

CURRENT STATUS AND
RESULTS OF MONITORING
OF THE SNOW LEOPARD
POPULATION IN MONGOLIA.

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WORKSHOP ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BIG CAT NETWORK AND TRANSBOUNDARY
CONSERVATION OF AMUR TIGER, AMUR LEOPARD, AND SNOW LEOPARD IN NORTH-EAST ASIA.
21-22 MAY 2026 LAND OF LEOPARD NATIONAL PARK, VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION ON THE CONSERVATION OF AMUR TIGERS, AMUR LEOPARDS AND SNOW LEOPARDS IN NORTH-EAST ASIA



Evaluation of the current status
of the transboundary snow leopard
subpopulations in the border area
between Mongolia and
the Russian Federation
2022-2023 LOA 2022-0017

Project component (3)
Assessment of the current status of two
Snow leopard subpopulations in
transboundary area between Mongolia and
the Russian Federation
2020-2021 LOA No. 2020 - 0011

Project leaders:
Bariushaa Munkhtsog
Alexander Karnaukhov

TRAINING FOR PARK BIOLOGISTS:

1. Surveying snow leopards using camera traps
2. Immobilization and handling of endangered snow leopards

2006

Project leader: Bariushaa Munkhtsog



Felidae in Mongolia and conservation status

SPECIES NAME	Red Data Book Mongolia	CITES appendix	CMS appendix	Law of Fauna, Mongolia
<i>SNOW LEOPARDS</i> <i>Panthera uncia</i>	+	I	I	Very rare
<i>LYNX</i> <i>Lynx lynx</i>	-	II	-	Game / hunting species
<i>WILD CAT</i> <i>Felis Silvestris</i>	+	II	?	Very rare
<i>PALLAS'S CAT</i> <i>Otocolobus manul</i>	-	II	II	Game/hunting species

Distribution and status

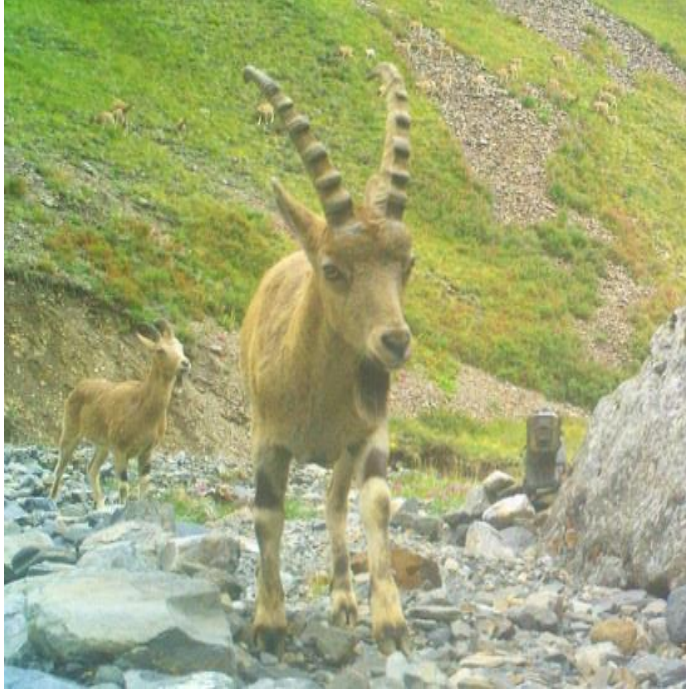


1000-1200 snow leopards inhabit 103,000 km² territory in Mongolia in Altai, Gobi–Altai, Khangai mountain ranges, Trans Altai Gobi and Khuvsgul mountain.

This is about 20% of the world snow leopard population.

Snow leopards are endangered and registered in Mongolian Red Data Book (1987, 1997, 2013) and Mongolia is a member of CBD, CMS, CITES.

