

## First announcement



### 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE IUCN SSC GOOSE SPECIALIST GROUP



*16–18 August 2023*

*Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia*

Dear Colleagues!

We kindly invite you to participate in 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Goose Specialist Group of IUCN's Species Survival Commission, which will be held on 16-18 August 2023 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The Organizing Committee hopes that goose specialists from all around the world will be participating in this important meeting. Also, our invited keynote speakers will be renowned goose and waterbird specialists from Asia, Europe, and North America. After the meeting, there will be a field trip to Ugii Lake, which is an important site for breeding, moulting, and migrating swan goose and bar-headed goose in west-central Mongolia. It is a well-known Ramsar site, Important Bird Area, and East Asia-Australasian Flyway Site. Our local organizing committee in Mongolia will be very happy to welcome you to the Land of Blue Sky!

We invite all participants to submit their oral and poster presentations on various topics about goose populations around the world such as impact of climate change on goose populations, movement and migration, reproduction ecology, conservation, disease, eco-physiology, and management of waterfowl. Other topics related to geese ecology, research, and threats are also welcome. Proposals for organizing special symposia, workshops and round table discussions are welcome till January 20, 2023.

The meeting will be hosted by the Wildlife science and conservation center of Mongolia with support from Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia and the IUCN SSC Goose Specialist Group.

### Tentative program outline

Date	Activities	Remarks
August 15	Arrive in Ulaanbaatar	Registration and Opening ceremony
August 16, Wednesday	Full conference day	
August 17, Thursday	Full conference day	
August 18, Friday	Full conference day	Closing ceremony
August 19-21	Field trip to Ugii Lake	Post conference tour
August 21	Drive back to Ulaanbaatar and departures	Some may continue touring

**Presentation**

Oral presentations should be limited to 10 minutes and 3 minutes for Q&A. All presentations will be in English. No simultaneous translation services will be provided for presenters during the meeting. Audio and video equipment and projectors will be available.

### ***Abstract submission***

Abstracts of oral and poster presentations must be in English and should not exceed 300 words. Deadline for abstract submission is March 31, 2023. Please send your abstracts via email to [gsg20conference@gmail.com](mailto:gsg20conference@gmail.com).

Submitted abstracts will be printed as a proceedings before the meeting and each participant will receive a copy.

### ***Accommodation***

The Venue will be Holiday Inn Hotel in Ulaanbaatar. If you prefer to stay at this hotel, you can book your rooms through their online system or through our local logistics coordinators by sending email to [gsg20conference@gmail.com](mailto:gsg20conference@gmail.com). Also, there are several hotels and guest houses at lower costs are available in the area. We recommend you to make your reservations as early as possible, because the month of August is still a high tourist season in Mongolia. Thus, the affordable stays are often sold out early. We will have a list of hotels, motels, and guest houses that you can choose on our meeting website in near future.

### ***Post-conference field trips***

There will be an option for a field trip to Ugii Lake for those who wish to see countryside of Mongolia and main wetland habitats of Swan Goose and Bar-headed Goose. We plan to have a cultural event on our arrival at the site. The plan is to visit herder families and experience the unique nomadic life style in Mongolia. Also, custom tailored tours are also possible at your request. We are working on field trip itineraries that can give you best memories of your visit to Mongolia.

Those who wish to take part in the post conference trips, please send us your inquiry and we will appoint person to work with you.

### ***Travel Awards***

Limited number of travel awards of up to \$1000 will be given to in-person participants of students and researchers from developing countries who will be giving oral or poster presentations at the 20th GSG Meeting. Students from Mongolia are not eligible, but please contact organizers at WSCC and make inquiry.

Applicants must download and fill-in the GSG20 Travel award application document and send back to us at [gsg20conference@gmail.com](mailto:gsg20conference@gmail.com). All applicants must write a short essay about how attending this year's GSG meeting will contribute to your professional development and research work in your home country.

The deadline for Travel award application is April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Decisions on award recipients will be made within two weeks and only the winners will be contacted.

### ***Sponsors and Exhibitors***

The GSG has over 360 members from 38 countries in the world. We expect 80-100 participants will attend the meeting in Mongolia. This is also a unique opportunity for professional networking! To inquire about sponsoring and exhibiting, please contact local organizing committee via email [gsg20conference@gmail.com](mailto:gsg20conference@gmail.com).

### ***Registration and fees***

All participants must use online version of short registration form and also the print-out version of registration. The print-out version can be downloaded from our web. Please download the GSG20 - registration form, fill it in and send back to us at [gsg20conference@gmail.com](mailto:gsg20conference@gmail.com).

The regular in-person attendance registration fee is US\$250 and the deadline for registration is June 10th, 2023. There will be a late registration fee of US\$400 if you register after this date. The fee includes admission to the symposium, all local bus transfers, proceedings (not-including mailing) and conference pocket. Registration fees are preferable to be paid via bank transfer. Participants can also pay at the registration desk with cash upon arrival.

Bank transfer information:

*Account name:* Wildlife Science and Conservation Center

*Address:* Union Building B802, UNESCO Str. Ulaanbaatar 14210, Mongolia

*Account number:* 1102784640 (US\$)

*Bank name:* GOLOMT BANK OF MONGOLIA

*Swift code:* GLMTMNUB

*Bank address:* Trade Street 6/2, Chingeltei District, Ulaanbaatar 11720A, Mongolia

### ***Airport***

You will be arriving at Chinggis Khaan International Airport if you come by air. There are regular flights from Frankfurt, Seoul, Ankara, Hong Kong, and Tokyo to Mongolia. Currently, the flights between Ulaanbaatar and Beijing are not available, but we hope they will start flying next spring. Some participants can also come to Mongolia by taking the Trans-Siberian train.

### ***Visa***

Mongolia has started issuing e-visas to save time and money for foreign nationals traveling to Mongolia. Those who needs to apply for an entry visa, please visit <https://evisa.mn/main>. It is recommended that you apply for a tourist visa, which is easier to obtain. If you need assistance and invitation letter please indicate it in the registration form and also let us know. We will be happy to be helping you.

Visit the conference website <https://gooseconference.com>

***Looking forward to see you next summer in Mongolia!***

***The organizing committee***