



"Saiga conservation in Mongolia – Identifying saiga breeding sites in Durgun Steppe"

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Topics

- About WWF-Mongolia
- Breeding time study in Durgun steppe

World Wild Fund in Mongolia



The current conservation programme (2012-2016) focuses the conservation and protection of two priority places, namely the Altai Sayan Montane Forests and the Amur-Heilong Ecoregional Complex.

Priority place - AHEC



Target

Addressing water footprint

South-Eastern Gobi and Mongol-Manchurian grassland (migration of wild ungulates)

Taimen

Mongolian gazelle

Priority place - ASER



Target

Three GPF priority species:

Snow leopard,

Argali sheep and

Saiga antelope

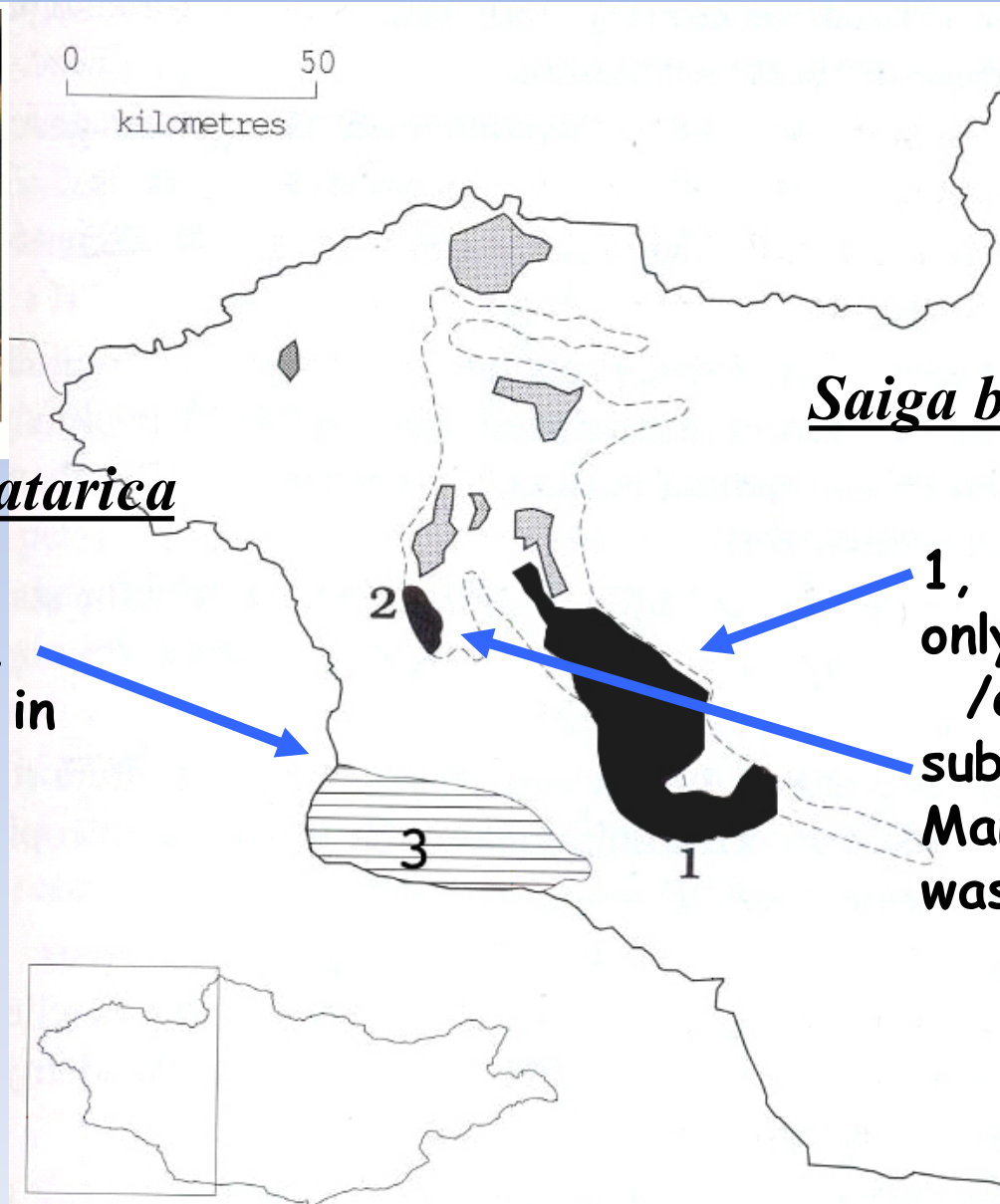
Addressing water footprint



Mongolia saiga range



Saiga tatarica tatarica. Linnaeus, 1766



Saiga borealis mongolica

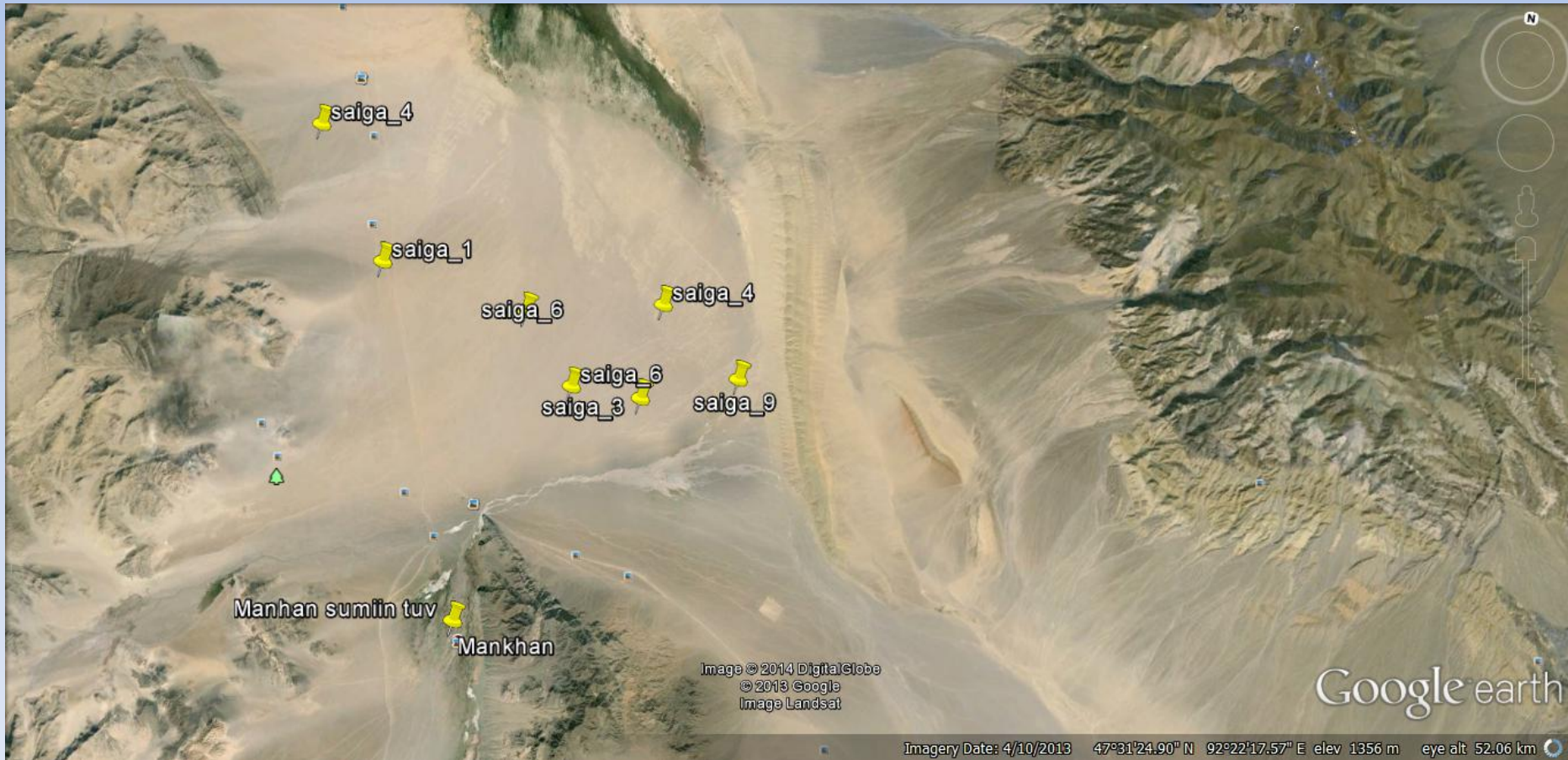
Saiga tatarica tatarica

3. Since 1950,
become extinct in
Mongolia,

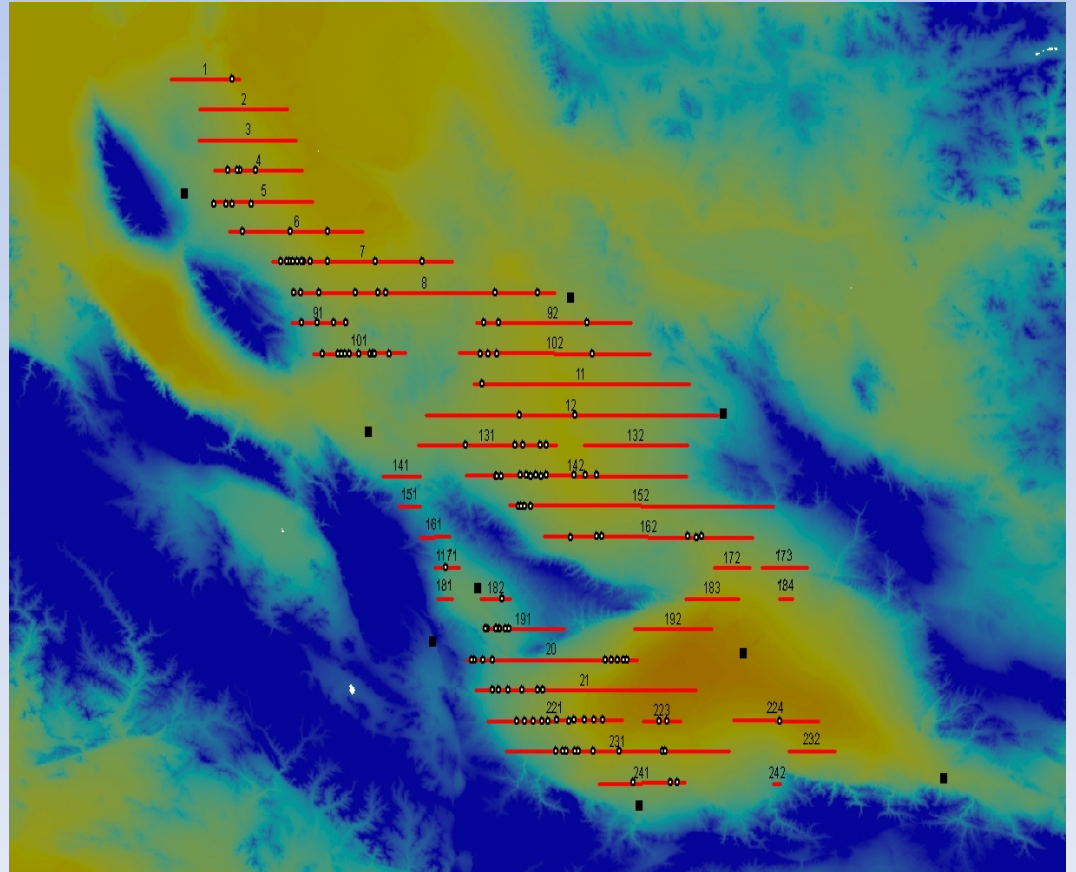
1, 2. Distributed
only in Mongolia
/endemic
subspecies/
Mankhan population
was isolated

Mankhan population

Total 33 individual /2014/



Population monitoring – Ground survey 1998-2014



Threats: Severe winter (dzud)

Vulnerable to stochastic events such as severe winters - the natural disaster in 2001/2002 killed about 80 per cent of the Saiga population and around 9 million livestock nationwide.



Threats: Poaching

Poaching and illegal trade of horn - Uses in traditional Chinese medicines



CONSERVATION MEASURES



In 2004, WWF Mongolia started a comprehensive Saiga conservation project with major financial support from the MAVA Foundation.



Maintaining anti-poaching and other law enforcement activities, including capacity building for rangers and conservation staff in critical governmental agencies



