

Final Evaluation Report

Your Details	
Full Name	Pujan Prasad Adhikari
Project Title	Status of, and conservation approach to, the Ganges River dolphin (<i>Platanista gangetica</i> Roxburgh, 1801) in Narayani River, Chitwan National Park, Nepal
Application ID	24881-1
Grant Amount	£5000
Email Address	pujan2046@gmail.com
Date of this Report	4 June, 2019

1. Indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
To determine the population status of Ganges River dolphin in Narayani River.				
To prepare the current distributional map of Ganges River dolphin in Narayani River.				
To estimate the conservation threats for Ganges River dolphin in Narayani River.				
To understand the perception and attitude towards Ganges River dolphin conservation.				
To generate awareness and educational programs for conservation of Ganges River dolphin in Narayani River.				DNPWC did not give permission for video preparation.

2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled.

Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) did not give permission for video preparation. DNPWC required permission from Ministry of Information and Communication Technology. It requires more process and documentation, which was not afforded by our budget. So the video preparation objective was cancelled. The budget of video preparation has been used in field work.

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

a. Population status and Distributional map

The survey was conducted during monsoon and post monsoon season. The route of survey was Tribeni to Baguban area of Narayani River, covered around 20 km. From this project work, we have concluded that there are two dolphins in Narayani River.

Table 1: Population status of Dolphin in Narayani River

Season	Dolphin Recorded	Date	Population	Location
Pre- Monsoon	According to Chairperson of Tribeni Buffer zone committee; During patrolling	April, 2018	2	Velauji / Kathauna area (27.524369 83.962151)

Monsoon	According to fisherman villager	and June, 2018	2 (one adult and other one baby)	(Tribeni Ghat) 27.452192 83.934300
	Our team	July, 2018	1 (adult)	
Post monsoon	Our team	October, 2018	2 adult (black and reddish brown)	(Bhim-bandh) 27.513237 83.933803

