

Large Herbivore Foundation Network Meeting, 2007

FINAL (ADOPTED) AGENDA + MINUTES

(due to last minutes cancellations e.g. of speakers, the proposed agenda had some major changes)

4 - 8 OCTOBER 2007, Lviv, UKRAINE

07/01

DATE	TOPIC	TIME	SUBJECT	WHO	PAPER/ NOTES
Wednesday 3-10-2007	ARRIVAL Welcome	20.00	Welcome drink and informal buffet Hotel 'Dnister', Lviv	All /FB	
Thursday 4-10-2007	EXCURSION LUNCH DINER	8.00-9.00 9.00 19.00	Registration of participants Excursion ; Surroundings of Lviv (Exc. Program to be distributed). Late afternoon; Visit + Short city walk Lviv Lviv	All /CS	
Friday 5-10-2007	LHF Meeting day 1				
	INTRODUCTION	09.00	1. Official opening by a representative of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences/Prof. Dr. Yuriy Chernobay		
		09.10	2. Welcome by director LHF, Drs. Fred Baerselman	FB	2. Fred Baerselman wishes everyone a warm welcome, not only the familiar faces, but especially the new faces. Thanks to Ukraine for their hospitality. A special welcome to Magnus Sylven, who was one of the main initiators of the original LHI. Joep van de Vlasakker is not here unfortunately due to a personal situation, but he wishes us a fruitful meeting.
			Welcome by 2a. Mykola Melnyk, Ministry of Nature Protection of Ukraine 2b. Mykola Shadura, State Committee of Forestry 2c. Stefan Tatukh, State Administration of Nature Protection in Lviv region		Mykola Melnik (ministry): Welcome to all of you. Hopefully we solve problems of reintroduction and migration in Ukraine. Hopefully you'll share your knowledge with us. State Committee of Forestry: It's the golden autumn in Lviv at the moment. We have beautiful forests and hunting area's. Welcome to all of it! You can find out all about reintroduction of bison in Ukraine. The situation with bison is really difficult. We need help on this question. Stefan Tatuk (State administration nature protection): Welcome to Lviv. We are working on the creation of a park to increase

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					and protect bison. There will be a special department for protection. That might be a field where we need LHF's help
		09.20	3. Logistics Introduction of participants	CS FB	Andriy-Taras Bashta on local logistics
		09.30	4. Introduction to the main theme of the meeting; Large Herbivores: forgotten species	FB/ JC	JC will take over from JvdV on forgotten species
	Major chances in proposed agenda	09.40	Agenda (adoption), Minutes and action points 5. Adoption of agenda (preliminary for day 1; day 2 will be proposed tomorrow) 6. Minutes/ action points; LHF NM 2006 Leuven, Belgium	FB	07/01 07/02
		10.00	LHF information/ activities 7. LHF annual plan 2007/ quick scan + review LHF LHF summary strategy/conservation targets '07-'10 8. LHF summary/ conservation activities 2006/2007	FB FB	07/03 a+b 07/04 FB brief intro
		10.30	Coffee break	-	
	LHF/ LARGE HERBIVORES GENERAL/ EUROPE	10.45	9. Statement on forestry and hunting in Ukraine	Mykola Shadura (UA state committee on Forestry)	9. Mykola Shadura: Situation in Ukraine Bison: We made a plan to increase the number of bison in Ukraine. Representatives went to Belarus to share experiences on bison. The situation over there is better; they managed to double their Bison population. In Ukraine: Lowland and Lowland-Caucasian line of bison. We try to do whatever we can, but we have problems, mostly financial. We are grateful to the LHF for giving some money to our region. We promise to give you whatever cooperation you need, for reintroducing bison in other regions of Ukraine. Yesterday during the excursion we saw four bison; our proposal is to learn about their behaviour. There are 315 bison all over Ukraine; we plan to register them. Probably some countries can help us with electronic devices to mark the bison. Przewalski horse: There was an experience with 11 horses in 1999. In the same area we want to bring bison, because the situation is very good. Brown bear: There are problems. Unfortunately the population decreased twice the last 10 years. In the poor area's it is a hunting species. That's why we put it on the Red List and removed the brown bear from the list of hunting animals. We have the same plans for preservation of brown bear and bison. Kajetan Perzanowski: What is the policy of the Ukraine regarding mixing Lowland and Lowland-Caucasian bison? Ukraine is a special situation, because populations of both lines are kept in isolation. We should consider whether we want to keep this isolation or have one big metapopulation of Lowland-

