

Project Update: August 2019

During the fieldwork for otters in 2018 and 2019, I was fascinated by the richness of the bird species which were present in the study areas. Wanting to make the most from the grant amount and the survey, I had documented this species richness along with the otter data. This additional data on birds assisted me in preparing and publishing a key paper for the Indian Himalayan State of Uttarakhand entitled, "Avitourism opportunities as a contribution to conservation and rural livelihoods in the Hindu Kush Himalayas - a field perspective" in the Journal of Threatened Taxa. I am attaching the published paper (which is open access) along with this email.

The two otter papers are as follows:

- 2) Gupta et al. (under final review with the Editor). Assessing the distribution pattern of otters in four rivers of the Indian Himalayan biodiversity hotspot. Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10990755>)
- 3) Gupta et al. (under final review). The potential role of social media in support of the conservation of otters in Uttarakhand, India. IUCN Otter Specialist Group (OSG) Bulletin (<https://www.iucnosgbull.org/index.html>)