

Project Update: January 2019

The Indian spotted eagle (*Aquila hastata*) project observed post-fledging behaviour during this period. A total of 10 days were spent in the field to cover four different nests, including two successfully fledged nests.

One juvenile was observed in the nesting area in Rajshahi (northern Bangladesh) 2 months after fledging with no adults seen nearby. A second fledgling was found in Bogra (northern Bangladesh) at nesting area and fledgling observed to use nest as feeding platform in this period. The same fledgling roosted with parents on a eucalyptus tree c.100 m away of nesting tree. Movements of the fledglings at nesting areas were variable. Following the flightline of a fledgling, a fledgling (presumed same chick) was found c. 10 km away of nesting area with an adult, suggesting a presumed post-fledging foraging area a radius of 10 km of nest.

Random surveys in crop fields indicated high degree of pesticide (insecticide and herbicide) use adjacent to the nesting tree with no sign of rodenticide usage. No eagle sighted at (presumed) unsuccessful areas. Eight local birders joined the work and motivated for eagle conservation.



Left: An empty pesticide packet in a crop field in Rajshahi. Right: A fledgling perched on a roosting tree in Bogra on 4 October 2018. © Shafiqur Rahman