



TRAFFIC



SNARING OF BIG CATS IN MAINLAND ASIA



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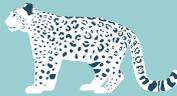
A MINIMUM OF
**387 CAPTURED
IN SNARES**



130 TIGER



245 LEOPARD



1 SNOW LEOPARD

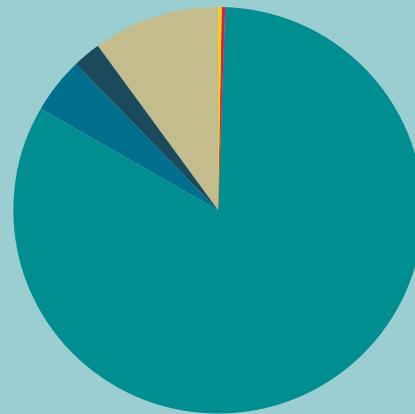


2 LION



9 ASIAN BIG CAT

BIG CAT MORTALITY FROM SNARES BY COUNTRY



- Bangladesh-2
- China-1
- India-320
- Malaysia-17
- Nepal-9
- Sri Lanka-38



The majority of snaring cases occurred outside Protected Areas

65%
for tiger

93%
for leopard

Data on the capture of *Panthera* cats across all Asian countries between 2012 and 2021 was collated from open-source media reports and publications, the Wildlife Trade Information System of TRAFFIC and official databases of the Indian National Tiger Conservation Authority. Where stated we recorded the reason snares were set and the location of the snaring incident.

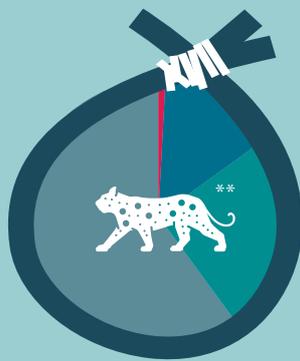


THE BIG CATS IN ASIA : 2012-2021

MOTIVATION FOR BIG CAT SNARING INCIDENTS



* Tiger



** Leopard

-  Retaliatory killing following human wildlife conflict
-  Accidental captures in snares set to protect crops
-  Targeted poaching for big cats
-  Accidental capture in snares set for ungulates

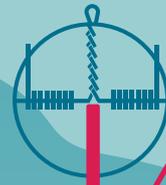
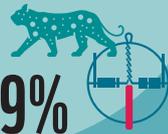
50%

of tiger snaring incidents were targeted poaching for tiger



59%

of leopard snaring incidents were a result of capture in snares set for ungulates



54%

for tiger

56%

for leopard

% of cases when the reason the snare was set is unknown

From 2012 to 2019

From 2012 and 2019 between 2 and 14 tigers were caught in snares annually in India

During the same period between 17 and 29 tigers were poached annually

Therefore snaring may be the cause of >40% of tiger poaching mortality in India



ASK A RANGER

FIELD PERCEPTIONS OF THE ASIAN SNARING CRISIS IN BHUTAN, INDIA, NEPAL, MONGOLIA, AND PAKISTAN

854 RANGERS INTERVIEWED



- Bhutan-46
- India-463
- Mongolia-57
- Nepal-157
- Pakistan-131



20.4%

reported big cat captures by snares in their protected area in the past 12 months

