



3.1. National Rangeland Assessment by Recovery Class

3.2. Analysis Linked to Recovery Classes



THE CONDITION OF MONGOLIA'S RANGELANDS BASED ON PHOTO MONITORING RESULTS, 2020–2025

3.3. Comparative Assessment of Rangeland Condition and Recovery Classes by Natural Zone

3.4. Recovery potential in high mountain rangelands



3.1.

NATIONAL RANGELAND ASSESSMENT BY RECOVERY CLASS

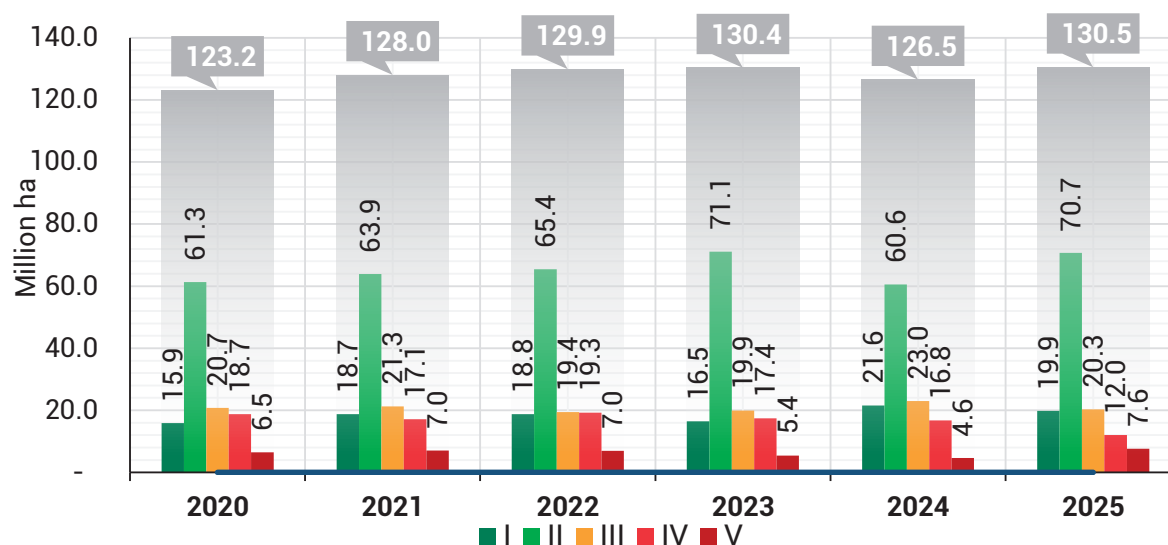
Within the framework of rangeland photo monitoring implemented by the GALAGC, rangeland condition was assessed based on monitoring point data representing soums, bags and rangeland user groups. The assessment used the Recover Class I–V classification.

This classification reflects vegetation structure, species composition, productivity, level of degradation and recovery potential in an integrated manner. It therefore serves as a key baseline indicator for planning future measures for rangeland use, protection and restoration.

TABLE 6. Description of Rangeland Recovery Classes

Nº	Definition
I	Retains its natural reference condition.
II	Slightly changed from its natural reference condition, but able to recover within 3–5 years under appropriate use and management.
III	Considerably changed in terms of vegetation structure, species composition and productivity, but able to recover within 5–10 years under appropriate use.
IV	Strongly degraded, with native plant species declining or disappearing and increaser species expanding. Recovery requires more than 10 years.
V	Very strongly changed, with the plant community severely degraded and natural recovery potential very limited.

DIAGRAM 5. Results of the National Assessment by Recovery Class, in Million Hectares



According to the photo monitoring results for 2020–2025, surveys were conducted across 123.2–130.5 million hectares of rangelands in Mongolia. By recovery class, Class II rangelands—those that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate management—account for the largest share, covering 47.9–54.6 per cent of the total rangeland area.

This indicates that, across much of Mongolia’s rangelands, plant communities have changed to some extent from their reference condition, but still retain recovery potential if appropriate use, rotational grazing and protection measures are implemented.

TABLE 7. Results of the National Assessment by Recovery Class over 2020–2025 (in Percentage)

Year	I	II	III	IV	V
2020	12.9	49.8	16.8	15.2	5.3
2021	14.6	49.9	16.6	13.4	5.5
2022	14.5	50.4	15.0	14.8	5.4
2023	12.6	54.6	15.3	13.4	4.2
2024	17.0	47.9	18.2	13.2	3.7
2025	15.2	54.2	15.5	9.2	5.9

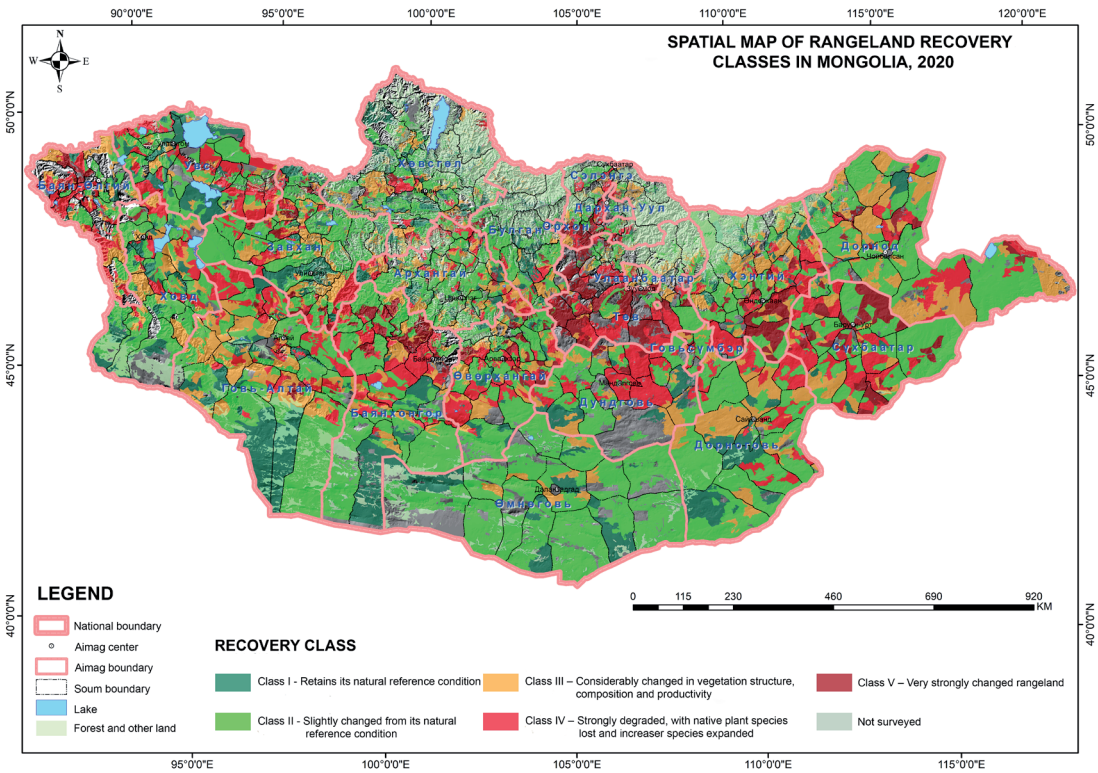
3.2.

ANALYSIS LINKED TO RECOVERY CLASSES

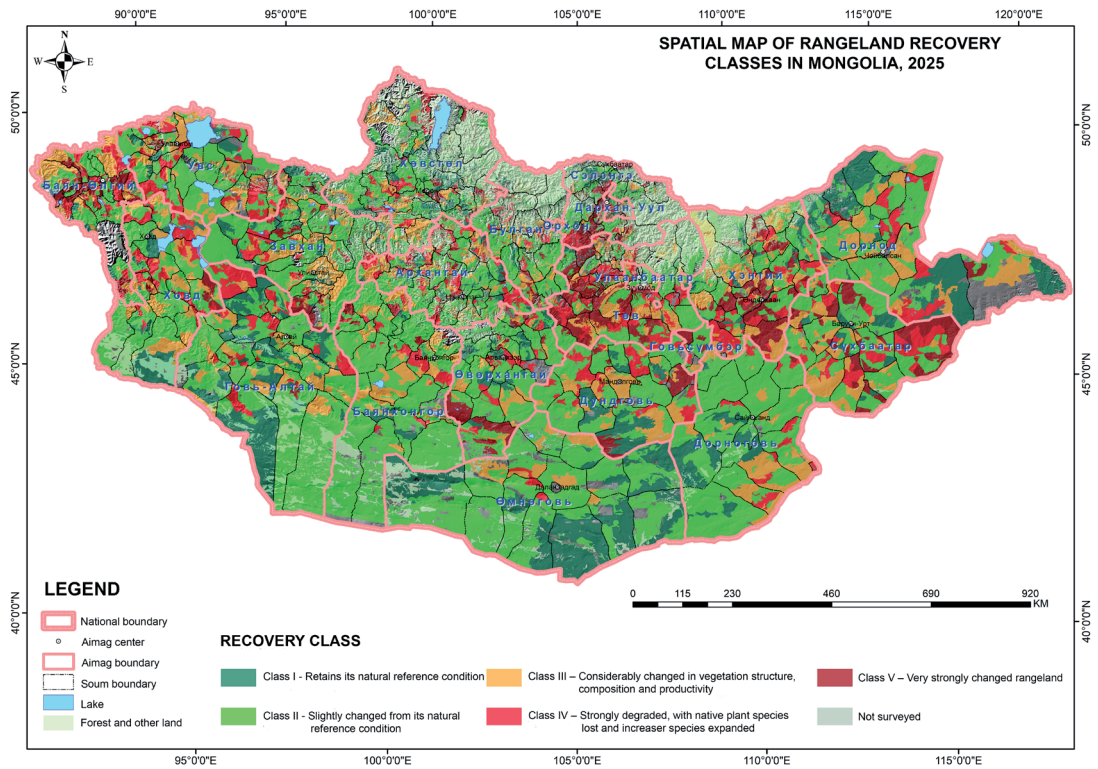
When rangeland condition is assessed by recovery class, Class II rangelands account for the largest share of the total rangeland area. During the study period, the share of this class ranged from 49.8 to 54.6 per cent, equivalent to approximately 61.3–71.1 million hectares. This indicates that the majority of Mongolia's rangelands have changed to some extent, but remain in a condition where recovery is possible within a relatively short period under appropriate use and management. In particular, the share of Class II rangelands increased to 54.6 per cent in 2023 and 54.2 per cent in 2025, suggesting that a certain level of stability has been maintained in rangeland plant communities.

- ▶ **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, ranged from 12.6 to 17.0 per cent, or approximately 15.9–21.6 million hectares. These rangelands represent a relatively small share of the total rangeland area. In 2024, the share of this class increased to 17.0 per cent, or 21.6 million hectares, which may be associated with relatively favourable vegetation growth conditions in that year.
- ▶ **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure, species composition and productivity have changed considerably, accounted for 15.0–18.2 per cent, or approximately 19.4–23.0 million hectares. This class represents rangelands where a certain level of degradation has occurred in plant communities, but where recovery remains possible if appropriate management is implemented. In 2024, Class III rangelands increased to 18.2 per cent, or 23.0 million hectares, indicating that certain changes occurred in rangeland condition during that year.
- ▶ **Class IV** rangelands, which are strongly degraded, accounted for 9.2–15.2 per cent, or 12.0–19.3 million hectares. In these rangelands, native plant species tend to decline, while species more tolerant of degradation become dominant. During the study period, the area of Class IV rangelands increased to 19.3 million hectares, or 14.8 per cent, in 2022, but decreased to 12.0 million hectares, or 9.2 per cent, in 2025.
- ▶ **Class V** rangelands, which are very strongly changed, accounted for 3.7–7.6 per cent, or approximately 4.6–7.6 million hectares, during the study period. These rangelands show signs of degradation, such as reduced vegetation cover and increased soil disturbance and erosion. In 2024, the share of Class V rangelands decreased to 3.7 per cent, or 4.6 million hectares, but increased again in 2025 to 7.6 million hectares, or 5.9 per cent.

MAP 2. Spatial Map of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Mongolia, 2020



MAP 3. Spatial Map of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Mongolia, 2025



Overall, the 2020–2025 assessment results show that most of Mongolia’s rangelands are dominated by Class II rangelands, which have changed slightly from their natural reference condition. Approximately 60.6–71.1 million hectares remain in a condition with recovery potential. In addition, Class III rangelands cover 19.4–23.0 million hectares, indicating that a considerable share of rangelands can recover under appropriate management.

However, Class IV rangelands, where rangelands are strongly degraded, native plant species have declined and increaser species have expanded, range from approximately 15.2 to 18.7 million hectares, accounting for 9.2–15.2 per cent of the total rangeland area. This indicates that vegetation structure has changed seriously in certain rangeland areas, and that the time required for recovery has become longer.

Similarly, Class V rangelands, where rangelands are very strongly degraded, plant communities have changed severely and natural recovery potential is limited, range from approximately 4.6 to 7.6 million hectares, accounting for 3.7–7.6 per cent of the total rangeland area. This shows that rangeland degradation has deepened in some regions and that special restoration measures are urgently required.



Consequently, although Class IV rangelands can potentially be rehabilitated through the reduction of grazing pressure and the application of suitable management practices, Class V rangelands necessitate proactive restoration and protective strategies. In the future, it will be crucial to enhance the utilization of rangeland monitoring outcomes and to adopt differentiated management approaches based on the degree of degradation.





3.3.

COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND CONDITION AND RECOVERY CLASSES BY NATURAL ZONE

The total rangeland area is 130.5 million hectares, distributed unevenly across Mongolia's natural zones and belts. By natural zone and belt, the steppe zone accounts for the largest area, covering 47.5 million hectares, or 36.4 per cent of the total rangeland area. This indicates that rangeland resources are highly concentrated in the steppe zone, which is the main livestock production region of Mongolia.

The desert steppe zone accounts for 31.2 million hectares, or 23.9 per cent, while the desert zone covers 26.8 million hectares, or 20.5 per cent. These figures show that rangelands are widely distributed across the dry and arid regions of southern and central Mongolia.

Rangelands in the forest steppe belt cover 21.9 million hectares, or 16.8 per cent of the total. This belt is characterized by relatively better vegetation cover and forage resources. Rangelands in the high mountain belt cover 3.2 million hectares, or 2.4 per cent, representing the smallest share of the total rangeland area.

TABLE 8. Rangeland Area of Mongolia by Natural Zone

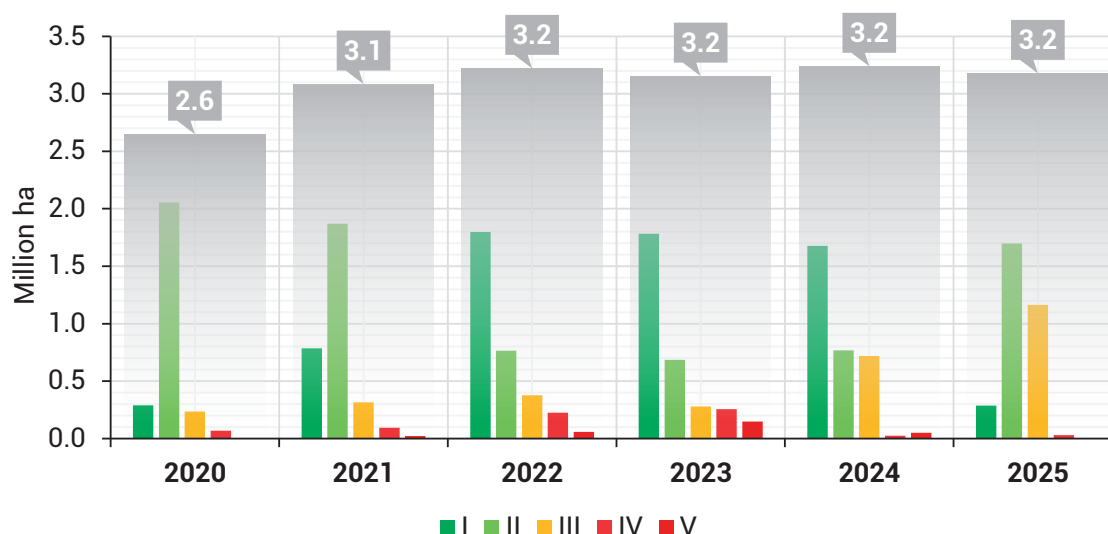
Natural zone	Rangeland area, million ha	Share, %
High mountain	3.2	2.4
Forest steppe	21.9	16.8
Steppe	47.5	36.4
Desert steppe	31.2	23.9
Desert	26.8	20.5
Total	130.5	100.0

Overall, most of Mongolia's rangelands are concentrated in the steppe and desert steppe zones, while more than 80 per cent of the total rangeland area falls within dry steppe and desert ecosystems. Therefore, rangeland use, protection and restoration measures need to be planned in accordance with the ecological characteristics, climatic conditions, livestock pressure and recovery potential of each natural zone.

3.3.1 RECOVERY POTENTIAL IN HIGH MOUNTAIN RANGELANDS

According to the photo monitoring results, the condition of rangelands in the high mountain belt has been relatively well maintained, with rangelands that retain their natural reference condition or have changed only slightly being dominant. During the study period, the total rangeland area ranged from approximately 2.6 to 3.2 million hectares.

DIAGRAM 6. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery Class Dynamics in the High Mountain Rangelands



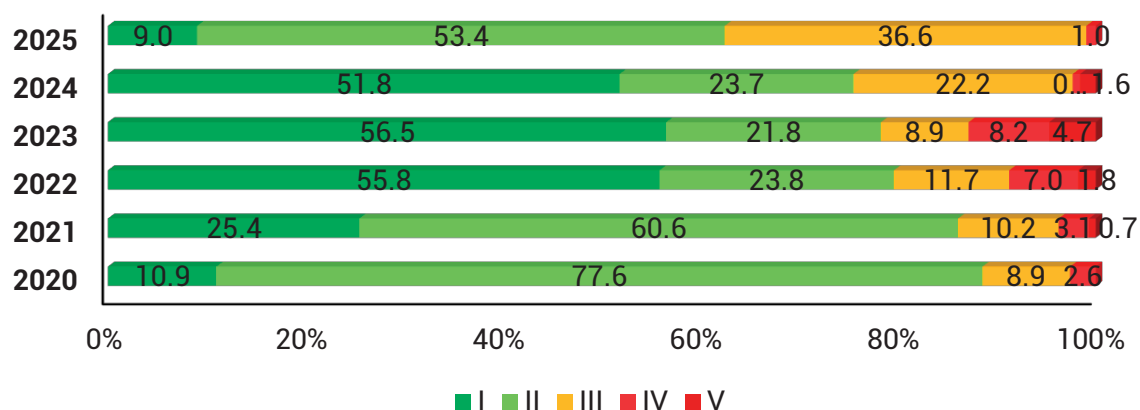
In 2020–2021, most of the total rangeland area fell under Class II. In particular, Class II rangelands accounted for 77.6 per cent in 2020 and 60.6 per cent in 2021, indicating that the majority of rangelands had changed only slightly from their natural reference condition but still retained recovery potential.

In 2022–2023, the structure changed noticeably, with a sharp increase in Class I rangelands. Class I reached 55.8 per cent in 2022 and 56.5 per cent in 2023, indicating that a large share of rangelands in these years retained their natural reference condition and were assessed as being in relatively good condition.

In 2024, the share of Class I rangelands remained high at 51.8 per cent, while Class III rangelands increased to 22.2 per cent. This shows that although a considerable share of rangelands remained in good condition, moderate changes in vegetation structure and productivity occurred in certain areas.

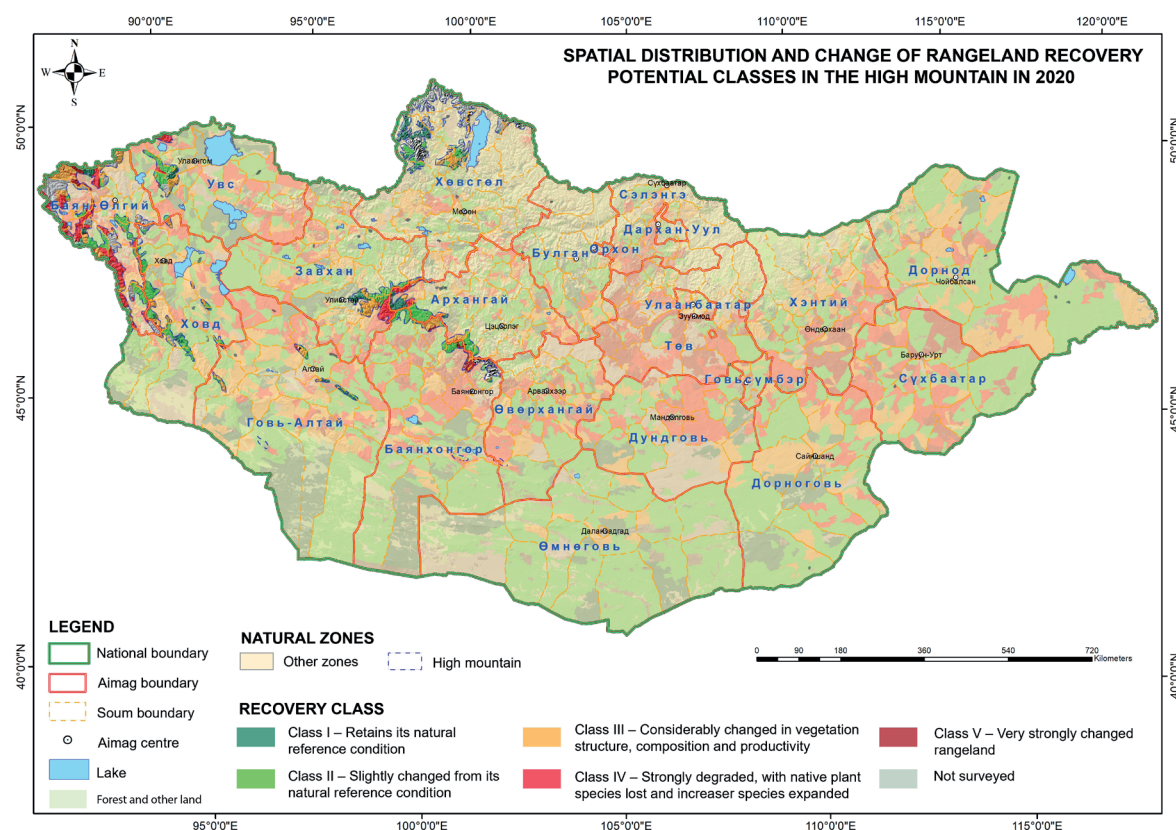
In 2025, the structure of rangeland condition changed again. Class I rangelands declined sharply to 9.0 per cent, while Class II increased to 53.4 per cent and Class III to 36.6 per cent. This indicates that most rangelands shifted from very good condition to slightly or moderately changed categories. Nevertheless, the share of strongly degraded rangelands remained low.

DIAGRAM 7. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery Class Dynamic in the High Mountain Belt, in Percentage

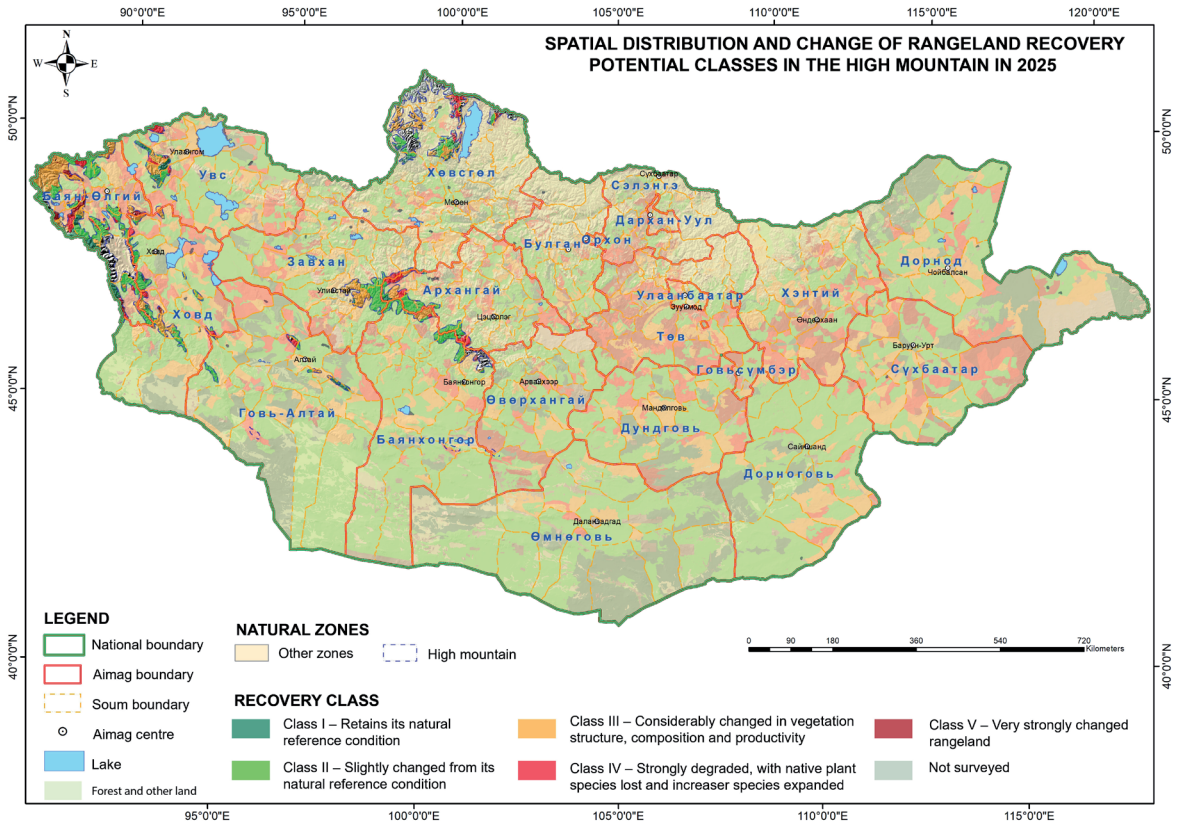


The share of Class IV and Class V rangelands, representing strongly and very strongly degraded rangelands, remained relatively low during the study period. These classes were relatively higher in 2022–2023, particularly in 2023, when Class IV and Class V together reached approximately 12.9 per cent. However, in 2024–2025, the share of strongly degraded categories declined noticeably.

MAP 4. Spatial Distribution and Change of Rangeland Recovery Classes in the High Mountain in 2020

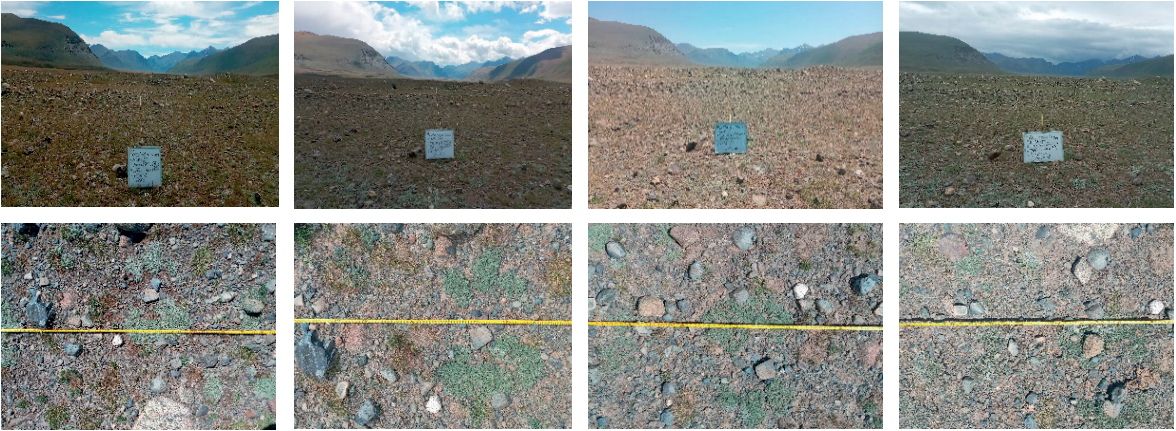


MAP 5. Spatial Distribution and Change of Rangeland Recovery Classes in the High Mountain in 2025



Overall, during 2020–2025, most high mountain rangelands remained in a condition with recovery potential. The dominance of Class I rangelands during 2022–2024 indicates that rangeland condition was relatively good in those years. In 2025, however, the shift towards Class II and Class III indicates that recovery potential was still maintained, but vegetation condition had undergone moderate change. Strong degradation was observed only in a small share of the total area.

