

IBA CODE: MN061

IBA NAME: GANGA LAKE

Aimag(s): SUKHBAATAR **Criteria:** A1, A3, A4i **Area:** 26,841 ha

Coordinates: 45°15'N 114°00'E **Altitude:** 1,227-1,537 m

Protection status

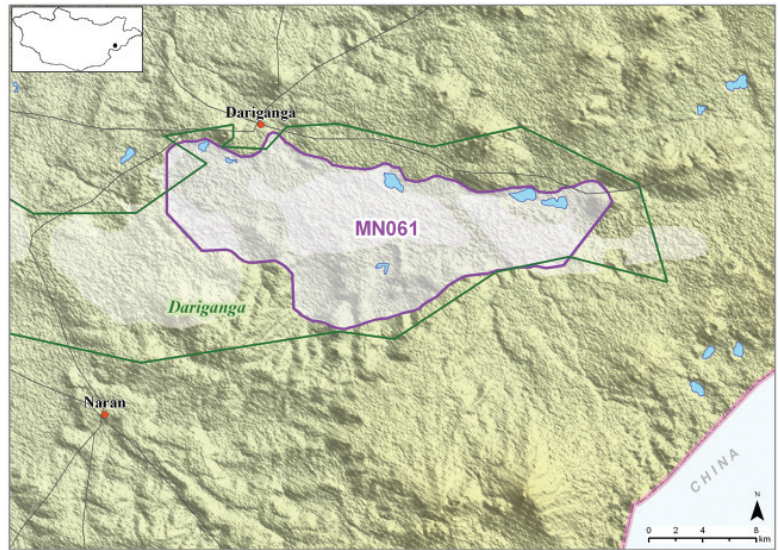
Fully protected by Dariganga National Park.

Site description

Ganga Lake lies on the Dariganga plateau in Dariganga soum. The area has characteristics of both Gobi and steppe ecosystems. There are a number of small lakes at the site, including Ganga, Duut, Kholboo, Zegst, Tsagaan, Erdene, Sumt and Khoshmog Lakes, as well as sand dunes, for example Moltso, Owoon and Kholboogiin Baruun. Zegst and Duut Lakes are fed by Dagsin spring waters and surrounded by reeds. Ganga Lake's southern shore is covered by shrubs and woodland. The rest of the area supports dry steppe and desert steppe. Tourism is being developed at the site, and the use of off-road vehicles is having a negative impact on the vegetation and fragile soils. Ganga Lake and its surrounding wetlands were nominated as a Ramsar Site in 2004.

Importance for birds

Globally Threatened species that regularly use the site comprise Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides* (EN), White-naped Crane *Grus vipio* (VU) and Great Bustard *Otis tarda* (VU). The site supports an assemblage of species



restricted to the Eurasian steppe and desert. The site also supports at least 1% of the flyway populations of Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*, Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*, Swan Goose *Anser cygnoides*, Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*, Common Shelduck *T. tadorna* and Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo*.

Importance for other fauna and flora

The site is not thought to be particularly important for other fauna and flora.



Photo: N. Tseveenmyadag