

Project Update: May 2016

The awareness campaign was done in the villages along the Punatsangchu River basin. For the campaign, village leaders and village peoples were requested to gather for the sensitization campaign. The talk on conservation importance of the species was done by a presentation session in the villages. The explanation was done by incorporating religious beliefs, scientific findings, logical explanation, and benefits of conservation of the species to the local people from the environmental, social and economic perspective. Villagers were educated on how each of their daily activities creates disturbance and threats to the survival of the species and made them understand the necessity to avoid these activities in the vicinity of the white-bellied heron habitat. Local's perception towards conservation of the Critically Endangered white-bellied heron was overwhelmingly positive as of now. A working lunch and refreshments were served to all the participants. Pamphlets were distributed among the local people for further outreach. Posters and sign boards were placed in the important locations spreading the message of the importance of conservation of the white-bellied heron and its habitat.

The household survey has also been done in the vicinity of villages in heron habitat to acquire their level of perception on conservation importance and overall knowledge about the species. The villagers seem to have some ideas about the species and conservation success of the species is pretty positive on the local people's part.



Left: Interviewing locals on conservation perception of WBH. Right: White-bellied heron.

THE WHITE-BELLIED HERON (*Ardea insignis*)

“SAVE
THE
CRITICALLY
ENDANGERED
WHITE-BELLIED
HERON”



PRESENTED BY: CHIHIMI DORJI
RESEARCHER
EMAIL: chihimi10@gmail.com



PHOTOGRAPH © YESHEY DORJI

Poster