FIGURE 9. Photo Monitoring in the High Mountain¹⁸

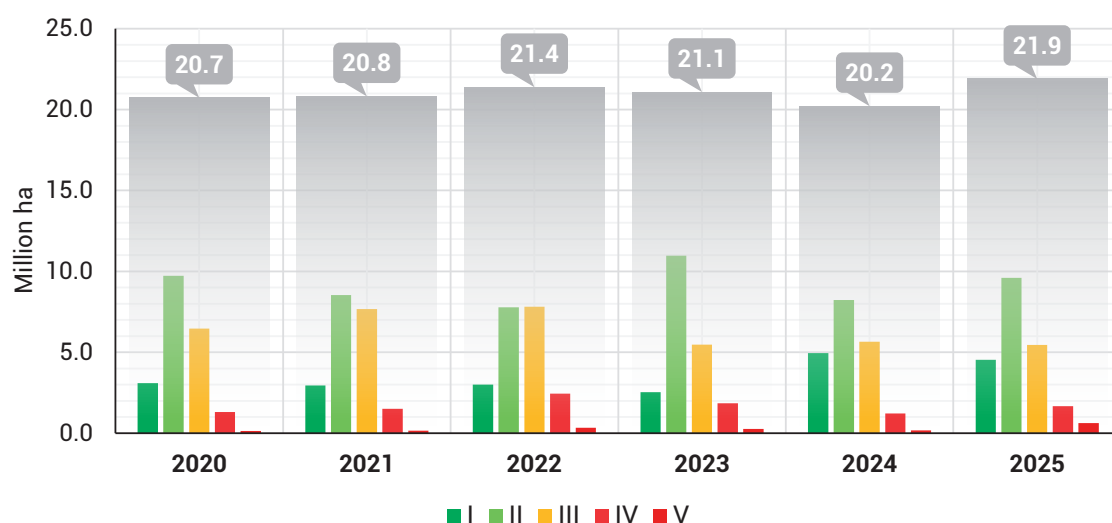


¹⁸ Photos take at the monitoring site in Altai soum, Bayan-Ulgii aimag

3.3.2 ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN THE FOREST STEPPES

According to the photo monitoring results for 2020–2025, the condition of rangelands in the forest steppe belt was assessed across a total area of 20.2–21.9 million hectares. The photo monitoring assessment covered 20.7 million hectares in 2020 and 21.9 million hectares in 2025.

DIAGRAM 8. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Forest Steppes



In 2020–2021, most rangelands in the forest steppe fell under Class II and Class III. Class II accounted for 46.9 per cent in 2020 and 41.0 per cent in 2021, while Class III also remained high, ranging from 31.2 to 36.8 per cent. This indicates that, in those years, a considerable share of rangelands had undergone slight to moderate change, but still retained recovery potential under appropriate management.

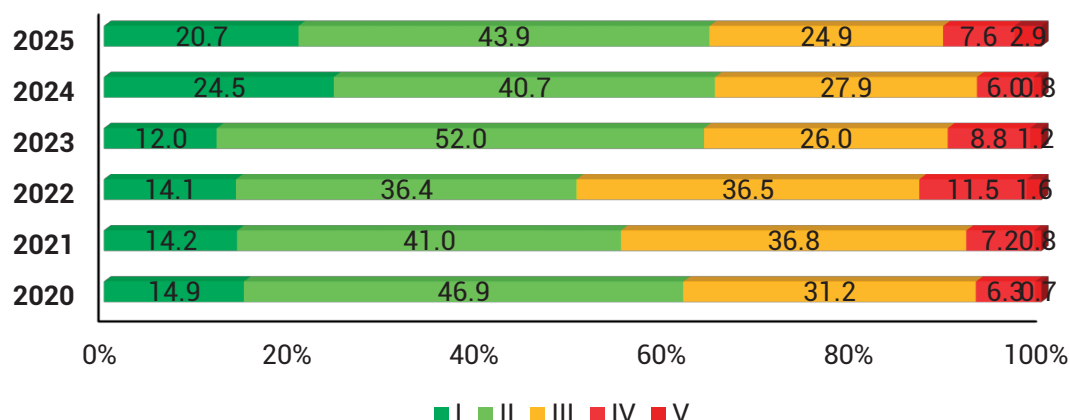
In 2022, Class III rangelands remained high at 36.5 per cent, while Class II declined to 36.4 per cent. Class IV also increased to 11.5 per cent, the highest level recorded during the study period. This suggests that degradation pressure increased in some parts of the forest steppe belt in that year.

In 2023, Class II rangelands increased sharply to 52.0 per cent. This indicates that the majority of rangelands in the forest steppe belt shifted into a slightly changed but recoverable condition. At the same time, Class III declined to 26.0 per cent, suggesting that the area with moderate change may have decreased.

In 2024, Class I rangelands reached 24.5 per cent, the highest level recorded during the study period. Class II accounted for 40.7 per cent, while Class III accounted for 27.9 per cent. This shows that most rangelands remained within Classes I–III, meaning that they were still in a condition with recovery potential.

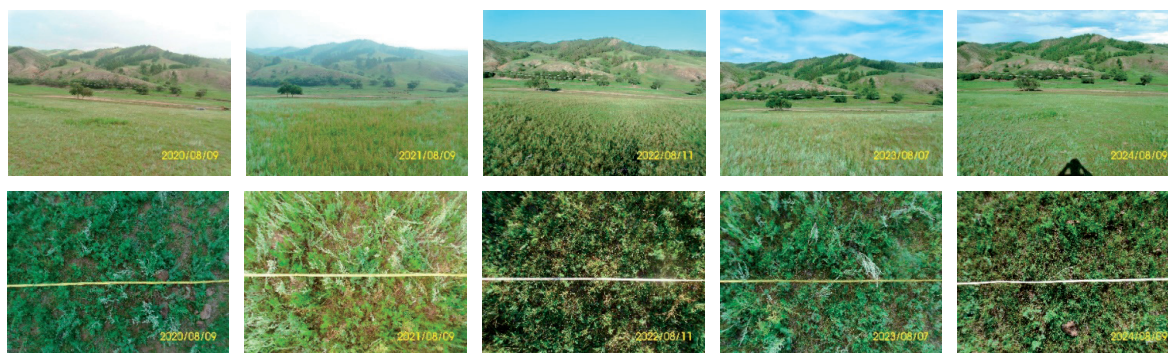
In 2025, Class I accounted for 20.7 per cent, Class II for 43.9 per cent and Class III for 24.9 per cent. This indicates that the majority of rangelands in the forest steppe belt remained in good or recoverable condition. However, Class IV increased to 7.6 per cent and Class V to 2.9 per cent, showing that the strongly degraded categories increased compared with 2024.

DIAGRAM 9. Assessment of rangeland recovery in the forest steppe, by percentage



The share of Class IV and Class V rangelands, representing strongly and very strongly degraded rangelands, remained relatively low over the full study period, although it fluctuated between years. Together, Class IV and Class V accounted for 13.1 per cent in 2022 and 10.5 per cent in 2025, indicating that degradation risk remains in certain parts of the forest steppe belt. In 2024, however, the combined share of Class IV and Class V was the lowest, at approximately 6.8 per cent, suggesting that the area under high levels of degradation was relatively limited in that year.

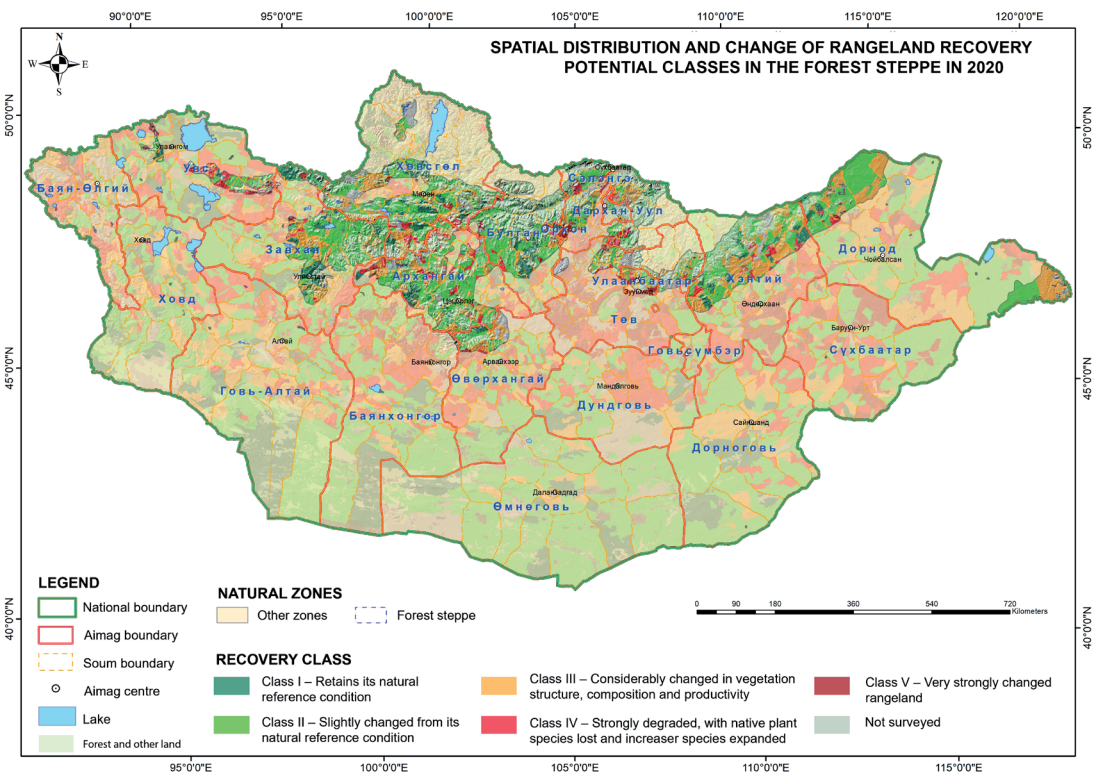
FIGURE 10. Photo Monitoring in the Forest Steppe¹⁹



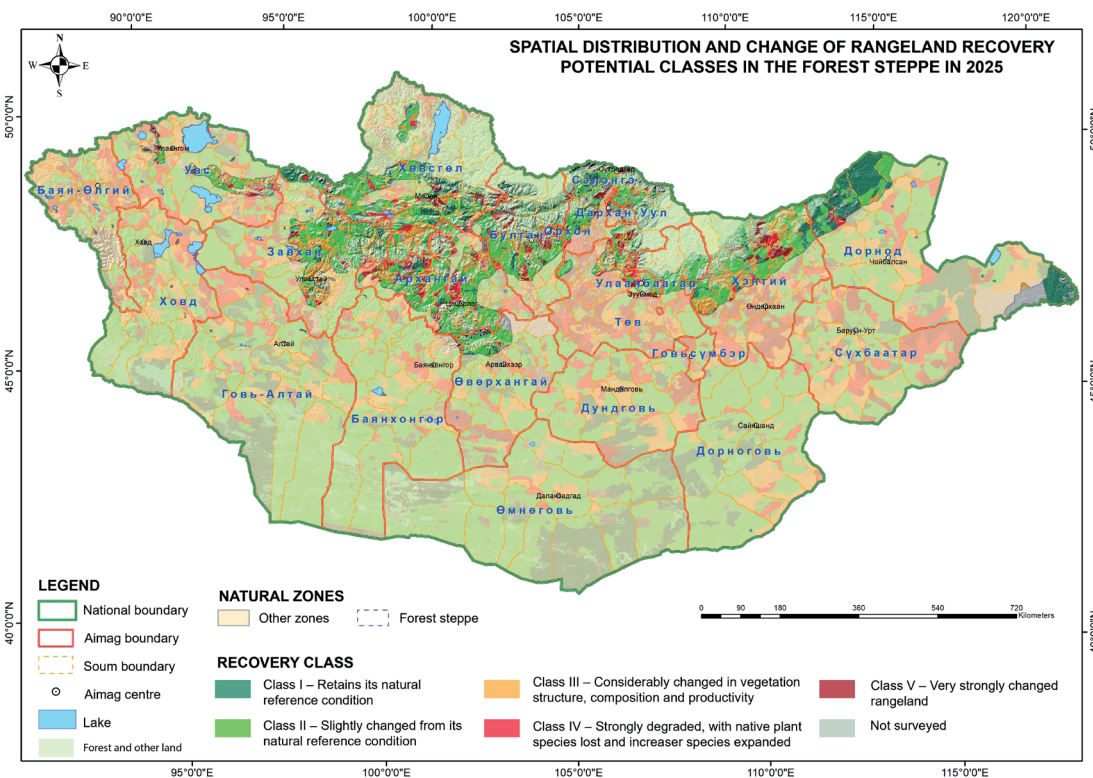
¹⁹ Photos from the monitoring site No.06346001 in Khutug-Undur soum, Bulgan aimag



MAP 6. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Forest Steppe in 2020



MAP 7. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Forest Steppe in 2025



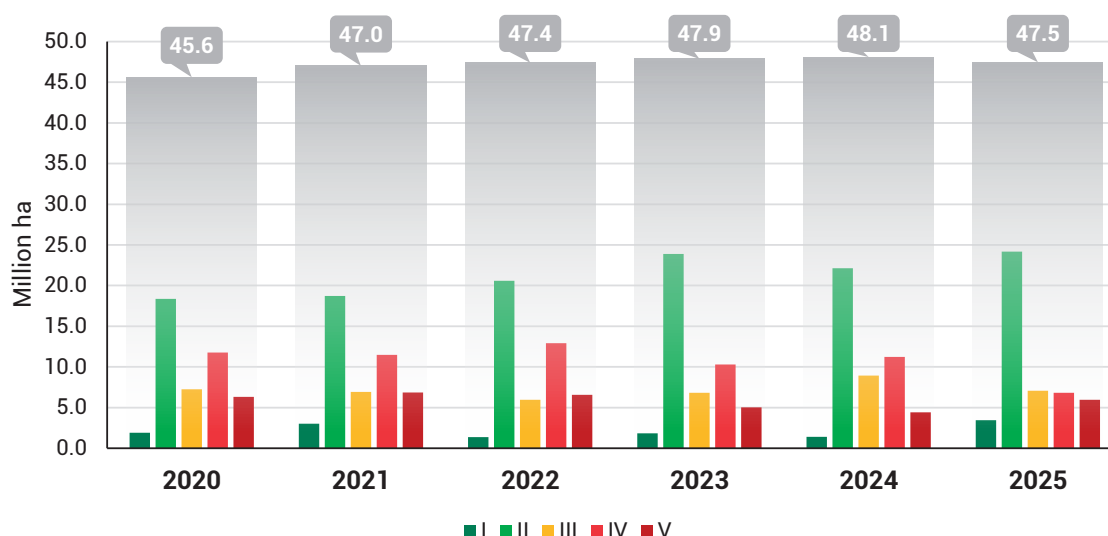
Overall, during 2020–2025, most rangelands in the forest steppe belt fell within Classes I–III. In other words, they either retained their natural condition or had undergone slight to moderate change while still maintaining recovery potential. Class II rangelands were dominant in all years, indicating that the main share of forest steppe rangelands can recover under appropriate use and management.

However, the increase in Class IV–V degradation in 2022 and 2025 shows that, in some areas, it is necessary to reduce grazing pressure, improve seasonal grazing management, and introduce measures to rest and protect degraded rangelands.

3.3.3 ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN THE STEPPES

The assessment on rangeland photo monitoring covered a total of 45.6–48.1 million hectares of rangelands in the steppe zone. The areal estimates showed that the steppe zone rangelands covered 45.7 million hectares in 2020 and 47.5 million hectares in 2025.

DIAGRAM 10. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Forest Steppe, in Hectares



In 2020–2021, the largest share of rangelands in the steppe zone fell under Class II. Class II accounted for 40.3 per cent in 2020 and 39.8 per cent in 2021, indicating that the largest share of rangelands had changed slightly but still retained recovery potential. However, during the same period, the combined share of degraded rangelands in Classes IV and V was also high, reaching 39.7 per cent in 2020 and 39.1 per cent in 2021. This suggests that degradation pressure in the steppe zone was relatively strong.

In 2022, Class II increased to 43.4 per cent, but Class IV reached 27.2 per cent and Class V 13.9 per cent, bringing the combined share of highly degraded rangelands to 41.1 per cent. This indicates that 2022 was one of the years in which degradation in the steppe zone reached its highest level during the study period. At the same time, Class I accounted for only 2.9 per cent, showing that the area of rangelands retaining their natural reference condition was very small.

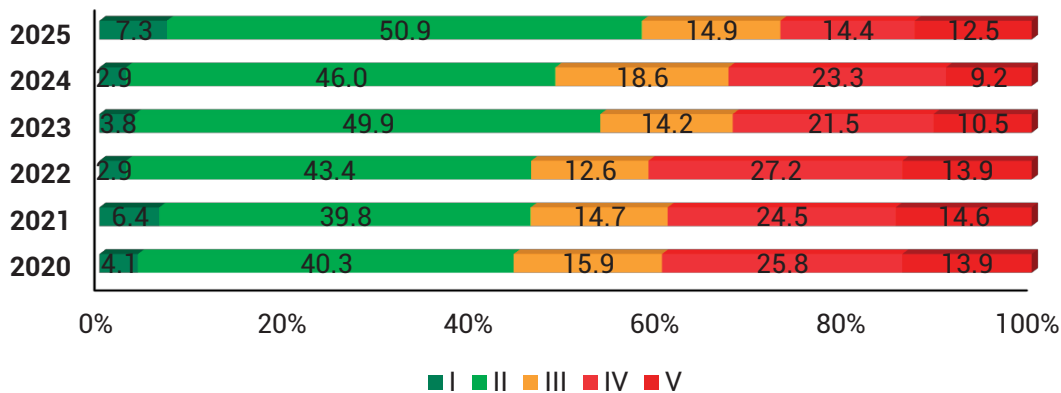
In 2023, the situation improved to some extent, with Class II rangelands increasing to 49.9 per cent. At the same time, Class IV declined to 21.5 per cent and Class V to 10.5 per cent, indicating that the share of strongly degraded rangelands had decreased compared with the previous year.



In 2024, Class II remained high at 46.0 per cent, while Class III increased to 18.6 per cent. Class IV still accounted for 23.3 per cent, indicating that degradation pressure continued in certain parts of the steppe zone. Class I remained low at 2.9 per cent, again showing that the area of rangelands in natural reference condition was very limited.

In 2025, the structure of rangelands in the steppe zone showed a more positive change compared with previous years. Class II reached its highest level at 50.9 per cent, while Class I increased to 7.3 per cent. At the same time, Class IV declined to 14.4 per cent and Class V stood at 12.5 per cent, reducing the combined share of highly degraded rangelands to 26.9 per cent. This indicates that a certain level of improvement was observed.

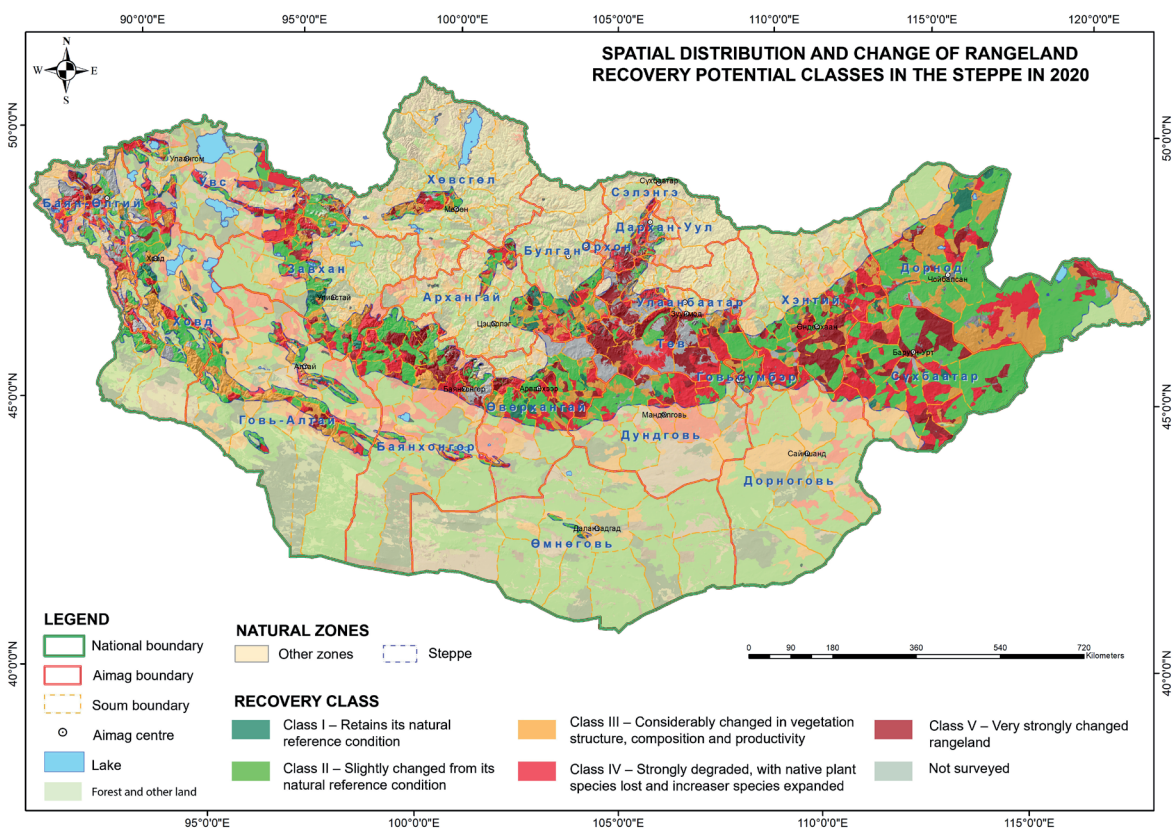
DIAGRAM 11. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Desert Steppe, by Percentage



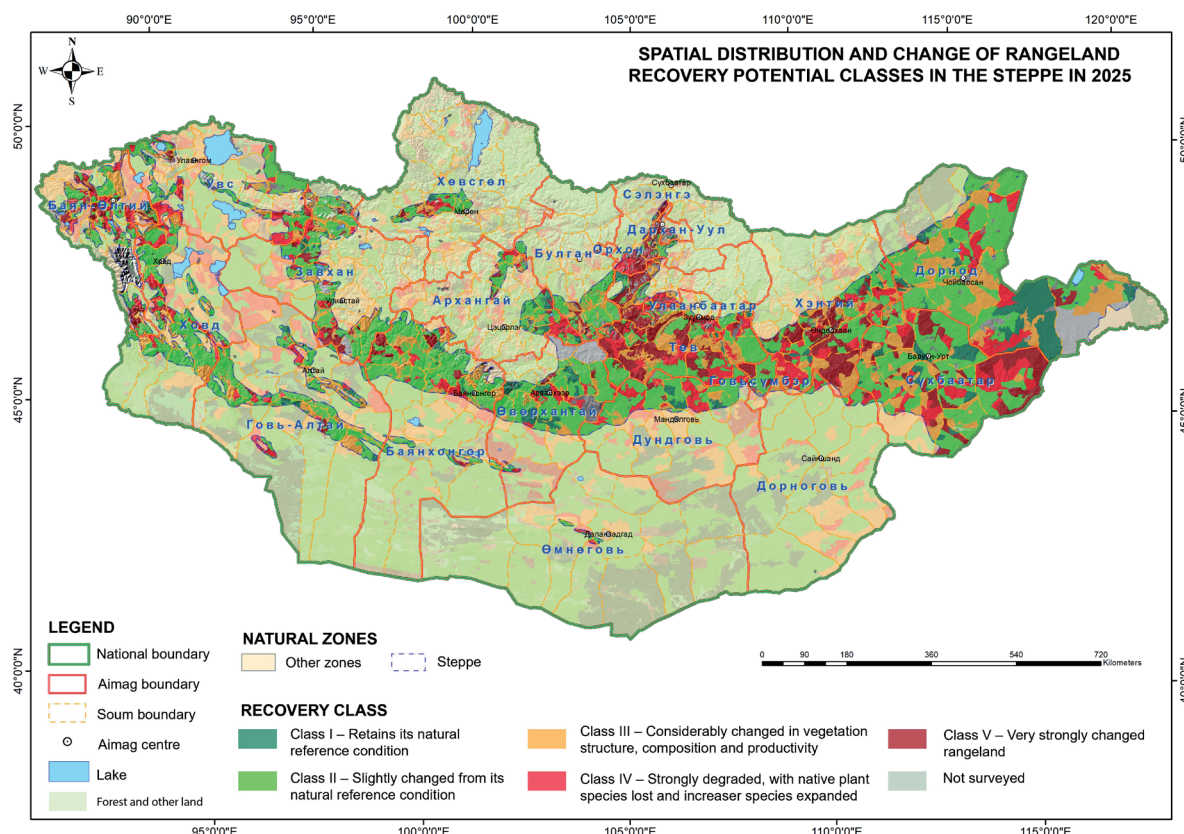
A key characteristic of the steppe zone is that the share of degraded rangelands in Classes IV and V is relatively higher than in other zones. In 2020–2022, the combined share of Classes IV and V reached 39.7–41.1 per cent. This gradually declined during 2023–2025, reaching 26.9 per cent in 2025. Although the area of highly degraded rangelands is decreasing, it remains relatively large overall.



MAP 8. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Steppe in 2020



MAP 9. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Steppe in 2025



Overall, during 2020–2025, most rangelands in the steppe zone fell under Class II, meaning that they had changed slightly but could recover under appropriate management. However, the continued high share of degraded rangelands in Classes IV and V shows that the steppe zone is one of the areas most vulnerable to rangeland degradation.

Although some improvement was observed in 2025, it remains necessary to reduce grazing pressure, improve seasonal grazing management, rest and protect degraded areas, and intensify restoration measures.

FIGURE 11. Photo Monitoring in Steppe²⁰



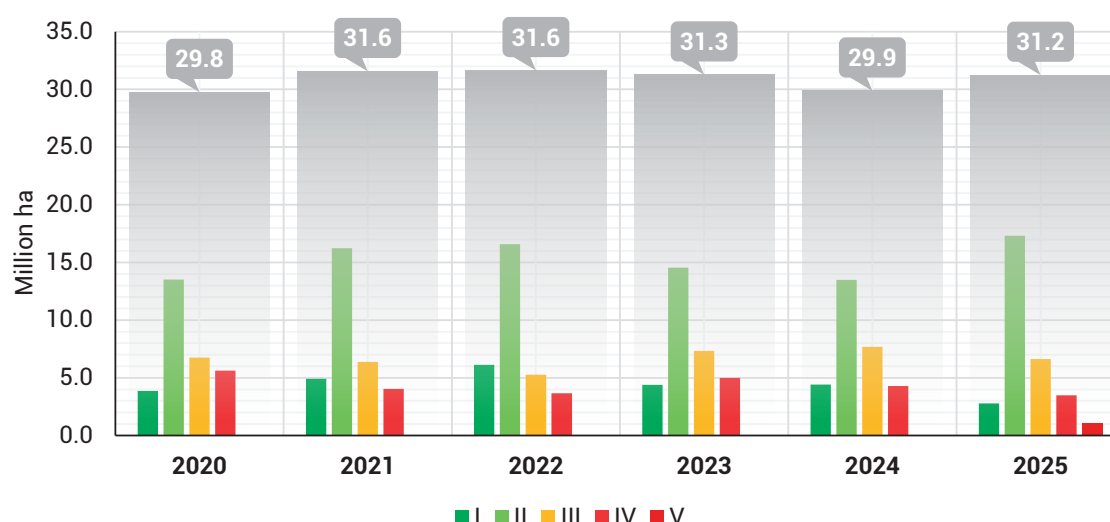
²⁰ Photos from the monitoring site No. 02304015 in Batnorov soum, Khentii aimag

3.3.4 ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY POTENTIAL IN THE DESERT STEPPE

According to the photo monitoring assessment results, rangeland condition in the desert steppe zone is distributed across different recovery classes. However, Class II rangelands are dominant. These are rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition and can recover within 3–5 years under appropriate use and management.