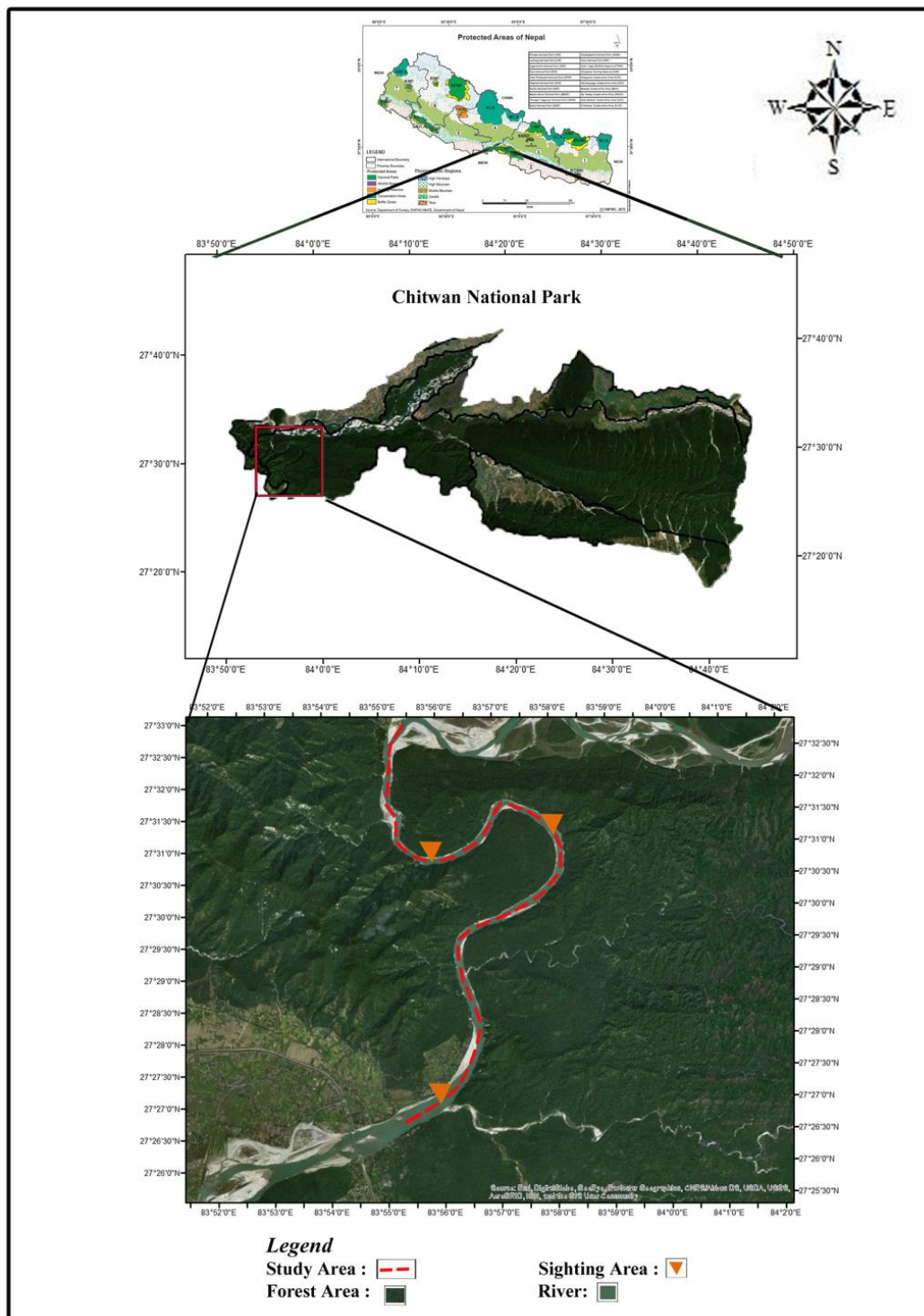


Figure 1: Distributional map of Ganges River dolphin in Narayani River

b. Status of respondents; and Perception and attitude towards Ganges River dolphin

Status of respondents

The study involved 264 respondents, of which 90 were brahamin and chhetri, and 174 were other (Magar, Manjhi, Chaudhary and Madhesiya). In 264 respondents, 192 male and 72 female respondents were participated. The age of respondent was 18 years to above.

Table 2: Respondent's educational status

		Brahamin and chhetri	Other (M, M, C, and M)	Illiterate	Literate
Male	192	72	120	102 (53.12%)	90 (46.8%)
Female	72	18	54	42 (58.33%)	30 (41.46%)
Total	264	90	174	144 (54.54%)	120 (45.45%)

Table 3: Brahamin & chhetri, and other's educational status

Cast	Respondents	Illiterate	Literate
Brahamin and chhetri	90	24 (26.66%)	66 (73.33%)
Other	174	120 (68.96%)	54 (31.03%)
Total	264	144	120

Among the 264 respondents only 174 have access in agricultural land. 4.68% (8) respondents use chemical fertiliser, 20.68% (36) use organic manure as a fertiliser and 72.4% (126) use both chemical and organic manure in agricultural land for crop production. Out of the 264 respondents, only 78 have involved in fishing activity where 66 are Manjhi and 12 are Chaudhary. For fishing activities 62 use net and six use hooks. The entire fishing household are unknown dolphin as endangered.

164 (62.12%) out of the total respondent, have seen dolphin in Narayani River. According to them 78 (29.5%) have known about it but have not seen yet. And 12 (4.54%) respondents are unknown dolphin presence in Narayani River. According to report, 72 (27.27%) know the Ganges River dolphins are endangered aquatic mammals and 192 (72.72%) are unaware about it.

