

From:	"Nyamba"
To:	<ktes2008@yahoo.com>
Subject:	RE: Birds of prey: <b>Mongolia</b>
Date:	Wed, 13 Feb 2008 10:45:51 +0800

1. What is your name? Nyambayar Batbayar
2. If you have a job title, what is it? Director and Biologist
3. What is the name of your organization and country? Wildlife science and conservation center of Mongolia
4. Based on numbers, what would you say are the top 5 raptors in your area? Saker Falcon, Cinereous Vulture, Upland Buzzard, Amur Falcon, Steppe Eagle
5. Are there any endangered raptors in your area? If so, which ones are they and why are they endangered? Saker Falcon is listed as Endangered in the IUCN Red List for Threatened Species <http://www.iucnredlist.org/search/details.php/49515/summ>

This species was heavily harvested for falconry use. Both legal and illegal harvest was responsible for the decline. Also erroneous use rodenticides and pesticides have contributed to the decline. Today Mongolia has become one of last refuges for this species in the region.

Cinereous Vulture listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List for Threatened Species <http://www.iucnredlist.org/search/details.php/544/summ>

Mongolia is only country that holds large breeding population of this species in the world. The species is much dependent on nomad herders' livestock. Some poisoning and shooting occur in southern and central part of the country. Every year many young birds die in wintering grounds in Korea and China due to lack of food, electrocution, and poisoning.

Upland Buzzard – not endangered  
Amur Falcon – not endangered  
Steppe Eagle – not endangered

6. Are there any programs in your area that help to protect raptors? If yes, briefly tell us what they are. Mongolia has only one active program for one particular raptor species. It is National Program on Conservation of Saker Falcon. Apart from this program there is no government back raptor protection program. Although raptors are quite well protected by tradition, there are many conservation concerns for them. With the increasing development of cities and economic growth, more and new threats emerging and raptors

are often the victims of such problems. The National Program on Conservation of Saker Falcon was designed to support the wild population which was under heavy harvest pressure for Middle East Falconry. Every year many Saker Falcons are caught and exported to Gulf countries. Consequence was the population crash. With the use of this program we hoping to have a better sustainable harvest system and give more support to increase the wild population back to healthy normal level.

7. Is your organization funded by the government or private donations? If neither, from what source is funding received? Wildlife science and conservation center is non profit organization. Most of supports we receive are from private sectors and international NGOs. But sometimes receive jobs on contract basis from the Government.

8. Does your government recognize the importance of maintaining/improving the status of birds of prey? If so, in what way do they support it? Unfortunately, it is very slow and passive. We are working hard to ensure the protection of raptors are well taken by the Government.

9. Do you have programs to educate the public? If yes, what kinds or please give examples. We have public education programs.

10. Is there anything else that you would like to share or comment on about raptors in your area? Mongolia is like a heaven for raptors. We have many breeding resident raptors as well as migratory raptors. The intact steppe, forest, and mountains provide enough food, safe shelter and nesting place for raptors. Also there are several globally threatened raptors in Mongolia such as Eastern Imperial Eagle, Lesser Kestrel, Cinereous Vulture, Saker Falcon, Greater Spotted Eagle, Pallid Harrier, and Pallas' Fish Eagle that deserve better protection.

11. May we have permission to print this email interview on our website? Yes