During the study period, the area of Class II rangelands ranged from approximately 13.5 to 17.3 million hectares, accounting for 45.2–55.4 per cent of the total rangeland area in the zone. This indicates that most rangelands in the desert steppe zone have undergone moderate change, but still retain recovery potential under appropriate management.

DIAGRAM 10. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Forest Steppe, in Hectares



In 2020–2021, the largest share of rangelands in the desert steppe zone fell under Class II. Class II accounted for 45.5 per cent in 2020 and 51.4 per cent in 2021, indicating that the majority of rangelands had changed only slightly but still retained recovery potential under appropriate management. During the same period, Class III rangelands also remained relatively high, at 20.2–22.7 per cent, while Class IV accounted for 12.8–18.9 per cent, showing that degradation pressure was observed in certain areas.

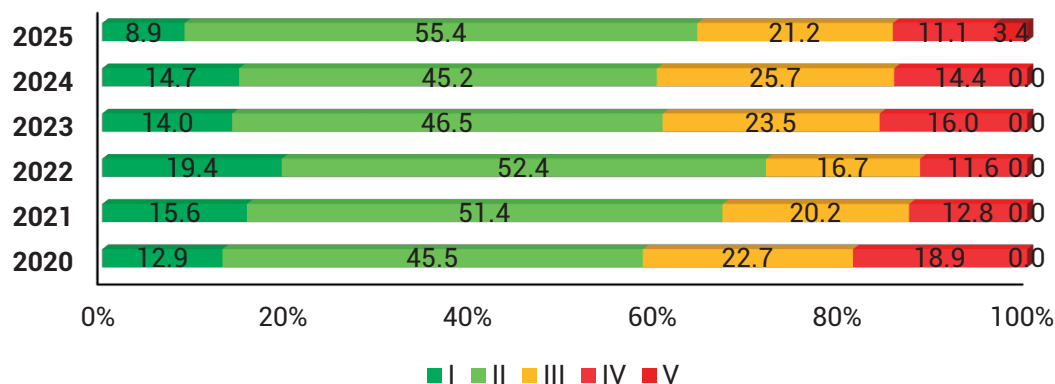
In 2022, the situation improved relatively. Class I rangelands increased to 19.4 per cent, the highest level recorded during the study period. Class II also increased to 52.4 per cent, indicating that most rangelands in the desert steppe zone were in good or recoverable condition. In the same year, Class III declined to 16.7 per cent and Class IV to 11.6 per cent, suggesting that the area under higher levels of degradation had decreased.

In 2023, Class II remained dominant at 46.5 per cent, while Class IV increased to 16.0 per cent. At the same time, Class III accounted for 23.5 per cent, indicating an increase in the area of rangelands with moderate change. Class V rangelands were still not recorded.

In 2024, Class I rangelands accounted for 14.7 per cent, Class II for 45.2 per cent and Class III for 25.7 per cent. This shows that most rangelands in the desert steppe zone remained within Classes I–III, meaning that they still retained recovery potential. However, the increase of Class III to its highest level indicates that the area with moderate changes in vegetation structure and composition had expanded. Class IV accounted for 14.4 per cent.

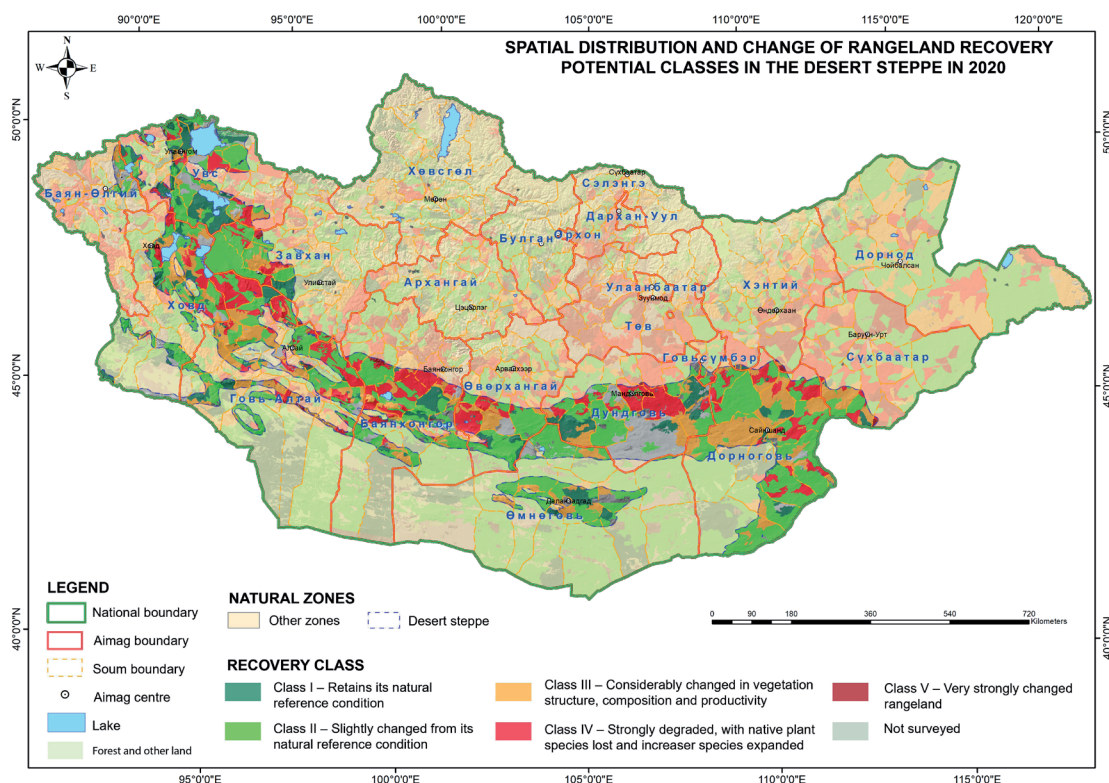
In 2025, Class II rangelands reached 55.4 per cent, the highest level recorded during the study period. This indicates that the majority of rangelands had changed only slightly but still retained recovery potential. However, Class I declined to 8.9 per cent, while Class III accounted for 21.2 per cent and Class IV for 11.1 per cent. For the first time, Class V rangelands were recorded at 3.4 per cent, indicating that very strongly degraded areas had emerged in some locations.

DIAGRAM 11. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Desert Steppe, by Percentage

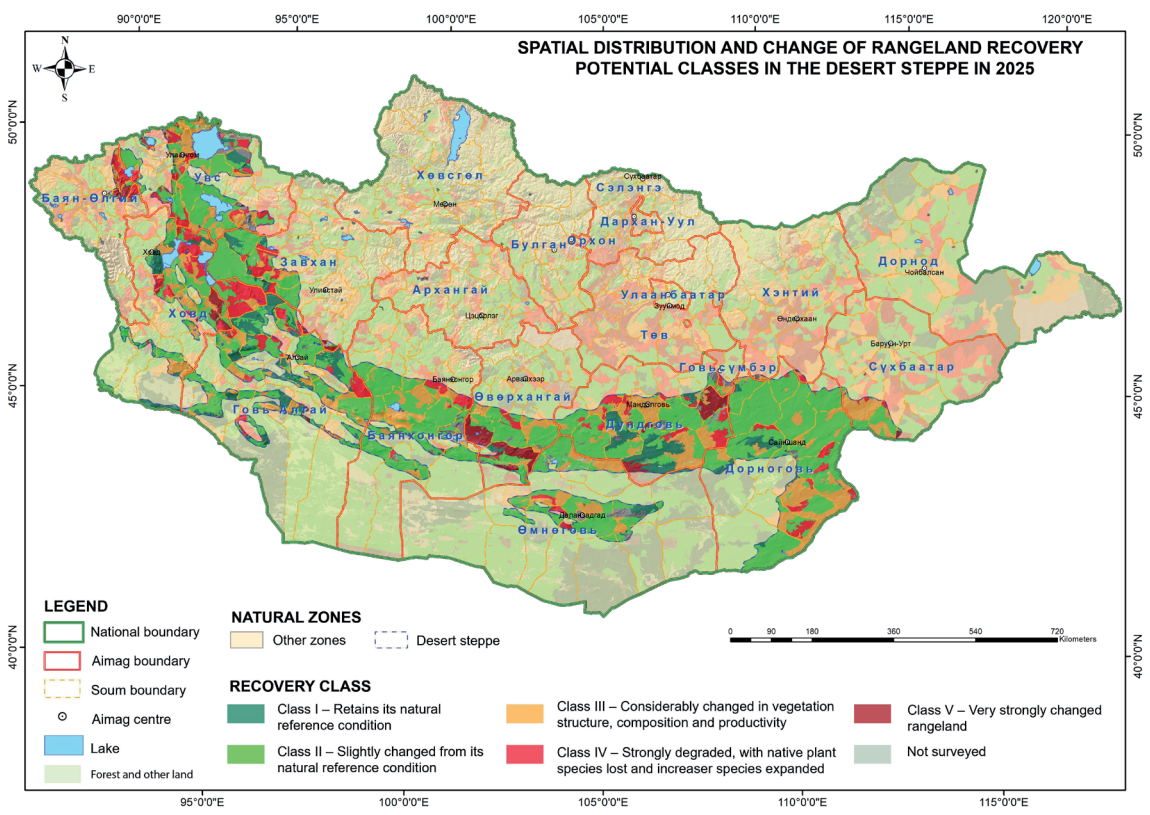


The share of Class IV and Class V rangelands, representing strongly and very strongly degraded rangelands, remained relatively low over the full study period, although it showed some fluctuation. Class IV accounted for 18.9 per cent in 2020, but generally declined in the following years, reaching 11.1 per cent in 2025. This indicates an overall declining trend in the share of strongly degraded rangelands. However, the emergence of Class V rangelands at 3.4 per cent in 2025 suggests that degradation has deepened in some areas.

MAP 10. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Desert Steppe in 2020



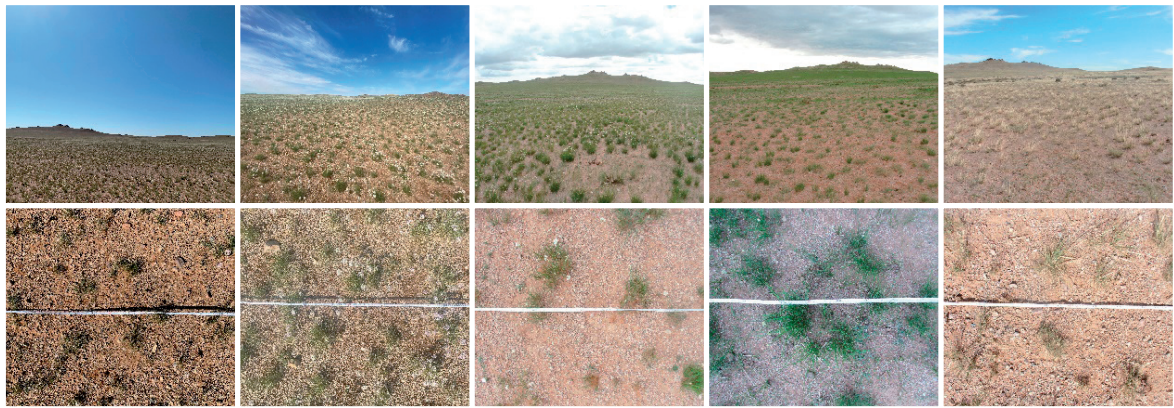
MAP 11. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Desert Steppe in 2025



Overall, during 2020–2025, most rangelands in the desert steppe zone fell under Class II, meaning that they had changed slightly but could recover under appropriate use and management. The dominance of Classes I–III indicates that the main share of rangelands in the desert steppe zone still retains recovery potential.

However, the continued presence of Class IV degradation, together with the first appearance of Class V rangelands in 2025, shows that grazing pressure needs to be regulated in vulnerable areas. It also highlights the need to improve seasonal grazing rotation, protect degraded areas and implement restoration measures where necessary.

FIGURE 12. Photo Monitoring in the Desert Steppe²¹



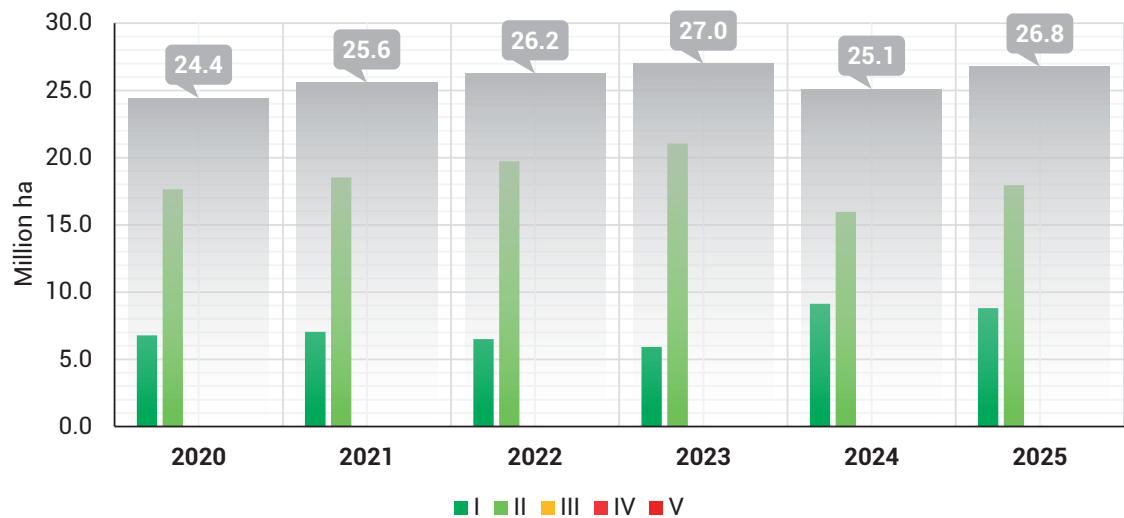
²¹ Photos from the monitoring site No. 04813010 in Gurvansaikhan soum, Dundgovi aimag



3.3.5 ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY POTENTIAL IN THE DESERT

According to the photo monitoring results, rangeland condition in the desert zone has remained relatively stable, with most rangelands slightly changed from their natural reference condition. During the study period, the total rangeland area ranged from approximately 24.4 to 27.0 million hectares, reaching its highest level in 2023 at 27.0 million hectares.

DIAGRAM 12. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Desert in Hectares



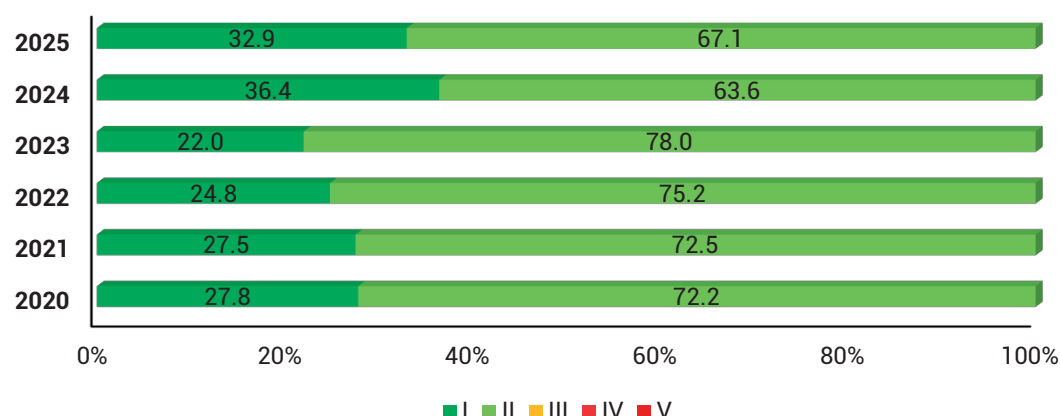
In 2020–2021, the majority of rangelands in the desert zone fell under Class II. Class II accounted for 72.2 per cent in 2020 and 72.5 per cent in 2021, while Class I accounted for 27.8 per cent and 27.5 per cent, respectively. This indicates that, in those years, most desert zone rangelands had changed only slightly but still retained recovery potential.

In 2022–2023, the share of Class II rangelands increased further, reaching 75.2 per cent in 2022 and 78.0 per cent in 2023. At the same time, Class I declined to 24.8 per cent and 22.0 per cent, indicating that the area retaining its natural reference condition had decreased and that some areas had shifted into the slightly changed category.

In 2024, Class I rangelands increased to 36.4 per cent, the highest level recorded during the study period. Class II declined to 63.6 per cent, but most rangelands still remained in a condition with recovery potential. This suggests that, in that year, the natural condition of some parts of the desert zone may have been relatively well maintained or improved.

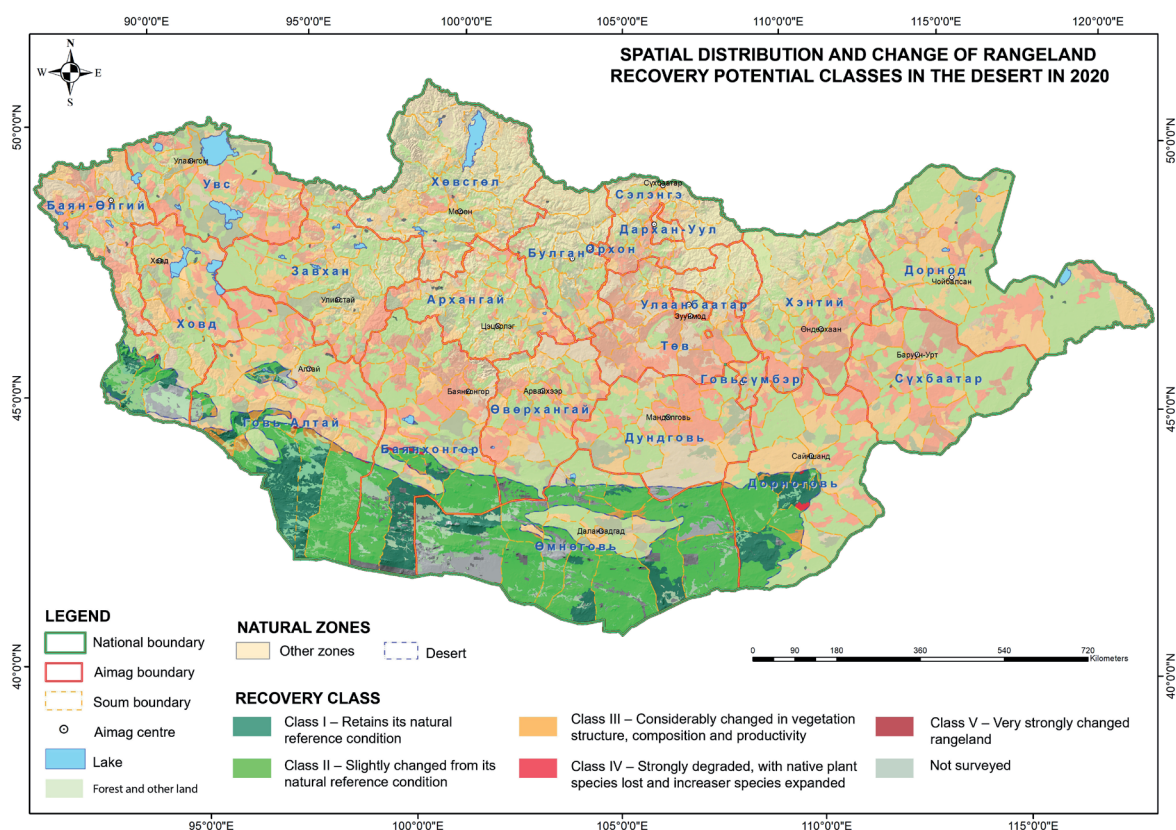
In 2025, Class I accounted for 32.9 per cent and Class II for 67.1 per cent. Although Class I declined slightly compared with 2024, the entire rangeland area of the desert zone remained within Classes I–II, indicating that rangelands were in good condition or retained recovery potential.

DIAGRAM 13. Assessment of Rangeland Recovery in the Forest Steppe, by Percentage

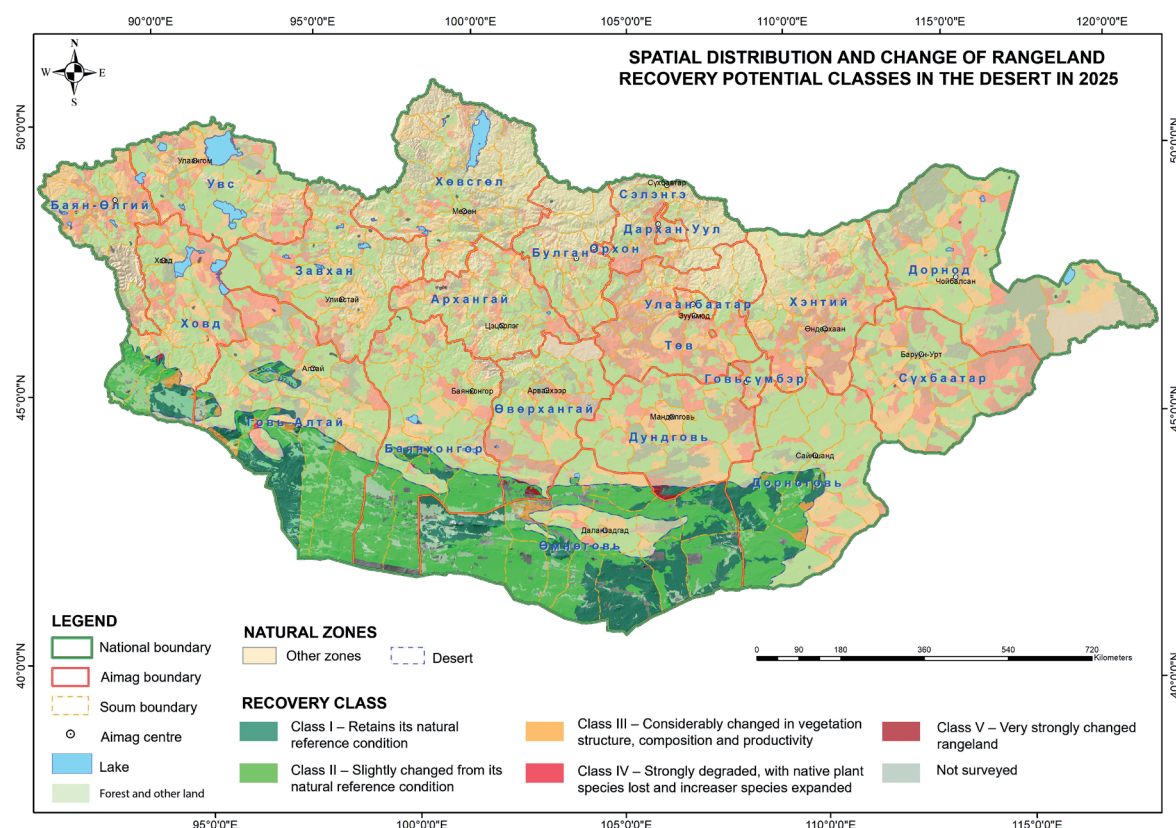


During the study period, most rangelands in the desert zone did not shift into strongly degraded categories. This may be associated with the naturally sparse vegetation cover and specific ecosystem structure of the desert zone, where high levels of degradation are less pronounced compared with other zones.

MAP 12. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Desert in 2020



MAP 13. Rangeland Recovery Class Distribution in the Desert in 2025



Overall, during 2020–2025, rangeland condition in the desert zone remained relatively stable. The fact that 100 per cent of the total rangeland area fell within Classes I–II shows that rangelands retaining their natural reference condition, or those slightly changed but still recoverable, were dominant.

However, the desert zone is climatically vulnerable, with limited water availability and high drought risk. Therefore, it will be important to regulate livestock concentration, monitor grazing pressure around water sources, and plan seasonal mobility and frequency of use appropriately.

FIGURE 13. Field Survey Photographs from Photo Monitoring in the Desert²²



²² Photos from the monitoring site No 08237010 in Khukhmorit soum, Govi-Altai aimag





©Photo by: Gerlee.P, WCS-Mongolia

3.4.

RESULTS OF RANGELAND MONITORING AT THE AIMAG LEVEL

At the aimag level, Mongolia's total 130.5 million hectares of rangelands are distributed unevenly, depending on natural conditions, geographical location and land-use characteristics. The largest rangeland areas are found in Umnugovi aimag, with 14.1 million hectares, or 10.8 per cent of the national total; Govi-Altai aimag, with 13.9 million hectares, or 10.6 per cent; Dornod aimag, with 11.1 million hectares, or 8.5 per cent; and Bayankhongor aimag, with 10.4 million hectares, or 8.0 per cent. These aimags have large territories and are located mainly in the Gobi and steppe zones, which explains their extensive rangeland areas.

By contrast, rangeland areas are relatively small in Darkhan-Uul aimag, with 0.2 million hectares, or 0.1 per cent; Govisumber aimag, with 0.5 million hectares, or 0.4 per cent; Selenge aimag, with 1.6 million hectares, or 1.2 per cent; and Bulgan aimag, with 2.3 million hectares, or 1.8 per cent. This is related to land-use structure, settlement patterns, cropland distribution, and the characteristics of forest steppe and mountainous areas.

TABLE 9. Rangeland Area by Aimag

Nº	Aimag name	Rangeland area, million ha	Share, %
1	Arkhangai	7.7	5.9
2	Bayan-Ulgii	3.6	2.7
3	Bayankhongor	10.4	8.0
4	Bulgan	2.3	1.8
5	Govi-Altai	13.9	10.6
6	Govisumber	0.5	0.4
7	Darkhan-Uul	0.2	0.1
8	Dornogovi	8.7	6.7
9	Dornod	11.1	8.5
10	Dundgovi	7.1	5.5
11	Zavkhan	6.2	4.7
12	Orkhon	0.0	0.0
13	Uvurkhangai	5.6	4.3
14	Umnugovi	14.1	10.8
15	Sukhbaatar	7.9	6.1
16	Selenge	1.6	1.2
17	Tuv	5.7	4.4
18	Uvs	5.6	4.3
19	Khovd	7.3	5.6
20	Khuvsgul	4.0	3.1
21	Khentii	7.0	5.3
	Total	130.5	100

Overall, most rangelands are concentrated in aimags located in the Gobi and steppe zones. In contrast, aimags with forest steppe and mountainous landscapes, higher settlement density and more intensive agricultural land use have relatively smaller rangeland areas.

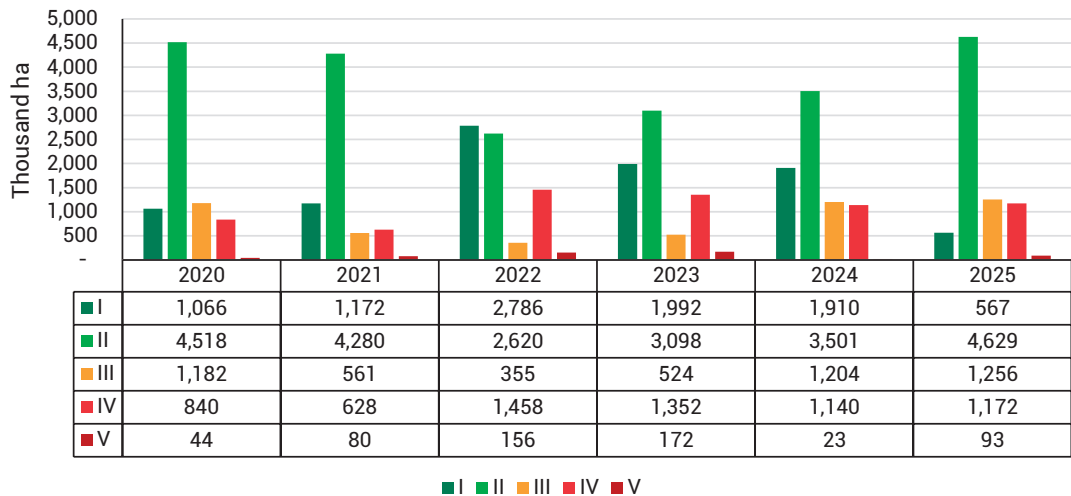
Therefore, aimag-level assessments should consider not only the size of rangeland areas, but also the natural zone, land-use pressure, livestock concentration and recovery classification of each aimag.

3.4.1. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN ARKHANGAI AIMAG

During the study period, Class II rangelands were dominant in all years. This indicates that most rangelands in Arkhangai aimag have changed slightly from their natural reference condition, but remain in a condition where recovery is possible under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 4,518 thousand hectares in 2020 and 4,280 thousand hectares in 2021, before declining to 2,620 thousand hectares in 2022. From 2023 onwards, it increased again, reaching 4,629 thousand hectares in 2025, the highest level recorded during the study period.

