

Project Update: June 2016

Intermediate project work report over April-May of 2016

In the period of spring project investigations (April-May) above 100 waters and temporal floods were examined on the territory of corn fields and natural descents in six administrative districts of North Kazakhstan region. The research team took into consideration above 70 000 geese and brants of 4 species including 2 brant species (red-breasted goose and anser erythropus) chronicled in the IUCN Red List. During the process of this part of our project work we found above 10 grey goose nests and examined them and some extensional features of nests allocation, as well as we determined some features of nests building and oomorphological laying indexes. All these investigations have been due to using of pilotless vehicle. The usage of camera traps let getting valuable information within the framework of scientific field research regarding to geese activity in twenty-four hours during the laying brood time and also eggs incubation time under the conditions of North Kazakhstan. Our research group also determined the range of factors which influences the success of grey goose nesting because it was the incident when one of laying that we watched for was destroyed by marsh harrier. The similar case happened to the grey goose nest with the laying consisting of 3 eggs in the exclusion phase. The nest was left because of whooper swans making their nest nearby (20 metres from grey geese nest).



Greylag Goose Nest made with quadcopters.

Red-breasted goose on the shore of Lake Karatau



Starting quadcopters on Lake Karatau.