



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



STUDYING RARE CATS IN RUSSIA

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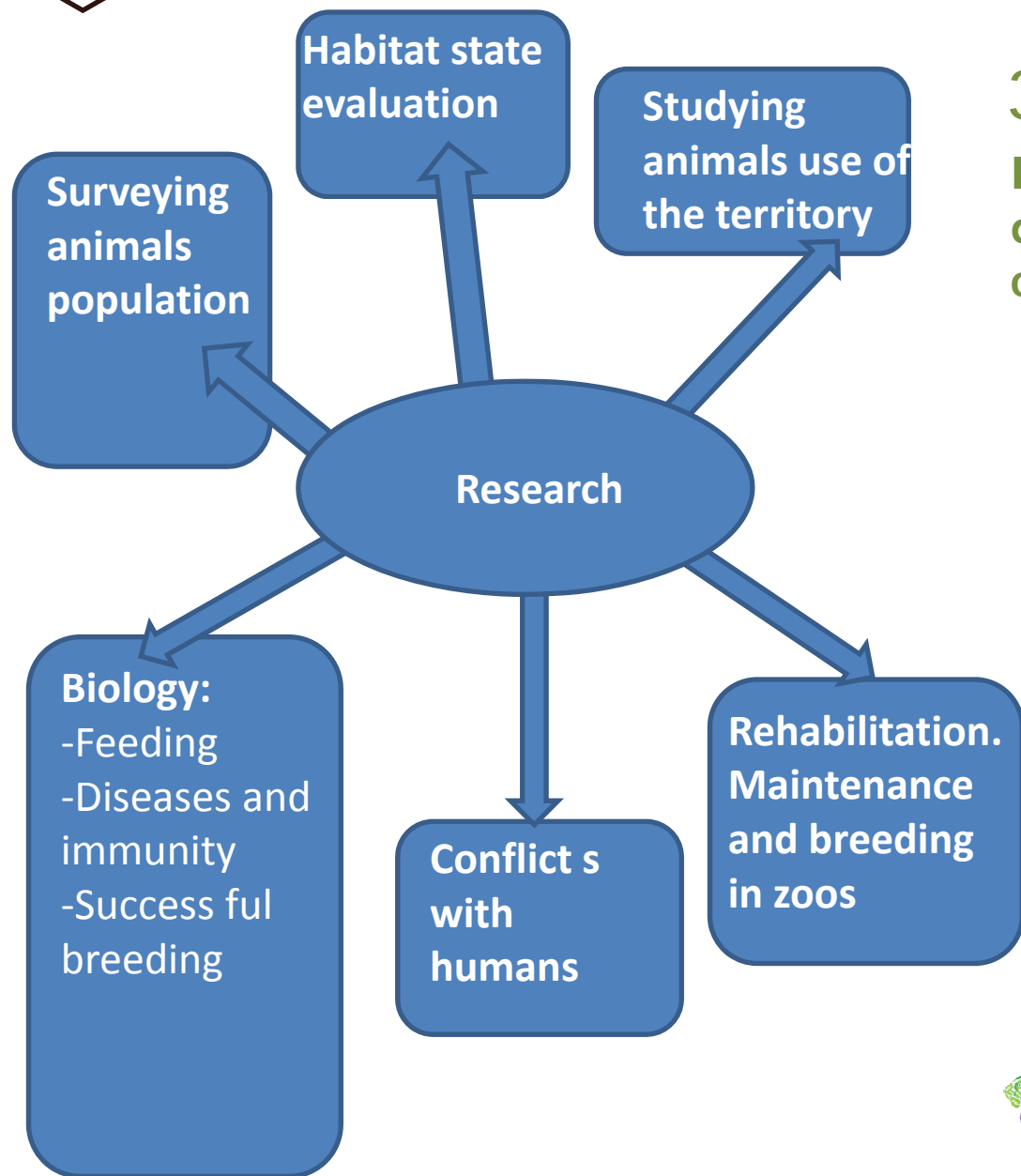
2016



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8 species of cats inhabit Russian Federation. Most of them live on the edge of the areal and listed in the Red Book of Russia.

