

## Project Update: February 2017

First of all, the permission which is most essence to carry out the research was successfully received at the fall of December, 2016 from the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), Babarmahal, Kathmandu. Preliminary Survey was the first step that marked the beginning of research after receiving the permission from DNPWC. The officials as well as the field staff of Shukaphanta Wildlife Reserve (recently converted into national park) and National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) who had participated during the Camera trapping operations which captured the rusty spotted cat (*Prionailurus rubiginosus*) last year 2016 were asked about the study area. They were also asked the most probable habitat where the finding of the elusive cat was possible. After the completion of the preliminary survey, we are pleased to inform the deploying of the camera trapping in Shuklaphanta National Park, the newly declared national park of Nepal where there is most possible chance of finding of rusty spotted cat and in previous locations where the elusive species was captured. Some of the photos captured during the beginning of research are attested below.



Researcher with his team during the installation of Camera trapping and data collection.  
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Common Leopard captured in Camera trapping



Golden Jackal (*Canis aureus*) captured during the research in camera trap



Trail in the jungle and the Sal forest of Study area. ©Bhuwan Singh Bist