

WILDLIFE TRAVEL



MONGOLIA

18th to 30th August 2022

Mongolia 2022: recce trip report and species lists

- 18th arrive Ulaanbaatar, travel to Hustai National Park
- 19th Hustai National Park, Lun Lake, travel to Pallas's Cat Camp
- 20th Pallas's Cat Camp area
- 21st transfer to Khovd
- 22nd birding near Khovd, transfer to Jargalant
- 23rd Jargalant area
- 24th Jargalant area
- 25th Altan Teel & Tugrug River
- 26th Bumbag mountain
- 27th Khar Us Lake
- 28th Khar Us Lake, birding near Khovd, evening flight back to Ulaanbaatar
- 29th Ulaanbaatar
- 30th depart



Philip Precey and Laurie Jackson
Bino Dashnyam and Yumchin Batkhoo

Wildlife Travel
www.facebook.com/soaringexpeditions

Front: Saker Falcon, Jargalant. Above: Pallas's Cat Camp

A gallery of photos and videos from the trip is at
www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/albums/72177720301798780

HUSTAI NATIONAL PARK

With an early morning arrival in Ulan Baatar, we met up with Yumchin (our guide) and Todra (our driver), skirted the city and headed west, across a landscape of rolling hills covered in open pasture grassland, to Hustai National Park. This reserve is famous as the site of the first reintroduction of Przewalski's Horse after its extinction in the wild in the 1960s, and before our first day was out we had already found two different herds of the horses, along with a lone old stallion in a river valley.

Tarbagan Marmots were abundant in the same grasslands, alongside the smaller Long-tailed Ground Squirrel.

Along the wires, we found a mixed group of falcons, migratory Amur Falcons together with Common Kestrel and at least one Lesser Kestrel, all gathered together to feast on the grasshoppers that were present in large numbers: one large grasshopper was particularly obvious as it flew slowly back and forth above the grassland, making a rattling buzz not unlike a cicada as it did so, flashing red wings. Also enjoying the grasshopper feast was a Corsac Fox, an elegant little animal and the first of many.

Our first night drive was almost called off, as rain clouds gathered and broke over our camp. Thankfully, we went out regardless: nothing ventured, nothing gained!

After that first Corsac Fox, we found at least ten more during the evening, hyperactive little creatures who were drawn like a magnet to a little 'squeaking'. Other new sightings included three Siberian Jerboas, a Tolai Haire and a small herd of Mongolian Gazelles picked up in the heat imager, plus a couple of lovely Mongolian Toads, out enjoying the rain.

And then the torches picked up the green eyeshine of a predator, close at hand... and there in the torch light was the animal we most wanted and least expected to see: a Pallas's Cat! This, the fluffiest of felids is 'blessed' with a particularly grumpy face, one which seemed entirely fitting in the damp conditions as the soggy moggy frowned at us, made a half-hearted attempt at carrying on with his evening hunt, and then slunk off into the bushes... only day one, and already a wildlife encounter that felt hard to beat.

Next morning, and we were out early, to catch up with those Mongolian Gazelles again, a herd of more than 600 animals, out grazing on the plains towards the river. While we watched the gazelles, and the Mongolian Larks that were singing overhead, Yumchin was scanning the hillsides behind us... and then uttered the single word 'Wolf'.

Amazingly, tucked away in a patch of dense weeds up on the hillside was the top of a dark grey head, with two ears... a head that was lifted, as the owner eyed us. And then he stood up, an adult Grey Wolf, who stretched, gave us a long hard stare, loped away up the slope through the rocks and was gone.

Less than 24 hours in the country, and we had already had amazing views of three of Mongolia's most exciting mammals. What next??



Photos (clockwise, from top left): Przewalski's Horse, Mongolian Gazelle, Pallas's Cat, Corsac Fox, all in Hustai NP

While the car received some much-needed attention, we wandered up a dry stream bed, finding Dusky Warbler, Taiga Flycatcher and Daurian Redstart along the way, before Yumchin spotted our main quarry here: a pair of Daurian Partridges.