- ❖ Tiger (*Panthera tigris*): **En IUCN, Red Book of RF**
- ❖ Leopard (*Panthera pardus*): **Vu IUCN, Red Book of RF**
- ❖ Snow leopard (*Panthera (Uncia) uncia*): **En IUCN, Red Book of RF**
- ❖ Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*): **LC IUCN**
- ❖ Pallas's cat (*Otocolobus manul*) **IUCN NT, Red Book of RF**
- ❖ Amur Leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis euptilurus*)
- ❖ European wild cat (*Felis silvestris caucasica*) **Red Book of RF**
- ❖ Common jungle cat (*Felis chaus chaus*) **Red Book of RF**



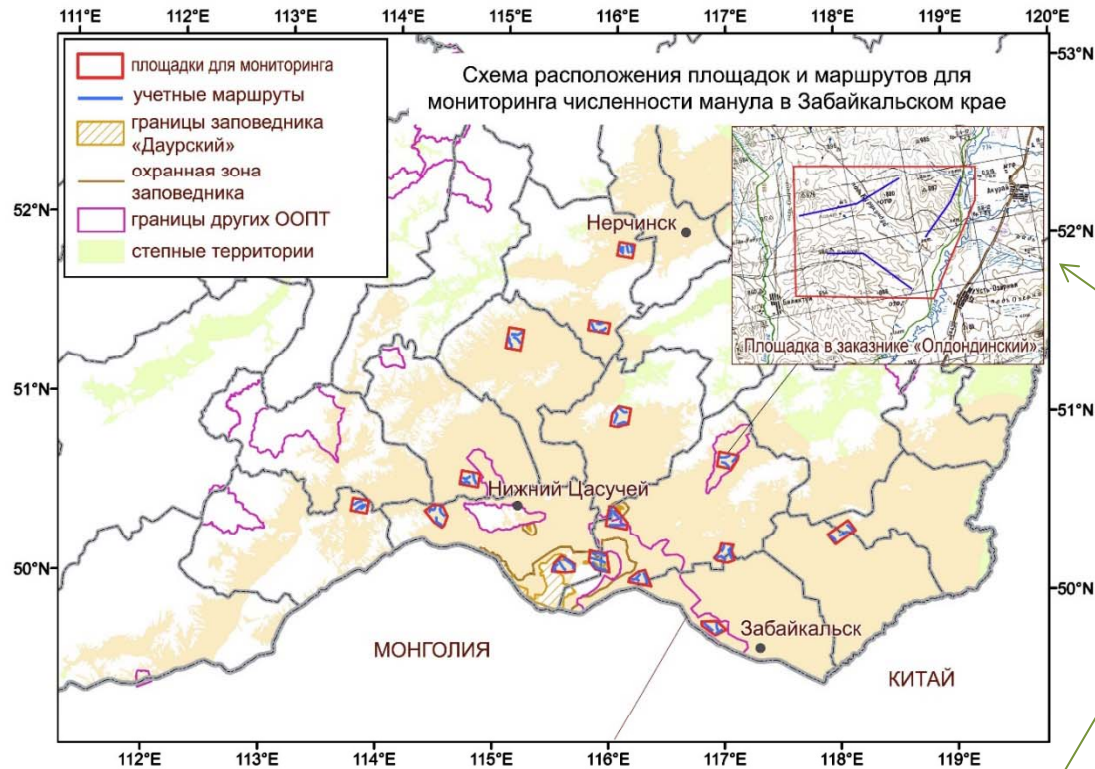
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Rare cats' research aims to develop effective conservation measures

Main research areas can be combined into three groups:

- ❖ species biology and ecology research;
- ❖ habitat evaluation;
- ❖ reintroduction, rehabilitation, captive keeping and breeding





