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Some zoogeographical characteristics of the birdfauna of the Julian Alps

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The birds of the Julian Alps are relatively well known but the picture of single species and their distribution will in fact be supplemented after completing the mapping of the Ornithological Atlas of Slovenia. The remaining parts of the Alps, the Savinjske Alpe and the Pohorje, have not undergone such detailed ornithological studies; published with reference to their ornithofauna were only shorter contributions and elaborates, respectively. Our survey therefore deals only with the Julian Alps and an adjacent area of the Karavanken Mountains.

The birds of the Julian Alps are considered with respect to single mountain zones, namely:

- I. Highland rocky zone and pastures
- II. Zone of larch forests and heather
- III. Zone of pine forests
- IV. Zone of mixed forests
- V. Lowland zone of thermophilic and degraded forests, shrubbery, fields, human settlements, swamps and streams.

Our survey of certain types of the birds of the Julian Alps are taken from Voos (1962).

Taken into account are only those bird species nesting there and whose nesting has been confirmed also after 1950. Of the 190 species of birds nesting in Slovenia (83 Nonpasseriformes, 170 Passeriformes), 113 species nest in the Julian Alps, 37 species (=44.6%) thereof Nonpasseriformes and 76 species (=71%) Passeriformes.

Most of the nesting species belong to the Palearctic type of the fauna (40.7%); they are followed by the European (15.0%), the European-Turkistan (10.6%), the Holarctic (9.7%) and the Palaeo-montane (7.1%) types. Other faunistic types are not represented so well, among them the faunal type of the Old World (5.3%), the Siberian-Canadian type (2.6%), the Siberian type (1.8%), the Indo-African type (1.8%), the Palaeo-xeromontane type (1.8%), the cosmopolitan type (0.9%), the arctic type (0.9%) and the mediterranean type (0.9%).