

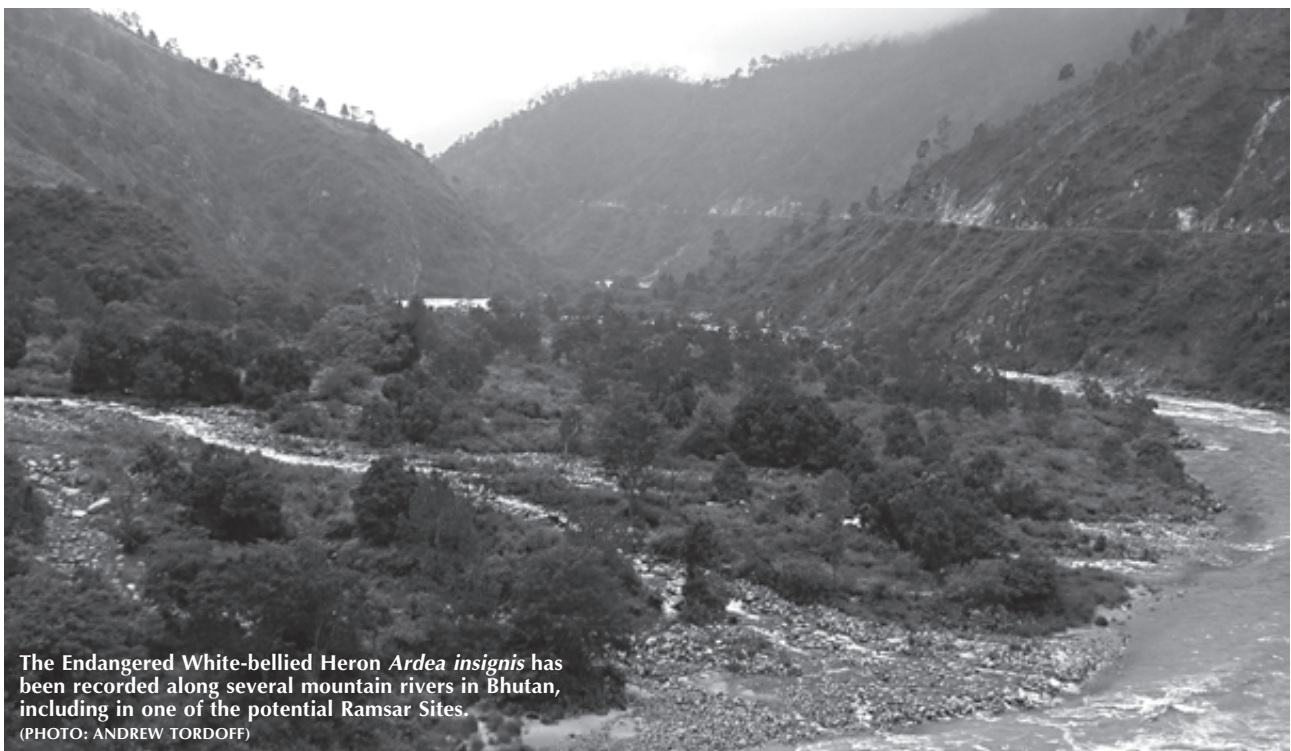
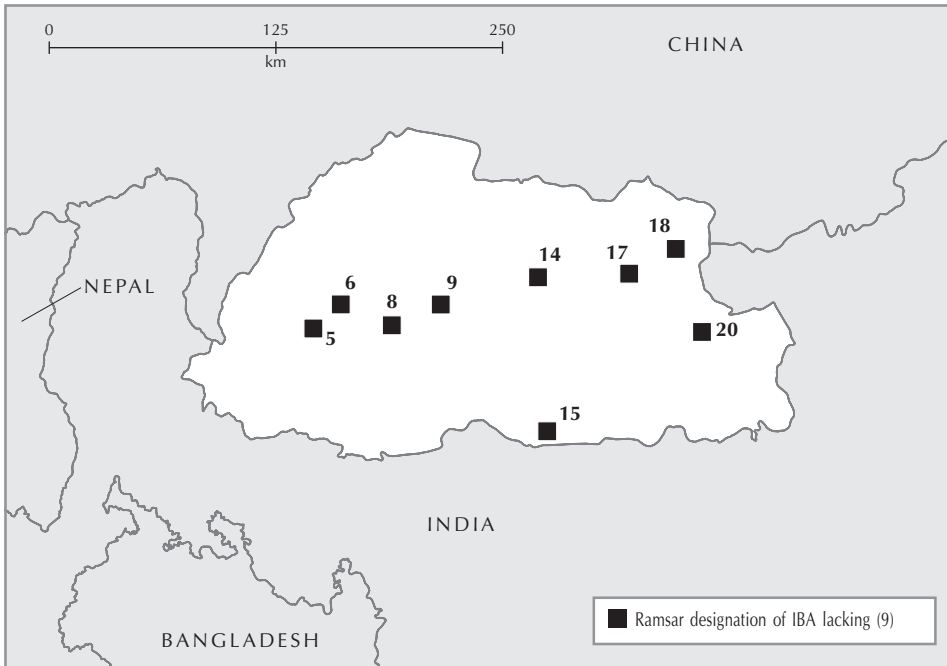
■ BHUTAN

