

Project Update: March 2008

The study area has been divided into two sections for convenience. The major section comprises the main channel of Karnali River which has a high flow and the other section comprises of smaller tributaries within the study area. Local assistants have been hired and oriented on basic survey methodologies. A preliminary survey has been carried out during the last week of January. This has shown the presence of otters in the area. Animal sightings as well as spraints and dens have been located. Initial local consultations have revealed that the presence of these animals is spread to wider areas during the high water levels of monsoon. Along with this, human disturbances have been noted as the major factors determining the presence of otters in an area.