





# CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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FIRST MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE SAIGA ANTELOPE (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*) Almaty, Kazakhstan,25-26 September 2006 Agenda Item 7.0

# COMPENDIUM OF INDIVIDUAL SAIGA PROJECTS

(as at 31 August 2006)

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This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Project: Altyn Dala Conservation Programme (ADCP), Kazakhstan							
Country:	China			Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan	$\Box$ V		Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia			International			
	Russia						
Organisation / Contact details: Project implemented by –Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK) Tatyana Bragina, ADCP Programme Coordinator; Taran St., 165-12, Kostanay 110000, Kazakhstan Phone: 007-3142-548532 E: naurzum@mail.ru Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) Wolfgang Fremuth, Head of Europe Department, Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt (ZGF) Alfred-Brehm-Platz 16; D-60316 Frankfurt/Main T:+49-69-943446-33 F: +49-69-439 348 E: fremuth@zgf.de WWF International (WWF) Georg Shwede, Conservation Director, Europe/Middle East Programme; Avenue du Mont-Blanc, 1196 Gland, Switzerland, E: GSchwede@wwfint.org Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB) Norbert Schaffer, Head of European Programme Department, The Lodge. Sandy, Beds, SG 19 2DL; E: norbert.schaffer@rspb.org.uk							
Duration of	project: from Octo	ber 2005 to De	ecembe	r 2010			
Location(s)	of main activity: 7	Furgay lowla	nds, K	azakhstan			
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica Saiga tatarica			V			
Areas of wor	·k:						
Anti-poachin	g			Habitat restoration			
Population m	onitoring			Protected area management	$\Box$ V		
Ecological re	search	$\Box$ V		Training & capacity-building	$\Box$ V		
Education and awareness $\Box V$ Law enforcement $\Box$							

Alternative livelihoods		Trade issues			
Socio-economic research		Captive breeding			
Range mapping	$\Box$ V	Reintroduction/release	$\Box$ V		
Habitat research	$\Box$ V				
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below					

### **Project Summary:**

The Altyn Dala Conservation Programme (ADCP) is a large-scale new initiative from the Government of Kazakhstan in partnership with the Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK), the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), the Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to conserve nationally and internationally important flagship species and their habitats in steppe and semi desert zones of Kazakhstan through establishment of a network of large protected areas in Central Kazakhstan.

The ADCP is building upon the results from saiga antelope researches, including important support by FZS, the UNEP/GEF/WWF ECONET-Central Asia project, the ACBK/RSPB/BirdLife International Important Bird Areas project (IBA). The Programme is planning and enabling the Government of Kazakhstan to contributing significantly to the meeting its obligations under the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on Migratory Species and Ramsar Convention.

The main aim of the programme is to develop a well managed network of Protected Areas of various categories accompanied by flexible conservation measures (mobile ranger units, temporary protected migration corridors) in the Turgai lowlands in Central Kazakhstan. The programme will protected globally threatened steppe biodiversity including the saiga antelope (*saiga tatarica*) as a key flagship species of the programme and main beneficial species. The total size of territory that will be protected as part of Altyn Dala Conservation Programme has the potential to add up to 3-4 Million hectares in total after completion in 2010. In detail the project comprises of:

#### **Planned Activities:**

#### **Baseline ecological research:**

- analysis of changes of the steppe flora and fauna as a result of the decline of grazing (reduction of the number of wild ungulate and livestock animals such as sheep and horses)
- baseline research on saiga antelope status, habitat use and migration in the Altyn Dala Programme territory
- other key habitat (wetlands and terrestrial) research to identify key sites (such as BirdLife Important Bird Areas) for biodiversity conservation and potential restoration in the Altyn Dala Programme territory
- mapping of key sites and species range data in GIS map

#### **Protected Area Planning and Management:**

- prepare necessary background documents for Protected Area (PA) planning and delineation
- assist governmental agencies in PA establishment
- assist governmental agencies in the development of management plans for the outlined PA's
- assist governmental agencies in the implementation of management plans for the established PAs

# Public awareness, Training and capacity building:

• preparation, publication and distribution of project posters, booklets, establishing of a project

website, press releases and articles -

 training of researches/wardens/students from Kazakhstan throughout the project implementation (July 2006: the first special training is planned on census methods though an ongoing exchange of the first group of specialists from Kazakhstan and specialists from Serengeti – a practical training which is funded by FZS)

#### Achievements to date:

- a) the first funds for the project preparation phase and the planning of the first site designations
- **b**) the strategy of the ADCP development was developed and discussed with and approved by the relevant governmental agencies in Kazakhstan and the international project partners
- c) The designation of the first site, the "Altyn Dala Nature Reserve" preparation was included into the Governmental Programme for Protected Areas development in Kazakhstan for 2007 – 2009 year
- **d**) The necessary scientific-natural background for the PA establishment are under preparation, necessary GIS maps are under preparation

#### **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

- Technical project reports (twice a year))
- Publications in media outlets in Kazakhstan and abroad, (Kazakhstan) and ACBK newsletter
- Booklets/Posters/Website (currently all under development)

#### **Collaborators:**

- Committee of Forestry and game management of the Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Environmental Protection
- Imperial College, London
- WWF Central Asian programme
- Institute of Zoology, Almaty
- National Aviary, Pittsburgh, USA
- Kostanay Society of Hunters & Fishermen
- Kostanai regional ("oblast") inspections
- NGO "Naurzum"
- Naurzum Nature Reserve
- Science-Research Centre for Biology & Ecology of Kostanay Pedagogical Institute

Budget available: 35 000 EURO a year for the project preparation phase

**Current sponsors:** FZS, WWF, RSBP

Past sponsors: -

Information contributed by: Dr. Tatyana Bragina, Altyn Dala Conservation Programme Coordinator

Date report submitted: 26/0

26/06/2006\_\_\_\_

Other:

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Project: Rotating Cows as a tool for saiga conservation						
Country:	China		Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia		International			
	Russia	X				
Organisation	/ Contact details:	Centre for Wild A	nimals, Kalmykia. Prof. Iu. Arylov.			
Duration of p	<b>Duration of project:</b> from1 <sup>st</sup> September 2006 to30 <sup>th</sup> August 2006					
Location(s) of	main activity: Ka	almykia & Astrakł	nan oblast			
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	tarica X				
	Saiga tatarica m	ongolica 🗌	I			
Areas of work	:					
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration			
Population more	nitoring		Protected area management			
Ecological rese	earch		Training & capacity-building			
Education and	awareness	Х	Law enforcement			
Alternative live	elihoods	Х	Trade issues			
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding			
Range mapping	g		Reintroduction/release			
Habitat researc	h					
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below						
Project Summ	Project Summary: Goal: To create a livestock bank linking improved livelihoods of the rural					

poor with cessation of saiga poaching around the Chernye Zemli Reserve. Purposes: • To convert our understanding of the development needs of local people into action, targetting the poorest members of communities near the CZBR for support. • To link explicitly support for rural livelihoods with action to protect the critically endangered saiga antelope. • To engage local people, particularly children, in activities promoting sustainable regeneration of the rural economy, and to promote pride in their natural environment. • To create a partnership for action between local people, protected area managers, saiga conservationists, and local government.

# **Planned Activities:**

• Two poor families will receive cows, veterinary support, fodder & infrastructure.

• Two participating villages will link development activities to saiga antelope conservation, and will ensure that poaching incidents are reported in their area, and that villagers do not poach.

• Local schoolchildren will receive fresh dairy produce and information about the importance of conserving the local environment and of ensuring that revival of the livestock sector is environmentally sustainable.

• The CWA's Saiga Breeding Centre will be promoted as a visitor attraction, environmental awareness centre and a hub for the sale of high quality local produce.

• Local publicity in newspapers and television will highlight the global importance of Kalmykia's wildlife, particularly saigas, and the concept of supporting the livelihoods of the poorest people as a locally appropriate solution to poverty-induced poaching.

• National and international promotion of this proactive and participatory approach to sustainable management of Russia's natural resources, and of the conservation needs of the saiga antelope.

Achievements to date: Two families have received their cows, milk is being given to schools, Visitor Centre has been opened, much local press interest has been generated, follow-on funding has been secured.

Reports / Publications / Information material: See www.iccs.org.uk.

Collaborators: Project Leader: Iu. Arylov. UK partner: E.J. Milner-Gulland

**Budget available: £26000** 

Current sponsors: UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Past sponsors: N/A

Information contributed by: E.J. Milner-Gulland

Date report submitted:

\_\_13/7/06\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/yyyy

Other: See reports on sister projects (Darwin, INTAS) and website: www.iccs.org.uk

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<b>Project: :</b> A pilot project to address poaching pressures, through a small grants program, for alternative livelihoods in rural communities.					
Country:	China		Turkmenistan		
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan		
	Mongolia		International	$\boxtimes$	
	Russia				
Organisation / Cambridge, CB		Fauna & Flora Int	ernational, Great Eastern House, Ten	ison Road,	
Duration of pr	oject: from Ma	y 2005 to April 2	007		
Location(s) of main activity: Ustyurt Plateau, Kazakhstan					
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica tatarica 🛛 🛛				
	Saiga tatarica me	ongolica 🗌			
Areas of work	:				
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration		
Population mor	nitoring		Protected area management		
Ecological rese	arch		Training & capacity-building		
Education and	awareness	$\bowtie$	Law enforcement		
Alternative live	elihoods	$\bowtie$	Trade issues		
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding		
Range mapping	<b>7</b>		Reintroduction/release		
Habitat research	h				
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below					

**Project Summary:** Using small grants to support alternate livelihoods to reduce the necessity for poaching for poverty alleviation. Initially addressing poaching elements within the community and then expanding to other poverty affected communities to raise livelihood levels and the awareness of the plight of the saiga.