4 Accounting methods:

- ❖ Snow-track surveys
- ❖ Camera trapping
- ❖ Interviews with local people





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Home range

Use of transmitters:

Tiger

Home range size (female) is 887 km^2 (average 515) (Rozhnov et al., 2011; Hernandez-Blanco et al., 2015)

Manul

Home range size of females is $6,0 \pm 3,4 \text{ km}^2$; male home range size is $22,9 \pm 12,9 \text{ km}^2$ (95%, Kernel method)

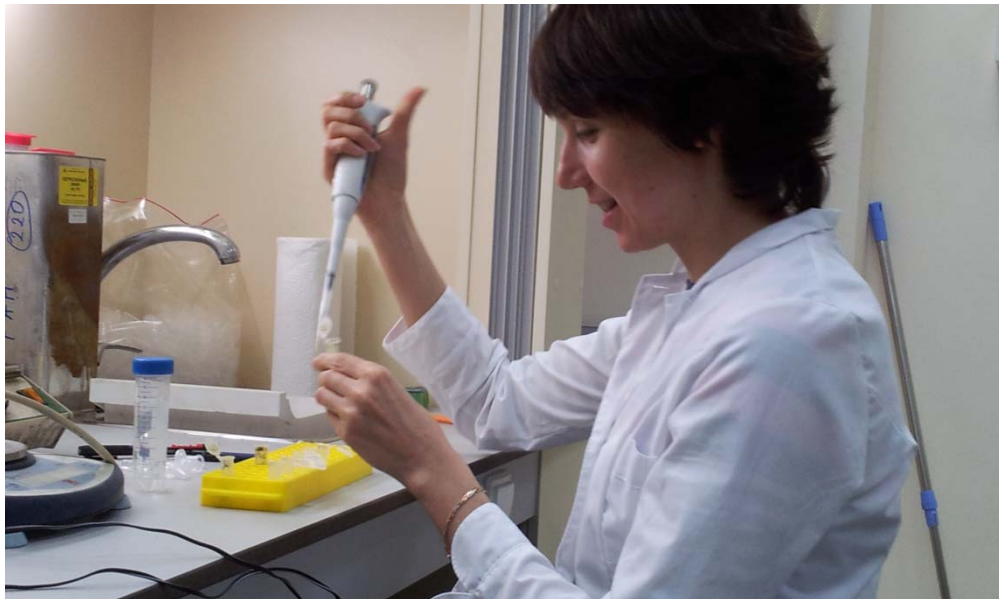
Leopard

Home range size of females is 80-150 km^2

- Studying the diurnal variation (winter use of territory)



Excrements collection



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Biology:

- Feeding
- Diseases and immunity
- Genetic analysis
- Successfull breeding

Using different research methods and materials





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Disease

Tiger, leopard:
CDV (*Canine distemper virus*)

The disease could cause 1% mortality in tiger population (Seimon et al., 2013).

