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Intensity, driving factors and mitigation strategies for human leopard (*Panthera pardus*) conflict outside of Moji Game Reserve, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan

Fieldwork was conducted from 16 April to 30 April 2026. A total of 12 days were dedicated to field activities, including 7 days for questionnaire surveys and, following a 2-day break, 5 days for collecting data on prey population density. The surveys primarily focused on gathering information related to human–common leopard conflict.

Data collection was carried out in the villages of Neel Pash, Gehl Sachian, Handra, Dodh Gaiyan, Maanjial, and Sain Bagh. Information was obtained from 21 men and women who had experienced livestock and dog depredation by common leopards (Figure 1).

Field surveys in the Moji Game Reserve involved random transect surveys in compartments 10, 11, 12a, and 12b. During the surveys, no signs of musk deer (*Moschus chrysogaster*) were recorded. According to wildlife guards and local residents, the species is no longer present in the Moji Game Reserve. However, some local people reported that a few individuals may still occur in compartment 7, which is planned to be surveyed in the coming months.

Similarly, grey goral (*Naemorhedus goral*) were not directly observed in the forest using the naked eye, as the species is highly elusive and typically remains hidden in dense forest habitats and rugged terrain that are difficult for humans to access. Nevertheless, indirect evidence, including hoof marks and scats, confirmed the presence of the species (Figures 2 and 3).

Other arboreal species, including grey langur (*Semnopithecus ajax*) and rhesus monkey (*Macaca mulatta*), which also serve as prey for the common leopard, were observed during the surveys (Figures 4 and 5). Approximately 110 grey langurs and 35 rhesus monkeys were recorded. Using a range finder, the distance to each group was measured.



Figure 1 A dog is attacked and injured by the common leopard.



Figure 2 Fecal palettes of grey goral inside the Moji Game Reserve.



Figure 3 Hoof mark of grey goral inside the Moji Game Reserve.



Figure 4 Grey langurs inside the Moji Game Reserve.



Figure 5 Rhesus monkeys inside the Moji Game Reserve.