

Project Update: October 2010

Our team has just finished our autumn field season in northern Mongolia. During this time, we tagged great bustards in order to monitor movement patterns and mortality rates. We are now receiving data indicating that the birds are migrating southwards for the winter.

In the field, our team ground-truthed data from transmitters, including nest sites, and collected GIS data concerning human impacts in the region. Our master's student carried out the final habitat analyses necessary for his thesis. This winter he will analyse and defend his findings.

As always, we informally interact with adult herders and hunters in the community through interviews and conversations, and carry out programmes for schoolchildren. We taught classes on bird identification and ecology and our popular bird-watching excursions allowed the children to take a close look at a rare and charismatic species in their region – the great bustard!