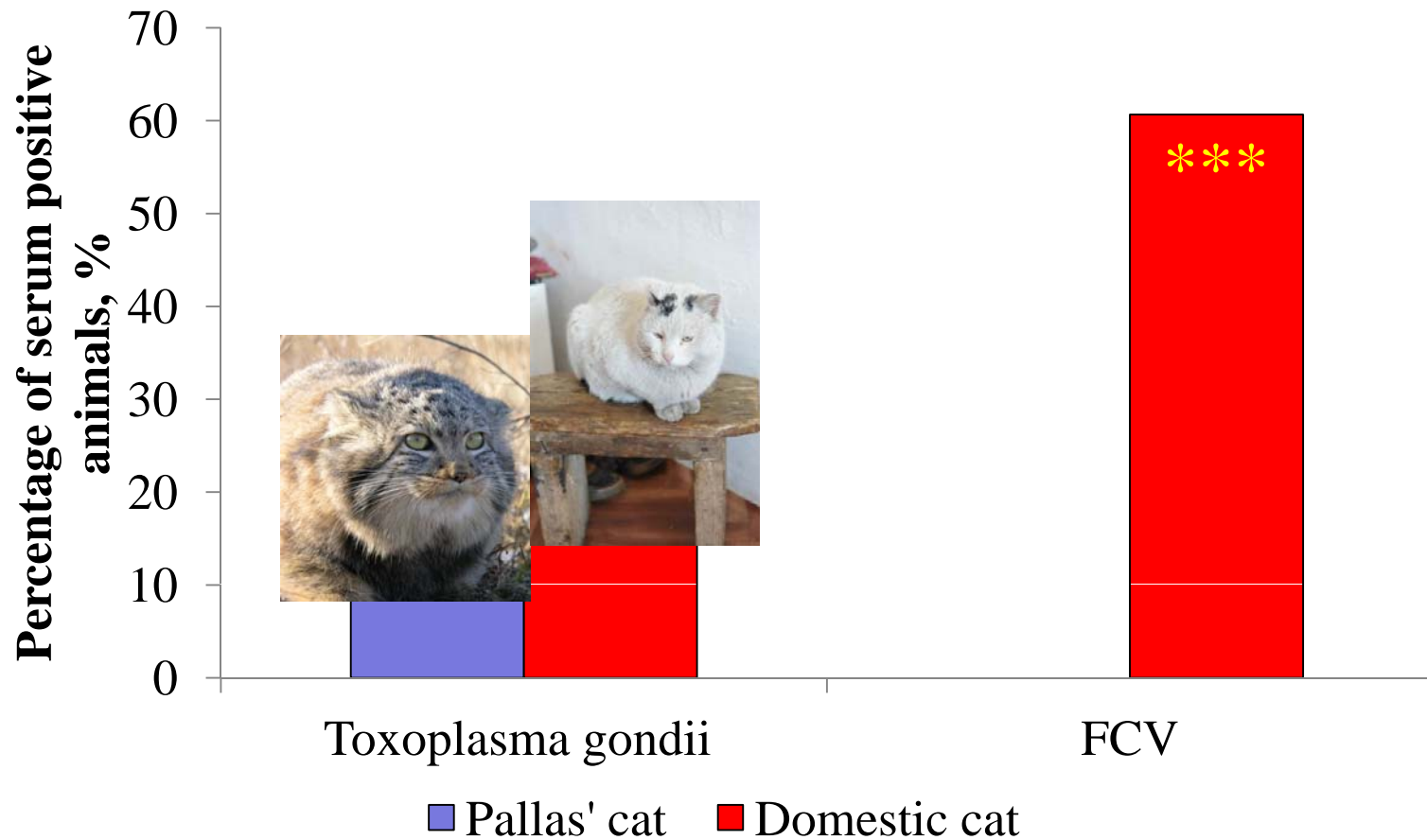
About 15-19% of tigers have antibodies to CDV (Goodrich et al., 2012; Naidenko et al., 2012).



