

## Project Update: March 2015

First series of heavy metal analyses from four feather samples, two blood samples and 16 eggs indicated levels not exceeding critical levels. Heavy metal levels are similar or even less than in true sea ducks which winter in marine environment. All samples originated from breeding grounds in Primorye, Russia.

Ten nest boxes made from Chevrolet Volt Battery Boxes were especially built to suit scaly-sided merganser by size and entrance size. These boxes were provided for free by General Motors Co. Boxes have been erected in Changbaishan State Nature Reserve, China, by Peiqi Liu, WWF China, and the staff of the reserve (see below for pictured report from Peiqi Liu).



It took two and a half days for mounting the boxes with help from CNR. A five-ranger team worked with us from beginning to end, which kept our work fluent. Four other WWF staff took part in the field work.

All the boxes from John have been hung up on different trees by myself and a ranger of the Changbaishan Nature Reserve (CNR) during Feb 11-15



A range finder has been used for measuring the height of the boxes.

No. of Box	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Height	7.58	9.96	7	5.68	6.29	7.73	6.31	8.37	6.65	7.83