

Project Update: February 2018

Here I am updating the project work for the second time. This time roadside survey, nest survey and interaction with local informers and key informants were deployed. Road side survey was done by following the same method of first survey. Local informers included youths and students from the vulture sighting sites during the previous field visit. Key informers comprised of district forest officers, community forest user groups committee members, coordinator of PASS Nepal, local leaders, teachers and other concerned local organisations.

This time only two species of vultures, Himalayan griffon and bearded vulture, were sighted while two other species, Egyptian vulture and red-headed vulture, which were sighted in the first field visit, were not sighted. Total number of individuals sighted during this field survey was 19; out of which 13 were Himalyan griffon and remaining six were bearded vultures. The detail of each sighted individuals is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Vultures of Salyan sighted in October, 2017

S.N	Species	Number of each species in all transects				Total Individuals
		Adult	Sub-adult	Juvenile	Unidentified	
1	Himalayan griffon	12	1	0	0	13
2	Bearded vulture	5	1	0	0	6
	Total	17	2	0	0	19

Nests have been recorded from six VDCs - Dhanwang, Kalimati Kalche, Sinbang, Damachaur, Pipalmeta and Bame. Altogether, 15 nests were located out of which nine were on the crown fork of Pine (*Pinus roxburghii*) tree while remaining six were recorded in rock cliffs. All the nests are yet to be confirmed to which species they belong to; as none of the species were sighted in nests and its periphery. Figure 1 depicts the nesting sites identified to date.

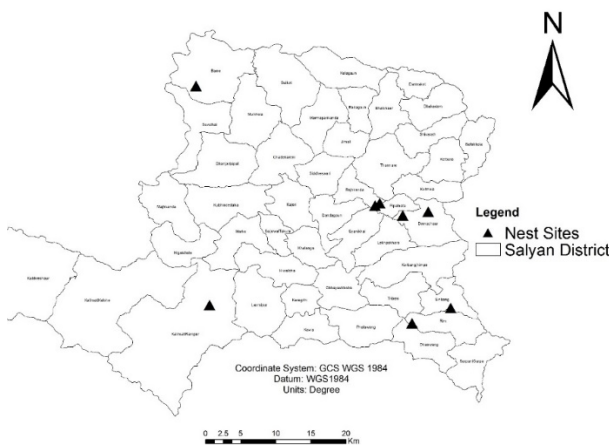


Fig. 1: Nesting sites of Vultures in Salyan District, Nepal



Above: Nest on Rock Cliff. Below: Nest on trunk of Pine tree.





Fig: Bearded vulture on feed