**Planned Activities**: The initiation of small grant programmes in rural communities within the Ustyurt plateau saiga populations' migration route. A social awareness initiative has been attached to the programme.

Achievements to date: Two rounds of small grants have been distributed in the community of Bosoi, establishing a variety of alternative livelihoods, including mechanics, carpenter, remote pasturage and vegetable production. Saiga conservation awareness material has been produced and workshops undertaken within the community.

**Reports / Publications / Information material:** 

Collaborators: CASDIN (Kazakhstan NGO), Institute of Zoology (Kazakhstan)

Budget available: n/a

Current sponsors: DGIS, Disney Wildlife Fund, Chevron

**Past sponsors:** 

Information contributed by: Richard Allcorn, FFI Eurasia Projects Manager

**Date report submitted:** 13-07-2006

Other:

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Project: Saiga conservation in Betpakdala, Kazakhstan					
Country:	China		Turkmenistan		
	Kazakhstan	$\Box$ V	Uzbekistan		
	Mongolia		International		
	Russia				
Organisation / Contact details: Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) Wolfgang Fremuth, Head of Europe Department, Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt (ZGF) Alfred-Brehm-Platz 16; D-60316 Frankfurt/Main T:+49-69-943446-33 F: +49-69-439 348 E: fremuth@zgf.de <i>Project implemented by</i> –WWF Central Asian programme Olga Pereladova, Head of WWF Central Asian programme; c/o WWF Russia, 19, bd. 3, Nikoloyamskaya, str., 109240, Moscow, Russia; T: + 495 727 09 39, F: + 495 727 09 38, <u>opereladova@wwf.ru</u>					
Duration of <b>p</b>	<b>project:</b> fromJur	ne 2002 _ to _De	cember 1006, with an intention of extensior	for 2007-2010	
Location(s) o	<b>f main activity:</b> B	etpakdala, Kaz	akhstan		
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica t	atarica	□V		
	Saiga tatarica n	nongolica			
Areas of wor	k:				
Anti-poaching	5	$\Box$ V	Habitat restoration		
Population mo	onitoring	$\Box$ V	Protected area management	$\Box$ V	
Ecological res	search		Training & capacity-building	$\Box$ V	
Education and	l awareness	$\Box$ V	Law enforcement		
Alternative liv	velihoods		Trade issues		
Socio-econom	nic research		Captive breeding		
Range mappir	ng	$\Box$ V	Reintroduction/release		
Habitat research					

For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below

#### **Project Summary:**

- Anti-poaching - coordination of activities with Okhotzooprom -mobile units (supported by the Government of Kazakhstan): identification of gaps in their activities and development of complimentary activities - technical support to additional groups of rangers (teams of protected areas, regional (oblast) inspections, etc. (totally 4 teams are receiving technical support now; an obligatory condition – participation of governmentally authorised inspectors in the teams);

- Population monitoring – activities, complimentary to regular aerial census of saiga, supported by the Government of Kazakhstan: network of correspondents; car expeditions - details on seasonal distribution, sex-age ration in the groups, etc.

- Education and awareness – preparation, publication and distribution of education materials, special forms of work with local communities, with children, youth clubs, etc.

- Range mapping – results of population monitoring were integrated in the ECONET plan of Central Asia (GIS system)

- Protected area management – technical support to existing PA of the population area (Andasaiskii zakaznik); planning of the new system of PA establishment (Altyn-Dala conservation programme development)

- Training & capacity-building –training of students of Kazakhstan in the process of project implementation; 2006 – July – the first special training is planned on aerial census methods (exchange of the first group of specialists of Kazakhstan and specialists from South Africa – practical training; additionally funded by FZS).

### **Planned Activities:**

Anti-poaching Population monitoring Education and awareness Range mapping Protected area management Training & capacity-building

Achievements to date: Anti-poaching teams equipped and operating; network of observers created and operating. Agreements signed on cooperation in the field of saiga conservation : Bilateral - Committee of Forestry and game management of the Ministry of Agriculture and WWF, representing international partners of the project; 6-side – FZS, ICL, WWF – and Okhotzooprom, Institute of Zoology, Agricultural University.

According to the results of aerial census, population of saiga in Betpakdala increased from 2900 in 2003, to 9900 in 2005 (*first of all – as the results of the activities, funded by the Government of Kazakhstan – and with the additional help of the present project*).

# **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

Technical project reports (each half a year) Information materials on saiga site Publications in mass-media (Kazakhstan)

# **Collaborators:**

FZS, ICL, WWF, (for Altyn-Dala programme development –additionally RSBP, ACBK)
Committee of Forestry and game management of the Ministry of Agriculture
Okhotzooprom,
Institute of Zoology ,
Agricultural University,
Andasaiskii zakaznik (sanctuary),
International Club of hunters and fishermen (priozersk),

Karaganda and Kostanai regional (oblast) inspections.

Budget available: 50 000 EURO a year

**Current sponsors:** Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS)

**Past sponsors:** Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS)

Information contributed by: Olga Pereladova, Head of WWF Central Asian programme

Date report submitted:

**14/06/2006**\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/yyyy

Other:

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Project: Reproductive Ecology of the Critically Endangered Saiga Antelope					
Country:	China		Turkmenistan		
	Kazakhstan	Х	Uzbekistan	Х	
	Mongolia		International		
	Russia	X			
Organisation /	/ Contact details:	Imperial College I	London, e.j.milner-gulland@imperial	.ac.uk	
Duration of p	roject: from	_1 <sup>st</sup> April 2004	to31 <sup>st</sup> March 2007_		
Location(s) of & Uzbekistan	main activity: Ka	almykia & Astrakh	an oblast, Russia; Ustiurt population,	Kazakhstan	
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	tarica X			
	Saiga tatarica m	ongolica 🛛 🗌			
Areas of work	•				
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration		
Population more	nitoring	Х	Protected area management		
Ecological rese	earch	Х	Training & capacity-building	Х	
Education and	awareness	Х	Law enforcement		
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues		
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding		
Range mapping			Reintroduction/release		
Habitat researc	h				
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below					

**Project Summary:** The aims of the project are to characterise saiga reproductive behaviour and the influence of human disturbance on reproductive success, and to develop a non-invasive, scientifically based programme for monitoring fecundity.

Objectives are:

• To compare the behaviour and reproductive success of individual males and females in a severely disturbed and a less disturbed population.

• To link female reproductive success with behaviour of both sexes during the rut of the previous winter.

• To compare the aggregative behaviour of females during birth in areas with contrasting levels of human disturbance.

• To link fecundity and peri-natal mortality with arrival date, position in the birth aggregation and other limiting factors.

• To quantify the effects of human activities on saiga reproductive success, including direct disturbance of rutting or birth, distortions of age and sex ratios through poaching.

• To develop predictive models of saiga population dynamics, and to model the likely effects of human activities on saiga reproduction, both direct and indirect.

• To develop non-invasive methods of monitoring reproductive success, and compare laboratorybased with field-based methods of determining fecundity rate.

• To recommend a monitoring programme and conservation actions based on the results of the research, and to collaborate with governments and conservation NGOs to ensure that conservation action is appropriately linked to reproductive ecology.

# **Planned Activities:**

Births and rut have been monitored for 3 years. Population size and structure data have been collated into a database. Analysis of sex-specific maternal allocation completed. Non-invasive monitoring procedure has been developed and is being trialled this year. Project has also been involved in dissemination, and in particular, is the main funder of the e-bulletin *Saiga News* 

Achievements to date: See above.

Reports / Publications / Information material: See www.iccs.org.uk.