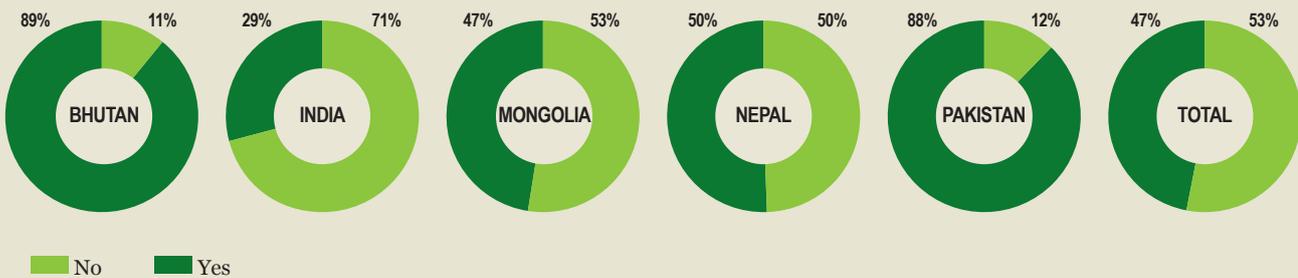
Approximately

85%

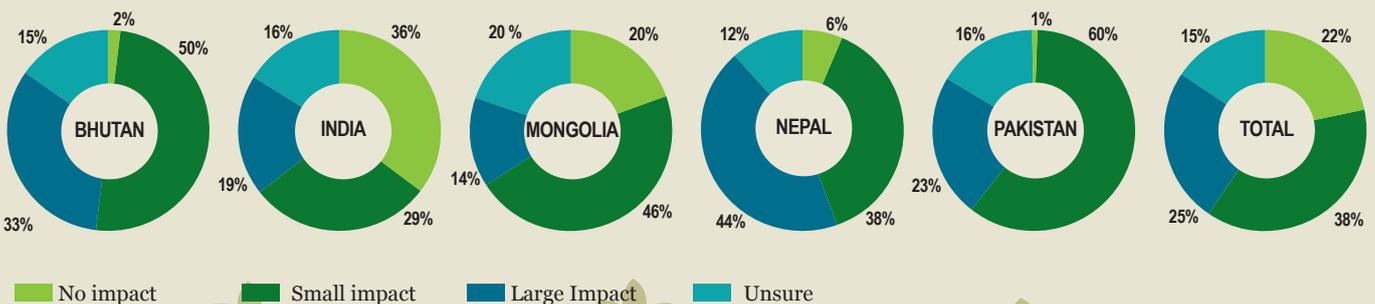


involved in direct law enforcement patrols

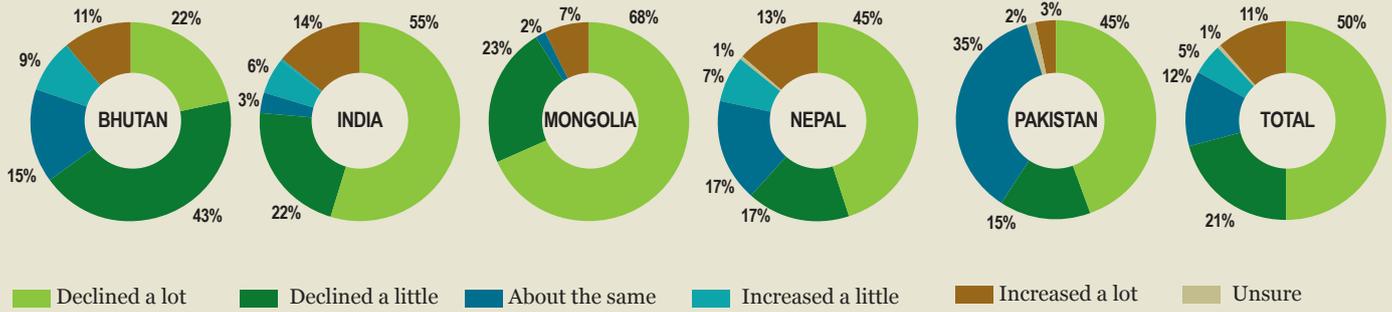
Did you personally see any wildlife snares during the past 12-months?



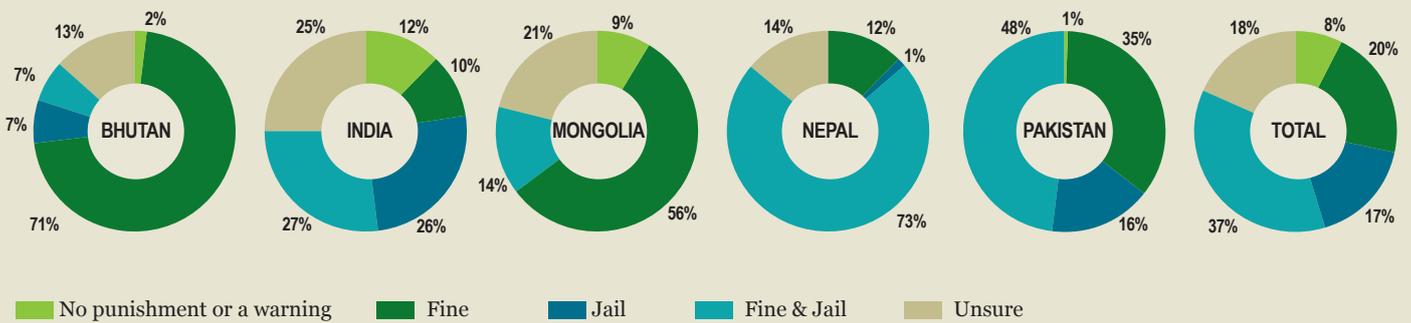
How much of an impact is snaring having on the wildlife in your conservation area?



