



[Home](#) [News](#) [Sport](#) [Radio](#) [TV](#) [Weather](#) [Languages](#)

[an error occurred while processing this directive]

 

[Low graphics](#) | [Accessibility help](#)



[Watch](#) **One-Minute World News**

**News services**  
Your news when you want it



[News Front Page](#)

Last Updated: Tuesday, 12 December 2006, 12:26 GMT

[E-mail this to a friend](#)

[Printable version](#)



[Africa](#)

[Americas](#)

[Asia-Pacific](#)

[Europe](#)

[Middle East](#)

[South Asia](#)

[UK](#)

[Business](#)

[Health](#)

[Science & Environment](#)

[Technology](#)

[Entertainment](#)

[Also in the news](#)

[Video and Audio](#)

[Programmes](#)

[Have Your Say](#)

[In Pictures](#)

[Country Profiles](#)

[Special Reports](#)

**RELATED BBC SITES**

[SPORT](#)

[WEATHER](#)

[ON THIS DAY](#)

[EDITORS' BLOG](#)

[Languages](#)

## Report warns on Mongolia wildlife

By Rob Norris  
BBC News

**International conservationists have warned of a catastrophic decline in wildlife in Mongolia.**



Mongolia was once a haven for Central Asia's large mammals

The vast, sparsely-populated country was once a refuge for the large mammals of Central Asia.

But in a new report, the Zoological Society of London said illegal hunting and trade had forced many species to the brink of extinction.

The red deer, snow leopard, wild camel and Gobi bear are all vanishing from the steppes, the report says.

Some species have declined by as much as 92% in the last 18 years, and there are fewer than 50 bears left.

Dr Jonathan Baillie from the Zoological Society of London says the problems began after the collapse of communism.

"In the early 1990s... the social system changed rapidly. It was formerly heavily influenced by the Soviet Union, and with the collapse of the Soviet Union there was high unemployment, and also the regulatory mechanisms broke down, so wildlife trade really increased," he said.

"There's trade both to Russia and the new market of China, and so there's just amazing volumes going across the border."

Law enforcement on hunting and trading has become increasingly lax, and vehicles and guns are far more widely available.

The Zoological Society has begun working with local partners in Mongolia to try to reverse the trend.

There is at least one precedent for this - the last breed of wild horse in Mongolia was declared extinct 10 years ago, but it has since been re-introduced by conservationists.

Now there are more than 250 such animals roaming the steppes once again.

[E-mail this to a friend](#)

[Printable version](#)

FEATURES, VIEWS, ANALYSIS



[Ghost town](#)  
Has China's housing



[The guerilla plant](#)  
How the world's



[Walking away](#)  
Why Royal Ballet

### SEE ALSO

[Wild horse species 'in peril'](#)  
27 Jan 03 | [Science/Nature](#)  
[Country profile: Mongolia](#)  
15 Aug 06 | [Country profiles](#)

### RELATED INTERNET LINKS

[ZSL](#)  
The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

### MOST POPULAR STORIES NOW

[MOST SHARED](#)

[MOST READ](#)

[Brussels bomb alert as man arrested](#)

[Arrested man 'wanted to shoot Trump'](#)

[BBC News](#)

[Wyatt 'determined' after MS diagnosis](#)

[BBC News](#)

[Why was Orlando 911 transcript redacted?](#)

[BBC News](#)

[BBC News](#)

[BBC News](#)

[BBC News](#)

[Most popular now, in detail](#)

[bubble burst?](#)

[oldest clove tree defied an empire](#)

[principal Sergei Polunin quit](#)

Most Popular Now

The most shared story right now is: [Profile: Atiku Abubakar](#)

**PRODUCTS & SERVICES**

[E-mail news](#)

[Mobiles](#)

[Alerts](#)

[News feeds](#)

[Podcasts](#)

MMIX

[Back to top](#) ^^

[Help](#) | [Privacy and cookies policy](#) | [News sources](#) | [About the BBC](#) | [Contact us](#) |