The WAZA Network
- links *ex situ* with *in situ* conservation

I. Author
World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA)

II. Taxon (Species, subspecies, population)
Przewalski's horse (*Equus przewalskii*)

III. Range states where this taxon is found
Mongolia, China

IV. Current estimated wild population size (if known)
50 at Gobi B, 150 at Hustai Nuuru Area (all re-introduced)

V. Species status
CITES Appendix I IUCN RDB: Extinct in the wild

VI. Population trend for the taxon in the wild
Increasing

VII. *Ex situ* breeding operation

a. Name
International Studbook (ISB - WAZA) with regional cooperative breeding programmes, in this context EEP (EAZA) and ASMP (ARAZPA). The SSP (AZA)decided to participate too in 2002.

b. Location
ISB (ca 1500 living horses): Prague; EEP: 67 participants, co-ordinated by Cologne Zoo, ASMP: in 3 participating institutions, coordinated by Australian Wildlife Park, SSP: 24 participating institutuons, co-ordinated by Bronx Zoo

c. Year of establishment
ISB: 1957, EEP 1985

d. CITES registration number if applicable
None

e. Type of operation
Non commercial

e. Origin of the founder stock if known
Mongolia, 13 founder animals

VIII. Number of individuals successfully bred annually

EEP: ca. 50 SSP and ASMP: ca. 50

IX. Is there an *in situ* conservation programme for the taxon? In which countries?

Yes, in Mongolia: Dzungarian Gobi and Hustai Nuuru NP. Data in this sheet refer essentially to the Dzungarian Gobi project.

X. How does the *ex situ* operation contribute to the *in situ* conservation of the taxon?

a. Have individuals been released into the wild? How many? Where?
Yes, from 1992 to 2002, 77 Przewalski's horses bred by 20 different institutions in 8 countries (Askanja Nova, Oberwil, Langenberg, Winterthur, Dubbo, Salzburg, Tierpark Berlin, Prague, Whipsnade, Halle, Rotterdam, Zoo Berlin, Stuttgart, Nürnberg, Schwerin, Chemnitz, Karlsruhe, Springe, Marwell and Vienna) were released into the Dzungarian Gobi. Other releases took place in the Hustai Nuuru National Park.

b. Have causes for the decline in the wild been identified? Mitigated? Stopped?
Yes. One problem remaining but addressed by research is the potential of disease transmission from domestic horses.

c. Is there an ongoing monitoring programme in place?
Yes, using radio-collared horses for GPS-ARGOS telemetry.

d. Have the data from the monitoring programme been analysed and peer review published and has success of releases been quantified?
Yes. See http://www.takhi.org

e. What financial and other resources have been made available and used to support *in situ* conservation programmes for the taxon?
Ca 3 million Swiss Francs were invested into the Dzungarian Gobi reintroduction project, The Municipal Wildlife Park "Langenberg" Zurich provides the Project Secretariat and carries out the pre-export quarantines. Research activities are led by Salzburg Zoo. The participating zoos provide the animals in kind and pay for the transportation costs.

f. Explain how the *ex situ* breeding operation has demonstrably affected conservation
The species was previously extinct in the wild and now occurs again at two sites.

g. Other ways in which the *ex situ* operation contributes to the *in situ* conservation of the taxon
Exhibiting the species is important for publicizing the project and for generating funds for the ongoing conservation efforts and related research activities. *In situ* research opportunities for students and postgraduates. Creation of jobs for local people. In future possibly creation of a trans-border National Park with China. Creation of awareness, also with the support from WAZA (see WAZA Magazine Nr. 2)

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