**Collaborators:** Imperial College (coordinator), University of Oslo, Institute of Ecology & Evolution of the Russian Academy of Science, Institute of Zoology Kazakhstan, Institute of Zoology Uzbekistan, Kazakh National Agricultural University, Centre for Wild Animals of Kalmykia

Budget available: Euros 240,436

**Current sponsors:** INTAS

Past sponsors: N/A

Information contributed by: E.J. Milner-Gulland

Date report submitted:

\_\_13/7/06\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/yyyy

Other: See reports on sister projects (Darwin, SEPS) and website: www.iccs.org.uk

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Project: Evaluating approaches to public engagement in saiga conservation					
Country:	China		Turkmenistan		
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan		
	Mongolia		International		
	Russia	X			
Organisation / Contact details: Imperial College London, e.j.milner-gulland@imperial.ac.uk					
<b>Duration of project:</b> from $\_1^{st}$ April 2006 to $\30^{th}$ December 2007					
Location(s) of	<b>main activity:</b> K	almykia & Astrak	han oblast		
Sub-species:Saiga tatarica tataricaXSaiga tatarica mongolica□					
Areas of work	:				
Anti-poaching		Х	Habitat restoration		
Population mo	nitoring	Х	Protected area management		
Ecological rese	earch	Х	Training & capacity-building	Х	
Education and	awareness	Х	Law enforcement		
Alternative live	elihoods	Х	Trade issues		
Socio-economi	ic research		Captive breeding		
Range mapping	g		Reintroduction/release		
Habitat researc	h				
			the project summary box below		
Project Summ	nary: This is a fol	llow-on to our pr	revious Darwin Initiative project, v	which ran	

from 2003 to 2006 in both Russia and Kazakhstan. The previous project carried out socioeconomic studies and biological monitoring. The aims of the new project are: *A stable or increasing saiga population in the area* - through support of protection efforts and a change in local attitudes to poaching, continuing and extending the original project. *Strong capacity for conservation in local NGOs* - through increasing their control of project activities including research and action, and through technical support, taking the original project's capacitybuilding to the next level. *An evaluation of the impact of different public engagement strategies* - a scientific attitudinal study of broad value to conservation, which we are able to carry out due to the natural experiment of having a range of interventions geographically separated but concerning the same saiga population. *Raised public awareness in Kalmykia & UK* - Strong and sustainable international links formed through the educator exchange, high media publicity in both places, strong cultural and educational messages through links with schools and Buddhist groups.

**Planned Activities:** a) Monitoring saiga populations. b) Anti-poaching patrols. c) Support of Centre for Wild Animals visitor centre. d) Public awareness campaign. e) Support of existing rotating cows project. f) Study of attitudes to saiga conservation in areas with 3 contrasting types of public engagement. g) Exchange between UK and Kalmykian educators. h) Visits to local schools & temples, including targetted technical support for international ommunication and environmental education.

Achievements to date: Project has only just started.

Reports / Publications / Information material: See above.

**Collaborators:** Range state project leader: Olga Obgenova, Centre for Ecological Projects, Kalmykia. Other collaborators: Centre for Wild Animals of Kalmykia, Stepnoi Sanctuary, Chernye Zemli Biosphere Reserve, Dharma Centre, Yashkul School, Arshan Children's Home

Budget available: £64600

Current sponsors: UK Darwin Initiative

Past sponsors: N/A

Information contributed by: E.J. Milner-Gulland

Date report submitted: \_\_13/7/06\_\_\_\_\_d/mm/yyyy

Other: See reports on sister projects (SEPS, INTAS) and website: www.iccs.org.uk

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Project: State of saiga populations in Kazakhstan							
Country:	<u> </u>	China	Turkmenistan				
	Kazakhstan	$\Box$ V	Uzbekistan				
	Mongolia		International				
	Russia						
Organisation	/ Contact details:	Institute	of Zoology of MES of RK, Laborator	y of Teriology			
(Almaty city)	E-mail: terio@n	ursat.kz					
Project implem Industrial unt		entists of t	he Institute of Zoology with "Okhotzo	ooprom"			
	Duration of project: annual investigations						
	f <mark>main activity:</mark> W	ithin the sa	aiga range in Kazakhstan				
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	ıtarica	$\Box \mathbf{V}$				
	Saiga tatarica m	ongolica					
Areas of work	<b>K:</b>						
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration				
Population mo	onitoring	$\Box$ V	Protected area management				
Ecological res	earch	$\Box$ V	Training & capacity-building				
Education and	awareness		Law enforcement				
Alternative liv	elihoods		Trade issues				
Socio-econom	ic research		Captive breeding				
Range mappin	g	$\Box$ V	Reintroduction/release				
Habitat researc	ch	$\Box$ V					
		ide brief de	tails in the project summary box below				
Planned Activities: Determation of numbers (account), populations structure, breeding intensity, territorial spreading of							
saiga Achievements to date: Annual information on main parameters of saiga populations							
Reports / Publications / Information material:							
Technical proj	ect reports (each h	alf a year)					
	aterials on saiga si						
Publications in mass-media (Kazakhstan)							

Collaborators:
Committee of Forestry and game management of the Ministry of Agriculture
Okhotzooprom,
Budget available: 13 000-19000 dollars a year
Current sponsors: State budget (under program on 2005-2007
Past sponsors: Some years: INTAS, Darwin Initiative Fund, WWF
Information contributed by: Prof. A. Bekenov, Dr. Yu.G.Grachev
Date report submitted: 07. 07. 2006 <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>
Other:

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<b>Project:</b> DGIS/FFI Project «Socio-economic survey in the critically endangered Saiga Antelope range of Uzbekistan»						
Country:	China		Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia		International			
	Russia					
0	/ Contact details: yazov str., 1, 7000		logy, Academy of Science of Repu Uzbekistan	blic of		
Duration of p	roject: from	2004	to2004			
Location(s) of	main activity: Us	stiyrt Plateau, Uz	bekistan			
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	tarica [				
	Saiga tatarica m	ongolica [				
Areas of work	:					
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration			
Population more	nitoring		Protected area management			
Ecological rese	earch		Training & capacity-building			
Education and	awareness		Law enforcement			
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues			
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding			
Range mapping	5		Reintroduction/release			
Habitat researc	h					
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below						

Project Summary: Project "Socio-economic survey in the critically endangered saiga range in Uzbekistan" supported by DGIS/FFI, was carried out in 2004. This project aimed to clarify the level of poaching in the region, drivers for poaching behaviour and the situation and attitude of local people. Have been carried out a broad-scale survey of settlements in the Ustiurt area of Uzbekistan, followed by a detailed study at Jaslyk station. This study followed the Darwin Initiative saiga project's methodology and used Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) research methodology, methods of questionnaire-based and verbal interviews. Have been shown that main case of saiga decline is poaching by local people, mostly for the horns at past and meat at present. Poachers are young or middle age jobless or seasonally working people. Most important settlements for the saiga poaching in Uzbek Ustyurt are Jaslyk, Karakalpakia, Komsomolsk-na-Ustyurte and Bostan. The great demands for saiga horns as well as the unstable economic situation were the strongest motivation for the killing of adult males. Poaching is facilitated by poor management of the nature protection agencies, due to limited resources and the indifference of authorities. Effect of poaching is not only mass saigas death but also mortality of people due to accident in the hunt. The educational level of people is rather high, but most of them know nothing about nature conservation and sustainable of use of wildlife resources. Local people poor information about the agencies and organizations working in wildlife management, or about the existence of the protected area specifically set up for saigas (Saigachy zakaznik). It is necessary carry out urgent measures for the saiga saving. The improvement of territorial protection, legislation and international collaboration as well as rising of educational level and involving of local people in a process of saiga conservation was recommended.

# **Planned Activities:**

- 1. To undertake a general survey of human settlements, and various administrative centre (such as railway stations, farms, staff of gas pipelines etc.) and to select a model settlement for more detailed socio-economic investigation.
- 2. To undertake a socio-economical survey of the model settlement, that is identified as being particularly important for saiga poaching.
- 3. To analyse the main reasons for human impact on the saiga population and its habitats in the Ustyurt plateau.
- 4. To make recommendations for the saiga conservation in Uzbekistan.

# Achievements to date:

Main conclusions: The study revealed the prevalence of the industrial-agrarian type of human activities in the Uzbek part of the Ustiurt Plateau. The majority of the population is involved in servicing gas pipes and railroad. Poaching was revealed to be the main cause of saiga population decline. A high demand for saiga meat and horns, as well as low levels of incomes, are the main causes of poaching. The proximity of the state border stimulates the smuggling of saiga horns and meat in Kazakhstan. It was defined most important settlements in terms of poaching.

Public awareness: meetings with represents and groups of local communities, authority (country and local level), distribution informational materials (leaflets).

Conservational recommendation: Project provided the State Committee the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection with recommendations on conservation of the Ustyurt's saiga populations (February 2005).

# **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

1. Project report (2004) "Socio-economic survey in the critically endangered saiga range in

Uzbekistan" by Elena A.Bykova and Alexander V.Esipov

- 2. Leaflet "*Let's save the saiga!*" (in Russian and Uzbek). The leaflets distributed among local people, local authority and nature conservation agencies.
- 3. Bykova E.A., Esipov A.V. Socio-economic reasons of saiga antelope decreasing in Uzbekistan and measure for its conservation. *Ecological safety and civil initiative journal*, N 6, 2005. p. 31-38.
- 4. Bykova E.A., Esipov A.V., Efimov A.Yu., Golovtsov D.E., Azimov J.A. Measures for saiga restoration in Uzbekistan // Problems of rational use and protection of biological resources of Southern Aral Sea region. *Proceedings of International conference*. Nukus, May 16-17, 2006. p. 5.
- 5. Esipov A.V., Bykova E.A., Azimov J.A. Ways for saiga antelope conservation and restoration in Uzbekistan. *Ecological news journal* (2006- in press)
- 6. Bykova E.A., Esipov A.V., Efimov A.Yu., Golovtsov D.Ye. The saiga in Uzbekistan the currents status and reasons of population decline. *Steppe bulletin* (2006 in press)

**Collaborators:** Darwin Initiative project "Using saiga antelope conservation to improve rural livelihood" (methodology, advising)

