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We developed the procedure of noninvasive individual identification of the Amur tigers by molecular genetic methods. Using this technique, relationships in groups of tigers in the Russian Far East was defined. We identified 63 different animals as a result of genotyping 240 feces, 7 hair and 10 blood samples collected within southern Sikhote-Alin (Ussurisky Reserve), northern Sikhote-Alin (Khabarovskiy Krai) and Southwest Primorye. Analysis of nuclear DNA at 9 microsatellite loci has demonstrated genetic similarity of animals from the Ussurisky Reserve and Khabarovskiy Krai, and their difference in comparison to the animals in Southwest Primorye. Genetic differentiation between the Sikhote-Alin and Southwest Primorye populations was not very high (RST = 0.22; P < 0.05). Four individuals genetically associated with the Sikhote-Alin samples were geographically located within the Southwest Primorye population, with over 90% of their genotypes assigned to Sikhote-Alin. There were no animals that were genetically assigned to the Southwest Primorye that were sampled in Sikhote-Alin. Thus gene flow is conducted between these two populations mainly in one direction, from a large group to a small one. Genetic diversity of the population from Southwest Primorye is higher than that of the Sikhote-Alin population. According to our data the average observed heterozygosity for the Sikhote-Alin population is Ho=0.57±0.02, for the tigers from Southwest Primorye Ho=0.61±0.04. The average number of alleles per locus is 3.33±1.00 and 3.56±0.73 respectively. The research was supported by the Russian Geographic Society and the grant of the President of the Russia Federation № MK-4313.2014.4.

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Peccary Hunting Among Local People and Animal Management in the Peruvian Amazon

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The sustainability of hunting in the Amazonia forests can be evaluated through more intensive field research. This study clarifies the practice of peccary hunting and aspects of other animal resource use among the Indians in the Peruvian Amazon from the perspective of ecological anthropology. Peccaries of two types—collared and white-lipped, deer, tapir, monkeys, tortoises, agouti etc., have been hunted by 15 local hunters using shotguns in the study area. Peccary hunting is the most important activity for village livelihood because of commercial hunting for meats and skins. Capybara and deer hides were also sold if the animals are taken during hunting with shotguns. Peccary meat is reportedly consumed by local people and is sold. Hunting is conducted mainly