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**УВС
Аймаг**

**FEASIBILITY STUDY
ON INTRODUCTION OF COMMUNITY BASED
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT CONCEPT**

1. **WWF, Mongolia Programme Office**
2. **Governors' Administration of Uvs aimag**

2007

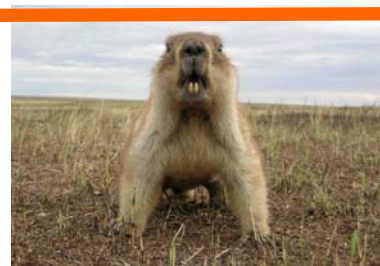


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Foreword

Hunting has been the second major form of economic activities for Mongolians following the animal husbandry. Organized hunting practices were regarded as leisure activities for Great Khans of Mongolia and nobleman since ancient times. However, the hunting practice itself had been regulated stringently with relevant procedures and regulatory acts issued by the Great Khans and nobleman.

According to the Ikh Zasag or Yasu of Chingis Khaan, special quotas and provisions on hunting sites, game species and their harvesting periods were thoroughly set up by then,. The well-known Khalkh Juram the Code of Conduct from 18th century, the articles 127 and 128 provisioned for instance for specific time period for hunting bans and areas freed from hunting.

In times of the centrally planned economy, hunters were referred to professionals organizing planned huntings for export sector.

Once Mongolia entered into the market economy since 1990s, with free trading with China illegal trade of wildlife and products of their origin has been ever on increase. Deer velvet antlers; saiga horns; snow leopard skins as well as fur and skins of squirrel; marmots; red fox, corsic fox and wolf are the items of high demand in the illegal trade network active in Mongolia.

Within the scope of the Mobile Anti-Poaching Unit daily work and patrolling, there was conducted the surveys exploring the extent of illegal wildlife trade and network of supply and demand chains in Uvs, Khovd and Bayan-Olgii aimags. The survey findings reveal that for the period from 2001 through 2004, official statistics support that hunting quotas were issued by the Ministry of Nature and Environment for 61,690 heads for a single species of marmots. However in reality the numbers are 9, 5 higher in amount: with a total value of products reaching 2, 3 billion MNT. On the flip side, the excessive numbers of 525,934 heads of marmots stand for illegally harvested animals. See Graph 1.

Trophy hunting is one of highly popular and profitable form of tourism practiced in Mongolia since 1965. This sector does not require much initial capital investment and is considered to be of the lowest risk and for this same reason the practice has been widely backed by the GoM support. Nevertheless, there is neither business practice nor an entity sharing benefits with local communities to which they are entitled and an interest in sustainable game species. Though there are some local units able to organize trophy hunting at local levels, yet they lack experience and sound scientific knowledge.

Uvs aimag is known with 5-6 annual quotas for argali trophy hunting. On roughly estimating the income from fees collected, MNT 110-160 million should have gone into the coffer of Bokhmoron, Sagil and Khovd soums. According to provisions of relevant laws of Mongolia on hunting and wildlife management, certain portion of that money should have been re-invested back into the conservation of trophy and game species.

Benefit sharing process violates the legal provisions contrary to the game take off and harvesting process in compliance with legal requirements and procedures. It violates the law provisions by deducting from the local budget the amount equal to local share from trophy hunting. Due to this negative practice, the soums suffer double: from loss of game resource and from shortage in budget allotment.

Wildlife conservation conflicts with human interest for consumption. Finding fine balance between these two conflicting interests will be up to local communities safeguarding the resources and their choices can be reflected in local regulations and official decisions.

One such example rests with Uvs aimag Citizen Representative Khural decided to ban argali hunting for 2007 which is highly supported by the WWF Mongolia Country Office.

Our cooperation aims to support the development of local community based wildlife management practice. Using resources sustainably is one of major criterion for instituting sustainable development at local, national, regional and global levels. This in turn heightens environmental sustainability equally with the socio-economic indicators of development process.

Potential Sites for introduction of Community based Wildlife Management Practices

The concept on community based wildlife management is being introduced to Mongolia with no practical experience gained on this. Therefore selecting the pilot site for initial introduction is considered the wisest approach for this. For the start, Bokhmoron and Sagil soums areas of 450 sq.km land will be covered under the pilot stage.

Following are the criteria for selection of these potential sites:

- Creativeness of local community
- Presence of core habitats for major game species: marmots; argali sheep and other wildlife animals
- Areas where both types of hunting of special permitting and commercial huntings practiced
- Since April 2005, the WWF Mongolia program office has been conducting the population dynamics and migration pattern survey for argali sheep. The data and survey findings will serve as the basis for development of proper management scheme for conservation and sustainable use of game species resource.
- With harvesting and take off in place, instituting sustainable use of resources and management that is based on community involvement will ensure the long-term survival for the species.

With recent updates to the Law of Mongolia on Nature Protection, amendments and revisions provision for greater opportunities for exercising the community based resource management schemes through community units such as cooperatives and herder groups.

Feasibility Study Goals and Methods

This time feasibility and opportunities for instituting the community based wildlife management practices were assessed within the scope of our work.

The main goals of the Feasibility Study include: To assess the current situation and local inputs for instituting the community based wildlife management practices for conservation and sustainable use of game species resources on territories of Bokharon and Sagil soums.