Budget available: 6853.96 Euro

**Current sponsors:** DGIS (Directorate General for International Cooperation, The Netherlands) though FFI (Fauna and Flora International)

**Past sponsors:** DGIS (Directorate General for International Cooperation, The Netherlands) though FFI (Fauna and Flora International)

Information contributed by: Elena Bykova and Alexander Esipov

Date report submitted:

18/07/2006 dd/mm/yyyy

Other:

S:\\_WorkingDocs\Species\Saiga Antelope\RS\_Mtg\_06\Other documents\ProjectReportFormat\_SA\_activities.doc

This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Projects: several ; e.g. saiga conservation/ education/ communication							
Country:	China		Turkmeni	Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekista	an			
	Mongolia	Х	Internatio	onal	Х		
	Russia	X					
Organisation	/ Contact detail	s: LHF > RU	J UNESCO MAB/ WWF Mongolia				
Duration of p	rojects: from 1	999 Onwards	to: present		_		
Location(s) of	f main activity:	Kalmykia R	U; Mongolia Altai-Gobi				
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica	tatarica	Х				
	Saiga tatarica	mongolica	Х				
Areas of work	κ:						
Anti-poaching		Х	Habitat restoration				
Population mo	nitoring	Х	Protected area management	Х			
Ecological rese	earch	Х	Training & capacity-building	Х			
Education and	awareness	Х	Law enforcement	Х			
Alternative liv	elihoods		Trade issues	Х			
Socio-econom	ic research		Captive breeding	Х			
Range mappin	g	Х	Reintroduction/release X				
Habitat researc	ch	Х					
For each hart	alad places	wide brief de	aile in the project commence have been				
For each box t	For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below						

Anti poaching : Kalmykia '99 – '01; Mongolia '99 – '02 / '05 – '07 ( support in kind/rangers; e.g. petrol, uniforms, off road motor bikes, etc.) Population monitoring: Kalm. '99 – '06 ; Mongolia '99 – '07

Ecological research: Mongolia '99- '07 (e.g. habitat preference/ range)
Education /awareness: Kalm. '01- '06; Mongolia '99- '07 (e.g. local awareness, visitor center)
Range mapping: Mongolia '99- '02, '05 (e.g. relation grazing land use / management)
Habitat research: Mongolia '99- '02
Protected area management: Kalm. '99 – '01; Mongolia '99 – '07
Training + capacity building / Law enforcement: Kalm. '99- '01; Mongolia '01 / '05 (rangers, local population; training anti poaching/ illegal trade [customs] officials)
Captive breeding/ reintro- release: Kalm. '99- present; Mongolia '06-'07 ( preparations for M.saiga)

Planned Activities: '06 Kalmykia ;education center ; ' 06 general conservation support M.saiga, '07 Support captive breeding / release M.saiga

Achievements to date: see national reports; Kalmykia: stabilized/ growing pop.; successful captive breeding/ release; Mongolia: '99-'01: initial success, pop. stabilization/ growth; followed by severe decline/ poaching/ 'zud'winters; now: stabilizing again/ slight growth.

In both project areas successful support of education and local involvement

Reports / Publications / Information material: see national / RU MAB/ WWF MN reports.

**Collaborators: see above** 

Budget available: invested by LHI/LHF since 1999; approx. EU 70.000 (MN), EU 90.000 (RU/Kalm) ; ( for ,06/ ,07 LHF budget available for saiga approx. EU 40.000)

Current sponsors: several donors /sponsors to LHF (incl. WWF NL, Prince Bernhard Nature Fund [NL], NL Foundations)

Past sponsors: see above

Information contributed by: Fred Baerselman / LHF team

Date report submitted:

**24 – June 2006**\_\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/yyyy

Other: NOTE: LHI/LHF has also been active in international lobbying for saiga conservation, co-organizing/ co-funding meetings/ conferences/ workshops, etc., e.g. Elista workshop '02.

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Project: "Saiga School Book"						
Country:	China		Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan	Х	Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia		International			
	Russia					
Organisation	Organisation / Contact details: NABU (German Society for Nature Conservation)					
Jan Dierks (Deputy Head of the NABU Working Group Eurasia) Kurze Str. 9 17498 Alt Ungnade E-Mail: jdierks@uni-greifswald.de						
		and				
		Vitalij Kovalev (Head of the Project Office "International Nature Conservation") Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V. - Federal Office Berlin -				
Invalidenstrasse 112, 10115 Berlin- Mitte Tel. +49. 30. 284 984 44, Fax +49.30. 284 984 84 E-Mail: Vitalij.Kovalev@NABU.de						
Duration of p	roject: from(	October 2004to	October 2006			
Location(s) of main activity: Karaganda (for preparing/working out the school book); the whole saiga rage area in Kazakhstan (for distribution and use of the school book); potentially translated into other languages of saiga range						

		countries and distribution and/or use of a slightly modified version there (Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kalmykia (Russia), Mongolia)				
Sub-species:	Saiga tataric Saiga tataric		X			
Areas of work	:					
Anti-poaching		Х	Habitat restoration			
Population more	nitoring		Protected area management	nt 🗌		
Ecological rese	earch		Training & capacity-build	ing 🗌		
Education and	awareness	Х	Law enforcement			
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues			
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding			
Range mapping	5		Reintroduction/release			
Habitat researc	h					

For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below

# **Project Summary:**

Interviews with national experts done on a special field trip by Jan Dierks and Ana-Lena Lucau (Greifswald University, Germany; NABU) revealed that saigas are often killed by boys ages 13-14 on motorcycles. The success of the intensively supported and financed anti-poaching brigades in actually stopping poaching (especially the poaching of young boys on motorcycles) is questionable, and we feel there is the need for other options in the "saiga conservation tool box" that can be used to protect this species. Conservation can only be successful if at least part of the local population is aware of the need to protect the rare species, and if the animal is perceived positively or valued in the community. This is not achieved by the anti-poaching brigades until now.

Our research revealed that there is a lack of educational material about the saiga antelope for schoolchildren, especially for the ages immediately before they become the next generation of poachers on motorcycles. By providing knowledge and creating a positive image of the saiga through a school book, we hope to sow the seed of understanding and insight for conservation. With the information offered in the book to pupils (and therefore to some extent to their elder brothers and fathers potentially involved in poaching), we try to reduce acceptance of saiga poaching in these rural areas.

The saiga school book will be first published in both the Kazakh and Russian language. It is aimed at children around the ages of 9-13 living in communities close to saiga habitat, and gets them acquainted with this unique animal as well as its threatened status. The content is structured in two parts: the first, for younger children, includes legends and fairy tales about the saiga as well poetry, art, and handicraft projects. The second part of the book, aimed at schoolchildren aged 12-13, provides facts about the biology and the ecology of the saiga, threats to its ecosystem, the need for conservation, and some actions that have already been undertaken in worldwide saiga conservation. This part shows what schoolchildren can do on the local level to save the saiga and its habitat.

The summarized main aims of the saiga school book project are to:

provide knowledge about the saiga antelope in Kazakhstan,

- improve the image of the saiga antelope in Kazakhstan,
- reduce acceptance of poaching,
- integrate additional civil society stakeholders into saiga conservation activities, and
- promote creativity in conservation efforts.

The saiga school book is, particularly in comparison to current anti-poaching approaches, a relatively cheap tool in the "saiga conservation tool-kit." Without attempting to compete with the anti-poaching forces, we intend to provide a supplementary and creative means to conserve the saiga.

**Planned Activities:** Distribution of the saiga school book in the whole saiga range area; main focus on the poor, rural areas where saiga poaching still occurs. Find more funding for printing and distributing a) a Russian version of the book, and b) to extend the overall circulation.

Achievements to date: The first 10,000 school books in Kazakh language are on their way to print.

**Reports / Publications / Information material:** forthcoming in *Saiga News* (December 2006); download (forthcoming soon) of the whole book in the internet on www.nabu.de, www.iccs.org.uk, www.saigak.biodiversity.ru, www.saigarescue.net; NABU-internal reports

Collaborators: EcoObraz (Karaganda), Arlan (Karaganda)

Budget available: ca. US\$ 15,000

**Current sponsors:** NABU, Ursula-Merz-Foundation, WWF-Russia/Frankfurt Zoological Society (ZGF), INTAS

Past sponsors: German Academic Exchange Agency (DAAD), University of Greifswald, Germany

Information contributed by: Jan Dierks

Date report submitted:

17.06.2006 dd/mm/yyyy

Other:

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Project: Saiga – Cartoon (part 1)								
Country:	China		Turkmenistan					
	Kazakhstan	Х	Uzbekistan					
	Mongolia		International					
	Russia							
Organisation	Organisation / Contact details: NABU (German Society for Nature Conservation)							
			nade uni-greifswald.de					
		and						
	Vitalij Kovalev (Head of the Project Office "International Nature Conservation") Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V. - Federal Office Berlin -							
		Invalidenstrass	e 112,					
		10115 Berlin- M	Mitte					
		Tel. +49. 30. 28						
		Fax +49.30.28						
		E-Mail: Vitalij.	Kovalev@NABU.de					
Duration of p	roject: from(	October 2002to	October 2006					
Location(s) of	main activity: <b>k</b>	Kazakhstan						

Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	tarica	Х				
	Saiga tatarica m	ongolica					
Areas of work	•						
Anti-poaching		Х	Habitat restoration				
Population mo	nitoring		Protected area management				
Ecological rese	e		Training & capacity-building	x			
Education and		X	Law enforcement				
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues				
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding				
Range mapping	g		Reintroduction/release				
Habitat researc	h						
For each box ti	cked, please provi	de brief detail	s in the project summary box below				
	ary: One of the m Saiga antelopes	ayor activities	s is the production of a TV - cartoon to	rise awareness			
Planned Activ	- Fund rai	sing for a seco	toon (12 min.) in September 2006. ond series of the cartoon based open scenario for the planned 2. s	eries.			
Achievements	to date: Draft ver	sion of the car	rtoon is ready.				
Reports / Pub	lications / Inform	ation materia	ıl:				
Collaborators	: studio "Master" i	n Shimkent					
Budget availa	<b>ble:</b> appr. US\$ 10,	000					
Current sponsors: NABU, Ursula-Merz-Foundation, Global Nature Fund, Shell Kazakhstan, People and Nature							
Past sponsors	:						
Information c	ontributed by: M	artin Lenk					
Date report su	Date report submitted: 30.06.2006 dd/mm/yyyy						
Other:							

This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Project:						
Country:	China		Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia		International			
	Russia					
Address: 23a, 7 Tel: + 7 32 Fax: + 7 32 E-mail: aigan	Fole bi, Almaty, 50 272 66 39 00 272 502 785		Seimar Social Fund Kazakhstan			
Duration of p	roject: from Ap	ril, 2005 to Januar	у, 2006			
Location(s) of	main activity:					
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta Saiga tatarica m					
Areas of work	:					
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration			
Population mor	nitoring		Protected area management			
Ecological rese	earch		Training & capacity-building			
Education and	awareness		Law enforcement			
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues			
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding			
Range mapping	50		Reintroduction/release			
Habitat researc	h					
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below						
Project Summary: Large-scale program "SOS-saiga" was initiated by Seimar Social Fund and is a joint project						

#### with the enterprise RSPE «PO Okhotzooprom». Main tasks of the project are:

- 1. provision of non-repayable grants for improvement of inventory and implementation of new technologies in improvement of system of accounting, monitoring and animals protection;
- 2. special journalistic action in steppe to perform of the project of enhancement of prestige of the hunting inspector profession, raising of the problem, drawing attention of wide public;
- 3. support state program of the Republic of Kazakhstan on preservation and rehabilitation of number of wild ungulate animals and saigas;
- 4. ensuring effective work of anti-poaching groups;
- 5. carrying out outreach activities by means of coverage in mass media and creation of TV casts and documentary film-chronicle.

#### **Planned Activities:**

Allocation of target grants on increase and strengthening of mobile groups of the hunting inspection. Carrying out of the next journalistic spot-check. Presentation of film - chronicles "SOS-saiga"

#### Achievements to date:

During the last period of propagate of saiga, and also it agrees to the data of air account dynamics of growth of a population increases. Also due to the allocated grants was:

- 1. Have created 5 additional inspection groups, have equipped 9 groups;
- 2. Has increased the area of protected territory up to 10 million hectare;
- 3. Shooting wolves has increased;
- 4. Has passed the information company;
- 5. Have organized 2 journalistic spot-checks

#### **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

Press:

- 1. Liter #93 May, 25 2006
- 2. Novoe Pokolenie #20 May, 29 2006
- 3. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda June, 1 2006
- 4. Komsomol'skaya Pravda May 25, 2006
- 5. Megapolis December, 20 2005
- 6. Karavan, December, 20 2005
- 7. Panorama June, 5 2005
- 8. Kazinform June 18, 2005
- 9. Novoe pokolenie November, 4 2005
- 10. Megapolis June, 27 2005

Etc.

#### **Collaborators:**

RGKP "PO Ohotzooprom"

#### **Budget available:**

During realization of the project it has been allocated 401 000\$

#### **Current sponsors:**

Kinetica Investments

Past sponsors:-----

#### Information contributed by: Seimar Social Fund

Date report submitted:

<u>08.10.2006</u> Dd/mm/yyyy

Other:

Projects: WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY								
MONGOLIA	: Mongolian Saiga	a Research and Co	nservation					
CHINA: The I	Market Status of S	aiga Horn in Chin	a					
Country:	China X Turkmenistan							
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan					
	Mongolia	X	International					
	Russia	x						
Organisation	Organisation / Contact details: Wildlife Conservation Society 2300 Southern Boulevard Bronx, NY USA 10460 Tel: 718-741-8158 Fax: 718-364-4275 E-mail: pzahler@wcs.org							
Duration of p MONGOLIA CHINA:			east_2009 (pending future funding) east_2007					
Location(s) of	<b>main activity:</b> N	longolia, China						
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	atarica X						
	Saiga tatarica n	nongolica X						
Areas of work	:							
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration					
Population mo	nitoring	X	Protected area management	X				
Ecological rese	earch	X	Training & capacity-building	X				
Education and	awareness	X	Law enforcement					
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues	X				
Socio-economi	ic research		Captive breeding					
Range mapping	g	X	Reintroduction/release					
Habitat researc	ch	X						
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below								

#### **Project Summary:**

#### MONGOLIA

The aim of this project is to gather data that will assist Mongolian authorities in the long-term protection of saiga. Our long-term programmatic approach has three components: 1) the acquisition of empirical information on densities, behaviour, breeding, migration, and habitat use, 2) involvement of local people in conservation efforts, and 3) educational outreach. Specific recommendations will be developed from these efforts and presented to the Government of Mongolia to help ensure proper management of saigas in Mongolia. See Planned Activities below for specifics on this project.

### CHINA

This project will investigate and estimate the market status of saiga horn in China, which will provide officials and international communities with market information for further actions for saiga conservation. The saiga initiative will also cooperate with institutes from other countries to analyze sources of saiga horn in Chinese markets; and cooperate with saiga specialists to prepare newsletters for saiga conservation, and deliver them in China, especially among Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioners, to raise awareness of TCM people on the need for saiga conservation. See Planned Activities below for specifics on this project.

#### Planned Activities:

#### MONGOLIA

In 2006 the WCS project will focus on the following activities::

- Place satellite collaring of adult female saiga to determine movement patterns and to identify important watering areas, migration routes, and birthing areas.
- Place GPS collars on fat-tailed sheep from 10 different herder families to understand relationships between movements of livestock and saiga distribution
- Estimate saiga densities on summer and fall ranges using mark-recapture techniques of previously radio-collared individuals
- Evaluate saiga habitat use and behavioral responses to humans, roads, livestock, and plant productivity,
- Developing a landscape-level GIS database on saiga movements and status combined with human land use patterns.

• Engage saiga rangers in methods related to saiga research and conservation.

In subsequent years, we shall:

- Radio-collar calves to determine patterns of survival and develop a population demographic model
- Perform community outreach, including providing education materials (e.g., lectures, pamphlets, posters, etc.).
- Involve local people directly in research and conservation initiatives to increase understanding of saiga conservation needs, attain local community buy-in, and provide employment opportunities.
- Provide specific recommendations to local and central government agencies and local communities, including:
  - Reassessment and redefinition of existing protected area borders and boundaries (including buffer zones or other designation schemes) if deemed necessary;
  - Potential for new protected areas to include critical sites for saiga survival (e.g., breeding grounds, migratory corridors) if deemed necessary and appropriate;
  - Improvements to current management practices in protected areas (both at the local and central government level);
  - Improvements to current rangeland management practices for local communities outside protected areas in relation to their impact on saiga survivorship.

# CHINA

This project will investigate and estimate the market status of saiga horn in China, which will provide officials and international communities with market information for further actions for saiga conservation. The saiga initiative will also cooperate with institutes from other countries to analyze sources of saiga horn in Chinese markets; and cooperate with saiga specialists to prepare newsletters for saiga conservation and deliver them in China, especially among Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioners, to raise awareness of TCM people on the need for saiga conservation. In particular, we aim to:

• Understand market status of saiga horn, including horn type for sale, sale quantity, horn origin, purchaser type, reasons for purchase, etc.

• Estimate the proportion of real saiga horn in current markets,

• Understand market changes through two year monitoring and through comparison with TRAFFIC 1994 survey,

• Provide government decision-makers and the conservation community with market status data for saiga horn and recommendations for management.

# Achievements to date:

# MONGOLIA

In 2004 WCS co-hosted the "International Conference on Mongolian Saiga Conservation" in Ulaanbaatar. In the fall of 2005, a team from WCS (Dr. Joel Berger, Dr. Kim Berger, and Dr. Amanda Fine) spent three weeks in the field surveying areas in and around the Sharga-Mankhan Nature Reserve, Khar Us Nuur National Park, and Huysiyn Govi .A total of 460 saiga were observed between October 10-19. In addition, a saiga ranger from the Darvi soum counted an additional 100 animals to the northwest of the Sharg-Mankhan Nature Reserve during this same period, in an area not visited by our survey team. Because the goal of the site visits was to assess the suitability of potential areas for future field work, our surveys were not carried out in any systematic way. Consequently the results of these surveys should not be construed to represent a thorough count of the current Mongolian saiga population. Nevertheless, our observations indicate that a sizeable number of animals remain in the wild, suggesting that conservation efforts should continue to focus on the protection of saiga and their habitat in the wild.

