
From: Ecology Mon [mailto:mon_biosphere@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 4:38 AM
To: sln-members@lists.snowleopardnetwork.org

Dear friends

Nice to contact you again

In accordance with order of the Ministry of Nature and Tourism, zoologists of our association have made surveys in three ways such as reasons why snow leopards attack domestic animals, "Snow leopard" trial operation to count them and illegal hunting in territories of Khovd, Gobi-Altai, Bayankhongor, Uvurkhangai and Umnugobi provinces from September 2009 to January 2010. As result of these surveys it has made the following conclusions in the followings:

Reason to hunt them illegally: the principal reason is that administrative units have been increased and territories of administrative units have been diminished. There have been four provinces in 1924 to 1926, 18 since 1965, 21 since 1990. Such situation limits movements of herdsmen completely and pastures digressed much than ever before. As result of such situation, 70% of pastures become desert. Such digression caused not only heads of animals and also number of species. Guarantee is that birds such as owls, cuckoo, willow grouse in banks of Uyert river, Burkhanbuudai mountain, located in Biger soum, Gobi-Altai province, which are not hunted by hunters, are disappearing in the recent two decades. For that reason we consider it is urgently necessary for the government to convert administrative unit structures into four provinces. This would influence herdsmen moving across hundreds km and pastures could depart from digression.

Second reason: cooperative movement won.

The issues related to management and strengthening of national cooperatives, considered by Central Committee of Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party in the meeting in March 1953 was the start of cooperatives' movement. Consideration by Yu. Tsedenbal, chairman of Ministers Council, chairman of the MPRP, on report "Result of to unify popular units and some important issues to maintain entity management of agricultural cooperatives" in the fourth meeting by the Central Committee of Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party /MPRP/ on December 16-17, 1959, proclaimed complete victory of cooperative. At the end of 1959, it could unify 767 small cooperative into 389 ones, unify 99.3 % of herdsmen and socialize 73.3 % of animals. The remaining of animals amount 6 million 163 thousands animals, and equals to 26.7% of total animals. This concerned number of animals related to the article mentioned that every family should have not more that 50 animals in Khangai zone and not more 75 animals in Gobi desert. It shows that such number could not satisfy needs of family if such number is divided into five main animals in separating with reproduction animals and adult animals. So herdsmen started hunt hoofed animals secretly and illegally in order to satisfy their meat needs. Those animals included main food of snow leopard such as ibex, wild sheep, and marmot.

Third reason is that the state used to hunt ibex, which are main nutrition of snow leopards, every year. The administrative unit of the soum pursued policy to hunt ibex in order to provide meat needs of secondary schools and hospitals. That's why this affected decrease of ibex population. Precisely from 1986 to 1990 the permissions to hunt one thousands of wild sheep and two thousands of ibexes were hunt for domestic alimentary use every year.

Not less than 10 local hunters of every soum used to take part in big game of ibexes. Also they hunted many ibexes, chose 3-10 best ibexes and hid them in the mountains for their consummation during hunting.

Fourth reason: hunting of wolves. Until 1990 the state used to give prizes to hunter, who killed a wolf in any seasons of the year. Firstly it offered a sheep for the wolf hunter and later it gave 25 tugrugs /15 USD/. Every year, wolf hunting was organized several times especially picking wolf-cubs influenced spread and population of wolves. So snow leopard came to the places where wolves survived before and attack domestic animals. Such situation continued until 1990. Now population of ibexes has decreased than before 1990 since the state stopped hunting wolves, population of wolves increased in mountainous zones. We didn't consider it had been right since it was natural event. However population of ibexes decreased.

Fifth reason: Global warming. In recent five years it has had a drought and natural disaster from excessive snow in the places where it has never had such natural disasters before. But Mongolia has 40 million heads of domestic animals it has never increased like such quantity in its history before. We consider it is not incorrect that decrease of domestic animals could give opportunities to raise population of wild animals.

Our next survey is to make attempt to fix heads of snow leopards correctly with low costs.

"Irves" methodology to count snow leopards

Rock hills where snow leopards survive /photos 1.2/, pass in mountain range /photo 3/, permanent paths /photo 4/, to prepare land where they pass permanently in way sieving out the soil with normal synthetic screen /1 m x 1 m/, which used to protect against flies and mosquitoes on the window, and laying 2 cm of thick soil on the path /photo 5/.

In order not to step by other animals on trace of snow leopards, every early morning before sun rises, somebody checks such sieved soil layer.

