

Symposium 11 Forest management and conservation of Galliformes

Introduction

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Many species of Galliformes live in forested habitats. As mainly ground-feeding and -nesting species of some size, they are unusually sensitive to understory fragmentation and habitat fragmentation from timber harvesting, as well as hunting. There is a long tradition of research on these species in China; and this symposium reviews some of what is known, both from there and elsewhere, about the ecological requirements of Galliformes in forested habitats, many of which are under threat.

Further, the symposium illustrates how this knowledge has been used for conservation at various scales. In the case studies selected, the reliability of the knowledge base is assessed, gaps revealed, conservation actions identified and tested, and future research directions suggested. It begins with an assessment by Philip McGowan of the forest protected area network for the conservation of all phasianid species in east Asia, followed by Daniel Brooks

with an analysis of hotspots for cracid distribution in tropical America. At landscape level, Yue-Hua Sun and colleagues assess the effects of habitat fragmentation on the Chinese grouse as a basis for making recommendations for its conservation.

The final two papers were submitted as orals only. One, from John Carroll, reviewed approaches to the management of species and sites from the perspective of harvesting, using as examples the ring-necked pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*), bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus*) and wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*). The other, from Dai Bo and Simon Dowell, presented a study of habitat use by the endangered Sichuan partridge (*Arborophila rufipectus*) towards designing forest management policy that will enable the partridge to survive. Abstracts of these two papers are published in the Abstract Volume for the Congress.