In addition, during the four-week visit our team met with representatives from key Mongolian institutions involved in saiga conservation to seek advice on the most important unanswered questions and data necessary for conservation of saiga in the wild. Meetings were conducted in Ulaanbaatar and in two aimags, Khovd and Gov-Altai, with the following organizations and/or individuals: International Snow Leopard Trust, Mongolian Academy of Sciences, Khar Us Nuur National Park, World Wildlife Fund, the Steppe Forward Programme, UNDP Altai-Sayan Project, Environmental Protection Agency, National University of Mongolia, Khovd University, and individual rangers involved in saiga protection. These meetings underscored the following needs: 1) information on seasonal movements and migration, especially during periods of severe winter; 2) effects of competition with livestock in areas with low and high herder densities, 3) development of a rigorous method for assessing population trends; 4) empirical information on adult and juvenile survival and factors affecting saiga demography; 5) genetics; 6) potential translocation of saiga to former ranges that have experienced local extirpations, and 7) capacity building including recruiting and training rangers and developing opportunities for local communities to benefit from saiga conservation.

# CHINA

In order to understand the life of the species and offer help to the recovery program, WCS field biologist Aili Kang completed her Ph.D. dissertation on "Behavioral study on the Saiga antelope in reproductive seasons under semi-natural conditions" at the Endangered Wildlife Breeding Center in the north of Wuwei, Gansu Province. The observation on 29 animals in a 27 ha enclosure covered one calving and two mating seasons through 2001-2003. An ethogram was established for the population. Time budget, maternal behaviour and mother-young relationships were discussed in the dissertation.

After that, our program began to collect information about requirement and trade on horns of this antelope species in traditional Chinese medicine. Our preliminary surveys indicated that even horns of subadult male saigas were sold in some markets, suggesting that market demand is still high despite the dramatic decline in wild populations across the species' range. Many TCM practitioners did not recognize the endangered status of the wild saiga population. In view of threats that saiga face in the wild and the current demand of saiga horn from TCM, WCS China Program held a "Seeking for double-win strategy for saiga conservation and TCM development" workshop on May 20th, 2005. Officials and specialists were invited from Forestry Administration, China CITES Office, TCM institutes and several NGOs. Delegates shared information about the saiga and discussed measures to protect saiga and reduce horn consumption. The discussions showed that it is important to provide an accurate understanding of the current status of saiga horn market in China, and that cooperation between conservation organizations and TCM people is vital to seek a resolution to reduce the illegal trade in China.

Since 2005, our program has taken part in editing "Saiga News," taking responsibility for collecting saiga information in China and preparing the China version of the bulletin. (The bulletin is prepared in five languages by researchers from five countries. It allows people in different countries and fields to share information about research, conservation and management of saiga antelope.)

# **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

# **MONGOLIA:**

Berger, J. and K. Berger. In Press. Mongolia saiga: Results of a recent survey by the Wildlife Conservation Society. *Saiga News* 

# CHINA

Kang, A. 2004. Market demand, trade, and poaching of the endangered saiga antelope. In: *Resources of Chinese Materia Medica and Conservation of Wild Animals and Plants*. Shanghai Military Medicine Press.

Kang, A. 2004. Behavioral Study of the Saiga antelope, *Saiga tatarica*, in its main reproductive seasons under semi-natural conditions. Ph.D. dissertation, East China Normal University.

Kang, A. and Zhang, E. 2003. Daytime budget of semi-free ranging saiga antelope (*Saiga tatarica*) in two major periods of reproduction. *Zoological Research*, 24(1): 17-20.

In addition, WCS-China produced two issues of the Chinese version of Saiga News in 2005.

# Collaborators:

# MONGOLIA

Steppe Forward Programme (ZSL), the Academy of Sciences, WWF-Mongolia, National University of Mongolia, and Government Officials

# CHINA

CITES Secretariat, Gansu Endangered Wildlife Breeding Center, Shanghai Zoological Garden, Russian Academy of Science

#### Budget available:

**MONGOLIA:** \$75,000

**CHINA:** \$10,000

**Current sponsors:** 

MONGOLIA National Geographic, WCS (Disney, TMU pending)

CHINA CITES Secretariat, WCS

**Past sponsors:** 

CHINA

East China Normal University, WCS

**Information contributed by:** Peter Zahler, Assistant Director, Asia Program, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Date report submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_13/6/2006\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Other**: WCS supported (through the WCS Graduate Fellowship Program) a graduate student at Imperial College, UK, Alini Kuhl, in her work on saiga conservation through community based conservation initiatives in Kalmikya, Russia.

This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Project: WCS Fellowship project: Reproductive behaviour and ecology of the Critically Endangered Saiga Antelope in Kalmykia (Russia) and Ustiurt (Kazakhstan)								
Country:	China		Turkmenistan					
	Kazakhstan	$\boxtimes$	Uzbekistan					
	Mongolia		International					
	Russia	$\boxtimes$						
Funding: Wil Project coord Aline Kühl Division of Bi Imperial Colle Silwood Park Buckhurst Roa Ascot, Berksh SL5 7PY, UK Email: aline.kt Tel: ++44 207 Fax: ++44 207	Organisation / Contact details: Funding: Wildlife Conservation Society, New York Project coordination: Aline Kühl Division of Biology Imperial College London Silwood Park Campus Buckhurst Road Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7PY, UK Email: aline.kuhl@imperial.ac.uk Tel: ++44 207 5942527 Fax: ++44 207 5942339							
Duration of p	<b>roject:</b> from Oc	tober 2003 to D	ecember 2006					
Location(s) of	f main activity: K	almykian and U	stiurt saiga populations, ec	ological research				
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	ıtarica	$\boxtimes$					
	Saiga tatarica m	nongolica						
Areas of worl	k:							
Anti-poaching	5		Habitat restoration					

Population monitoring Ecological research Education and awareness Alternative livelihoods Socio-economic research	Protected area management Training & capacity-building Law enforcement Trade issues Captive breeding	
Range mapping Habitat research	Reintroduction/release	

For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below

# **Project Summary:**

Less than 5% of the approximately one million saigas that used to roam the Eurasian steppe system in the early 1990s remain today. The predominant cause of this catastrophic decline is poaching, primarily for the saiga's horn, which is only born by the males and used in Chinese Traditional Medicine. Current poaching levels are likely to be unsustainable, and several of the saiga's remaining populations are threatened to the extent that extinction has become an immediate threat.

Despite the extreme decline in population numbers and the urgency for conservation action, little is known about the reproductive status of the species. There is a severe lack of knowledge on the state of individual populations, what effect the male-targeted poaching has had on population dynamics and what consequences this might have for potential conservation strategies to rescue this keystone species of the Eurasian steppes.

Accordingly, this project focuses on ecological research to address these questions throughout the saiga's range. Training of rangers and students, as well as raising awareness both within the saiga's range and internationally are an integral part of the project. Specifically, this project has the following objectives:

- 1) Characterisation and quantitative analysis of saiga reproductive behaviour
- 2) Monitoring of both the Kalmykian and Ustiurt saiga population over one breeding cycle and the design of a monitoring regime

Overall, the project has been highly successful in achieving these objectives. The monitoring and research of calving aggregations has been particular successful despite being novel and logistically demanding. As a result the Kalmykian saiga population has been successfully monitored in three consecutive years, sampling over 1000 calves in total. Research on calving aggregations was expanded to include the Ustiurt saiga population, the currently largest remaining saiga population in Kazakhstan. A ground survey herd monitoring scheme was designed and first applied in Kalmykia, then applied in Ustiurt during research expeditions, too. Initially, the project's objective was to conduct research on the saiga's rutting behaviour, however unfortunately due to the shyness of the animals it was not possible to collect sufficient data to investigate this further. Rangers, students and scientists have been trained in monitoring methods and data collection since the onset of the project. Furthermore, there has been a strong focus on raising awareness both within the saigas range and internationally through a variety of media ranging from informal discussions through to television.

All research is conducted in close collaboration a large number of collaborators within saiga range states and internationally. However, the project has particularly strongly benefited from integration with Dr. E.J. Milner-Gulland's INTAS and Darwin Initiative Projects.

# **Planned Activities:**

To finalise analysis of herd observations with a particular focus on sexual segregation, including data recently collected by Chernye Zemli State Biosphere Reserve rangers. To finalise spatial and temporal calving aggregation analysis. To further analyse pre-decline and current saiga population dynamics. Furthermore, both biological and socio-economic data will be combined to parameterise a saiga harvesting model. This model will investigate how populations might react to different sex-biassed harvesting levels while also addressing incentives to poach from a human incentive angle and varying hunting costs. To continue raising awareness and building capacity in saiga range states as well as internationally.

