

Project Update: May 2017

The part of project RAMSER site falls within the biological corridor connecting JSW national park and JDW national park. Therefore, the more field officials from these two parks were involved in the project to ensure efficient community cooperation. Procurement and arrangement of field gear were completed successfully. The field officials were trained on the survey methods successfully. The techniques for setting up the camera traps to ascertain the frequency of bear visiting the settlement within RAMSER site, and the practical pretesting the open questionnaire survey to garner the community perception for the official to be involved in field survey have been successfully completed.



Figure1.1: *Training for Forestry official involved in the project*

The camera traps are already setup in and around the RAMSER site. The frequent monitoring are being carried out to ascertain the functionality of the camera and to retrieve the information captured. All the works are on track as per the project timeframe.



Figure1.2: *Setting up camera traps*

Through the camera trap, the prime species, the Himalayan black bear were repeatedly captured around the community resident till date. Other carnivores like wild dogs and leopard, and herbivores like sambar deer and goral made the presence in the project site.



Figure1.3 *Himalayan Black bear capture in camera trap*

The human black bear conflict is at the bay right now but it is expected to rise once the domesticated crop matures and the dry autumn approach with scarcity of nature food available for Himalayan black bear. Nevertheless cattle killed incidences have been reported from the project area, preyed mainly by black bear.



Figure1.4: Remains of dead cattle attacked by bear

Beside the camera trap evidence of its presence, sign survey is also in full swing together with community questionnaire survey. Through the survey, the sign of bear presence were noted from the remains bears attacked on the colony of honeybee's hives near RAMSER site.



Figure1.5: Remains of honey bees colony attacked by bear