With the car happy again, we left Hustai and headed to the wetlands at Lun, a large shallow lake with surrounding wet grassland and reedbeds. The main attraction here was a pair of White-naped Cranes, perhaps the world's most elegant crane species, strutting about on the marshy grassland. The smaller lake was home to plenty of ducks, with 40+ Ruddy Shelduck the most obvious, a party of 15 Eurasian Spoonbills were resting in the shallows, and the muddy edges attracted plenty of waders: in one small area, we flushed two Pintail Snipe and found four species of stint feeding alongside each other: a couple of Little Stints, a Temminck's Stint, one adult Red-necked Stint and two fresh juvenile Long-toed Stints. A calling 'skein' of 27 Demoiselle Cranes circled overhead, and at the far side of the lake a swirling flock of 150 Pacific Golden Plovers flew about, having been disturbed by local farmers. Definitely a site worth more than the cursory visit we were able to make...

PALLAS'S CAT CAMP

From Lun we travelled east, again skirting the big city of 'UB', to a remote area of hills, where we stayed at the superbly named, if rather basically kitted-out Pallas's Cat Camp for two nights.

What the camp may have lacked in creature comforts was more than made up for by the setting, and the time we spent in these enormous wide open spaces gave us some very memorable wildlife encounters. We had great (if fairly distant) views of two herds of Gobi Argali, the shy, big-horned mountain sheep, alongside Altai Wapiti (the local equivalent of Red Deer). Flocks of Small Snow Finch and Steppe Horned Lark fed on the steppe, with smaller numbers of Blyth's Pipit and Mongolian Lark, and a family group of Pallas's Reed Bunting not far from the camp. Overhead, Cinereous Vulture and Golden Eagle were common, with one or two Steppe Eagles, and a close-up encounter with an enormous Eurasian Eagle Owl, flushed from its roost as we were botanising in a dry stream bed.

We took another night drive, with yet more inquisitive Corsac Foxes, plenty of Tolai Hares, a Red Fox and another pair of glowing green cat eyes, although this time much further away, and the owner stayed well out of torch-beam reach, walking up the hill and over the ridge.

Heading back to UB after our time in the hills, we passed a big flock of Rooks (here the eastern subspecies, with very little white around the face), which contained 10 or more Daurian Jackdaws, a jaunty black and white little crow.

From Ulaanbaatar, we took a two-hour flight west, crossing a time zone along the way, to Khovd, the 4th largest city in Mongolia and the gateway to the Altai...

MONGOLIAN ALTAI: KHOVD, JARGALANT AND ALTAN TEEL

After a night in Khovd, we headed off into the arid Altai Mountains, starting off just west of the city, where we searched (unsuccessfully) for Koslov's Accentor but found our first Mongolian Ground Jay and Brown Accentor, along with hyper-abundant Pallas's Pika and Midday Jirds. A couple of migrating Black Storks looked a little out of place in this semi-desert setting.

From Khovd, we took the long, bumpy drive south past Khar-Us Lake and across the flat plains of Altan Teel, where Desert Wheatear became a common roadside bird and we found our first domestic Bactrian Camels, towards the southern end of the imposing Jargalant massif.

Birding a couple of springs in the foothills, heavily grazed by livestock but with water flowing through the green tussocks, we found family groups of Mongolian Finch and Grey-necked Bunting, alongside Asian Water Pipit, Richard's Pipit and a couple of migrating Red-tailed Shrikes.

