

Project Update: January 2010

After receiving the grant approval, the first step was to obtain permission. The authority granting the permission was delighted that our efforts would provide attention for rusty-spotted cats and the locals who use the same forest. Four camera traps were procured. In July and August 2009 there was intense rainfall and not much success was achieved during this period. But from September 2009 we had a series of sightings of the elusive rusty spotted cat.

Since the commencement of the project, three individual rusty spotted cats have been identified, two with the aid of a handheld camera and one from camera trap. Two locals from resident tribe, Chatur and Haresh, have been occupied as the local field assistants.

The importance of forests and the rusty spotted cat will be presented to various schools in February 2010. Details will be given in next update in March 2010.