

According to Al Jazeera, Przewalski's horses have returned to the steppes of Kazakhstan after nearly 2000 years, part of an ambitious scheme to reintroduce the world's last wild horses to their original habitats.

The endangered sandy brown horses once roamed across Central Asia. They were named after Russian geographer Nikolay Przewalski, who discovered them in the end of 19th century, by which time their range had been reduced to only one part of western Mongolia.

Currently the Prague Zoo in the Czech Republic, which manages the studbook for the species, wants to begin returning them to the Altyn Dala, or Golden Steppe, region of central Kazakhstan, a vast area of grassland and wetlands covering some 7,000 square kilometres (2,700 square miles).

In early June, the first herd of seven horses arrived. On Thursday, four others landed in Arkalyk. About 40 more are planned for the next five years.

"This is an event of historical import, the seven Przewalski's that we transported here by two CASA planes represent the first individuals of this species in central Kazakhstan in hundreds of years," said Prague Zoo director Miroslav Bobek.