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					<p>Caucasian bison in Ukraine.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: We discussed this yesterday during the excursion, where we saw that Lowland animals, though still in an enclosure, were in the same reserve as Lowland-Caucasian animals. Management authorities in this reserve planned to introduce Lowland animals next to the Lowland-Caucasian animals for purpose of increasing genetic variability. However, Ukraine signed the IUCN Species action plan for Bison, also in front of the Council of Europe. The plan says not to mix them. Internationally speaking Ukraine is obliged to try to live up to these rules.</p> <p>Mykola Shadura: We discuss this issue ourselves as well. Should there be two lines? In Belarus we had discussions with scientists about this point. Should populations of both lines be separated? We really want to hear your opinion, the science side of it. Experience is that Lowland-Caucasian line is stronger and has more resistance against diseases. Therefore, it might be good to mix them with Lowland line.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: We need to get back to this and see what would be the advice of the LHF in this matter. We'll discuss this tomorrow.</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: Are there saiga in Ukraine and how many?</p> <p>Mykola Shadura: We do not have exact information, but we don't have many of them in Ukraine.</p>
		11.00	9a. Follow up report on LH management Oostvaarders plassen NL / International Committee (ICMO)	Frans Vera (NL State Forestry)	<p>9a. Frans Vera: Update on the Oostvaardersplassen, the Netherlands</p> <p>Konikhorses, Heckcattle and red deer live on an area in a newly created polder in the Netherlands (6000 hectares). It's an area with dryer and wetter (marshes) parts. Grazing greylag geese taught us that animals can steer the vegetation succession. There is an intense interaction between grazers and vegetation. What man does by management (e.g. mowing) can be done by the animals. Oostvaardersplassen is an area now with lots of plant- and bird species. The area played an important role for the question in what way grassland would come into existence in nature? Most people would say 'by men', but we said 'no, by the large herbivores'. Three kinds: browsers, intermediate feeders (like European bison) and grazing animals. These animals are working complementary. They can create a system of checks and balances in nature. For European standards the population density in Oostvaardersplassen is very high. In Oostvaardersplassen the animals are year-round-grazers and they get no supplementary feeding. In winter some simply die of starvation. We don't regulate numbers. During summer the animals can't eat all vegetation, because they are in low numbers because of starvation in winter. So part of this vegetation can be eaten during winter. We have a winter density of 3-4 red deer per hectare and we still have some plant species of which foresters say that is impossible with such densities. That is due to nurse species of trees that come up in</p>

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					<p>open land. Biodiversity ecosystem functioning: by introducing the keystone species you will start natural processes. Large herbivores are such keystone species.</p> <p>In winter animals become meagre and some die. At a certain moment we had a mortality of 22 percent of all animals. Discussion about this reached national parliament. An international committee of experts (ICMO) was asked to give a judgement whether our management was acceptable. Their conclusion was: yes, this is a natural situation. People think large predators regulate populations, but they don't! That's what research on Serengeti pointed out. The amount of food regulates the population. So that is what is going on in Oostvaardersplassen. There is a relation between fatness and fertility. Cows won't give birth every year. It's one mechanism by which population numbers are regulated. Now we only shoot the animals at the end of the winter, just to prevent suffering. After the ICMO report the Dutch animal welfare took us to court, because they still did not accept our practice. At that point the judge also approved our way of handling the animals, and considered them to be 'wild' animals: "They (the horses and heckcattle) were not put in the area to get them back. That's why you don't own them anymore, they are wild animals". Since two years we do not have anymore discussion with the general public on welfare issues of these animals.</p>
	LHF cont.	11.20	<p>10. LHF; 10 years of network experience in LH conservation Opportunities and challenges for the future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of LHF business plan - new partnerships 	Magnus Sylvén (chair of LHF board SWOT report/statement)	<p>10. Magnus Sylvén: history and future of LHF + workshop Stephen Decker</p> <p>History of LHF: In 1998 we had a workshop in Bialowieza, Poland, where we initiated the Large Herbivore Initiative and laid the basis for the future. From the start Bison was an example species. We had three programme areas. Since 1998 we had one meeting a year, in different parts of our working area. LHF is a Dutch foundation, established in 2003. Among other sources, LHF gets support of the Dutch government. There is a board, chaired by Magnus Sylven and an advisory council, chaired by Wolfgang Schröder. The network consists of 200 experts from more than 30 countries. Another asset is that LHF has a good track record. We have 46 projects in 24 countries and received 6 million Euros over the last 10 years. This has mostly been used as 'seed money', for catalyzing action.</p> <p>To ascertain a bright future for the LHF we have some new plans, like pro active marketing, targeted fundraising and a 4-year business plan (2008-2011). We stick to the vision of 1998, think of goals and develop a strategy. How can the network help? The network means voices and stories from the field, told by people for people.</p>
	Plenary discussion and workshop Future LHF	11.40	Questions and Statements/views of meeting	MS	<p>10b. Workshop by Stephen Decker</p> <p>Getting information from the group on the added values of the LHF is important. Magnus needs your information and your opinion. The possibility of learning from each other forms an important aspect of the network. How do you use it, how do</p>

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					<p>you use your seed money from the network? First question: Is it important for LHF network members and the public to know about the added values? All sign on flip over. General opinion: yes, very important (agree – strongly agree).</p> <p>Workshop results</p> <p>1) Good things about current LHF network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information to experts - Information to public - Information to students - Seed money means more money - Expert collaboration - New perspectives - LHF -> support <p>2) Things to improve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involve new interest groups, scientists and public. Make the LHF more interesting again for scientists. - Target universities and especially young scientists. Also: hunters (young). General need for more young people! - More focus on role of herbivores in ecosystem functioning: keystone ecosystem impacts - Clearer information about how to apply for funding and priority setting - Website update. Interactive website - Guidelines on website for proposal writing - Link with IUCN to provide up to date information - Publish project (update) reports on LHF website - 'Browser' made available to a bigger public - Create species (or issue) specific working groups - Increase public profile, for example via zoo's or television
			Conclusions		
		13.00	Lunch	-	
Friday 5-10-2007	LARGE HERBIVORES EUROPE (continued)	14.15	11. European Bison Advisory Centre (EBAC) >> International Centre for European Bison/ ICEB (as advised in IUCN SAP on European bison)	Isabella Bukowcyk (07/05 discussion/ background paper)	<p>11. Isabella Bukowcyk: International Centre for European Bison Fred Baerselman: There will be an International Centre for European Bison (ICEB). We had a meeting about it last night. I am very optimistic about the future of ICEB. Isabella Bukowcyk: European Bison Advisory Centre. The idea of the centre comes from the IUCN Status Survey and Conservation Action Plan European Bison. It should be our main centre for information about European Bison. The centre needs to hold all kinds of information (breeding, EBPB, genetics, disease, management, ecology), if possible free of charge. We will set up a list of questions of different participants, like breeders, nature conservationists (reintroductions) and public. Advisory Centre should give all answers to all different groups of people. Proposal of structure: main office in Warsaw and</p>

