Population status of Black-throated Diver in Finland

Jukka Virtanen¹ and Pekka J. Lehtonen²

¹Laani 10 A 35, 40100 Jyväskylä, Finland; juggav@hotmail.com ²Toppelundintie 5 F 33, 02170 Espoo, Finland; pelehtonen@gmail.com

The Black-throated Diver (BTD) was BirdLife Finland's bird of the year 2010. Estimates of the BTD population were asked from the local bird associations. Furthermore, all the freshest calculation results available were collected. In the examination the country was divided into three areas: 1) Main lake region, 2) Other Southern Finland and 3) Northern Finland.

According to the pair estimates given by the associations about 9 900 pairs were obtained in the whole country. By emphasising the calculation results of big lakes and the calculation results of well examined small lakes, an estimation of 12 000 -13 000 pairs was obtained. Among the pairs there could be at least 10 000 nesting pairs. The information is scant from the view of Northern Finland.

In the main lake region the population in big lakes which were comprehensive calculated, has increased by at least 76 % in 15 years and that of the whole country has doubled at most in 25 years. Factors which have affected on growth of population of the BTDs are unclear.