

Meeting Report: Workshop for the Establishment of the Big Cats Network and Transboundary Conservation of Amur Tiger, Amur Leopard, and Snow Leopard in North-East Asia

21-22 May 2026

Land of Leopard National Park (Barabash), Primorsky Krai, Russian Federation

Executive Summary

The Workshop for the Establishment of the Big Cats Network and Transboundary Conservation of Amur Tiger, Amur Leopard, and Snow Leopard in North-East Asia was held on 21-22 May 2026 in Land of Leopard National Park, Primorsky Krai, the Russian Federation, attended by 20 participants on-site and 2 participants virtually.

Building on the results and recommendations of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) Workshop on Nature Conservation in 2024, this workshop provided updates on the status of conservation efforts for the flagship feline species of NEASPEC. In response to the recommendations made at the NEASPEC Workshop in 2024, this workshop also aimed to review the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of a North-East Asian Big Cat Network, envisioned as a more structured transboundary mechanism to facilitate more effective communications and data-sharing among experts, and to provide a platform for further working-level collaboration on transboundary ecological connectivity and big cat conservation in North-East Asia.

The workshop reviewed past and current conservation efforts and held in-depth discussions focusing on each flagship feline species. These discussions resulted in a set of recommendations that also fueled the review of the TOR of the proposed Big Cat Network. In addition, the researchers from the Land of Leopard National Park shared specific practices in their transboundary conservation of the Amur Leopard in collaboration with the Northeastern China Tiger and Leopard National Park and showcased important preliminary findings in their joint census. These experiences and findings further supported the necessity of international cooperation in transboundary big cat conservation.

Key Outcomes

Overview

The review of past NEASPEC projects, as well as other past and ongoing conservation efforts in the subregion revealed both successes and areas for improvement. Participants acknowledged the important role of international cooperation in big cat conservation and stressed the need to further strengthen transboundary cooperation for big cats, with the focus on aligning data and methodologies across habitat ranges and on using technologies including camera traps and machine learning for population monitoring.

Looking ahead, NEASPEC will move forward with the North-East Asian Big Cat Network to promote regular communication and timely information sharing among participating countries through the development

of data-sharing instruments, such as a knowledge-sharing platform, to enable the cross-border exchange of population data and the dissemination of advanced monitoring techniques. The platform will represent an important tool for member States and experts to share accessible knowledge and data for transboundary conservation cooperation and dialogues in a trust-enabling environment.

NEASPEC will also continue to support capacity building programmes through the Big Cat Network aiming at equipping young conservationists and frontline staff with advanced skills and knowledge, and awareness-raising programmes that engage the local communities as well as other affected stakeholders. The Network will aim to enhance the coordinated conservation efforts for the target feline species in the subregion, and contribute to biodiversity goals across the national, regional, and global levels.

Key takeaways and discussion points on big cats include:

Amur Tiger and Leopard Conservation:

- Census updates:
 - The joint census of Amur Tiger and Leopard between China and the Russian Federation has yielded results that exceeded expectations, which will be published in July 2026 on the International Tigers Day.
 - There are over 750 Amur Tigers with over 500 adults identified in the Russian Federation, according to the 2021/22 Amur Tiger Census conducted in the entire range in the Russian Federation, according to the Amur Tiger Center.
 - Approximately 70% of the habitat range is currently under protection, while the survival rate has reached over 80% for both sexes in the latest reproduction monitoring.
- Conservation progress:
 - Data sharing and technology integration: Using camera trap monitoring networks and neural networks for habitat conservation and comprehensive monitoring; Joint cross-border monitoring network for the comprehensive conservation; Using AI-powered analysis to transform strategies of monitoring and conservation.
 - Capacity building: Training programmes focused on equipping young conservationists with modern techniques and knowledge for tiger conservation. Continued development of eco-tourism and local education activities to raise awareness and engage communities in conservation of Amur Tiger and Amur Leopard.
 - International Cooperation: Enhancing transboundary cooperation along the nature corridors along Sino-Russian borders. Participation in global initiatives, for instance, Global Tiger Recovery Program.

Snow Leopard Conservation

- Monitoring and research:
 - Use of advanced monitoring techniques such as sign surveys, scatology, telemetry tracking, and camera traps to track snow leopard populations across habitat ranges in North-East Asia.
 - Genetic analysis of the snow leopard subpopulations revealed the degree of genetic differentiation, suggesting further strategies for metapopulation management in China.