Table 4: Shows the purpose of going to river besides fishing

Firewood collection	42 (15.9%)	24 (9.09%)	12 (4.54%)
Bathing and swimming	48 (18.18%)		
Scenic view	138 (52.27%)		
Occasionally just visit	60 (22.72%)		
Total 204 and remaining 60 were occasionally visit in Narayani River			

Perception and attitude towards Ganges River dolphin

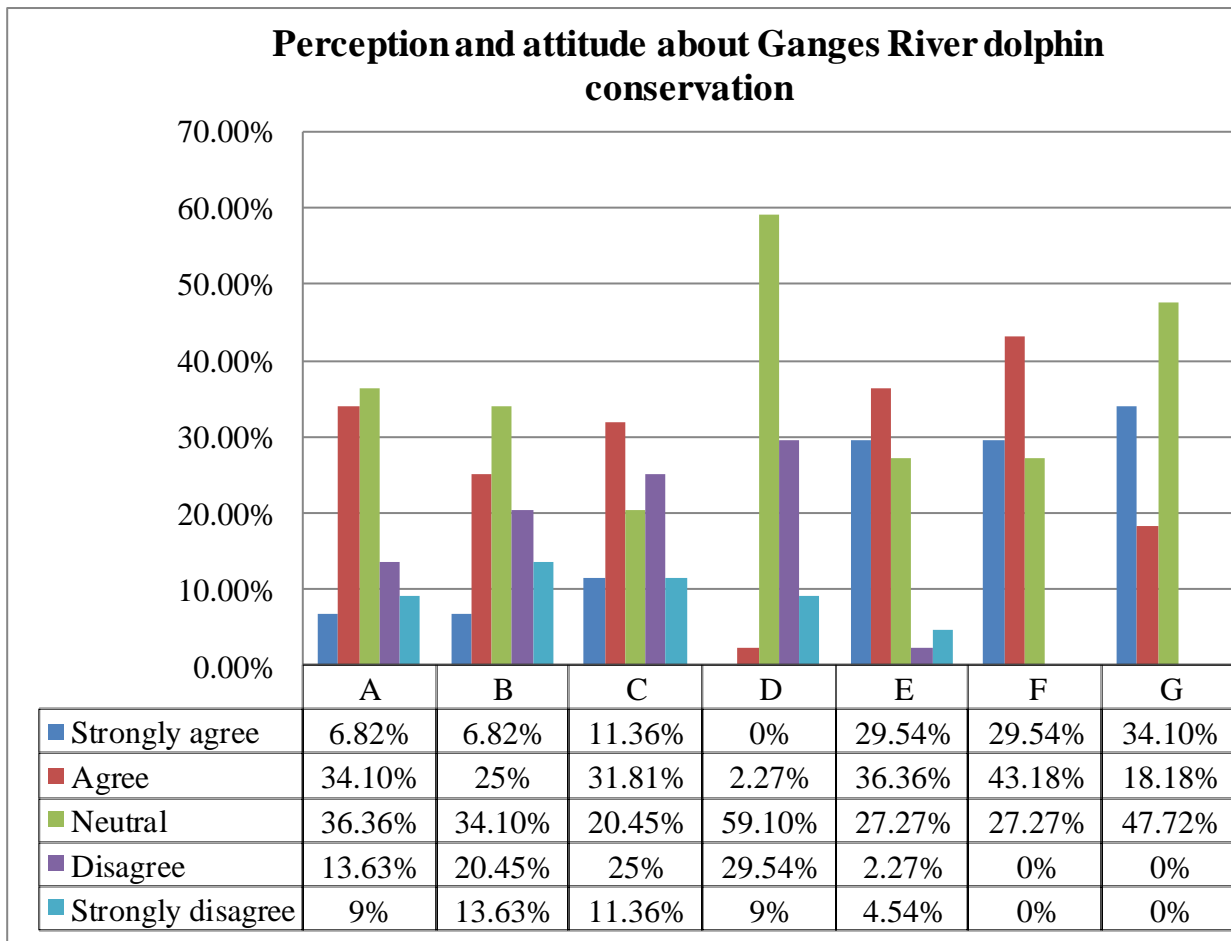


Figure 2: Shows the Perception and attitude about dolphin conservation in Narayani River.

