

Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands

Categories approved by 4.7 of the Conference of the Contracting Parties

1. Date this sheet was completed \ updated

June 1998

For Office use only

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2. Country: Mongolia

3. Name of wetland: Ogi Nuur

4. Geographical coordinates: 47°46'N, 102°46'E

5. Altitude: c. 1,280 m

6. Area: 2,510 ha

57 units

7. **Overview:** Ogi Nuur lake is located in the valley of the Orkhon River, to the north of the main Khangai ridge in the Arctic Ocean Drainage Basin, 165 km north of Arvayheer. Mesotrophic, freshwater lake with an extensive alluvial area of grassland, river channels, pools and marshes at the western end. The maximum depth of the lake is 16 m, but about 40% of the lake is less than 3m deep, and 50% supports macrophytic growth. The surface water temperature in summer reaches 18°C. The lake is a very important breeding and staging area for a wide of waterfowl, particularly Anatidae. Birds recorded during a brief survey in June and July.

8. Wetland Type: Inland: (O), (Tp) M

9. Ramsar Criteria: (1b), (3b)

10. Map of the including included? Yes

11. Name of and address of the compiler of this form:

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12. Justification of the criteria selected under point 9, on previous page.

13. **General location:** In the valley of the Orkhon River, to the north of the main Khangai ridge in the Arctic Ocean Drainage basin, 165 km north of Arvayheer.

14. **Physical features:**

14.1. **Geology and geomorphology:** This site including rivers, steppe and lake is located in the valley of the Orkhon River, to the north of the main Change ridge in the Arctic Ocean Drainage Basin has been formed by tectonic activity.

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14.2. Hydrology: Catchment area -
 Water surface area 25.1 km²
 Length 7.4 km
 Width: Average 3.0 km
 Max 5.9 km
 Depth: Average 5.3 m
 Max 15.9 m
 Volume of water 0.1706 km³
 Average temperature 9.8°C from May to September
 Mineralization 0.52 mg/l
 Transparency 3.0 m

13.3. Soils: Meadow, meadow saline, soil. (with carbonaceous)

14.4. Climate The area has a continental climate with dry cold winters and warm relatively wet summers. The mean air temperatures vary from -37°C in January to +33°C in July. The warm period, when the temperature is above zero, lasts for 150 to 160 days. Annual precipitation varies from 200-250 mm, of which 80% fall between July and end of August.

15. Hydrological values: A shallow, mesotrophic, freshwater lake with an extensive alluvial area of grassland, river channels. Pools and marshes at the western end. Three rivers, including the Urchin, flow through this marshy area into the lake. The maximum depth of the lake is 16 m, but about 40% of the lake is less than 3 m deep, and 50% supports macrophytic growth. The surface water temperature in summer reaches 18°C; the conductivity is approximately 280 microSeimens/cm.

16. Ecological features:

17. Noteworthy flora: Most of the shores are erosion shores of gravel, but there are zones of macrophytes one to five metres from the shore composed mainly of *Potamogeton spp.*, *Myriophyllum spicatum* and *Ceratophyllum demersum*. The dominant emergent in the marshes at the western end of the lake is *Schoenoplectus (Scirpus) sp.* and there is very little Phragmites. Other aquatic plants include *Polygonum amphibium*, *Potamogeton perfoliatus*, *P. praelongus*, *P. vaginatis*, *Hippuris vilgaris*, and *Batrachium eradicatum*. The phytoplankton is composed chiefly of diatoms. The lake is surrounded by grassy steppe.

18. Noteworthy fauna:

The benthic fauna is diverse. The zooplankton is dominated by copepods and cladocerans. The fish fauna is dominated by a typically north Eurasian assemblage comprised of cyprinids, pike and perch. The main species are *Esox lucius*, *Perca fluviatilis*, *Rutilus rutilus lacustris*, *Leuciscus leuciscus baicalensis*, *L. idus*, *Phoxinus phoxinus*, *Carassius auratus gibelio*, *Noemacheilus barbatulus toni*, *Cobitis taenia*, *Parasilurus asotus* and *Lota lota*, together with some *Hucho taimen*, *Branchymystax lenok* and *Thymallus arcticus*. The carp *Cyprinus carpio haematopterus* has recently invaded the lake from the Orkhon River. The lake is a very important breeding and staging area for a wide of waterfowl, particularly Anatidae. Birds recorded during a brief survey in June and July 1977 included two breeding pairs of *Cygnus cygnus* along with 25 non-breeders, 1,000 *Anser cygnoides* (including several breeding pairs), one pair of *Gavia arctica* and:

20 <i>A. anser</i>	40 <i>A. indicus</i> (breeding)
50 <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> (breeding)	10 <i>P. nigricollis</i>
54 <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	12 <i>T. tadorna</i>
60 <i>Anas penelope</i>	45 <i>A. strepera</i>
50 <i>A. crecca</i>	60 <i>A. platyrhynchos</i> (breeding)

20 *A. quequedula* 100 *A. clypeata*
60 *Aythya ferina* 130 *Bucephala clangula* and small numbers of
Phalacrocorax carbo, *Ardea cinerea*, *Platalea leucorodia*, *Anas falcata*, *A. acuta* *Netta rufina*, *A. fuligula* and *Mergus albellus* (Kitson, 1978)

19. **Social and cultural values:** None.

20. **land tenure\ownership** State ownership

21. **Current land use:** Intensive fishing and some livestock grazing

22. **Factors:** - overgrazing and degradation due to some dry summers.
- man made steppe fire during the dry periods

23. **Conservation measures taken:** None.

24. **Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:** None.

25. **Current scientific research and facilities:** Basis limnological data have been gathered, and preliminary surveys of the avifauna have been made.

26. **Current conservation education:** None.

27. **Current research and tourism:** Recreational and touristic pressure is very low.

28. Jurisdiction:

Territorial: Administration of Ogii Nuur Sum of Arkhangai Province.

Functional: MNE of Mongolia and Environmental Protection Agency (Government Building-3, Baga Toiruu-44, Ulaanbaatar-11, Tel: 976 1 326617 , Fax: 976 1 328620, E-mail: epa@magicnet.mn

29. **Management authority:** Management of the Ramsar site is provided by the Administration of Ogii Nuur Sum of Arkhangai Province.

30. Bibliographical references:

1. Mongolian Red Book (1998) Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar

2. Mongolia's Wild Heritage (1996), Mongolia Ministry for nature and Environment, UNDP/GIF, WWF, Avery Press in Hong Kong

3. Ecosystems of Mongolia 1:1000000. The map is published with the assistance of UNEP. Russian-Mongolian complex biological expedition.

4. Biodiversity conservation action plan for Mongolia. (1996), The Ministry for Nature and Environment
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

5. National Atlas, (1990), MPR's Academy of Science and Academy of Science, USSR, Ulaanbaatar, Moscow.

6. A Directory of Asian Wetlands, (1989), IUCN, The World Conservation Union.