

### **Project Update: March 2017**

We have completed sign survey of Himalayan black bear in Sikles region of Kaski district, Nepal. Despite winter being the season for bear hibernation, activities of Himalayan black bear were observed in abundance in the region. Fresh evidence (scat, pugmark, claw marks) of the mammal were recorded during the survey. We will analyse the collected field data to compute movement and activity pattern and occurrence points of Himalayan black bear.

Systematic random sampling was followed to conduct structured questionnaire surveys in Sikles. We have made contacts with key informants to conduct interview on conflict scenario between human and Himalayan Black Bear in Sikles. We will be conducting structured questionnaire surveys and key informant interviews in Tangting in our second visit. We are planning to visit Sikles for conservation outreach programmes, eco-club sensitisation and local conservation workshop as soon as possible. Currently, we are designing Himalayan black bear conservation brochures and posters.



Claw mark of black bear



Pugmark of Black bear



Scat of Black bear



Tangting, picturesque Gurung village



Sikles, major settlement of Gurung community



Sun rays and shadows in study area