

Project Update: November 2015

The preliminary survey was started in August, 2015. Arsi Mountains National Park, Munessa, Arba Gugu, Sororo-Torghum, Wornga Bula, Din Din and Muktar are the study sites of this project identified during the preliminary survey and from historical records. Two field assistants were trained on the following major themes:

- Using data collection sheets and documentation of data.
- Practising data collection techniques on wildlife population censusing (using pellet count, transect sampling, total count and distance sampling methods).
- Environmental, economic, and social benefits of wildlife.
- Involvement of local people for sustainable wildlife management.

Twenty-five fresh pellet groups are marked in each of study sites and are monitoring them until all the pellets in a group have decayed. The core areas of mountain nyala in Sororo-Torghum control hunting area and Muktar were identified. In these areas, permanent transects were constructed and random plots were generated using Arc GIS.



Left: Adult male mountain nyala in Sororo-Torghum Control hunting area. Right: Adult female mountain nyala feeding on grasses in Muktar Mountain.