- Human-wildlife conflict mitigation: Many experts shared mitigation measures in their respective sites, including wildlife insurance and compensation schemes, community-based conservation by engaging local volunteers, as well as public engagement and digital outreach practices.
- Capacity building and international cooperation:
 - Strengthening anti-poaching capacity by organizing training for rangers and establishing an anti-poaching network.
 - Further transboundary census between Mongolia and the Russian Federation, and a tri-national joint DNA and data repository for adaptive transboundary conservation and monitoring.

Knowledge-sharing platform

A key update shared by Dr. Anya Lim in the workshop was the conceptual development of the Knowledge-sharing platform, following the recommendations made in the Transboundary Conservation Workshop in 2024. Based on the stakeholder survey conducted, Dr. Lim identified common demands among the participants on the common taxonomy, enhanced expert network, and a data-exchange channel among NEASPEC member States to enable better-coordinated actions in monitoring the big cats species, whose habitats span across borders. By streamlining the sharing of data, research findings, and best practices in a trust-enabling environment on a voluntary basis, the platform would serve as a crucial tool in addressing conservation challenges, particularly those related to habitat fragmentation and degradation, climate change, and human-wildlife conflicts.

Based on the stakeholder survey conducted, workshop participants and Dr. Lim emphasized the importance of data security and tiered-accessibility in the knowledge-sharing platform to ensure sustainable and trust-enabling collaboration among experts and officials from NEASPEC member States. Moving forward with the development of the repository, the platform will be shaped to serve as a web-based tool organized through public and restricted interfaces with clear user guidance and communication materials in the short-term, while building trust and security for functions including condition-based GIS backend, secure dashboards, tiered raw-data access in later phases.

The Draft Terms of Reference of the Big Cat Network

Another crucial outcome of the workshop was the experts' reception of the proposed Big Cat Network as a response to the need for an enhanced expert-network to facilitate regional conservation efforts. During the workshop, participants reviewed and discussed the draft Terms of Reference of the Big Cat Network, focusing on facilitating information and experience exchange and capacity-building programmes to strengthen regional conservation efforts.

The objectives of the Network are to improve coordination among stakeholders, facilitate data sharing, and bridge the gap between research and policy implementation as a complementary transboundary mechanism. Balancing the need for data security and tiered access and the necessity of cooperation with various stakeholders were emphasized during the review of the organization structure of the network.

Aligning the Big Cat Network with global frameworks, such as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Convention on Migratory Species, and synergizing with existing international initiatives on big cat conservation, will ensure that the region's efforts contribute to international biodiversity goals.

Proceedings of the workshop

Opening Session

Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head of the ESCAP East and North-East Asia (ENEA) Office, opened the Workshop for the Establishment of the Big Cats Network and Transboundary Conservation of Amur Tiger, Amur Leopard, and Snow Leopard in North-East Asia, which brought together experts and key stakeholders for each target species in the range countries. Mr. Mesiano highlighted the importance of regional cooperation in addressing North-East Asia's shared environmental challenges and highlighted NEASPEC's role in fostering cross-border collaboration to protect key species, including Amur tigers, Amur Leopards, and Snow leopards. He also emphasized the ecosystem-based nature of flagship species conservation, and a nexus where science and diplomacy could synergize to address complex transboundary challenges.

Mr. Philipp Goverdovsky, Deputy Head of the Intergovernmental Commissions Division of the Department of International Cooperation in the Field of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, delivered a congratulatory remark on the importance of international cooperation and consistent expansion of protected areas in biodiversity conservation for the Russian Federation, linking the workshop's efforts to both domestic commitments and mutually beneficial international dialogues. He pointed out that the Russian Federation has systematically prioritized biodiversity through domestic and international efforts, with the total protected areas exceeding 243 million squared kilometers. He also shared the emerging federal emphasis on ecological wellbeing and eco-tourism, under which the big cat conservation has a high priority.

Mr. Victor Bardyuk, Director of Land of Leopard National Park, delivered a welcome remark with an introduction of the history of Land of Leopard National Park as well as the conservation success of Amur Leopard over the years in Land of Leopard National Park. He concluded his welcome remarks with a wish for the participants to have a productive discussion and a great experience during the workshop.

