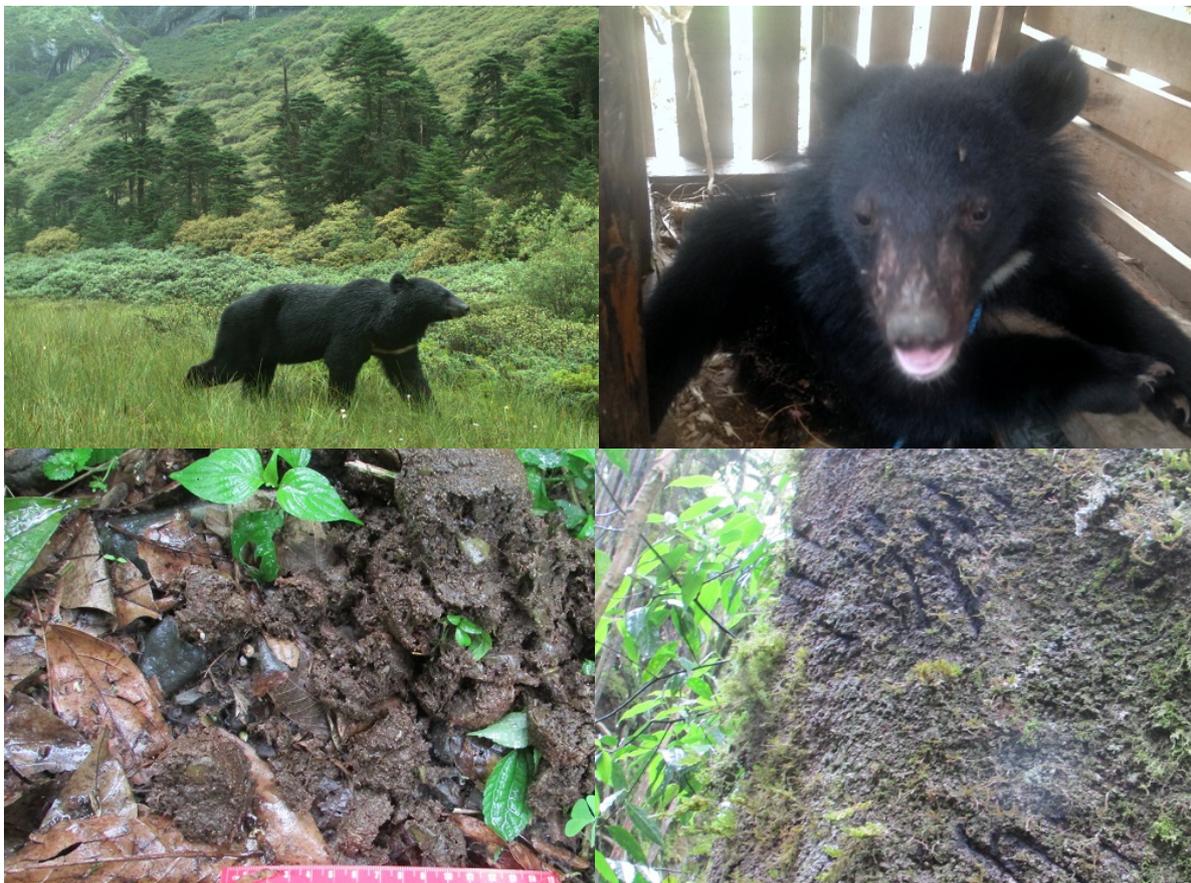


## Project Update: September 2016

Rigorous field survey works were done in the forests as early as June 2016 to document the presence of Himalayan black bear and its distribution. Direct as well indirect evidence was recorded during the field survey which was conducted on trial transects within the national park. During the survey, we have encountered numerous signs that include faeces, pug marks, scratches and feeding signs. Direct sighting was recorded at two points and calls were heard on two other points. There is also a record of rescuing an injured bear cub from the road. As such, we have recorded 47 evidence sites on various transects ranging from subtropical forest till the alpine regions. Vegetation types were recorded as per the plan for determining habitat type. The preliminary results show normal distribution of Himalayan black bear in the forest of JSWNP. Attempt was made to analyse the camera trapping records to further supplement the distribution data. Past works as well as current work shows bear being photographed on camera traps at numerous sites. Final result on distribution will be produced once all the camera trap data is compiled. Meanwhile, brochures and posters on bear conservation are being distributed to various schools in the park.





Top to bottom: Bear on camera; Rescued cub; Bear scat; Bear scratch and Field surveys.