The threats to snow leopards in Mongolia



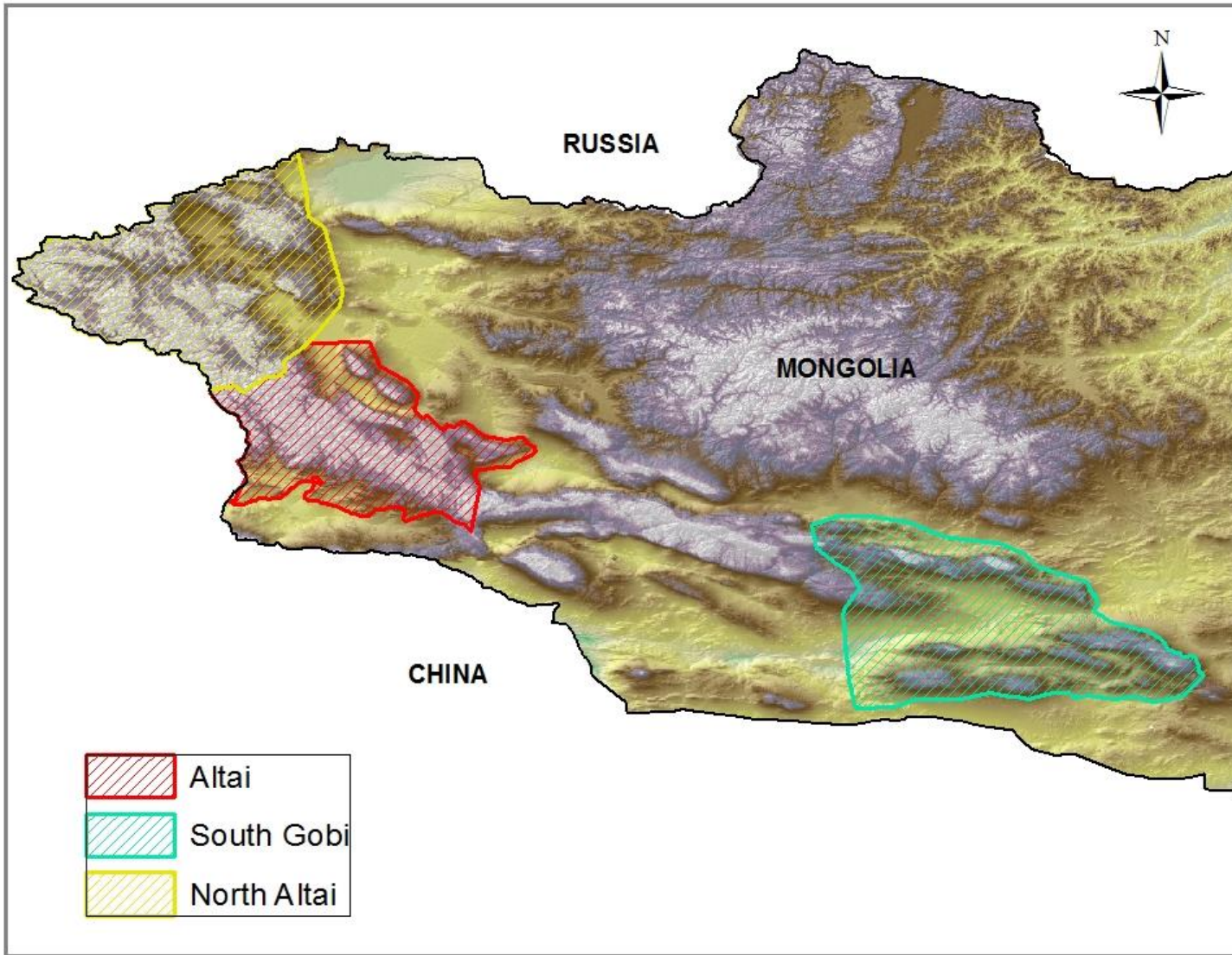
- Rapid decrease of mountain ungulates in 1990s and later due to competition for open water sources and pasture land with domestic livestock



- Illegal poaching
- Pasture land degradation due to increased number of livestock
- Habitat fragmentation because of development of mining and infrastructure



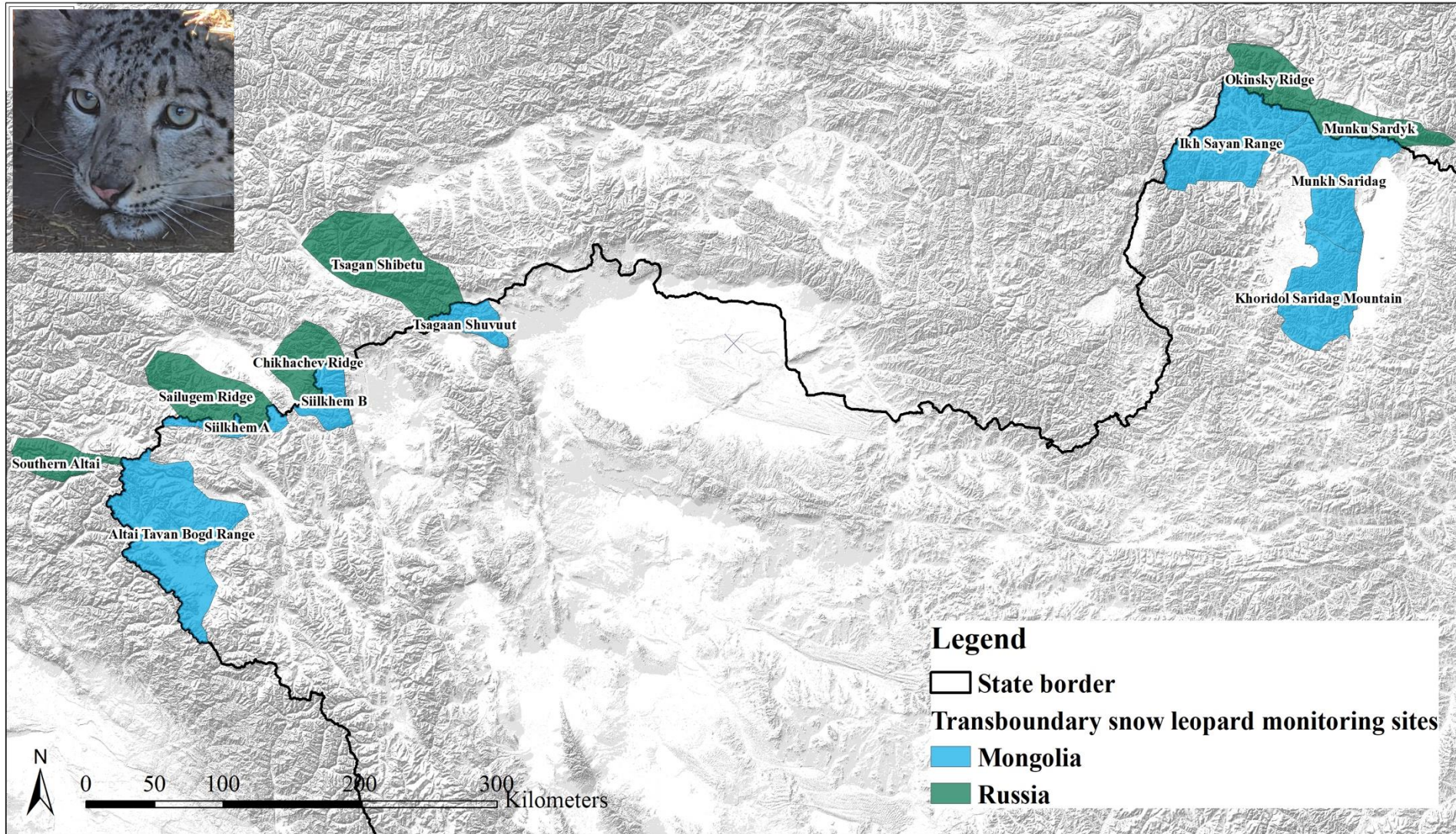
Snow leopard in Asgat attached the livestock,
was captured and released in the mountain in 2019.



