



The Crane Working Group Report in the first half of 2010

**Report from the Crane Working Group
to the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership Secretariat**

**Simba Chan
7 September 2010**



Main achievement in the first half of 2010:

Regional:

- The International Red-crowned Crane Network conducted a coordinated count for the species on 9 January 2010 (China, Republic of Korea and Japan)
- From 26 April to 1 May and During 12-17 May 2010, staff of the Daursky Reserve (Russia) and Mongol-Daguur Reserve (Mongolia) conducted joint research work on study and monitor cranes and wetlands in the Mongolian of the Dauria International Reserve and neighboring Daurian steppes.
- The workshop, “Cranes – Climates – People” was convened at Muraviovka Park (Russia) from May 29 to June 3, 2010. This workshop was attended by 30 participants from 14 countries. A practical manual or guide will be developed in the next couple years to help Crane Specialist Group members respond effectively to these issues. Abstracts is available at <http://muraviovkapark.ru/doc/actionsCCPabstracts.pdf>
- Daursky Reserve (Russia) held an International seminar “Crane-Farmer Conflicts and Conservation Response to Climate Change for Cranes and the Wetlands They Inhabit” from 4-9 June 2010. Four American specialists, four Russian specialists and local farmers participated to discuss problems on crop damage and climate changes. Daursky has also monitored the crane population and habitats in the first half of 2010.
- Khingansky State Nature Reserve (Russia) has Cooperation Agreement with Honghe Nature Reserve (China) with special emphasis on ecological education and Oriental stork studies. A meeting and probably exchange the delegations is planned for late 2010.
- Dr Oleg Goroshko, Russian representative of Crane Working Group, has written an article on the BirdLife Asia News on the climate change of the Dauria Region, which covers three Crane network sites and an international protected area at the borders of Russia, Mongolia and China. He has raised the international awareness on the situation on the problem of drying up of this region. The article can be downloaded at <http://birdlife-asia.org/wp/wp-content/themes/birdlife/pdf/nl30.pdf>

National:

- Staff of the Daursky Reserve (Russia), during spring and the first half of 2010, made nine presentations, lectures and festivals about birds and cranes and conservation of them for 574 local children in different schools.
- Khingansky State Nature Reserve Reintroduction Center (Russia) released nine captive bred Red-crowned cranes of one year old in the wild.
- Bolonsky State Nature Reserve (Russia) together with National Institute for Environmental Studies (Japan), Khingansky State Nature Reserve (Russia) and Amur province agency for protected territories conducted ground survey and taking blood and tissue samples for Oriental Storks in some protected territories of Amur province for genetic and disease study and project for cryo-conservation.
- ICF worked with National Bird Banding Center (China) and several network sites in organizing a Siberian Crane Count on 17 April 2010, involving 57 observers who counted all species of cranes and other migratory waterbirds at 67 locations in northeast China.

Schedule for the second half of 2010:

- A crane meeting is planned in China in late 2010, which would cover the issue on the recovery of a Red Crowned Crane wintering site at Ambyon, DPR Korea, and we may also raise the issue of climate change at the inland steppe in NE Asia that raised by Dr. Goroshko. Unfortunately because of recent politic developments the meeting has to be postponed.
- The crane working group plans to meet in Siem Reap, in conjunction with the meeting of the EAAFP.

National:

Russia:

- During the second half of 2010 the research and monitoring of crane populations and habitats in Daursky Reserve and neighboring Daurian steppes will be continued, including census on cranes on the migratory gathering sites. During September of 2010 Daursky Reserve will organize Crane Festival for local people living around the reserve and in neighboring Daurian steppes.
- During 26-29 July of 2010 Daursky Nature Reserve plan to do Workshop of the Dauria International Reserve (Daursky, Mongol-daguur and Dalainor) in Mongolia for reporting about joint international work during 2009 and first half of 2010, discussing of cooperation and planning of joint international activities during second half of 2010 and 2011. Status and conservation of cranes and wetlands, and global climate change will be special topics for the Workshop.
- During 19-27 July of 2010 staff of the Daursky Reserve, Sokhondo Reserve (Russia) and Mongol-daguur Reserve (Mongolia) will organize international Russian-Mongolian children summer ecological camp in the Daursky Reserve and in Sokhondo Reserve. Status and conservation of waterbirds and wetlands, and global climate change will be important topics for the camp.

China:

- ICF is cooperating with Yunnan Forestry Bureau and Dashanbao Nature Reserve to hold a Black-necked Crane Workshop at Dashanbao from November 30 to December 3, 2010.