

## Project Update: August 2018

The initial phase of field survey has been completed. In this phase, reconnaissance survey, key informant interview, questionnaire and boating survey were done. Narayani River lies on northern to western part of Chitwan National Park together with five buffer zone areas; they are Amaltari, Nanda- bhauju, Gosai-kunda, Daunne-devi and Tribeni buffer zone. We consulted and coordinated all buffer zone personnel, and staff of Tamaspur and Tribeni range post.

From this survey, we succeeded in identifying the main dolphin sighting area which is from Baguban to Tribeni Ghat, around 20 km in distance. According to key informants, in April 2018, two adult Ganges River dolphins were seen by the chairperson of Tribeni buffer zone committee during patrol. Currently, in June 2018, one baby and one adult Ganges River dolphin were seen by fisherman and villagers of Binaya Tribeni rural municipality. My team had seen an adult dolphin in Northern part of Tribeni Ghat on July 7, 2018.

We have been studying the threats, perception and attitude towards dolphin conservation through direct observation of river and questionnaire survey in local area. Next, post- monsoon field survey will be conducted in October and November, 2018.



Ganges River dolphin in Narayani River; Photography by- Rohan Thapa, Tribeni

## Key informant interview



Left: Principal investigator interview with chairperson of Tribeni buffer zone (Right) and vice-chairman of community forest (left). Right: Interview with social worker of Binaya Tribeni rural municipality

## Questionnaire with fisherman and villagers



Left: Interview and questionnaire with fisherman (Manjhi). Right: Interview and questionnaire with local people



Left: Interview and questionnaire with bathing person. Right: Interview and questionnaire with fisherman in river side

### Threats regarding to Narayani River and aquatic species



Left: Temporary settlement near Narayani River. Right: Preparing for fishing by net



Left: Fishing activity by net in river. Right: Funeral on the beach of Narayani River



Left: Wood collection from river. Right: Fishing activity by hook



Left: Hindu devotees on the beach of Narayani River. Right & Below: Waste materials deposited in River barrage (Right and left)



## Boating survey



Left: Team preparing for boating survey. Right: Principal investigator Pujan Prasad Adhikari preparation for boating survey



Principal investigator Pujan Prasad Adhikari observing through binocular



Narayani River captured from boat