Session 1. Status Updates on Amur Tiger and Amur Leopard Conservation

Ms. She Wen from the Feline Research Center of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, and Northeast Forestry University, elaborated on the smart monitoring techniques applied in conservation of Amur Tiger and Amur Leopard that uses neural network and camera-trap grids to enhance individual recognition and to construct integrated habitat modelling, showing how China has incorporated the ecosystem-based approach in long-term big cat conservation.

Mr. Victor Bardyuk, Director of Land of Leopard National Park presented a technical overview of the Amur Leopard conservation progress in Land of Leopard National Park and shared insights into the international cooperation efforts for the conservation of Amur leopards and tigers in Russia, focusing on the Land of the Leopard National Park. He highlighted the critical role of transboundary protected areas, particularly those linking Russia and China, in safeguarding these endangered species.

Mr. Andrey Shorshin, Press Secretary, Autonomous Non-Commercial Organization «Centre for Research and Preservation of Amur Tiger Population» shared the outcome of the latest Amur Tiger census in the Russian Federation, highlighting the impact of international commitment on the expansion of protected area networks domestically in Russia as well as collaboration with international partners. He highlighted

the critical role of exiting transboundary protected areas, while emphasizing the need of further conservation of ecological corridors across borders.

Mr. Marcello Zorzi, Researcher, Far Eastern Leopards NGO, presented a novel management approach to big cat conservation. He pointed out that Amur Leopard and Tiger do not avoid direct territorial competition spatially but temporally, with the interval of which the monitoring network could transition to proactive monitoring and management of competition within the same ecosystem. He also emphasized the potential of AI-powered analysis in the proactive monitoring approach.

Session 2. Status Updates on Snow Leopard Conservation

Ms. Yixuan Liu, Head of Snow Leopard Program, Eco-Bridge Continental, provided a comprehensive review of current conservation strategies and progress of Snow Leopard in China, highlighting the shift in tracking methods as well as adaptive conservation strategies in response to latest DNA analysis across Snow Leopard subpopulations. She also emphasized the impact of various Human-Wildlife Conflict measures and public engagement in supporting conservation sustainably.

Ms. Daria Petrova, Director at the 'IRBIS' Snow Leopard Association, shared the results of the latest census of Snow Leopard in Russia, which is around 87 individuals, as well as the transboundary census of Argali, a key prey species for Snow Leopard, with the Mongolian counterparts. She presented the local implementations in mitigating human-wildlife conflict, while emphasizing the importance of transboundary cooperation as well as international partnerships with GSLEP, IBCA, and NEASPEC etc. She also mentioned the fruitful impact of consistent efforts in public engagement and digital outreach for Snow Leopard conservation in Russia.

Mr. Bariushaa Munkhtsog, Executive Director, Irbis Mongolia Center, and Mr. Bayaraa Munkhtsog, Senior researcher, Mammalian Ecology Laboratory of the Institute of Biology, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, shared the transition of monitoring technologies adopted in Snow Leopard conservation in Mongolia, and community engagement. He also highlighted the importance of international cooperation in progressing Snow Leopard conservation in Mongolia by sharing results of past projects with key conservation partners in Russia, China, NEASPEC, and the World Wildlife Fund.

Mr. Diinmei Balban-ool, Director of the Ubsunuur Hollows Nature Reserve, presented the latest Snow Leopard monitoring result around Ubsunuur Hollows for 2025-2026, and shared the upcoming joint survey with Mongolian counterparts as well as other activities under the Russia-Kyrgyzstan 2024-2026 program. He highlighted the main threats to Snow Leopard, including poaching and trap bycatch, decline of prey populations, and habitat fragmentation and degradation, while outlining the further need of transboundary cooperation on anti-poaching, continuous monitoring, and community engagement.

Session 3. Knowledge-Sharing Platform: Progress and Expert Advice

Dr. Jeong Eun (Any) Lim, Principal Researcher of the Mammal Research Team, National Institute of Ecology highlighted the importance of fostering trust while building the knowledge-sharing platform for knowledge and data exchange among conservation stakeholders. By taking lessons from international knowledge-sharing platforms, the platform aims to bridge gaps between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners by offering a centralized repository and creating a common taxonomy for scientific research, best practices, and case studies. She also identified barriers to knowledge sharing, such as cultural

differences, language issues, and technological constraints, and discussed strategies for overcoming these challenges in the architecture of the platform to improve conservation outcomes in North-East Asia.