Study methods and methodologies: The study team exploits the participatory methods of assessment with the help of interviews with target groups. The target groups include pre-selected groups of limited interviews as well as interviews of randomly selected individuals. Advantage of such methods is providing with data of qualitative nature: high quality; less biased data from a limited number of interviewees. The PRA and PLA methods were used for assessing the baseline situation. It helped to analyze the issue from the multiple perspectives: environmental and ecological conditions; stakeholder analysis and income/expenditure statement analysis etc.

For data collection, following methodologies were followed:

1. Literature review
2. Interview with pre-selected target groups which include local community representatives highly knowledgeable of hunting and harvesting practices in local areas. They include those who are involved in issuance of permits and licenses such as governors and authority figures; environmental inspectors; heads of herder groups and cooperatives; local guides for trophy hunting companies and hunting entities and their directors and relevant officials.
3. Interviews with herder households include interviews of family heads.
4. Random interviews include non-organized talks and interviews of local people in informal settings
5. Stakeholder identification interviews are held in the manner of group interviews starting in informal settings where people can enjoy the opportunities for self-expression. After undertaking the Ice-breaking exercise, the participants are briefed on the meeting purpose and objectives. The participants are divided into 5 sub-groups and asked to produce their answers to the questions within 30 minutes. Each group will be represented by a presenter and groups are provided with the freedom to comment and complement the presentation. In this way, all the questions will be processed by the groups and their answers will be hanging openly so the participants can be reminded on the issues discussed. The discussion usually is wrapped up with the conclusions and recommendations for follow up actions. The meeting will provide the participants with the opportunity to jointly discuss the specifics of the data collection process and exchange viewpoints on pressing issues.

SWOT Analysis (See Annex 1)

Questionnaire for Assessment of the Socio-economic baseline situation (See Annex 2)

Composition of the FS Team:

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2. Otgoo, policy officer of Aimag governors' administration
3. D. Baigalmaa, rural development officer, WWF Mongolia Field office in Khovd
4. B, Bayarmaa, biologist, Uvs SPA Administration Office
5. Mr. Bayanduuren, State environmental inspector, Bokhmoron soum
6. Mr. Mandakh, ranger, Irbis -1 Mobile Anti-poaching Unit
7. Batsukh, State Environmental Inspector, Sagil soum
8. Shi. Gantulga, Driver

The study routes/itinerary:

Ulaangom- Bokhmoron soum center-Gurvan Jigertei Bag- Tsagaan Tunge border unit- Khar Altat bag- Kheviin shireg-Ersnii yorool- Sagil soum Kharig bag center- Doloon Tolgoi border unit-river shores of Sagil river/Urge lake bag herders-USANi san-Khoit beleb bulag-khokh hargain border unit- Sagil soum center-Ulaangom

Gratitude

We express our sincere gratitude to all individuals who unsparingly shared their valuable time and knowledge with us for making this study of success.

Ecological Conditions for the Feasibility Study Area

The study area belongs to the Altai-Sayan eco-regional mountain range of Altai mountains; Kharkhiraa and Turgen; Shivleg and Tsagaan Shuvuut high altitude mountains.

Mongolian Altai region shares many commonalities with the Central Asian highlands. High mountain rivers feed into the inland lakes of Uureg and Uvs. The rivers and lakes are a part of the central Asian closed watershed-Great lakes basin. Climate is harsh continental: average annual temperature reaching -2 to -4 degrees of Celsius, with -18, 5 to -25 degrees of Celsius on average for January and +10 to +15 degrees in July. Absolute heat temperatures of 29 to 35+ degrees, absolute cold reaching - 32 to -38 degrees. The precipitation level equals to 250-350 mm annually in high mountains and in the mountain beds and low lands it is about 80-150 mm. Wind velocity on average for annum is 1,6-5,6 m/sec with the absolute speed of 17-20m/sec.

Soil types belong to the major group of Mongolian Altai mountain region. High mountain alpine soil bordered with the mountain dry soil on the mountain beds. Then the soil type is switched to the light chestnut soil with occasional appearance of Gobi brown soil. With combination of high mountain alpine meadows and mountain steppe eco-systems in Sagil soum, the mountain ridges are rich with rugged terrains.

The vegetation cover is dominated mostly with species of the high altitude alpine meadows and the Gobi desert plants. The alpine meadows, high mountain steppes host the most of the plant species.

The region is rich with the wildlife: mountain ungulates include argali sheep; ibex. Carnivores include corsac fox; red fox; grey wolf; snow leopards; lynx; pallas cats; stone martens; ermine stoats. The rodent family includes tolai hare; pallas pika, Siberian marmot; royle's mountain vole. The bird species composition is specially rich: with altai cock; tsagaan yatuu; hahilag; black vulture; lammergeyer; golden eagle; black kites; saker falcon and waterfowls as Dalmatian pelicans in nearby areas of Khar Us lake.