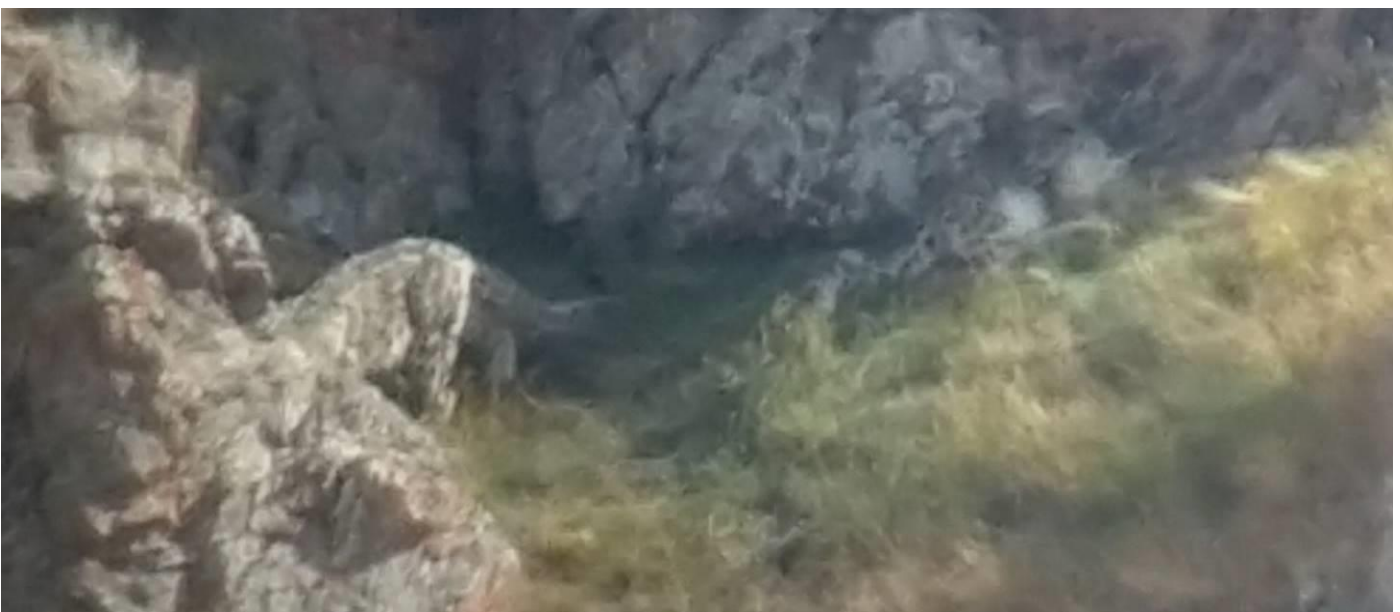
Our first night at 'Snow Leopard Camp' revealed both Siberian and Gobi Jerboas, bounding around in the dark, along with plenty of Midday Jird and Pallas's Pika, with individuals of both seemingly at home in our ger!

Rain overnight had left the mountaintops covered in snow, making conditions difficult up at altitude, so we stuck to the lowlands for our first morning, visiting a birch woodland and several springs, which were 'dripping' in migrants: tens of Spotted Flycatchers, Lesser Whitethroats and Yellow-browed Warblers, along with smaller numbers of Hume's and Greenish Warblers, Tree Pipits, a female Black Redstart, at least three Siberian Stonechats, a Common Cuckoo, a couple of Daurian Shrikes, Citrine Wagtail, a little Temminck's Stint and a flushed Pintail Snipe.

With much of the snow having melted already, we spent the afternoon up on the mountain, where we met the local trackers who spend their days up here, searching for the 'grey ghosts'. No luck this first afternoon, although we did find a handsome male Siberian Ibex, several big flashy Gldenstdt's Redstarts and a pair of Lammergeier.

Better luck came the next day, when we spent nine hours in the company of a trio of Snow Leopards: a mother with two full-grown cubs, who spent much of the day dozing on a grassy shelf on the rocky hillside on the far side of the valley. Every now and again one of the 'cubs' would get up for a wander around, with their massively long, fluffy tails immediately obvious.

With the main target for our trip successfully 'under the belt', we were able to spend the rest of our time exploring more of the sandy 'flats' of Altan Teel, where we found Pallas's Sandgrouse, Asian Desert Warbler, Black-tailed Gazelle and the superbly strange Mongolian Saiga: this strange antelope has a reputation for fleeing at the first sight of people, so it was good to find a confiding couple of males as our first sighting. A night drive in the same area added Long-eared Hedgehog, Hairy-footed Jerboa and Mongolian Jerboa to our ever-growing mammal list.



Photos Snow Leopards on Jargalant mountain

Mongolia 2022: recce trip report and species lists

We spent some time at a bird ringing 'camp' in the green surroundings of the Tugrug River, where a team of young local ornithologists were spending the migration period: during our short visit, they pulled an exciting variety of small birds from the mist nets: a neck-twisting Wryneck was perhaps the highlight, along with Bluethroat, Dusky and Paddyfield Warbler, a Siberian Chiffchaff, Siberian Stonechat and at least five Daurian Shrikes: any of which would have made for a great day's birding back home.

