

Supplemental materials

Table S1. Model selection of the robust-design closed population models for the estimations of population sizes of Daurian pikas (*Ochotona dauurica*) in Inner Mongolia, China from May 2010 to October 2012. Letter K denotes the number of unknown parameters and w is the Akaike weight, Symbol $p(t,.)$ denotes the probability of initial capture, which was assumed to change over the primary sessions but remain constant within a secondary session; $\phi(t)$ the estimate of apparent survival; $c(t, .)$ the probability of recapture, which was assumed to change over the primary sessions but remained constant within a secondary session; γ' the probability of emigration; γ'' the probability of immigration; N population size; and t the time effect. Markov refers to random temporary emigration and Markov temporary emigration, respectively. Symbol AIC_c denotes the Akaike information criterion corrected for small population size and ΔAIC_c is the difference in AIC_c between a model and the best model. Deviance is 2 times negative log likelihood value of a model.

Model	AIC_c	ΔAIC_c	w	K	Deviance
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., t)=c(.,t)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.), \gamma''(.)$ }	1037.30	0.0	1.0	60	684.93
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., t)=c(.,t)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(t)$, $\gamma''(t)$ Markov}	1053.87	16.57	0.0	70	677.72
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., t)=c(.,t)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.)=\gamma''(.)$ }	1056.93	19.63	0.0	59	706.90
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., t)=c(., t)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.)=\gamma''(.)=0$ }	1073.55	36.25	0.0	58	725.85
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., t)=c(., t)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(t)=\gamma''(t)$ }	1087.45	50.15	0.0	85	674.38
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., .)$, $c(., .)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.), \gamma''(.)$ }	1097.20	59.90	0.0	59	747.17
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., .)=c(., .)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.), \gamma''(.)$ }	1103.83	66.53	0.0	58	756.13
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., .)$, $c(., .)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.)=\gamma''(.)=0$ }	1104.32	67.01	0.0	57	758.95
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., t)=c(., t)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(t)=\gamma''(t)$ }	1106.59	69.29	0.0	112	622.95
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., .)$, $c(., .)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.)=\gamma''(.)$ }	1106.65	69.34	0.0	58	758.95
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(t, .)=c(t,.)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(.), \gamma''(.)$ }	1117.80	80.49	0.0	85	704.73
{ $\phi(t)$, $p(., .)$, $c(., .)$, $N(t)$, $\gamma'(t)$, $\gamma''(t)$ Markov2}	1118.35	81.04	0.0	70	742.20

{ $\phi(t), p(\cdot, \cdot)=c(\cdot, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t)$ Markov2}	1120.77	83.47	0.0	68	749.43
{ $\phi(t), p(t, \cdot)=c(t, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t)$ Markov}	1126.91	89.60	0.0	92	696.07
{ $\phi(t), p(t, \cdot)=c(t, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(\cdot)=\gamma''(\cdot)$ }	1134.00	96.70	0.0	84	723.44
{ $\phi(t), p(\cdot, \cdot)=c(\cdot, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(\cdot)=\gamma''(\cdot)=0$ }	1135.87	98.56	0.0	56	792.82
{ $\phi(t), p(t, \cdot)=c(t, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(\cdot)=\gamma''(\cdot)=0$ }	1137.81	100.51	0.0	83	729.75
{ $\phi(t), p(\cdot, \cdot), c(\cdot, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t)=\gamma''(t)$ }	1145.37	108.06	0.0	84	734.81
{ $\phi(t), p(\cdot, \cdot)=c(\cdot, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t)=\gamma''(t)$ }	1148.26	110.96	0.0	83	740.20
{ $\phi(t), p(t, \cdot)=c(t, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t)=\gamma''(t)$ }	1167.35	130.04	0.0	110	689.13
{ $\phi(t), p(\cdot, \cdot)=c(\cdot, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t)$ }	1182.99	145.69	0.0	109	707.47
{ $\phi(t), p(\cdot, \cdot), c(\cdot, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t)$ }	1184.07	146.76	0.0	110	705.85
{ $\phi(t), p(t, \cdot)=c(t, \cdot), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t)$ }	1206.04	168.74	0.0	137	651.87