

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 |
| $\{\phi(t), p(., t)=c(., t), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t) \text{ Markov}\}$ | 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 |
| $\{\phi(t), p(., .), c(., .), N(t), \gamma'(t), \gamma''(t) \text{ Markov2}\}$ | 1118.35 | 81.04 | 0.0 | 70 | 742.20 |

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