NOT A CONTRACTING PARTY TO THE RAMSAR CONVENTION (at 31 August 2005)

RAMSAR DESIGNATION IS:
Lacking in 9 IBAs

Most of Bhutan is mountainous, and there are few wetlands in the country other than rivers and glacial lakes. However, the largest wintering population of the globally threatened Black-necked Crane *Grus nigricollis* outside China is found in several

marshy river valleys in Bhutan, and the country's wetlands are also believed to be important for the threatened Wood Snipe *Gallinago nemoricola*. A total of nine potential Ramsar Sites have been identified in Bhutan.

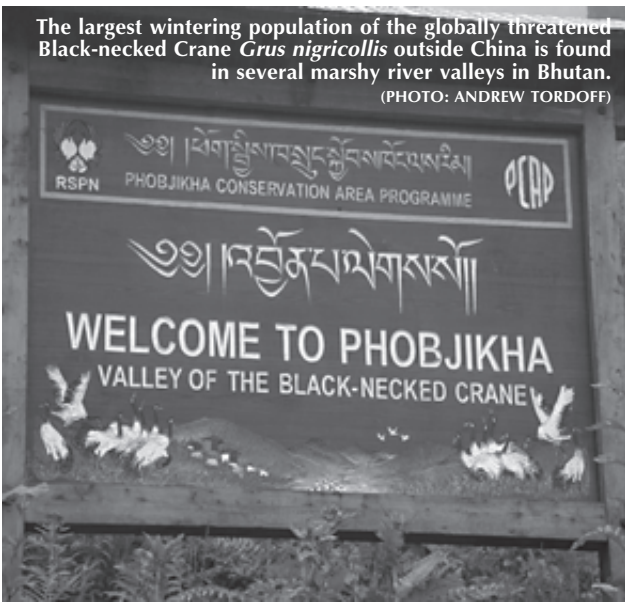


Summary of Important Bird Areas that contain areas that qualify as Ramsar Sites in Bhutan.

Ramsar designation of IBA lacking (9 IBAs)			Ramsar criteria			
IBA	IBA name	IBA area (ha)	2	4	5	6
5	Paro wetlands	2,000	✓			
6	Thimphu wetlands	2,000	✓			
8	Ada lake / Puna Tsangchu	35,000	✓	✓		✓
9	Phopjika and Khatekha valleys	3,500	✓	✓		✓
14	Bumthang wetlands	2,000	✓			
15	Royal Manas National Park	97,500	✓			
17	Menji wetland	2,000	✓			
18	Bumdelling Wildlife Sanctuary	125,000	✓	✓		✓
20	Kanglung wetlands	1,000	✓			

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

IBA	White-bellied Heron <i>Ardea insignis</i> EN	Pallas's Fish-eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucorhynchus</i> VU	Black-necked Crane <i>Grus nigricollis</i> VU	Wood Snipe <i>Gallinago nemoricola</i> VU	Total
5				✓	1
6				✓	1
8	✓	✓			2
9			✓		1
14			✓	✓	2
15		✓			1
17				✓	1
18			✓	✓	2
20				✓	1
Total	1	2	3	6	



The largest wintering population of the globally threatened Black-necked Crane *Grus nigricollis* outside China is found in several marshy river valleys in Bhutan. (PHOTO: ANDREW TORDOFF)



Black-necked Crane *Grus nigricollis*. (PHOTO: PETER LOS)