



Assessment of the Khanuy Valley Project 2010 Faunal Remains

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This assessment covers the bones excavated as a part of the Khanuy Valley Project in 2010. Those from MAB and MAC were recovered by screening with a 6mm mesh, those from KYR1 by screening with a 3mm mesh and those from KYR119 were hand collected.

Bronze Age Assemblage

MAB																		
B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total	
#	8	1	1	0	4	2	0	0	3	26	4	0	1	2	0	52	798	850
%	0.94	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.47	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.35	3.06	0.47	0.00	0.12	0.24	0.00	6.12	93.88	100

MAC																	
B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	40	41
%	2.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.44	97.56	100

KYR1																	
B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	3788	3791
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	99.92	100

KYR119																	
B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	3617	3622
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	99.86	100

Bones from Bronze Age contexts appear to be in generally poor condition – those from the KYR sites are almost uniformly calcined. Elsewhere burning, weathering and root-etching were all problems noted. Exceptions to this occur with smaller and more delicate elements – those from lagomorphs, rodents, fish and birds, which are in remarkably good condition.

Possible signs of rodent gnawing were detected on one element and of carnivore gnawing on another element, while two examples of worked bone were observed, all from MAB. Also at MAB was a Bos element with a possible traction-related pathology.

Helical fractures and signs of other butchery were detected in assemblages from MAB and MAC.

Bronze Age/Xiongnu Assemblage

MAB																		
	B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	14	0	0	0	6	0	26	396	422
%	0.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	3.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.42	0.00	6.16	93.84	100

MAC																		
	B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	4	0	0	0	6	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	15	335	350
%	1.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.71	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.29	95.71	100

Bones recovered from mixed Bronze Age/Xiongnu contexts are of generally poor condition – burning, weathering and root-etching were all problems noted. However, helical fractures and signs of other butchery were detected in both assemblages.

Xiongnu Assemblage

MAB																
	B	CAH	EQ	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total	
#	7	0	6	2	3	2	18	2	1	2	5	1	49	517	566	
%	1.24	0.00	1.06	0.35	0.53	0.35	3.18	0.35	0.18	0.35	0.88	0.18	8.66	91.34	100	

MAC																
	B	CAH	EQ	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total	
#	6	1	8	0	1	1	38	0	1	0	6	0	62	1140	1202	
%	0.50	0.08	0.67	0.00	0.08	0.08	3.16	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.50	0.00	5.16	94.84	100	

Bones recovered from Xiongnu contexts are of generally poor condition – burning, weathering and root-etching were all problems noted.

An example of a digested caprine element was discovered in each assemblage.

Helical fractures and signs of other butchery were detected in both assemblages.

Other Mixed Contexts Assemblage

MAB																		
	B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	75	77
%	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.60	97.40	100

MAC																		
	B	CAC	CAF	CAH	EQ	F-S	LM	MAR	MM	O	OCH	OVA	PIP	SRO	TU	Total NISP	Indet.	Total
#	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	37	39
%	2.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.13	94.87	100

There was a high incidence of burning recorded in both assemblages, whilst two instances of bones exhibiting helical fracture were observed.

Database Dictionary

Database Code	Binomial (Latin) name	English name	French name
B	<i>Bos grunniens</i>	yak	yak
B	<i>Bos taurus</i>	domestic cow	vache domestique
CAC	<i>Capreolus pygargus</i>	Siberian roe deer	chevreuil de Sibérie
CAF	<i>Canis familiaris</i>	dog	chien
CAH	<i>Capra hircus</i>	domestic goat	chèvre domestique
EQ	<i>Equus caballus</i>	domestic horse	cheval domestique
EQ	<i>Equus ferus przewalskii</i>	Przewalski's horse	cheval de Przewalski
F-S	<i>Salmonidae</i>	salmonid	salmonidé
LM	<i>Mammalia</i>	large mammal	mammifère grand
MAR	<i>Marmota sibirica</i>	Siberian marmot	marmotte de Sibérie
MM	<i>Mammalia</i>	medium mammal	mammifère de taille moyen
O	<i>Capra/Ovis</i>	caprine	mouton ou chèvre
OCH	<i>Ochotona alpina</i>	alpine pika	pika de l'Altaï
OCH	<i>Ochotona daurica</i>	Daurian pika	pika de Daourie
OVA	<i>Ovis aries</i>	domestic sheep	mouton domestique
PIP	<i>Pica pica</i>	magpie	pie
SRO	<i>Rodentidae</i>	small rodent	rongeur petit
TU	<i>Passeridae</i>	songbird	oiseau chanteur