

Project Update: May 2016

The total count of black-necked crane in Bumdeling wintering habitat, Trashiyangtse in 2015-2016 winter was 109 individuals, out of which 100 were adults and nine juveniles. The cranes stayed in the area for more than 4 months and the first flock (five individuals) left the area for their summer breeding habitat on 8th February 2016. One family (two juveniles and two adults) left the area on 17th March 2016.

Bumdeling valley was one of the main feeding grounds of cranes in the past before 10-15 years but due to a flash flood that occurred in the 1990s, most of the paddy fields located adjacent to the Kholongchu River were filled with sand, gravels and debris. As a result, most of the fields are left uncultivated. The flood plain and the grass land near to one of the main feeding ground in Bumdeling has become one of the picnic spot and the visitors coming for picnic are increasing every year. Besides, playing archery in the floodplain and frequent plying of vehicles and people from near the feeding grounds are found to be main threats/disturbances. Stray dogs were also found as main threats as they always disturb the cranes in both feeding grounds and roosting site. However, no kill or injury cases were reported.



Flying pattern of cranes when disturbed in the feeding ground



Visitors in the flood plain of Bumdeling on occasions