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RTLO *Gavia stellata* Pont.
Red-throated Loon

We found the first mention of a RTLO as a rare wintering bird in Astrakhan' Province and northern part of Prikaspijskaya [Cis-Caspian] Lowland (Sarpa settlement) in Genke [56]. Bostanzhoglo [6], with reference to Genke, writes, that this is an occasional or extremely rare migrant species in Lower Volga, one specimen was harvested by him near Sarpa-Sarepta settlement (now a town of Krasnoarmeisk). Khlebnikov [49] observed it on the autumn migration on Sarpinskie lakes of the Astrakhan Krai [Territory].

In Petrov et al. [39], the RTLO – migrant species in semi-desert zone of the Western Cis-Caspian Sea area, Tersko-Kumskoe interstream area (area between Kura and Terek Rivers) and Primorskaya Lowland of Dagestan, and also in the steppe zone of Predkavkaz'ie [Front-Caucasian area].

According to Dementyev's data [10], the Common RTLO* – *G.s.stellata* Pont. winters on the Caspian Sea, feeding during this time on fish and sometimes on vegetation. It also winters in the semidesert zone of Tersko-Kumskoe interstream area and Primorskaya Lowland of Dagestan [39].

Thus, the RTLO is a migrant species of Western Cis-Caspian Sea area, Front-Caucasia and winters in Tersko-Kumskoe interstream area and Primorskaya Lowland of Dagestan.

* - So it was in original.