

Project Updates: February 2021

Department of Forestry permitted the project implementation in July 2020, we procured equipment and collected some papers about target species and study area and worked with protected area staffs at provincial and district levels in Khammouane Province, Laos.

The interview was carried out in collaboration with protected area staff from July 27th to August 1st 2020. We visited six districts (Hinboun, Khounkham, Nakai, Yomalath, Mahaxay and Thakhek) and interviewed 12 staff at District Agriculture and Forestry Offices of Khammouane province about Lao Langur *Trachypithecus laotum* conservation, presence and threats, particularly in Phou Hin Poun National Protected Area.

We conducted Lao langur field survey in the protected area from August to December 2020. Twenty people (one from province, four from districts and five villagers from *Konglor* village, two villagers from *Natan* Village, five from *Kuankacha* Village and three from *Buamlou* Village) participated in the field survey and protected area staff were trained how to use field survey equipment including GPS, rangefinder, data collection forms and camera prior survey. Twenty-one trails were established based on terrain accessibility and water in the protected area and we discussed with local people and shared them knowledge about wildlife and habitat conservation in target villages and survey camps.

We conducted 37 days mainly in Total Protection Zone of Phou Hin Poun National Protected Area and walked 217 km along 21 trails and encountered 16 groups (44 individuals) of Lao langur, six groups of Assamese macaque (30 individuals) and heard five groups of southern white-cheeked gibbon call. Currently, hunting and logging is main threat of the area. Logger and poacher camps mainly found during this survey.

This field survey mission is completed, we are analysing the data collected from the field and developing the final report.

Interview District Agriculture and Forestry Office in Six districts of Khammouane

Hin Boun DAFO



Thakhek DAFO



Mahaxay DAFO



Yommalath DAFO



Nakai DAFO



Khounkham DAFO



Field survey equipment use training



Using data collection forms



Practice (using binocular, camera)



Using GPS device

Field survey in Phou Hin Poun National Protected Area



Phou Hin Poun NPA



Survey team



Survey team having breakfast



Survey Camp



Lao Langur & Assamese macaque



A villager using binocular