

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MONGOLIA

The following is excerpted from reports sent by Dr. J. Tserendeleg regarding progress on current collaborative programs between the Mongolian Association of Nature and the Environment (MACNE) and ISLT. Primary support for these projects has been made possible by grants from the Bosack Kruger Charitable Foundation.

Dr. Tserendeleg reports that our collaborative Incentive Conservation Program is doing well. He has traveled 3100 km and met with leaders of six regions, visited 42 families and talked with 125 people.

Twelve individuals were elected to send ongoing information about snow leopards and their prey. These people are herdsman living in areas where snow leopards are found

In exchange for participation in snow leopard conserva

tion these people and other families have received a number of items including brick tea, candles and children's winter felt shoes.

Information has already been received from the herdsman about when, where, and by whom cats or their tracks had been seen and if livestock was killed.

A big cat with one cub was seen on the west side of Tost Mountain and two mothers with two cubs each were seen on the

northwest side. About 10 goats of one family living on the northeast side were eaten by snow leopards. This report is being checked and, if necessary, the goats will be replaced.

Training is continuing for local wildlife officials on how to evaluate habitat and estimate density of snow leopard and prey species.

Bariushaa Monkhsog has conducted research in the Gobi-Gurvansaikhan National Park while Dr. Tserendeleg has worked outside the Park. Dr. Tserendeleg said that when he visited a home or *ger* he talked about how to protect cats and nature, "worship our motherland's nature and revive our traditional customs."

He invited Mr. Shagdarsuren, a journalist and radio correspondent, to travel with him. On their return a series of radio programs was produced about the project and the snow leopard and was broadcast throughout Mongolia.

(cont. on page 3)

MONGOLIA - cont. from page 1

Being considered is a project to collect used winter clothing for children up to age 10, to be distributed as part of the incentive program. ISLT is encouraging this proposal as it could help both children and snow leopards.

The Mongolian Academy of Sciences told Dr. Tserendeleg that the MACNE/ISLT Incentive Conservation Program is important and asked that it be expanded to cover other snow leopard areas in the country.