Project Update: June 2023

Camera Trap Survey

A camera trap survey was conducted across the core area of Chitwan National Park. We overlaid 60 5 x 5 km grids in our study area. Among them, as per suitability, we only deployed cameras in 49 grids. We avoided grids that were in the settlement area, major river, and across international boundaries. The camera trap survey was conducted in two phases. Two citizen scientists with previous experience in wildlife research were oriented regarding the scientific research design and work division. We also oriented and mobilized local community people and park staff for the camera trap field. The camera traps were placed along the possible wild dog movement routes like forest roads, riverbanks, game trails, etc. In each station there were survey efforts of 21 nights. Among 49 camera traps stations, dholes were captured at 2 stations.

Cameras for Camera Trap Survey.

Orientation for citizen scientist.

Installing camera trap.

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Dholes captured during camera trap.

Sign Survey
We also conducted a sign survey in the 49 grids. We found many wildlife signs like Bengal tiger, one-horned rhinoceros, spotted deer, sambar deer, wild boar, etc.

Scat of Bengal Tiger in the field.

Scat Collection

We have also collected 11 samples of scats during the same field.

Collection of Dholes' Scat from field.

We presented our project progress at International Dhole Conference 2023 held in Sauraha, Chitwan, Nepal from 1-7 June 2023. We also discussed Dhole's Action Plan for Nepal during the conference.

Left: Project Progress presentation at the International Dhole Conference 2023. Right: Discussed on Dhole Action Plan for Nepal.

On the occasion of World Dhole Day (28th May 2023), a newspaper article entitled, "शिकार बनिरहेको शिकारी कुकुर or " The hunting dog are being hunted" was published in the national daily – Himal Khabar. The article was published in the local language – Nepali to ensure maximum outreach impact. The article has already been shared more than 3600 times.