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					<p>several regional partners. The partners inform locally, are responsible of exchanging animals, supervising local breeding centres and information in the region. We have to discuss about the number of partners. There will be a board of experts, breeders, etc. The website will be continuously up to date. Only worldwide cooperation can make this project work properly and will improve information on European bison.</p> <p>Peter Finck: How do you increase the information stream between breeders and centre?</p> <p>Izabella Bukowcyk: By communicating with breeders themselves and tell them what the centre is good for. If they can get more information on e.g. Bison pedigree, they will be more willing to cooperate, because they have their own benefits from the centre. We will communicate via a personal way, email for example. We have to make them aware and as a result they will become more cooperative.</p> <p>Frans Vera: Do you also name some information about how the animals live, e.g. whether they get supplementary feeding.</p> <p>Izabella Bukowcyk: yes, part of the website will be about this. This is the place where you'll get information about everything.</p> <p>Joris Cromsig: Will there be the latest scientific results/data on Bison ecology and how do you convince scientists to provide this information?</p> <p>Izabella Bukowcyk: Yes, of course, we need this type of information and we have to check whether things are okay. We have ecological experts in the in the society.</p>
		14.40	<p>12. Status of European bison in Ukraine</p> <p>Bison project ' Skolivski Beskydy' Ukraine</p>	<p>Andriy-Taras Bashta/ Oksana Maryskevych</p>	<p>12. Oksana Maryskevych: Restoration of European bison population in western Ukrainian Carpathians.</p> <p>The total number of bison decreased 20% the last 10 or 15 years. Site of the LHF project is Skolivski Beskydy in the Lviv region. Goals: improvement of genetic structure, increase up to 40 bison, public awareness.</p> <p>Andriy Taras Bashta: The Carpathians are one of the last vast wilderness areas in Europe. The project proposes to plan and establish ecological corridors between protected areas. Specific results are expected. ?? Outcome: improved ecological connectivity between the selected protected areas.</p> <p>Frans Vera: You said that bison played a role in ecosystem?</p> <p>Andriy Taras Bashta: In a natural system they are keeper of (?), according to your presentation they are very important for other animal species and also for biodiversity.</p> <p>Peter Finck: How many bison are in this reserve close to the Romanian border?</p> <p>Andriy Taras Bashta: There are 6 animals in (?). Close to the Romanian border the population decreased from 300 to about 80. Why? Because of illness of males (sexual disease).</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: Baleno bastites is not affecting reproductive success. Poaching is more likely to be the cause of the decrease.</p>

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					<p>Frans Vera: Are those animals receiving supplementary feeding because maybe the lack of reproduction is because the animals do not have the right biotope?</p> <p>Andriy Taras Bashta: At the moment they do not get supplementary feeding. The animals move during the seasons.</p>
		15.00	13. European bison in Bieszczady and Natura 2000 /PL	Kajetan Perzanowski	<p>13. Kajetan Perzanowski: European bison in Bieszczady and Natura2000</p> <p>Identification of wisent refugees under Natura2000 network using habitat features within areas of wisent concentration at Bieszczady (Tatra). See ppt.</p> <p>Frans Vera: Surprised that beech forest was preferred by animals.</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: What I showed was simplified; I did not show results month by month. But there's herbal flora under the beech.</p> <p>Joris Cromsigf: How did you measure Bison distribution, all with radio collars?</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: The results are based on all kinds of observations. Radio collar, direct observations, faeces, tracks and other. The research is done by our staff and by forest staff. The whole analysis is based on lots of observations.</p> <p>Joris Cromsigf: Did you really calculate habitat selection (i.e. include habitat availability)?</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: This is not the final analysis, because what I showed you was indeed not really preference. End of next year we have all data analyzed properly about that.</p>
		15.30	Coffee break		
		16.00	14. Experiences with HD research on bison re intro project Rothaargebirge D.: HD building blocks for LHF	Stephen Decker	<p>14. Stephen Decker: Human dimension</p> <p>What is Human Dimension? Who is affected by decisions and who has the power to influence decisions. In short, attitudes, beliefs, expectations, levels of support or opposition. Restoration efforts in Germany: 10-15 free ranging bison. To do research on HD and attitudes is new! There live a lot of people around this area. Different views on project caused by differences in landownership. Small landowners might be afraid to lose a lot. To get all opinions we used questionnaires, 398 respondents. We saw differences in answers in two regions, depending on the type of landownership (small landowners versus 1 big landowner). Also knowledge was different between two regions. Attitudes composed of two factors: general attitude towards bison and lifestyle impacts. The main result of our study in Germany was that people have fear of bison. Conclusions: we need understanding of local context to target our information efforts. Future research on reducing fear, incorporating context into management, effective public involvement. LHF asked Stephen to create a building block technique, to use for changing public awareness (see ppt).</p> <p>Peter Finck: A few words on value of this from his opinion: Germany is a densely populated country, so HD is very important. We were very happy to have this research in</p>

