

Project Update: April 2017

Field survey to identify HEC areas

Identification of rampant HEC areas was done through public interviews, field touring and use of other sources.

The areas where HEC mostly occurs are Samrang, Deorali, Daisam, Augotar, Golanti, Dalim and khawrong in Jomotshangkha. The areas are mapped with GIS 10.2.2 considering the following points:

1. Frequent occurrence of elephant.
2. Degree of crop damage.
3. Home range.
4. Adjacent to biological corridor.
5. Part of migratory route.

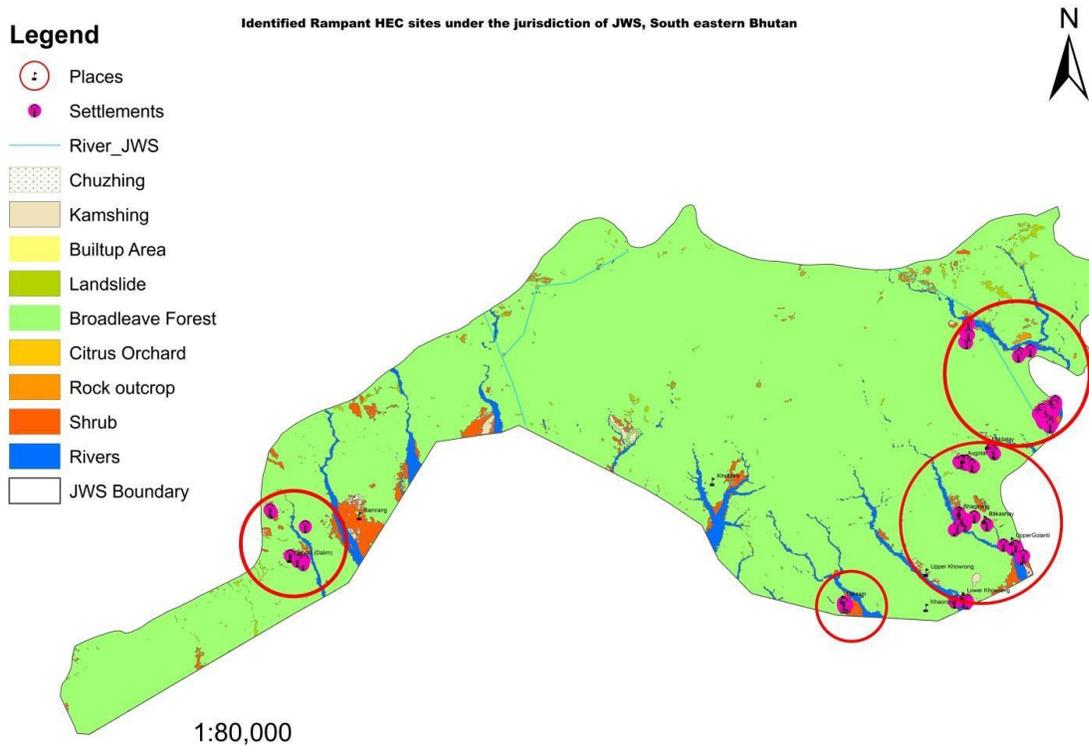


Figure 1: Map showing the location of HEC areas

Meeting with the people of Samrang and Deorali (HEC areas)

Upon meeting with the key informant and prominent members, awareness programme based on FNCR, 2006 and problem prioritisation matrix which was conducted in the past year has showed that HEC was one of the major issues and bottleneck. Hence, gradual consultative meeting with the key stakeholders and rampage crop depredation within consecutive years too, contributes in formation of community-based conflict management. As per the adult learning approaches, less theoretical input with more practical aspects is the best techniques especially for the adult to learn. To accustom that, teams of participants including the visiting field staff had field visit to Samrang and Deorali for practical session where it is one of the main habitat range of an Asiatic elephant.

The overall objectives, rationale, expectation aftermath of project implementation, proposed activities and future plan and prospective were vividly reflected. Based on the proposed activities, discussion was thoroughly done and few effective, concise and adoptable methods were sum up for implementation in the field.



In the training workshop, the team members and people's representatives were briefed on the CBCM strategies and land use planning techniques. The people were also brief on the land use planning of cultivating non-palatable crops at the edge of farms and planting bananas in the fringe forest areas. The participants were taught on the tactics and ways to reduce HEC while coexisting with the elephants. It was known from the people that such awareness on basic ecology and behaviour of the crop raiders should be organised to all the HEC-prone areas in future to understand the behaviours and relationship of the raiders and prepared for future self-security.

A group of elephant observed at Samrang/Deorali at an elevation of 417 m asl.