There are 3 Snow Leopard Landscapes in Mongolia within GSLEP

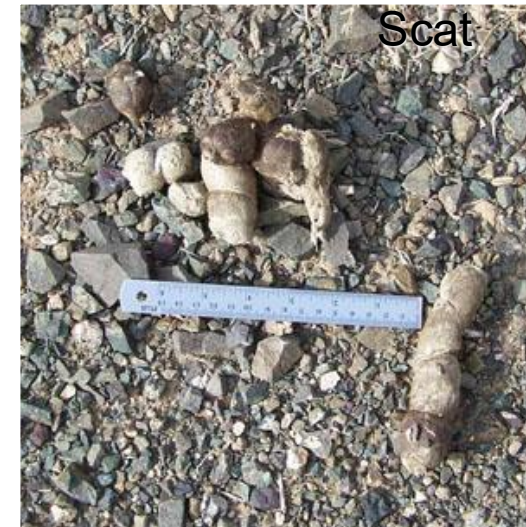
- Altai SLL – 56,000 km²
- Northern Altai SLL– 72,000 km²
- Southern Gobi SLL– 82,000 km²

Five transboundary SL subpopulations along the border of Mongolia and Russian Federation

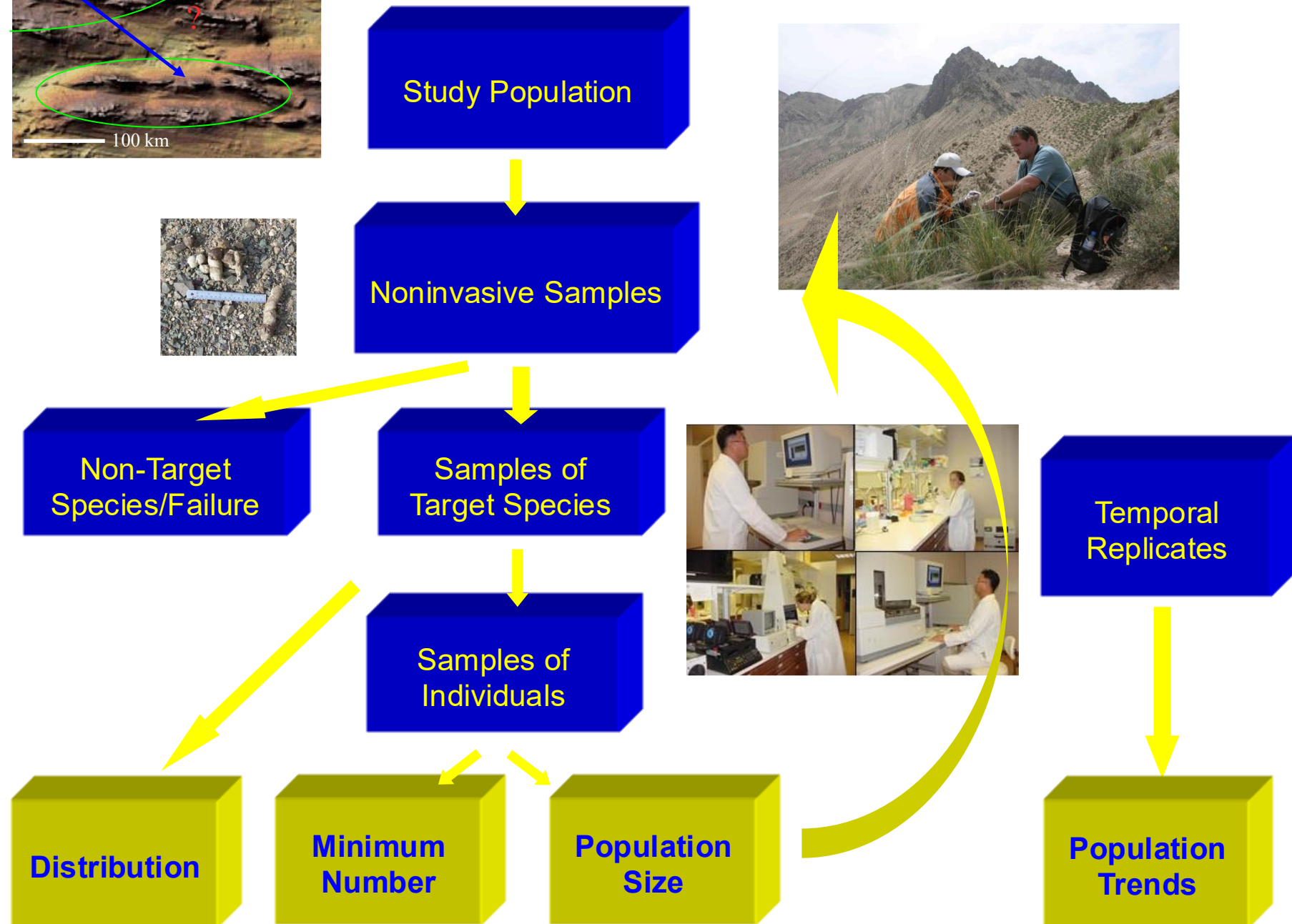
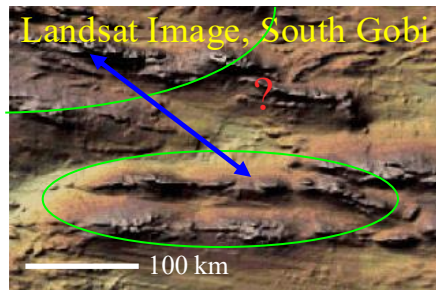


