

Project Update: May 2012

We monitored vulture nests for the third time from 12th -17th April 2012. We monitored three nesting colonies of white-rumped vulture and all nests are in the trunks of pine trees. In this breeding season we monitored 15 nests of white-rumped vulture. Among 15 nests of white-rumped vulture, 11 were occupied by chicks which may lead to breeding success. Chicks were fully grown and some were trying to fly from their nests. Gherabhir is a rocky mountain cliff slope and is the habitat of Himalayan griffon, Egyptian vulture and lammergeier. Egyptian vulture nests are also scattered in small cliff of districts and we recorded more nests of this endangered species. In this breeding season we monitored 36 nests of Himalayan griffon, two nests of lammergeier and nine nests of Egyptian vulture. One nest of lammergeier is also occupied by a chick. However, Himalayan griffon and Egyptian vultures are a slightly later breeding species so there are newly hatched chicks and in some cases Egyptian vultures are in incubation.

Besides nest monitoring we also did opportunistic awareness programme in nesting sites and surveyed NASIDs. We are consulting with local people to set up a local team dedicated to vulture conservation.



Left: Fieldwork. Right: Himalayan Griffons nest. Middle: White-rumped Vulture Adult & Chick in nest.