We checked several small poplar/Sea Buckthorn plantations scattered out across the plains, where permanent sources of water enabled small-scale agriculture to gain a hold. These migrant traps all seemed to support a handful of Lesser Whitethroat, Spotted Flycatcher and Daurian Shrike, along with single Dusky Warbler, Two-barred Warbler, Common Rosefinch, Common Whitethroat and Paddyfield Warbler, and a group of at least six Ortolan Buntings.

On our final day in the mountains, we headed out to explore some nearby valleys, and had an amazing encounter with a Pallas's Cat hunting right out in the middle of the steppe, by the 'track'. He crouched down, staring back at us, before deciding that the best course of action was to make his way at pace up a rocky slope and along the ridge, where he stopped to look back over his shoulder at us. Another breath-taking experience, this time quite literally, as Bino spent a while catching his breath back after his attempt to follow the cat up to the ridge.



Photos Pallas's Cat on the fabulously-named Bumbag mountain

KHAR-US LAKE & KHOVD

We spent our last couple of days in the west of the country birding the shores of the enormous Khar-Us Lake, where huge flocks of wildfowl and south-bound waders kept us entertained. Standout highlights included hundreds of White-headed Duck and thousands of Red-crested Pochard, several family groups of Swan Goose and a handful of Bar-headed Goose amongst the Greylags, spinning Red-necked Phalaropes, Terek Sandpipers and Greater Sand-Plovers, and two notably out-of-range individuals: a Bar-tailed Godwit and a Grey-headed Lapwing. And it wasn't just the birds: new mammals for our list included a couple of bats (Gobi Serotine and Steppe Whiskered Bat) hawking amongst the clouds of midges on the lake shore at night, a brief (introduced) Muskrat and the unexpected sight of a Siberian Weasel, dancing and skittering about on the shore, like an orange-coloured mink, apparently trying to distract and catch (unsuccessfully) a young Moorhen.

A delayed flight back to UB gave us time to check one last dry gorge, where we found a trio of Asian Desert Warblers, one last Mongolian Ground Jay and a lost-looking Goldcrest, a long, long way from the nearest conifer forests; and to visit an area of small agricultural plots and poplar/Sea Buckthorn plantations on the outskirts of Khovd, where at least 35 Ortolan Buntings, a couple of Common Rosefinches and a single Booted Warbler were picked up, alongside the now-familiar mix of Lesser Whitethroat, Spotted Flycatcher, Yellow-browed and Hume's Warblers.

ULAANBAATAR

Our Mongolian trip ended with a day on the outskirts of UB: we explored the area in and around the grounds of the hotel, on the banks of the braided Tuul River, and followed the river along to an area of gravel pits known as 'Swan Lake', albeit not home to any swans on this occasion...

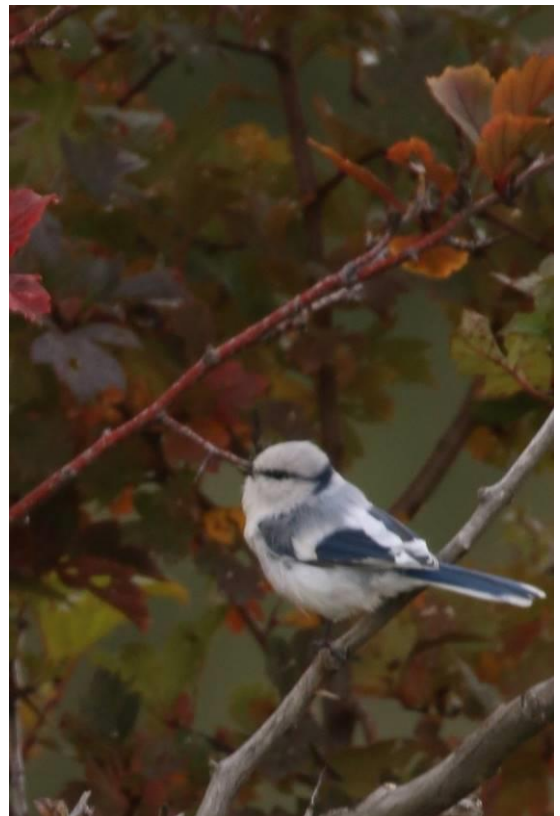
Mongolia is the country that keeps on giving, and during this 'quiet' last day we enjoyed several post-breeding flocks of Azure Tits, a family party of Long-tailed Rosefinches, a couple of 'real' Mandarin Ducks flying up off the river and at least three more Daurian Jackdaws flying over with Rooks, while at the gravel pits we found an adult White-tailed Eagle, a Black Stork and a young Taiga Bean Goose hiding out on an island.

