

Project Update: July 2020

As according to our submitted proposal, we needed to arrange the meetings with wildlife staff and local community. Though we conducted those meetings in March 2019, at that time we were not sure regarding project approval and the funds were not transferred until October 2019, therefore we could not keep the records of those meetings. I discussed the issue with Deputy Director of wildlife department of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and he advised me to arrange a 1-day community awareness programme along with poster presentation (under COVID-19 situation). The idea was very productive for bear conservation in the AJ&K. We then printed 500 posters (under same budget) regarding bear safety tips mainly in Urdu and English languages. The purpose of the posters was to educate the community as to how they can save their lives and their livestock and crops against the bear attacks. On July 23rd, 2020 we arranged the programme in Behri village of Machiara National Park and distributed the posters among the local people. Remaining posters were handed over to the deputy director of Wildlife department aimed with pasting them throughout the areas of State of Azad Jammu and Kashmir where human black bear conflict was previously reported.