Session 4. Toward a North-East Asia Big Cat Network: Review of Draft Terms of Reference

Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head of the ESCAP East and North-East Asia (ENEA) Office, led the review session, which centered on adapting the draft to best suit the experts' cooperation needs for transboundary conservation. The participants discussed the scope of geographical boundaries and target species, which would benefit from connecting with the range countries of Snow Leopard in Central Asia and whether to include prey species of the big cats. **Mr. Philipp Goverdovsky, Deputy Head of the Intergovernmental Commissions Division of the Department of International Cooperation in the Field of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection**, suggested an observer status be set under Membership of the Network to accommodate participation of all interested entities that are outside of the scope.

The review concluded with participants reaching consensus on the current draft. The Big Cat Network would enhance collaboration among scientists, policymakers, and local stakeholders, enabling the exchange of data and best practices. The discussion also highlighted the need to prioritize actions based on simple but common indicators, to engage other key stakeholders for effective conservation collaborations, and to coordinate with broader frameworks and initiatives to address emerging conservation challenges.

Side Event. International Conference on Transboundary Conservation of the Amur Leopard: Outcomes and Best Practices

Mr. Victor Bardyuk, Director of Land of Leopard National Park, opened the side event, which centered on the joint efforts of transboundary Amur Leopard conservation and census between China and the Russian Federation. Leaving the actual results to be shared in the upcoming International Tiger's Day, he was pleased to share that the census would exceed people's expectations.

Ms. Maria A. Okulova, Deputy Director for Environmental Education and International Cooperation, presented a brief history of cooperation between Land of Leopard National Park and China, highlighting the importance of the transboundary protected area and sequential data-sharing. She shared the impact of persistent environmental education both towards local communities and with international visitors as part of Amur Leopard conservation.

Ms. Dina Matiukhina, Senior Research Fellow, Land of the Leopard National Park, presented the conservation practices in Land of Leopard National Park, with both the methodology and techniques of camera trap monitoring of big cats in details, indicating the population recovery of Amur Tiger and Amur Leopard captured through comprehensive individual identification and monitoring. **Ms. Taisiia Marchenkova, Research Fellow, Land of the Leopard National Park**, opened her presentation by a brief recap of the first joint population assessment of Amur Leopard, as one of the NEASPEC's past projects. She shared the data exchange process between Land of Leopard National Park and Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park for the latest joint census, which could help them better understand the dispersal and other population dynamics within the transboundary Amur Leopard population.

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Concept Note

Workshop for the Establishment of the Big Cats Network and Transboundary Conservation of Amur Tiger, Amur Leopard, and Snow Leopard in North-East Asia

21 – 22 May 2026

Land of the Leopard National Park (Barabash), Russian Federation

1. Background

Big cats are keystone species across types of ecosystems, who regulate prey populations and thereby maintain the integrity of ecosystem structure and functions. As ecologically significant as they are, the abundance and population health of these species have been subject to anthropogenic threats including poaching, fragmentation or loss of habitat, prey competition with hunting, human-wildlife conflict, and other socio-environmental factors. Given their endangered status and their habitats in North-East Asia being mostly cross-border areas, the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) has been supporting conservation of big cats in North-East Asia since the 2000s, by identifying Amur tigers, Amur leopards and Snow leopards as NEASPEC flagship species¹.

For over a decade, NEASPEC has played a facilitating and coordinating role in a series of collaborative efforts among experts, research institutions, and governments of the range countries focusing on cross-border monitoring and conservation of the flagship feline species. In the mid-2010s, NEASPEC successfully facilitated field surveys and joint analysis of China and the Russian Federation on the number and behavioral patterns of Amur tigers and leopards crossing the national border, thereby enhancing knowledge of ecological connectivity across the border. In 2019, NEASPEC co-organized the International Forum on Tiger and Leopard Transboundary Conservation in Harbin, China. The “Harbin Consensus” produced in this forum has strengthened cross-border conservation, ecological corridors, and information-sharing mechanisms. From 2020 to 2022, the project “Transboundary Cooperation on the Conservation of Amur Tigers, Amur Leopards and Snow Leopards in North-East Asia” further promoted collaboration among key protected areas such as Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park and the Land of the Leopard National Park (LLNP) in the Russian Federation, alongside efforts in the Lesser Khingan Mountains and the transboundary Altai and Sayan regions. Concurrently, through hosting workshops and capacity-building events, NEASPEC has continued to collaborate with experts to review outcomes and guide future conservation directions for flagship feline species within the NEASPEC Nature Conservation Strategy.

