Directory of Important Bird Areas in China (Mainland):
Key Sites for Conservation

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Important Bird Areas in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region

IBAs are represented on the map as circles proportional to their areas.
Key: ● = Protected; ○ = Partially protected; □ = Unprotected.

Qingtongxia Reservoir (CN175) is a rich wetland in the upper Yellow River valley. (PHOTO: FU JIE)
IBA CODE: CN173
NAME: Yinchuan plain
CRITERIA: A1 A3
AREA: About 448,000 ha
COORDINATES: 38°41'N 106°27'E
ALTITUDE: 1,050-1,310 m
CONSERVATION STATUS: Unprotected
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in northern Ningxia, with the Yellow River flowing along the eastern border of the site. The climate in the IBA is temperate and arid. It is one of the main agricultural areas in Ningxia with some industrial development.
THREATENED SPECIES: Anser cygnoides (EN), Mergus squamatus (EN), Otis tarda (VU, large flocks of more than 100 birds could be found in agricultural lands in the 1960s, has become rare since the 1970s), Aythya baeri (VU, dozens of birds were reported in 1990)
BIOMES: AS04: Eurasian steppe and desert
IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN174
NAME: Helan Shan Nature Reserve (Ningxia)
CRITERIA: A1 A3
AREA: 157,000 ha
COORDINATES: 38°35'N 106°0'E
ALTITUDE: 1,400-3,556 m
CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a national nature reserve in 1988.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in north-western Ningxia. The IBA has a temperate arid to semi-arid climate, and the main habitats are grassland and coniferous forest.
THREATENED SPECIES: Otis tarda (VU)
BIOMES: AS04: Eurasian steppe and desert; AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest
IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN175
NAME: Qingtongxia reservoir and Yellow River wetlands in Zhongning and Zhongwei
CRITERIA: A1 A4i,A4iii
AREA: About 60,000 ha
COORDINATES: 37°36'N 105°40'E
ALTITUDE: 1,100-1,300 m
CONSERVATION STATUS: The IBA is partially protected in the city-level Qingtongxia Nature Reserve (3,600 ha), which was established in 1984, and Shapotou National Nature Reserve (13,400 ha), which was established in 1994.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in western Ningxia, the IBA extends from Qingtongxia Reservoir along the Yellow River to Mengjiawan in Zhongwei County. It includes the river channel and associated wetlands, and the adjacent deserts. A survey conducted at Zhongwei Shapotou from December 1998-April 1999 found that more than 20,000 waterbirds migrated through the area.
THREATENED SPECIES: Anser cygnoides (EN, about 2,000 birds mixed with other geese in April 1986), Mergus squamatus (EN), Anas formosa (VU), Aythya baeri (VU)
CONGREGATORY WATERBIRDS: Anser cygnoides
IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.
IBA CODE: CN176  
NAME: Luoshan Nature Reserve  
CRITERIA: A3  
AREA: 33,710 ha  
COORDINATES: 36°57'N 106°9'E  
ALTITUDE: 1,650-2,169 m  
CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a county-level nature reserve in 1982, and upgraded to a national nature reserve in 2002.  
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: An oasis in the mountains of central Ningxia. The main vegetation types are montane grassland and temperate coniferous forest.  
BIOMES: AS04: Eurasian steppe and desert; AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest  
IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.

IBA CODE: CN177  
NAME: Liupan Shan Nature Reserve  
CRITERIA: A1 A3  
AREA: About 67,300 ha  
COORDINATES: 35°42'N 106°40'E  
ALTITUDE: 1,700-2,954 m  
CONSERVATION STATUS: Established as a national nature reserve (67,300 ha) in 1988.  
GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Located in southernmost Ningxia, on the border of Gansu Province. The IBA is between the Wei He and Jing Shui watersheds and is the source of the Jing He river. It has a moist temperate climate and the main habitat is montane grassland, and there are also areas of montane broadleaf deciduous forest and agricultural land.  
THREATENED SPECIES: Aythya baeri (VU), Haliaeetus leucoryphus (VU)  
BIOMES: AS07: Sino-Himalayan temperate forest  
IMPORTANCE TO OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA: No information.