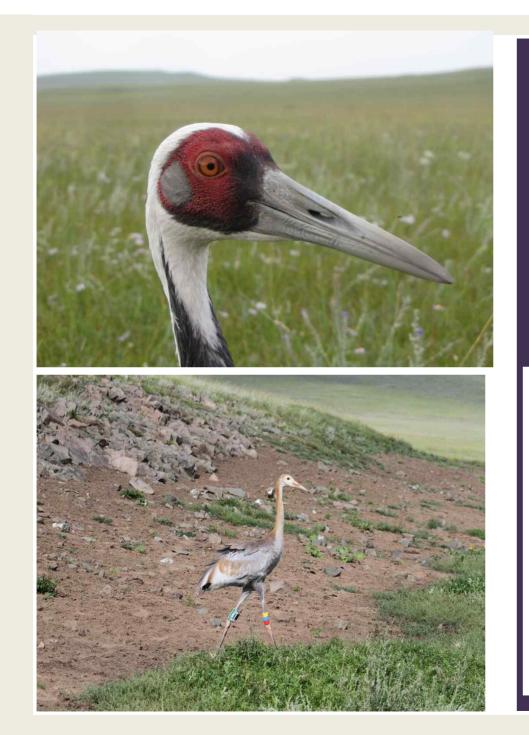


#### STATE INSPECTION AGENCY

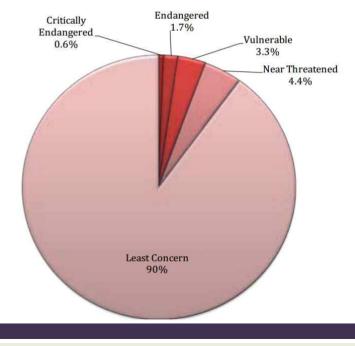
#### **CONSERVATION OF CRANE HABITAT IN MONGOLIA**

J.Badamkhand Senior inspector in charge of wildlife, General Agency for Specialized Inspection

10-11 October 2013, Incheon, Republic of Korea



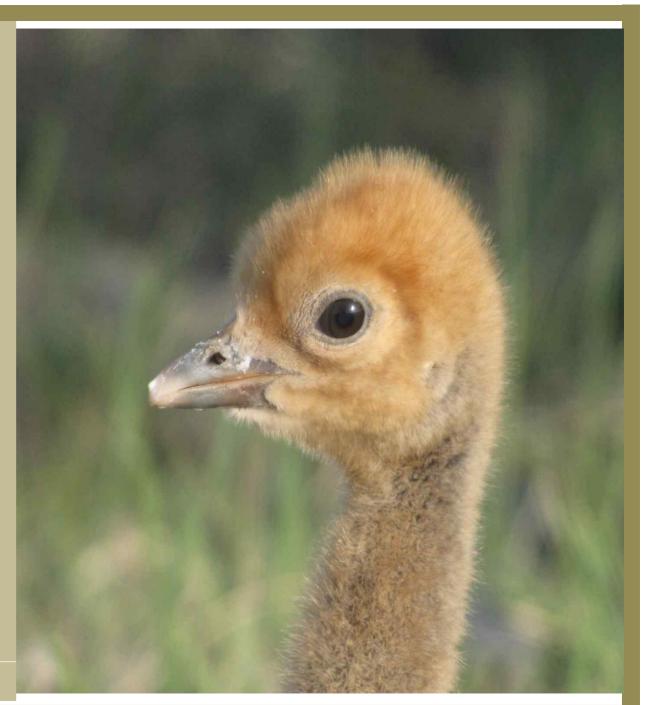
10% - regionally threatened
0.6% - critically endangered
1.7% - endangered
3.3% - vulnerable
4,4% - near threatened
90% -Least concern



#### **Cranes in Mongolia**

Mongolia plays an important role for many species of common, rare and endangered cranes such as

> White-naped Crane (*Grus vipio*) Hooded Crane (*Grus monacha*) Siberian Crane (*Grus leucogeranus*) Japanese Crane (*Grus japonensis*) Common crane (*Grus grus*) Demoiselle crane (*Anthropoides virgo*)





#### Status in Mongolia:

Migratory, transit, and very rare.