The last new bird of the trip was a loose group of Azure-winged Magpies who came through the hotel grounds as we were waiting for our early morning transfer back to the airport next day.

Philip Precey, Wildlife Travel. September 2022



Photos (clockwise, from top left): *Gentiana decumbens* (Gentianaceae); Mongolian Saiga; Daurian Shrike; Dryad



Photos (clockwise, from top left): Mongolian (=Henderson's) Ground Jay, Güldenstädt's Redstart, Azure Tit, Pallas's Sandgrouse

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ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th
Anatidae													
Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>										X		
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>										X	X	
Taiga Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis middendorffi</i>												X
Swan Goose	<i>Anser cygnoides</i>										X	X	
Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>		X								X	X	
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>		X								X	X	
Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>		X								X		
Mandarin	<i>Aix sponsa</i>												X
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		X							X	X	X	X
Eastern Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas zonorhyncha</i>										X		
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>		X								X	X	X
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>										X	X	
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>		X								X	X	X
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>										X	X	
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>		X								X	X	X
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>										X	X	X
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>										X	X	
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya farina</i>										X	X	
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>										X	X	
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>		X								X	X	X
White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>										X	X	
Phasianidae													
Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>						X						
Daurian Partridge	<i>Perdix dauurica</i>	X	X										
Japanese Quail	<i>Coturnix japonica</i>				X								
Podicipedidae													
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>										X	X	X
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>										X		
Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auratus</i>										X		X
Threskiornithidae													
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		X								X	X	
Ciconiidae													
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					2							1
Ardeidae													
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>								X		X	X	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		X						X		X	X	X
Falconidae													
Saker	<i>Falco cherrug</i>	2				X	X	X		X	X	X	
Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	20	4										X
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	1											
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	15	X			X	X	X	X	X			
Accipitridae													
Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>	10	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>										X	X	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>				X								
Upland Buzzard	<i>Buteo hemilasius</i>	6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>						2					1	1
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	1		1						3		2	
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	4	X	X	X		X				X		
White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>												1
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	2					3	2		2			
Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>	20	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rallidae													
Brown-cheeked Rail	<i>Rallus indicus</i>										H		
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>										X	X	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		X								X	X	
Gruidae													
White-naped Crane	<i>Antigone vipio</i>		2										
Demoiselle Crane	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i>	6	31		7								
Charadriidae													
Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>		X								X	X	
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>										X		
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticulus</i>										X		
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>										X	X	
Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>										X	X	
Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>										X		
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>		X								X	X	
Recurvirostridae													
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus Himantopus</i>										X	X	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>										X		
Scolopacidae													
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		X								X	X	
Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>	X					X		X		X		
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>										X	X	X
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>											X	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>											X	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	X	X			X				X	X		X
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	X	X								X	X	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>										X		X
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>										X		
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>		X								X	X	
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		X								X		
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>										X	X	
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>										X		
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>										X	X	
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>										X	X	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		X								X	X	
Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>		X								X		

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Long-toed Stint	<i>Calidris subminuta</i>		X										
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>		X				1				X	X	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>		X								X	X	
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>										X		
Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>										X	X	
Pteroclididae													
Pallas's Sandgrouse	<i>Syrhaptus paradoxus</i>								X		X	X	
Laridae													
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaeetus ichthyaeetus</i>										X	X	
Mongolian Gull	<i>Larus mongolicus</i>					X			X		X	X	X
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>										X	X	
Sternidae													
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>										X	X	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>										X	X	
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>		X								X	X	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>										X		
Columbidae													
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Hill Pigeon	<i>Columba rupestris</i>						X						
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>				2								5
Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	1											
Cuculidae													
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>						X		X				
Strigidae													
Eurasian Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>				1								
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			X		X							
Caprimulgidae													
Eurasian Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>										X		
Apodidae													
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>					X		X	X	X		X	
Upupidae													
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	8	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Picidae													
Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>						2		2				
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>												X
Laniidae													
Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>		X										
Isabelline Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>						X		X		X	X	
Turkestan Shrike	<i>Lanius phoenicuroides</i>					X							
Steppe Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius pallidirostris</i>								X				
Sturnidae													
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>								X		X	X	X
Corvidae													
Azure-winged Magpie	<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>												X
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	X	X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X

