

Project Update: February 2016

The project is progressing on track, in line with the proposed plan. The project commenced in July 2015 with start of reconnaissance survey; now the project has achieved first round of anthropogenic survey and population status survey as planned. Some challenges were faced during identification of intensive study area due to steep mountainous terrain and harsh climatic condition. Difficultly were also faced in catching up with nomads who move from place to place for pasture. However, challenges and difficulty faced didn't impact much on progress of project.

| Project key parameters | | Comment |
|------------------------|--------------|---|
| Schedule | On track | Started right after budget approval |
| Quality | On track | Execution in progress |
| Scope | On track | All ok |
| Budget | On track | Total: £4851 spent:£2560.00 remaining:£2291.00 |
| Risks | Minor risks | No major issues apart from harsh climatic condition |
| Issues | Minor issues | No major issues |

Specified target achieved are:

1. Reconnaissance survey.
2. Identification of intensive study area.
3. Anthropogenic pressure and population status survey.
4. Questionnaire survey.

1. Reconnaissance survey

Reconnaissance survey was carried out in mid-July 2015 for 2 weeks where we were able to delineate areas and record the feasibility of anthropogenic and population survey.

2. Identification of intensive study area

We were able to identify our intensive study area in WCNP in accordance with feasibility of landscape and climatic condition in consideration of expected population presence.

3. Anthropogenic pressure and population status survey

First round of survey was carried out from September-November 2015. In our field survey we were able to collect good data of pellet count and vegetation survey in regard to anthropogenic pressure. We are planning for second round of field survey in April 2016 due to thick snow cover and harsh weather condition in mountains currently.

4. Questionnaire survey

Interviewing nomads was one of the difficulties faced due to their constant movement from places to places. However, we have tried as much as we were able to, in our first round of questionnaire survey and we hope to get more respondents in our next trip. We also interviewed few forestry and field staff of WCNP.



Left: Clip of Study Area. Middle: Crews in the Field. Right: Yak Herds Sharing Habitats with Musk Deer.



Left: Musk Deer Feeding. Right: Musk Deer Resting Place.