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Disease

Serum prevalence in two cat species



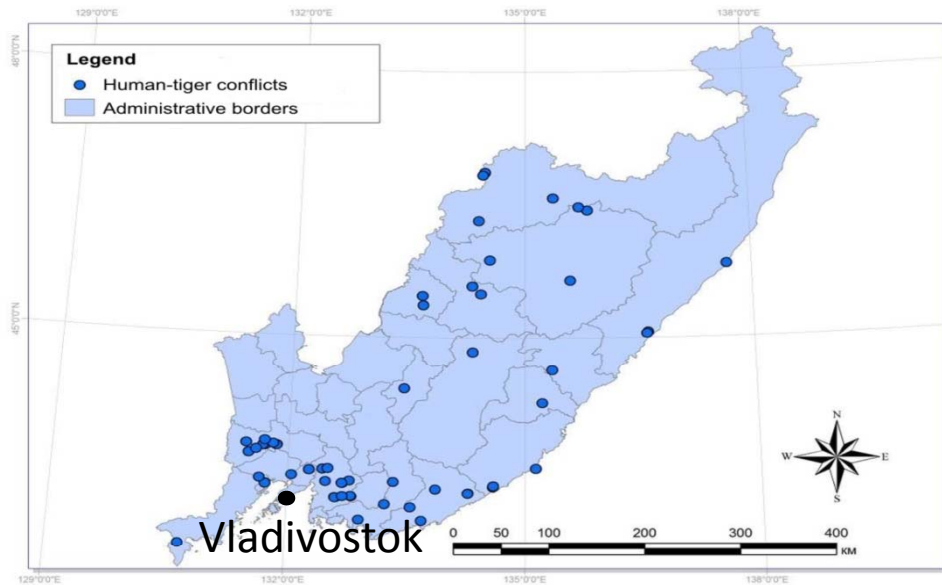


9 Rehabilitation ,
Reintroduction
Breeding in zoos

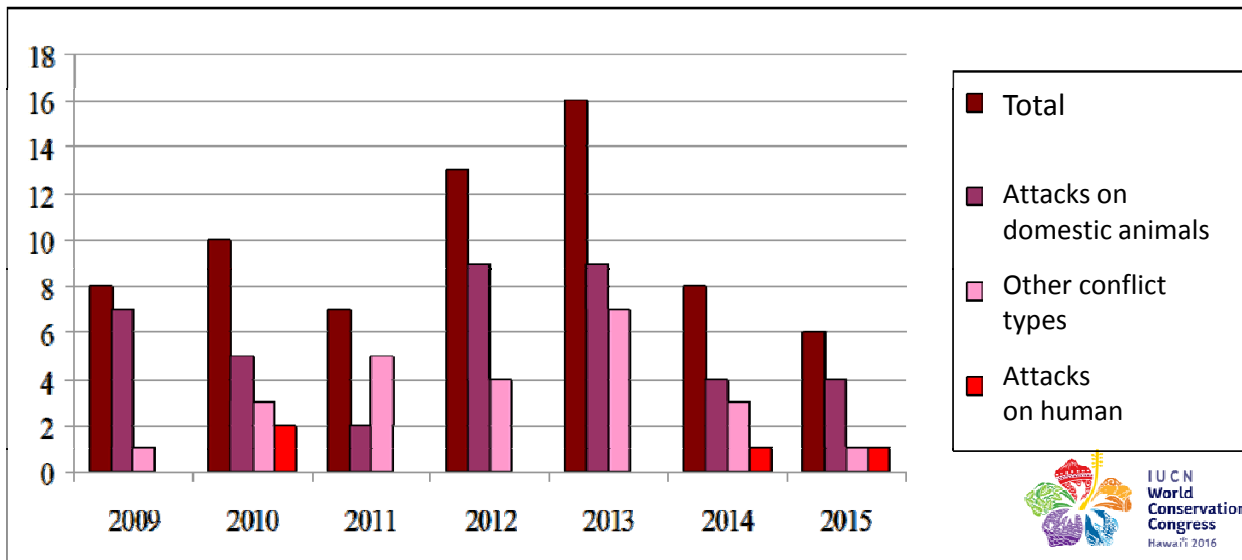
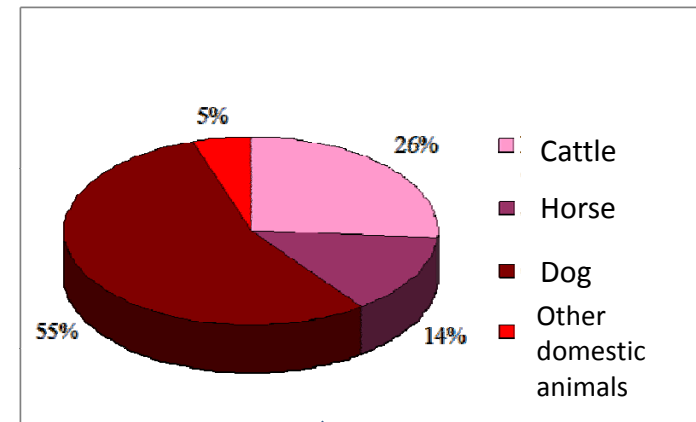
“Cinderella” story