1. Siilkhem A NP - Southern Altai, Sailugem
2. Siilkhem B NP – Chihavev ridge
3. Tsagaan shguvuut - Tsagan-Shibetu
4. Khuvsugul – Eastern Sayan
5. Onon Balj NP – Sokhonda

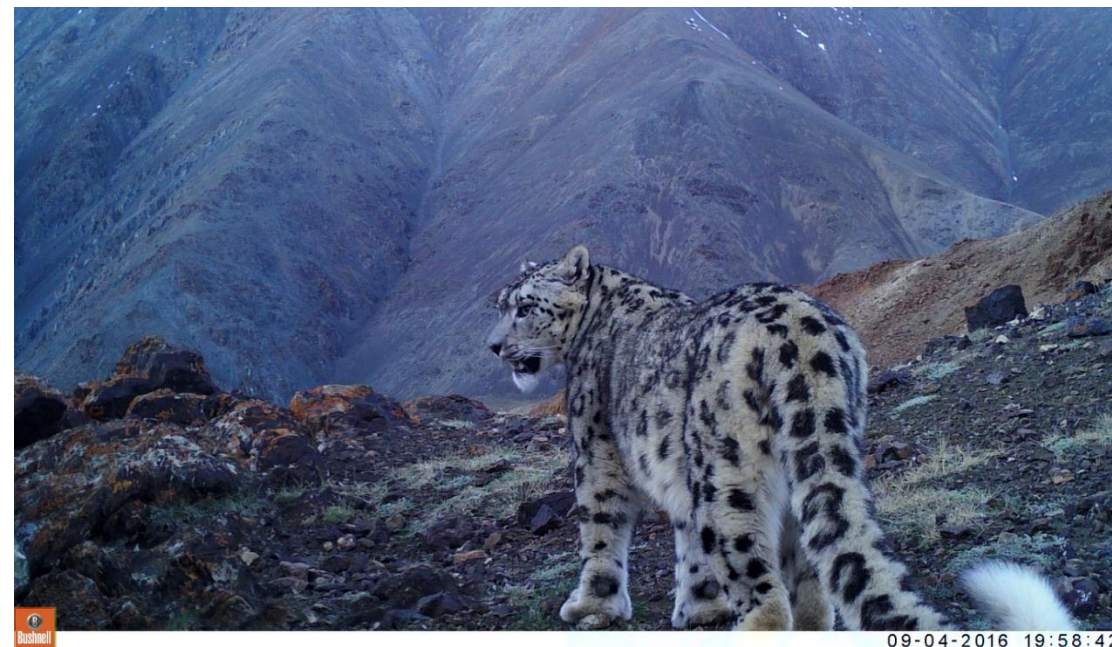
Traditional Surveys



