

Project Update: August 2013

After the population count in April 2013, the project team concentrated on monitoring the nest and success of breeding. The nest at one of the project site was occupied by the breeding pair until the end of June 2013 but the egg did not hatch and it was abandoned in July. The sterile egg is still lying in the nest. The latest news report about the project was published in Ministry of Agriculture and Forests website and can be found at <http://www.moaf.gov.bt/moaf/?p=16160>. Ministry of Agriculture and Forests is the highest government body in Bhutan which takes decisions and frame policies on environmental conservation. As reflected in the report, the research team is making effort to discover possible impacts of hydropower construction on the habitat and distribution of white-bellied heron. We foresee one of the causes for failure of incubation of egg is due to high disturbance by project activities in the entire Punatsangchu valley.



The Ada lake at the background is prime habitat for white-bellied heron



The nest of white-bellied heron destroyed and abandoned at Bertichu