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					<p>Germany. Different attitudes are also influenced by history, for example the religious differences.</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: People in Germany asked me how many people were killed by bison in Poland. They were very surprised the answer was zero. There is a different level of understanding of the species. This is very important work!</p> <p>Frans Vera: In nature parks there are fences. Would that help getting the idea away that these animals are dangerous? If fences are big, people think the animals are dangerous.</p> <p>Stephen Decker: You're right, education is important. You need to do the research and see if you can change anything.</p> <p>Magnus Sylven: Why did you select this border area? Why don't you start introduction in the area of the big landowner, where the people are more positive and less afraid?</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: That's what we're doing now, concentrating on the south. The northern part is difficult in terms of HD, so that's why we made this decision.</p>
		16.20	15. Grazing management experiences in Kemer NP Latvia	Andis Liepa	<p>15. Andis Liepa: Kemei National Park, Latvia (Instead of Sider Sedefchev with Conservation of Karachan horse in the Balkan)</p> <p>Usually there is enough food for all animals (horses and Auroxes in Kemei Park), but problems started when the river flooded in January 2007. The animals did not have many places to stay and not much food. These were critical moments for the animals. That's why we decided to give them additional feeding. Later in winter all the water froze, which was really hard. When the water level sank, it was possible to go there by tractor. Additional food was very necessary. The animals broke the ice to get to grass and water. Auroxes were extra dependant on additional feeding.</p> <p>Frans Vera: Fear for aggressiveness of animal is an important matter. How many bulls are there in group?</p> <p>Andis Liepa: Two bulls and three calves.</p> <p>Frans Vera: If you give animals supplementary feeding, how close will they come?</p> <p>Andis Liepa: we can feed them by hand.</p> <p>Frans Vera: So they are used to you and might become too accustomed to you.</p>
		16.40	16. Industrial threats to reindeer in Russia	Leonid Baskin	<p>16. Leonid Baskin: Industrial threats to reindeer in Russia</p> <p>Industrial companies must prepare their projects according to existing conservation nature regulation. How: They must order an Environmental Impact Assessment. Not much money is used for preserving reindeer. Main problem of conservation reindeer in Russia is the wrong assumption that reindeer are not connected to a specific territory. There is no understanding of critical habitats. Also: archaic view on reindeer ecology may be the main shortage of the Russian system of protection of wild reindeer populations. There might be a leading role for LHF here!</p> <p>Magnus Sylven: Arctic is changing very rapidly due to climate</p>

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					<p>change. 7 arctic governments issued a report recently. There will probably be only one remaining arctic area in Russia. As LHF we should think about future of reindeer in view of climate change.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: It's important that Leonid recommended an action plan on reindeers, and we also need input from Alaska e.g. We need their scientific basis. WWF is reluctant to start conversation with oil industry. LHF does not have these restrictions. We should have a conservation action plan like we have for bison. Reindeer conservation would fit very nicely in the work of LHF.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: I agree. We started a bit, but I propose to sit together and work on the project proposal and on how to move ahead and on how to fasten the pace.</p> <p>Frans Vera: I wonder how this links to Leonid's call for more knowledge about reindeer.</p> <p>Magnus Sylven: We need to have more knowledge. We need to look beyond the serious threats. We'll use Leonid's presentation as a start for further discussion.</p>
		17.00	16a. Report on study of EU law/regulations/ re. large herbivore (re) introductions	Willemijn Oudenaarden	<p>16a. Legal aspects of reintroduction of large herbivores Legal study commissioned by LHF to Law faculty of Univ. Utrecht in the Netherlands. The main goal of this study was to give an overview of applicable rules and to see where there were legal problems and to propose possible solutions. Main conclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In different phases different rules/ jurisdictions - The emphasis shifts between different jurisdictions - Terms are unclear/ meanings differ in different countries - There is a gap in the protection of animal welfare on European level during transport (legal problem) - Different rules are applied on wild and on dedomesticated animals (no legal basis for this) - Unclear whether Habitat directive is applicable on animals of protected species that are born in captivity <p>In short: nature protection regulation demands (re)introduction, but there is no suitable veterinarian- and animal welfare regulation. Different solutions possible. See ppt.</p> <p>Frans Vera: I am very happy that there finally is an overview of the legal aspects of reintroduction. What about zoo animals?</p> <p>Willemijn Oudenaarden: The difference with zoo animals is, that there is a specific European directive for zoo animals. Animals for (re)introduction are not 'recognized' by EU.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: This study is very interesting. Sometimes there were legal conclusions that were different than our own. That's the difference between the practical and the legal approach. But there are some good ideas and conclusions in this study.</p>
		17.20	Questions/ discussion climate change/reindeer		
		17.40	End of day 1		<p>End of day 1: Magnus closes the meeting. Magnus Sylven: Joris thank you for helping with the</p>