Siberian marmot resource assessment

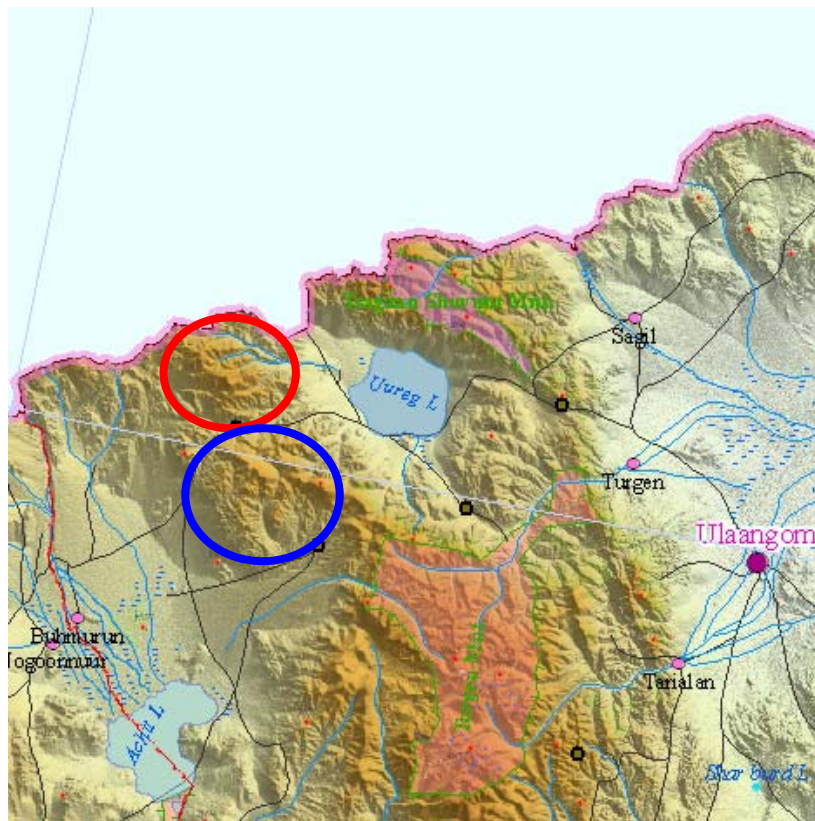
Sagil soum: The marmot population is distributed on habitats areas in Borshoo khairkhan, Zuun turag; DOsh; Byanazurkh, Khargait and Buraat. The locals claim of 2 areas specially Buraat and Tsagaan Gol basin rich with marmots. During the field expedition, the species were observed in most areas: Dosh mountain, Sam Khargai mountain beds; Tuulait am; Shuragtai; Ugalzat up and downstream areas and Baga buraat; Bukh hevteech, Borjoo khairkhan and Zuun turagt areas.

Areas with the highest density of marmot population include: Dosh, Bichigt hooloi; Khorkhoit am; Baga Buraat am; Ugalzat ekh; Borjo khairkhan, Zuun turagt; Dalt davaa and Ulaz khev areas. However in some of these areas, especially in Baga buraat and Ugalzat due to regular over harvesting of resources, the marmot population is in decline. In total, the Sagil soum has 11,179 heads of marmots for an area of 157 sq.km. This equals to 192 individuals per 1000 hectare of land.

Bokhmoron soum: The eastern edge/limit of marmot distribution in the soum is Yamaat mountain and mountainous high lands of Tashuur, Minjuur, Tavan Hudag, Ulaan ereg; Khokh bulag; Ortuut, Gun sai; Khokh sai; Unst are the areas with marmot population. In recent past the marmot distribution range is expanded to the Modon owoo and Gants Ulias areas. For an area of 801 sq.km, there are 20,926 heads of marmots with a density of 261 individuals per 1000 hectare area.

Sustainable use and management of trophy species

Argali sheep population for instance is one of the highly profitable trophy hunting business items. Depending on the impacts of natural and anthropogenic factors, the argali sheep is on constant move. Comparative data analysis from last 10 year population survey conducted in Sagil and Bokhmoron soums of Uvs aimag helps us to estimate the total population size at 220-370 individuals per territory of 453 sq.km area. Major habitats lay in the mountains along the border area in the north of the country. Thus this requires protection of argali habitats along the national border. In Tsagaan Gol of Sagil soum, Yamaat Tsagaan Salaa of Bokhmoron soum areas are occupied by males whereas in Khokh sai, Gun sai areas are core habitats of females. The herds rotate their habitats which are isolated with hills and intermountain valleys. See Map 1.



Map 1. Argali sheep habitat range: ○ core habitats for rams; ○ core habitats of herds of females

With the support of the Ministry of Nature and Environment, jointly with the Biology Institute of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences and Denver Zoo, the WWF Mongolia Program Office has been conducting local survey on argali sheep migration patterns and factors affecting the state of argali population in Uvs aimag border areas since April 2005. For the same purpose, the field station was set up in Khokh sai of Bokmoron soum for tracking signals from radio collars installed. In the border areas, the trophy hunting activities were organized by the Altai Outfitters Company: on average 3-7 rams annually for last 5 years. In 2005, the company took rams within the boundaries of the Tsagaan Shuvuut SPA which resulted in violation and breach of the Protected Area law provisions.

At present, it is required to comply with the requirements of the procedures regulating trophy hunting business. This considers the demand for trophy hunting by foreign hunters. However the practice lacks the benefit sharing mechanism with local communities-direct beneficiaries. As thus there is no sense of stewardship over resources that belong to them. The resources along with the local communities are nearly viewed as private property for trophy hunting companies.

With recent positive policy shifts with the Government of Mongolia on community based wildlife management and promotion of the concept, once the proper mechanisms are in place, the trophy hunting business there is an adequate amount of income generated for local communities and re-investment into conservation of the game species.

