

# Bird Numbers 2019

*Counting birds counts*

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## ON THE STATUS OF COMMON POCHARD IN SOUTH-WESTERN SIBERIA

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We collected data on Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* numbers during 2015-2018 in four areas selected for waterfowl surveys in Kurgan (2015), Tyumen (2016), Novosibirsk (2017) and Omsk (2018) administrative regions of Russia. Counts were conducted in post-breeding (late August) and migration (mid-October) seasons. Additionally we used data on species composition in the hunting bag collected during photographic survey at the scale of administrative regions.

Among all duck species counted in August, Common Pochard numbers presented 62.3% in Kurgan, 18.8% in Tyumen, 50.3% in Novosibirsk, and 92.5% in Omsk regions. Mean numbers ranged from 213 (Tyumen) to 18,297 (Novosibirsk) individuals counted per one day. Common Pochard was the most abundant species of the ducks at all areas surveyed. In October the proportions of Common Pochard were 22.5%, 0%, 15% and 41.6% respectively. In the mean we counted from 0 (Tyumen) to 574 (Novosibirsk) Common Pochards per day. Common Pochard remained the most numerous duck species at the area in Omsk Region, whereas followed the Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula* in Kurgan, the Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* and Common Goldeneye in Novosibirsk regions, and was missing in Tyumen Region. In autumn hunting bags of ducks the Common Pochard was 8.3% in Kurgan, 16.4% in Tyumen, and 38.8% in Novosibirsk regions. It followed the Common Teal *Anas crecca*, Gadwall *Mareca strepera* and Common Goldeneye in Kurgan, and the Mallard in Tyumen regions, while was the most bagged duck species in Novosibirsk Region. Data from Omsk Region is still under preparation. Therefore, Common Pochard can be evaluated as common and abundant species in south-western Siberia.