Non-invasive Techniques



Camera trap surveys

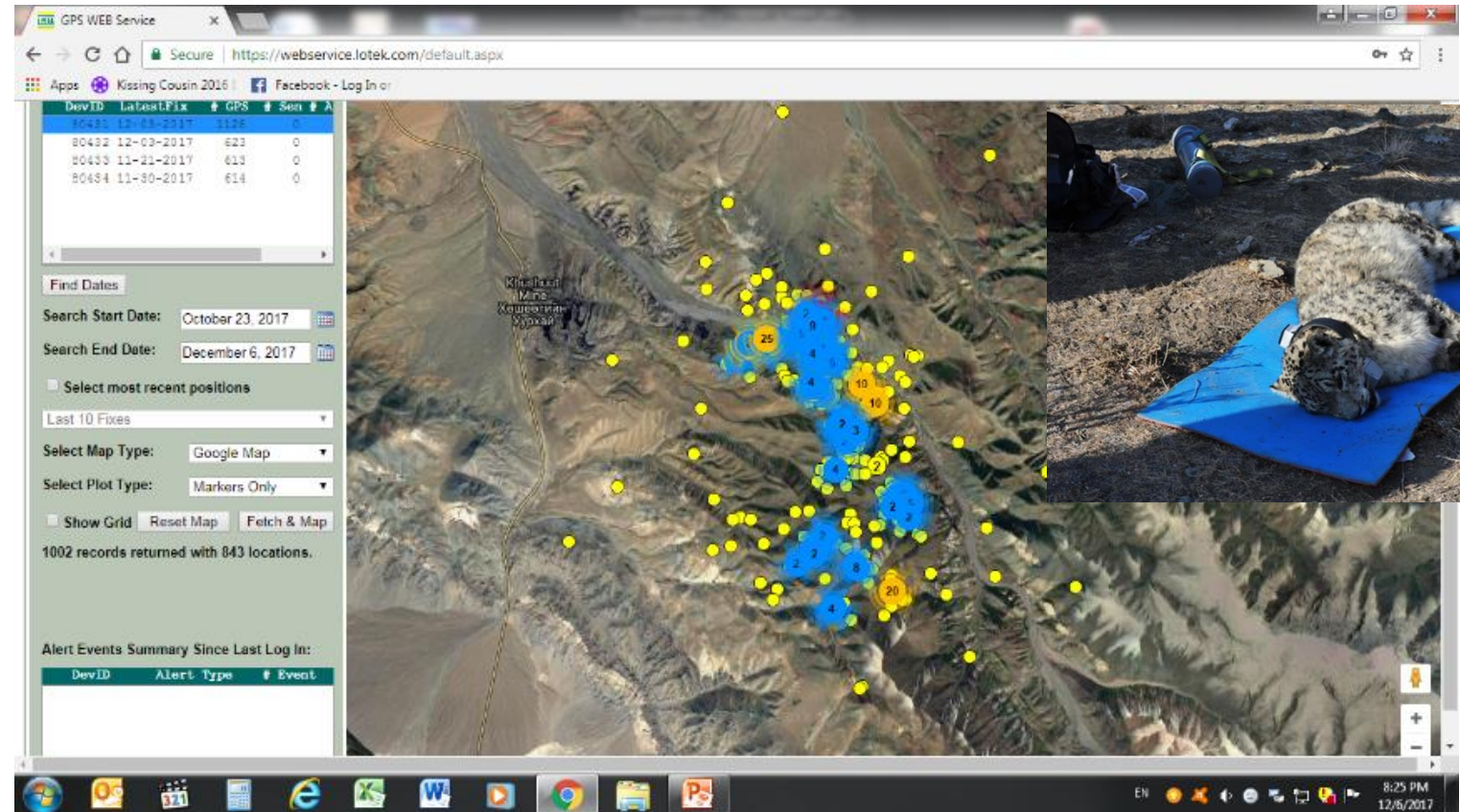
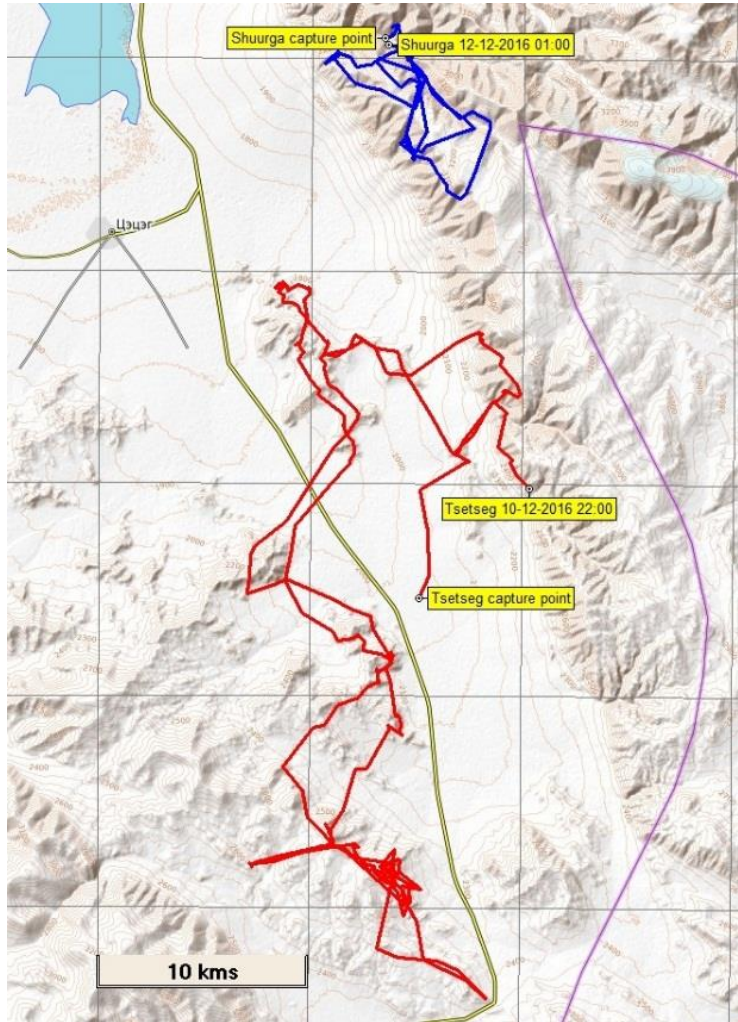


Camera trap occupancy survey have been conducted in potential snow leopard habitats during 2008-2024.

