Method of creating artificial nestings sites for the Far Eastern turtle *Pelodiscus maackii* (Brandt, 1857) (Reptilia, Testudines, Trionychidae) at high water levels of the Amur River

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Abstract: A method has been developed for making artificial nesting sites for the Far Eastern turtle in its breeding areas during the period of high water level in the Amur River. The Far Eastern turtle is listed in the Red Data Books of the Russian Federation and Khabarovsk region. Among the factors limiting natural reproduction are high and prolonged floods in the Amur River. Artificially created sites above the zone of coastal flooding by natural waters provide turtles with conditions for their successful reproduction. Our work on the creation of nesting sites was carried out in the summer periods of 2022–2024 on the right bank of the Khorinskaya channel in the lower Amur basin, where an increase in the numbers of turtles during the breeding season has been observed in recent years. The effectiveness of preserving offspring has proven to be high.
Keywords: *Pelodiscus maackii*, flood level, breeding success, artificial nesting sites, Lower Amur region

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