At the nationwide level, due to unregulated management of the argali wild sheep resources, in some of the game reserve areas, there is a tendency of escape from the core habitats and threats of radical population decline. Uvs aimag with certain reserves of the game species, they face a totally different type of challenges: local communities not shared with the benefits, conservation measures lacking professional expertise and scaring the whole herds of sheep for taking off a single head.

SUGGESTIONS BY THE BOKHMORON SOUM LOCAL COMMUNITY AND LOCAL AUTHORITY

Soum authority suggestions include following aspects for the sustainable management of the trophy hunting:

- Conservation is to be prioritized in order to have sustainable reserve of game species. The profit earned from the trophy hunting to be channeled into the local reserves rather than getting deducted from the earmarked budget allocation.
- Local communities with the game reserves should be shared with the profits
- Trophy hunting profits are not for filling the gaps in the earmarked budget for local communities. Their efficient use for local development is to be encouraged.
- Game species are to be hunted based on local request for the quota upon conclusion of the formal agreements with the tour-operators specialized in trophy hunting.
- For Sagil and Bokhmoron soums, current hunting practices following the administrative and territorial boundaries are considered to be unacceptable since

both soums are of identical nature for argali sheep serving as common habitats and corridor area for passage and migration.

- For assessment of the game species resources and reserves, the local community is interested in undertaking the joint activities of census and studies under the supervision of professional expertise and research teams.
- For increased involvement of local community into conservation of biological diversity not only limited to argali sheep, it is required to set up community and herder groups addressing effectively the pasture management issues one of vital elements for sound management of game species.
- There are already requests generated by herders from 1st and 2nd bags of Bokhmoron soum on establishment of herder groups.
- Altai Outfitters company takes off the game species at their own disposal without any consultation with and prior notification to local communities. Therefore it is highly recommended for the trophy hunting company to involve local community and local rangers into resource harvesting practice.
- For increased benefit sharing, it is recommended to organize the auctions for hunting quotas on situ/in localities under stringent control.
- For the trophy hunting, the rules and procedures need to be refined in order to regulate effectively the process of harvesting and take off. The procedures and regulations shall integrate the inputs of local communities.
- To support the team of environmental inspectors and rangers as they have a common platform.
- Local community initiatives for formation of community groups are to be supported on due basis.

BOKHMORON SOUM HERDERS INPUTS:

The consultation process involved actively 13 herder households from Hotol otag and 20 families from Tsagaan Tun (Please refer to Annex 4 for the List of Herder Participants)

Suggestions include:

- To collaborate with the Tuva side on stopping poaching and illegal trade of wildlife species on their side
- Hunting and take off practices to be improved and organized properly
- Wolf population is on rise
- The extent of depletion of natural resource base can be witnessed with an example of degraded habitat and shrinking coverage of river willows due to extensive harvesting of wild onions. Before it gets too late, to act on saving and protecting rich fauna and flora species such as argali sheep; wild goat;
- In nearby Shar Hargait area, there used to be a plenty of springs with crystal clean water. They have been used up by local community for drinking water source as well for treatment of illness. Organize communities to re-plant the spring and creek valleys with the river bank willows prior to May 20.
- Most of the female argali sheep migrate to the Mongolian side for wintering habitats. However their winter habitats overlap with the livestock grazing areas. As more and more families tend to reside on the argali habitats, this needs to be urgently regulated.

- Shar Hargai river banks are to be planted with willows and native species of bushes from there. Some community members have submitted their request for formalization of their initiatives for community groups for protection of argali sheep. These initiatives are to be supported by local authorities and advices are appreciated on the available forms of community involvement into environmental protection and stewardship.
- We are not familiarized enough with the community run activities that are within the legal context. However, local community voices for equitable sharing of benefits from trophy hunting and hunting and take off based on restoration and sound management of natural resource base.
- Based on suggestions from local communities, the participants were divided into 2 groups and were tasked to respond to the questions of addressing challenges and potential activities to be run by the formal herder groups.

Local conservation capacity requires following basic knowledge:

1. Know proximate number of argali heads in herds and their distribution
2. Able to distinguish the sheep with their gender
3. Able to conduct monitoring and observations
4. Mobility (horses and motorbikes)

On organizational side, following have been identified as prep. steps:

- To form community groups based on common platforms
- Stakeholder identification and cooperation with traditional partners as Border units and police officers
- Learning by doing on identification and assessment methodologies for game species reserve and resource
- Have own work plan with clear deadlines to reach
- To run community based wildlife management and harvesting practices upon gaining at least 2 year experience in community group business
- To protect the ram core habitats
- Work out incentive mechanisms for informants

Challenges include following:

- Amend relative legislative acts and reinvest up to 60 % of the total income from trophy hunting into local budget for local development
- Illegal take off argali sheep does exist on Tuva side with crossing of the border by 3 wounded rams in 2007
- Communication is required for efficient exchange of information
- Habitat intrusion due to water sources needs substantial investment into resolving the issues related to water points and repair of wells in other than argali habitat areas
- Trust and community unification process is not in place
- Local communities are completely excluded from the trophy hunting business
- Livestock stealing by Russian and Tuva side is on rise

Ways of addressing the challenges:

- Be creative
- Form herder community groups and do not allow the herder to occupy the trans boundary neutral zones
- Improve use and take off for the natural resource base
- Long term protection of resources
- Restoration and replenishment to balance the take off
- Argali sheep community based trophy hunting business to start
- Sustainable use and protection of biological diversity
- Community groups undertaking economic activities are to establish their Revolving funds and reinvest the income for local development.

