

# MONGOLIA

**RAMSAR CONVENTION CAME INTO FORCE 1998**

**NUMBER OF RAMSAR SITES DESIGNATED** (at 31 August 2005) **11**

**AREA OF RAMSAR SITES DESIGNATED** (at 31 August 2005) **1,439,530 ha**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY FOR RAMSAR CONVENTION**

**Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Nature and Environment**

**RAMSAR DESIGNATION IS:**

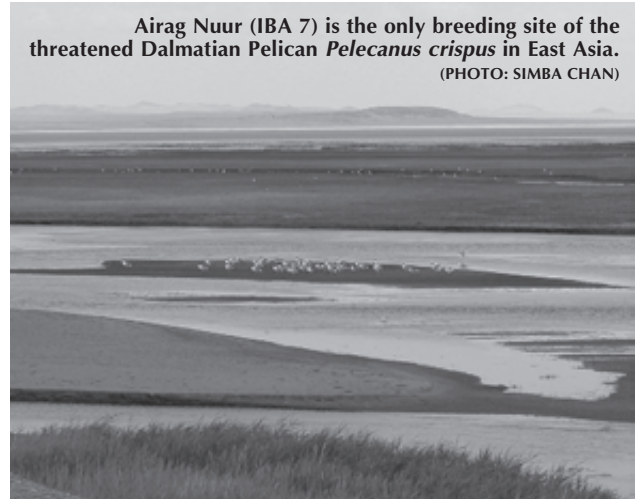
**Complete in 2 IBAs**

**Partial in 11 IBAs**

**Lacking in 26 IBAs**

Although much of Mongolia is arid and the dominant habitats are desert and steppe, there are some rich wetlands that support important breeding and migratory populations of waterbirds. Mongolia has the only breeding population of the threatened Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus* in East Asia, and significant breeding populations of the threatened Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides*, White-naped Crane *Grus vipio* and Relict Gull *Larus relictus*.

Mongolia only ratified the Ramsar Convention as recently as 1998, but since then it has been actively involved in wetland conservation. Eleven Ramsar Sites have been designated to date, making Mongolia the country with the sixth highest number of Ramsar Sites in the Asia region (after China, India, Pakistan, Japan and eastern Russia); the area of these 11 sites is 1,439,530 ha, the third largest total area of Ramsar Sites in the region (after eastern Russia and China). All 11 Ramsar Sites overlap with IBAs, and the Valley of Lakes Ramsar Site overlaps with three IBAs, and an additional 26 potential Ramsar Sites have been identified in the country.



**Airag Nuur (IBA 7) is the only breeding site of the threatened Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus* in East Asia.**  
(PHOTO: SIMBA CHAN)