Habitat of snow leopards
in Gii111... A.N.P.

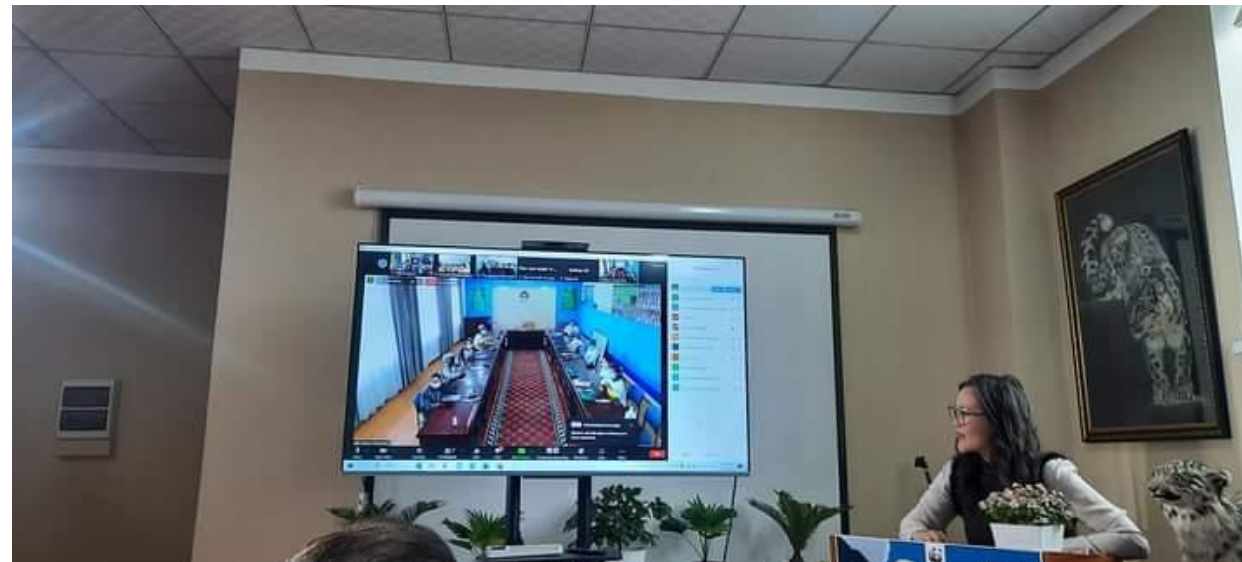


Telemetry surveys



3 snow leopards were captured 4 times and fitted with a satellite collar during for 5 field trips in Sutai khairkhan mtn, western Mongolia in 2016-April 2019.

Maps: Home range /A/ and hourly movement /B/ of Shuurga and Tsetseg



World snow leopard day have been celebrated on October 23 since 2013.