# Achievements to date:

This project has achieved the following objectives to date:

# 1) Monitoring:

- Design of two monitoring regimes: one to monitor herds throughout the year and another transect-guided method to specifically monitor saiga calving aggregations in space and time.
- Both regimes were trialled and applied fully in Kalmykia at the Chernye Zemli State Biosphere Reserve (2003 onwards).
- The calving aggregation monitoring has been expanded to include the Ustiurt saiga population since 2004. However, due to the remoteness of this population and the logistical difficulty of working here, it has only been possible to monitor herds during individual expeditions lead by the Institute of Zoology, Almaty (in spring and winter).
- Signs of human disturbance (such as motorcycle tracks, empty petrol bottles) were recorded whenever encountered during saiga monitoring.

2) Calving aggregation research:

- Spatial and temporal analysis of calving aggregations in both Kalmykia and Ustiurt; comparison of current calving locations to mid-1990s and pre-decline locations.
- Observations of aggregative and calving behaviour of adult females.
- Analysis of maternal investment in saiga calves and saiga embryos (using both newly collected and pre-decline data). Submission for publication.
- Analysis of twinning rates, measured independently from both calves and placentas (indirect monitoring of adult female population).

3) Mating season research:

- Observation of saiga herds during the rutting season
- Due to large observation distances (shyness of the animals brought about by poaching) and harsh field conditions, it was not possible to investigate the saiga's mating behaviour and constraints on mating success for individuals of each sex as originally envisaged.

# **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

- International articles: BBC Wildlife magazine (Aug 2006), Eurasisches Magazin (German) (30.8.2005), Der Spiegel online (12.12.2005), Hoerzu Magazin (German) (May 2004), Tengri (Air Astana inflight magazine) (summer 2006), Terre sauvage magazine (French) (Dec 2004 Jan 2005), National Geographic France (January 2004)
- Saiga antelope documentary ("Aline and the Saiga"), Marathon Productions, France (transmitted worldwide via Canal+ and WDR Germany, 2004 2006)
- Article on maternal investment in saiga submitted to the Proceedings of the Royal Society, B
- Biological monitoring protocol available on request

# Collaborators:

Kalmykia:

- Russian Committee for the UNESCO MAB programme
- UNESCO MAB Chernye Zemli State Biosphere Reserve, Kalmykia, Russian Federation

- Centre for Wild Animals of Kalmykia, Russian Federation
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Kalmykia, Russian Federation
- Kalmyk State University, Elista, Kalmykia, Russian Federation
- Kalmyk Institute for Humanities (KIGIRAN), Elista, Kalmykia, Russian Federation

Kazakhstan:

- Institute of Zoology, Almaty
- Kazakh National Agrarian University, Almaty

International:

- Imperial College London, UK
- University of Oslo, Norway
- University of Bristol, UK

Budget available: US\$ 20 800

**Current sponsors: WCS** 

Past sponsors: WCS

Information contributed by: Aline Kuhl

Date report submitted:

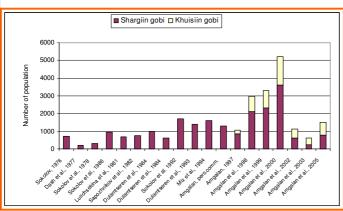
\_\_\_12.07.2006\_\_\_\_\_

Other: /

This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Project:								
Country:	China		Turkmenistan					
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan					
	Mongolia	$\boxtimes$	International					
	Russia							
Organisation /	/ Contact details:							
<b>Duration of p</b> 2. Law enforce	•		ahrga and Khuisiin gobi from 1998 to 5. Saiga feasibility study, 2006	2002.				
Location(s) of	main activity: Sh	arga and Khuisii	in gobi of Great Lake Basin in Mor	igolia				
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica ta	tarica						
	Saiga tatarica m	ongolica 🛛 🖂	I					
Areas of work	:							
Anti-poaching		$\boxtimes$	Habitat restoration					
Population more	nitoring	$\boxtimes$	Protected area management	$\boxtimes$				
Ecological rese	earch		Training & capacity-building	$\boxtimes$				
Education and	awareness	$\boxtimes$	Law enforcement	$\boxtimes$				
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues					
Socio-economi	c research	$\boxtimes$	Captive breeding	$\boxtimes$				
Range mapping	9	$\boxtimes$	Reintroduction/release					
Habitat researc	h	$\boxtimes$						
For each box ti	For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below							

**Anti-poaching:** The population dynamic high fluctuation of Mongolian Saiga and its diminishing observed year to year. The main reason is the illegal hunting, except natural and climate conditions and habitate fragmentation. Thus, the objective of the present project is to reduce the illegal hunting which is affecting to the diminishing of Saiga population. As some networks of illegal hunting and trade in horns of Mongolian Saiga were revealed and appropriate legal responsibilities were imposed to them, local people are becoming aware of improved control and inspection. As a result of which, 6 cases of illegal hunting of Saiga, one case of illegal trade of Saiga's horn were revealed and appropriate legal responsibilities were imposed to the guilty people. Also, anti-pouching unit, during its round control, was conducting propagandising on law on hunting, with an aim to decrease illegal hunting of the Saiga. Local people appreciate that because this anti-pouching unit is working well, illegal hunting of Saiga has been relatively decreasing.



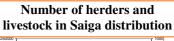
Population monitoing: Since 1998, the WWF Mongolia and researchers of Institue **Biology** determined the distribution area and population monitoring in Sharga and Khuisiin Gobi. According to our survey in March, 2005, there are 1020 saiga by accounting density of 1.25 head per 1,000 hectare in Sharga, Khuis gobi and Durgun steppe. During harsh winter with severe snow of 2002, 80% of the Mongolian Saiga was dead.

Due to dominance of dry climate around the year domestic cattle and wild animals could live on the basis of open water sources. In particular, the saiga heavily suffers from water shortage in periods from grass dry up to first snowing, winter without snow, from snow melting to start of grass growing in spring and drought in summer as well. Due to lack of water allotment there are high density of cattle and people around the water source. So wild animals such as saiga and black tailed Gazelles obtain very small amount of water and even in some area they could not have a drop of water (Shar boorog, Khokhmort, Makht, Burgas).

**Education and awareness:** WWF Mongolia organized local and international workshops of Mongolian Saiga (*Saiga tatarica mongolica*) in 2004.

- Management plan of Mongolian Saiga conservation in 2001
- Action plan of Mongolian Saiga in 2004

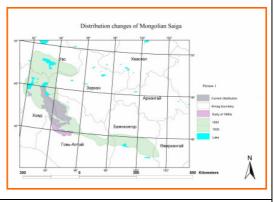
**Socio economy research:** Socio-economic survey in the Saiga habitat was conducted per the period from January 11, 2006 to February 20, 2006. The results of the survey shows that Saiga habitat competition with domestic livestock its high threat in Spring and Autumn. Also illegal hunting occurs near the center roads the most. Gap analyse on all information of the survey was made by GIS programme and published, which helped to carry out monitoring further.





**Range mapping:** The current range of Mongolian saiga is only 20% of the historical distribution (L.Amgalan, S.Dulamsuren)

Vegetation map of Saiga distribution was developed in 2001 by WWF, Mongolia.



Habitate research: We have database on habitate of Mongolian Saiga.

**Protected area management:** The Nature Reserve, which covers 390,000 hectare, that was established in 1993 in order to conserve endangered two populations of Mongolian saiga in western part of the country. Within the Mongolian saiga conservation project being implementing by WWF, useful locations for the saiga rangers in Saiga main habitat. The saiga rangers were provided with binoculars, information collecting tables, radio communication and writing instruments and a map with scale of 1:200,000. The rangers do regular patrolling by their private motocycle but the petrol and salary are provided by the project. All of the rangers had learnt a method how to make a saiga monitoring.

There is no stable policy and activities carried out by the Sharga-Mankhan Nature Reserve administration. Salaries and supplies of the soum's saiga rangers could not be included in the state budget. There is no nature conservation administration with intensive and independent activity in the saiga area.

**Training and capacity building:** Rangers of Saiga participated in training course of 45 days in 2001. 1. Lack of training for Ranger

2. All the saiga rangers do not have sufficient experience for saiga conservation.

3. There are also difficulties to provide the saiga rangers with necessary equipment, transport means.

# Alternative livelihood:

Problems:

1. Lower income of the human population leads them to hope in obtaining extra natural resources.

2. Number of the domestic herds had increased without any control due to the privatization.

3. Absence of the market to sell the domestic animal raw materials led the herding families to sell the product to street vendors with price lower than real market rate. As a consequence of this the herding families' real income has been reducing by 2 or 3 times.

4. There is no sufficient provision of public and health service for rural communities.

5. There is also insufficient knowledge on use of some woods for fuel and it is potential to expand desertification.

6. Unable surveys about human population.

7. Insufficient public awareness raising activities among local communities.

**Law enforcement:** With the funding and timely assistance of LHF, WWF Mongolia has implemented Saiga conservation projects in Mongolia.

One of the main factors of the saiga head decrease and not growing of the species further is a poachery.

