch of water in the midst of ice) of sea in Uboinaya R. mouth 14 July. Later single loons of this species were observed in the mouth of rivers 17, 18, 28 and 30 July. We banded a YBLO entangled in the fishing net on 28 July. This band was found two years later in Noril'sk town that, probably, points at the illegal shooting of this bird.

Chernichko, I.I., Syroechkovskiy, E.E. Jr., Chernichko, R.N., Volokh, A.M., Andryushchenko, Yu.A. 1994. Materialy po faune i naseleniyu ptits Severo-Vostochnogo Gydana [Materials on the fauna and population of birds of the North-Eastern Gydan]. // Arkticheskie tundry Taimyra i ostrovov Karskogo morya [Arctic tundras of Taimyr and Kara Sea Islands]. Vol. I. Moscow, IPEE RAN. Pp.223-260. In Russian with Engl. summ.

RTLO- *Gavia stellata* Linnaeus, 1763.

Inhabits entire Gydan(skiy) Peninsula, but unevenly. In our study region the RTLO was sighted 3 times: 12 July one bird swam on the lake in the floodplain of Mongocheyakha River, other bird was sighted flying above Eniseiskoe Lake. 15 July one bird flew in upper stretch of Ekaryaukha River. Absence of the nesting pairs, probably, is related to a small number of suitable water bodies. In the vicinities of Leskino settlement, according to communication of Slepnev, RTLO sometimes breeds on lakes.

YBLO -*Gavia adamsii* G.R.Gray, 1859.

There are no reliable facts on this species breeding in Gydan Peninsula. We have sighted single birds twice: 25 June and 2 July. According to communication of Slepnev, in the autumn period the YBLO sometimes occurs in vicinities of Leskino settlement. Nenetses regularly observed the YBLO on Oleniy Island. Naumov (1931) in 5 months of work in 1927 observed the YBLO only once.

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Gavrilo, M.V. 1994. Materialy k faune i naseleniyu ptits ostrova Dikson (nablyudeniya 1988 goda) [Materials on the fauna and bird population of Dixon Island (observations of the year 1988)]. // Arkticheskie tundry Taimyra i ostrovov Karskogo morya [Arctic tundras of Taimyr and Kara Sea Islands]. Vol. I. Moscow, IPEE RAN. Pp.261-268. In Russian with Engl. summ.

Gavia stellata (Pontopp.).

Single passage birds were recorded 1 and 8 July. 10 July above island a pair of RTLO passed by. 28 June a pair of RTLOs swam in Lena strait. 16 July a single bird stayed in the sea near Nakoval'nya Peninsula, and 31 July – on the lake.