

IBA CODE: MN038

IBA NAME: AIRKHAN LAKE

Aimag(s): BULGAN, KHOVSGOL **Criteria:** A1, A4i **Area:** 7,212 ha

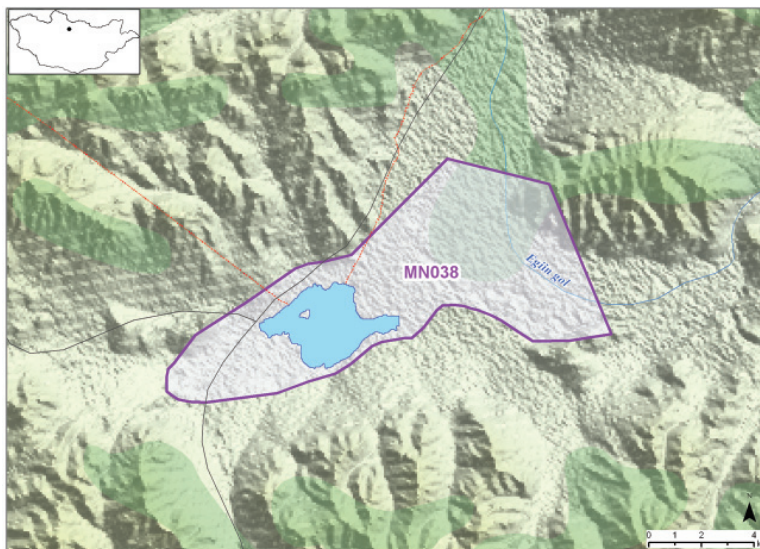
Coordinates: 49°37'N 102°40'E **Altitude:** 936-1,319 m

Protection status

Unprotected

Site description

Airkhan Lake is located south of a major tributary of the Eg River. The lake is largely dependent on rainfall, and, in dry years, it becomes two separate pools. There are agricultural fields, mainly for wheat, near the lake. Local people use water from the lake for domestic use and livestock. Trampling of reeds and wet grassland by livestock is a serious threat to the site. The water level has fallen, a phenomenon that has been attributed to a warmer climate.



Importance for birds

Globally Threatened bird species recorded at the site comprise Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides* (EN), Pallas's Fish-eagle *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* (VU), Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* (VU) and Great Bustard *Otis tarda* (VU). The site also supports at least 1% of the flyway

populations of Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*, Common Crane *Grus grus* and Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*.

Importance for other fauna and flora

No information is available on other fauna and flora.



Photo: B.Nyambayar