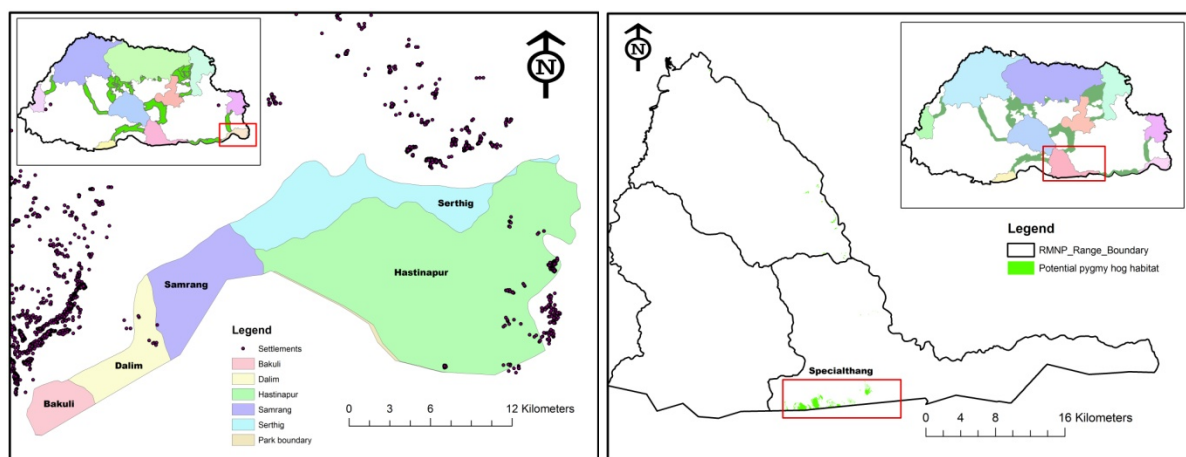


Project Update: November 2013

The preliminary survey for pygmy hog was conducted by two methods – interviewing people and Field survey. The people of Pemathang village (Dalim) and Phuntshothang village (Bakuli) in Khaling Wildlife Sanctuary (see location on the map) were interviewed to ascertain presence or absence of this species in its historical range given in the literature. However, almost all the people that we have interviewed reported to have seen this animal as recent as 5 years before. There is no settlement inside pygmy hog habitat in Royal Manas National Park. The local forestry staff and senior retired government employee in the locality were also consulted to get additional information about this species.

The field survey (preliminary sign survey) was conducted simultaneously in both the parks to gather firsthand information from the field. The surveyed team covered entire habitat range of this species in Bhutan (see map) but could not find any sign. This could be because of the survey being conducted in Monsoon – the entire habitat area experience heavy rainfall and covered with tall grassland. Few camera traps were installed in the field prior to burning of grass land at specialthang. We will install more cameras in all the potential areas after the grass is burnt (tentatively from January to February).



Survey areas (Left-Khaling Wildlife Sanctuary and right-Royal Manas National Park)