2 community groups participated in the consultation process approached the issues from 2 different perspectives: the first group of herders described the potential issues and challenges to be faced on way of forming herder groups whereas the second group elaborated more on the potential activities could be undertaken assuming that the herder group is already formed.

SAGIL SOUM MANAGEMENT AND LOCAL COMMUNITY SUGGESTIONS INCLUDE:

The resolution has been issued by the Uureg lake bag Citizen Representative Khural for designation of the nearby areas of Tsagaan Gol, Buraat Hargait and Shiluustei mountain areas for official protection. The local initiative is being currently considered at aimag level. The resolution also urges the local communities to set up their own formal groups for exercising the CBNRM concept at local levels.

Due to selective harvesting of argali sheep by Altai Outfitters trophy hunting company, the adult rams had been over hunted resulted in dominance of rams of younger age and physically not mature ones. As their hunting practice is not sustainable with chase techniques using the car and vehicles, it threatens the wildlife and integrity of its habitats.

One of the most challenging issue is with benefit sharing as the revenue collected from trophy hunting is managed at the central level. Therefore at least local budgets are to be complemented with the additional sources of such revenues as hunting fees.

For setting up communities at local level, community based wildlife management concept is to be integrated into their practices and trophy hunting that is managed at local level.

The local communities are to be trained on community formation process and methodologies.

Within the framework of GEF/UNDP funded Altai Sayan Project, there have been built up 5 local communities, one of which has nearly 5 year experience.

Proposed Inputs by Sagil soum herder groups include following:

- In Khargait, there used to be 300 heads of individual argali sheep in between 1980-1995. Currently there are 70-100 of them. 40 deers were counted at that time, but now with only 14-20 heads left in wild. The wolf population is on increase. Therefore we request for organized huntings for wolves. Argali

- resources has been over harvested in recent past and there is a time to stop this endless human greed.
- Water shortage is faced for wildlife alike the domestic animals. Salt and mineral deposits could be created for the animals.
 - The youth to be taught on traditional conservation methods.
 - There are many types of natural resources either on the brink of depletion or irreversible extinction.
 - Ecological process and ecosystems are being changed and altered to greater extent.
 - Drought is challenge for local communities.
 - Wildfire population is on decline: argali sheep; ibex and marmots are included.
 - Vegetation cover is decreased
 - Mineral resource exploration and exploitation mining licenses are issued
 - Livestock stealing is great problem.
 - Border guards are not performing well.
 - Hunting revenues are not shared in an equitable manner.
 - Altai wild onions are collected to the extent that damages the surrounding environment.
 - Due to decrease of prey species, wildlife is on constant migration in search of food and argali sheep population is on escape from chasing with high speed techniques and vehicles.
 - To organize communities into formal structure so they can protect the wild onion resources in the eastern foothills of the Altai Mountain range.
 - There are about 300 argali sheep in Tsagaan Gol Buraat Area.
 - The eagle population is on rise and hares are on decline. Snow leopards attack livestock.

SWOT ANALYSIS FOR POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS

INSTITUTING COMMUNITY BASED WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESS	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤Communities pertain the best knowledge of local areas ➤Low snow fall and low risk of winter disaster ➤Supply of transportation means (horses and carts); organize huntings ➤Availability of local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤Fear of lacking mutual trust and cooperation ➤Pasture overlapping(livestock & argali sheep); water shortage not addressed due to lack of financial resources ➤Due to lack of knowledge on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ram resources are abundant ➤ Local communities and border guards have more access to areas for regular monitoring and patrolling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤Local communities do not benefit from trophy hunting revenues. ➤3 wounded argali rams crossed the border from Tuva side ➤Lack of communication hinders effective info transmission and reporting on

<p>focal persons such as Ranger Mandakh and wildlife biologist Monkhtsog.</p>	<p>community group formations, not able to benefit from trophy hunting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Knowledge and info required to enable active participation. ➤ Border guards not able to control effectively the livestock stealing from Russian side and often they poach. ➤ About the fate of those collared argali lambs whether the rumor of their dying is true? The researchers and biologists need to inform people on the results of their work, otherwise it creates unnecessary doubts and confusion. 		<p>breaches</p>
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The community members consider of collecting up to 60% of the revenues from trophy hunting into the local budget for local development projects. Following are their ideas on potential use of the collected revenues:

Forming groups and undertake joint activities

- Cooperation and collaboration with other stakeholders such as border guards
- Awareness and advocacy work
- Jointly with the research institutions get involved into the research work and wildlife resource census and surveys
- Develop plans on hunting management and community groups working plans
- Within 2 years develop the local capacity for hunting management so they can start themselves the activities
- Decrease poaching incidents and set up funds for economic incentives for poaching informants for prevention
- Ram population to be taken into consideration for community based conservation work

SWOT analysis for Sagil and Bokhmoron soum authorities, community organizations and environmental inspectors and rangers

