

## Project Update: December 2015

Conflict refers to incidents of crop raiding, livestock predation, human injury and occasionally human death. From 2000-2010, Karnataka state alone witnessed compensation claims being filed for over 100,000 incidents. In 2011-2012, Rufford funded research by Dr Krithi Karanth that mapped risk of conflict for more than 2,000 villages around five wildlife reserves in Karnataka. Scientific research and media coverage suggested that response times were inordinately slow, and there is resentment building against wildlife, parks and authorities leading to retaliation against wildlife.

We built an early response feedback loop to ensure that responses to wildlife conflict are timely and better resolved. We developed a web portal, toll free number and SMS reporting system to create a response system and case histories for every conflict incident reported. From July 2015-November 2015, field staff visited 290 villages around Nagarahole and Bandipur. Our efforts have led to 1180 incidents being reported to us to date (908 crop loss, 56 livestock loss, 73 property damage, 9 human injury and 2 human death incidents) from 147 villages around Nagarahole and Bandipur. We have also completed > 500 conflict surveys to understand attitudes and practices of affected families which will help develop and identify additional coping mechanisms once the data are analysed.

Some pictures attached- they are not pleasant!



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