Despite Mongolians do not use the saiga meat and skin in their living, the saiga horns are traditionally

used to treat some sickness such as decreasing inner temperature and some inner organ (kidney) illness. Poachers chase the saiga herds by autovehicles and shoot the fattest male saiga. It results not only in diminishing the numbers but also in breaking the herd structure and gender age ratio. Chasing by auto vehicle causes the herd many worse impacts like leaving its location and scattering, and having a miscarriage. Interest in the saiga horn was very active in 1990s but it decreased in some period. The interest among people again resumed in last 2-3 years and even people started to talk about drinking the saiga blood. Poached saiga horns are being sent to China. But there is no official statistics in Ministry of Nature and Environment and Customs administration about number of hunted saiga and confiscated saiga horns a year. In some side, it is related to that customs officials can not identifythe saiga horns. There was a customs case in 1983, which confiscated 84 pieces of Mongolian saiga from a Chinese citizen. It was 27 pairs and 30 odd horns of 57 male saiga in total (Dulamtseren, 1995). Most of the poachers are local cattle breeders or ethnic people who came from big cities.

Considering the importance of policy level conservation activities such as lobbying for incorporating of conservation and sustainable use concepts into policy documents, WWF Mongolia initiated a round table discussion involving all stakeholders for re-assessing ecological and economical value of the most widely used wild species. According to previous assessment, Mongolian Saiga and Musk Deer ecological and economical values were estimated as 40,000 MNT (approx. 37 USD). After lengthy discussions with the Ministry of the Environment and scientific endeavours from the aforementioned activities, Mongolian Saiga and Musk Deer ecological and economical values were re-estimated and approved by the Government Resolution # 248, December 14, 2005 at massive 2 mln MNT (approx. 1666 USD).

# **Problems:**

- 1. Saiga rangers do not carry out regular patrolling.
- 2. Border guard and customs officials have insufficient knowledge to identify the saiga horns.
- 3. Local people hunt the saiga by chasing them by motocycles.
- 4. No database of illegal trade

Captive breeding: We are making Saiga feasibility study for breeding and re-introduction.

# Project Summary: 2 projects of Saiga is implementing in Mongolia.

1. Mongoian Saiga conservation in Sharga and Khuisiin gobi.

Thus, the objective of the present project is to reduce the illegal hunting which is affecting to the diminishing of Saiga population. The project is contributing to the Action plan of MongolianSaiga conservation and decrease illegal trade of horns of Mongolian Saiga.

2. Conservation of Mongolian Saiga Antelope: Feasibility study on re-introduction to its former range in the Great Lakes Basin.

The goal of the project is to a conduct a feasibility study on the reintroduction of the Mongolian Saiga Antelope to a suitable habitat in the Great Lakes Basin.

# **Planned Activities:**

- <u>Strengthen anti-poaching operations:</u> Some support has been received from the Large Herbivore Foundation and WWF-Netherlands, additional support is needed to establish and operate an anti-poaching unit.
- <u>Stop illegal trade:</u> Additional support is needed to train custom and border officers, to monitor the market, to identify illegal traders and to create awareness. An anti-poaching unit would strengthen existing links to the Gobi National park and cooperate in controlling illegal trade along the border with China.
- <u>Reduce competition with livestock:</u> Introduce sustainable pasture management in

<ul> <li>critical habitats lambing areas. Reduce livestock numbers in Saiga habitat by developing alternative income sources for herders.</li> <li>Establish a Saiga population in a well managed and well protected area: This is vital to ensure its survival and to provide a breeding nucleus from where the species can spread again into its historic range.</li> <li>Establish a captive breeding and reintroduction of Mongolian saiga</li> </ul>
Achievements to date:
<b>Reports / Publications / Information material:</b> Technical Progress reports of WWF, Mongolia
<b>Collaborators:</b> Ministry of Nature and Environment, State Spezialist Inspection Agency and local people
Budget available:
Current sponsors: LHF, MAVA
Past sponsors: LHF and WWF Netherlands
Information contributed by: Yo.Onon, species officer of WWF Mongolia
Date report submitted:
Other:

5

### PROJECT REPORT FORMAT FOR SAIGA ANTELOPE ACTIVITIES

This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (Saiga tatarica tatarica); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Project:								
Country:	China		Turkmenistan					
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan					
	Mongolia		International	$\boxtimes$				
	Russia							
Larry Killmar Dave Wildt, 54	Organisation / Contact details: Centers for Conservation and Species Survival (CCSS) / Larry Killmar, 619-685-3225 <u>lkillmar@sandiegozoo.org</u> Dave Wildt, 540-635-65389, <u>wildtd@si.edu</u> Evan Blumer, 740-638-5030, <u>eblumer@thewilds.org</u>							
Duration of pr	<b>Duration of project:</b> from2007 to2017							
Location(s) of	main activity: Sa	n Diego Wild An	imal Park, San Diego, California, U	SA				
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica tat	tarica 🛛 🖂	1					
	Saiga tatarica me	ongolica 🗌	]					
Areas of work	:							
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration					
Population mor	nitoring	$\boxtimes$	Protected area management	$\boxtimes$				
Ecological rese	arch	$\boxtimes$	Training & capacity-building					
Education and a	awareness		Law enforcement					
Alternative live	elihoods		Trade issues					
Socio-economi	c research		Captive breeding	$\boxtimes$				
Range mapping	<b>7</b>	$\boxtimes$	Reintroduction/release	$\boxtimes$				
Habitat research	h							

For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below

Project Summary: The CCCSS is a consortium of large landholding zoos in North America that is interested in developing both ex-situ and in-situ conservation activities on saiga antelope. The consortium is capable of importing and establishing breeding herds in the US and supporting both captive and natural populations in the range countries. We are interested in forming partnerships that compliment our strengths in conservation.

Planned Activities: Identify partner organizations for both captive breeding and ecological studies of natural populations. Establish timeline and logistics of import of saiga antelope into US through hoofstock quarantine facility at San Diego Wild Animal Park, with first breeding herds established at The Wilds, in Ohio.

Achievements to date:

Saiga conservation identified as one focal issue of newly formed consortium. Fundraising mechanisms and structure of organization in place.

**Reports / Publications / Information material:** 

**Collaborators:** Zoological Society of San Diego, The Wilds, The National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center, Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, White Oak Conservation Center.

**Budget available:** 

**Current sponsors:** 

Past sponsors: Zoological Society of San Diego

Information contributed by: Larry Killmar, William McShea

Date report submitted:

\_18/08/2006\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/yyyy

Other:

This reporting format is designed to collate information on projects carried out by governmental and non-governmental organisations working on any aspect of Saiga conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at the upcoming Saiga Technical Workshop and later the Saiga MoU meeting. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*); (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Project:							
Country:	China			Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan			Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia			International	$\boxtimes$		
	Russia						
Organisation / lkillmar@sane		ls: San Diego /	<b>Zoo</b> / 1	Larry Killmar, 619-685-3225			
Duration of p	roject: from	1962		to1996			
Location(s) of	main activity:	San Diego Wi	ild An	imal Park, San Diego, Californ	ia, USA		
Sub-species:	Saiga tatarica	tatarica	$\boxtimes$				
	Saiga tatarica	mongolica					
Areas of work	:						
Anti-poaching				Habitat restoration			
Population more	nitoring			Protected area management			
Ecological rese	earch			Training & capacity-building			
Education and	awareness			Law enforcement			
Alternative live	elihoods			Trade issues			
Socio-economi	c research			Captive breeding	$\boxtimes$		
Range mapping	g			Reintroduction/release			
Habitat researc	h						
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below							

Project Summary: Captive breeding of individuals was conducted at ZSSD over a 35 year period. 118 offspring were produced during this program, with cooperation from many associated zoos in US and Europe.

Planned Activities: No captive animals are presently part of our collection but plan to collaborate within C2S2 to import more individuals

# Achievements to date:

San Diego Zoo has a long history of care, breeding and management of saiga antelope. We first received 1.1 of this species on the 17 March 1962 from the Moscow Zoo, those animals never reproduced and died in 1962 and 1963 respectively.

On 25 November 1970, 1.1 where received at the Wild Animal Park from the Albuquerque Zoo another 1.0 from the San Francisco Zoo on 22 January 1971 and another 1.0 from the Oklahoma City Zoo on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 1973.

These animals made up the first breeding herd at the WAP. The first birth occurred on May 13 1975 and that animal died two days later. From that first birth another 117 offspring where born at the WAP with the last birth occurring on 16 May 1996.

During that 21 year period another 2.1 where received from Dallas Zoo on 13 Dec. 1979, 1.1 from Dallas Zoo on 5 March 1981, 1.1 from a private collection (Earl Tatum) on 11. Dec. 1989, 1.0 from the Los Angeles Zoo on 19 February 1991 and finally 1.0 from the Cologne Zoological Gardens, Germany.

The last group of saiga in San Diego where moved from the WAP to the Zoo (0.5) on May 20, 1998 for exhibition only and the last animal in our collection died on January 28, 2002.

Of the 118 births, 95 survived for 30 days or more or an 81% survival rate.

San Diego Zoological Park have a quarantine facility certified for import of hoofstock into U.S.

# **Reports / Publications / Information material:**

**Collaborators:** Moscow Zoo, Albuquerque Zoo, San Francisco Zoo, Oklahoma Zoo, Dallas Zoo, Los Angeles Zoo, Cologne Zoological Gardens

**Budget available:** 

**Current sponsors:** 

Past sponsors: Zoological Society of San Diego

Information contributed by: Larry Killmar, William McShea

Date report submitted:

\_18/08/2006\_\_\_\_ dd/mm/yyyy

Other: