Freunde des Wildpferdes

Anhänge zu Protokoll

GV, 04. Mai 2017

ITG International Takhi Group
Freunde des Wildpferdes

Abnahme Jahresrechnung 2016

	2016	2015
Eigenkapital per 31.12.	15’655.17	4’399.78
Mitgliederbeiträge	43’507.90	37’812.11
Unterstützungsbeiträge an ITG	32’000.00	37’000.00
Unternehmensgewinn	11’255.39	539.98

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Budget 2017

	Aufwand	Ertrag
Mitgliederbeiträge & Spenden		45’000.00
Anteil Löhne Mongolei	8’000.00	
Treibstoff	13’000.00	
Wissenschaft	10’000.00	
Forschung	6’000.00	
Kommunikation (Satellit)	3’000.00	

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Prioritäten Forschung Gobi B

Resultate Workshop 26. Februar in der Kartause Ittingen

Participants

Name	Function	Institution
Dr. Reinhard Schnidrig (RS)	President, ITG	ITG
M. Sc. Christian Stauffer (CS)	ITG Board Member	ITG
M. Sc. Oyunsaikhan Ganbaatar (OG)	Director, Great Gobi B SPA	Great Gobi B SPA
Ass. Prof. Dr. Lkhagvasuren Badamjav (LB)	Leading Scientist, Head of Mammalian Ecology Laboratory	Institute of General & Experimental Biology, MAS
Dr. Jaroslav Šimek (JŠ)	Deputy Director of Zoology, Prague Zoo	ITG
Univ. Prof. Dr. med. vet. Chris Walzer, Dip. ECZM (Wildlife Pop. Health) (CW)	Director, Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology	University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna
Dr. Petra Kaczensky (PK)	Senior Scientist	University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna & Norwegian Institute for Nature Research – NINA, Trondheim
Dr. Peter Kistler	Moderator	Friends of the Takhi

# 1	**Understanding takhi mortalities – post-mortem sampling and analysis with a focus on disease, e.g. *Streptococcus equi***
Type	E. przewalskii, genetic & veterinary study
Funding	ITG
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, CW – ITG must re-establish baseline capacity at Takhin tal – Protocol for veterinary/CITES sampling of all carcasses and carcass disposal – Training workshop – Sampling kits – Samples must be sent promptly from Takhin tal to Vienna. The veterinary lab in UB is focused on livestock and will not be able to handle them.
Additional information	LB informs that the import of racing horses has greatly increased, hence new diseases are spreading and have affected 60% of domestic horses. Other diseases affecting livestock are also spreading. A wildlife veterinarian and veterinary instructions are needed.

# 2	**Camera trapping to monitor biodiversity with a special focus on the mountain zones and water points**
Type	Conservation area monitoring / management.
Funding	App. EUR 450’000 required. → KFW grant?
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: National University of Mongolia, LB & NINA & Vienna University, PK – Post-doc student – Profound statistical background
Additional information	To monitor mountain species across the area. To build local (Mongolian) capacity for such monitoring. Three-year, two-phase study: initial intense followed by long-term phase. To establish baseline biodiversity data of water point use (in relation to climatic change). Requires a post-doc salary, staff, vehicle/gasoline, cameras, monitoring activities, interaction with locals

# 3	Great Gobi B / Takhi data management
Type	Data management
Funding	
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, CW & PK & GGB SPA, OG – Create a ‘dropbox’ with a logical data structure and file-naming rule – Load available data onto a storage (e.g. a 1 TB harddisk) – Chronosync required to guarantee compatibility – Collection can serve as source for grant writing
Additional information	OB informs that there is a new data platform created by the Mongolian Ministry of Environment to host all E. przewalskii data from Khomiin tal, Takhin tal and Hustai nuruu in coded format. The takhi monitoring data are owned by GGB SPA and ITG.

# 4	**Transition of tradition: people's land use and co-management options in and around GGB SPA**
Type	Socio-economic study
Funding	SDC/DEZA; various international grants
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, PK
Additional information	This study reflects a park interest. It shall investigate what benefits from and expectations towards GGB SPA locals have, and how they envision the future. This study shall look at pasture management and co-management strategies, ecological and social tipping points. It shall link the information generated to the nomadic lifestyle and to biodiversity. PhD student Lena Michler (University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart; Germany) is interested in this topic and willing to identify grant-givers.

# 5	**Khulan and gazelle population size estimate by point survey**
Type	Other species investigation
Funding	CHF 10’000-15’000. Funded by ITG.
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, PK – GGB ranger team
Additional information	Census interval reduced to 3 years, i.e. next census in 2018. Requires monitoring staff, food and communication, vehicle/ extra gasoline, safety precautions, 2 days of training, monitoring brochure. The Ministry of the Environment should be alerted to allow inviting young specialists.

# 6	**Goitered Gazelle study**
Type	Other species study
Funding	EUR 300’000 required
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, CW, & Institute of General & Experimental Biology MAS, Ulaanbaatar, LB – PhD or post-doc required
Additional information	The Goitered Gazelle (*Gazella subgutturosa [s. hilleriana? Yarkandensis?*] is a CMS (Conservation of Migratory Species) focus species, with the focus country being Mongolia. The study shall establish baseline information such as numbers, use of pastures and water points (collaring), herd / social structure, reproduction and thermoregulation, which may provide a link to climatic change and disease.

# 7	**Genetic screening of the reintroduced takhi population using non-invasive sampling (dung)**
Type	Genetic and hormonal study
Funding	EUR 5000 required + EUR 15'000 for Leica Vector binoculars (→ KPMG grant?)
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, CW & PK in cooperation with Steve Smith
Additional information	For solving genetic questions, as many as possible of the presently 167 takhi should be sampled; for additional hormone-related questions, a subsample of the population suffices. While the laboratory analysis is relatively straightforward, sampling is challenging, as for each dung sample the identity of the "owner" needs to be unambiguously determined. Only if this is guaranteed the results can be related back to the individual horse. An expensive GPS-linked binocular is needed (Leica Vector) – it might be received through Ruedi Haller. Sampling requires the presence of somebody who can identify takhi in the field (Ganbaa and some of the rangers) and some training on sample handling and storage. It would ideally start in October, as takhi behavior in winter facilitates sampling. Fecal samples could be collected by rangers at no additional cost (OG), but it will require additional time commitments by OG and selected rangers. JŠ offers support with students from Czech Universities.

# 8	**Harem switching**
Type	Behavioural study
Funding	
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Prague University
Additional information	This can be studied based on available data and tracking of new events. No extra ranger time is required. Data can be organized by a Czech university and linked with other data on *E. przewalskii*.

# 9	**Great Gobi B SPA takhi carrying capacity**
Type	Ecological study
Funding	Requires EUR 500’000. KFW grant? (needs to be prepared now for timely submission). Other options: Senkenberg Goerlitz, Smithsonian Institution, University of Massachusetts, Colorado, Oregon, Vermont
Roles & responsibilities	– Scientific lead: Vienna University, CW
Additional information	This study requires a specialist of pasture management, such as Maria Fernandez Gimenez, Karsten Wesche, and a Mongolian specialist. The study shall develop rangeland indicators as an early warning system for livestock. Long-term monitoring may allow modeling of climatic changes.