

IBA CODE: MN036

IBA NAME: BULGAN TAL

Aimags(s): KHOVSGOL **Criteria:** A1 **Area:** 40,445 ha

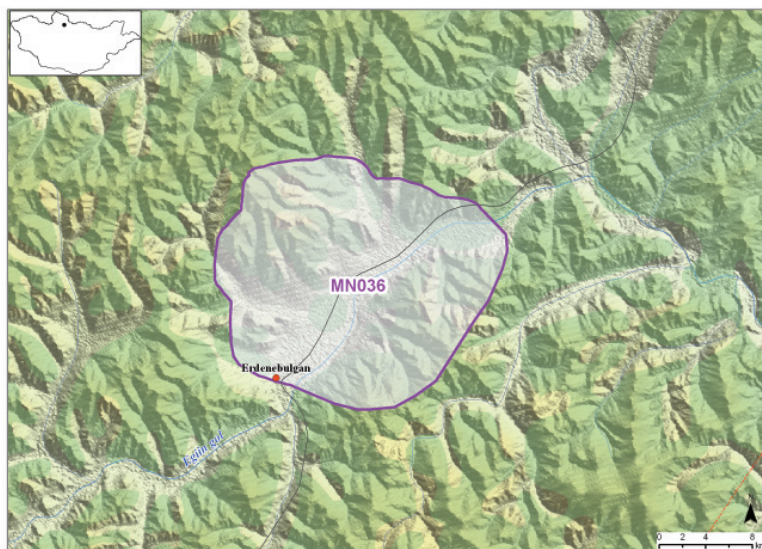
Coordinates: 50°11'N 101°33'E **Altitude:** 1,132-1,254 m

Protection status

Unprotected

Site description

Located in the north of Erdenebulgan soum, the site extends west from the Eg River to Oliin Davaa, and northeast along the valley of the Eg River until it narrows into a canyon. In addition to the Eg River, a small river, the Sair, runs through the site. The site comprises a wide valley, with wheat fields, fallow and pasture, surrounded by hillsides with birch and larch forest. The site includes small lake, called Nuuriin Hotgor, and fields close to Erdenebulgan soum centre called Borog Tolgoi. The land is privately farmed in summer.



Importance for birds

The site is important for Great Bustard *Otis tarda* (VU) and Saker Falcon *Falco cherrug* (EN). Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* (VU) and Greater Spotted Eagle *A. clanga* (VU) have both been seen at the site during the breeding season and probably nest there. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*, a Red Data Book of Mongolia species, nests in good numbers along the Eg River. Demoiselle Cranes *Anthropoides virgo* congregate in large numbers during migration but are not thought to exceed the 1% threshold

for IBA criterion A4i. Destruction of Great Bustard nests and chicks by agricultural machinery is a concern.

Importance for other fauna and flora

The nationally threatened fish species, Taimen *Hucho taimen*, occurs in nearby rivers. Siberian Musk Deer *Moschus moschiferus* (VU), Red Deer *Cervus elaphus*, Grey Wolf *Canis lupus* and Siberian Roe Deer *Capreolus pygargus* occur in the forest. Poaching is the biggest threat to the forest-dwelling mammals.



Photo: Mimi Kessler