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					presentations today. Thanks all who made presentations. See you tomorrow at 9 in the morning.
	(evening)		(closed meeting of LHF Advisory Council)	AC members/ LHF team/ SB chair	
Saturday 6-10-2007	LHF Meeting day 2				Magnus Sylven: Good morning everybody, Magnus opens the meeting. We have changes in the agenda and we have a new guest. Rosaline Beudels-Jamar introduces herself.
	LH FORGOTTEN SPECIES CONSERVATION + RESTORATION	9.00	17. Introduction: LHF and the 'Forgotten LH Species of Russia, (Central) Asia and Mongolia' (and the unknown LH species of Sahelo-Sahara).	Joris Cromsigt /FB	See 27 and 29
		9.10	18. LH's research/ projects in Turkey	Anil Soyumert	<p>18. Anil Soyumert: Large herbivores in Turkey</p> <p>We do studies on large mammals at Hacettepe University in Ankara. Most large herbivores do not live in inner parts of Anatolia, because it's not very forested there. We do have a project in the north of Anatolia (roe deer and red deer in a mountain area) and in the southwest of Anatolia (a Mediterranean area). There also is a project in the border buffer zone in Cyprus. The Cyprus mouflon lives here, a subspecies. Hopefully I'll get good data for the next meeting.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: What's the goal of your studies?</p> <p>Anil Soyumert: We want to have a general overview of species numbers and distribution; we want to have an idea of the ecology of the species.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: So it's a continuous inventory of the work the LHI started. It's relatively new to get distribution and abundance data in Turkey.</p>
		9.30	19. CMS Concerted action on Central Asian mammals	Rosaline Beudels	<p>19. Rosaline Beudels-Jamar (instead of Pierre Devillers): CMS concerted action on central Asian mammals</p> <p>Concerted action is action as a respond on conventions. CMS is species oriented convention. CMS is convinced that large vertebrates are the cornerstone of conservation. Ecological reasons: keystone species. Also because of cultural heritage that vertebrates represent: mankind always had a special relationship with them. CMS has a unique approach. CMS Concerted Action was established in 2005. There are numerous organisations and CMS does not want to reinvent the wheel, but it's an international instrument, so it can help to get to concerted action in multi-national regions.</p> <p>Frans Vera: What you said about ideology struck me. Restoring the functioning of large mammals.</p> <p>Rosaline Beudels-Jamar: We believe there is a strong potential in symbols. Link with large mammal fauna is so evident. There is a very strong case for it. There are many initiatives and CMS is an instrument, a tool; it's not another organisation. We have to be ambitious. We have to bring all fantastic initiatives together</p>

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					<p>and federate them in a general organisation. That could generate extra funding. I think it can work.</p> <p>Peter Finck: Your contribution would be organising everybody, but not doing concrete action?</p> <p>Rosaline Beudels-Jamar: Not really, it's both. We try to get people like you to join in certain actions and then we can get the convention to help in the concerted action. We try to get the big picture and create a sense of belonging.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: I guess we can shake hands, because LHF is also very ambitious. So we can probably help each other out on certain issues. It's not the first contact we have on the Bonn convention, so we know each other, but I really like to see this renewed contact.</p> <p>Magnus Sylven: Rosaline, if you give your next presentation, about Sahara, we can get back to this subject.</p>
		9.50	20. Conservation results of LH projects in Central Asia '06/'07	Anna Lushchekina	<p>20. Anna Lushchekina (instead of Olga Pereladova): WWF central Asia programmes</p> <p>Bukhara deer: dramatic decline at the end of the last decade. Action plan and memorandum of understanding is signed under Bonn convention. Leopard: We hold seminars and meetings with local people. We are compensating local people for loss of livestock. Work by monitoring, sociological survey, human dimension. Also: work on kulan and Prezwalski horse in Kazakhstan.</p>
		10.10	21. LH's in Uzbekistan: Goitered gazelle, Kulan, Bukhara deer	Natalya/ Olga	<p>21. Natalja Marmazinskaya: Large herbivores in Uzbekistan</p> <p>Introduction of Bukhara deer in Uzbekistan. See ppt.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: I understand there is a book on Bukhara deer from Köln zoo, isn't it? I think you should take it up with the zoo. This might be a moment to get in touch with the zoo.</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: In addition to this, I like to tell there is another publication, very much illustrated, about Bukhara deer from breeding centre. This will be a good promotion for LHF.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: This is one of the best hidden success stories with a forgotten species (and with little money!). Book is fine, but we need a summary about this success story. Can somebody take this up? <u>Anna will do this. Hartmut is ready to help with anything. Anna will ask in Moscow. Only 10-15 pages is okay, just to focus on this success. Olga and Natalja will take the lead in this.</u></p>
		10.30	22. Livelihood approach saiga/Uztyurt Kazachstan	Richard Allcorn	<p>22. Richard Allcorn: Livelihood approach Mongolian saiga conservation Ustyun Plateau, MN</p> <p>Works for the NGO Flora and Fauna International. Shows how livelihoods come into conservation projects. Why worry about human needs: ethical arguments, strategic arguments (local people can help you, if you get them to a level where they support conservation – it will cost less). Livelihood intervention. It's a different way of looking at things, but it is very important. Especially in Uzbekistan we can do nothing without the landowners, we need them. Give people proper economical return for their activities. We are giving money indirectly to</p>

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					<p>children or women, instead of giving it directly to dominant group of men. Create awareness among local communities, get their perspectives right. It's looking beyond numbers, getting an attitude changed.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: What impact did it have on saiga population?</p> <p>Richard Allcorn: We only started in January this year, so we don't have a report on this. I don't know. Livelihood is a lovely idea, but you have to look on a large scale for results.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: People are killing saiga by thousands..</p> <p>Richard Allcorn: We try to regulate it, but we did not reach them yet. We need to have a large scale anti poaching plan.</p> <p>Stephen Decker: I really like the livelihood approach. Results in short should not be the focus, I think there will be long term results, grassroots support is important. You need to act quickly and at the short term, because poaching is a big threat, but long term is even more important.</p> <p>Frans Vera: We are talking about poor people, but what about rich people, who feel their way of living is threatened by animals? Why not use this approach in western Europe. We act like we don't have to teach people in western Europe how to live with animals, but we have to!</p> <p>Steven Decker: Good point, in central Asia we tell them we have the solution, but back at home we don't.</p> <p>Leonid Baskin: I wonder whether there are protected areas in Kazakhstan?</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: yes, some.</p> <p>Leonid Baskin: Saiga is typical ecological counterpart of reindeer.</p>
		10.50	Coffee break		
		11.10	23. Example / pilot projects of 'remote sensing' in support of conservation/ assessment. (Kaliningrad, Carpathians, Kalmykia, etc.)	Volker Radeloff	<p>23. Volker Radeloff: Image analysis and land use change and habitat change</p> <p>Land use across the former USSR changes really fast. Mapping of habitat change with remote sensing tools is needed. Projects in Kaliningrad (agricultural abandonment, forests are regrowing, difference with neighbouring countries), Carpathians (increase in forest harvesting after USSR broke down, harvesting rates differ strongly among countries), Kalmykia (calving grounds have lower productivity than traditional calving grounds), European Russia (bears are expanding their range southward in Russia). Post soviet landscapes are changing fast, land use intensity is overall decreasing, and land use changes offer great opportunities for conservation. Assessments of land cover and land use are a good forerunner of animal species.</p> <p>Frans Vera: May I draw the conclusion that cattle and sheep facilitated the habitat for saiga?</p> <p>Volker Radeloff: Under the current situation yes.</p> <p>Frans Vera: You could also think of reintroducing wild cattle and give people the opportunity to shoot those and protect saiga in this way.</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: But than this would be an invasive species.</p>