Strengths	Weakness	Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cooperation is good amongst environmental agencies and institutions ➤ Uvs aimag governor's office managed to accumulate funding equal to 1 mln MNT from the trophy hunting fees into the local reserve fund. ➤ Local proposal on protection of Areas around Tsagaan Gol: Buraat, Hargait, Shiluustei will soon be adopted and approved at the local government level ➤ WWF implementing Altai Sayan project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Argali sheep resource assessments done at the request of resource extractors. ➤ High discrepancy in Data collected for users and conservation purposes. ➤ Monopoly by the only one existing hunting camp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Uvs aimag Citizen representative khural issued a decree on banning the ram hunting for 1 year period which had been warmly supported by local communities for protecting the depleted game species resource base. ➤ Ram resource base is renewable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Trophy hunting doesn't benefit local communities. ➤ Though Bokhmoron soum is the breeding core area for argali, Sagil soum benefits more in terms of hunting fee allocation to local communities. ➤ Environmental inspectors and rangers are not able to control the activities of Altai Outfitters Company. ➤ As the income from trophy hunting is allocated at the end of year it hinders the process of payment to civil servants ➤ Money should be spent for local development rather than filling the budget gaps. ➤ Over harvesting from Tuva region

The environmental institutions and civil servants focus more on budgetary aspect rather than imposing for law enforcement and compliance for restoration and conservation work. In some cases, personal interests dominate the public concerns.

SWOT Analysis for Tsagaan Tunge, Shar Hargai, Doloon Tolgoi, Khokh Hargai Border Units

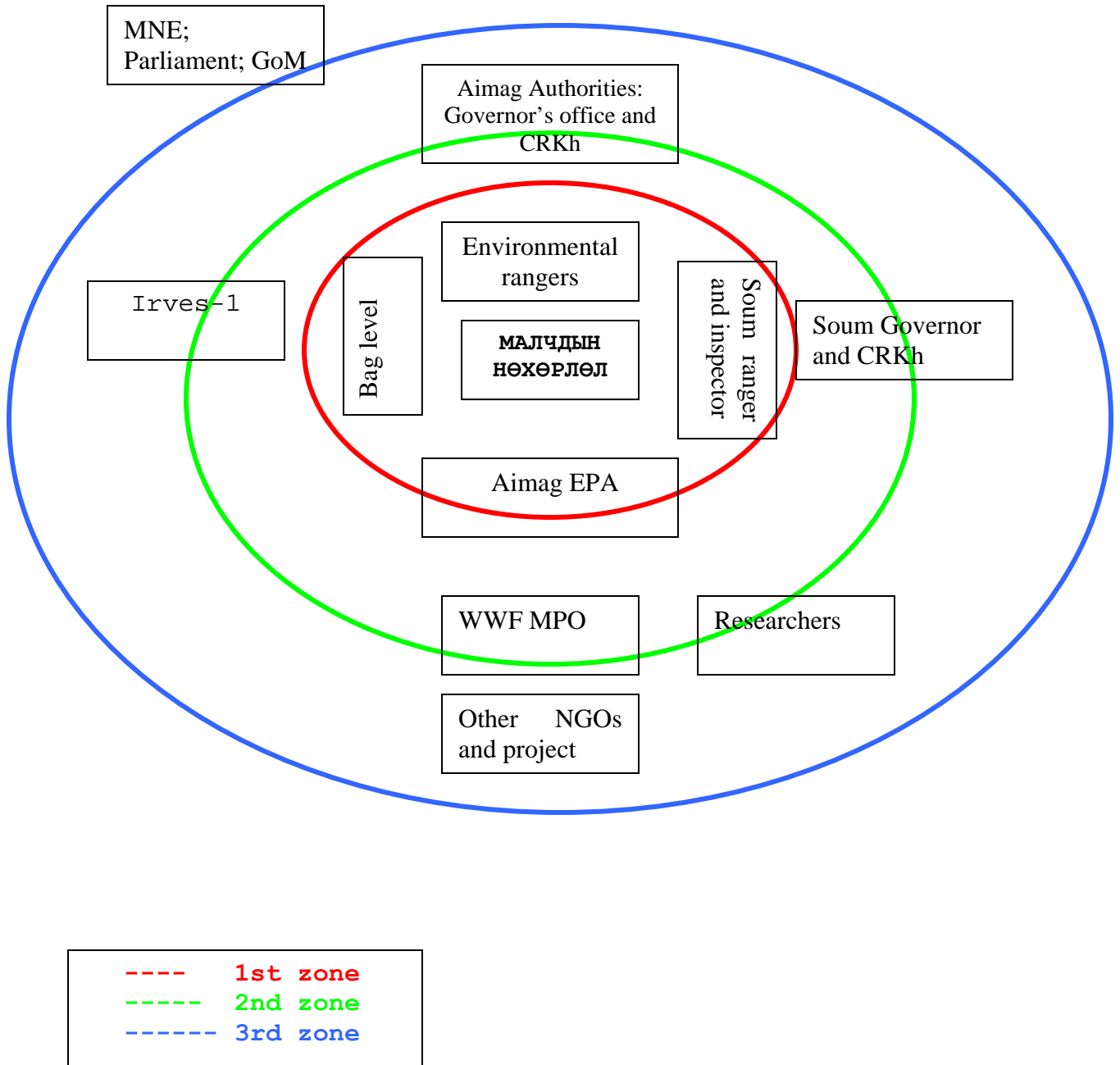
Strengths	Weakness	Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Thanks to regular patrolling, the migration and movement around the border territories for argali sheep can be monitored effectively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Border unit heads do not enjoy all the privileges and rights of the environmental inspector and lack the right for environmental law enforcement. ➤ Lacks conservation knowledge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regular 24/7 operation is available. ➤ 7 border units now have their regular patrolling points and were given night binoculars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For one time patrolling consume the monthly allowance of fuel for 100 liters. For the border of which 20-70 % is not fenced, human resource shortage makes the area hot spot for crimes and border violations. So the place is called Mongolia's Chechnya. ➤ In Tuva, restocking process is underway and this increases the livestock stealing. ➤ Local communities reside in 500 meters close appr. to the border which causes increased rate of livestock stealing and exposure to violence.