**Location of Important Bird Areas in Mongolia that contain areas that qualify as Ramsar Sites.**



**Summary of Important Bird Areas that contain areas that qualify as Ramsar Sites in Mongolia.**

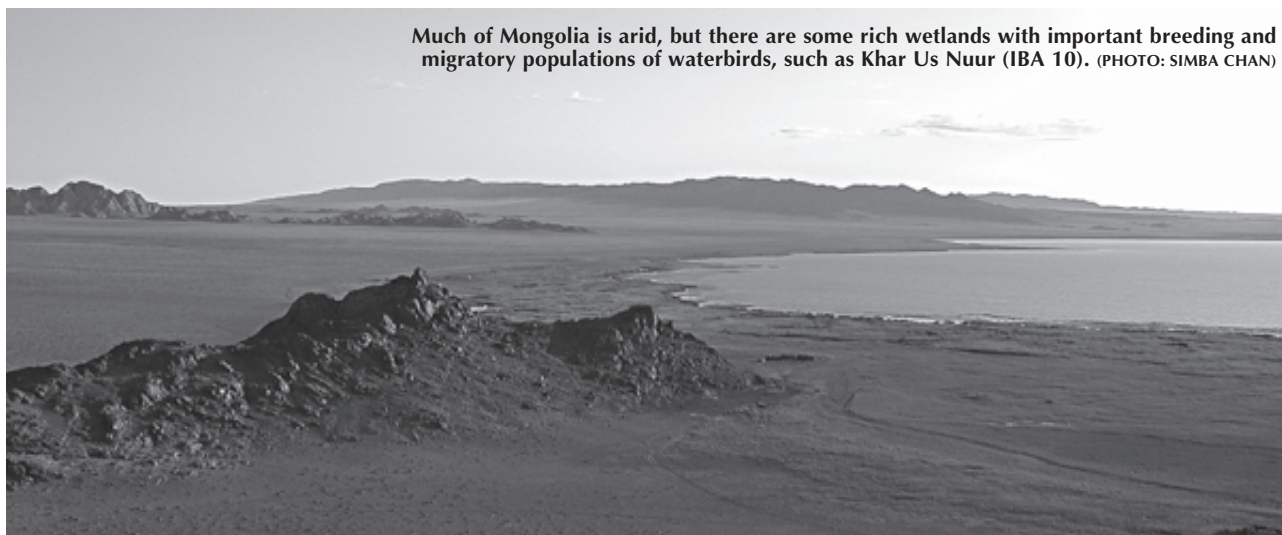
**Ramsar designation of IBA complete (2 IBAs)**

IBA	IBA name	IBA area (ha)	Ramsar Site name	Ramsar Site area (ha)	Ramsar criteria			
					2	4	5	6
4	Achit Nuur	73,700	Lake Achit and its surrounding wetlands	73,730	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Valley of Khurkh-Khutien	42,900	Lakes in the Khurkh-Khutien Valley	42,940	✓	✓	✓	✓

Ramsar designation of IBA partial (11 IBAs)					
IBA	IBA name	IBA area (ha)	Ramsar Site name	Ramsar Site area (ha)	Ramsar criteria 2 4 5 6
6	Uvs Nuur	100,000	Lake Uvs and its surrounding wetlands	585,000	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
7	Airag Nuur	34,800	Ayrag Nuur	45,000	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
10	Khar Us Nuur	140,400	Har Us Nuur National Park	321,360	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
18	Boon Tsagaan Nuur	54,800	Valley of Lakes (Boon Tsagaan Nuur, Taatsiin Tsagaan Nuur, Adgiin Tsagaan Nuur, Orog Nuur)	45,600	✓ ✓ ✓
19	Orog Nuur	28,000			
20	Taatsiin Tsagaan Nuur	15,600			
26	Terhiin Tsagaan Nuur	26,800	Terhiyn Tsagaan Nuur	6,110	✓ ✓ ✓
27	Ogii Nuur	15,200	Ogii Nuur	2,510	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
36	Mongol Daguur	65,000	Mongol Daguur (Mongolian Dauria)	210,000	✓ ✓ ✓
38	Buir Nuur	43,200	Lake Buir and its surrounding wetlands	104,000	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
40	Ganga Nuur	32,800	Lake Ganga and its surrounding wetlands	3,280	✓ ✓ ✓