Young
manuls
In Moscow
zoo

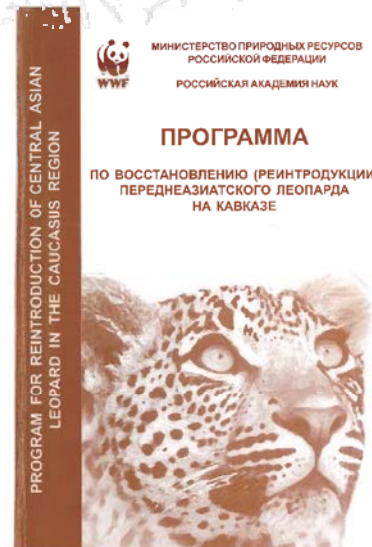
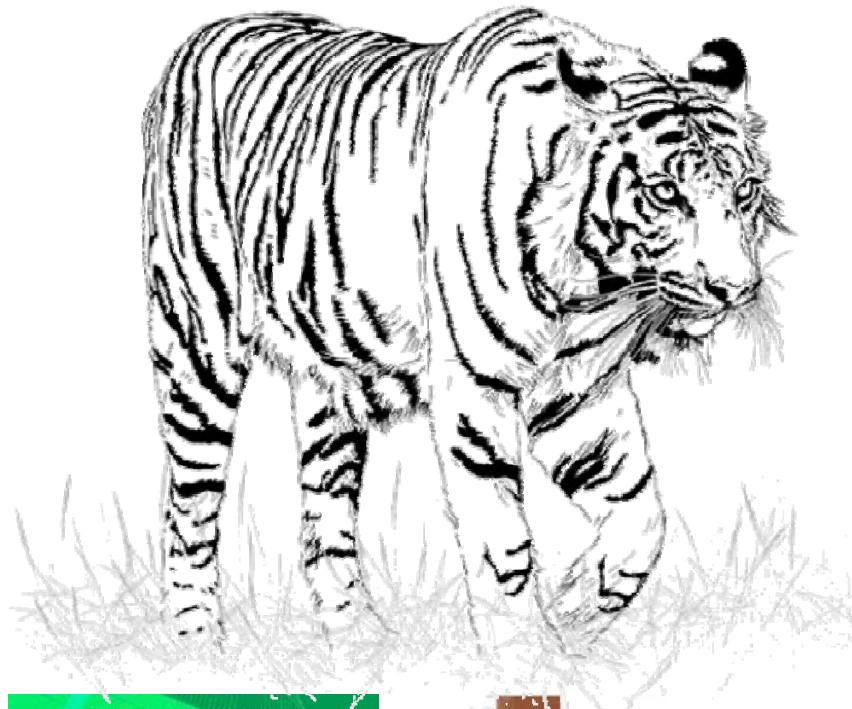


10 Human-tiger conflicts



Tiger attacks on domestic animals

Human – tiger conflicts
In 2009 – 2015 years 68 cases were registered



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Official documents for rare cats

Over the last 10 years, some important documents aimed at conservation of rare species of cats, have been adopted by the federal government.

Most research and activities in the area rare cats conservation are being conducted in Nature Protected Areas or with participation of PAs specialists.

