

Update II (28 October 2024)

Project: Safeguarding Mountain Biodiversity: Investigating and promoting sustainable conservation of endangered tree line species of Nepalese Mountain.

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- 1. Field survey:** We have finished the field level inventory of 45 plots (25m diameter) using ground-based LiDAR instrument (Image 1, Image 2, Image 3 and Image 4). The instrument provides the LiDAR image of each plot from which the tree attributes like tree height, tree diameter at breast height, and canopy cover can be extracted. The LiDAR images are being processed now to extract the above-mentioned tree attributes (Image 5 and Image 6). Similarly, as planned we also collected data about the forest deterioration. In total, 135 tree cuts were seen in our study site. Mainly Rhododendron species and Betula utilis were deteriorated (Images 7 and Image 8). The location of the tree cut along with all details is provided in Table 1. The hotels/tea shops in Korchon trail were the major cause of the deterioration of the tree line species.



Image 1: Field survey team



Image 2: Field team with instrument



Image 3: Researcher during field survey



Image 4: Tree line vegetation in Korchon

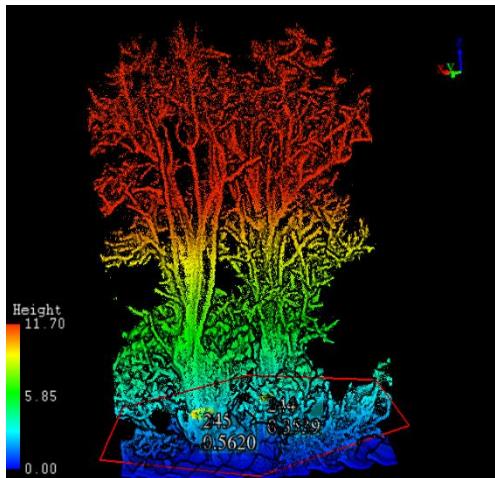


Image 5: Betula species from LiDAR

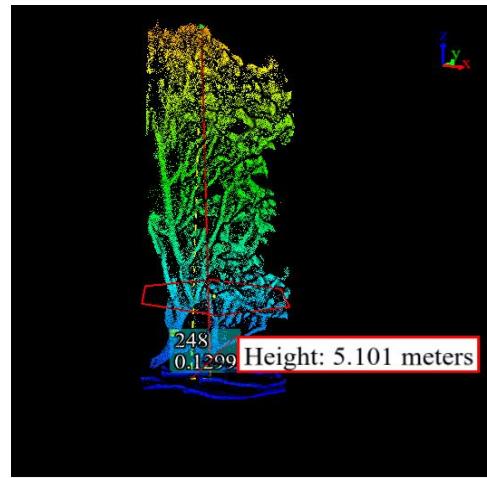


Image 6: Rhododendron from LiDAR



Image 7: Deteriorated tree line species 1



Image 8: Deteriorated tree line species 2

2. **Awareness pamphlet preparation and printing:** We have prepared awareness pamphlet (3 x 3) for distribution at local level during community workshop, planning workshops and school level programs. It is prepared in Nepali and printed (500 copies) as proposed. It includes information regarding the tree line and its importance, current problems around tree line, major species of tree line, and how to conserve tree line. The pamphlet is as below:

4. Future planned activities: We have planned the following activities in the above-mentioned timeline:

- a) FM Radio jingle airing (By November 2024).
- b) Media coverage (Preliminary coverage by November 2024 in Khabarhub.com, online media).
- c) Community level discussion and awareness workshops (Starting from last of November and completion by early January 2024).
- d) Land use Land cover analysis of study area using Sentinel-2 satellite image (By December 2024).

Reason for delay in field survey and community level programs: The field survey has been delayed due to worst weather conditions in Nepal. There have been several catastrophic natural hazards in Nepal which cost more than 300 lives. Our study area was in the high mountains, and it was not possible to approach the field site as planned.

Regarding community level discussion, from October to mid-November, its festive season in Nepal. The major festivals Dashain and Tihar are celebrated during this time. As soon as the festive season finishes, we will resume our community level activities.

Table 1: Deteriorated species and their location.

