

Project Update: March 2011

Fieldwork was planned with project team members in January 2011 in Kathmandu. From February – March 2011, we conducted a conservation awareness programme amongst villagers and school students. Before the programme implementation, we had a conversation with Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Management Council (KCAMC) and briefed them about our project requesting them to support our project for the conservation of carnivore species in KCA. Permission has been given by KCAMC to launch the programmes. We were unable to conduct the dhole sign survey this time due to the snowfall in its habitat. Four village-level workshops in Yamphudin, Tapethok, Lelep and Wolangchung Gola were carried out to collect the information regarding human-dhole conflict, distribution of dhole, its conservation issues and to disseminate the dhole conservation message among villagers. We also organised meetings with school teachers in Yamphudin, Tapethok, and Lelep to disseminate the dhole conservation message. The school teaching programmes in secondary school of Lelep, lower secondary school of Tapethok and secondary school of Yamphudin were launched successfully. We asked some questions regarding dholes to know the perception of school students prior to teaching programme. The majority of them did not know about dholes and only few students have general knowledge concerning dhole depredation on livestock in the pasture lands. After the school teaching programme we asked students to write an essay on the topic “Role of students to conserve the dhole in KCA”. Students were suggested to consult their parents, relatives, neighbours, teachers and other elite people to collect more information on dhole. Then the next day, the essay was presented among all students, some village guardians and teachers organising a programme in respective schools. Altogether, 25 students were participated in the essay competition and about 750 students were participated in teaching and essay presentation programme.



