



*Owls in the Moscow Region: the Results of a 10-year Study*

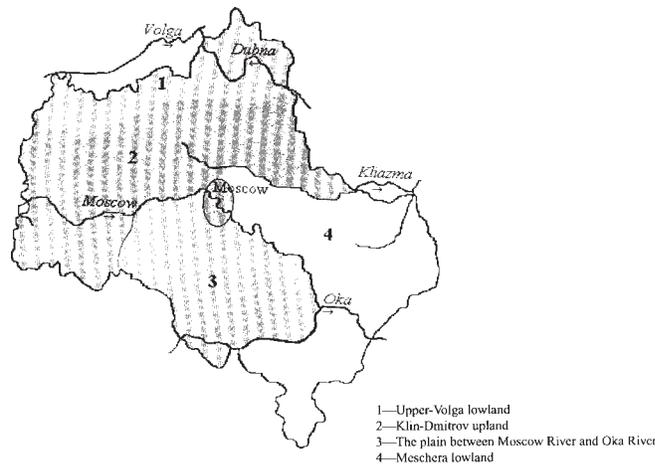
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*Abstract.*—Owls are one of the least studied groups of birds not only in the Moscow region but throughout Russia. The only detailed essay on owls in the Moscow region is by E.S. Ptushenko and A.A. Inozemtsev (1968), but otherwise no special studies of owls have been carried out here.

Since 1986, the Druzhina for Nature Conservation at the Biology Faculty of Moscow State University has researched owls as a part of the study program on rare birds in the Moscow region. This is the oldest non-governmental student organization for active conservation of old-growth forests, rare animals and plants, and environmental education in the Moscow region.

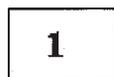
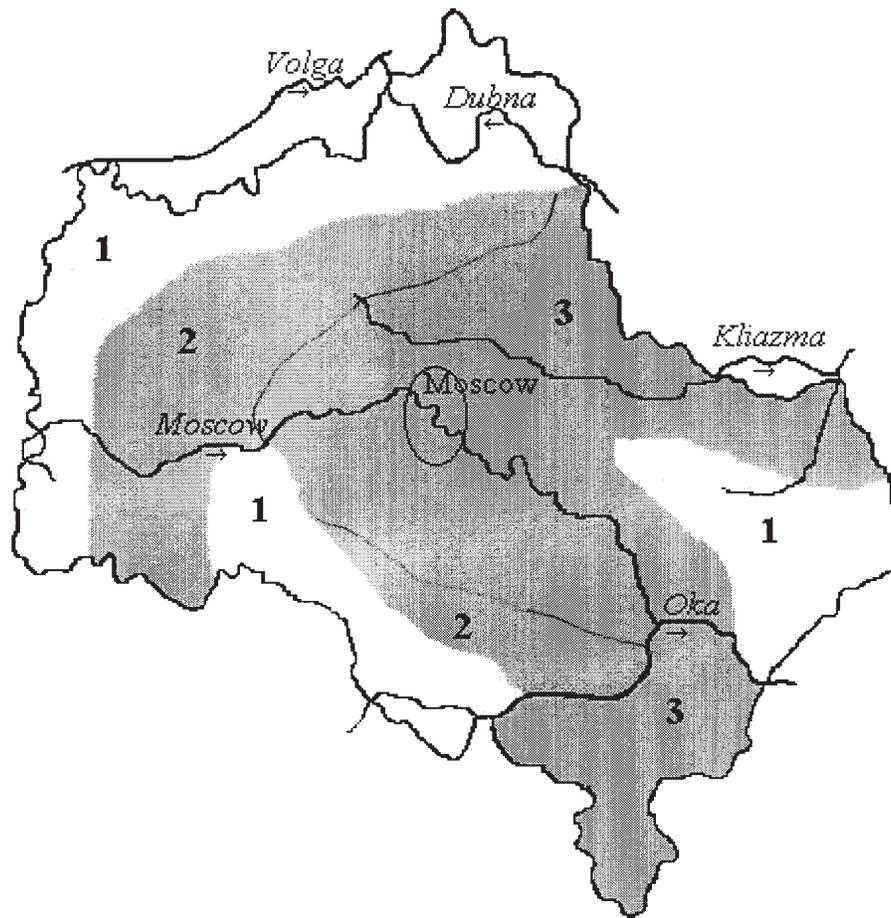
Many amateur and professional ornithologists took part in this work.