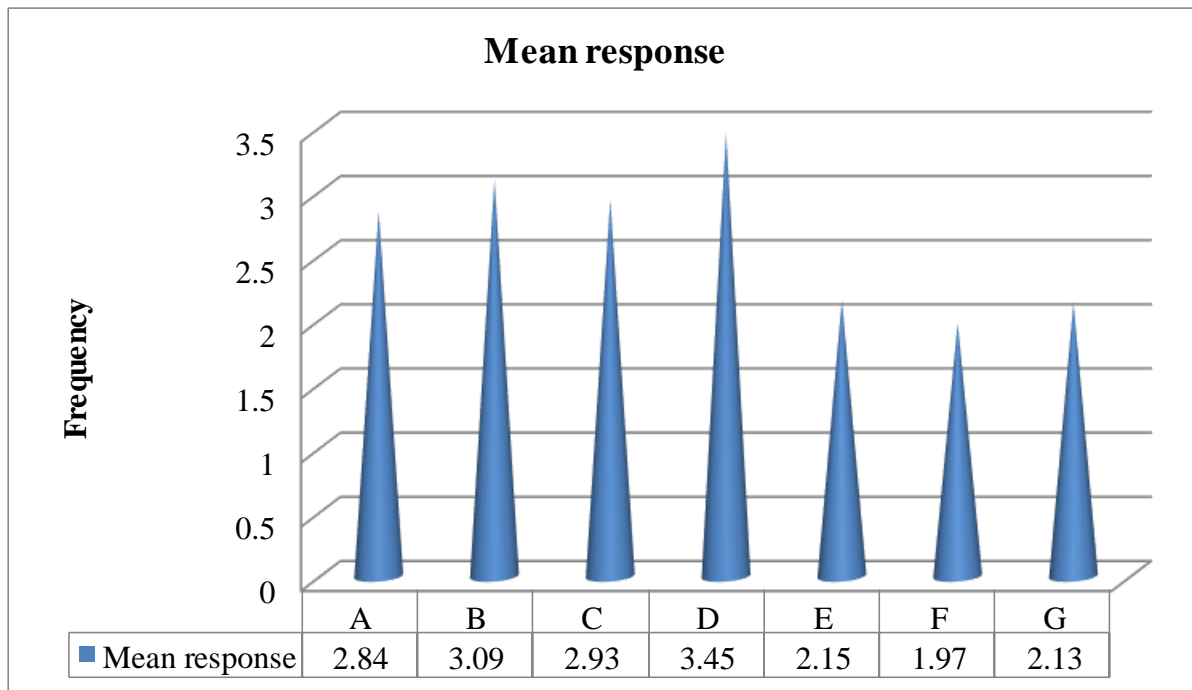


Figure 3: Shows the mean response of statements

Index for statements

- A= Dolphins are affected by fishing, boating and damming.
- B= Intensive fishing activity causes depletion of prey availability of dolphin.
- C= Dolphins are affected by water pollution.
- D= Dolphin kills is good for human.
- E= People (public) participation is significant in dolphin conservation.
- F= Implementing dolphin conservation projects in this area help to conserve dolphins.
- G= Conservation of dolphins benefits people.

The majority of respondents showed to some extent disagree that dolphins are affected by fishing, boating and damming activities through 2.84; dolphins are affected by water pollution through 2.93; Implementing dolphin conservation projects in this area help to conserve dolphins through 2.15 and conservation of dolphins benefits people through 2.13 mean responses. The majority of respondents showed some extents agree about intensive fishing activity causes depletion of prey availability of dolphin and dolphin kills is good for human with mean responses 3.09 and 3.45 respectively. The majority of the respondents showed his disagree about implementing dolphin conservation projects in this area help to conserve dolphins through 1.97 mean responses.

c. Conservation threats

Some conservation threats have been recorded during study period. They are as follows.

