

TERMEZ, Uzbekistan

COUNTRY: UZBEKISTAN

GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES: 37°19' N; 67°06' E

ALTITUDE: 281-290 m

AREA: 8,400 ha

MAP:



OVERVIEW: It is protected site in the flood land of the Amudarya River with cultivated grain fields which are good forage reserve for migrating and wintering water birds.

WCASN CRITERION AND QUALIFIERS

Criterion 1: Site's Importance for Siberian Cranes

Sub-criterion 1.4: *There are no records of Siberian Crane at a site, but it is considered to contain appropriate habitat for the species (wide expanses of shallow water containing appropriate food resources, and with low levels of disturbance) and it is suitable for release and reintroduction projects (e.g., safety of the site is secured, a management regime is in place, etc.).*

The Siberian Crane has never been recorded on this territory. However it is considered a suitable habitat for this species (extensive shoal with rich food resources and a low level of disturbance) with the purpose of introducing this disappearing species using birds reared in captivity.

Research on the ecological conditions of the territory were conducted (habitats, climatic conditions of wintering, threats, forage reserve), phenology and dynamics of number of Eurasian Cranes during winter and spring migration with support of the International Crane Foundation in 2004-2005. The territory can be considered a suitable wintering location for captive-reared Siberian Cranes.

Qualifier 1: Site's importance for other crane species: the site is important for other crane species when it is known to support a total of 25 or more migratory cranes (which can be of more than one species) at any stage of their life cycle (e.g., breeding, migration stop-over (staging), non-breeding birds (wintering), etc.).

The site is an important wintering site of the Eurasian Crane discovered in 2001. Since that time annual counts has been conducted with results up to 12,000 cranes.

Qualifier 2: Site's importance for other waterbird species

Sub-qualifier 2.1: *A site should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 20,000 or more migratory waterbirds during migration periods.*

More than 20,000 waterbirds spend the winter in the territory. According to annual winter counts in 2003 55,868 birds of 30 species including the basic species: Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*) (18,996), Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) (5,728), Eurasian Crane (*Grus grus*) (11,652) were registered; in 2004 – 68,881 birds of 38 species including the basic species: Greylag Goose (17,512), Mallards (14,057), Eurasian Crane (22169), Lapwing (*Vanelus vanellus*) (2193); in 2005 – 39,811 birds of 40 species including the basic species: Greylag Goose (5942), Mallards (9360), and Eurasian Crane (10745).

Sub-qualifier 2.3: A site should be considered internationally important if it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of migratory waterbird.

Threshold values for Greylag Goose (2,650), Mallards (8,750), Eurasian Cranes (700), Demoiselle Cranes (*Anthropoides virgo*) (1,000). In 2005 Little Bustard (*Tetrax tetrax*) (globally threatened species) was counted during migration (up to 3,200) and in wintering site (up to 5,000).

WETLAND TYPES (according to Ramsar classification):

Inland wetland

- L** Permanent inland deltas.
- M** Permanent rivers/streams/creeks; includes waterfalls.
- Sp** Permanent saline/brackish/alkaline marshes/pools.
- Tp** Permanent freshwater marshes/pools; ponds (below 8 ha), marshes and swamps on inorganic

Human-made wetlands

- 3** Irrigated land; includes irrigation channels and rice fields.
- 4** Seasonally flooded agricultural land (including intensively managed or grazed wet meadow or pasture).
- 9** Canals and drainage channels, ditches.

JURISDICTION:

- a) territorial jurisdiction:** Surkhan-Darya Region, Uzbekistan
- b) functional jurisdiction:** Surkhan-Darya Regional Government Department. Republic Boundary Service. Regional Committee on Wildlife Management.

MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY: Surkhan-Darya Regional Government Department; Muzrabad regional government department

NAME AND ADDRESS OF COMPILER:

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