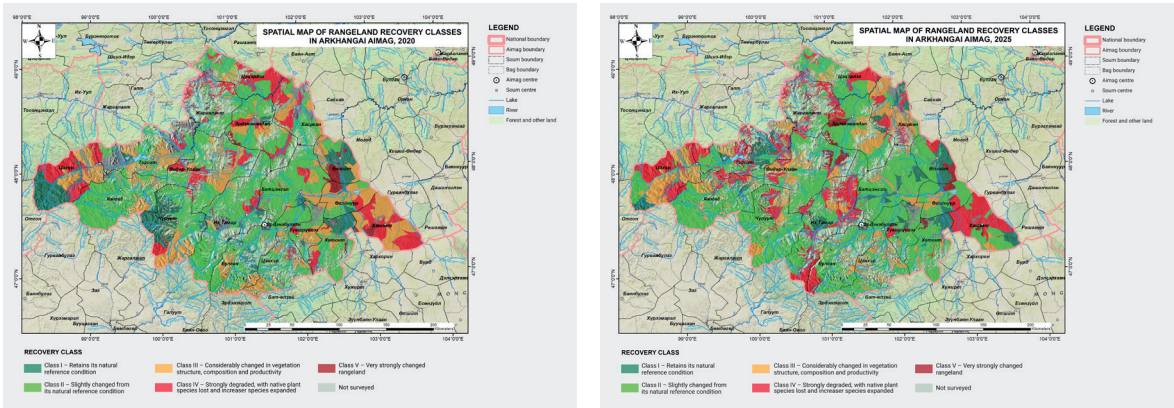
- ▶ **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, reached their highest level in 2022 at 2,786 thousand hectares. This suggests that the condition of certain rangeland areas in Arkhangai aimag may have been relatively good in that year. However, in 2025, Class I declined sharply to 567 thousand hectares, indicating a reduction in the area of rangelands retaining their reference condition.
- ▶ **Class III** rangelands covered 1,182 thousand hectares in 2020, then remained relatively low during 2021–2023, ranging from approximately 355 to 561 thousand hectares. In 2024–2025, however, this class increased again to 1,204–1,256 thousand hectares, indicating an expansion of rangeland areas with moderate changes in vegetation structure and composition.
- ▶ **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 840 thousand hectares in 2020 and 628 thousand hectares in 2021. This class then increased sharply in 2022–2023, reaching 1,458 thousand hectares and 1,352 thousand hectares, respectively. Although it declined slightly in 2024–2025, it remained at around 1,140–1,172 thousand hectares, indicating that the risk of strong degradation persists to a certain extent.
- ▶ **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, accounted for the smallest area in all years. This class reached its highest level in 2023 at 172 thousand hectares, declined to 23 thousand hectares in 2024, and increased again to 93 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that very strongly degraded areas remain relatively limited at the aimag level.

DIAGRAM 14. Rangeland Area in Arkhangai Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Arkhangai aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition with recovery potential. However, the increase in Class III areas in 2024–2025 and the persistence of Class IV areas above 1.1 million hectares indicate that degradation pressure continues in some parts of the aimag. Therefore, it is necessary to improve seasonal grazing management, regulate livestock pressure, rest and protect Class IV rangelands, and implement restoration measures where needed.

MAP 14. Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Arkhangai Aimag, 2020 and 2025



The maps show that most rangelands in Arkhangai aimag fell under Class II in both 2020 and 2025, indicating that recoverable rangelands under appropriate use and management were dominant. However, by 2025, the spatial distribution of Class III and Class IV rangelands had increased in some areas. This suggests changes in vegetation structure and composition, as well as increased grazing pressure in certain parts of the aimag.

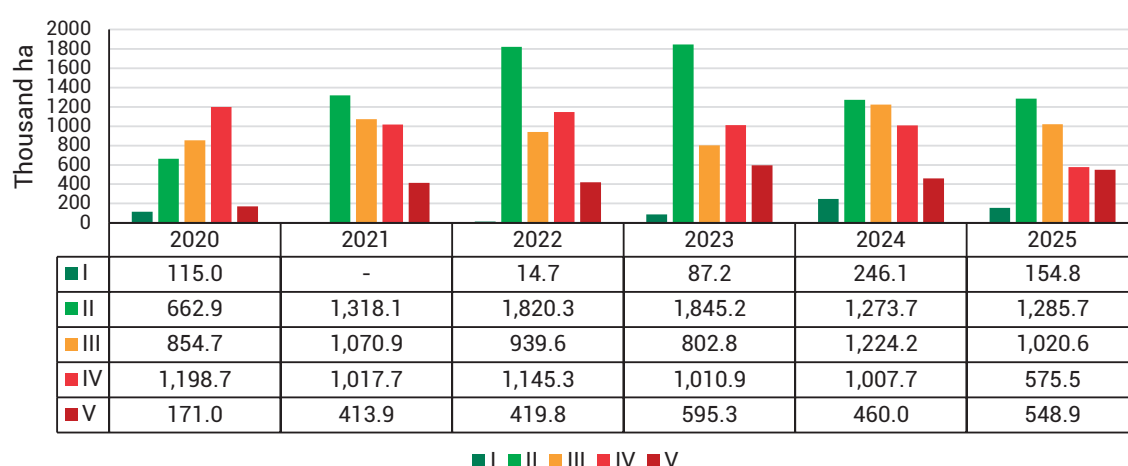
Therefore, while recoverable rangelands should continue to be used appropriately across the aimag, areas showing Class IV degradation require reduced grazing pressure, seasonal rotation, resting, protection and restoration measures.

3.4.2. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN BAYAN-ULGII AIMAG

During the study period, rangeland condition in Bayan-Ulgii aimag showed noticeable year-to-year fluctuations. Class II rangelands, which have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but still retain recovery potential, were dominant in most years. The area of this class increased from 662.9 thousand hectares in 2020 to 1,318.1 thousand hectares in 2021, 1,820.3 thousand hectares in 2022 and 1,845.2 thousand hectares in 2023. In 2024–2025, however, it declined and stabilized at around 1,273.7–1,285.7 thousand hectares.

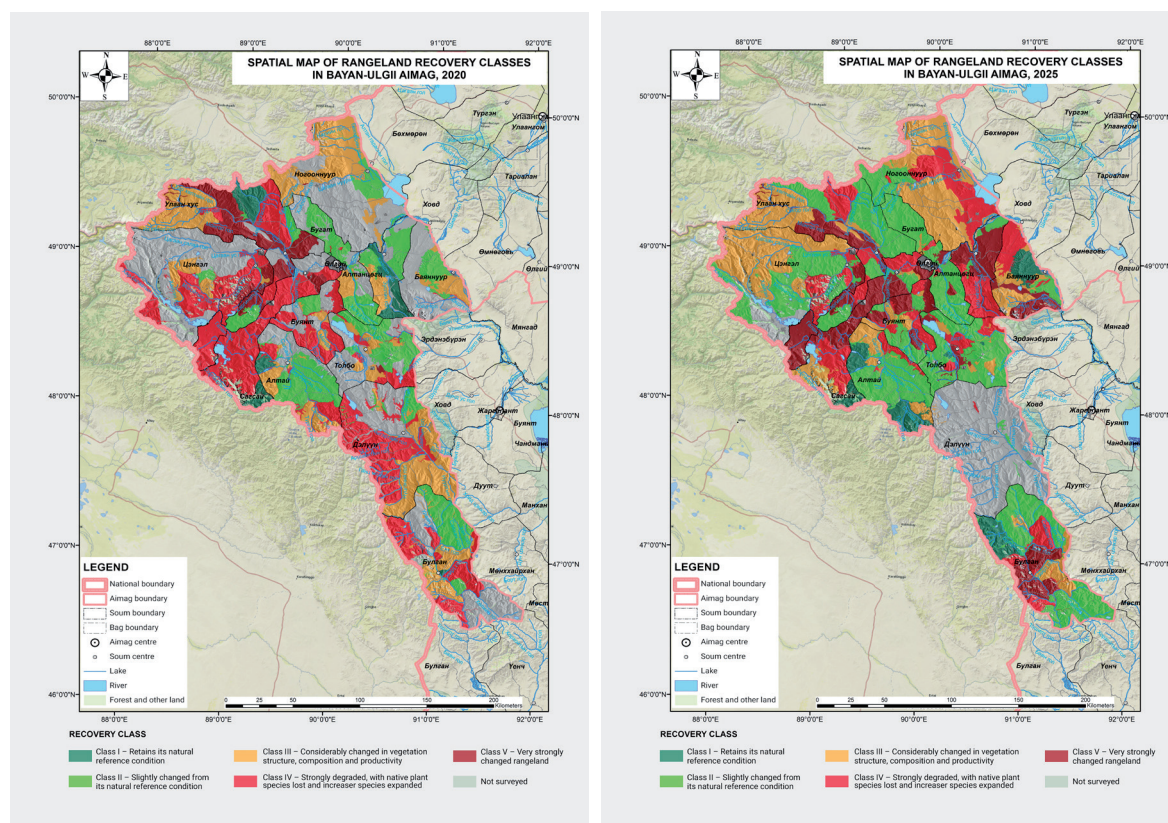
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, were recorded at considerable levels in all years of the study period. The area of this class ranged from 802.8 to 1,224.2 thousand hectares, reaching its highest level in 2024 at 1,224.2 thousand hectares. This indicates that certain parts of the aimag's rangelands have undergone moderate change and require appropriate management measures.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 1,198.7 thousand hectares in 2020, one of the highest values recorded during the study period. In subsequent years, the area of this class remained at around 1,017.7–1,145.3 thousand hectares, but declined to 575.5 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that the area of strongly degraded rangelands decreased noticeably in the most recent year.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, were also recorded at a considerable level during the study period. This class covered 171.0 thousand hectares in 2020 and reached its highest level in 2023 at 595.3 thousand hectares. In 2025, it remained at 548.9 thousand hectares, indicating that the risk of very strong degradation persists to a certain extent.
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, remained relatively limited in all years. They were not recorded in 2021 and covered only 14.7 thousand hectares in 2022. Although this class increased to 246.1 thousand hectares in 2024, it declined again to 154.8 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that the area of rangelands fully retaining their reference condition remains small at the aimag level.

DIAGRAM 15. Rangeland Area in Bayan-Ulgii Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Bayan-Ulgii aimag fall within Classes II–III, meaning that they are recoverable but have changed to some extent. The decline in Class IV areas in 2025 represents a positive change. However, the continued high level of Class V rangelands suggests that degradation may have deepened in some areas. Therefore, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure, improve seasonal grazing rotation, and implement resting, protection and restoration measures in areas classified as Classes IV–V.

MAP 15. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Bayan-Ulgii Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparative assessment for 2020–2025 shows a positive trend in some parts of Bayan-Ulgii aimag, with an increase in Class II–III rangelands that retain recovery potential. However, the spatial distribution of degraded rangelands in Classes IV–V remains. Therefore, the overall condition of rangelands in the aimag can be described as follows: areas with recovery potential are increasing, but zones with high degradation risk remain.

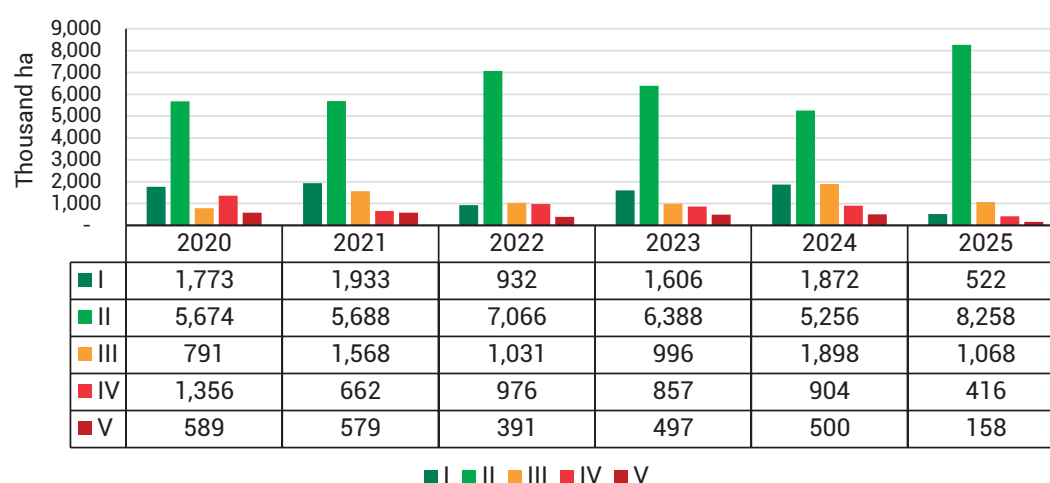
Going forward, Bayan-Ulgii aimag needs to regulate grazing pressure in a spatially differentiated manner, reduce use pressure on Class IV–V rangelands, and implement seasonal rotation, resting and protection measures. At the same time, appropriate use should be maintained on Class II–III rangelands in order to support their recovery potential.

3.4.3. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN BAYANKHONGOR AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Bayankhongor aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use. The area of Class II rangelands was 5,674 thousand hectares in 2020 and 5,688 thousand hectares in 2021. It then increased to 7,066 thousand hectares in 2022 and 6,388 thousand hectares in 2023. Although it declined to 5,256 thousand hectares in 2024, it rose sharply to 8,258 thousand hectares in 2025, reaching the highest level recorded during the study period.

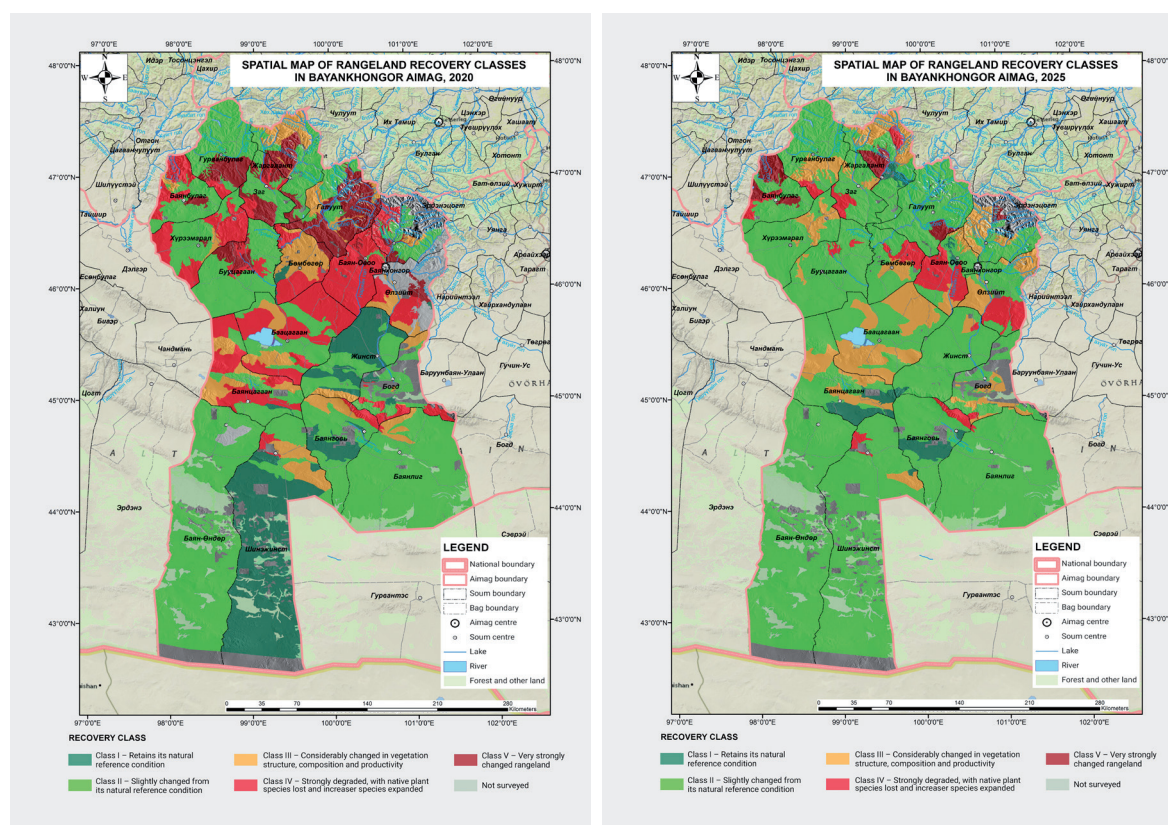
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, covered approximately 1,773–1,933 thousand hectares in 2020–2021, but declined to 932 thousand hectares in 2022. They increased again in 2023–2024 to 1,606–1,872 thousand hectares, but dropped sharply to 522 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that, in 2025, the area of rangelands fully retaining their reference condition decreased, with most areas shifting into Class II.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, covered 791 thousand hectares in 2020 and increased to 1,568 thousand hectares in 2021. In 2022–2023, this class ranged between 996 and 1,031 thousand hectares, before reaching its highest level in 2024 at 1,898 thousand hectares. In 2025, it declined to 1,068 thousand hectares, indicating a reduction in areas with moderate change.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 1,356 thousand hectares in 2020 but declined sharply to 662 thousand hectares in 2021. In the following years, this class fluctuated between 857 and 976 thousand hectares, before declining to 416 thousand hectares in 2025, the lowest level recorded during the study period. This indicates a positive trend, with the area of strongly degraded rangelands decreasing.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, covered 579–589 thousand hectares in 2020–2021, then declined to 391 thousand hectares in 2022. In 2023–2024, this class fluctuated at around 497–500 thousand hectares. In 2025, it declined to 158 thousand hectares, indicating a noticeable reduction in very strongly degraded areas.

DIAGRAM 16. Bayankhongor aimag rangeland Recovery Class dynamics, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Bayankhongor aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition where recovery is possible under appropriate use and management. The sharp increase in Class II areas in 2025, together with the decline in degraded rangelands under Classes IV–V, can be considered a positive change. However, the decrease in Class I rangelands shows that the area retaining its natural reference condition has declined. Therefore, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure and protect Class II–III rangelands with recovery potential through preventive management to avoid further degradation.

MAP 16. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Bayankhongor Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial distribution of rangeland recovery classes in Bayankhongor aimag between 2020 and 2025 shows that rangeland condition is uneven across the aimag, although certain changes can be observed. The spatial comparison for 2020–2025 indicates a positive trend, with most rangelands concentrated under Class II and an increase in areas with recovery potential.

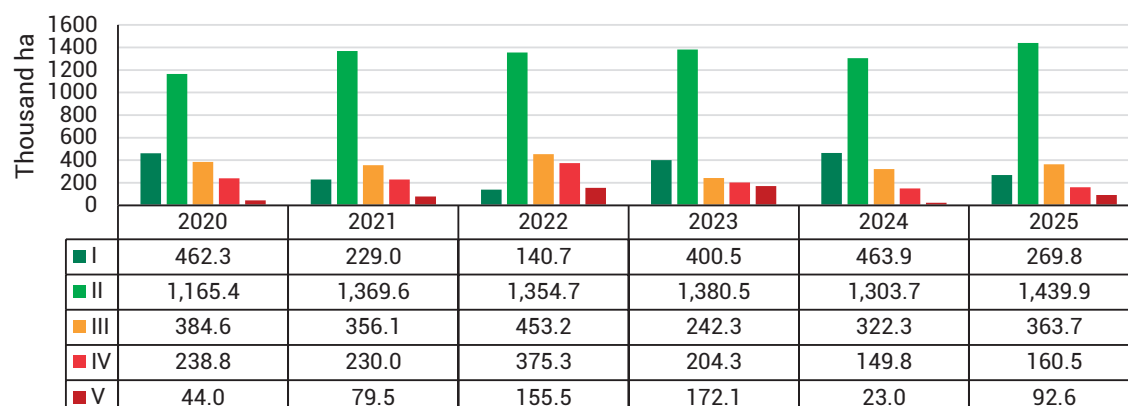
However, the distribution of degraded rangelands under Classes IV–V remains in some soums and regions. Therefore, grazing pressure needs to be regulated in a differentiated manner, seasonal rotation, resting and protection measures should be implemented, and restoration measures should be intensified in areas with high levels of degradation.

3.4.4. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN BULGAN AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Bulgan aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 1,165.4 thousand hectares in 2020, increasing to 1,369.6 thousand hectares in 2021, 1,354.7 thousand hectares in 2022 and 1,380.5 thousand hectares in 2023, remaining at a relatively high level. Although it declined slightly to 1,303.7 thousand hectares in 2024, it increased to 1,439.9 thousand hectares in 2025, reaching the highest level recorded during the study period.

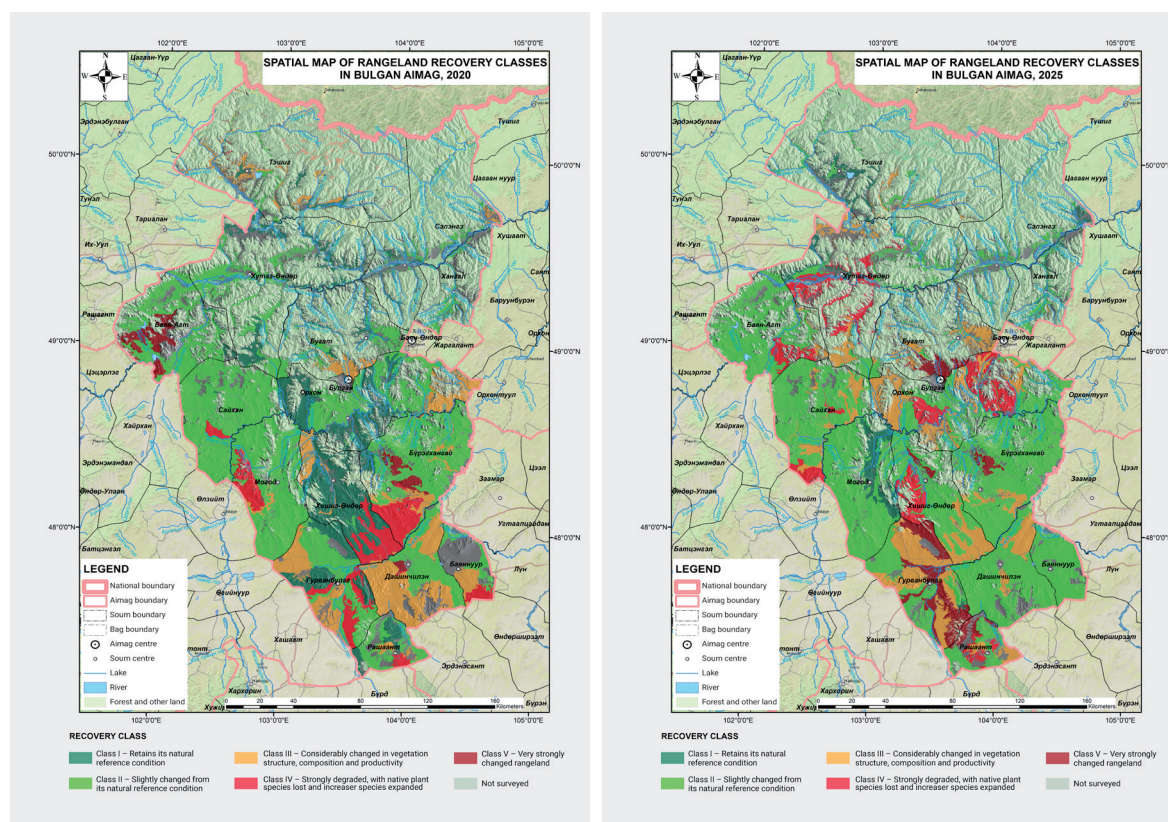
- ▶ **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, covered 462.3 thousand hectares in 2020, but declined during 2021–2022, reaching 140.7 thousand hectares in 2022. They increased again in 2023–2024 to 400.5–463.9 thousand hectares, but declined to 269.8 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that the area of rangelands retaining their reference condition fluctuated from year to year.
- ▶ **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, covered 384.6 thousand hectares in 2020 and 356.1 thousand hectares in 2021, before reaching their highest level in 2022 at 453.2 thousand hectares. Although this class declined to 242.3 thousand hectares in 2023, it increased again in 2024–2025 to 322.3–363.7 thousand hectares, indicating that rangelands with moderate change remain present to a certain extent.
- ▶ **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 238.8 thousand hectares in 2020 and 230.0 thousand hectares in 2021, before increasing to 375.3 thousand hectares in 2022. From 2023 onwards, this class declined, reaching 149.8 thousand hectares in 2024 and 160.5 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that the area of strongly degraded rangelands has decreased in recent years.
- ▶ **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, covered a relatively small area during the study period. This class covered 44.0 thousand hectares in 2020 and 79.5 thousand hectares in 2021, before increasing to 155.5–172.1 thousand hectares in 2022–2023. It then declined sharply to 23.0 thousand hectares in 2024, before increasing again to 92.6 thousand hectares in 2025.

DIAGRAM 17. Rangeland condition of Bulgan Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Bulgan aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition where recovery is possible under appropriate use and management. The increase in Class II areas in 2025, together with the decline in Class IV degraded rangelands compared with 2022, represents a positive trend. However, the continued presence of Class III areas and the renewed increase in Class V areas in 2025 show that degradation risks remain in some locations. Therefore, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure, improve seasonal rotation, and continue implementing measures to rest, protect and restore degraded rangelands.

MAP 17. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Bulgan Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial distribution of rangeland recovery classes in Bulgan aimag between 2020 and 2025 shows that certain changes have occurred in rangeland condition. Compared with 2020, the overall distribution of Class IV and Class V rangelands, representing strongly and very strongly degraded areas, showed a declining trend in 2025. However, these categories remain present in some southern and central parts of the aimag, indicating that the risk of rangeland degradation has not been fully eliminated. In other words, while the overall condition of rangelands in the aimag shows signs of improvement, spatially vulnerable and highly degraded hotspot areas remain.

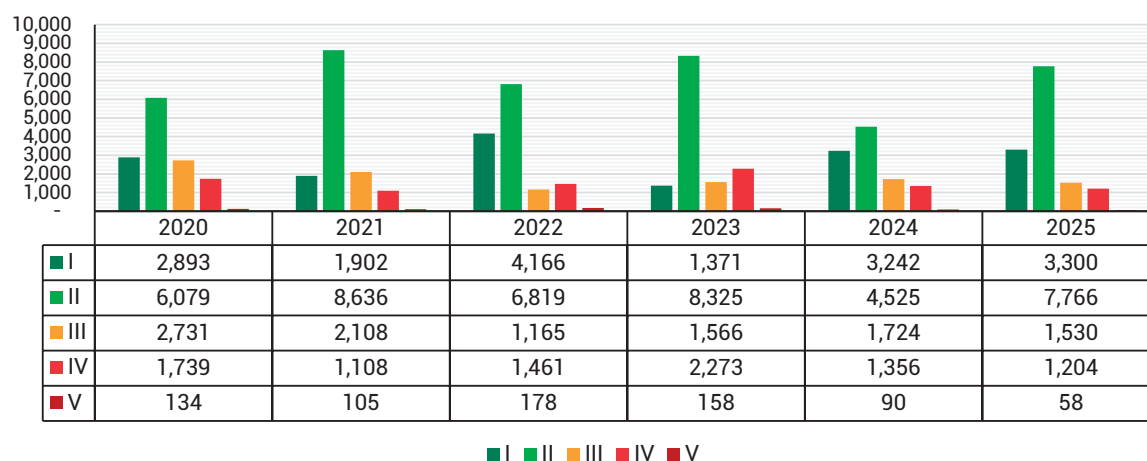
Therefore, the spatial comparison of Bulgan aimag's rangelands for 2020–2025 indicates a positive change, with an increase in the distribution of recoverable Class II rangelands and a relative decline in strongly degraded Class IV–V rangelands. Nevertheless, degradation persists in certain areas. It is therefore necessary to regulate grazing pressure in a spatially differentiated manner, improve seasonal rotation, resting and protection management, and continue implementing restoration measures in areas with high levels of degradation.

3.4.5. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN GOVI-ALTAI AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Govi-Altai aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 6,079 thousand hectares in 2020 and increased to 8,636 thousand hectares in 2021. It was 6,819 thousand hectares in 2022 and 8,325 thousand hectares in 2023. Although it declined to 4,525 thousand hectares in 2024, it increased again to 7,766 thousand hectares in 2025.