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Henderson's Ground Jay	<i>Podoces hendersoni</i>					X					X	X	
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhonorax pyrrhonorax</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Daurian Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus dauuricus</i>				X								X
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus pastinator</i>				X								X
Eastern Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone orientalis</i>	X	X		X						X	X	X
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Paridae													
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>												X
Azure Tit	<i>Cyanistes cyanus</i>												X
Hirundinidae													
Eastern House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum lagopodum</i>		X				X		X		X		
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		X			X			X		X	X	
Pale Martin	<i>Riparia diluta</i>										X	X	
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>							X					
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Alaudidae													
Mongolian Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella dukhunensis</i>			X									
Greater Short-toed Lark, <i>Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis</i>											X		
Asian Short-toed Lark	<i>Alaudala cheleensis</i>		X			X			X		X	X	
Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis kibortii</i>		X		X						X		
Steppe Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris brandti</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Mongolian Lark	<i>Melancorypha mongolica</i>	1	X	X	X								
Acrocephalidae													
Booted Warbler	<i>Iduna caligata</i>											X	
Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus Agricola</i>								X		X		
Phylloscopidae													
Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>		X						X	X		X	X
Siberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus tristis</i>								X				
Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>		X	X			X			X			
Two-barred Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>								X				
Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>						X		X	X		X	
Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>						X		X	X		X	X
Regulidae													
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>											X	
Sylviidae													
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>								X				
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Curruca curruca</i>		X				X		X	X		X	X
Asian Desert Warbler	<i>Curruca nana</i>								X			X	
Panuridae													
Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>										X	X	
Muscicapidae													
Eastern Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>					X		X		X		X	
Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>		X										
Guldenstadt's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus erythrogastrus</i>						X	X		X			
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>								X		X		

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Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>					X	X		X		X	X	
Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>						X	X					
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	10	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>	2	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>					X			X	X	X	X	
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	1	X				X		X			X	X
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>					X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>												X
Passeridae													
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X		X								
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	X	X		X		X		X		X	X	X
Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>		X	X		X	X	X		X	X		
White-winged Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla nivalis</i>						X	X		X			
Small Snowfinch	<i>Pyrgilauda davidiana</i>		X	X	X	X				X			
Prunellidae													
Brown Accentor	<i>Prunella fulvescens</i>					X		X		X		X	
Motacillidae													
Sykes' Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava beema</i>						X				X	X	
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla t. tschutschensis</i>		X								X	X	
Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	1	X				X				X	X	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	3					X			X			X
Transbaikal White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba baicalensis</i>								X				
Masked White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba personata</i>				X				X		X	X	X
Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>					X			X		X		
Blyth's Pipit	<i>Anthus godlewskii</i>		X	X	X		X						
Asian Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta blakistoni</i>					X	X	X		X	X		
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						X		X	X	X	X	
Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>												X
Fringillidae													
Twite	<i>Linaria flavirostris</i>				X		X	X		X			
Mongolian Finch	<i>Bucanetes mongolicus</i>					X			X				
Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>								X			X	X
Long-tailed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus sibiricus</i>												X
Emberizidae													
Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>										X	X	
Pallas's Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza pallasi</i>			X								X	
Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>								X		X	X	
Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>					X		X		X			



Photos (clockwise, from top left): Pallas's Pika, Tolai Hair, Midday Jird, Long-tailed Ground Squirrel



Photos (clockwise, from top left): Siberian Bumblebee *Bombus sibiricus*; *Aricia chinensis*; *Lycaena violacea*; Lesser Bath White *Pontia chloridice*