Breeding site study in Durgun steppe

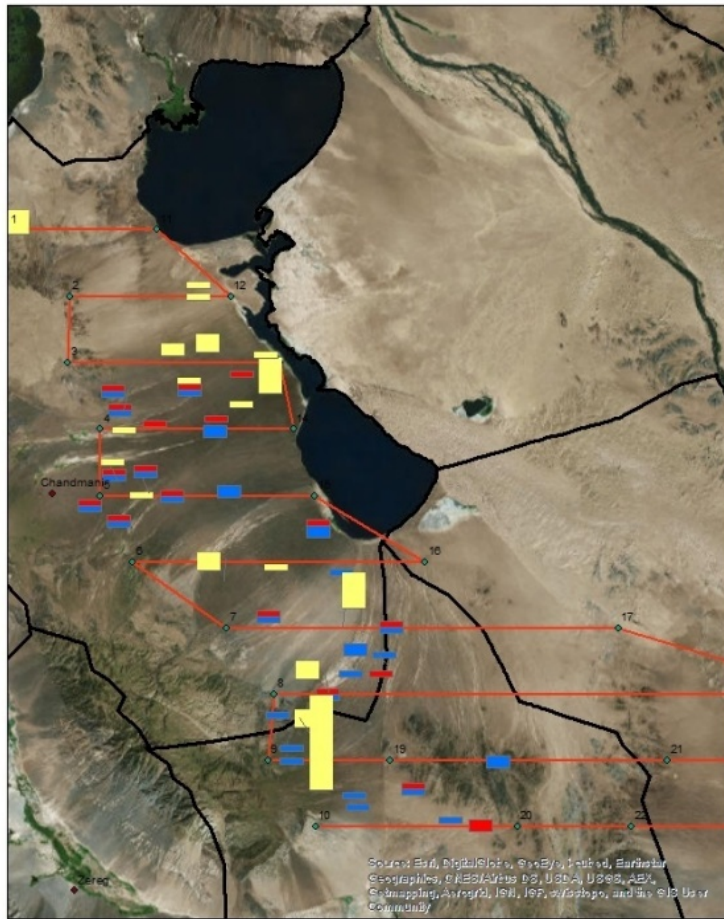


Study team





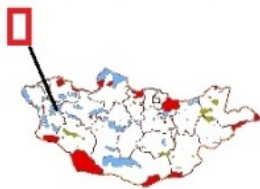
Durgun Khuren Steppe June-2014



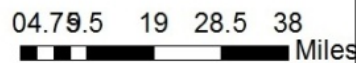
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, IGN, Aeris, GeoEye, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoMapping, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Legend

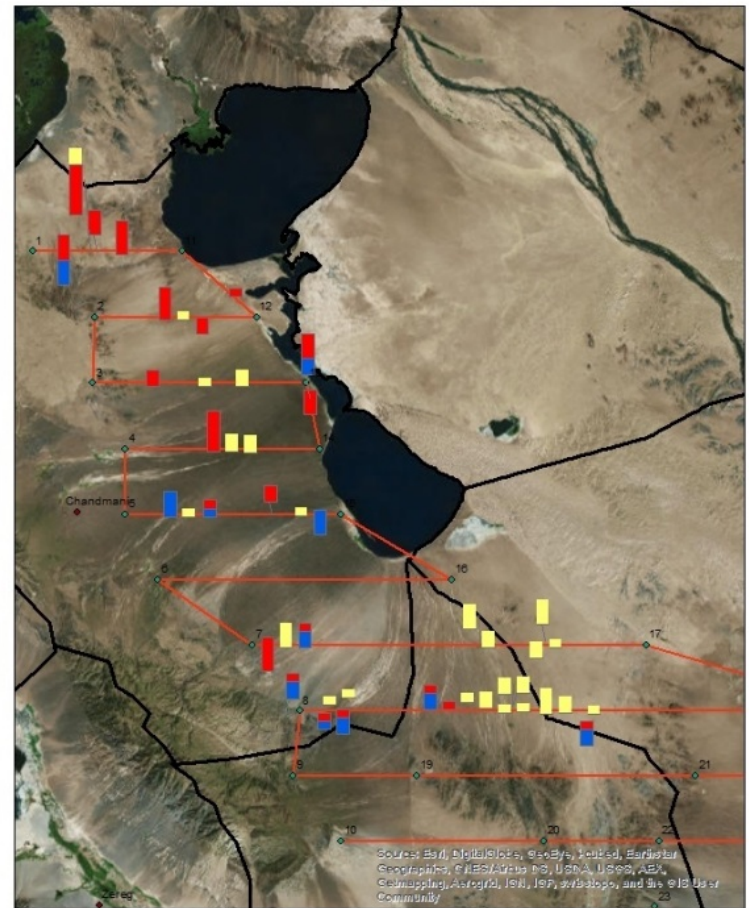
- 8
- Male
- Female
- Newly_born



1:1,000,000



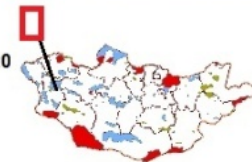
Durgun khuren steppe Aug-2014



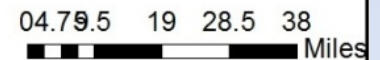
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, IGN, Aeris, GeoEye, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoMapping, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Legend