Listed Vulnerable



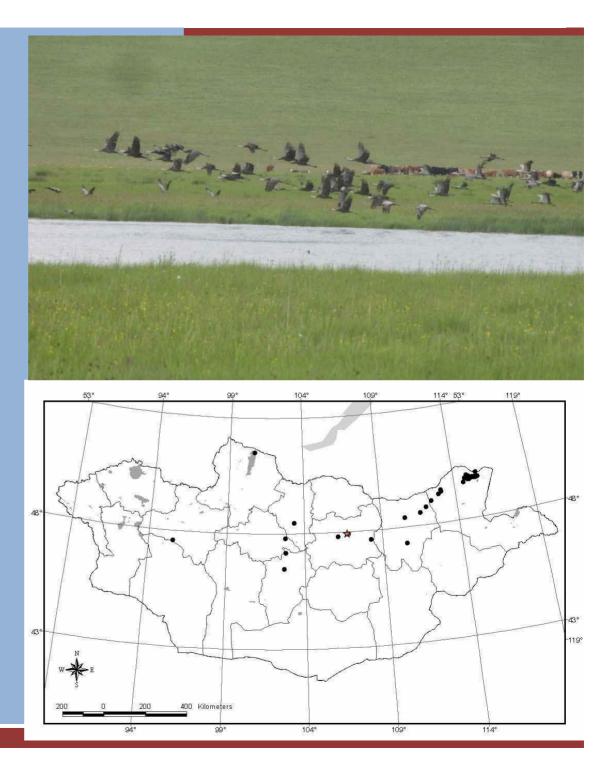
#### **HOODED CRANE**

**Population:** There were about 700 hooded cranes in Ulz river valley and in the crop fields near the Mongol Daguur SPA in 1990 and 1991, 107 in 1992, 500 in 1994, 51 in 1995, 30-35 in 1998, and 32 in 2004.

Recent years, population declined and around 30-100 hooded cranes pass through Mongolia. Crop fields are no longer exist, so cranes changed their locations in eastern Mongolia.

# Hooded crane records in Mongolia

Distribution: Onon, Ulz, Kherlen, Tuul, Orkhon and Selenge river valleys. In the lakes with reeds and high grasses bank of river and swamps, and crop fields in Mongolia. Migratory sites Mongol Daguur, Ugtam, and Onon-Balj are protected as National Park and Nature Reserve. Main sites are included in the NEACN.





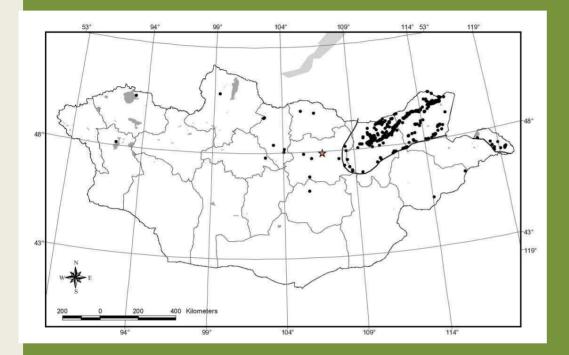
#### Status in Mongolia: Breeding, migrating and rare.

White-naped Crane

**Population:** 40% of the world population breed in Mongolia.

There are about 1200 individuals in Mongolia. Number of breeding pairs is 400-500 which is 70% of global population.

#### White-naped crane records in Mongolia

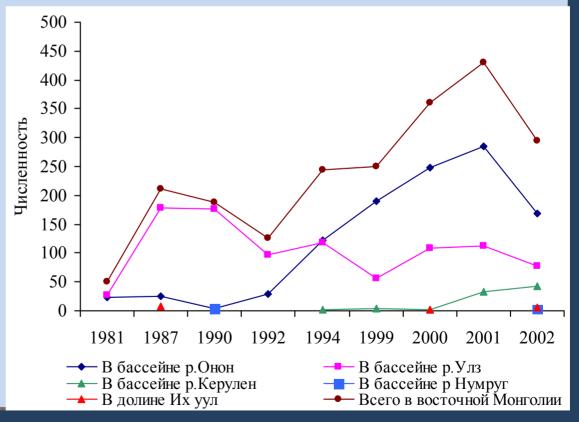


**Distribution**: Onon, Ulz, Kherlen, Khalkh, and Tuul river valleys in eastern Mongolia. Recent years white-naped cranes seen, and few pairs started breeding in Tuul, Orkhon, Eg river valleys, and Ogii, Bayan, Olon lakes in central Mongolia.

Breeding sites such as Numrug, Mongol Daguur, Onon-Balj, Khan Khentii, Ugtam, and Khustai are Protected Areas. Khurkh-Khuiten valley, Ulz, Ogii, Buir, Ganga lakes are Ramsar sites and in NEACN.