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MAMMALS													
Ochotonidae													
Pallas's Pika	<i>Ochotona pallasii</i>					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Leporidae													
Tolai Hare	<i>Lepus tolai</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dipodidae													
Siberian Jerboa	<i>Oreintallactaga sibirica</i>	X		X		X							
Gobi Jerboa	<i>Orientallactaga bullata</i>					X	X		X				
Hairy-footed (=Northern Three-toed) Jerboa,	<i>Dipus sagitta</i>								X				
Mongolian Jerboa	<i>Stylodipus andrewsi</i>								X				
Muridae													
Midday Jird	<i>Meriones meridianus</i>					X	X	X	X	X	X		
Mongolian Jird	<i>Meriones unguiculatus</i>		X		X					X	X	X	
Cricetidae													
Strelzov's Mountain Vole	<i>Alticola strelzovi</i>									X			
Gobi Altai Mountain Vole	<i>Alticola barakshin</i>					X				X			
Mongolian Mountain Vole	<i>Alticola stoliczkanus</i>			X									
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>										X		
Sciuridae													
Long-tailed Ground Squirrel	<i>Urocitellus undulatus</i>	X	X				X	X		X			
Pallid Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus pallidicauda</i>					X	X	X		X	X		
Daurian Ground Squirrel	<i>Spermophilus dauricus</i>			X									
Tarbagan Marmot	<i>Marmota sibirica</i>	X	X				X	X					
Erinaceidae													
Long-eared Hedgehog	<i>Hemiechinus auritus</i>								X				
Vespertilionidae													
Gobi Serotine	<i>Eptesicus gobiensis</i>										X		
Steppe Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis davidii</i>										X		
Cervidae													
Altai Wapiti	<i>Cervus canadensis sibiricus</i>	X		X									
Bovidae													
Mongolian Saiga	<i>Saiga mongolica</i>								X				
Black-tailed Gazelle,	<i>Gazella subgutturosa yarkandensis</i>								X		X		
Mongolian Gazelle	<i>Procapra gutturosa</i>	X	X										
Siberian Ibex	<i>Capra sibirica</i>						X						
Gobi Argali	<i>Ovis ammon darwini</i>			X									
Equidae													
Przewalski's Horse	<i>Equus przewalskii</i>	X	X										
Felidae													
Snow Leopard	<i>Panthera uncia</i>							3					
Pallas's Cat	<i>Otocolobus manul</i>	1		2						1			
Canidae													
Grey Wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>		1										
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
Corsac Fox	<i>Vulpes corsac</i>	X	X	X						X		X	

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Mustelidae													
Siberian Weasel	<i>Mustela sibirica</i>										X		

AMPHIBIANS													
Mongolian Toad	<i>Bufo raddei</i>	X	X	X									
Siberian Wood Frog	<i>Rana amurensis</i>		X										

REPTILES													
Tuva Toad-head Agama	<i>Phrynocephalus kulagini</i>								X				

BUTTERFLIES		
Brown Hairstreak	<i>Thecla betulae</i>	Hustai NP
Large Grizzled Skipper	<i>Pyrgus cf alveus</i>	Hustai NP
Lesser Bath White	<i>Pontia chloridice</i>	Hustai NP
a copper	<i>Lycaena violacea</i>	Hustai NP & Pallas's Cat Camp
Dryad	<i>Minois dryas</i>	Hustai NP
a rock grayling	<i>Hipparchia autonoe</i>	Hustai NP
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	
Nomion Apollo	<i>Apollo cf nomion</i>	Pallas's Cat Camp





Photos (clockwise, from top left): *Orostachys spinosa* (Crassulaceae); *Adenophora stenantha* (Campanulaceae); *Clematis tangutica* (Ranunculaceae); *Nepeta lophanthus* (Lamiaceae)

