

Project Update: March 2016

The project fieldwork to assess ungulate relative abundance commenced in January 2016 and we have sampled a total of 30 grids until 10th March 2016 (each grid is 3.25 km² in area). Most grids which were sampled comprised of extremely undulating terrain, and eight grids could be accessed only by boat. Signs of four ungulate species, sambar deer (*Rusa unicolor*), gaur (*Bos gaurus*), wild pig (*Sus scrofa*), and muntjac (*Muntiacus muntjac*), were detected in some grids, and signs of sambar deer were most abundant in the sampled region. A few direct sightings of gaur, wild pig, sambar, and dhole (*Cuon alpinus*) occurred during this period. One instance of a sambar deer being hunted by locals was noted in a village in the study region. To create awareness about the project, a brief talk was given to villagers from the study region in a workshop organized for water conservation.

