

Project Update: August 2018

The project was initiated after official permission from Department of Forest (DOF). During preliminary visits, discussions with community, farmers, local people, local birders and conservationists were done to understand status of Asian woollyneck in their area. We conducted key informants survey using email. Identification of nesting sites has been conducted through intensive survey following rivers and wetlands. We conducted household visits in nests vicinity. Total 60 households are visited and interviewed.

Moreover, informal mass discussion has also been conducted. The summer survey is complete and rainy season survey has been delayed by a heavy monsoon. Though lately we have been monitoring each nest closely with effective people's participation. We visited Dhading, Salyan and Jajarkot as per key informant discussion. Nests were also recorded from Dhading and Salyan. We initiated a "science and community" campaign. It has already been conducted in two localities in Arghakhanchhi and Pyuthan. People were really interested to our scientific work. We shared how we are working and they shared their daily experience with bird species. Currently, we are focused to prepare informative leaflets. Information about Asian woollyneck has been promoted through social media such as Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Asianwoollyneck/>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/awnstork/>). These social media initiations are getting attention more rapidly in the short period of time. An Asian woollyneck photo bank campaign has been initiated. We are discussing with birdwatchers, conservationists, researchers, professional bird guides and students about its more effective implementation. A informative presentation regarding our previous projects, learning and current issues for conservation of Asian woollyneck was made in "Bird watching and identification training 2018" organized by Bird Conservation Nepal, Pokhara Branch. Prospects of photo bank campaign were also discussed in the training.



Science and Community campaign at Bhumikasthan: Project Assistant Mr. Navin Pandey discussing about use of instruments for monitoring.



Researcher during his presentation on Status of Asian Woollyneck in Nepal.



Asian woollyneck in its nest at Arghakhanchhi District