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SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	
PLANTS		
Amaranthaceae		
<i>Salsola tragus</i>	Prickly Russian Thistle	spiny Salsola, hill steppe
Apiaceae		
<i>Bupleurum bicaule</i>		Hustai
Apocynaceae		
<i>Cynanchum thesioides</i>		Milkweed, Hustai NP
Asteraceae		
<i>Heteropappus sp</i>		Purple-flowered daisy, steppe
<i>Aster alpinus</i>		Larger purple-flowered daisy, Hustai
<i>Saussurea cf amara</i>	a saw-wort	'raggedy' thistle, steppe
<i>Leontopodium ochroleucum</i>		'edelweiss', hill steppe
<i>Lactuca tatarica</i>		Blue 'lettuce', nr Khovd
Amaryllidaceae		
<i>Allium anisopodium</i>		Small pink-flowered thrift-like allium. Hustai
Brassicaceae		
<i>Descurainia sophia</i>	Flixweed	Hustai
Campanulaceae		
<i>Adenophora stenanthina</i>		'erica flowered' harebell, Hustai
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	Clustered Bellflower	Hustai
Caprifoliaceae		
<i>Patrinia rupestris</i>		Yellow-flowered valerian, Hustai
<i>Scabiosa comosa</i>		Large flowered scabious, Hustai. Mongolia's National Flower
Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Dianthus chinensis</i>	Chinese Pink	Large pink, Hustai
<i>Silene jensiseensis</i>		Stripey, inflated calyxes: hill steppe
Celastraceae		
<i>Parnassia palustris</i>	Grass of Parnassus	Hustai
Convolvulaceae		
<i>Convolvulus ammanii</i>		Small white-flowered non-creeping bindweed, Hustai
Crassulaceae		
<i>Orostachys spinosa</i>		'house leek' with tiny rosettes and tall creamy flower spike. Hustai
<i>Orostachys malacophylla</i>		Similar, but with pinky flower spike. Hustai
Eleagnaceae		
<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>	Sea Buckthorn	Grown for fruit crop
Ephedraceae		
<i>Ephedra przewalskii</i>		Curly joint pine, near Khovd
Fabaceae		
<i>Medicago falcata</i>	Sickle Medick	Hustai
<i>Corethroedendron fruticosum</i>		Pink-flowered shrubby pea, Hustai
<i>Caragana sp</i>		Shrub in 'desert' areas

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SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	
Gentianaceae		
<i>Gentiana decumbens</i>		Tall gentian, Hustai
<i>Lomatogonium sp</i>		
Geraniaceae		
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow Crane's-bill	Hustai
Lamiaceae		
<i>Phlomis tuberosa</i>		Pink-flowered Phlomis, Hustai
<i>Amethystea caerulea</i>		Tiny blue flowers, dark stems, Hustai
<i>Dracocephalum cf moldavicum</i>		Hustai
<i>Leonurus sibiricus</i>	Siberian Motherwort	Hustai
<i>Nepeta lophanthus</i>		Hustai
<i>Nepeta multifida</i>		Pallas's Camp: dense dark flower spikes
<i>Panzeria lanata</i>		Fluffy, white flowers, in mountains
<i>Scutellaria scordifolia</i>		Pallas's Camp: deep blue, dry river beds
<i>Thymus gobicus</i>		Thyme, eg Hustai
Linaceae		
<i>Linum sibiricum</i>	Siberian Flax	Blue flax, Hustai
Orobanchaceae		
<i>Odontites ruber</i>	Red Bartsia	Steppe, eg nr UB
Plantaginaceae		
<i>Linaria acutiloba</i>		Yellow toadflax, eg Hustai
Papaveraceae		
<i>Papaver nudicaule</i>		Pale yellow poppy, nr UB
Plumbaginaceae		
<i>Goniolimon speciosum</i>		'sea lavender', Hustai
Polygonaceae		
<i>Rheum rhabarbarum</i>	Wild Rhubarb	Steppe
Ranunculaceae		
<i>Clematis tangutica</i>		Yellow clematis, nr UB
<i>Delphinium grandiflorum</i>		Large blue-flowered Delphinium, nr UB
<i>Halerpestes salsuginosa</i>		Celandine-like buttercup in wet places
<i>Ranunculus natans</i>		Small-flowered prostrate buttercup in muddy wet places
Rosaceae		
<i>Crataegus sanguinea</i>		Hawthorn, Hustai
<i>Potentilla cf viscosa</i>		Tall cinquefoil eg Bumbag Mountain
<i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	Great Burnet	eg Hustai, UB area
Solanaceae		
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	Black Henbane	Hustai
Urticaceae		
<i>Urtica cannabina</i>		Dissected-leaved stinging nettle, Hustai
Zygophyllaceae		
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>		Waste places