

Project Update: April 2013

Workshop for Influential people

Before organising the workshop, a consultation meeting was conducted with the chairperson and secretary of Wetland Conservation Teacher's Network. The network was formed by combining teachers of different schools around Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. Similarly, a consultation meeting was conducted with the Council of Bufferzone Management Committee. During the consultation meeting, plan and facilities of the project during workshop was well informed so that participants would participate energetically. However, the meeting concluded that the travel allowance and daily allowance must be managed to make enthusiastic participation of influential people. That's why the programme was postponed a week from previously fixed date of March 5th, 2013 to consider the suggestions from the two organisations. Later, a workshop was conducted in Koshi Bird Observatory from March 12th to 15th 2013. A total of 40 participants from 14 schools, eight buffer zone committees, four youth clubs and five women's groups were invited. However, a total 31 participants were presented in the programme.

The workshop was completed by conducting the following activities.

1. Introduction among participants and their views on conservation.
2. Avifauna and significance of birds.
3. Videos show; Life of Bird.
4. Presentation on protected areas of Nepal and their conservation values.
5. Brief introduction on globally threatened birds of Nepal.
6. Status of globally threatened wetland birds of Nepal.
7. Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve; Significance, Threat and Challenge.
8. Video shows: crazy birders and The Big Year.
9. Roles of individuals, youth club, schools and other organizations to save birds and nature.
10. Organisations working for nature conservation in Nepal; DNPWC, WWF, IUCN, NTNC, ICIMOD, BCN and Rufford.
11. Video Shows: Awash with Birds by RSPB.
12. Bengal Florican and its conservation.
13. Why do bird watching? Guidelines for bird watching.
14. Observation of existing threats to wetland birds and their habitats.
15. Excursion on Bird Watching.

Radio Programme

A programme named “Simsar Samrachan Abhiyan (Campaign for Wetland Bird Conservation)” will be broadcast from Saptakoshi FM Radio Station twice a week from May 15th, 2013. The scripts for radio programme have been prepared. The script contains importance of birds, protected areas of Nepal, interview with bird experts, chief warden of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, Chairperson and secretary of Wetland Conservation Network and Chairperson and secretary of Bufferzone council, conservation status of globally threatened birds and mammals and conservation status of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and other Ramsar Sites of Nepal. During the same duration, short message before news will also be broadcast for a month.

The effectiveness of both programme and broadcasting short messages will be reviewed after 1 month by doing survey among 100 audiences. Best on effectiveness of the practices, effective one programme will be continued. The review of radio programme of the first Rufford Grant in Chitwan has also revealed that short message before and after news was more effective than the programme.

