

Project Update: September 2014

Our team fully concentrated on region Svaneti and Samegrelo, where current status of Tur was evaluated and direct counts conducted during the first summer. With assistance of local guides and hunters, areas for detailed studies were chosen and stratified. Direct observations were used to estimate Tur population numbers and to study their group structure. Standardised observations were conducted from observation points located 2 km from each other. From each of the observation points animals were counted on the opposite slopes of the gorge in the morning. During direct count binoculars and telescope was used. Unfortunately Tur groups do not occupy territory of Samegrelo. They were only found in Upper part of Svaneti and according to locals some small group are in lower part of Svaneti. According to findings of fieldworks GIS database and maps will be produced.