Ramsar designation of IBA lacking (26 IBAs)					
IBA	IBA name	IBA area (ha)			Ramsar criteria 2 4 5 6
1	Khoton Nuur and Khorgon Nuur at Altai Tavan Bogd National Park	34,000			✓ ✓ ✓
2	Dayan Nuur at Altai Tavan Bogd	20,800			✓ ✓ ✓
3	Tolbo Nuur	24,400			✓ ✓ ✓
5	Uureg Nuur	44,800			✓ ✓ ✓
8	Baga Nuur and Bayan Nuur of the Zuungovi	6,800			✓ ✓
9	Bulgan River	36,800			✓
11	Khar Nuur	25,200			✓ ✓ ✓
13	Khomyn tal	35,600			✓ ✓ ✓
14	Santmargatsyn Bayan Nuur	14,800			✓ ✓ ✓
15	Otgontenger mountain	95,500			✓ ✓ ✓
16	Telmen Nuur	51,600			✓ ✓ ✓
17	Small lakes near Chamdmani Tolgoi, Jargalant soum	50,400			✓ ✓ ✓
21	Ulziitiin Sangiin Dalai Nuur	4,000			✓ ✓ ✓
22	Darkhad basin	109,900			✓ ✓ ✓
23	Khovsgol Nuur	86,000			✓ ✓ ✓
24	Erkhel Nuur	2,400			✓ ✓ ✓
25	Khovsgoliin Sangiin Dalai Nuur	16,500			✓ ✓ ✓
28	Teshigiin Olon Nuur	12,800			✓ ✓ ✓
29	Airkhan Nuur	11,200			✓ ✓ ✓
30	Dashinchilen Bayan Nuur	50,200			✓ ✓ ✓
31	Selengiin Tsagaan Nuur	18,000			✓ ✓ ✓
32	Confluence of Orkhon and Selenge rivers	26,800			✓ ✓ ✓
34	Onon-Balj	78,000			✓ ✓ ✓
35	Tsengeleg Nuur	25,000			✓ ✓ ✓
37	Khukh Nuur	13,200			✓ ✓ ✓
39	Tashgain Tavan Nuur	31,200			✓ ✓ ✓

Much of Mongolia is arid, but there are some rich wetlands with important breeding and migratory populations of waterbirds, such as Khar Us Nuur (IBA 10). (PHOTO: SIMBA CHAN)



Summary of the occurrence of globally threatened wetland-dependent bird species within the selected IBAs in Mongolia.

IBA	Dalmatian Pelican <i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	Oriental Stork <i>Ciconia boyciana</i>	White-headed Duck <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	Swan Goose <i>Anser cygnoides</i>	Lesser White-fronted Goose <i>Anser erythropus</i>	Baikal Teal <i>Anas formosa</i>	Baer's Pochard <i>Aythya baeri</i>	Pallas's Fish-eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucorhynchus</i>	Greater Spotted Eagle <i>Aquila clanga</i>	Imperial Eagle <i>Aquila heliaca</i>	Siberian Crane <i>Grus leucogeranus</i>	White-naped Crane <i>Grus vipio</i>	Hooded Crane <i>Grus monacha</i>	Red-crowned Crane <i>Grus japonensis</i>	Sociable Lapwing <i>Vanellus gregarius</i>	Relict Gull <i>Larus relictus</i>	White-throated Bushchat <i>Saxicola insignis</i>	Marsh Grassbird <i>Megalurus phyeri</i>	Total
1	✓																		2
2																	✓		1
3								✓											1
4				✓				✓											2
5				✓				✓											2
6	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓										7
7	✓		✓	✓				✓		✓									5
9				✓						✓							✓		3
10	✓		✓	✓				✓									✓		5
11	✓		✓	✓				✓									✓		4
13	✓							✓									✓		3
14	✓							✓											2
15																	✓		1
16				✓							✓								2
17	✓			✓															2
18	✓			✓				✓									✓		4
19	✓			✓													✓		3
20	✓							✓									✓		3
21				✓															1
22								✓				✓							2
23				✓		✓		✓					✓						5
26				✓				✓											1
27	✓			✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		✓				8
28			✓	✓				✓		✓		✓	✓		✓				5
29				✓				✓		✓		✓							3
30				✓								✓							2
31				✓															1
32				✓		✓													2
33				✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					7
34				✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					8
35				✓								✓							2
36				✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	8
37				✓								✓	✓				✓		4
38		✓		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓					✓		7
39				✓			✓					✓		✓					4
40				✓								✓							2
Total	12	1	5	27	1	5	1	18	2	7	6	13	6	3	2	11	3	1	



Eurasian Spoonbills *Platalea leucorodia* at Uvs Nuur (IBA 6), one of 11 Ramsar Sites designated by Mongolia since it joined the Convention in 1998. (PHOTO: SIMBA CHAN)