In case snow leopard steps on prepared soil and makes trace on it /photo 6/, it must take trace /it is strongly recommended to take trace of one of hidden legs/ in way spraying colorless lacquer on it for tempering it /photo 7/ after measurement, and filling liquid gypsum.

Note:

In order to consolidating trace, it should spray lacquer on trace of snow leopard in not less than 30 cm of distance. If spray on it in closer distance than recommended distance, spray might destroy traces. It should wait for 10 minutes after spraying.

100 grams of powder gypsum, 50 grams of water and 5 grams of salt are required for a trace of snow leopard. The salt used to dry gypsum rapidly and consolidate it.

For showing as exhibits for students and pupils, it can take pattern of traces in filling silicon /photo 9/ instead of filling gypsum if trace of rare snow leopard.

It is possible to fix population of snow leopard in the relevant territory in comparing their measurements and shapes after registering the collected traces in order /photo 10/.

Note: it has disadvantage that silicon is imported from abroad upon order and its price is more expensive /silicon costs 180\$ for 50 traces but gypsum costs 31.6\$/.

Standard price: if it takes 50 traces in territory of one soum, we may make account in the followings:

With gypsum: sieve 1m x 1m x 10 pc = 10 \$. Auto lacquer 20 pc x 1\$ = 20 \$, powder gypsum 5 kg x 0.3 \$ = 1.5 \$, salt 50 grams = 0.1\$, and totally 31.6\$.

With silicon: sieve 1m x 1m x 10 pc = 10 \$. Auto lacquer 20 pc x 1\$ = 20 \$, silicon 10 kg = 150 \$, and totally 180 \$.

Spread, population and resource evaluation of snow leopards in the Hovd province

/as of 2010/

#

Names of soums

Spread /sq .km/

Names of mountain ranges

Adult

Young

Total

1

Altai

1260

Ulaankhairhan, Buduun khar, Jogoo*, Alag tek, Tsahir mushgiu, Khaltar, Huren*, Usni, Khalzan burgedtei*, Bayan*, Argalant, Yamaat us, Tsagaan uul, Usni, Takhiin usni*, Baga hhondlon, Khavtag, Ekhen shaazant

84

28

112

2

Bulgan

430

Khokh ondor, Altan ovoo, Buduun*, Tomoriin khar*, Uushgiin ulaan*, Ikh Ovkhoodog*, Mergen*, Baitag bogd, Bakhvag, Tuimert, Torlog, Nariin khar*

29

9

38

3

Uench

680

Maikhan khar, Khaltar*, Ereen tolgoi*, Salkhit*, Gomin gozgor*, Urd khokh, Khargait, Buraat, Changast, Kharuuliin ondor, Shiveet, Maikhan khar*

45

15

60

4

Monkh khairhan

240

Monkhkhairkhan, Bural, Khairkhan, Delger, Ongon, Ikh most

17

4

21

5

Duut

220

Khuren asgat, Maral tordog, Urd jinst, Burgedtei khairkhan

15

4

19

6

Buyant

130

Khun chuluut, Suul khairkhan

9

2

11

7

Mankhan

340

Mankhan, Ikh most, Khokh ondor, Jargalant

24

6

30

8

Most

430

Khoo ovgor, Khuren khotoliin oroi, Baatar khairkhan, Nuuriin khalzan,
Ulaan sundui

30

8

38

9

Zereg

140

Yargait, Yargaitiin ekhen, Jargalant, Baajig, Khivsiin zurkhen, Khoid
tsast, Ekhen burkhad

9

3

12

10

Tsetseg

280

Bayan ondor, Takhilt ovoo, Ar bulag, Yembuu, Bayan ondor, Baga bogd,
Myangan ugalzat

19

6

25

11

Darvi

170

Tsast bogd, Olziit*, Bumbat khairkhan

11

4

15

12

Myangad

150

Khalzan burgedtei, Khavtsgai khuren, Tsokhiot, Altan khokhii

11

2

13

13

Dorgon

60

Chargat uul, Chikhonii khar, Seer, Argalant*

4

1

5

14

Hovd

260

Tsagduult, Tsagaan burgast, Dund khar, Khokh serkh

17

6

23

15

Chandmana

140

Bumbat khairkhan, Khuren ondor, Jargalant khairkhan

10

2

12

16

Erdeneburen

160

Tsambagarav, Dund khar, Yamaat ulaan*, Khagiin khuush

10

4

14

17

Total

5090

344

104

448

Spread, population and resource evaluation of snow leopards in the
Gobi-Altai province

/as of 2010/

#

Names of soums

Spread /sq .km/

Names of mountain ranges

Adult

Young

Total

1

Altai

1600

Khuts khairkhan, Sain tsagiin khar, Khalba khairkhan, Altan khairkhan, Khuren tovon, Khoid suljee, Zalaa, Aj bogd, Uushgiin ulaan tolgoi*, Sairiin khoshuuni khoid tolgoi, Dondgoi ulaan tolgoi*, Ikh del*, Sairiin*, *Khavtsgaitiin khavtshiin ondor*, Chandmani, Bogd uul*, Khuren tolgoi*, Shar teeg*, Ikh del*, Khar khairkhan, Baruun maikhan*, Noyon*, Khatan khairkhan

64

30

94

2

Biger

360

Burkhan buudai, Togol khairkhan, Kharuul, Bayan ondor

14

7

21

3

Bugat

220

Alag khairkhan, Khunkheriin irmeg, Khavtgai ulaan, Khiagtiin servein, Dugui, Nagoon dovon, Khar dukh, Gurvan khairkhan, Shiree*, Chambaaz tolgoi*

9

4

13

4

Togrog

140

Ikh khuren, Asagat ulaan, Tsagaan khairkhan

6

2

8

5

Tsogt

500

Khaaltiin tsakhir, Dan, Alag ovoo, Tsagaan tolgoi*, Dosh, Khokhtiin khooloi, Del, Khatan khairkhan, Khokh del*, Taliin shovon*, Otogon*, Oni*, Damchiin baraan tolgoi*, Khar*, Davkhar khar*, Arslan khairkhan, Atas bogd

22

8

30

6

Tonkhil

300

Sutai, Khuren uzuur, Most, Tsagaan chuluut, Khokh tsaram, Khets, Bayan ondor, Mogoit, Tangadiin khar*, Khondlon*

12

6

18

7

Tseel

280

Burkhant serven, Tayan, Zalaagiin oroi*, Gyalgariin oroi

13

4

17

8

Delger

50

Serkh, Bayan buural, Tavan khairkhan*, Bor argalant*

2

1

3

9

Khaliun

100

Mogoin, Shuvuuni Baast, Jargalant*

4

2

6

10

Yeson bulag

40

Khondlon, Khan taishir

2

2

11

Taishir

30

Zalaa, Ikh nomgon*, Teeg*, Alag tolgoi*

1

1

12

Jargalan

30

Khasagt khairkhan, Nar tusdag*, Sumt*

1

1

2

13

Sharga

80

Khasagt khairkhan, Zost ondor khar, Chandmani, Khokh

7

2

9

14

Bayan-Uul

40

Yol khairkhan, Baga berkh*, Soljir*

2

2

15

Darvi

80

Tungeegiin shovkh, Takhilgat, Darvi, Baga darvi

3

2

5

16

Chandmani

120

Chandmani, Erdene, Urd khokh shovkh, Unegt, Samdandamba, Alag tolgoin

Buuts*

5

2

7

17

Erdene

340

Chandmani Khairkhan, Oliin ovoot, Kharaat, Suman gun, Suman khad, Yumt, Zambiin khar*, Balin tolgoi*, Mongolog khairkhan*, Taliin Shovon*, Zangat*, Gurvan ulaan*, Gurvan khar*, Khar*, Elstiin ulaan tolgoi*, Bor Khanan, Unjuu ulaan*, Chinges /Inges/, Khavchig, Tsagaan baishingiin nuruu, Khoshuun, Naran sevstein ondor, Shar khulst

15

6

21

18

Total

4310

182

77

259

Spread, population and resource evaluation of snow leopards in the Umnugobi province

/as of 2010/

#

Names of soums

Spread /sq .km/

Names of mountain ranges

Adult

Young

Total

1

Bayan dalai

130

Dund saikhan, Ovgon ovoo, Tsagaan ovoo, Khongor ovoo, Urt Khairkhan,
Zurantai, Atgar*,Elgen*

6

2

8

2

Bayan ovoo

80

Navtgar, Yamaat, Baga khachig, Ikh luusiin*, Togoo*, Buyant tolgoi*,
Mankhan*

4

1

5

3

Bulgan

50

Nomgon

3

3

4

Gurvan tes

520

Altan nemegt, Akhar khuzuu, Khaikhan tolgoi, Khuren khanangiin nuruu,
Erdene khairkhan, Takhilga, Takhilgat, Tost, Bayan ondor, Zuun tavan,
Sharig, Tooroi*, Baga alag*, Ovoljoo*, Ikh khongor*