Fishing

Most of the poor and indigenous tharu, manjhi, and madhesiya are live around the Narayani River. Many of them are depend on river. They are use net and hook for fishing.

Pollution

Most of people use chemical fertiliser for agricultural production. These agrochemical products harm the dolphin and other aquatic lives indirectly through food chain. In Hindu culture, River is a symbol of God Ganga. Every religious activity is not completed without the river. And Devghat and Tribeni are more popular pilgrim site for many devotee and also lie in beach of river. In this way, they become the main cause of pollution because of their daily used wastage products. Moreover, Hindu community also use river for funeral ceremony which also promote pollution as well.

Lack of education

The study shows most of the people who live near the river are uneducated and are unaware about dolphin is endangered.

Lack of policy implementation

In this area, people make openly larger net and it is being used for fishing without any fear. In Narayani River, they use net and hook for fishing. Although these activities are taken as illegal, fishing activities is going on.

Barrage

A large barrage lies between Nepal and India. It disturbs dolphin and aquatic lives freely moving here and there.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project.

Involvement of local people through

- Individual interview.
- Questionnaire survey.
- Awareness programme.
- Fieldwork.

Local people and school's students were directly or indirectly involved through above activities. They were participated in awareness programme, and got knowledge about river system, importance of river, detail information about dolphin, importance of dolphin and other aquatic lives. They also acknowledged how to conserve nature of river and aquatic animals in their own habitat etc.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

The chairman of Tribeni Buffer Zone committee and the assistance administrator of Tribeni Rang post office were involved. They realised that the responsibility in conservation of dolphin. Rest of the participants motivated for conservation of river system and dolphin.

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

The results of this project will be provided to Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), Chitwan National Park (CNP) and Tribeni Buffer zone committee.

7. Timescale: Over what period was the grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

We used the Rufford Foundation grant from May 2018 to April 2019. Before using of grant and plan implementation; we planned project activities and project budget very well. So, we did not face any problems.

8. Budget: Provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used. It is important that you retain the management accounts and all paid invoices relating to the project for at least 2 years as these may be required for inspection at our discretion.

Item	Budgeted Amount (£)	Actual Amount (£)	Difference (£)	Comments
Field allowance	2,812	2917	+105	Due to slightly increase in labour cost.
Rafting cloths	65	65		
Travel	181	181		
Communication	58	58		
Field equipment rents	181	115	-66	Hired from the friends.
Annual calendar preparation and distribution	580	580		
Brochures preparation and distribution	36	65	+29	Due to quality maintenance.
Awareness program expenses	739	739		
Report preparation, Data analysis, mapping and Video preparation	290	190	-100	Could not prepare the video.
Miscellaneous	58	90	+32	Due to unexpected

				expense.
Total	5000	5000		Exchange rate 1 £=NRs 141

9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

- Very initial level of awareness programme should be launched for conservation of River and aquatic lives.
- Pollution should be controlled.
- Fishing should be regulation.
- Effectiveness of regulation should be monitored and evaluated.
- Alternative way of living (life depends/ income source) should be provided to fisherman for controlling their dependency on river for daily life.

10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

The Rufford Foundation logo has been used in brochures, flex, calendars and awareness raising activities. The Rufford Foundation has received publicity during the course of this work.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Members of team

Pujan Prasad Adhikari: project coordinator.

Pradip Subedi: Field Assistant.

Pavan Kumar Paudel: Field Assistant.

Jayaram Adhikari: plan implementation adviser.

Laxman Prasad Gautam: Field Adviser (Chairman of Tribeni Buffer Zone committee).

Gopal Bote: Field Adviser (Assistance Administrator of Tribeni Rang post).

Prabhu Shahani: Boater.

Min Bahadur Dega Magar: Boater.

Manoj Kumar Manjhi: Boater.

Durga Prasad Dhakal: Assistant.