

## **Project Update: June 2016**

**Project Area** - Gehrate Gol Community Game Reserve lies in the south of Chitral town along the left bank of Chitral River. The game reserve (950,000 km<sup>2</sup>) is considered to be one of the “home of snow leopard” and most isolated places in Chitral. Human-carnivore conflict due to livestock predation to large carnivores like snow leopard, Himalayan lynx, wolf and fox has risen sharply in recent years. Assessment shows that during 2013-2014, 632 livestock depredation cases were recorded from the area and in result of retaliatory killing more than 96 carnivores were killed by the local people. It has identified human-carnivore conflicts as major conservation issue and need to be address on urgent

If we can secure these carnivore populations in the long term this will have broader biodiversity and social benefits for the local people.

### **Activities Conducted –**

#### **Environmental Education**

In order to educate the schoolchildren in the project area, three environmental awareness lectures have been undertaken in three government schools in the area, where lectures in context of wildlife conservation, carnivores and other environmental knowledge were shared with the students. About 120 students were benefited from these lectures. Brochures and posters on wildlife conservation were also distributed among students.

### **Observations -**

The students took special interest on the lectures and asked different questions regarding wildlife and its conservation.