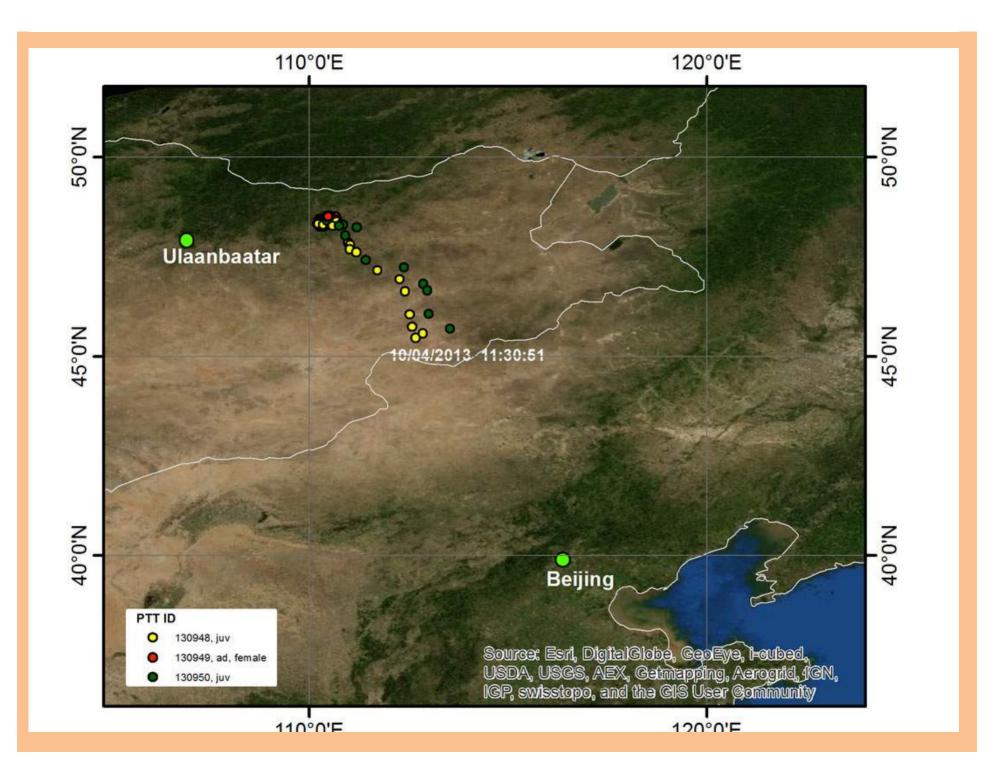














Population trend of Whitenaped crane in eastern Mongolia

#### **Climate changes:**

As a result of consecutive years drought, many lakes and rivers in the steppe region that are mainly fed by rainfall have been dried out.

Because of this, the number of white-naped cranes observed in Ulz river basin decreased and there is apparent increase in Onon river basin.

Possible that cranes from Ulz river basin shifted to Onon river basin.



#### **International Cooperation**

International protected areas administration and specialists. Mongolian Mongol Daguur and Onon Balj strictly protected areas specialist working together with Russian Daurian and Sohondiinskii national park, and Chinese Dalai Lake SPA colleagues, to develop relationship visiting each other to change experience and information.

Key sites are included in the Partneship for East Asian-Australasian Flyways key sites network Started new conservation activities with ICF on white-naped cranes

### Conservation of white-naped cranes



- In 2012, we produced calendar and stickers in local and English language and distributed to people living in important conservation sites
- Organized educational activities engaging local kids and protected areas administrations
- Visited northeast Mongolia with ICF group and counted breeding cranes



#### **Conservation needs**

# Strengthen public awareness

Increase awareness of importance of sharing wetlands with wildlife

## Increase international cooperation

Improve information exchange with crane experts in NE Asia

#### Strengthen surveys on cranes and wetland habitats

Establish long term population monitoring program at key sites



#### Securing critical breeding and staging grounds for cranes

Sites such as Khurkh and Khuiten River Valleys which are a Ramsar and IBA site but not which are not protected area. We would like submit a proposal to the government enlist as protected area. Financial support from NEASPEC will be timely important.

Start a detailed habitat study at Khurkh and Khuiten River Valley

#### Monitor breeding populations of white-naped and demoiselle cranes

Increase the banding effort next year and also working on collecting efficient ways to collect resightings from China and Korea.

Start a two years project to study demoiselle crane breeding and habitat selection using same the site where white-naped crane project is implemented. This site could be used as a training site for young researchers from neighboring countries, depending on funding level.

### Determine migratory behavior, connectivity, stopover sites, and identify threats related to migration

Source satellite PTTs for demoiselle cranes and potential donors

#### Increase awareness of wetlands and cranes among public

Plan to make brochures in Mongolian, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and English (+ Japanese). It could be supported and organized through NEASPEC.

An educational web page for crane migration has been suggested and ICF offered to post on the Global Crane News of their ICF website, but the activities will be initiated until we see the final results of white-naped crane migration from Mongolia.

We are planning to organize a crane festival at Khurkh River Valley. ICF is supporting it and will help us to organize the event in June 2013. Financial and organizational support from NEASPEC will be timely important.

#### Increase international cooperation

Exchange color banding information with crane experts in China, Korea, Russia, and Japan.

### Thank you for your attention!

