

## Project Update: May 2019

During the breeding season of Bengal florican (March-April-May, 2019), we visited our 60 permanent blocks to monitor the habitat condition of Bengal florican. One of the blocks of outside protected area was damaged by the Saptakoshi river and we had to decrease our block number to 57 (19 in each conservation status) for the unbiased data. Habitat condition was noted and population in habitat monitored sites was counted using display and sweep count method. Local people, and students were involved for the field survey.

For the awareness campaign, a 1-day interaction program was conducted with the representatives of local stakeholders and community forest user groups so as to educate them about the importance of bird conservation in the area. Issues regarding human-wildlife conflict were discussed with the local people and future action plans needed for the effective conservation were prepared in collaboration with the government staffs of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, Nepal, representatives of local stakeholders and members of community forest user groups. Posters and pamphlets describing the importance of the bird species were distributed to the participants of the programme.



Some field group members. ©Ritika Prasai



Male Bengal Florican sighted during the population count. ©Ritika Prasai



During the interaction program (conservation campaign) with the local stakeholders, members of community forest user groups and government staffs of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, Nepal. ©Ritika Prasai



During the population count by Sweep Count Method-when a Bengal florican was sighted. ©Ritika Prasai