ТУВТОН
ХАМГААЛАЛЫН
ТАЗАР

Mongolian border

Lakes

SL signs

● Territorial

● Non territorial

— Occupancy sampling tracks

Probability of SL occupancy

0 - 5%

5 - 20%

20 - 40%

40 - 60%

60 - 100%

Grids

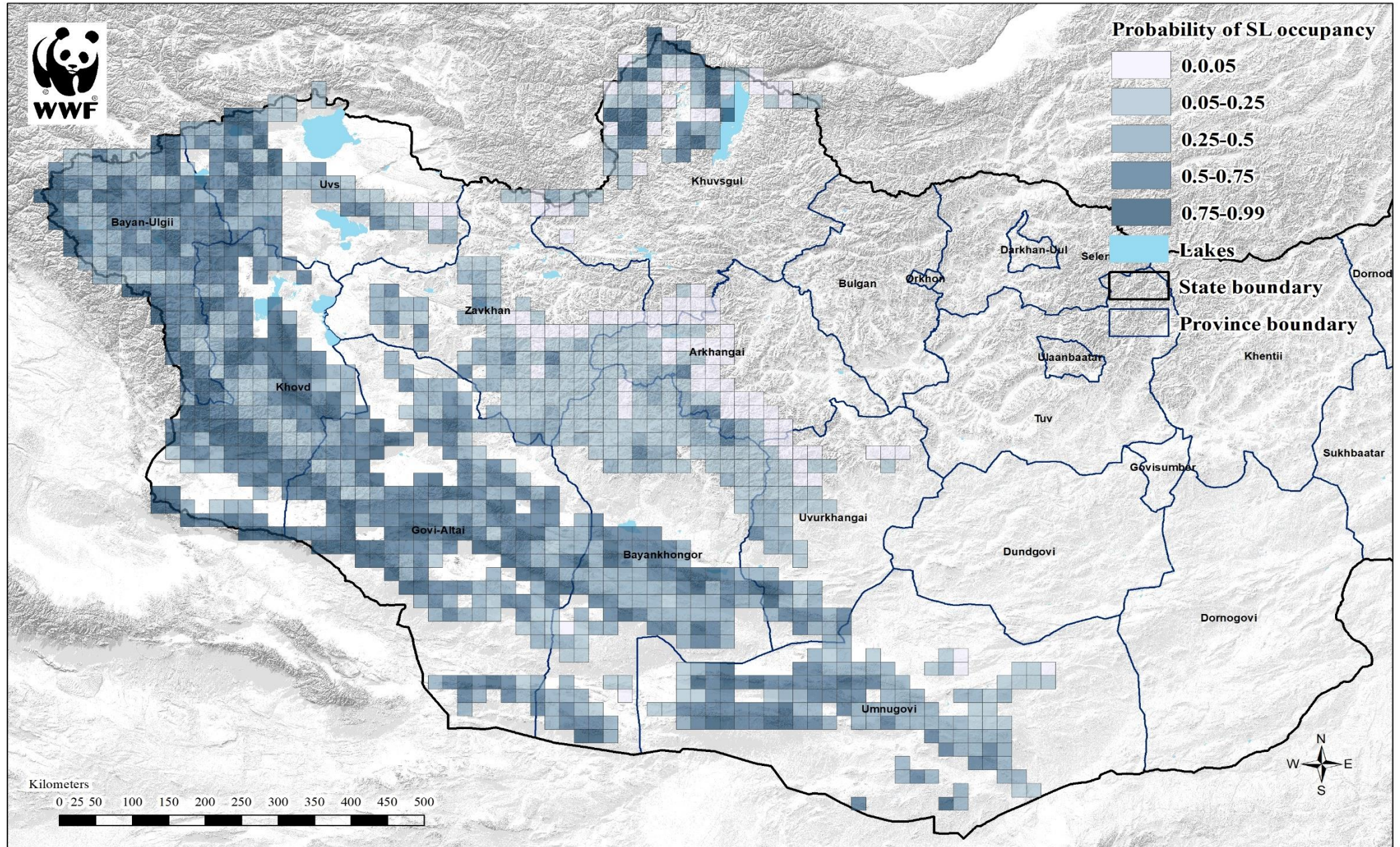
20x20km grids (1,200)

