

Project Update: June 2022

Following are the work initiated with which are presented with brief program.

Preliminary field visit

A preliminary field visit was carried out in three different representative areas in an around the Buffer Zone Community of Parsa National Park (PNP). The main objective was to figure out the pocket areas of dhole, conflict host post, sharing the project concept and accumulating the people's attitude in conservation of dholes. Saving time and energy by avoiding areas where the species was completely absent was made possible due to preliminary field visit thanks to this quick field assessment and survey. Preliminary field visit results in identified important data gaps for dhole viability analysis and for management. Five small meetings were carried out with the local people that helped in identification of numerous threats to the viability of dhole populations across the species' range, as well as related issues that may present obstacles to achieving the group's long-term vision for the species. Participants were questioned on the root causes of these dangers or problems as well as their known or potential effects on dhole conservation. Five major categories were created from the above consultation.: habitat loss, human-dhole conflict, feral dogs, insufficient scientific knowledge and climate change.



Figure 1: Common habitat use by Dhole in PNP. Figure 2: Prime habitat of Dhole in PNP.

National Dhole working meeting

National Dhole working meeting was held at Nepal Forest Association (NFA) Hall to discuss on the current issues and conservation status of dholes in Nepal. The meeting comprised of wildlife expert from DNPWC, Cornell University, ecologist, wildlife biologist, IOF graduates, conservation officer from NTNC and citizen scientist. The meeting was facilitated by Sujan Khanal and Assoc. Prof Martin Gilbert. The meeting concluded following things.

- Collection of dholes (presence data from dhole ranging areas in Nepal).
- Preparing the proposal for document the status of dholes in national protected areas and a selection of key community forests.



Figure 3: Questionaries to figure out the Dhole -Conflict in an around the PNP.



Figure 4: First Nepal Dhole Meeting at NFA Hall.