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					<p>Frans Vera: No, it's an original species, it just disappeared a long time ago.</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: Legally it's not possible. And politically.</p> <p>Frans Vera: Just bring them and let them get wild.</p> <p>Volkert Radeloff: Saiga are not longer able to migrate long distances.</p> <p>Frans Vera: We are so focused on one species. Our memory is short; we skip species out of our memory and qualify them as non original species.</p> <p>Magnus Sylven: Sorry, we have to stop this interesting discussion. Please proceed with it later!</p>
		11.30	24. Saiga / Kalmykia Russia / Kazakhstan	Anna Lushchekina	<p>24. Anna Lushchekina: Saiga in Russia, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan</p> <p>There is a Saiga Conservation Alliance. Situation of saiga in Russia: saiga population increased, but male percentage of it decreased (to 10 %), which is only partly a success. We are working with local people, to gain support and prevent poaching. Situation in Uzbekistan: main threat is poaching. Participation of local people in saiga conservation. Situation in Kazakhstan: government supports saiga conservation, they provide a lot of money. Network of friends of Saiga in Kazakhstan.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: Remarkable that the government of Kazakhstan gives money and created anti-poaching laws and units. WWF comes in addition to that. Big difference that it even came to parliament, who decided they wanted to get the saiga back. It's a remarkable achievement.</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: The Russian government did not sign the Saiga Conservation Alliance. Ask LHF to ask minister that is responsible for signing it.</p> <p><u>Fred Baerselman: Of course we will, we already had this discussion before. We will.</u></p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: There is a increase in saiga, but there are not a lot of males. Can you explain this?</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: We did not stop poaching, but it got less because of units.</p>
		11.50	25. Mongolian gazelle/ Dzeren, Dauria/ Russia	Anna L. In coop. With Vadim Kiriliuk	<p>25. Anna Lushchekina: Reintroduction of Mongolian gazelle in Russia</p> <p>Supported by LHF and now by WWF. Migration changed. Local people engaged in conservation of Mongolian gazelle in different ways. There might be possibilities for reintroduction in Tyva region.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: we're not in list of participants, while the idea rose during one of the meetings that we initiated and supported. That's strange.</p>
		12.10	26. Mongolian gazelle reintroduction/ Russia/Mongolia	Anna/ Hartmut	<p>26. Hartmut Jungius: Mongolian gazelle</p> <p>Anna said everything; I don't need to do my presentation. I started a project with WWF Russia. Suggestion: feasibility study should be done and LHF should be involved in it. It's important to have a foreign body in there. Mongolian population is close,</p>

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					<p>but due to veterinarian regulation this is impossible.</p> <p>Peter Finck: can you tell us reasons why gazelles are not migrating anymore?</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: There are not many gazelles anymore in that area of Mongolia. Long story, but main reason: fewer gazelles, so it's not necessary for them to migrate.</p>
		12.20	27. CMS concerted action on Sahelo-Sahara mammals	Rosaline Beudels	<p>27. Rosaline Beudels-Jamar: CMS action on Sahelo Saharan mammals</p> <p>There is a new NGO: Sahara Conservation Fund. Species distinct in the wild, for which reintroduction is the last possibility. Vision: Sahelo Sharan region must get in a good conservation status, with functioning ecological processes, thriving with wildlife. Plan: conservation, reintroduction, public awareness, communication and information. Six antelope species are used as keystone species, but of course there are many more species in the Sahara. Sahara Conservation Fund is baby of Sahara/Sahel action and established in 2004.</p> <p>Magnus Sylven: How could Convention create the umbrella and mobilize conservation?</p> <p>Rosaline Beudels-Jamar: The Sahara Conservation Fund is a baby of the conservation impulse in Sahara. Particularly local organisations and people are interested in wildlife. We need a convention like this. Put the subject back on the agenda. We need more parties in Central Asia and it looks promising.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: We had talks about how we can work together, but until now we have not seen any project proposal, but that's what we need to have to be able to e.g. do fund raising. Can you spread this message?</p> <p>Rosaline Beudels-Jamar: Sure. We are starting projects now. This is the beginning and I'm sure that LHF can be extremely useful.</p>
Saturday 6-10- 2006		12.40	Lunch break		<p>27a. Natalya Marmazinskaya: Goitered gazelle in Uzbekistan, forgotten species</p> <p>See powerpoint.</p>
	(inserted report)	13.50	28. Status/ situation of LH'S in the Chernobyl exclusion zone UA.	Mykola Melnyk	<p>28. Mykola Melnik: Tsjernobyl Exclusion Zone</p> <p>After the explosion we made 30km zones. It's difficult to enter these zones, there are fences. Still, there is poaching. The zone is under auspices of the Ministry of special Situations. Tsjernobyl Forest (Forestry Service?) is another involved organisation. They manage the animals in this zone. There are mainly pine forests. Wild boar, elk and roe deer and sometimes wolf live there. They shoot animals every year for samples for monitoring radioactivity.</p> <p>Frans Vera: Why does moose have a negative effect on bison?</p>

