



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

**Recommendation of Institute of Hydrobiology & Ecology as project partner for ecological research and environmental impact assessments**

23rd February 2018

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to write in support of the Institute of Hydrobiology and Ecology (IHE), Almaty, confirming their participation as a partner on international research projects with the School of Biology, University of Leeds UK, as part of the 'Caspian International Seal Survey' (CISS) team. Our work has involved ecological research and environmental impact studies relating to Caspian seals.

I have known Dr Mirgaliy Baimukanov, the director of IHE, since 2004 when he was deputy director of the Kazakh Institute of Fisheries Research and Production. Since that time Dr Baimukanov has collaborated with us on projects focusing on the ecology and conservation of Caspian seals, with funding from the British government, the UNDP Caspian Environment Programme, and the oil industry.

Our collaboration has resulted in many reports, scientific publications in international peer reviewed journals, the organisation of scientific workshops and scientific training for Kazakh personnel. IHE provides logistical support to University of Leeds, as well as fully participating in the implementation of the research and production of reports and papers. IHE has always been a reliable partner and the University greatly values our collaboration with them. IHE have been a key part of the successful, efficient and on time delivery of our work to stakeholders. They always employ all necessary and appropriate measures for the transparent management of contractual and financial matters.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Goodman' with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Dr Simon Goodman

Lecturer in Evolutionary Biology  
Tel: +44-(0)113-3432561, Fax: +44-(0)113-3432835  
Skype: simon.j.goodman, Email: s.j.goodman@leeds.ac.uk  
<http://www.fbs.leeds.ac.uk>