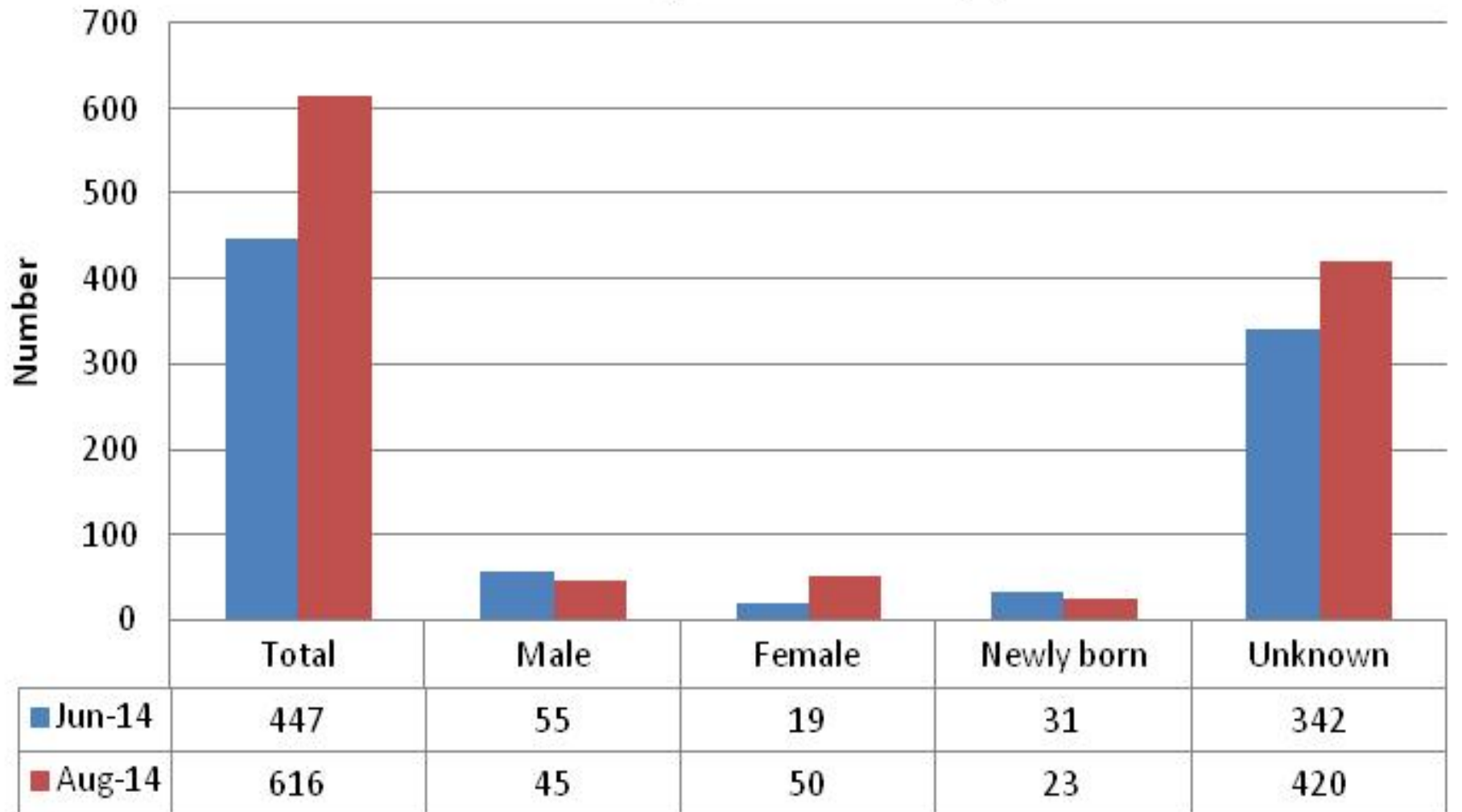
- 3
- Male
- Female
- Young



1:1,000,000



Durgun Khvren steppe



Dead saiga calf on road



Dead saiga calf



CAUSE OF MORTALITY



Future steps

- Repeat calving breeding study in Durgun steppe
- Increase awareness of drivers during the calving season
- Install warning sign around the calving ground