



**Common Name:** Himalayan Black Bear, Moon bear, White Chested Bear

**Scientific name:** *Ursus thibetanus*

**Family :** Ursidae

**Category:** threatened to endangered species as per the IUCN red list and listed under schedule I in the FNCA of Bhutan

**Habitat:** tropical, subtropical, temperate broadleaved and conifer forests, 1200m to 3750m

**Threats:** Himalayan black bear faces survival threats from poaching, habitat loss, habitat degradation, retaliatory killing and increased pressure from other anthropogenic activities

According to Wangchuk et al. (2004), out of eight species of bears in the world, Bhutan is home to two species: The Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*) and Sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*).

**Know and Save the Bear**



# Evaluating Habitat and Human-Bear Conflict in Phrumshingla National Park, Bhutan - To Seek Solutions for Human-Bear Co-existence



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# Time Schedule

- Registration of the participant: 8.30 am
- Arrival of the Chief Guest, Chief Forestry Officer, PNP and forestry official: 9:00 am
- Welcome Note by the Chief Forestry Officer: 9:10 am-9:30 am
- Tea Break: 9:30 am-9:40 am
- Presentation: 9:30 am- 12:00 am
- Lunch Break : 12:00 am – 12:30 pm
- Presentation resumes: 12:30 pm- 3:30 pm
- Tea Break: 3:30 pm-3:40 pm
- Group activity and Discussions: 3:40 pm -4:20 pm
- Tea break and vote of thanks: 4:20 pm – 4:30 pm



# General Human Wildlife conflict ranking





# Nature/Cause of Conflict



# Presentation Outline

- Introduction
  - Human- Bear conflict scenario
  - Himalayan Black Bear Habitat, Status, Food preferences, explain about the bear behavior, food and feeding ecology of the bears,
  - Cause for Human-Bear Conflict
  - Sensitize on the laws and conservations policies with regard to human-wildlife conflicts.
  - Preventive measures first aid for bear attack to the local communities



- Human- Bear conflict scenario  
Himalayan Black Bear Habitat, Status, Food preferences, explain about the bear behavior, food and feeding ecology of the bears,





## Cause for Human-Bear Conflict





# Group Activities

- Assess the human-bear conflict management skills of the community and suggest more efficient and effective management and conservation skills.
- Importance for conservation of Himalayan Black Bear
- Attitude of peoples perception towards the bear
- Bear presence in their locality with mapping
- Major activities carried out in the locality



# Human Bear Conflict Scenario

- Globally, the Himalayan black bear faces survival threats from poaching, habitat loss, habitat degradation, retaliatory killing and increased pressure from other anthropogenic activities (Cowan 1972, Servheen 1990, Garshelis et al. 1999 and Kemp et al. 1999).
- Although large mammals such as the Himalayan Black Bear play a key role in the terrestrial ecosystem, their conservation and management remains a challenge due to increase in human population and decrease in natural resources (Berger, 2006).
- It is highly unpredictable in attacking human beings on bumping knowingly in forest or when mother is with cubs (Prater, 1980, Pillarisett, 1993, Nishith, 2008).



# Human-Bear Conflict Scenario

- It generally attacks human beings if disturbed while feeding on natural forest resources which are commonly shared by locals for food and their livelihood.
- The major food of sloth bear in the area is the fruits of *Cassia fistula* and *Zizyphus* among plants and honey, termites, ants etc among animals (Fig. 4.3). Which are also used by locals for food and making local beverages as well as trading.
- Most bear attacks occur during winter than summer
- Major time of attack occurred during the daytime or crepuscular time (dusky light)



# General Information

- Common Name: Himalayan Black Bear, Moon bear, White Chested Bear
- Scientific name: *Ursus thibetanus*
- Family : Ursidae
- Category: threatened to endangered species as per the IUCN red list and listed under schedule I in the FNCA of Bhutan
- Habitat: tropical, subtropical, temperate broadleaved and conifer forests, 1200m to 3750m

# Ecology of HBB

- According to Wangchuk et al. (2004), out of eight species of bears in the world, Bhutan is home to two species: The Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*) and Slot bear (*Melursus ursinus*).
- Inhabit tropical, subtropical, temperate broadleaved and conifer forests.
- May extend up to 4300 m and on rare occasions they may venture into alpine meadows, beyond the tree line
- Largely herbivorous and usually are not aggressive toward humans
- Diurnal but near human habitation they are nocturnal.



# Ecology of Himalayan Black Bear

- Good climbers and therefore, half of their lives are spend on trees. They climb to feed, rest, sun bath, escape/hide from the enemies and hibernate
- Generalist and feed on different food in different seasons
- Feed on succulent vegetation in spring, insects and variety of tree and shrub borne fruits in summer and nuts and acorns in autumn.
- Good proportion of meat which they either kill or scavenge

# Main Conflict

- According to Chauhan (2003) ; Sathyakumar and Choudhury (2008); and Charoo et al. (2009)
- Depredation of crops
- Killing of livestock and
- In extreme cases fatal attacks on humans



# Conservation Threats

- Habitat loss and fragmentation,
- Retaliatory killing, hunting, and
- Bile farming like countries in China ( Sathyakumar and Choudhury, 2008).

# Prevention strategy

- The residents of Thinleygang and Limbukha under Punakha district and Rubesa and Bjena under Wangdiphodrang district where the electric fences are installed expressed the electric fences as 100% effective in resolving the Human-Wildlife Conflict (Wangmo & Lekzom, 2016).
- Property damage and Compensation.



# Recent study conclusion

- The electric fences proved 100% effective.
- The highest and the frequent sightings/ incidences of HBBs were usually in the hot and warm seasons and the HBBs were least sighted during the winter months.
- The active hours of the HBBs were reported from Dusk till dawn.
- The cost of installation of the electric fences is far less than the total property damaged and lost in the HBC.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH ONE and ALL**