The border guards actively participate and support the search operations for lost and stolen livestock. However they tend to ignore and undermine the conservation aspect of their work. Therefore, it is highly recommended to educate and raise their awareness on conservation.

Local community suggestions summarized as following:

1. At the Uvs aimag authority's level, the support to CBNRM and community based wildlife management concepts are in infant stage. They are strong opponents of harvesting of game species in combination with conservation measures. 1 year banning is being viewed by them as the prep. period for introduction of progressive take-out and conservation measures to be put in place for game species.
2. Bokhmoron and Sagil soum authorities are interested in gaining some profit and extra income rather than having a well-thought plan on long term investment of the additional income for local development and livelihood of people. Initiatives of herders as Tumennasan and Bayanmokh have not been supported yet to present.
3. Local communities are interested in creating the legal and regulatory framework for equitable sharing of benefits from trophy hunting.
4. Technical support for newly set up community groups to be outsourced from long term experienced consultants specialized in community development.
5. Support the local rangers and provide the border unit heads with the volunteer ranger rights will strengthen the local law enforcement process.
6. Organizing auctions for quotas is the proper and transparent management for game species management and trophy hunting business. The traditional subsistence hunting methods are to be promoted at community level.
7. Potential stakeholders for community based wildlife management practice would include following parties:
 - MNE
 - WWF
 - Citizen representative khural of Uvs aimag
 - Local Governor's Department of rural development and environmental affairs
 - Uvs Lake Basin Strictly Protected Area Administration
 - Governor's office of Bokhmoron soum
 - Governor's office of Sagil soum
 - CRKh of Bokhmoron soum
 - CRKh of Sagil soum
 - Tsagaan Tun Border unit head
 - Doloon Tolgoi Border unit head
 - Khokh Khargait Border unit head
 - Herder Ganjuurjav, Tsagaan Gol Hets Tseel area
 - Herder Oyungerel from Mukhart area of Tsagaan Gol
 - Community group from Khuremt area
 - Community group from Shar Hargait Area
 - Community Group from Khar Altat bag
 - Community Group from Khar Yamaat
 - Altai Outfitters Company
 - New Juulchin company

Participation of Stakeholders in CBWM Practice



CONCLUSION:

Considering the favorable conditions set up for intro of Community based wildlife management practices into Bokhmoron and Sagil soums of Uvs aimag, we propose to initiate the pilot activity on CBWM at local level. In these soums, since 1997 there had been undertaken surveys and census on game species on a regular basis and local specialists to look after the game species management.

Local communities are highly aware of the importance of natural resource base for ensuring sustainability in their livelihoods and for this reason, several initiatives for setting up community groups have been generated.

Today's highest priority is to share the benefits on an equitable basis with local communities. This will serve as the positive incentive for long term survival of species and community based conservation work.

The CBWM practices are to consider the trans-boundary conservation aspect which in turn will contribute greatly to eradication of livestock stealing problems and strengthening further collaboration for trans-boundary conservation work.

The optimal way for the CBWM practice management is implementation mode managed by WWF MPO jointly with the MNE/GoM for local communities.

Revive traditional conservation methods and subsistence hunting techniques to minimize the footprints on ecosystems and wildlife species.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To initiate the pilot programs for the CBWM in selected areas. For biotechnical measures for saving of argali sheep on its core habitats, to rely on internationally proven and best practices.
2. WWF MPO is to organize the training and leading process for intro of community group formation process into local levels.
3. Public awareness and education work is to be designed in a way that would reach out to every individual in the communities.
4. Authorize border unit heads with the rights of volunteer ranger so their role in monitoring of species migration and halting poaching will be improved.
5. Local community representatives and border guard unit soldiers are to be trained in surveying and monitoring methodologies so they can actively participate in the conservation process.
6. Encourage freeing up wintering pasture areas that overlaps with core habitats of argali sheep by introducing proper pasture management practices
7. Support on a timely manner the initiatives from grassroots on formation of community groups.
8. The CBWM concept requires more regional and ecosystem based approach replacing the current political boundaries for the soums.

Appendixes

Appendix 1.

SWOT ANALYSIS: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SHEET

<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
<i>Opportunity</i>	<i>Threat</i>

Appendix 2.