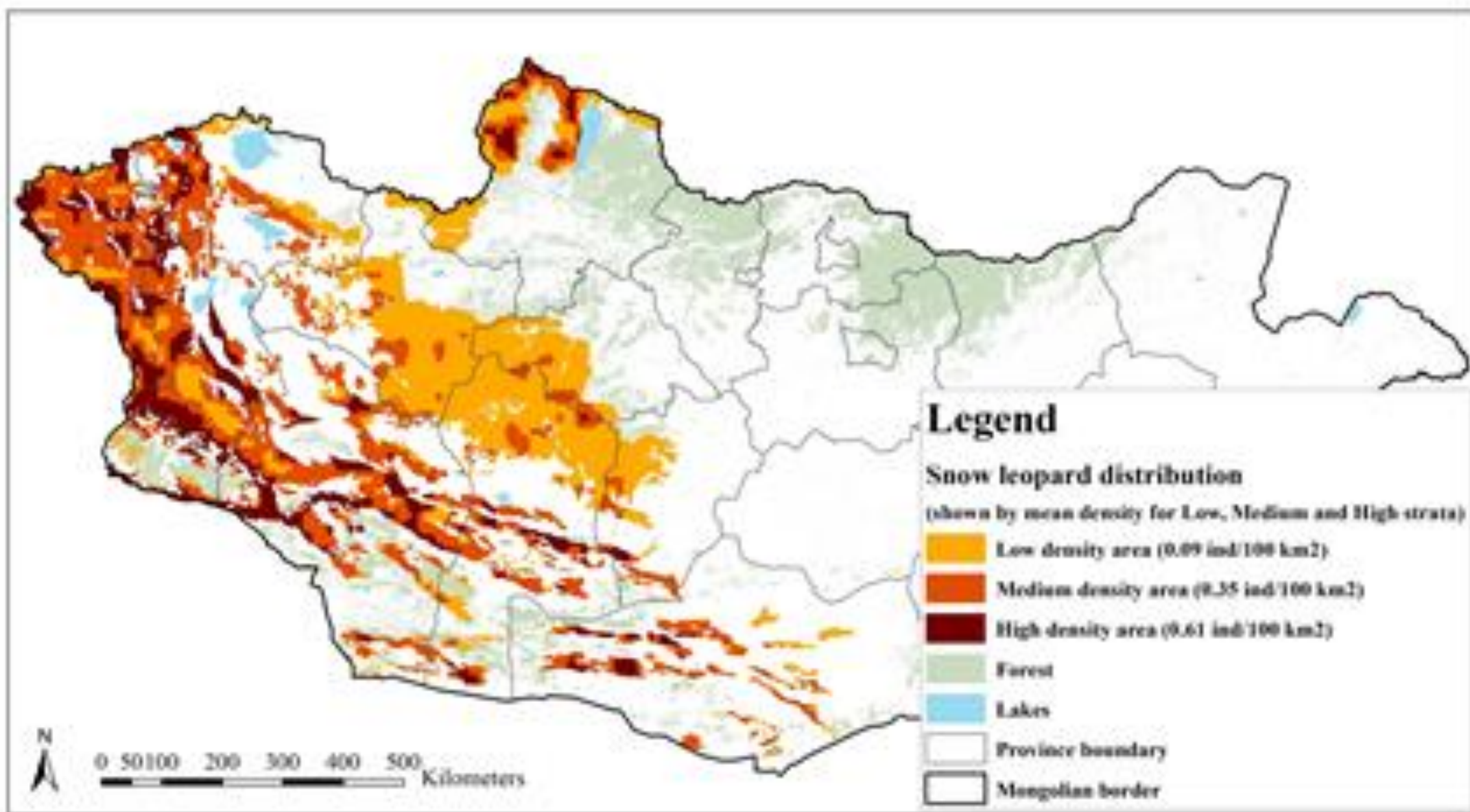
Kilometers

0 50 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1,000



Snow leopard Occupancy survey results





Trans-boundary Conservation

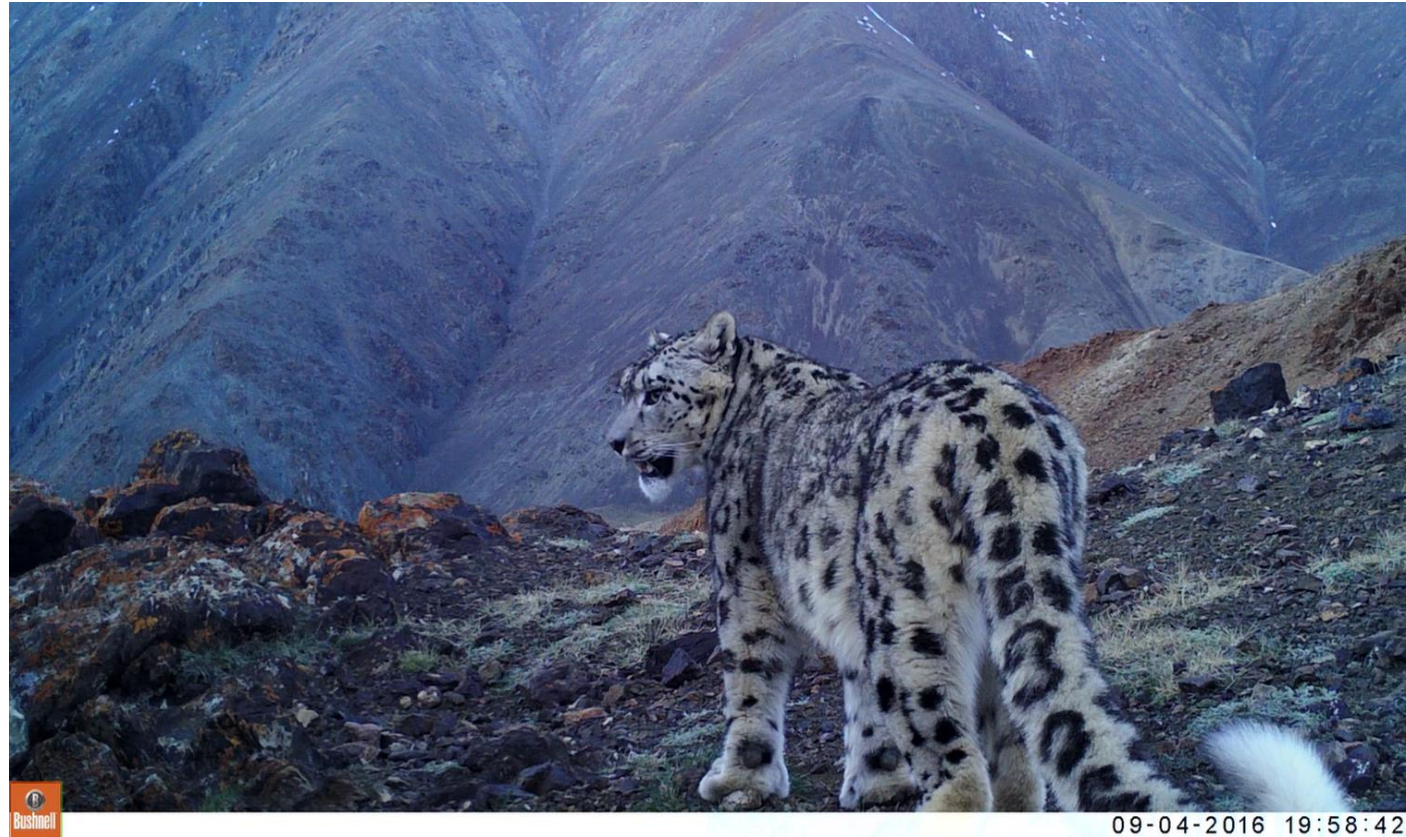
Russia:

Cooperation at all level

China:

Cooperation at Government, Ministry level

Cooperation at Academic institution's level



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Thank you for your attention.