

## Current Situation and Future of the Protected Areas of Mongolia

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### 1. Introduction

The environmental degradation and the nature resource shortages are contrary influencing with sustainable development of humanity and nationality of the worldwide. Beginning of XXI century, environmental ecological problems deepening and negative consequences continuing to increase. The Mongolian Government nature protection policy aimed to include 30 percent of territory of country under special protection.

In the Government programs indicated about development and widening policy of Special protected areas step by step with aim of

conservation of rare animal, bird, it's habitat resources and ecological important territories. Planned to include under special protection: 15 % of territory of Mongolia in the 1995-2000, 20% in the 2001-2005, 25 % in the 2006-2010, and 30 % in the 2011-2030.

Nowadays, 55 area covering 13.5 percent or 20.9 million hectare territory of Mongolia special protected. The 50.8 % or 12 area as a *strictly protected*, 40.5 % or 19 area as a *national park*, 9.1 % or 18 area as a *natural reserve*, and 0.4 % or 6 area as a *natural monument* status, consequently (Fig. 1).

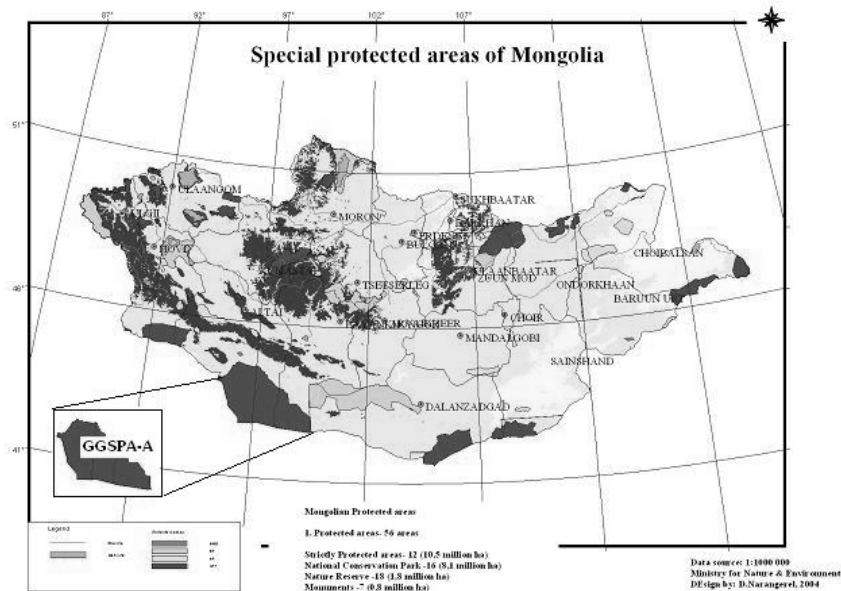


Fig 1. Special protected areas of Mongolia.

## 2. Protected area of Mongolia

In Mongolian conditions, for the establishment of boundary of Special protected areas - need to account geographic positions of territory. Special protected areas, established by this approaches, by mountain boundary or prolongations has a positive influence for conservation and protection of biodiversity and landscape types.

The specialists are utilizing GIS for the management and planning of Special protected area's network. The Photoshop software program utilized interconnection of both of satellite images and mapping representation images. Those methods are much significant with selection of strictly protected area and national conservation park. The economical evaluation of special protected areas is much more significant for theory and practice of development and protection of natural complete.

**The representatives of nature regions:** Make a assessment attempt of involvement of nature regions, zones belts, ecosystems representatives in to the SPA-s. Due of accounting approaches of nature region representatives involvement for the establishment of SPA in beginning period, the 15 nature zones included to the SPA.

**The representatives of nature zones and belts.** Very good SPA representative area is high mountain zone. Total area of this SPA cover a 52 % of high mountain zones.

In the mountain taiga zones situated Bogdkhan uul, Khan Khentii, Khoridol Saridag SPA, Khovsgol lake national park and this area cover a 31.4% of mountain taiga zones. Specially, Hentei taiga was completely protected. Further, on this area possible to enhance SPA-s accounting specific of biodiversity.

In the forest-steppe zones situated Nomrog SPA, Gorkhi-Terelj, Khorgo-Terkhiin tsagaan lake, Tujiin nars, Khogno-Tarna, Onon-Balj national parks, Namnan uul, Khan Jargalant natural reserves, Uran Togoo-Tulga uul natural monument. But protected area covers only 7.1%

of forest-steppe zones.