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					<p>Mykola Melnik: Because they have competition in feeding,</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: No, that's not true. Moose (elk) are browsers, they only eat a little bit of grass. More than 80% of food of bison is grass, so they are no real competitor for each other.</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: Are there any data of the level of pollution via the animals that were shot for experiments?</p> <p>Mykola Melnik: According to hunters some places are clean, but some are still polluted.</p>
	LH FORGOTTEN SPECIES cont.	14.00	29. Introduction; update 2007/ LHF status report LH's of the Palaearctic; the forgotten LH's species	FB/ Joris Cromsigt	<p>29. Workshop Joris Cromsigt and Stephen Decker: Forgotten species.</p> <p>Joris Cromsigt: This workshop has to point out what/ who are the forgotten species and how we should prioritize actions. The Reference guide is our main tool that shows the status of all LHF species, also the forgotten species. Students from Wageningen University helped to upgrade the reference guide, which is a good example of student involvement. Main difference with last version: we included a map and photo's, updated information for all species. Moreover, there are 23 new species in it, because the range was expanded to the whole palearctic (including northern Africa, Arabia, Asia minor). Joep, Fred and Joris will revise the first draft of the new report and remove major 'mistakes'. <u>We then need people from the network for the second review round (end 2007).</u> We need people who really have some time the next four/ five months to review fact sheets of the species that they know well. A follow-up questions is wether we want to continue updating the species database as one of the core tasks of the LHF and a way to sell the foundation or whether we want to link up with other, existing initiatives/websites (such as IUCN, WCMC)?</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: I would try to check on certain species with hunting organisations, on hunting species for example.</p> <p>Joris Cromsigt: yes, they are part of the 'external' parties that we should invite for the review process. Others include the chairmen of the IUCN species specialist groups.</p> <p>Stephen Decker: Yesterday Magnus needed information from the way the network works, now Joris is asking information and help. Are there any general comments about the report?</p> <p>Frans Vera: There must be a link in the east between the Palearctic and tropical zone. So, if you include Africa you get a completely different view on forgotten species. How do we define forgotten species?</p> <p>Joris Cromsigt: That's up to the network. You are right, but the foundation focuses on a smaller region. We have to choose.</p> <p>Frans Vera: It's open for discussion, but I just wanted to bring it forward.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: Historical ecology is important, and ancient situations can act as some sort of reference. We need to discuss this. Frans is completely right, but you don't suggest including the elephant now, do you?</p>

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					Stephen Decker: This discussion illustrates we have to start with the definition. What does the network consider forgotten species?
	Plenary workshop and discussion Forgotten LH species		30. Workshop - definition/inventory - status - priorities - conservation - methods - partners	Joris Cromsigt All	30. Workshop Stephen Decker Workshop results 1) A forgotten species is/has: - Difficult to access (geographically/ political) - No current conservation action - Low numbers - Outside biodiversity hotspots - Extinct (total or local). Proxy! - Lack of data - Lack of awareness (public -> politicians) - No economic/ cultural value. Not a game animal - Subspecies/ endemic - Lack of ownership -> of action (e.g. species in border zones) - Unattractive/ unimportant to public 2) LHF should target forgotten species, if: - No current research - Low numbers - No database - Rapidly declining numbers - Endangered outside hotspots - Flagship species - Keystone species, but forgotten - Conservation gaps - Geographical representation
			Discussion and Conclusions		
		15.30	Coffee break		
		15.45	31. Argali in Central Tian/Shan population, Kirgizstan	Daniel Klich	31. Daniel Klich: Argali in Central Tian Shan, Kyrgyzstan Results on habitat preferences, differences between winter and spring. Preferences to ridges and gentle slopes, but in spring way more on gentle slopes and almost no steep slopes. Wolf is main predator. Female groups should be more careful, so you see these groups less on gentle slopes. This is a positive conservation story. Fred Baerselman: Is Argali hunted for trophies? Daniel Klich: Yes, but for now it's not at a high level. Joris Cromsigt: Is the money for trophy hunting going back to conservation? Daniel Klich: Planned to, but I don't know whether this happens now. Frans Vera: When will your thesis be published and will it be available then? Daniel Klich: Now operating. It's in Polish, but I'll write it in English in three papers in international journals. Kajetan Perzanowski: This work was planned longer, but due to political conditions Daniel was unable to get back to

