

Project Update: July 2017

Field visit to Jomotshangkha HEC area

The areas where HEC mostly occurs are 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.

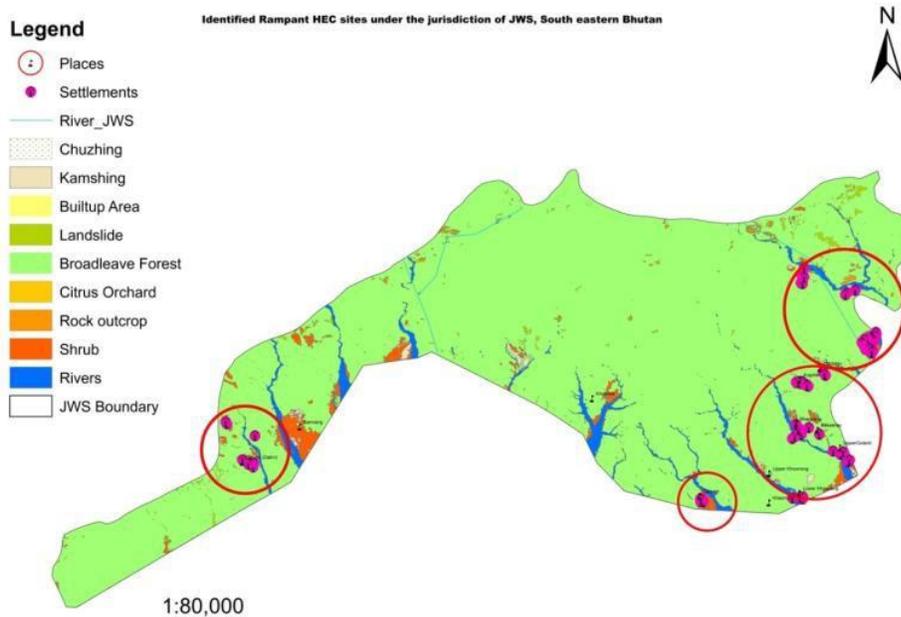


Figure 1: Map showing the location of HEC areas



Community of Jomotshangkha & Serthi HEC areas

Meeting with the communities of Jomotshangkha & Serthi (HEC areas)

HEC (human-elephant conflict) is one of the major issues and bottleneck in conservation of Asian elephant in most of the area. The damage caused by the elephant in the human habitation and farmlands has made people to think negatively about the elephant and built negative attitude towards elephant conservation. Therefore, to coexist, human and elephant and to encourage communities to conserve the habitats of elephant in the long run, training workshop have been conducted in several HEC areas, consultative meeting with the key stakeholders and village prominent members were carried out which helped a lot in forming a community-based conflict management among the communities of HEC areas.



Communities of Jomotshangkha and Serthi HEC areas.

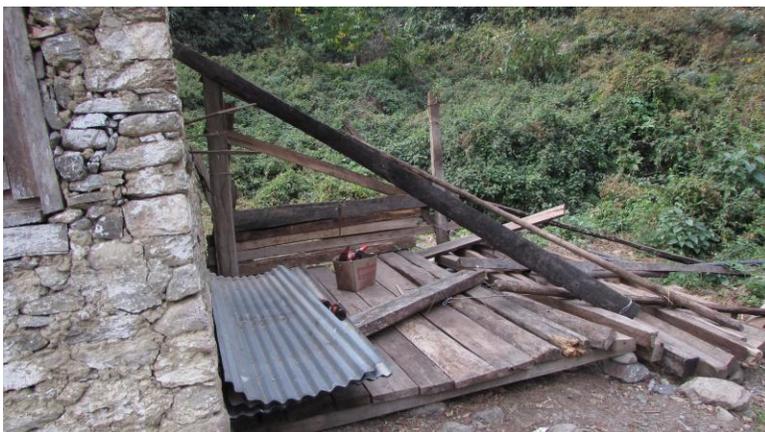


Household coexisting with elephant and its habitat

Based on the proposed activities, discussion was thoroughly done and effective methods were made aware to people in the field. The team members and people's representatives were brief 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 behavior of the crop raiders should be organised to all the HEC prone areas in future to understand the behavior and relationship of the raiders and prepared for future self-security.



Training participants and field visit to HEC areas



Temporary house at Gelongkhar damaged by Elephant



Summer habitats of elephant, Jomotshangkha



Village (Gelongkhar) frequently visited by elephants/Most HEC area