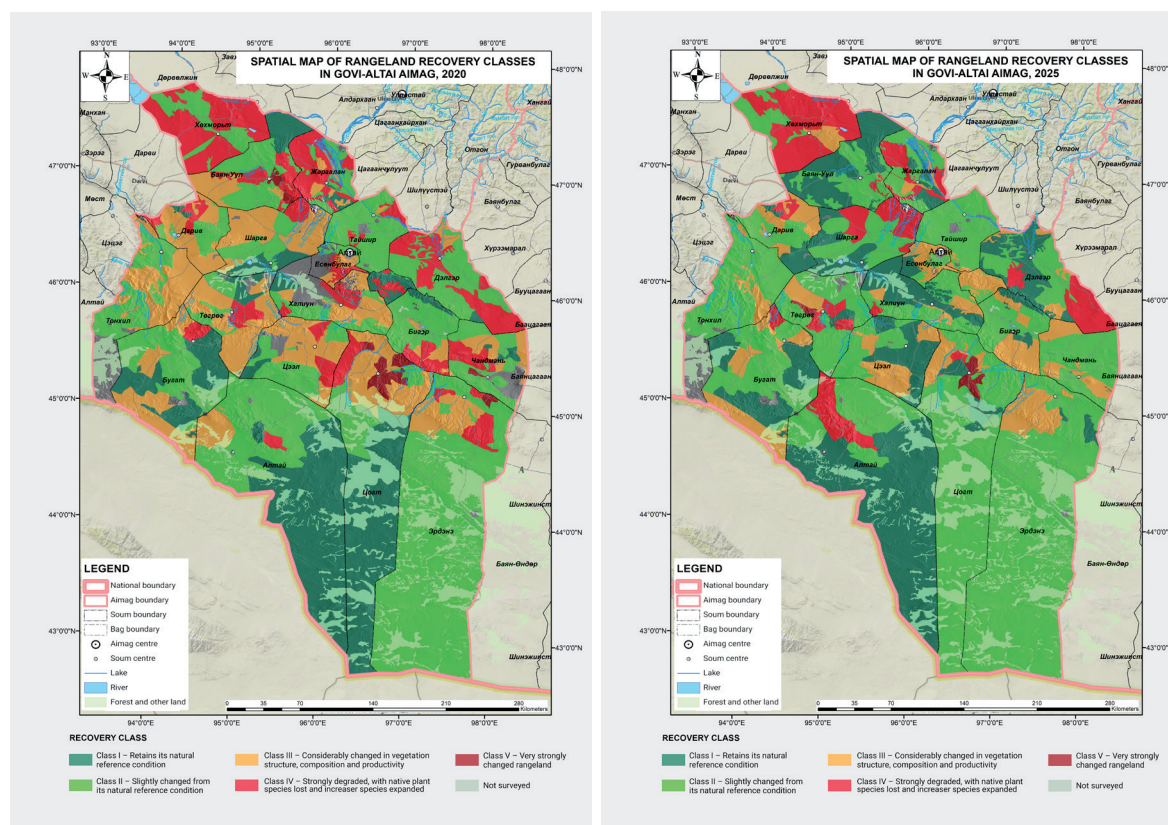
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, fluctuated during the study period. The area of this class was 2,893 thousand hectares in 2020, declined to 1,902 thousand hectares in 2021, and then reached its highest level in 2022 at 4,166 thousand hectares. It declined sharply to 1,371 thousand hectares in 2023, but stabilized at around 3,242–3,300 thousand hectares in 2024–2025. This indicates that the area of rangelands retaining their reference condition can vary considerably from year to year, depending on natural conditions and grazing pressure.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, covered 2,731 thousand hectares in 2020, then declined to 2,108 thousand hectares in 2021 and 1,165 thousand hectares in 2022. During 2023–2025, this class fluctuated at around 1,530–1,724 thousand hectares, indicating that rangelands with moderate change remain present to a certain extent.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 1,739 thousand hectares in 2020 and declined to 1,108 thousand hectares in 2021. This class then increased to 1,461 thousand hectares in 2022 and 2,273 thousand hectares in 2023, reaching the highest level recorded during the study period. It declined to 1,356 thousand hectares in 2024 and 1,204 thousand hectares in 2025, showing that strongly degraded areas have decreased over the last two years.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, covered a relatively small area in all years. This class covered 134 thousand hectares in 2020, 105 thousand hectares in 2021 and 178 thousand hectares in 2022. It then declined from 158 thousand hectares in 2023 to 90 thousand hectares in 2024 and 58 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that very strongly degraded areas account for only a small share of the total rangeland area.

DIAGRAM 18. Rangeland condition in Govi-Altai Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Govi-Altai aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition where recovery is possible under appropriate use and management. The increase in Class II areas in 2025, together with the decline in degraded rangelands under Classes IV and V, can be considered a positive change. However, as Class III–IV areas remain present to a certain extent, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure, improve seasonal rotation, rest and protect degraded areas, and continue implementing restoration measures where needed.

MAP 18. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Govi-Altai Aimag, 2020 and 2025



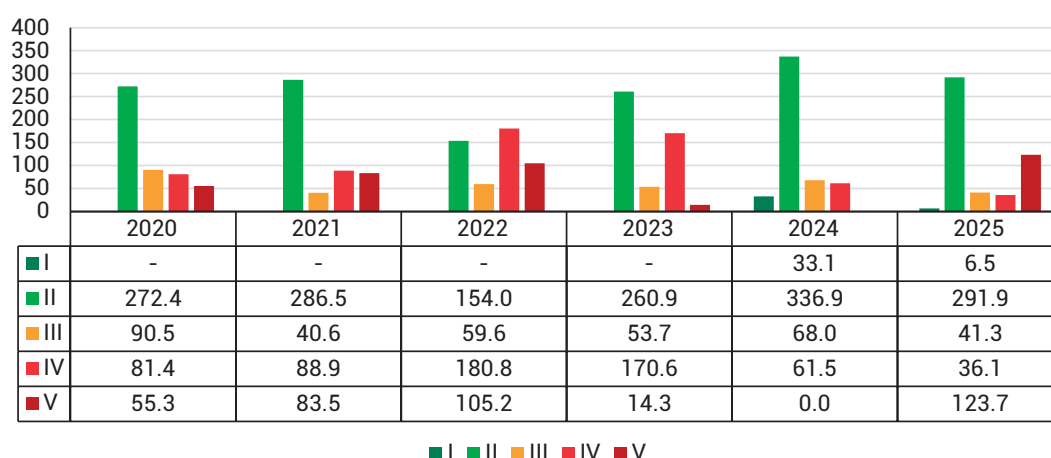
The spatial comparison for 2020–2025 shows an overall improving trend in rangeland condition in Govi-Altai aimag. In particular, the distribution of recoverable Class II rangelands has increased, while the distribution of degraded Class IV–V rangelands has declined relatively. However, Class III–IV degradation remains in some northern and central parts of the aimag. Therefore, grazing pressure needs to be regulated in a differentiated manner, seasonal rotation, resting and protection measures should continue to be implemented, and restoration efforts should be targeted towards areas with high levels of degradation.

3.4.6. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN GOVISUMBER AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Govisumber aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 272.4 thousand hectares in 2020 and 286.5 thousand hectares in 2021, before declining to 154.0 thousand hectares in 2022. It then increased to 260.9 thousand hectares in 2023 and 336.9 thousand hectares in 2024, and stood at 291.9 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that most rangelands in the aimag remain in a condition with recovery potential, although year-to-year fluctuations are considerable.

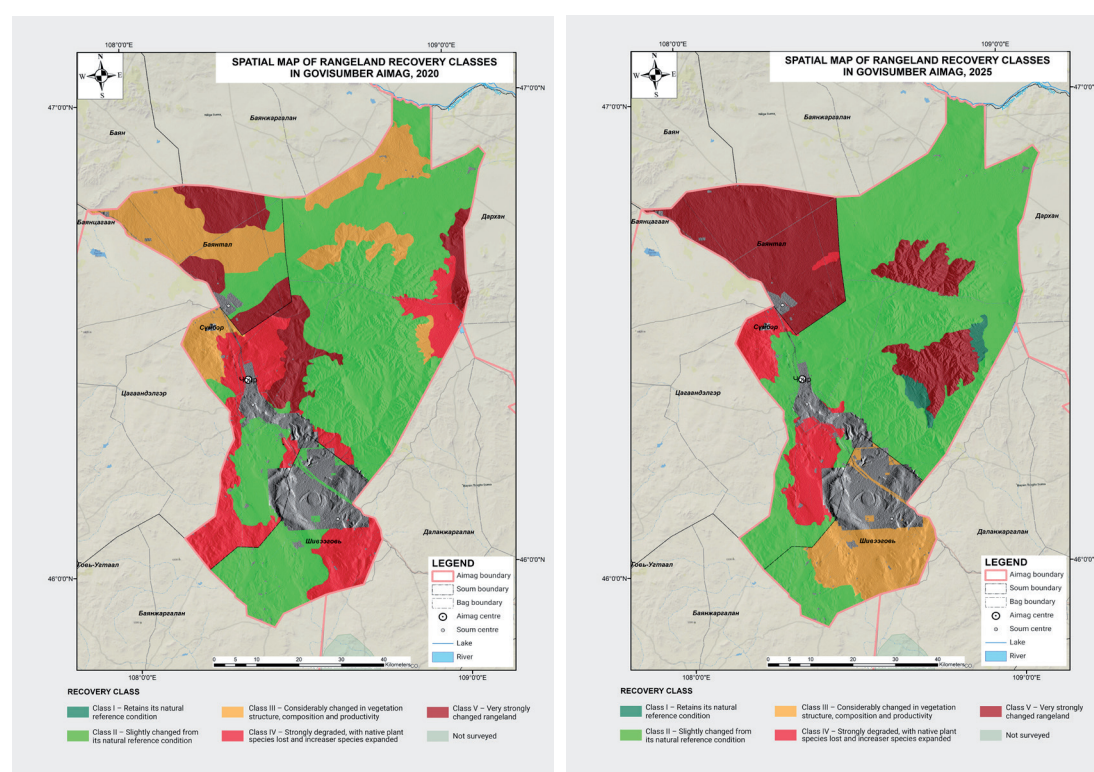
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, were not recorded during 2020–2023. They covered 33.1 thousand hectares in 2024 and 6.5 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that the area of rangelands fully retaining their reference condition is very limited at the aimag level.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, covered 90.5 thousand hectares in 2020, then fluctuated at 40.6 thousand hectares in 2021, 59.6 thousand hectares in 2022 and 53.7 thousand hectares in 2023. Although this class increased to 68.0 thousand hectares in 2024, it declined to 41.3 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating a relative decrease in areas with moderate change.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 81.4 thousand hectares in 2020 and 88.9 thousand hectares in 2021. This class increased sharply to 180.8 thousand hectares in 2022 and 170.6 thousand hectares in 2023. However, it declined to 61.5 thousand hectares in 2024 and 36.1 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating that strongly degraded areas have decreased in recent years.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, increased from 55.3 thousand hectares in 2020 to 83.5 thousand hectares in 2021 and 105.2 thousand hectares in 2022. This class then declined to 14.3 thousand hectares in 2023 and 0.0 thousand hectares in 2024. However, it increased sharply to 123.7 thousand hectares in 2025, which is a concerning indicator. This suggests that rangeland degradation may have reached a very severe level in some areas.

DIAGRAM 19. Rangeland condition in Govisumber Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Govisumber aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition where recovery is possible under appropriate use and management. However, rangeland condition in the aimag shows considerable year-to-year fluctuation. Strong degradation under Class IV increased in 2022–2023, while Class V very strongly degraded rangelands increased sharply in 2025. This shows that the risk of degradation has not fully declined. Therefore, Govisumber aimag needs to conduct a more detailed assessment of grazing pressure and urgently implement resting, protection and restoration measures in areas with high livestock concentration and severe degradation.

MAP 19. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Govisumber Aimag, 2020 and 2025



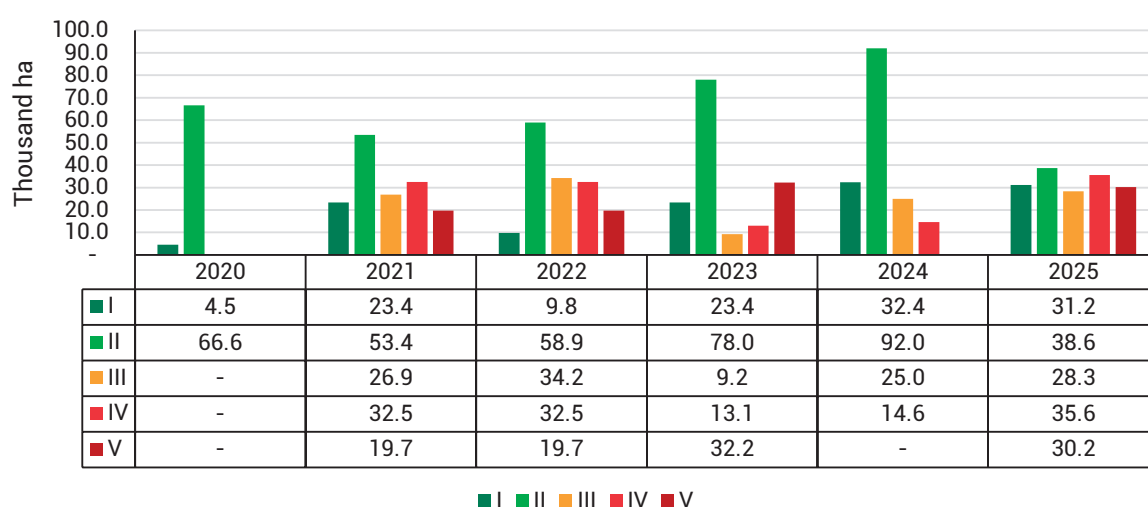
A comparison of the spatial distribution of rangeland recovery classes in Govisumber aimag between 2020 and 2025 shows considerable changes in rangeland condition. The spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 indicate that most rangelands in Govisumber aimag remained under Class II, meaning that they retained recovery potential. However, in 2025, Class IV–V degradation became clearly visible in some areas of the north-western, central and southern parts of the aimag. In particular, the distribution of Class V, representing very strongly degraded rangelands, increased. Therefore, grazing pressure should be regulated in a spatially differentiated manner, and priority should be given to resting, protecting and restoring degradation hotspot areas.

3.4.7. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN DARKHAN-UUL AIMAG

During the study period, rangeland condition in Darkhan-Uul aimag showed considerable year-to-year fluctuation. In 2020, most rangelands fell under Class II, with this class covering 66.6 thousand hectares, while Class I covered 4.5 thousand hectares. No Class III–V rangelands were recorded in that year.

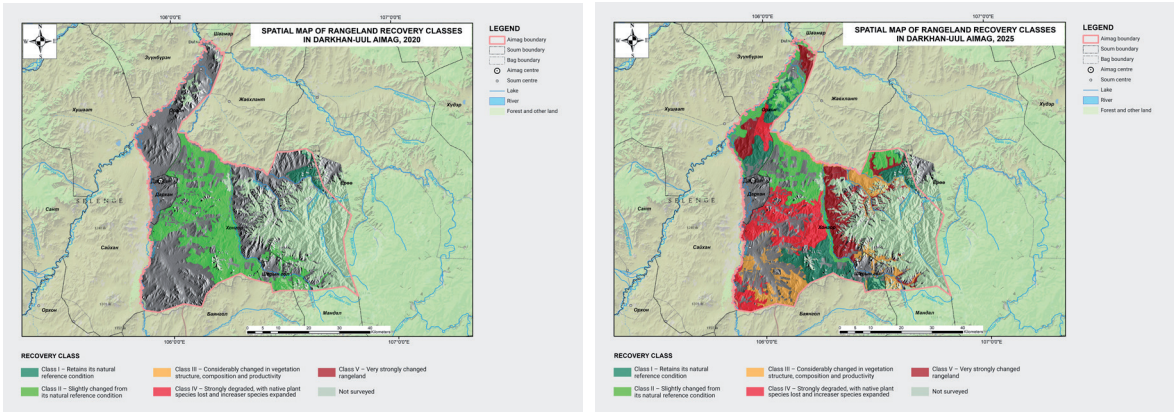
- **In 2021–2022**, rangeland condition became distributed across a wider range of classes, with increases in Classes III, IV and V. In particular, in 2021, Class IV covered 32.5 thousand hectares and Class V covered 19.7 thousand hectares, indicating the emergence of strongly and very strongly degraded areas. In 2022, Class IV remained at 32.5 thousand hectares and Class V at 19.7 thousand hectares, while Class III increased to 34.2 thousand hectares.
- **In 2023**, Class II rangelands increased to 78.0 thousand hectares, indicating an expansion of areas with recovery potential. However, Class V, representing very strongly degraded rangelands, increased to 32.2 thousand hectares, suggesting that degradation may have deepened in certain parts of the aimag.
- **In 2024**, Class II rangelands reached 92.0 thousand hectares, the highest level recorded during the study period. Class I also increased to 32.4 thousand hectares, indicating that some rangeland areas were in relatively good condition in that year. No Class V rangelands were recorded in 2024, which represents a positive change compared with the previous year.
- **In 2025**, rangeland condition changed again, with Class II declining to 38.6 thousand hectares. At the same time, Class IV increased to 35.6 thousand hectares and Class V to 30.2 thousand hectares, indicating a renewed expansion of strongly and very strongly degraded areas. Class I covered 31.2 thousand hectares, while Class III covered 28.3 thousand hectares, showing that rangeland condition was uneven and distributed across multiple classes.

DIAGRAM 20. Rangeland condition in Darkhan-Uul Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, rangeland condition in Darkhan-Uul aimag is unstable and highly variable from year to year. In 2024, the increase in Class I–II rangelands indicated the dominance of recoverable conditions. However, the sharp increase in Class IV–V degraded rangelands in 2025 is a concerning indicator. Therefore, it is necessary to conduct a detailed assessment of grazing pressure, rest and protect degradation hotspot areas, regulate livestock concentration and seasonal use, and implement restoration measures where needed.

MAP 20. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Darkhan-Uul Aimag, 2020 and 2025



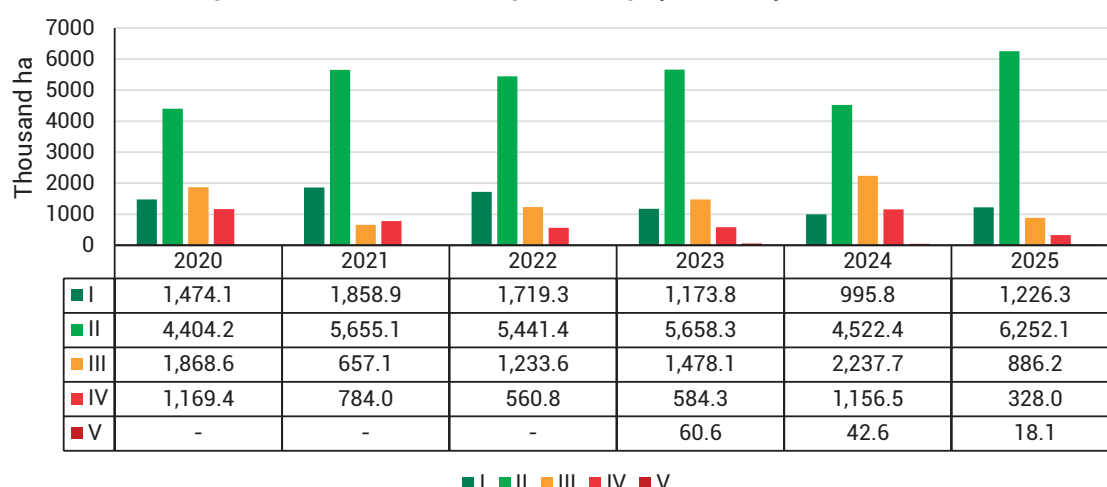
A comparison of the spatial maps of rangeland recovery classes in Darkhan-Uul aimag for 2020 and 2025 shows clear changes in rangeland condition. In 2020, Class II rangelands, which retain recovery potential, were dominant, while higher degradation classes were relatively limited. By 2025, however, the distribution of Class III–V rangelands had increased, and rangeland condition had become more spatially heterogeneous and differentiated. In particular, strongly and very strongly degraded rangelands increased in the central, western and northern parts of the aimag, indicating a growing risk of degradation. Therefore, grazing pressure should be reduced in areas with high degradation levels, and protection and restoration measures should be intensified.

3.4.8. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN DORNOGVI AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Dornogovi aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 4,404.2 thousand hectares in 2020 and remained at a high level, increasing to 5,655.1 thousand hectares in 2021, 5,441.4 thousand hectares in 2022 and 5,658.3 thousand hectares in 2023. Although it declined to 4,522.4 thousand hectares in 2024, it reached its highest level during the study period in 2025, at 6,252.1 thousand hectares.

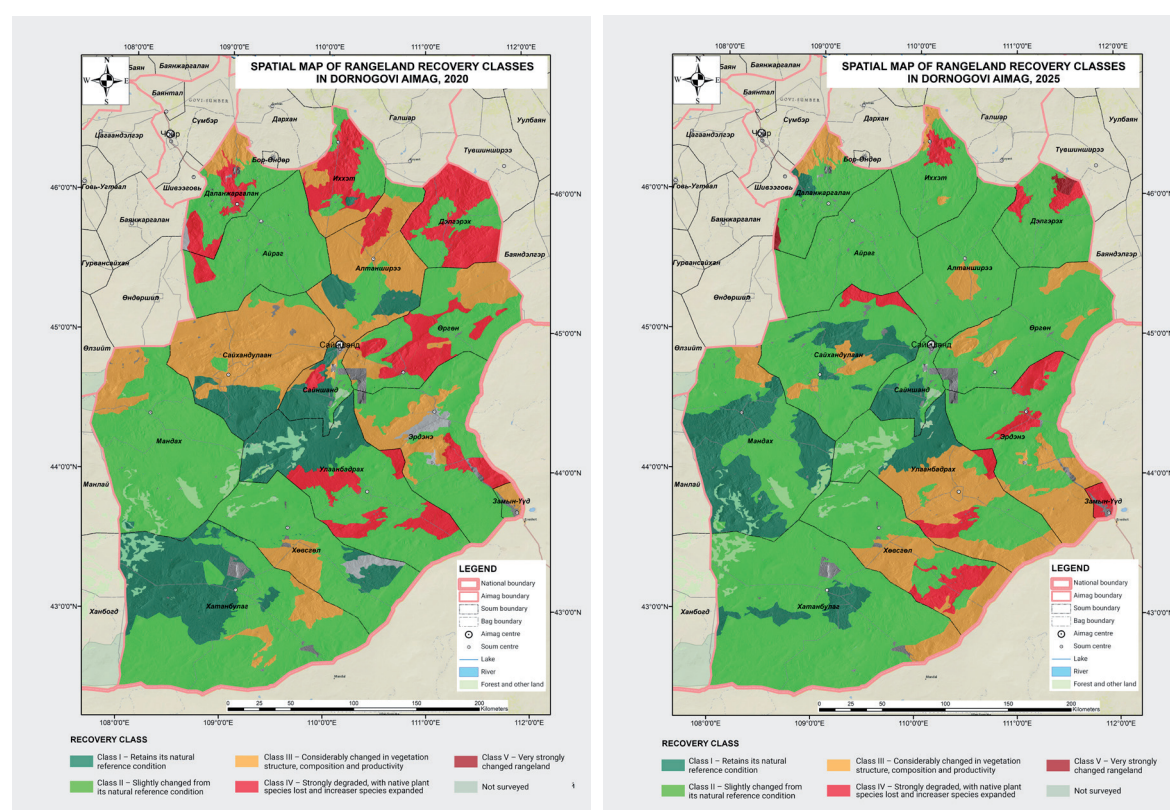
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, covered 1,474.1 thousand hectares in 2020, 1,858.9 thousand hectares in 2021 and 1,719.3 thousand hectares in 2022. This class then declined to 1,173.8 thousand hectares in 2023 and 995.8 thousand hectares in 2024. In 2025, it increased slightly to 1,226.3 thousand hectares, indicating that rangelands retaining their reference condition remain present to a certain extent.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, covered 1,868.6 thousand hectares in 2020 but declined to 657.1 thousand hectares in 2021. During 2022–2024, this class increased again, reaching its highest level in 2024 at 2,237.7 thousand hectares. In 2025, it declined to 886.2 thousand hectares, indicating a reduction in areas with moderate change.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, covered 1,169.4 thousand hectares in 2020, then declined to 784.0 thousand hectares in 2021, 560.8 thousand hectares in 2022 and 584.3 thousand hectares in 2023. Although this class increased again to 1,156.5 thousand hectares in 2024, it declined to 328.0 thousand hectares in 2025, the lowest level recorded during the study period. This indicates a noticeable reduction in strongly degraded areas in 2025.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, were not recorded during 2020–2022. They covered 60.6 thousand hectares in 2023, then declined to 42.6 thousand hectares in 2024 and 18.1 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that very strongly degraded rangelands occupy a relatively small area at the aimag level.

DIAGRAM 21. Rangeland condition in Dornogovi Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Dornogovi aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition where recovery is possible under appropriate use and management. The increase in Class II areas in 2025, together with the decline in Class III and Class IV areas, can be considered a positive change. However, the increase in Class III–IV areas in 2024 shows that rangeland condition fluctuates from year to year and that degradation risks remain in some areas. Therefore, it is necessary to use recoverable Class II rangelands appropriately, reduce grazing pressure on Class III–IV areas, and continue implementing seasonal rotation, protection and restoration measures.

MAP 21. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Dornogovi Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows an overall improving trend in rangeland condition in Dornogovi aimag. In 2020, rangeland classes were more spatially heterogeneous. Although recoverable Class II rangelands were dominant, Class III–IV areas showing change and degradation were widely distributed across the central, eastern, south-eastern and some northern parts of the aimag. Class I rangelands were concentrated mainly in the southern and south-western parts.

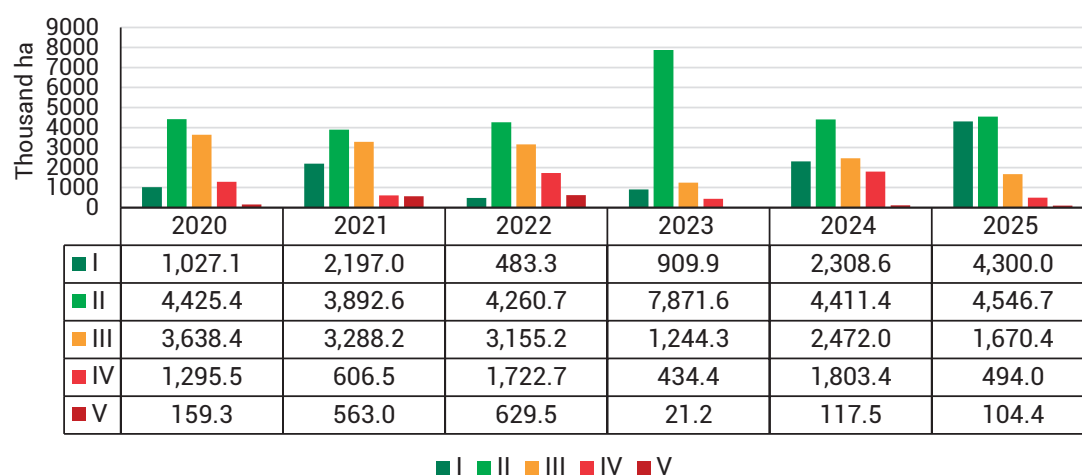
By 2025, the distribution of Class II rangelands had expanded significantly and become dominant across most of the aimag, indicating that the main share of rangelands had shifted into a recoverable condition. At the same time, the distribution of Class III–IV areas had contracted relatively and was concentrated mainly in parts of the central, southern and south-eastern areas. Therefore, while the overall rangeland condition in Dornogovi aimag has improved, grazing pressure should continue to be regulated in degradation hotspot areas, and protection and restoration measures should be maintained.

3.4.9. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN DORNOD AIMAG

During the study period, rangeland condition in Dornod aimag showed considerable year-to-year fluctuation. Class II rangelands, representing areas that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but still retain recovery potential, remained at a high level in all years. The area of Class II rangelands was 4,425.4 thousand hectares in 2020, 3,892.6 thousand hectares in 2021 and 4,260.7 thousand hectares in 2022, before increasing sharply to 7,871.6 thousand hectares in 2023. In 2024–2025, this class stabilized at around 4,411.4–4,546.7 thousand hectares.