S.N.	Name of Species	X-coordinate(N) 44R	Y-coordinate(E)	Elevation (m)	Distance from hotels (m)	Cut status
1	Rhododendron campanulatum	787093	3145706	3693	68	old
2	Rhododendron campanulatum	787093	3145706	3693	68	old
3	Rhododendron campanulatum	787093	3145706	3693	68	old
4	Rhododendron campanulatum	787093	3145699	3692	76	old
5	Rhododendron campanulatum	787093	3145699	3692	76	old
6	Rhododendron campanulatum	787077	3145678	3685	99	new
7	Rhododendron campanulatum	787078	3145669	3682	108	new
8	Rhododendron campanulatum	787078	3145669	3682	108	new
9	Rhododendron campanulatum	787062	3145651	3678	128	new
10	Rhododendron campanulatum	787056	3145643	3678	138	old
11	Rhododendron campanulatum	787056	3145643	3678	138	old
12	Rhododendron campanulatum	787029	3145588	3671	202	new

13	Rhododendron campanulatum	787029	3145588	3671	202	new
14	Rhododendron campanulatum	787029	3145588	3671	202	new
15	Rhododendron campanulatum	787029	3145588	3671	202	new
16	Sorbus ssp	787029	3145588	3671	202	new
17	Sorbus ssp	787029	3145588	3671	202	new
18	Betula utilis	786999	3145567	3670	232	old
19	Betula utilis	786999	3145567	3670	232	old
20	Rhododendron campanulatum	786999	3145567	3670	232	old
21	Rhododendron campanulatum	786999	3145567	3670	232	old
22	Rhododendron campanulatum	787164	3145801	3690	60	old
23	Rhododendron campanulatum	787164	3145801	3690	60	old
24	Rhododendron campanulatum	787164	3145801	3690	60	old
25	Rhododendron campanulatum	787176	3145809	3687	79	old
26	Betula utilis	787176	3145809	3687	80	old
27	Betula utilis	787163	3145811	3682	70	old
28	Betula utilis	787163	3145811	3682	70	old
29	Betula utilis	787163	3145811	3682	70	old
30	Betula utilis	787156	3145807	3686	60	old
31	Rhododendron campanulatum	787156	3145807	3686	60	old
32	Rhododendron campanulatum	787192	3145810	3680	94	old
33	Rhododendron campanulatum	787207	3145818	3677	110	old
34	Rhododendron campanulatum	787195	3145830	3671	105	old
35	Betula utilis	787187	3145846	3669	111	old
36	Rhododendron campanulatum	787187	3145846	3669	111	old
37	Rhododendron campanulatum	787187	3145846	3669	111	old
38	Rhododendron campanulatum	787149	3145877	3668	113	old
39	Rhododendron campanulatum	787149	3145877	3668	113	old
40	Rhododendron campanulatum	787149	3145877	3668	113	old
41	Rhododendron campanulatum	787149	3145877	3668	113	old
42	Rhododendron campanulatum	787149	3145877	3668	113	old

43	Rhododendron campanulatum	787149	3145877	3668	113	old
44	Rhododendron campanulatum	787133	3145877	3671	115	old
45	Rhododendron campanulatum	787133	3145877	3671	115	old
46	Rhododendron campanulatum	787171	3145888	3660	134	old
47	Rhododendron campanulatum	787313	3145918	3630	253	old
48	Rhododendron campanulatum	787313	3145918	3630	253	old
49	Rhododendron campanulatum	787313	3145918	3630	253	old
50	Rhododendron campanulatum	787313	3145918	3630	253	old
51	Rhododendron campanulatum	787321	3145907	3629	255	old
52	Rhododendron campanulatum	787321	3145907	3629	255	old
53	Rhododendron campanulatum	787321	3145907	3629	255	old
54	Rhododendron campanulatum	787329	3145911	3627	260	old
55	Rhododendron campanulatum	787329	3145911	3627	260	old
56	Rhododendron campanulatum	787329	3145911	3627	260	old
57	Rhododendron campanulatum	787340	3145979	3606	314	old
58	Rhododendron campanulatum	787351	3145991	3610	323	old
59	Rhododendron campanulatum	787351	3145991	3610	323	old
60	Rhododendron campanulatum	787351	3145991	3610	323	old
61	Rhododendron campanulatum	787351	3145991	3610	323	old
62	Rhododendron campanulatum	787373	3145994	3601	349	old
63	Rhododendron campanulatum	787373	3145994	3601	349	old
64	Rhododendron campanulatum	787373	3145994	3601	349	old
65	Rhododendron campanulatum	787373	3145994	3601	349	old
66	Rhododendron campanulatum	787386	3145998	3600	353	old
67	Rhododendron campanulatum	787386	3145998	3600	353	old
68	Rhododendron campanulatum	787386	3145998	3600	353	old

