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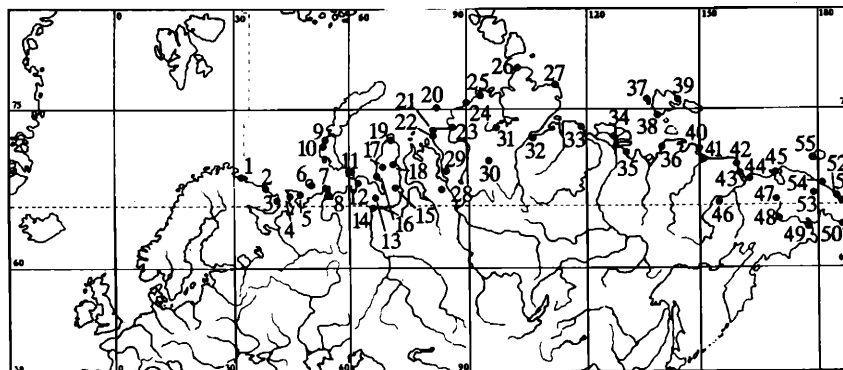
Summary of breeding conditions for waders in the tundras of Russia in 1994

We hope to publish in Bulletin 77 the full translation of this paper which has just been published in the bulletin of the Russian Working Group on Waders. We reproduce here the summary of the paper and a map showing the localities at which information on wader breeding success and environmental conditions was recorded in 1994.

Late spring, and cool but generally favourable weather for breeding waders was reported by correspondents for almost all 55 areas of the Russian arctic from Kola to Chukotsky Peninsula. The prediction of a peak in numbers of lemmings in some regions of Siberia was

confirmed. Some regions were inhabited by breeding Arctic Foxes *Alopex lagopus*, Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca* and skuas *Stercorarius* spp. at high densities. However the decline of lemming numbers in many areas early in the season was the reason for the switching of predators from lemmings to bird clutches and chicks. This led in general to a lower breeding success of waders than was expected. Large numbers of predators and low numbers of lemmings in 1995 will not permit the birds to have even moderate breeding success.

We shall see!



Tomkovitch, P.S. (collator) 1995. Breeding conditions for waders in the tundras of Russia in 1994. *Information Materials of the Working Group on Waders* 8: 25-40. (In Russian with English summary).