Through decades of continuous and collaborative efforts in the subregion, substantial progress was made in the conservation of these endangered species. In 2024, the Amur Tiger was seen returning to reserves

¹ For more details, please see **Nature Conservation Strategy of NEASPEC** adopted in 2007, available at http://neaspec.org/sites/default/files/Publication_SavingNatureConservation_0.pdf

in the Changbai Mountain ranges after 30 years², while conservationists in LLNP observed the highest record of densities for Amur Leopards³. Snow Leopards' subpopulations monitored across the transboundary regions between the Russian Federation and Mongolia also appeared to be stable⁴.

While continuing efforts and collaborative progress have been made, common threats and interconnected conservation challenges remain. All three feline species face the challenges of fragmented habitats, low genetic diversity, and restricted gene flow within small and isolated populations. These conditions increase the risks of inbreeding and susceptibility to single catastrophic events, low prey density in their current habitats, which both impede population recovery and induce human-wildlife conflict as they search for livestock to feed^{5,6,7}. In addition, exposure to multi-host diseases (e.g., canine distemper virus and African swine fever) necessitates multi-faceted conservation efforts for Amur Tiger and Amur Leopard. For Snow Leopards, the impact of climate change further exacerbates their survival conditions, causing possible range shifts and further emphasizing the importance of habitat connectivity⁸.

Recognizing the interconnected challenges and needs for more effective transboundary conservation, the Workshop on the Establishment of the Big Cat Network and Transboundary Conservation of Amur Tiger, Amur Leopard, and Snow Leopard in North-East Asia will be held in Land of Leopard National Park, Vladivostok, the Russian Federation from May 21-22. The workshop aims to conduct a brief review of the big cat conservation outlook in North-East Asia and proposes to establish a Big Cat Network as a joint platform for monitoring and conserving the target feline species across range countries, in response to recommendations for a more structured transboundary mechanism including those made at the NEASPEC Workshop on Nature Conservation in 2024. The proposed network will serve to promote regular communication and timely information sharing among participating countries through the development of data-sharing instruments, such as a knowledge-sharing platform, to cross-border exchange of population data and the dissemination of advanced monitoring techniques. By supporting capacity building programmes that aim to equip young conservationists and frontline staff with advanced skills and knowledge, and awareness-raising programmes that engage the local communities as well as other affected stakeholders, the network aims to enhance the coordinated conservation efforts for the target

² <https://conservewildcats.org/2024/12/18/amur-tiger/>

³ <https://conservewildcats.org/2025/06/24/amur-leopard-density/>

⁴ 'Transboundary Cooperation for Conservation of Amur Tigers, Amur Leopards, and Snow leopards in North-East Asia', to be released soon in 2026.

⁵ Qi, J., Gu, J., Ning, Y., Miquelle, G., Holyoak, M., Wen, D., Liang, X., Liu, S., Roberts, N., Yang, E., Lang, J., Wang, F., Li, C., Liang, Z., Liu, P., Ren, Yi., Zhou, S., Zhang, M., Ma, J., Chang, J., Jiang, G. (2021). Integrated assessments call for establishing a sustainable meta-population of Amur tigers in northeast Asia, *Biological Conservation*, 261: 109250. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2021.109250>.

⁶ Cho S, Pandey P, Hyun JY, Marchenkova T, Vitkalova A, et al. (2022) Efficient and cost-effective non-invasive population monitoring as a method to assess the genetic diversity of the last remaining population of Amur leopard (*Panthera pardus orientalis*) in the Russia Far East. *PLOS ONE* 17(7): e0270217. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0270217>

⁷ Wang, D., Li, Q., Hou, L., Su, X., Lian, X. (2024). Spatiotemporal overlap among snow leopard, bharal, and free-ranging livestock: Suggestions on mitigating human-snow leopard conflict, *Global Ecology and Conservation*, 53, e03029. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2024.e03029>.

⁸ Zhang, Y., Dai, Y., Li, J., Cong, W., Zhang, Y., Nie, X., Wu, Q. and Xue, Y. (2025). Climate Change and Human Pressure: Assessing the Vulnerability of Snow Leopard (*Panthera uncia*) Habitat Integrated With Prey Distribution on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. *Ecol Evol*, 15: e71232. <https://withorg/10.1002/ece3.71232>

feline species in the subregion, and contribute to biodiversity goals across the national, regional, and global levels.