22

10

32

5

Noyon

160

Noyon bogd, Ikh khongor, Ikh takhilga, Takhilga, Khalbas*

8

2

10

6

Sevrei

150

Bayan tsagaan, Sevrei, Baruun saikhan /Bayan bor/, Zoolongiin nuruu,
Khashaat ondor, Serven*, Ondor tuvshin*, Ereen chuluut*

7

2

9

7

Khurmen

90

Khurmen, Ikh argalant, Baga argalant, Ikh ereen, Takhilga*

5

1

6

8

Nomgon

100

Ikh nomgon, Ol, Altan, Zuun tsokhioni nuruu, Khorkh, Bor*, Ikh uul*

5

2

7

9

Tsogt tsetsii

40

Tsetsii, Ikh shankhiin nuruu, Bor khotol*

2

2

10

Khankhongor

30

Navgar, Maanit*

1

1

2

11

Total

1350

63

21

Spread, population and resource evaluation of snow leopards in the Uvurhangai province

#

Names of soums

Spread /sq .km/

Names of mountain ranges

Adult

Young

Total

1

Baruun bayan ulaan

50

Baga bogd, Bor ovoot tolgoi*

3

1

4

2

Bogd

240

Arts bogd, Olziit, Dulaan bogd, Ikh buga, Ukhant yagaan, Baga tevsh, Baga zost*, Ikh khar*, Goo khairkhan*, Khatuu*

10

4

14

3

Total

290

13

5

18

*- The place/area where snow leopards survive permanently

"Irves" Methodological significance: first, it is possible to fix and count population of snow leopard and its resources without any disputes. Secondly, it would be cheap and materials can be found anywhere. Thirdly, it is very difficult to fix how many snow leopards pass in one path on snow in winter since they step in one trace like one snow leopard. But it is possible to find how many snow leopards pass in path since they don't step traces of others in summer. Fourthly, it is possible that anybody can count them using this method without participation of any specialist.

In teaching such method to state inspectors and herdsmen in 30 soums where snow leopards are spread, we provided materials for counting independently. In training it will teach how to find differences between animals which are attacked by wolf or by snow leopard, how to keep registration, and which differences are in counting snow leopards, lynx, wolves, marten, stoat and manuls. For the first shift, we will organize training in 10 soums of Umnugobi and Uvurkhangai provinces and its results of such trainings shall be broadcasted as special program on Mongolian Public Television. Such program shall be pre-advertised and during broadcasting direct local Q & A program will be organized. In such program many officials such as specialists of our association, Parliamentarian members of relevant territories, specialists charge for animals of Ministry of Natural Environment and Tourism, scientists of Institute of Biology under the Academy of Science, Mongolian Association of professional hunters, specialists of the Hunters' Association will take part in and answer audiences questions directly.

The training consists of three stages and will be organized from 10 March to 10 October.

As result of such training, firstly, it is not necessary to count predators in high mountains with many zoologists in spending much from the state budget. Secondly, local herdsmen would have knowledge and experiences on roles of such animals in nature and ecology by counting snow leopards by themselves. Also they have real information on heads of wild animals and their ages. Such training would create conscience in hunters and herdsmen minds to protect such animals. Thirdly, direct

broadcasting program on counting of predators in high mountains shall be on TV, this influences herdsmen, who don't involve in the training, to protect wild animals, from the training on TV they will learn how to count animals under supervision of state natural inspectors. Fourthly, we consider that we can adopt practical laws and regulations to decrease illegal hunting of rare wild animals such as snow leopards and martens based on opinions of members of parliament who has been elected from local authorities, officials from Ministry of Natural Environment and Tourism, and local people, and to settle issues on liquidating animals which are killed and eaten by snow leopards.

Totally 1905 USD are required for the training /4005 USD will be financed by our association/ and we are seeking for this money.

Illegal hunting of snow leopard: this is the most difficult job for us. Herdsmen refused talking about illegal hunting of snow leopards. In using trick in way promising not informing and revealing, we have gathered information and 32 events from local herdsmen who worked for illegal hunting. From them, illegal hunters used 2 horses, 3 cows and small domestic animals for illegally hunting snow leopards. Also hunters left 28 killed snow leopards with skins in places where they were hunted. Since price of skin of snow leopards decreased, there is a law to pay a fee for hunting snow leopard amounts 35 000 USD, rifle will be confiscated and hunters will be arrested in prison; herdsmen hunt them so that their domestic animals wouldn't be killed by snow leopards.