Income sheet

Amount/QTY/Units	Horse	Cows	Sheep	Goats	Total
At the year start					
% of pregnant animals					
QTY of pregnant animals					
Expected # of Off-springs per 100 heads of female animals					
Number of off-springs					
Number of lost animals					
Animals used for private use					
Yield of wool per head of animal					
Livestock products (QTY)					
Livestock sold as live units					
Wool and cashmere (raw) sold					
Hides sold					
Milk sold					
Unit prices per product sold					
Live animals					
Wool and cashmere					
Hides & skin					
Milk and fermented milk					
Total Price for Sold Products					
Income from sell of live animals					
Income from wool/cashmere selling					
Income from Skin and hide selling					
Income from milk and dairy product sell					
Cost of animals consumed for private use					
Total Income					
Animal heads at year end					
Difference expressed in QTY/amount					
Livestock growth rate in %					
Difference expressed in \$					

Expenditure sheet

Expenditure category	QTY	Unit price	Total Cost
Food			
Flour (a sac/50 kg)			
Rice (60 kg)			
Sugar			
Sub-total:			
Transportation cost			
Travel to UB 1 way			
Travel to soum			
Travel to aimag center			
Sub-total:			
Cost of animals consumed for private use			
Sheep			
Goat			
Cow			
Horse			
Sub-total:			
Household utensils			
Celebrations/occasions			
Naadam festival			
Sub-total:			
Hygiene/cleaning products			
Soap			
Detergents			
Toothpaste			
Other cleaning items			
Sub-total:			
Health expenses			
Health insurance			
Medicine and medical help			
Sub-total:			
Livestock fodder			
Livestock minerals/salt			
Vaccination			
Sub-total:			
Watering cost			
Transportation cost			
Livestock insurance			
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			

Appendix 3. Bokh moron Authorities

	Participant Names	Title
1	Dorjsuren	Soum governor
2	Valdimar	Secretary to Soum CRKh
3	Bayanduuren	Environmental Inspector, Soum
4	Enkhtuya	Inspector for Agricultural and Food Product Quality
5	Zolboo	Storekeeper, Governor's Administration office
6	R. Mandakh	Argali manager ?
7	Tungalag	Social worker
8	Osokhjargal	Tax inspector
9	Batjargal	Local Focal Point for Bokh moron soum, Altai Sayan Project

Appendix 4. Bokh moron soum, Shar Khargai/Tsagaan Tun Border Unit Areas

	Participant Names	Title
1	J. Tsolmon	herder
2	L. Ganzorig	herder
3	B. Battomor	herder
4	B. Gansukh	herder
5	B. Uranchimeg	herder
6	B. Oyuntsetseg	herder
7	D. Monkhubayar	Soldier from Tsagaan Tunkh border point
8	Bayanmonkh	herder
9	D. Tsevelmaa	herder
10	Sh. Enkhtaivan	Herder
11	R. Bayartai	Herder
12	B. Bolormaa	Worker, Tsagan Tunkh border point
13	B. Dashzeveg	herder
14	J. Nyamsuren	herder
15	N. Batmonkh	herder
16	Gantomor	herder
17	Erdenechimeg	herder
18	T. Odontuya	herder
19	Luvsantjamts	herder
20	Kh. Enkhbayar	herder
21	D. Uuganbayar	herder
22	Tormonkh	herder
23	Batnasan	Head, Tsagaan Tunkh Border Unit
24	T. Ulambayar	Herder
25	Mynaganbayar	Herder
26	J. Buyannasan	Cook at border unit
27	O. Ganbayar	Intelligence officer
28	J. Enkhbold	Deputy head, Training, Border Unit

Appendix 5. Khar Alt Bag, Bokhmoron soum herders participated in the meeting

	Participant Names	Titles
1	T. Dorlig	Herder
2	B. Chungaa	Herder
3	A. Oyungerel	herder
4	M. Tomorpurev	herder
5	D. Torbat	herder
6	E. Ganbold	herder
7	S. Bat-Orshikh	herder
8	Kh. Altankhuu	herder
9	Sh. Ulambayar	herder
10	D. Enkhjargal	herder
11	B. Davaasambu	Governor, 1 st bag
12	T. Barsbold	herder
13	Kh. Tumennasan	herder
14	Kh. Urnaa	Herder
15	B. Gansukh	Herder

Appendix 6. Elsnii Yorool area, Bokhmoron Soum

	Participant Names	Titles
	J. Davaa	Herder
	O. Dorjpalam	herder
	B. Purevsuren	herder
	J. Purev	herder
	O. Ariunaa	herder
	D. Buyandelger	herder
	B. Noonii	herder
	Ya. Dolgor	herder

Appendix 8. Sagil soum herders

	List of Participants	Title
1	N. Oyungerel	CR
2	B. Dashzeveg	herder
3	J. Nyamsuren	herder
4	N. Batmonkh	herder
5	Gantomor	herder
6	Erdenechimeg	herder
7	T. Odontuya	herder
8	Luvsantjamts	herder
9	Kh. Enkhbayar	herder
10	D. Uuganbayar	herder
11	Tormonkh	herder
12	Batnasan	Head, Tsagaan Tunkh Border Unit

13	T. Ulambayar	Herder
14	Mynaganbayar	Herder
15	J. Buyannasan	Cook at border unit
16	O. Ganbayar	Intelligence officer
17	J. Enkhbold	Deputy head, Training, Border Unit

Khoit Belen Bulag

1	G. Battogtokh	Herder
2	Ts. Altangerel	Worker, Tsagan Tukh border point
3	Ts. Gavaa	herder
4	G. Erdenechimeg	herder
5	Ts. Oyunaa	herder
6	N. Odontungalag	herder
7	D. Amarjargal	herder