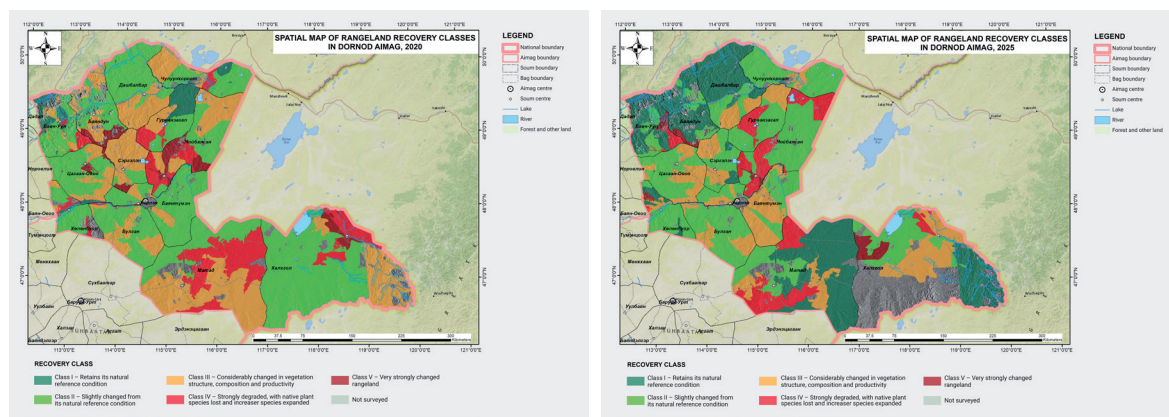
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, covered 1,027.1 thousand hectares in 2020, increased to 2,197.0 thousand hectares in 2021, and then declined to 483.3 thousand hectares in 2022. In 2024, this class increased to 2,308.6 thousand hectares, and in 2025 it rose sharply to 4,300.0 thousand hectares, indicating a significant expansion of rangelands in good condition in the most recent year.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, remained relatively high during 2020–2022, covering 3,155.2–3,638.4 thousand hectares. This class declined to 1,244.3 thousand hectares in 2023 and stood at 1,670.4 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating a declining trend in areas with moderate change.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, reached high levels in several years, covering 1,295.5 thousand hectares in 2020, 1,722.7 thousand hectares in 2022 and 1,803.4 thousand hectares in 2024. However, this class declined to 434.4 thousand hectares in 2023 and 494.0 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating a noticeable reduction in strongly degraded rangelands in the most recent year.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, increased to 563.0–629.5 thousand hectares during 2021–2022, but declined sharply to 21.2 thousand hectares in 2023. In 2024, this class covered 117.5 thousand hectares, and in 2025 it stood at 104.4 thousand hectares, indicating that very strongly degraded areas remained at a low level.

DIAGRAM 22. Rangeland condition in Dornod Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, the majority of rangelands in Dornod aimag fall within Classes I–II, meaning that they are in good condition or retain recovery potential. The sharp increase in Class I areas in 2025, together with the continued high level of Class II rangelands, indicates a positive trend in rangeland condition. Degraded rangelands under Classes IV–V also declined compared with 2024. However, as Class III areas remain present to a certain extent, it is necessary to continue implementing appropriate rangeland use, seasonal rotation and measures to regulate livestock concentration.

MAP 22. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Dornod Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows an improving trend in rangeland condition in Dornod aimag. In 2020, Class II rangelands with recovery potential were distributed across most of the aimag. However, Class III–IV rangelands showing change and degradation were also observed across considerable areas in the central, southern and eastern parts.

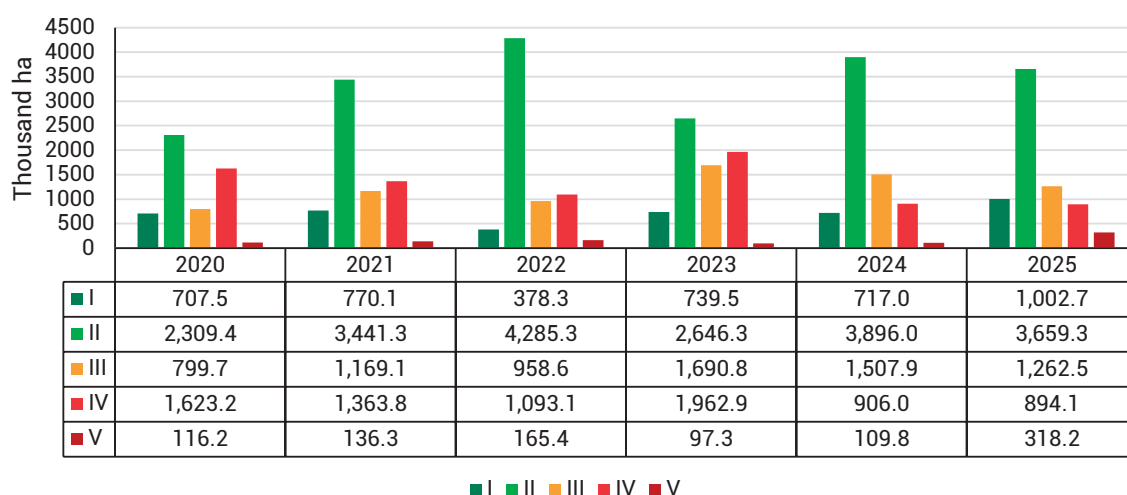
By 2025, the distribution of Class I rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, had increased, particularly in the northern and south-eastern parts of the aimag. Class II rangelands also remained widely distributed, indicating that the main share of the aimag's rangelands retained recovery potential. At the same time, the distribution of degraded Class IV–V areas had declined compared with 2020, although some remained in the central and southern parts. Therefore, while the overall condition in Dornod aimag has improved, grazing pressure still needs to be regulated in degradation hotspot areas.

3.4.10. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN DUNDGOVI AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Dundgovi aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 2,309.4 thousand hectares in 2020, increasing to 3,441.3 thousand hectares in 2021 and 4,285.3 thousand hectares in 2022. Although it declined to 2,646.3 thousand hectares in 2023, it remained at a high level in 2024–2025, reaching 3,896.0 thousand hectares in 2024 and 3,659.3 thousand hectares in 2025.

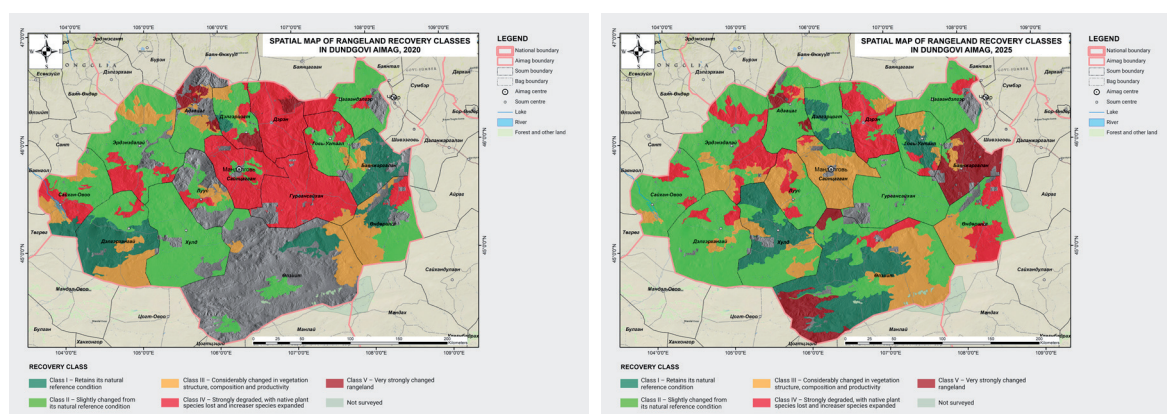
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, covered a relatively small area during the study period, although they increased in 2025. This class covered 707.5 thousand hectares in 2020 and 770.1 thousand hectares in 2021, before declining to 378.3 thousand hectares in 2022. In 2025, it increased to 1,002.7 thousand hectares, indicating an expansion of rangelands in good condition.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, covered 799.7 thousand hectares in 2020 and reached their highest level in 2023 at 1,690.8 thousand hectares. Although this class declined to 1,507.9–1,262.5 thousand hectares in 2024–2025, rangelands with moderate change remain present to a certain extent.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, reached high levels in 2020 and 2023, covering 1,623.2 thousand hectares and 1,962.9 thousand hectares, respectively. This class declined to 906.0 thousand hectares in 2024 and 894.1 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating a decreasing trend in strongly degraded areas in recent years.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, occupied a relatively small area overall, but increased in 2025. This class covered 116.2 thousand hectares in 2020, 136.3 thousand hectares in 2021 and 165.4 thousand hectares in 2022, before increasing to 318.2 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that the risk of deepening degradation remains in some areas.

Diagram 23. Rangeland condition in Dundgovi Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Dundgovi aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition with recovery potential. The continued high level of Class II rangelands in 2024–2025, together with the decline in Class IV degraded areas compared with 2023, represents a positive change. However, the continued presence of Class III areas and the increase in Class V areas in 2025 show that degradation risks have not fully declined. Therefore, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure, improve seasonal rotation, and implement resting, protection and restoration measures in areas classified as Classes IV–V.

MAP 23. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Dundgovi Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows clear changes in rangeland condition in Dundgovi aimag. In 2020, Class II rangelands with recovery potential were distributed across the western, central and eastern parts of the aimag. However, Class IV strongly degraded rangelands were also widely distributed in the northern, central and north-eastern areas. In addition, large unsurveyed areas were observed in the central and southern parts.

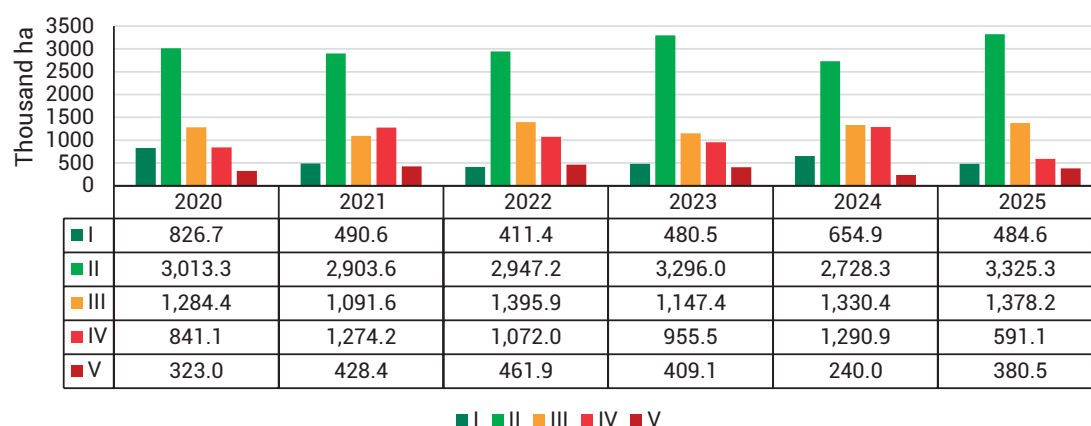
By 2025, the distribution of Class II rangelands had increased and become dominant across most of the aimag, indicating that recoverable rangeland condition prevailed. However, Class III–IV rangelands remained present in some central, northern and eastern areas. The increase of Class V areas in some locations also indicates that the risk of degradation has not been fully eliminated. Therefore, it is necessary to continue reducing grazing pressure and implementing resting and protection measures in degraded areas.

3.4.11. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN ZAVKHAN AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Zavkhan aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 3,013.3 thousand hectares in 2020, 2,903.6 thousand hectares in 2021 and 2,947.2 thousand hectares in 2022. It then increased to 3,296.0 thousand hectares in 2023 and 3,325.3 thousand hectares in 2025.

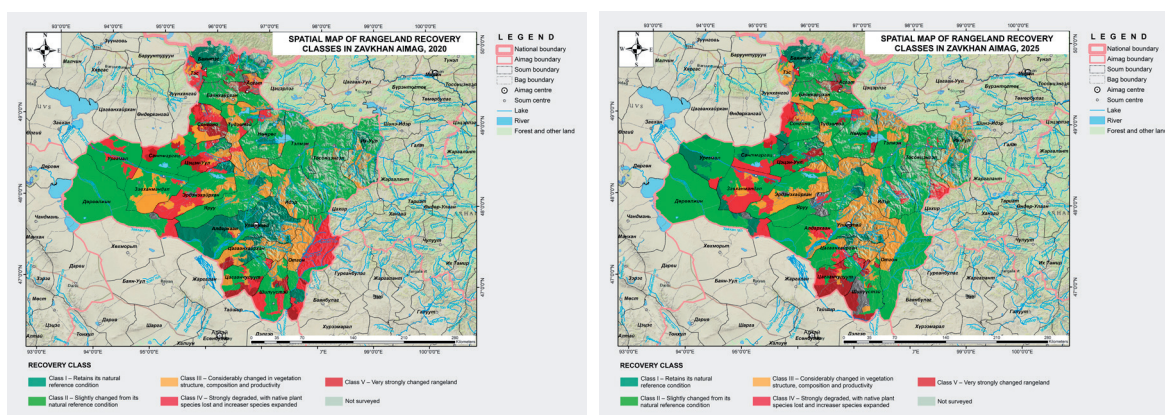
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, occupied a relatively small area in all years. This class covered 826.7 thousand hectares in 2020, then declined to 411.4–480.5 thousand hectares in 2022–2023. Although it increased to 654.9 thousand hectares in 2024, it declined again to 484.6 thousand hectares in 2025.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed, covered 1,284.4 thousand hectares in 2020 and remained at a high level, reaching 1,395.9 thousand hectares in 2022 and 1,378.2 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates that rangelands with moderate change remain relatively stable to a certain extent.
- **Class IV** rangelands, representing strongly degraded areas, reached high levels in 2021 and 2024, covering 1,274.2 thousand hectares and 1,290.9 thousand hectares, respectively. However, this class declined to 591.1 thousand hectares in 2025.
- **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, fluctuated between 240.0 and 461.9 thousand hectares during 2020–2025. Although this class accounts for a relatively small share of the total area, it indicates that areas at an advanced stage of degradation remain present to some extent.

DIAGRAM 24. Rangeland condition in Zavkhan Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Zavkhan aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition with recovery potential. The increase in Class II areas in 2025, together with the noticeable decline in Class IV degraded rangelands compared with 2024, represents a positive change. However, as Class III areas remain high and Class V areas persist to a certain extent, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure, rest and protect degraded areas, and continue implementing restoration measures.

MAP 24. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Zavkhan Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows certain changes in rangeland condition in Zavkhan aimag. In 2020, Class II rangelands with recovery potential were widely distributed across the western, central and some northern parts of the aimag. However, Class III–IV rangelands showing change and degradation were also observed across considerable areas in the central, southern and south-eastern parts.

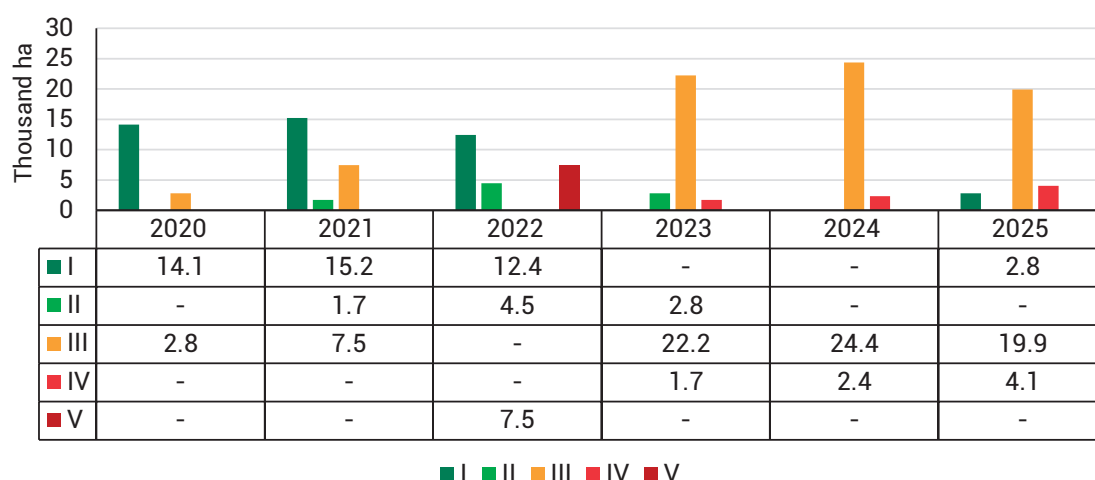
By 2025, the distribution of Class II rangelands had been maintained across most of the aimag and had increased in some areas. At the same time, Class III rangelands continued to be present in the central and eastern parts, while Class IV areas had declined in some locations compared with 2020. Nevertheless, Class IV–V degradation remained in some southern and central areas. Therefore, although rangelands with recovery potential are dominant in Zavkhan aimag, it is necessary to continue reducing grazing pressure and implementing resting and protection measures in degradation hotspot areas.

3.4.12. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN ORKHON AIMAG

As the rangeland area of Orkhon aimag is relatively small, changes in recovery classes appear to fluctuate sharply from year to year. During 2020–2022, Class I rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, were dominant, covering 14.1 thousand hectares in 2020, 15.2 thousand hectares in 2021 and 12.4 thousand hectares in 2022. This indicates that, during those years, certain parts of the aimag’s rangelands were in relatively good condition.

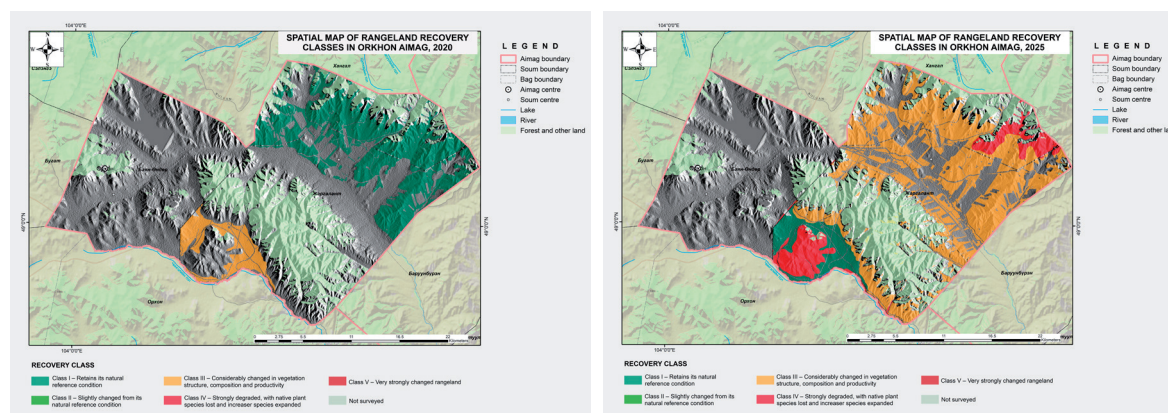
- **Class II** rangelands, representing slightly changed rangelands with recovery potential, were recorded at 1.7 thousand hectares in 2021, 4.5 thousand hectares in 2022 and 2.8 thousand hectares in 2023, but were not recorded in 2020, 2024 or 2025. This indicates that the distribution of Class II rangelands was not stable.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, increased sharply from 2023 onwards. This class covered 22.2 thousand hectares in 2023, 24.4 thousand hectares in 2024 and 19.9 thousand hectares in 2025, becoming the dominant class during the last three years. This shows that a considerable share of Orkhon aimag’s rangelands shifted into a moderately changed condition.
- **Class IV** rangelands, which show signs of strong degradation, increased from 1.7 thousand hectares in 2023 to 2.4 thousand hectares in 2024 and 4.1 thousand hectares in 2025. Class V rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, were recorded only in 2022, covering 7.5 thousand hectares.

DIAGRAM 25. Rangeland condition in Orkhon Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, rangeland condition in Orkhon aimag was relatively good during 2020–2022, when Class I rangelands were dominant. However, during 2023–2025, Class III became dominant, indicating an increase in moderate changes in vegetation structure and composition. The gradual increase in Class IV areas in recent years also suggests a growing risk of degradation. Therefore, it is necessary to monitor grazing pressure, protect the remaining areas in good condition, and implement resting, rotation and restoration measures on Class III–IV rangelands.

MAP 25. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Orkhon Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows a noticeable change in rangeland condition in Orkhon aimag. In 2020, Class I rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, were dominant in the eastern and north-eastern parts of the aimag, while a small area of Class III rangelands was observed in the central part. A relatively large unsurveyed area was also present, indicating the limited coverage of the mapping in that year.

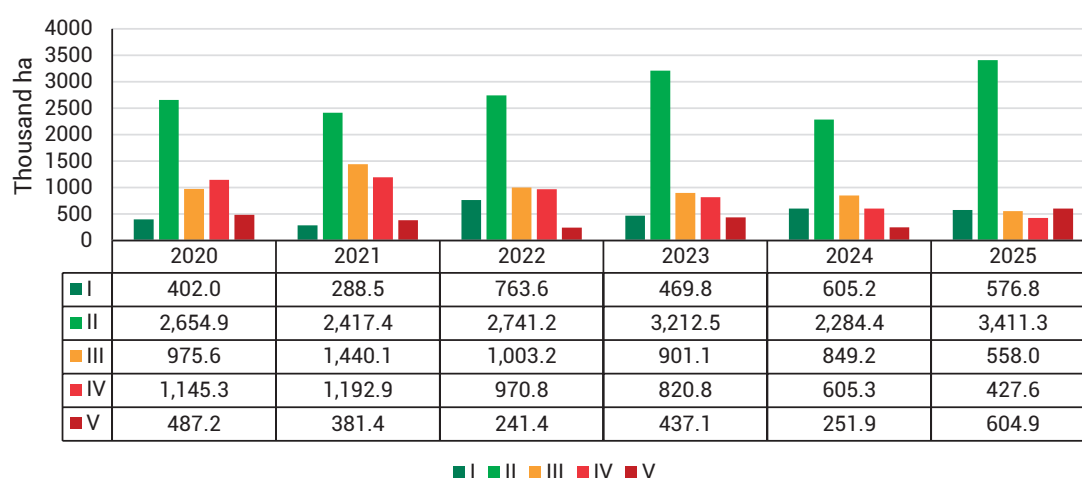
By 2025, the distribution of Class III rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed, had increased sharply and become dominant in the central, eastern and north-eastern parts of the aimag. At the same time, Class IV degraded rangelands were observed in some south-western and eastern areas, indicating an increased risk of degradation.

3.4.13. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN UVURKHANGAI AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in the aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands increased from 2,654.9 thousand hectares in 2020 to 3,212.5 thousand hectares in 2023 and 3,411.3 thousand hectares in 2025, showing that recoverable rangelands remained dominant across the aimag.

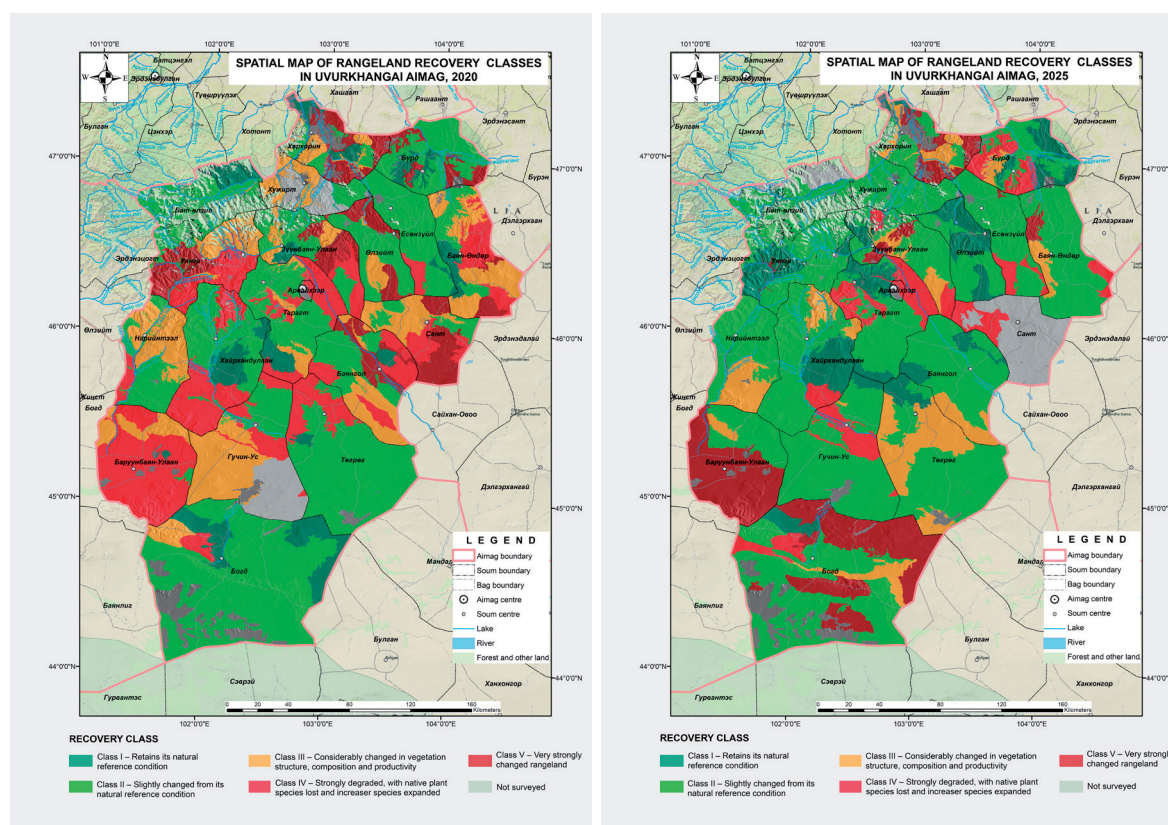
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, occupied a relatively small area during the study period. This class covered 402.0 thousand hectares in 2020, 763.6 thousand hectares in 2022 and 576.8 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating that rangelands retaining their reference condition remain present to some extent, although they do not account for a large share of the total area.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, reached their highest level in 2021 at 1,440.1 thousand hectares, before declining to 558.0 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates a decreasing trend in areas with moderate change in recent years.
- **Class IV** rangelands, representing strongly degraded areas, covered 1,145.3–1,192.9 thousand hectares during 2020–2021, but declined to 427.6 thousand hectares in 2025, which is a positive change. However, Class V rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, increased to 604.9 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating that the risk of deepening degradation remains in some areas.

Diagram 26. Rangeland condition in Uvurkhangai Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, most rangelands in Uvurkhangai aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a condition with recovery potential. The increase in Class II areas in 2025, together with the decline in Class III–IV areas, represents a positive change. However, the increase in Class V areas suggests that degradation may have deepened in some locations. Therefore, it is necessary to use recoverable rangelands appropriately and intensify protection, resting and restoration measures in Class V areas.

MAP 26. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Uvurkhangaï Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows certain changes in rangeland condition in Uvurkhangaï aimag. In 2020, Class II rangelands with recovery potential were widely distributed across the central, southern and some northern parts of the aimag. However, Class III–IV rangelands showing change and degradation were also observed across considerable areas in the western, central and eastern parts.