In the steppe zones situated Eastern Mongolian steppe, Mongol Daguur SPA, Khustain nuruu, Ariganga national parks, Toson-Khulstai, Yakh nuur, Khar Yamaat, Nagalkhaan, Ugtam uul, Sharga, Burkhan Buudai natural reserves, Shillin Bogd-Khorogiin khondii natural monument and this zone has many of representatives. But protected area covers only 3.8% of steppe zones. Not enough territory involved for the protection, and needed to enhancing SPA-s.

In the Gobi zones situated Altan els, Small Gori "B" SPA, Khar-Us lake, Khyargas lake, Gobi-Gurvan saikhan national parks, Zagiin us, Ilkh Nart natural reserves and protected area covers 15.3 % of this zone. Sufficient territory involved for the special protections.

In the desert zones situated Great Gobi, Small Gobi SPA, Gobi-Gurvan saikhan national park, Bulgan gol natural reserve, Eej khairkhan natural monument and protected area covers 21.7 % of this zone. High mountain, mountain taiga, desert zones situated most of SPA-s, covering large area.

**The representative of ecosystem.** The nival glacier, high mountain tundra, mountain taiga, mountain forest, real desert, extra arid-desert, lake ecosystems has a good representatives. Boggy ecosystem has very good representatives, and cool steppe ecosystem has a not much representatives in SPA-s. The Altai-Tavan-Bogd, Otgontenger, Hovsgol lake and Tarvagatain mountain SPA-s presenting mountain complex ecosystems. Accounting establishment criteria of SPA, representatives of nature zone, ecosystem and rare animal, plant species, following SPA-s has more comprehensive representative ecosystems: Gobi-Gurvan-Saikhan national park, Great Gobi, Khan Khentii, Dornod Mongol, Small Gobi strictly protected areas, Uvs lake hollow, Hasagt Khairkhan, Mongol Daguur nature monuments, Altai-Tavan-Bogd, Khar-us lake, Hovsgol lake, Khustain mountain national parks, Sharga-mankhan nature reserves.

#### **Future of sustainable network of special protected area**

In the world level counted that a country will preserve pristine nature land features, if 30% of territory specially protected. Our assessment defined, 27.3 % of territory of Mongolia possible to specially protect, including present SPA-s territory - 209533178 hectare, and possible SPA territory - 19967.3 thousand hectare area both. Addition, together with internationally protected landscape areas, all possible protected areas will comprise up to 30 % territory of country. But, present conditions total SPA-s cover a 13.4 % territory of country is, not sufficient. Therefore, special protection of 30 % territory of country is not occasional calculation. Involving territories of nature zones, belts, ecosystems representatives, habitats of rare, threatened, endangered mammals, rodents, birds, reptiles, insects, and areas with rare, threatened plant species all territories comprising up to 30 % territory of country.

This calculations need to follow Ministry of Nature Environment as a environment policy.

The Government of Mongolia must to take into consideration some measures for development of special protected area's network in the future.

- To make the changes in the classification of special protected area
- To develop the classification of natural reserve area

The transboundary strictly protected areas are playing a vital role in conservation of world biological diversity.

Transboundary Protected Areas are important for rare species, biodiversity, migration of fauna and nature protection. It is important for nature protection of Mongolia as well. First transboundary protected area of Mongolia includes Daguur Strictly Protected area of Mongolia, Daurskii Strictly protected area of Russia and Dalai nuur Strictly protected area of China was

established in 1994.

The total length of the Mongolia boundary is more than 7670 km. Where more than 3000 km with Russia and 4670 km with China. The territory along with Russia and China are untouched, with rare and very rare species and plants. The territory of Mongolia is the frontier of the various natural regions such as of the Siberian taiga, Central Asian semi desert, from west Altai Sayan mountain range, from east Daurian steppe and Khyangan mountain.

The International Jointly Biosphere Reservation establishing will play an important role in providing the ecological balance of the border - area protecting biological species improving mutual confidence of the border areas people co-operating about natural protection and not only in providing regional sustainable development.

The largely special protected areas which were established due to natural zones, regions, ecosystems, biological species, historical and cultural precious monuments, opportunities to develop tourism and others are located to approach quite closely to the state boundary.

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