69	Rhododendron campanulatum	787386	3145998	3600	353	old
70	Rhododendron campanulatum	787386	3145998	3600	353	old
71	Betula utilis	787386	3145998	3600	353	old
72	Betula utilis	787382	3146013	3593	365	old
73	Rhododendron campanulatum	787382	3146013	3593	365	old
74	Rhododendron campanulatum	787382	3146013	3593	365	old
75	Rhododendron campanulatum	787352	3146017	3614	345	old
76	Rhododendron campanulatum	787352	3146017	3614	345	old
77	Sorbus sps	787358	3146040	3602	370	old
78	Rhododendron campanulatum	787317	3146073	3601	371	old
79	Rhododendron campanulatum	787317	3146073	3601	371	old
80	Rhododendron campanulatum	787126	3146000	3643	230	old
81	Rhododendron campanulatum	787126	3146000	3643	230	old
82	Rhododendron campanulatum	787125	3145955	3651	184	old
83	Rhododendron campanulatum	787125	3145955	3651	184	old
84	Rhododendron campanulatum	787127	3145943	3653	177	old
85	Rhododendron campanulatum	787138	3145939	3654	168	old
86	Rhododendron campanulatum	787138	3145939	3654	168	old
87	Rhododendron campanulatum	787138	3145939	3654	168	old
88	Rhododendron campanulatum	787138	3145939	3654	168	old
89	Rhododendron campanulatum	787138	3145939	3654	168	old
90	Rhododendron campanulatum	787151	3145922	3655	158	new
91	Rhododendron campanulatum	787151	3145922	3655	158	new
92	Rhododendron campanulatum	787224	3145871	3656	142	old
93	Rhododendron campanulatum	787224	3145871	3656	142	old
94	Rhododendron campanulatum	786848	3146322	3616	597	new
95	Rhododendron campanulatum	786848	3146322	3616	597	new

96	Rhododendron campanulatum	786659	3146623	3658	963	new
97	Rhododendron campanulatum	786659	3146623	3658	963	new
98	Rhododendron campanulatum	786659	3146623	3658	963	new
99	Rhododendron campanulatum	786581	3147372	3704	1690	old
100	Betula utilis	787023	3146139	3610	377	new
101	Sorbus sps	787015	3146114	3626	365	new
102	Betula utilis	787029	3146094	3629	329	new
103	Betula utilis	787042	3146084	3624	317	old
104	Rhododendron campanulatum	787042	3146084	3624	317	old
105	Rhododendron campanulatum	787042	3146084	3624	317	old
106	Betula utilis	787022	3146019	3636	314	old
107	Rhododendron campanulatum	787008	3146019	3642	265	new
108	Rhododendron campanulatum	787008	3146019	3642	265	new
109	Rhododendron campanulatum	787028	3145941	3659	185	old
110	Rhododendron campanulatum	787028	3145941	3659	185	old
111	Rhododendron campanulatum	787028	3145941	3659	185	old
112	Rhododendron campanulatum	787028	3145941	3659	185	old
113	Rhododendron campanulatum	787035	3145915	3668	160	old
114	Rhododendron campanulatum	787035	3145915	3668	160	old
115	Rhododendron campanulatum	787035	3145915	3668	160	old
116	Rhododendron campanulatum	787032	3145908	3673	155	new
117	Rhododendron campanulatum	787032	3145908	3673	155	new
118	Sorbus sps	787056	3145865	3686	106	old
119	Rhododendron campanulatum	787137	3145882	3681	113	new
120	Rhododendron campanulatum	787137	3145882	3681	113	new
121	Rhododendron campanulatum	787137	3145882	3681	113	new
122	Rhododendron campanulatum	787148	3145879	3673	120	old
123	Rhododendron campanulatum	787148	3145879	3673	120	old
124	Rhododendron campanulatum	787148	3145879	3673	120	old

125	Rhododendron campanulatum	787148	3145879	3673	120	old
126	Rhododendron campanulatum	787143	3145872	3675	110	old
127	Rhododendron campanulatum	787143	3145872	3675	110	old
128	Rhododendron campanulatum	787128	3145818	3691	50	old
129	Betula utilis	787158	3145815	3680	67	old
130	Betula utilis	787158	3145815	3680	67	old
131	Betula utilis	787168	3145815	3678	65	old
132	Betula utilis	787168	3145815	3678	65	old
133	Rhododendron campanulatum	787083	3145732	3692	50	new
134	Rhododendron campanulatum	787083	3145732	3692	50	new