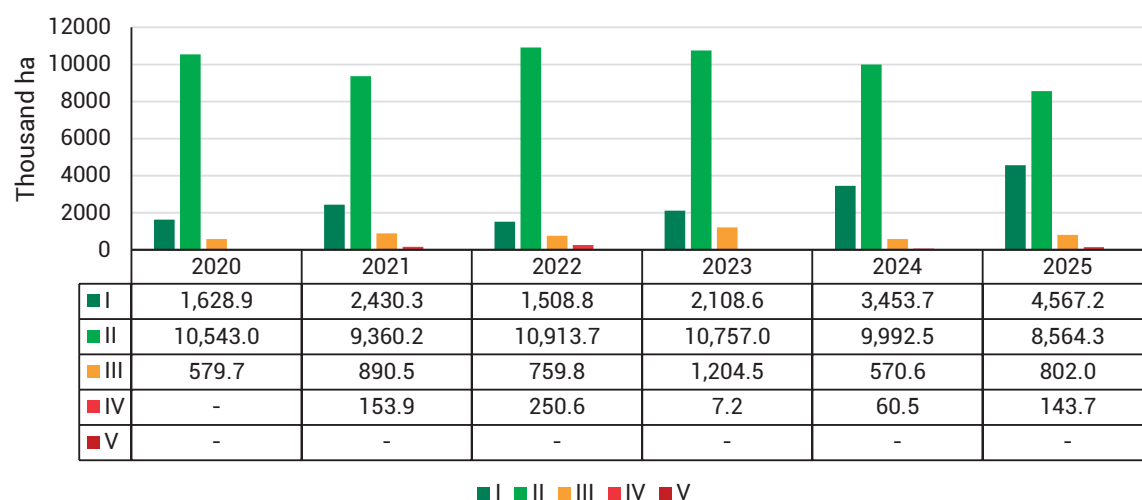
By 2025, the distribution of Class II rangelands had increased, and recoverable rangeland condition had become dominant across most of the aimag. Class I rangelands also remained in some areas, indicating that there are still places where natural condition has been relatively well maintained. However, Class IV–V degraded rangelands persisted in the south-western, southern and some central parts in 2025, indicating that degradation risks have not fully declined. Therefore, recoverable rangelands should be used appropriately, while resting, protection and restoration measures should continue in areas with high levels of degradation.

3.4.14. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN UMNUGOVI AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Umnugovi aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 10,543.0 thousand hectares in 2020, 10,913.7 thousand hectares in 2022 and 10,757.0 thousand hectares in 2023, before declining to 8,564.3 thousand hectares in 2025. Nevertheless, this class remained dominant in all years of the study period, indicating that the main share of the aimag's rangelands retained recovery potential.

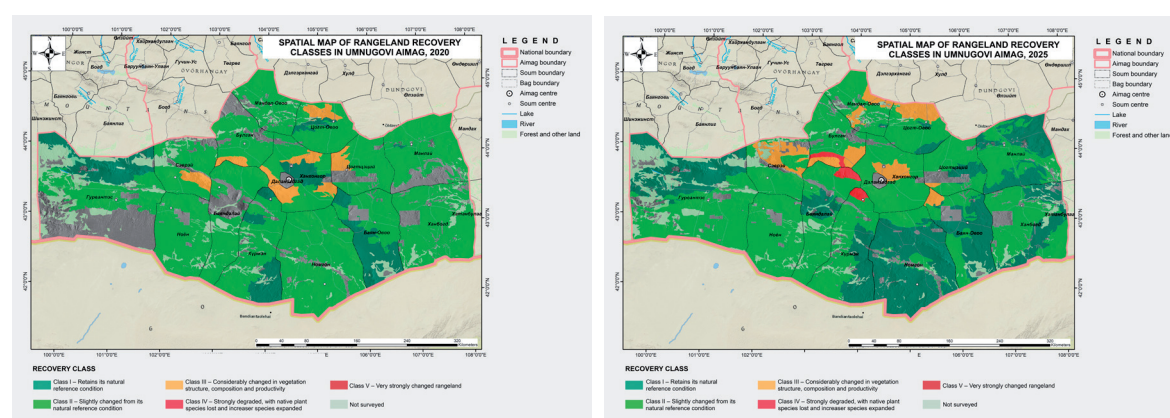
- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, covered 1,628.9 thousand hectares in 2020, but increased noticeably to 3,453.7 thousand hectares in 2024 and 4,567.2 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates a positive trend in recent years, with an increase in rangeland areas maintaining their natural condition.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, fluctuated between 570.6 and 1,204.5 thousand hectares during the study period. This class reached its highest level in 2023 at 1,204.5 thousand hectares, declined in 2024, and stood at 802.0 thousand hectares in 2025.
- **Class IV** rangelands, representing strongly degraded areas, occupied a relatively small area throughout the study period. This class covered 153.9 thousand hectares in 2021, 250.6 thousand hectares in 2022 and 143.7 thousand hectares in 2025. Class V rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, were not recorded during the study period.

DIAGRAM 27. Rangeland condition in Umnugovi Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha)



Overall, the majority of rangelands in Umnugovi aimag fall within Classes I–II, meaning that they either retain their natural condition or remain in a recoverable state. Although Class II areas declined in 2025, the noticeable increase in Class I areas indicates a positive change in rangeland condition. The low level of Class IV degradation and the absence of Class V rangelands also suggest that very strong degradation is relatively limited at the aimag level. Going forward, recoverable rangelands should be used appropriately, while grazing pressure should be monitored around water sources and in areas with high livestock concentration.

MAP 27. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Umnugovi Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows that rangeland condition in Umnugovi aimag was generally stable and had high recovery potential. In 2020, Class II rangelands, which had changed slightly from their natural reference condition, were dominant across most of the aimag. Class I rangelands were observed to some extent in the western and southern parts. Class III areas appeared locally in some central and northern areas, while Class IV–V degradation was almost absent.

By 2025, the distribution of Class I rangelands had increased in the western, southern and eastern parts, indicating an expansion of areas retaining their natural condition. Class II rangelands also remained dominant across most of the aimag, showing that the main share of rangelands retained recovery potential. Class III–IV changes were limited to some central areas.

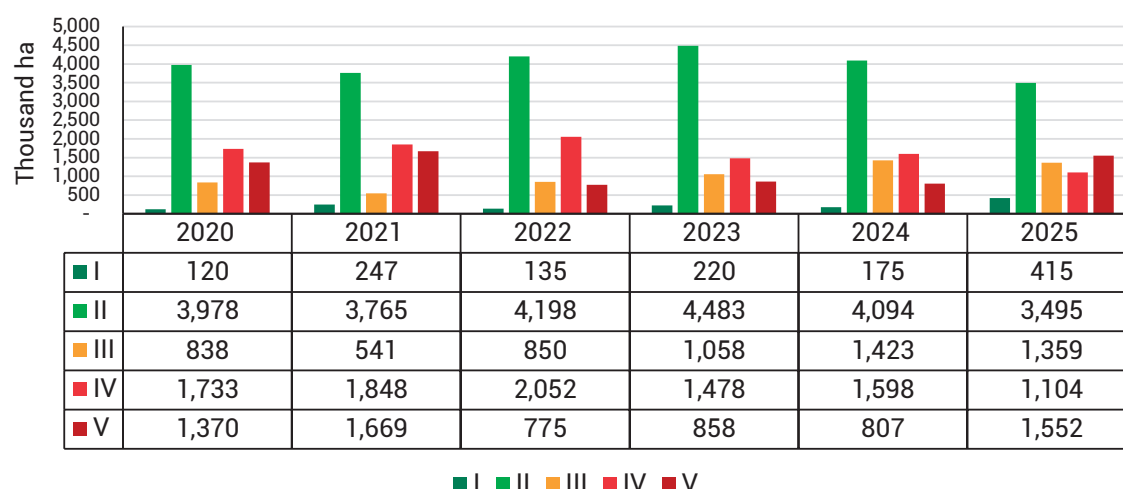
Therefore, rangelands in Umnugovi aimag during 2020–2025 can be characterized as being dominated by Classes I–II, with a low level of severe degradation. Going forward, it will be necessary to monitor grazing pressure around water sources, settlements and areas with high livestock concentration.

3.4.15. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN SUKHBAATAR AIMAG

During the study period, 2020–2025, the largest share of rangelands in Sukhbaatar aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The number of Class II monitoring points was 3,978 in 2020, 4,198 in 2022 and 4,483 in 2023, the highest value recorded during the study period, before declining to 3,495 in 2025. Nevertheless, this class remained dominant in all years of the study period, indicating that the main share of the aimag's rangelands retained recovery potential.

- **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition, increased noticeably from 120 in 2020 to 415 in 2025. This indicates a positive trend in recent years, particularly in 2025, with an increase in rangelands maintaining their natural condition.
- **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, fluctuated between 838 and 1,432 during the study period. This class reached a relatively high level in 2024 at 1,423, before declining to 1,359 in 2025.
- **Class IV** rangelands, representing strongly degraded areas, remained relatively stable throughout the period, ranging between 1,104 and 2,052, and declined to 1,104 in 2025. Class V rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, numbered 1,370 in 2020 and 1,669 in 2021. This class declined during 2022–2024, but increased again to 1,552 in 2025.

DIAGRAM 28. Rangeland condition in Sukhbaatar Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha

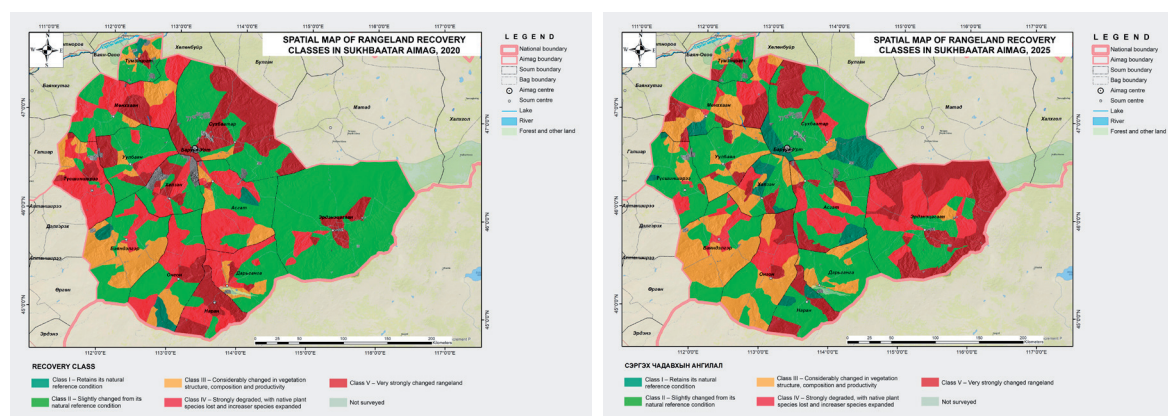


Overall, the majority of rangelands in Sukhbaatar aimag fall within Classes I–II, meaning that they either retain their natural condition or remain in a recoverable state. Although the number of Class II rangelands declined slightly in 2025, the noticeable increase in Class I rangelands indicates a positive change in rangeland condition.

However, the continued presence of Class IV and especially Class V degradation, with Class V increasing in 2025, indicates that degradation has deepened in some parts of the aimag and that desertification risk remains. This may be associated with factors such as livestock growth, excessive grazing pressure in some soums, and climate change impacts, including dry periods.

Going forward, it will be important to use recoverable rangelands under Classes II and III appropriately, monitor grazing pressure around water sources and areas with high livestock concentration, establish resting rangelands in Class IV–V areas, and strengthen collective management.

MAP 28. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Sukhbaatar Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows that rangeland condition in Sukhbaatar aimag was generally stable, although degradation appears to have increased in some areas. In 2020, Class II rangelands with recovery potential were dominant across most of the aimag, while Class I rangelands were observed only to a limited extent. Class III–IV degradation was present in the central, western and eastern parts, and Class V areas were also observed in some locations.

By 2025, Class I rangelands had increased, expanding the area in good condition, while Class II rangelands remained dominant across most of the aimag. However, Class V rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, expanded in the western and central parts, where the red colour became more prominent. Class IV degradation also continued to persist.

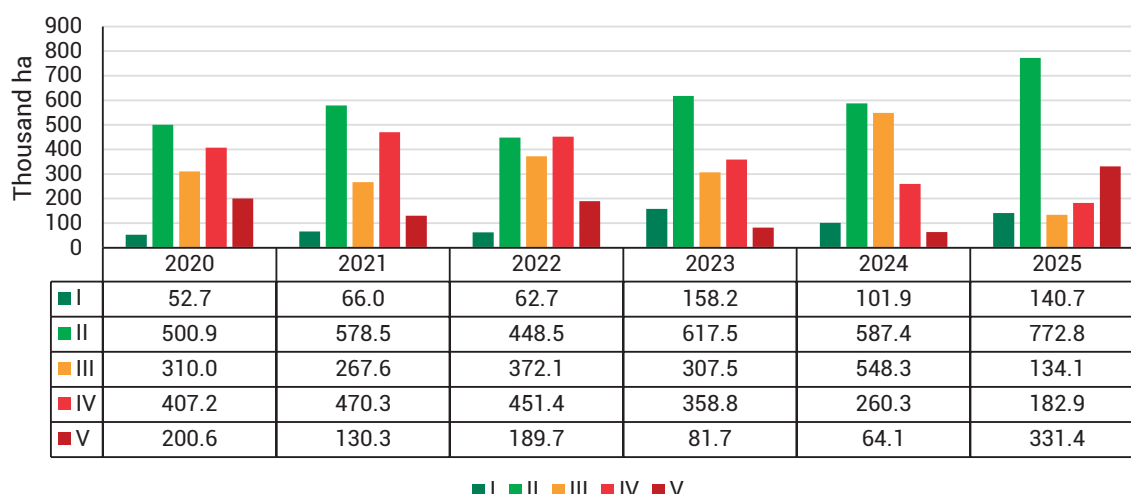
Therefore, rangelands in Sukhbaatar aimag during 2020–2025 can be characterized as being dominated by Classes I–II, while Class IV–V degradation remains relatively high. Going forward, grazing pressure should be strictly monitored in areas with high livestock concentration and around water sources, and resting rangelands should be established in Class IV–V areas.

3.4.16. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN SELENGE AIMAG

During the study period, the largest share of rangelands in Selenge aimag fell under Class II, representing rangelands that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but can recover under appropriate use and management. The area of Class II rangelands was 500.9 thousand hectares in 2020, 578.5 thousand hectares in 2021 and 448.5 thousand hectares in 2022. It then increased to 617.5 thousand hectares in 2023, 587.4 thousand hectares in 2024 and 772.8 thousand hectares in 2025. The fact that Class II reached its highest level in 2025 indicates that a certain share of the aimag's rangelands remained in a recoverable condition.

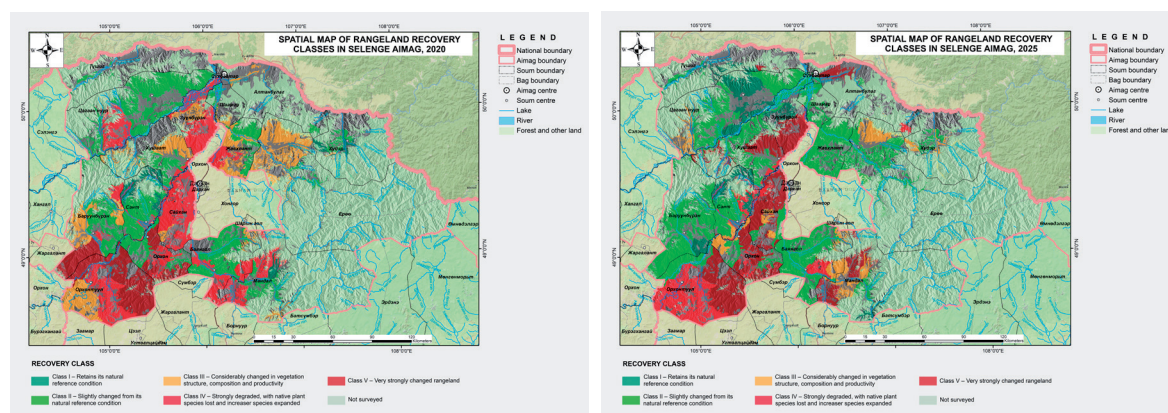
- ▶ **Class I** rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition relatively well, occupied a small area during the study period, although a fluctuating upward trend was observed. The area of Class I rangelands was 52.7 thousand hectares in 2020, 66.0 thousand hectares in 2021 and 62.7 thousand hectares in 2022, before increasing to 158.2 thousand hectares in 2023. Although it declined to 101.9 thousand hectares in 2024, it increased again to 140.7 thousand hectares in 2025, indicating that rangelands retaining their natural condition have increased to some extent.
- ▶ **Class III** rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, fluctuated considerably during the study period. This class covered 310.0 thousand hectares in 2020, 267.6 thousand hectares in 2021, 372.1 thousand hectares in 2022 and 307.5 thousand hectares in 2023, before increasing sharply to 548.3 thousand hectares in 2024. In 2025, however, it declined noticeably to 134.1 thousand hectares, which can be considered a positive change, as the area of Class III rangelands decreased.
- ▶ **Class IV** rangelands, representing strongly degraded areas, occupied relatively large areas during 2020–2022, but showed a declining trend from 2023 onwards. The area of Class IV rangelands was 407.2 thousand hectares in 2020, 470.3 thousand hectares in 2021 and 451.4 thousand hectares in 2022. It then declined consecutively to 358.8 thousand hectares in 2023, 260.3 thousand hectares in 2024 and 182.9 thousand hectares in 2025. This is a positive indication that the area of strongly degraded rangelands is decreasing.
- ▶ **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, showed unstable fluctuations during the study period. This class covered 200.6 thousand hectares in 2020, 130.3 thousand hectares in 2021 and 189.7 thousand hectares in 2022. It then declined to 81.7 thousand hectares in 2023 and 64.1 thousand hectares in 2024. However, it increased sharply to 331.4 thousand hectares in 2025, which is a matter of concern. This indicates that the area of rangelands showing signs of very strong degradation increased in that year. Therefore, the underlying causes should be examined in detail in relation to livestock numbers, grazing pressure, precipitation, drought impacts and other relevant factors.

DIAGRAM 29. Rangeland condition in Selenge Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, the majority of rangelands in Selenge aimag fall under Class II, meaning that they remain in a recoverable condition. The increase in Class II areas in 2025 and the decline in Class IV areas compared with previous years indicate certain positive changes in rangeland condition. However, the sharp increase in Class V areas in 2025 shows that the risk of rangeland degradation has not fully declined. Therefore, it is necessary to reduce grazing pressure in highly degraded areas, apply appropriate seasonal rotation, regulate areas with high livestock concentration, and intensify restoration measures.

MAP 29. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Selenge Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows that rangeland condition in Selenge aimag remained generally stable, with high recovery potential. In 2020, Class II rangelands were dominant across most of the aimag, while Class I rangelands were observed to a limited extent. Class III–IV degradation was found mainly in the central, western and south-eastern parts, while Class V occurred in some locations.

By 2025, Class II remained dominant, while Class I areas had increased, expanding the extent of rangelands in good condition. However, Class IV–V degradation continued in the central and western parts, and in some areas the red colour became more pronounced.

Therefore, rangelands in Selenge aimag during 2020–2025 can be characterized as being dominated by Classes I–II, with good recovery potential. However, the increase in Class V degradation in some areas is a matter of concern. Going forward, grazing pressure should be strictly monitored in areas with high livestock concentration and around water sources, and resting rangelands should be established in degraded areas.



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3.4.17. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN TUV AIMAG

Rangeland condition in Tuv aimag shows considerable fluctuation and indicates that recovery potential is below average.

Class II rangelands, representing areas that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition but retain recovery potential, covered 1,009.3 thousand hectares in 2020, increasing to 2,465.8 thousand hectares in 2023 and 2,502.7 thousand hectares in 2024, the highest level recorded during the study period. However, in 2025, this class declined to 1,942.5 thousand hectares, indicating instability. Although this class was dominant in most years, the main share of the aimag's rangelands remains in a condition that requires appropriate management.

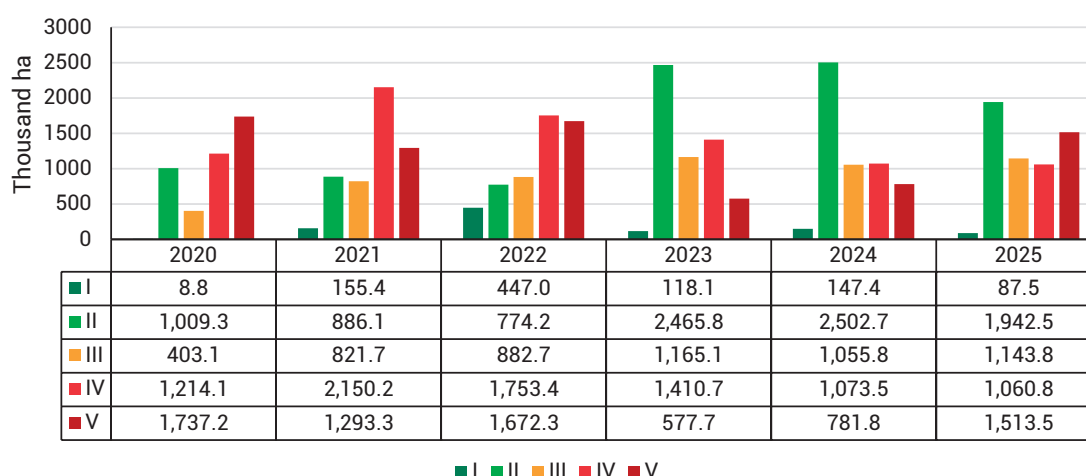
Class I rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition and are in very good condition, covered only 8.8 thousand hectares in 2020. This class increased to 447.0 thousand hectares in 2022, but then declined again, reaching 87.5 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that rangelands in good condition remain unstable and limited in area.

Class III rangelands, representing moderately degraded areas, fluctuated between 403 and 1,165 thousand hectares, and remained at around 1,000 thousand hectares during 2023–2025.

Class IV rangelands, representing strongly degraded areas, reached a very high level of 2,150.2 thousand hectares in 2021. This class declined from 2023 onwards, reaching 1,060.8 thousand hectares in 2025.

Class V rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas approaching a desertification state, covered 1,737.2 thousand hectares in 2020, 1,293.3 thousand hectares in 2021 and 1,672.3 thousand hectares in 2022. Although this class declined to 577.7 thousand hectares in 2023, it increased again to 1,513.5 thousand hectares in 2025. This warns that degradation has deepened in some parts of the aimag and that recovery may be difficult.

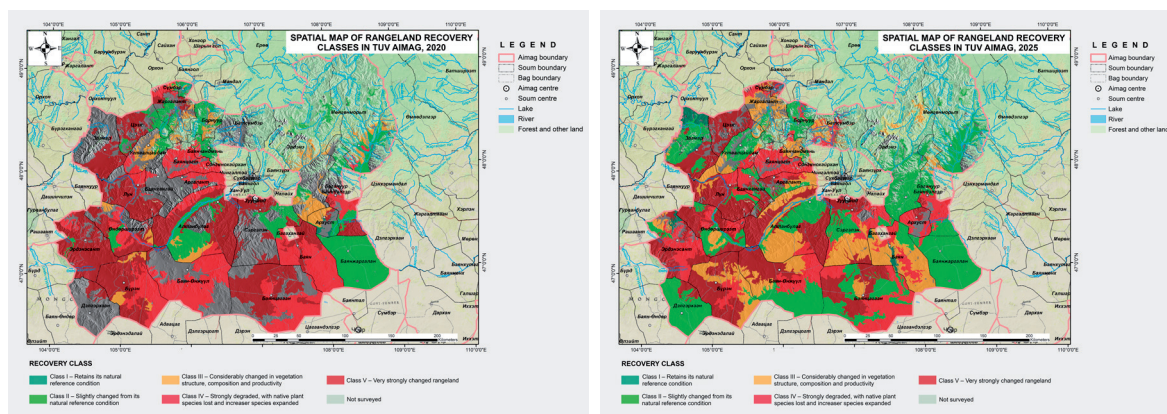
DIAGRAM 30. Rangeland condition in Tuv Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Although Class II rangelands are dominant in Tuv aimag, the relatively high level of strong degradation under Classes IV–V, which accounts for a substantial share of the total area, is a concern. A positive trend was observed in 2023–2024, when Class II increased noticeably. However, the decline of Class II and renewed increase of Class V in 2025 indicate instability.

This may be associated with livestock growth, excessive grazing pressure particularly around settlements and water sources, and climate change impacts.

MAP 30. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Tuv Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of the spatial maps for 2020 and 2025 shows that rangeland condition in Tuv aimag remained generally degraded and unstable. In 2020, Classes IV and V were dominant across much of the aimag, with strongly and very strongly degraded rangelands occupying extensive areas. Class II was limited to only some areas.

By 2025, Class II rangelands had increased, with the green colour becoming more prominent. However, the red and dark red colours representing Classes IV–V remained widely distributed. Strong degradation was particularly evident in the central, western and eastern parts of the aimag. Class I remained relatively limited.

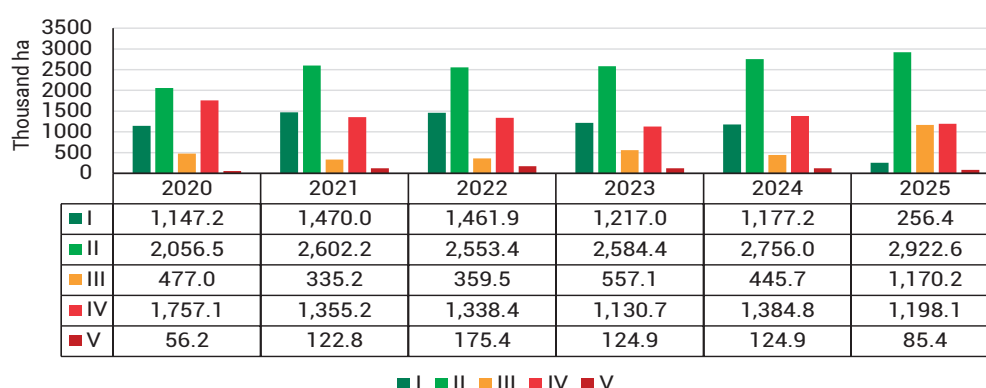
Therefore, rangelands in Tuv aimag during 2020–2025 can be characterized as having dominant Class IV–V degradation and relatively weak recovery potential. Although Class II expanded slightly, much of the aimag's total rangeland area remains strongly degraded. Going forward, grazing pressure should be strictly controlled in areas with high livestock concentration, resting rangelands should be established in Class IV–V areas, and restoration efforts should be intensified.

3.4.18. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN UVS AIMAG

The results show that the majority of rangelands in Uvs aimag are in a moderately stable and usable condition. In 2020, the area of Class II rangelands was 2,056.5 thousand hectares, increasing to 2,602.2 thousand hectares in 2021. It declined slightly to 2,553.4 thousand hectares in 2022, but then continued to increase, reaching 2,584.4 thousand hectares in 2023, 2,756.0 thousand hectares in 2024 and 2,922.6 thousand hectares in 2025. This indicates a steady increasing trend in the area of Class II rangelands in recent years.

- **Class I** rangelands, the area was 1,147.2 thousand hectares in 2020 and increased to 1,470.0 thousand hectares in 2021. In 2022, it remained almost unchanged at 1,461.9 thousand hectares, but declined to 1,217.0 thousand hectares in 2023 and 1,177.2 thousand hectares in 2024. In 2025, however, Class I declined sharply to 256.4 thousand hectares, which is the most notable change. This decline may indicate a sharp reduction in rangelands in good condition, or that parts of these areas shifted into other classes..
- **Class III** rangelands covered 477.0 thousand hectares in 2020. This class declined to 335.2 thousand hectares in 2021, then increased to 359.5 thousand hectares in 2022 and 557.1 thousand hectares in 2023. Although it declined again to 445.7 thousand hectares in 2024, it increased sharply to 1,170.2 thousand hectares in 2025. This increase may indicate a shift towards a condition below average. The simultaneous sharp decline in Class I and increase in Class III in 2025 is a trend that requires attention.
- **Class IV** rangelands covered 1,757.1 thousand hectares in 2020, the second-largest area after Class II in that year. This class then declined to 1,355.2 thousand hectares in 2021, 1,338.4 thousand hectares in 2022 and 1,130.7 thousand hectares in 2023. It increased to 1,384.8 thousand hectares in 2024, but declined again to 1,198.1 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that the area of Class IV rangelands, which may be under degradation pressure, fluctuated but declined to some extent compared with 2020.
- **Class V** rangelands occupied the smallest area throughout the study period. This class covered 56.2 thousand hectares in 2020, increased to 122.8 thousand hectares in 2021 and 175.4 thousand hectares in 2022. It declined to 124.9 thousand hectares in 2023, remained at the same level in 2024, and decreased to 85.4 thousand hectares in 2025. The relatively small area of the most degraded rangelands is a positive indicator, although the increase observed in 2022 may reflect a temporary rise in degradation during that period.