2. Objectives

- To review the current conservation status of Amur Tiger, Amur Leopard, and Snow Leopard in North-East Asia
- To discuss the proposed big cat network, including its objectives, core programmes, and organizational structures, as well as other matters
- To develop the modality of collaboration with relevant stakeholders
- To review the draft Terms of Reference for consideration of the 29th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM-29) in 2026

3. Venue

Land of the Leopard National Park, Primorsky Krai, Vladivostok, Russian Federation

4. Language

English

5. Programme

[Day 1] 21 May 2026	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:30	Opening • Opening remarks: Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office / NEASPEC • Congratulatory remarks: Mr. Philipp Govderdovsky, Deputy Head of the Intergovernmental Commissions Division of the Department of International Cooperation in the Field of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection • Welcome remarks: Mr. Victor V. Bardyuk, Director, Land of Leopard National Park Tour de Table Group Photos
09:30 - 10:30	Session 1. Status Updates on Amur Tiger and Amur Leopard Conservation Moderator: Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office / NEASPEC Presentations • Ms. She Wen, Feline Research Center of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration

	○ <i>Integrating Smart Monitoring for Amur Tiger and Leopard Conservation</i> • Mr. Andrey Shorshin, Press Secretary, Autonomous Non-Commercial Organization «Centre for Research and Preservation of Amur Tiger Population» ○ <i>A summary report on the Amur tiger population in Russia, transboundary groups, and areas of mutual exchange of individuals</i> • Mr. Victor V. Bardyuk, Director, Land of the Leopard National Park ○ <i>Status update on Amur Leopard Conservation</i> • Mr. Marcello Zorzi, Researcher, Far Eastern Leopards NGO ○ <i>Implementation of the program for the conservation and restoration of the Far Eastern leopard population for 2026-2030</i>
10:30 – 10:50	Break time
10:50 – 12:00	Session 2. Status Updates on Snow Leopard Conservation Moderator: Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office / NEASPEC Presentations • Ms. Liu Yixuan, Head of Snow Leopard Program, Eco-Bridge Continental ○ <i>Progress on snow leopard research and conservation practice in China</i> • Mr. Bariushaa Munkhtsog, Executive Director, Irbis Mongolia Center, and Mr. Bayaraa Munkhtsog, Senior Researcher, Mammalian Ecology Laboratory of the Institute of Biology, Mongolian Academy of Sciences ○ <i>Current status and results of monitoring of the snow leopard population in Mongolia</i> • Ms. Daria Petrova, Director, Interregional Association “Center for the Study and Conservation of the snow leopard “Irbis” ○ <i>Current status and results of monitoring of the snow leopard (irbis) population in the Russian Federation</i> • Mr. Diinmey Balban-ool, Director, Ubsunuur Hollows Nature Reserve ○ <i>Current status and results of monitoring of the snow leopard (irbis) population in the Russian Federation</i>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:30	Session 3. Knowledge-Sharing Platform: Progress and Expert Advice • Led by Ms. Jeung Eun (Anyu) Lim, Principal Researcher of the Mammal Research Team, National Institute of Ecology
14:30 – 14:50	Break time

14:50 – 15:50	Session 4. Toward a North-East Asia Big Cat Network: Review of Draft Terms of Reference • Led by Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office / NEASPEC
15:50 – 16:10	Break time
16:10 – 17:30	Session 4. Toward a North-East Asia Big Cat Network: Review of Draft Terms of Reference (Continued) • Led by Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office / NEASPEC Closing
18:30	Dinner
[Day 2] 22 May 2026	
9:00 – 10:00	[Side event] International Conference on Transboundary Conservation of the Amur Leopard: Outcomes and Best Practices Moderator: Mr. Victor V. Bardyuk, Director, Land of the Leopard National Park Presentations • Ms. Maria A. Okulova, Deputy Director for Environmental Education and International Cooperation ◦ <i>Building a Transboundary Partnership: The History of Cooperation between Land of the Leopard and China</i> • Ms. Dina Matiukhina, Senior Research Fellow, Land of the Leopard National Park ◦ <i>Methods of Endangered Big Cats camera trap monitoring in the Land of the Leopard</i> • Ms. Taisiia Marchenkova, Research Fellow, Land of the Leopard National Park ◦ <i>Amur leopard and Amur tiger monitoring in Transboundary region</i>
10:00 – 15:30	Site Visit to Land of the Leopard National Park

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