

Project Update: October 2014

Research Permit:

The research permit in order to conduct the research was obtained in July 2014 from Langtang National Park, Dhunche, Rasuwa.

Field Survey

We conducted an extensive field survey throughout the Langtang National Park from an altitude between 3500 m to 4500 m asl for 70 days from 15th July to 25th October 2014. As we mentioned in our proposal, we went to work in Langtang valley and Lauribinayek Area.

In addition, we did our field work in Pangsang Lekh as recommended by the local people. We followed Elzinga *et al* (1998) for population estimation as indicate in our proposal.

Findings

On the basis of field visit, we observed the following points:

1. The study area is rich in both flora and fauna where we observed different plant species as well as wild animals.
2. The study area faced grazing pressure since there are lots of grazing cattle in the study site.
3. We make a liaison with the member of snow leopard conservation group to conduct our research work in which Chesang Lama make a great contribution.
4. Fire creates huge loss of the target species in the Lauribinayek area and the species get vanished, so we shifted our area from Lauribinayek to Pangsang valley, suggested by local people.
5. The species are in extensive uses as a traditional medicine, we found all three target species present in almost all houses in Langtang.
6. We also noticed the harvesting of the target species in the study area.
7. Though the target species were harvested in the study, it bears fairly healthy population of *Dactylorhiza hatagirea* and *Nardostachys grandiflora* but the population of *Neopicrorhiza scrophulariiflora* is declining.



Preparing herbarium specimens



Harvesting *Dactylorhiza hatagire* by the local people



Cattle grazing in the study area



Sampling plot



Drying *Dactylorhiza hatagirea* by the local people.