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					<p>Kyrgyzstan. This is a forgotten subspecies, because now nobody can research this species.</p> <p>Rosaline Beudels-Jamar: Why are livestock amounts going down?</p> <p>Daniel Klich: Due to the collapse of the USSR. During communist times 'Moscow' was a guaranteed and big 'buyer' of sheep from the central Asian states. This stopped when USSR collapsed which has led to a strong decline in domestic sheep numbers.</p>
	CONSERVATION OF ENDANGERED LH's IN MONGOLIA	16.00	32. Mongolian Large Herbivore populations: status, conservation and threats Status of Takhi/Przewalski horse projects	Dorj Usokhjargal	<p>32. Dorj Usokhjargal: Mongolian large herbivores & Status of Takhi projects</p> <p>Two big ecosystems meet in Mongolia. Red deer and Przewalski horse are critically endangered. Now, after reintroduction: 320 Takhi's in wild. Red deer has only 10.000 individuals in wild now (Chinese black market). Endangered species: Bactrian camel has only 500 in wild now. See ppt. All 14 Mongolian large herbivores are in Mongolian law. But this is only on paper, not real. Also: black-market activity; very huge protected area with only few rangers on horses; young generation lives in the city Ulan Bator and does not know nature; livestock is increasing; traditional nomad method lost; estimation of carrying capacity for livestock is wrong. Reintroducing of Przewalski horse: See ppt.</p> <p>Frans Vera: Very few of your Przewalski horses die of bad condition. Maybe because you still have a lot of room for animals and population is still very far from being limited by food availability?</p> <p>Dorj Usokhjargal: We do not give them supplementary feeding, but there's enough food and no livestock.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: Presentation illustrates point that was made yesterday, that climate change is really affecting not only large herbivores, but also the amount of water in stock, like the dried up rivers in Hustai National Park. That might be a nice subject for our next meeting.</p>
		16.20	33. Present status of Mongolian gazelle in Mongolia	Bayarbaatar Buuveibaator	<p>33. Bayarbaatar Buuveibaatar: effect of railroad on Mongolian gazelle</p> <p>There is a railroad between Russia and China through Mongolia. There are barb wires to protect livestock, but this has also effect on the migration of Mongolian gazelle. We use an Argos system to track location of gazelles via collar. No gazelles cross the railroad. The highest mortality is west of the railroad. Dead gazelles are mostly female and young (1-2 years) gazelles. The railroad blocks their migration route. The home range was largest in autumn.</p> <p>Fred Baerselman: Interesting that these fences were put up for livestock, but mostly effect wild animals.</p>
		16.40	34. Mongolian saiga; status and conservation actions	Hartmut Jungius	<p>34. Hartmut Jungius: Mongolian Saiga status and conservation actions</p> <p>Since 1930's the amount of saiga in Mongolia got less and less. They were only left in the North West. Actions: anti poaching, education and awareness, cooperation with local herders.</p>

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					<p>Recently we had a WCS meeting. There were mainly Mongolians. For a summary of this meeting: see ppt. Reasons for the current low amount of saiga. Goat is main competitor of saiga. Mongolia has 30 million livestock on 2.8 people, of which only half lives in countryside. If we want saiga back in its former range in the east, this can only be done by reintroduction. Habitat is good there. We need to get some areas free of livestock, which is possible, like we have seen in Hustai National Park for example. There is a lack of knowledge on Saiga ecology.</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: Have you ever considered doing aerial census to estimate Saiga numbers? This must be easy in these conditions.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: It's not easy to count these animals. It all depends on weather. They're not doing aerial census right now but it might be a good idea.</p> <p>Dorj Usokhjargal: Have you any genetic study? I've heard there are two subspecies, of which one is extinct in the wild. Is it true?</p> <p>Anna Lushchekina: No, this is not true. And I disagree with Hartmut that ecology of saiga is unknown. There are some specialists in Mongolia who studied this. Of course it's necessary to update. In my opinion Angalan is the best.</p> <p>Hartmut Jungius: We want young Mongolian scientist to get on with what people like Angalan have started. We're not starting from zero, I know.</p>
		17.00	Questions	All	<p>Fred Baerselman: Does anyone have a question on any business?</p> <p>Kajetan Perzanowski: Reintroduction of bison in the Carpathians was a success. 40 years later, last year, we had an opening of a small monument and the publication of a book. Fred, I like to give it to you for all the work you've done.</p>
		17.10	Conclusions meeting / next meeting/ any other business	Chair	<p>Conclusions meeting, by Fred Baerselman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was a full agenda and it was shifting all the time. I hope this wasn't a problem. - The first day we covered an update of LHF's work in the past and future. - Thanks for your help in the first workshop, which will help Magnus creating LHF's business plan. - The presentation on European bison centre was very important. Step further. - The reindeer presentation was important, because it brought up the climate change subject. - Willemijn, I hope you'll stick with us as some sort of legal advisor. - Joris, thanks a lot for your update on the reference guide! - The subject of the role of large herbivores in the functioning of ecosystems that Frans brought on is very important. We should focus on this more in the future, maybe in relation with things like climate change.

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					<p>Action points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reindeer - Bukhara deer - Forgotten species - Climate change <p>Fred Baerselman: I am very glad to see new perspectives for new cooperation. I am grateful that we renewed the contact with CMS. I see great possibilities. Thanks to Richard for giving perspectives for cooperation with Flora and Fauna International.</p> <p>Sorry if I did not mention you, but these are the things that popped up when I was thinking of these past few days. But of course: thank you all very much for your input!</p> <p>Next year's meeting: I don't know about it yet, maybe we will have two workshops. We'll see. Several countries offered to be host next year, so we have loads of possibilities.</p> <p>Thanks to all presenters for all the work they've been doing and their flexibility while changing the agenda. Joep wasn't here, we had a lot of cancellation, this caused some stress. Thanks to Magnus for helping out on a lot of problems and for chairing most of the sessions. Thank you all, not just for being here, but for all the good work you have been doing and the intensity with which you have been part of the meeting.</p> <p>Thank you Carolien, Willemijn and Joris for being our technical team and for support. Thanks to our Ukrainian hosts for organizing the meeting. I know how difficult this can be. Compliment for the way you did it, Andrej and Oxana.</p> <p>Thank you all! I hope to see you soon and hope to see you at next year's meetings.</p>
		17.30	End of meeting		Thank you and goodbye!
Sunday 7-10- '07	Excursion Skolivski Beskydy/ Carpathians	9.00			
Monday 8-10- 2007	DEPARTURE				