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- 1—Upper-Volga lowland
- 2—Klin-Dmitrov upland
- 3—The plain between Moscow River and Oka River
- 4—Meschera lowland

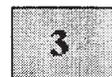
Figure 1.—Natural zones of the Moscow region.



low level



medium level



high level

Figure 2.—Degree to which natural communities have been transformed due to human activity in the Moscow region.

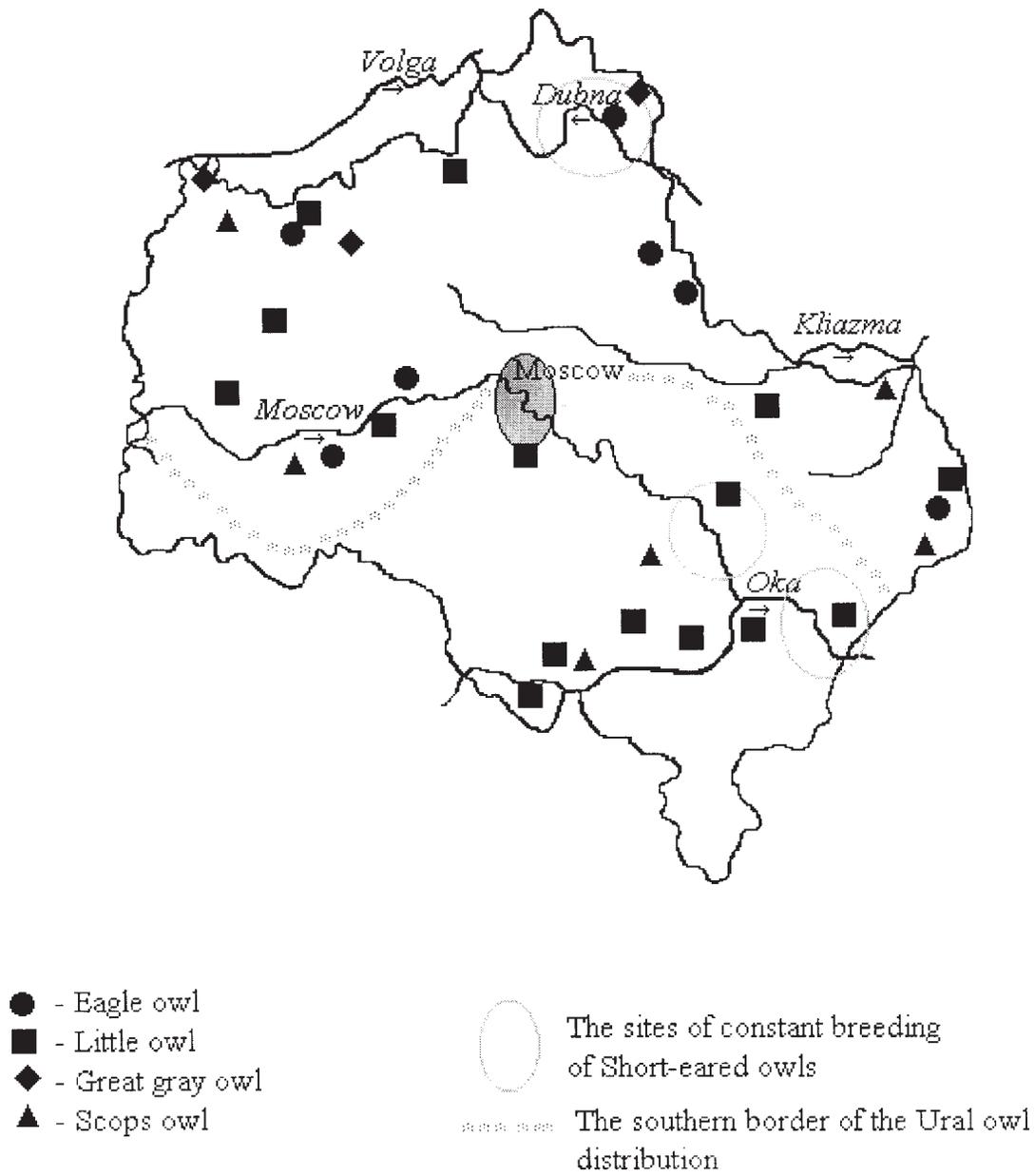


Figure 3.—Distribution of rare owl species in the Moscow region.