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Abstracts
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Rodent fauna from Early Holocene deposits of rock shelter Svetliy in a valley of Serga River (the Middle Ural)

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Rock shelter Svetliy (5.7 m broad and 1.6-2.0 m deep) is situated at the right bank of Serga river (56°32' N, 59°16' E, the Middle Ural). It consists of sediments divided into five strata (Volkov et al., 2007).

Rodent bones and teeth were found within all strata, being the most abundant in the fourth layer. The latter was represented by brown loam with rubbles. Total number of rodent teeth which we found in this stratum is 1040 with about 30% of them belonging to narrow-skulled vole (*Microtus gregalis*). Species-subdominants are *M. oeconomus* (about 20% of remains) and *M. agrestis* (about 10%). Fauna of rodents from the fourth layer includes 14 species - *Sciurus vulgaris*, *Sicista sp.*, *Apodemus cf. sylvaticus*, *Cricetulus migratorius*, *Cricetus cricetus*, *Eolagurus luteus*, *Lagurus lagurus*, *Myodes rufocanus*, *M. ex gr. rutilus-glareolus*, *Dicrostonyx sp.*, *Arvicola amphibius*, *M. agrestis*, *M. gregalis*, *M. oeconomus*.

Radiocarbon dating for this strata has not been done yet. However, species composition and population structure of rodent community of the fourth layer show that it was deposited during the Early Holocene (about 8-9 thousand years ago).

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