

## Project Update: April 2017

Conflict with carnivores has been a pressing management issue worldwide. Local communities in the Himalayan region have been severely affected with Himalayan brown bear, Tibetan wolf and snow leopard regularly preying on livestock. With a view to resolve this issue, a research cum conservation project was initiated in collaboration with the Department of Wildlife Protection, Jammu & Kashmir with support from Rufford Foundation in the Kargil region of Ladakh. The project has completed two phases. The first phase involved estimating the occupancy and relative abundance of predators and prey in this region. Data was also compiled about the extent of livestock loss and economic damage in the region. As a follow up of the research findings, a pilot model of community driven conservation programme was undertaken in selected conflict hotspots villages in the Kargil district. The major emphasis of this programme has been to improve existing animal husbandry guarding practices to reduce livestock depredation. We wish to continue and concentrate our efforts across the landscape to further reduce human-wildlife conflict in the region in the near future.

With this, we look forward to mitigate human-wildlife conflicts in Kargil with participatory approach and ensure co-existence of human and wildlife in Kargil.



Distribution of the field kits



Demonstration of the field kits in the field



Wildlife conservation awareness workshop for key stakeholders



Hands on training and capacity building for the front-line staff of the Wildlife Dept. Kargil