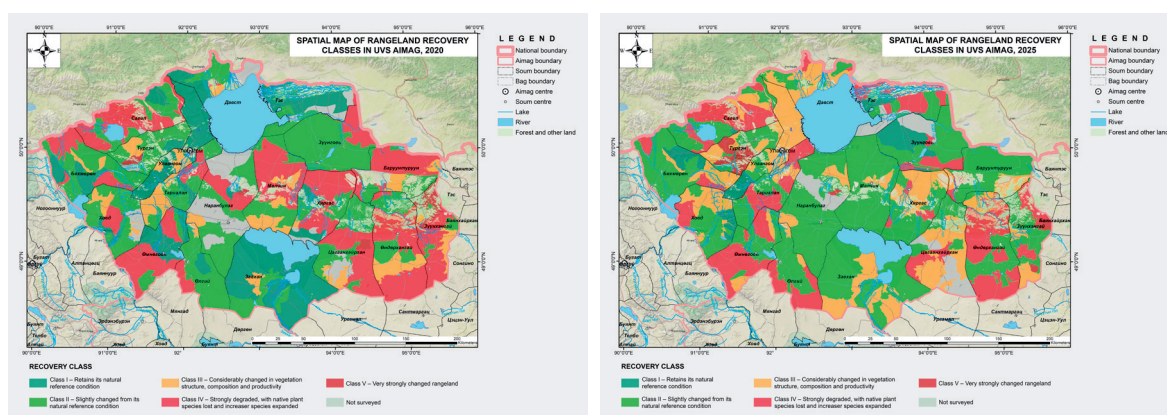
DIAGRAM 31. Rangeland condition in Uvs Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, in 2020, rangeland condition was distributed across several classes. Class II accounted for the largest area, while Class IV was also relatively high, indicating that medium-condition and degraded rangelands occupied a significant share. During 2021–2022, Class II increased and Class I remained relatively high, suggesting that rangeland condition may have improved to some extent. In 2023, the decline in Class I and increase in Class III indicated the beginning of a shift in condition. In 2024, Class II approached its highest level, while Class IV increased, suggesting that grazing pressure had intensified in some areas. In 2025, Class II reached its highest level at 2,922.6 thousand hectares, but Class I declined sharply to 256.4 thousand hectares, while Class III increased to 1,170.2 thousand hectares. This indicates a noticeable change in the quality structure of rangelands.

Therefore, the overall condition of rangelands in Uvs aimag can be characterized as follows: Class II rangelands are dominant, and the area of the most degraded Class V rangelands remains relatively small, which is a positive aspect. However, the sharp decline in Class I rangelands in good condition in 2025, together with the sharp increase in Class III areas, shows the need for better planning of rangeland use, livestock numbers, seasonal mobility, water supply and restoration measures. In particular, policies are needed to protect rangelands in good condition, rotate and rest moderately changed and degraded rangelands, and restore vegetation cover. The changes observed during 2020–2025 do not suggest that rangelands are fully degraded, but they do indicate qualitative instability and a tendency towards degradation in some classes.

Map 31. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Uvs Aimag, 2020 and 2025



Between 2020 and 2025, rangeland condition in Uvs aimag showed a decline in areas in good condition, continued dominance of medium-condition Class II rangelands, and an increase in Class III areas. This does not mean that rangelands are fully degraded, but it indicates qualitative instability and an increase in areas at risk of degradation. Therefore, it is necessary to rotate rangeland use, establish appropriate seasonal use schedules, reduce excessive livestock concentration, distribute water supply more evenly, and rest degraded areas.

3.4.19. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN KHOVD AIMAG

Based on the 2020–2025 results for Khovd aimag, Class II rangelands occupied the largest area in all years, showing that the main share of the aimag's rangelands was in a moderate condition. However, although Class I rangelands in good condition increased in some years, they declined sharply in 2025. At the same time, Class II reached its highest level in 2025, indicating a noticeable shift in rangeland structure.

► **In 2020**, Class II rangelands covered 3,577.8 thousand hectares, the largest area for that year. Class I covered 930.8 thousand hectares, Class III 1,197.8 thousand hectares, Class IV 698.5 thousand hectares and Class V 48.1 thousand hectares. This structure shows that medium-condition rangelands were dominant, while areas in good condition were relatively limited and Class III and IV rangelands showing signs of degradation were also present to a certain extent.

► **In 2021**, Class I increased sharply to 2,103.2 thousand hectares, which was a positive change. Class II declined to 3,154.3 thousand hectares compared with 2020, but remained the largest class. Class III covered 1,337.4 thousand hectares, Class IV 751.3 thousand hectares and Class V 57.1 thousand hectares. Although rangelands in good condition increased in that year, medium-condition and below-average rangelands still occupied large areas.

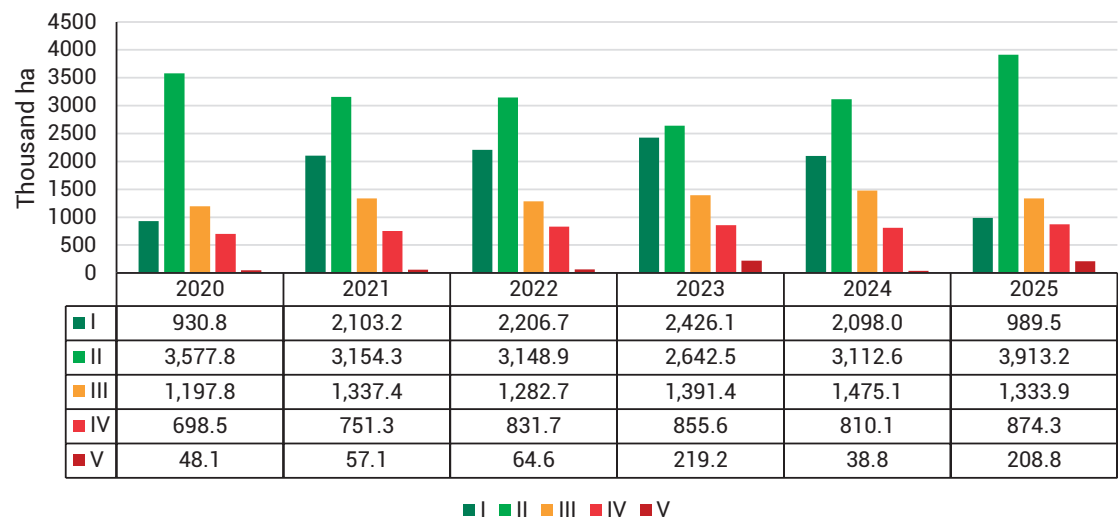
► **In 2022**, Class I increased slightly to 2,206.7 thousand hectares, while Class II remained almost stable at 3,148.9 thousand hectares. Class III covered 1,282.7 thousand hectares, Class IV 831.7 thousand hectares and Class V 64.6 thousand hectares. This structure was similar to 2021, and the high combined area of Classes I and II indicates that rangeland condition was relatively acceptable. However, the increase in Class IV may indicate that degradation was beginning to intensify in some areas.

► **In 2023**, Class I reached its highest level during 2020–2025, at 2,426.1 thousand hectares. Class II, however, declined to its lowest level, at 2,642.5 thousand hectares. Class III covered 1,391.4 thousand hectares, Class IV 855.6 thousand hectares and Class V 219.2 thousand hectares. The increase in rangelands in good condition was positive, but the sharp increase in Class V is the most concerning indicator. In other words, while areas in good condition increased, the area of rangelands in the poorest condition also became larger than in previous years.

► **In 2024**, Class II increased again to 3,112.6 thousand hectares, while Class I declined to 2,098.0 thousand hectares. Class III reached its highest level at 1,475.1 thousand hectares. Class IV covered 810.1 thousand hectares, while Class V declined to 38.8 thousand hectares, which is a positive indicator. Although Class V reached its lowest level in this year, the increase in Class III suggests that some rangelands had shifted towards a below-average condition.

► **In 2025**, Class II rangelands reached the highest value of the entire period at 3,913.2 thousand hectares. Class I declined sharply from 2024 to 989.5 thousand hectares. Class III covered 1,333.9 thousand hectares, Class IV 874.3 thousand hectares and Class V 208.8 thousand hectares. This shows that medium-condition rangelands dominated in 2025, while the area of rangelands in good condition decreased and Class IV and V rangelands showing signs of degradation may have increased.

DIAGRAM 32. Rangeland condition in Khovd Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha

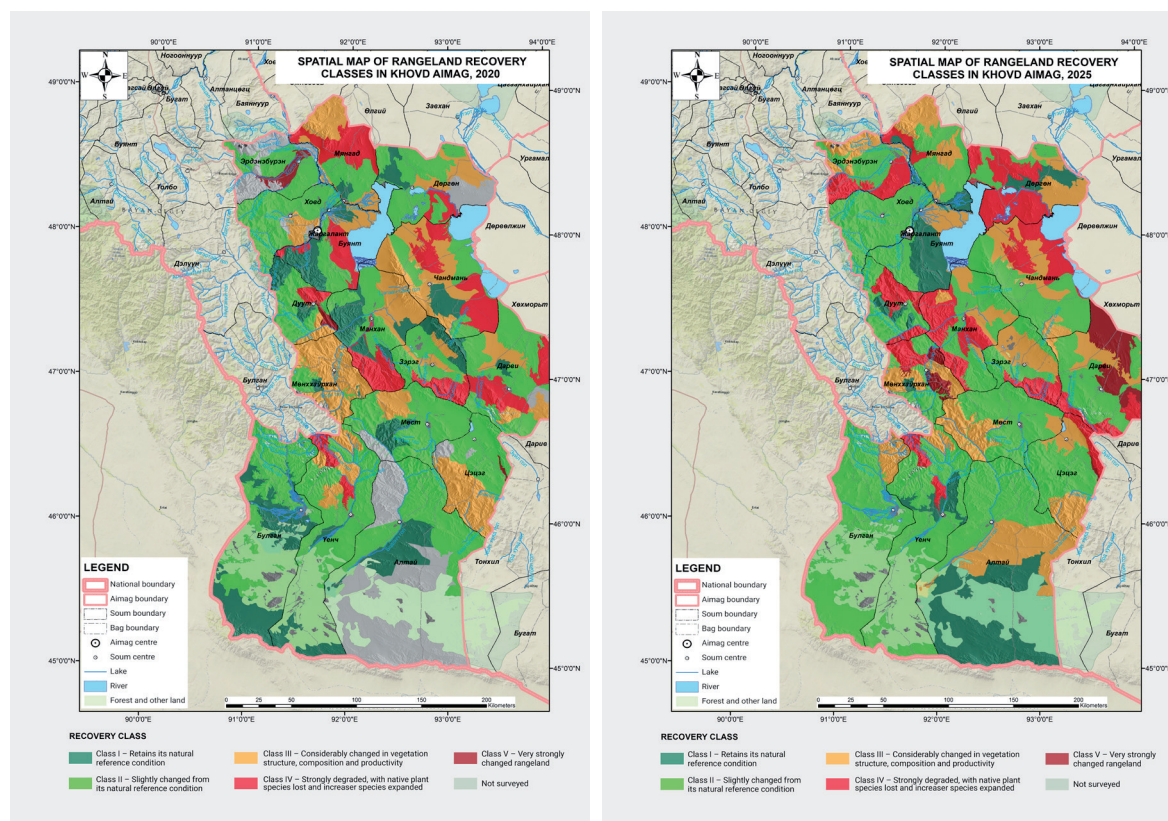


Overall, rangeland condition in Khovd aimag was consistently dominated by Class II. Class I remained relatively high during 2021–2024, but declined sharply in 2025. Class III fluctuated between 1,197.8 and 1,475.1 thousand hectares, remaining at a consistent level, which indicates that below-average rangelands are persistently present in the aimag. Class IV showed an increasing tendency, ranging from 698.5 to 874.3 thousand hectares, while Class V remained relatively small overall but increased noticeably in 2023 and 2025.

Therefore, the overall condition of rangelands in Khovd aimag cannot be described as fully degraded, but it is qualitatively unstable. The decline in Class I rangelands in good condition, the strong dominance of Class II, and the continued presence of Classes III–V may be associated with grazing pressure, precipitation variability, livestock concentration and uneven water availability.



MAP 32. Spatial Distribution and Change of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Khovd Aimag, 2020 and 2025



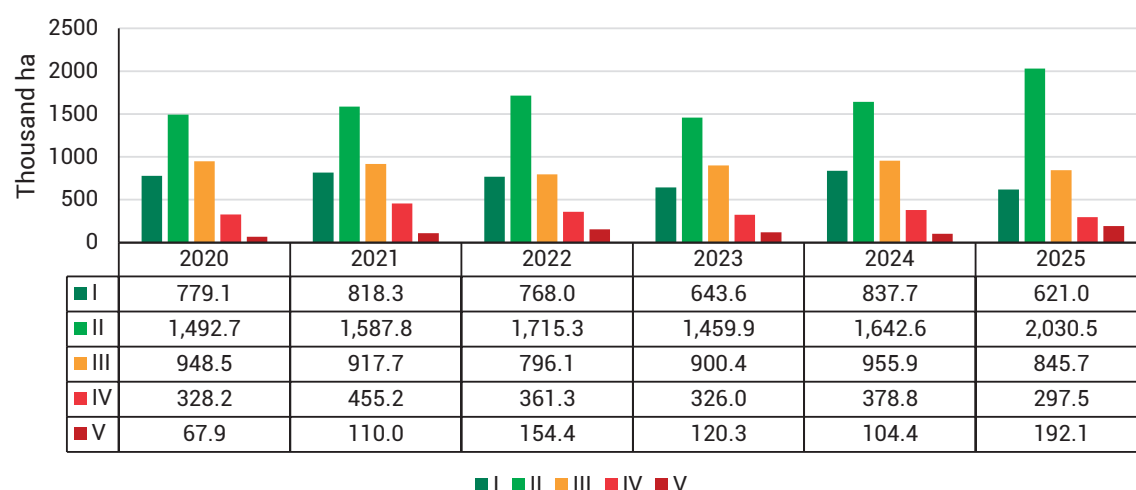
In comparative terms, between 2020 and 2025, rangeland condition in Khovd aimag continued to be dominated by medium-condition Class II rangelands, while Class I rangelands in good condition declined and areas showing signs of degradation under Classes III–V increased in some zones. This does not mean that rangelands are fully degraded, but it indicates qualitative instability and an increasing risk of degradation in certain areas.

3.4.20. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN KHUVSGUL AIMAG

Based on the 2020–2025 results for Khuvsgul aimag, Class II rangelands occupied the largest area in all years, indicating that the main share of the aimag's rangelands was in a moderate condition. However, Class I rangelands in good condition did not increase steadily and declined in 2025, while Class V rangelands, representing the poorest condition, increased in 2025. This is an indicator that requires attention.

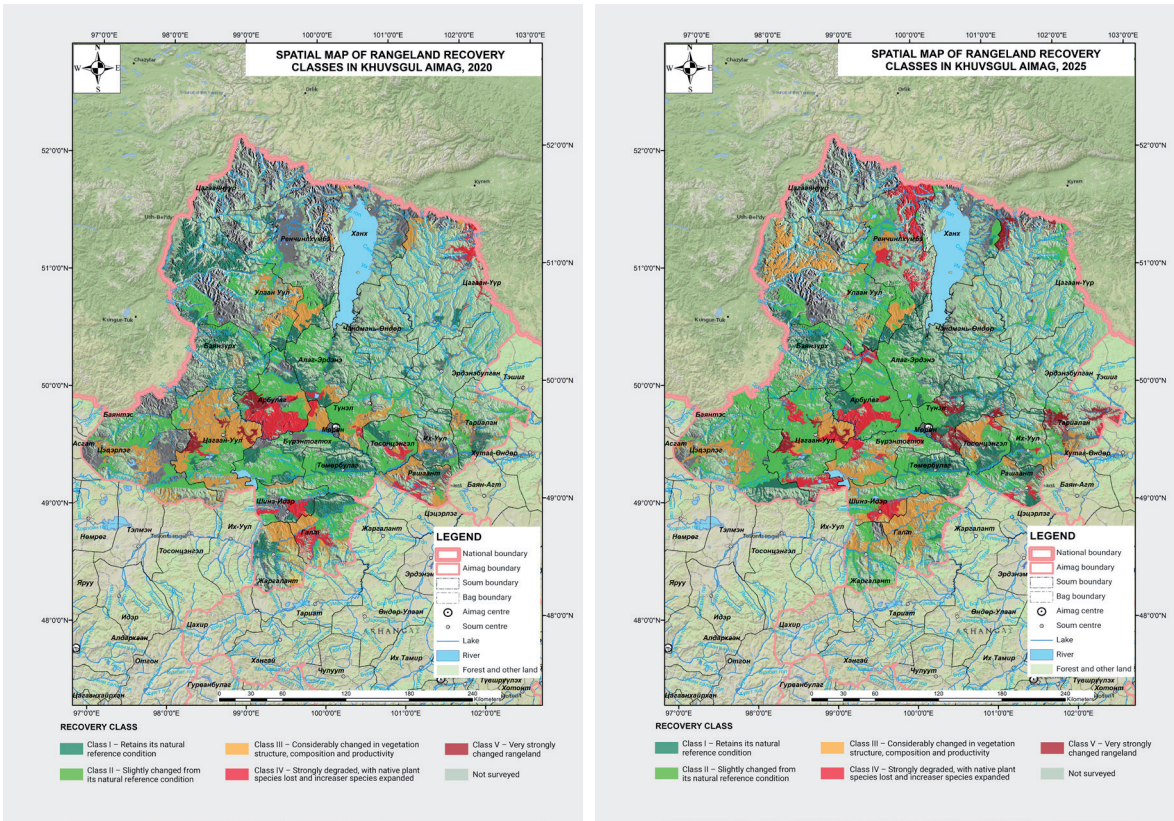
- Overall, rangeland condition in Khuvsgul aimag was consistently dominated by Class II, which reached its highest level in 2025. This indicates that most of the aimag's rangelands are in a usable, moderate condition. However, Class I declined from 837.7 thousand hectares in 2024 to 621.0 thousand hectares in 2025, showing a decrease in rangelands in good condition. Class III fluctuated between 796.1 and 955.9 thousand hectares throughout the period, remaining at a relatively high level and indicating the continued presence of below-average rangelands.
- **FOR CLASS IV**, the area reached its highest level in 2021 at 455.2 thousand hectares, but declined to 297.5 thousand hectares in 2025. This may be a positive indication that some degraded areas have decreased. However, Class V increased from 67.9 thousand hectares in 2020 to 192.1 thousand hectares in 2025, meaning that the area of rangelands in the poorest condition has expanded.

DIAGRAM 33. Rangeland condition in Khuvsgul Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, rangelands in Khuvsgul aimag cannot be described as fully degraded. However, the decline in Class I areas in good condition, the strong dominance of Class II, and the continued presence of Class III and Class V areas indicate that rangeland quality is unstable. Going forward, it is necessary to protect rangelands in good condition, rotate the use of Class III–V areas, rest degraded areas, reduce livestock concentration, and regulate water supply more evenly. As of 2025, rangeland condition in Khuvsgul aimag is dominated by a moderate condition, but areas at risk of degradation require careful management.

MAP 33. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Khuvsgul Aimag, 2020 and 2025



Between 2020 and 2025, rangeland condition in Khuvsgul aimag continued to be dominated by Class II, representing rangelands in moderate condition. This indicates that there is no basis for considering the aimag’s rangelands as fully degraded. However, the decline in Class I rangelands in good condition, together with the increase of Class III–V areas showing signs of degradation or degradation risk in some zones, indicates that rangeland quality is unstable.

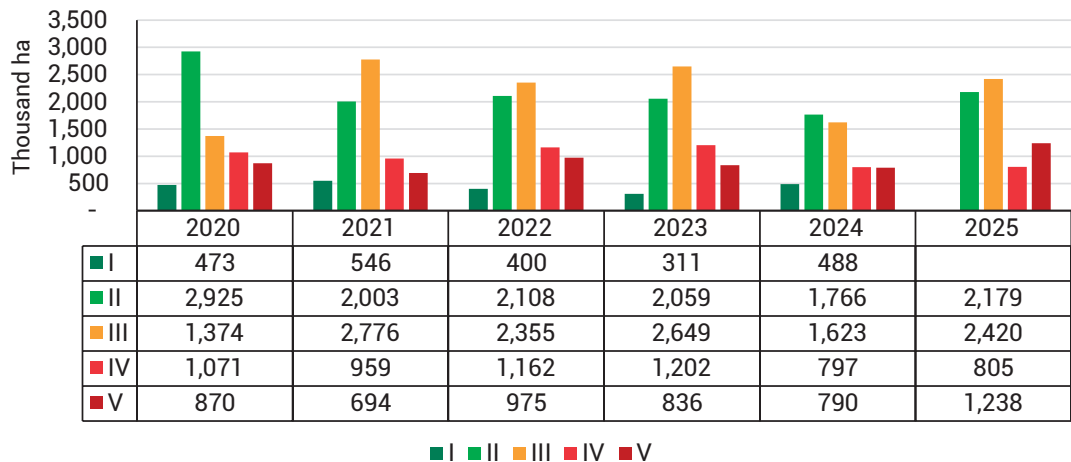
In particular, factors such as livestock concentration, repeated use and uneven water availability are increasing the risk of degradation in certain areas. Therefore, it is necessary to protect rangelands in good condition, prevent moderate-condition rangelands from degrading further, rest degraded areas, apply rotational use, and maintain livestock pressure at an appropriate level.

3.4.21. ASSESSMENT OF RANGELAND RECOVERY IN KHENTII AIMAG

During the study period, the largest shares of rangelands in Khentii aimag fell under Classes II and III. In other words, most of the aimag's rangelands have changed to some extent from their natural reference condition, but remain recoverable under appropriate use, protection and rotational management.

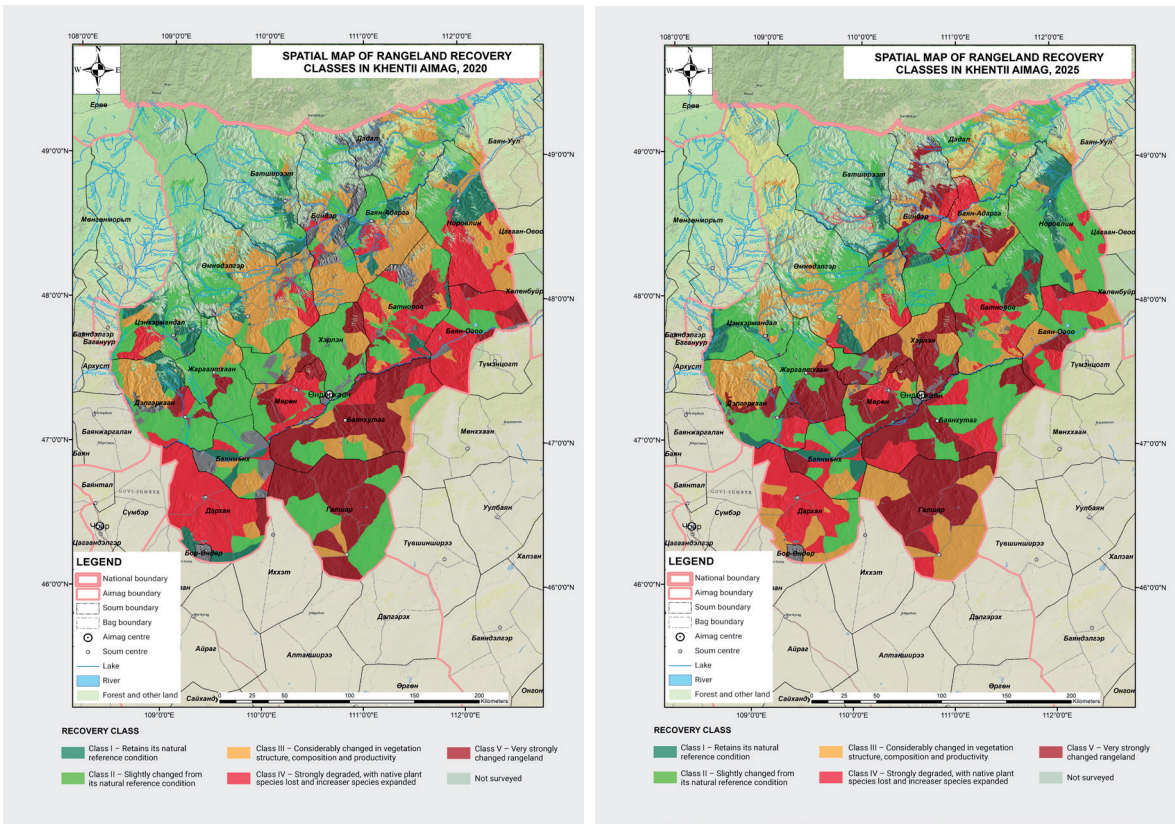
- ▶ Class II rangelands, representing areas that have changed slightly from their natural reference condition, covered 2,925 thousand hectares in 2020, the highest value recorded for that year. This class declined to 2,003 thousand hectares in 2021, then remained at around 2,108 thousand hectares in 2022 and 2,059 thousand hectares in 2023. It declined further to 1,766 thousand hectares in 2024, but increased again to 2,179 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that although Class II rangelands fluctuated during the study period, they continued to form a major share of Khentii aimag's rangelands.
- ▶ Class I rangelands, which retain their natural reference condition relatively well, occupied a small area during the study period. This class covered 473 thousand hectares in 2020 and 546 thousand hectares in 2021, before declining to 400 thousand hectares in 2022 and 311 thousand hectares in 2023. It increased to 488 thousand hectares in 2024. However, the value for Class I in 2025 is not clearly visible in the graph. Overall, the small share of rangelands in good condition highlights the need to prioritize protection and appropriate use policies.
- ▶ Class III rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed to a certain extent, occupied a large area during the study period. This class covered 1,374 thousand hectares in 2020, then increased sharply to 2,776 thousand hectares in 2021, becoming the largest class that year. It remained at a high level, with 2,355 thousand hectares in 2022 and 2,649 thousand hectares in 2023. Although it declined to 1,623 thousand hectares in 2024, it increased again to 2,420 thousand hectares in 2025. This shows that a considerable share of Khentii aimag's rangelands is in a moderately changed condition and at risk of further degradation.
- ▶ Class IV rangelands, showing signs of strong degradation, covered 1,071 thousand hectares in 2020 and declined to 959 thousand hectares in 2021. This class then increased to 1,162 thousand hectares in 2022 and 1,202 thousand hectares in 2023, indicating increased degradation pressure. However, it declined to 797 thousand hectares in 2024 and 805 thousand hectares in 2025, representing a positive change, with strongly degraded areas decreasing relatively over the last two years.
- ▶ **Class V** rangelands, representing very strongly degraded areas, covered 870 thousand hectares in 2020 and 694 thousand hectares in 2021, before increasing to 975 thousand hectares in 2022. This class then declined to 836 thousand hectares in 2023 and 790 thousand hectares in 2024, but reached its highest level in 2025 at 1,238 thousand hectares. This indicates an increasing risk of deepening rangeland degradation in some zones.

DIAGRAM 34. Rangeland condition in Khentii Aimag by Recovery Class, thousand ha



Overall, rangeland condition in Khentii aimag was unstable during 2020–2025, with considerable shifts among classes. The dominance of Class II and Class III rangelands indicates that the total rangeland area cannot be considered fully degraded. However, the increase in Class III and Class V areas in 2025 shows that degradation risks have not fully declined. Therefore, it is necessary to regulate grazing pressure, apply seasonal rotation, rest and protect degraded Class IV–V areas, and intensify restoration measures.

MAP 34. Spatial Distribution of Rangeland Recovery Classes in Khentii Aimag, 2020 and 2025



A comparison of rangeland condition in Khentii aimag between 2020 and 2025 shows that Class II and Class III rangelands remained dominant across the aimag. In 2020, Class II rangelands, which had changed only slightly, were more widely distributed in the northern and north-western parts, while Class III areas were observed considerably in the central, eastern and southern parts. By 2025, the distribution of Class III rangelands, where vegetation structure and composition have changed, had increased and become more pronounced in the central and eastern zones.

Class IV rangelands showing strong degradation were widely distributed in the central, southern and south-eastern parts of the aimag in 2020. By 2025, they had declined in some areas but remained present in certain zones. Class V rangelands, representing very strongly changed areas, increased over a larger area in 2025, especially in the central and southern parts, indicating a deepening risk of degradation.

Overall, in 2025, rangelands in Khentii aimag cannot be considered fully degraded. However, Class I areas in good condition remain limited, while areas showing signs of degradation under Classes III–V show an increasing tendency. Therefore, it is necessary to reduce grazing pressure, apply seasonal rotation, and rest and protect strongly degraded areas.