It is proven that all skins /two were found in market of the Khovd province, 1 in market of Gobi-Altai province and 2 in market of the Umnugobi province/ were of young snow leopards. The illegal hunting mentioned above affected population of snow leopards negatively. It is clear that young snow leopards were hunted by herdsmen since they have been crowded and escaped from adult snow leopards, they have not own territory, and attack domestics as soon as they start survive separately from their mother snow leopards.

For that reason we call slogan *People who hunt illegally could stop such illegal hunting* and we made objective to let locale herdsmen count snow leopards. Local herdsmen have wrong thoughts and comprehension that there are 100 snow leopards behind 10 ones. If they find out the truth that there are a few ones left, their conscience to protect them will be recreated. Because we have proved that comprehension of *few* should affect conscience of herdsmen who hunt in nature for thousands years and that would create direct interest to protect them.

Best regards,

Jegal /President of Mongolian "Biosphere & ecology" association

From: Rana T. Bayrakci

Sent: Tue 2/23/2010 12:59 PM

To: SLN List Serve (sln-members@lists.snowleopardnetwork.org)

Subject: SLN - Pictures to go along with yesterday's update from SLN member Jegal, President of Mongolian "Biosphere & ecology" association



No 1



No 2



No. 3



No. 4















From: Ecology Mon [mailto:mon_biosphere@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 10:56 PM
To: sln-members@lists.snowleopardnetwork.org
Subject: Re

Dear Rana

We need to make correction to the written thing. The species reserve of snow leopard of 4 provinces calculated by us, is the statistic fact calculated by old method not by "Snow Leopard" method .

We should count the snow leopards by method approved by the Biologic Institute of Science Academy of Mongolia. It is law of our country. But biologic institute answered that it will approve after taking an official proposal from the foreign researchers who research snow leopards and after experimenting the "Snow Leopard" method.

Therefore we request you an official reference on the "Snow Leopard" methodology. When we tried , the Ministry of Environment requested us to make experiment of new method and to make Snow Leopard reserve of 4 provinces snow leopards by the old method therefore we made calculation/ counting/ of the species reserve .

The old method means that the snow leopards in Baatar Khaikhan mountain of Khovd province, Burkhan Buudai and Dalan mountain ranges of Gobi altai province, Baga Bogd mountain of Uvurkhangai province and Noyon mountain of Umnugobi province is counted then the counted total sum is transferred to the mountains and ranges of the provinces. Therefore there is high probability to be miscounted .

We are sure that there will be no dispute on counting if we count the snow leopards by "Snow Leopard" method and we will inform you as soon as about the method approval.

General manager of association

Odbayar. Ts

On Behalf Of Rana Bayrakci

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2010 4:12 PM

To: sln-members@lists.snowleopardnetwork.org

Subject: SLN - SLN News: Follow-up to 23Feb10 email from the Mongolian Biosphere & Ecology Association

Dear SLN Members,

As a follow up to their email sent to you on 23Feb10, Odbayar from the Mongolian Biosphere & Ecology Association would like to add a clarification regarding methodology. He says that the method they reported is not yet approved by the Biologic institute of Academy of Science of Mongolia. He adds that: "The old method means that the snow leopards in Baatar Khairkhan mountain of Khovd province, Burkhan Buudai and Dalan mountain ranges of Gobi Altai province, Baga Bogd mountain of Uvurkhangai province and Noyon mountain of Umnugobi province is counted then the counted total sum is transferred to the mountains and ranges of the provinces. Therefore there is high probability to be miscounted."

Thank you for the clarification, Odbayar.

Kind regards,

Rana

From: Ecology Mon [mailto:mon_biosphere@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2010 11:33 PM

To: sln-members@lists.snowleopardnetwork.org

Subject: Re: SLN - SLN News: incredible night video of SL on PakistanAfghanistan border - distance of animal only 500 m

Dear Rana,

We hereby submit the report of work accomplishments for the first time. As attaching of the photos failed, we reattached them, therefore, we apologize for any inconvenience for its circumstance. We will send work accomplishments report in the coming September.

We would like to acknowledge other snow leopard studiers' ideas and comments on "Irbis" methodology which we worked out.

Also, please let me know to what address we shall apply in order to get work accomplishments report published. We would be very grateful to your kind advice in this concern.

Sincerely yours,

A. Gegal