

Progress Report II

Migratory Wetland Bird Conservation Program in Chitwan -Annapurna Landscape, Nepal

Submitted by

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1. Community and School Awareness Program

a. School Awareness

School awareness programs were conducted in Kalligandaki valley within in Chitwan- Annapurna Landscape. In the valley, the awareness program was organized in Shree Janashakti higher secondary school, only higher secondary school in Kagbeni VDC where students from surrounding villages attend the school. Total 64 students and 18 teachers were participated. The course of the program was delivered based on the short course designed as mentioned below before commencement of the project.

The contents of the course were:

1. Birds of Nepal
2. Migratory Birds
3. Causes of Migration
4. Types of habitats during migration (Winter Habitat, Summer Habitat and Stop over habitat)
5. Some local examples of migratory birds
6. Practical actions; listing of birds seen throughout the year and not seen throughout the year

Students and teachers were found very enthusiastic about migratory birds. Many questions were raised about the migration of birds and other animal. The students and teacher particularly in Kagbeni village were excited to watch movie on migratory bird that was actually shot on their locality as huge flux of Demoiselle Crane migrates through their village every year. Students and teachers requested to repeat the movie as they like to identify every place of their place within the movie.



b. Community Awareness

Community Awareness Programs were organized in Kagbeni of Kaligandaki Valley, Rupa Lake of Pokhara valley and Ponkar Lake of Bhimtang Valley within Chitwan Annapurna Landscape. Kagbeni is famous place in Nepal for Hindu Pilgrims. The cultivated field in the village is used by Demoiselle Crane during migration, mostly when weather becomes obstacle to cross Himalaya. Therefore, this village was in focus of this project. Additionally, awareness campaign was conducted in Thoche VDC of Chitwan Annapurna Landscape which was not planned. However, the Ponkar Lake in the VDC located at elevation of 4200m which is important for wetland bird migration when they migrate back. On May 15 and 16, total 39 birds of 13 species were recorded. Therefore, an awareness campaign was conducted for women group of Bhimtang valley.

In Kagbeni, 51 Persons (Members of CAMC, Mother Group, Youth Club, Village leader, anti-Poaching Sub Committee and Villagers) were participated on awareness program. In Bhimtang valley, 21 participants were presented in the program.



2. Bird Watching Training

Begnas and Rupa Lake are important lakes within seven lakes complex in Pokhara Valley. This complex has been enlisted as Ramsar Site in Feb 2016. That's why this project has recognized the area as bird watching hot spot and conducted bird watching training to youths of Rupa Lake area. Total 16 participants were presented in training. During the training, following matters were covered.

1. What are birds?
2. Types of birds

3. Bird Identification Techniques
4. Identification of Wetland birds
5. Bird Watching Tourism in the world
6. Migration of birds
7. Field Visit

During the field visit, 35 species of birds were recorded.



3. Radio Program

Short message as designed by the project has been broadcasted continually since commencement of the project from Radio and TV. The program contains message of wetland ecosystem. How does migratory birds survive and how they are important? The fertility of wetland are maintained by the combination of water and nutrients from surrounding watershed. These all information are contained within the message. Ultimate goal of this program is to encourage local people to save wetland birds.

4. World Migratory Bird Day

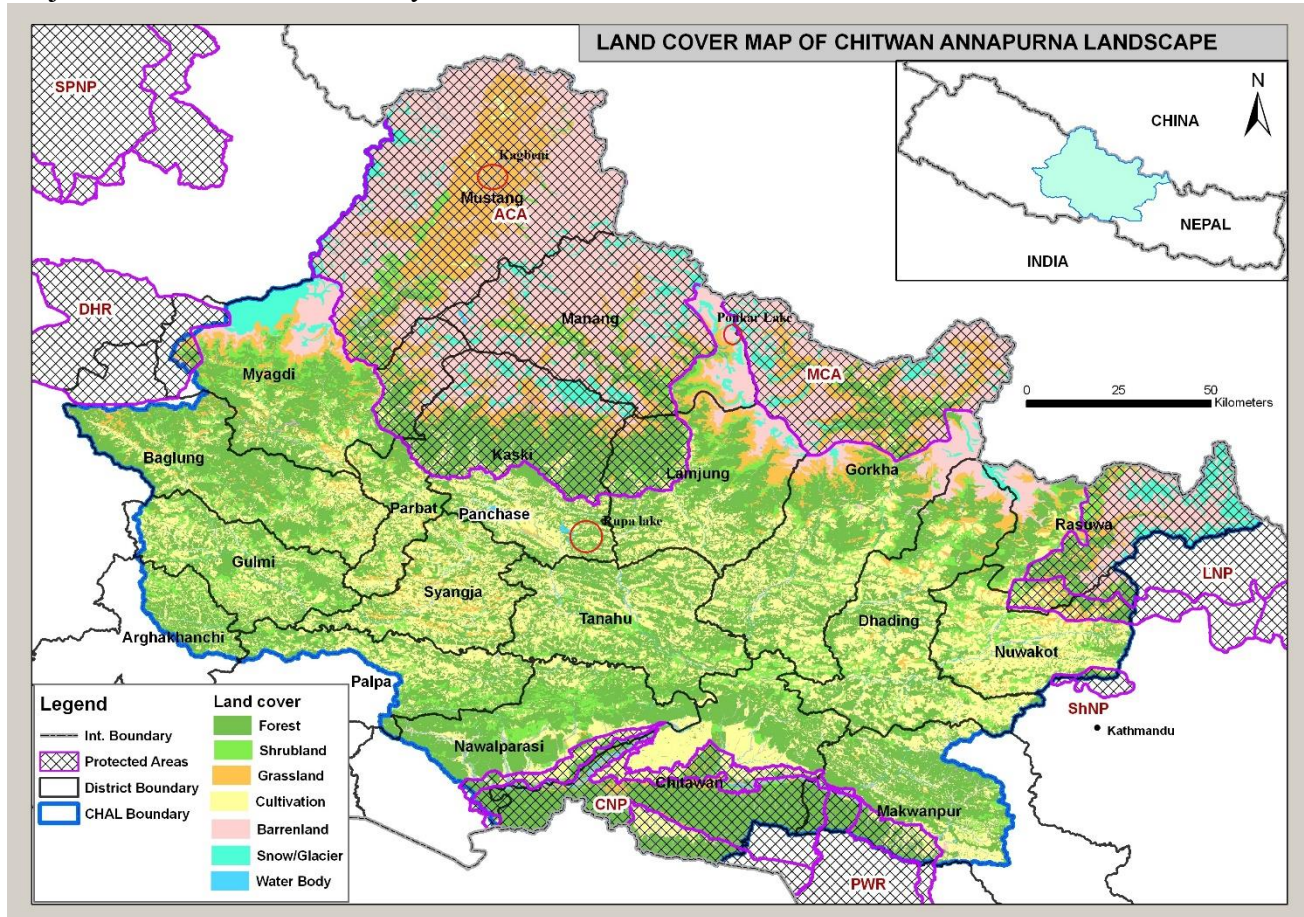
World Migratory Bird Day was celebrated in Pokhara valley during May 10 and 11, 2016 by conducting following program in conjunction with Institute of Forestry, Pokhara, Bird Conservation Nepal, Pokhara Branch and Alumni Association for Conservation and Development (AACD).

- a. Rally followed by flash mob and documentary show
- b. Bird Watching Program



Map:

Project activities area marked by red circle



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