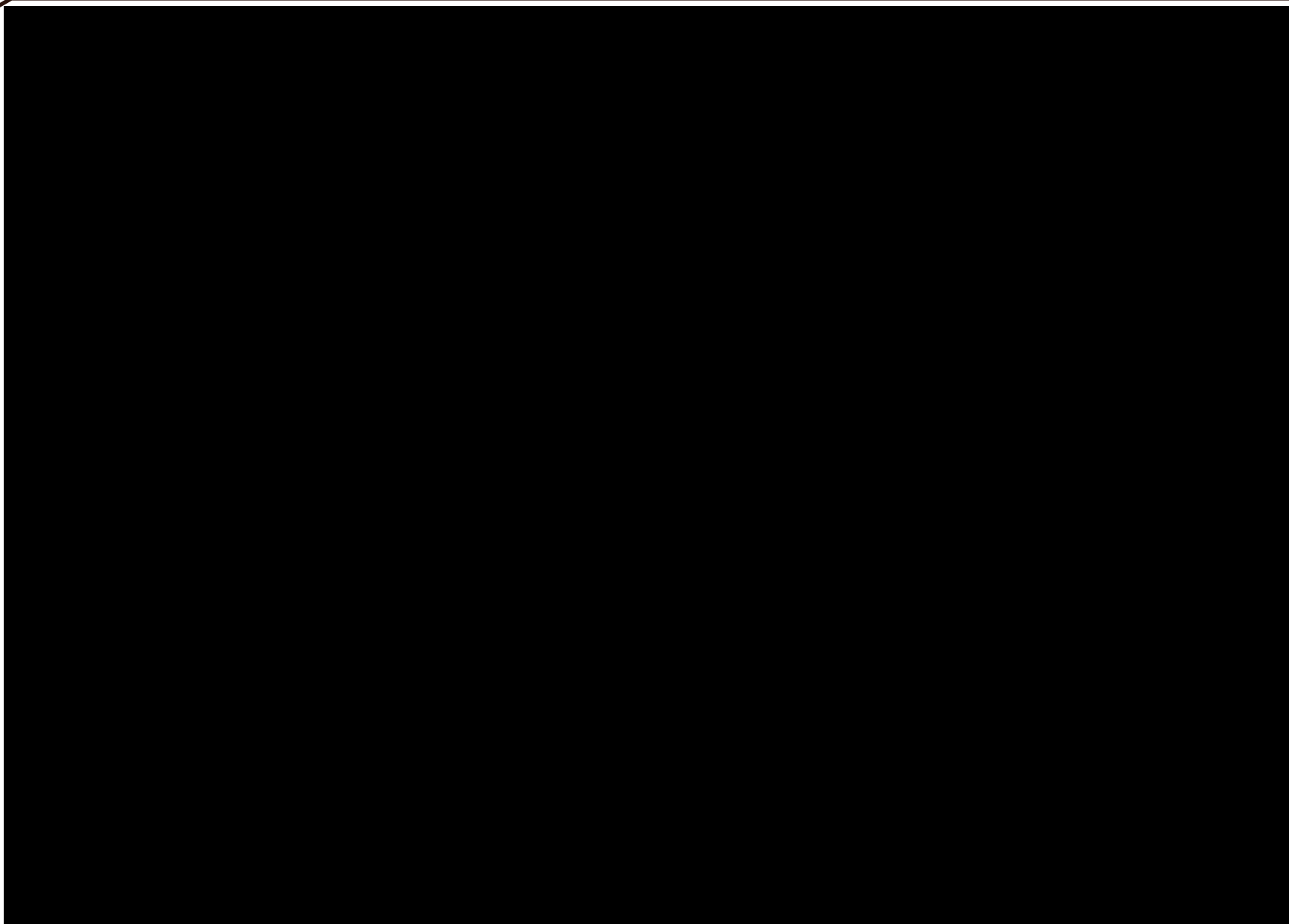
A great contribution to the study of cats in Russia: Severtsev Institute of RAS, WCS, WWF, Institute of Biology and Soil Far East Branch of RAS







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MANUL day celebration



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