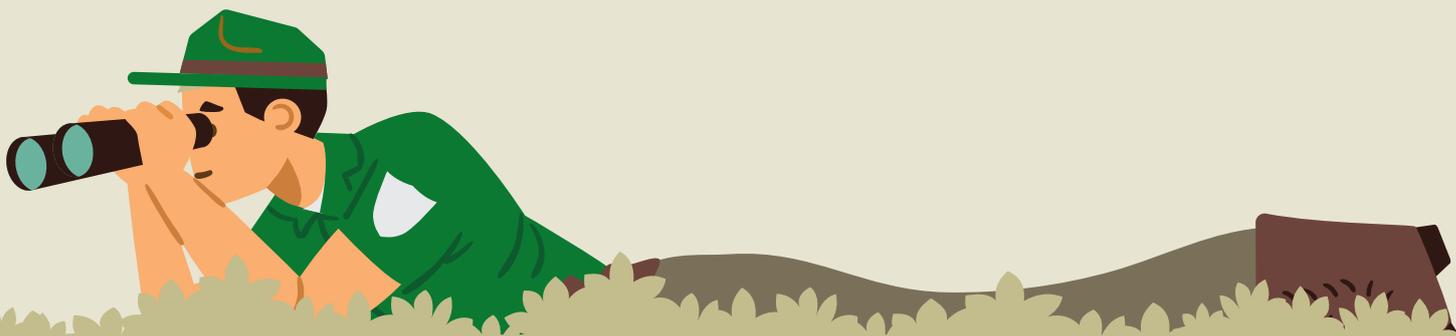
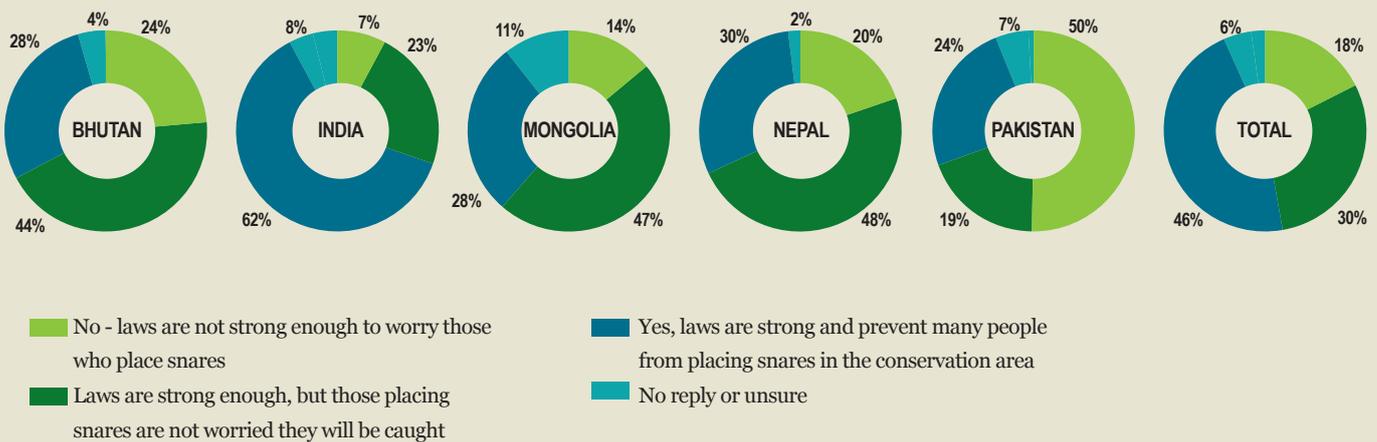
Since you first started working as a ranger or manager, what do you believe the snaring trend has been?



Of those apprehended for snaring incidents in your conservation area, what is the most common outcome?



Do you believe laws currently in place are strong enough to deter those who would place snares in your conservation area? Select the answer that best applies:



RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS TH

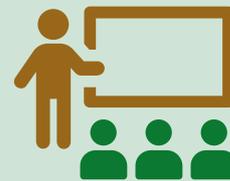
LOCAL COMMUNITIES



Introduce and scale programs that provide local peoples with the resources and incentives to lead snare-reduction activities.



Promote less lethal alternative methods for the prevention of crop raiding by ungulates. This will require civil society and government support in identifying, and making available, context-appropriate alternatives, and doing so in a manner that is cost-effective for local adoption.



Provide outreach to local communities regarding the indiscriminate impacts of snaring on non-target species, their role in depleting biodiversity and cultural resources, and the penalties for their use under existing laws.

LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT



Raise awareness at all levels in the enforcement chain - including rangers, police, prosecutors, and judges - on the serious impacts of snaring, and the legal tools available to combat it.



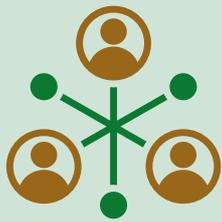
Increase the detectability of snares by law enforcement units through, for example, providing metal detectors or canine units trained to find snares, and through Artificial Intelligence modeling of snare hotspots.



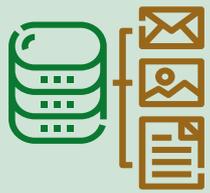
Targeted patrolling to remove snares, including outside protected areas, by foot-based patrol units.

THE MAINLAND ASIAN SNARING CRISIS

POLICY AND CIVIL SOCIETY



Build partnership with relevant agencies and stakeholders (law enforcement, district administrations, community organisations, agriculture departments, etc.) that have authority and involvement outside protected areas.



Establish effective data management systems to comprehensively record and analyze snaring incident data, including geographic and temporal information, mortality of non-target species, and any known reasons for snare use. To increase the value of such data, similar systems should be adopted across and between countries.



Implement targeted evidence-based behavioral change campaigns to reduce demand for tiger and leopard parts in consumer countries and to reduce urban demand for wildlife meat consumption.



Better engage social science expertise to undertake targeted research aimed at understanding the drivers of snaring, so as to better shape snare-reduction strategy for effective policy development.



Ensure that all applicable legislation clearly defines snares and contains strong punishments for snaring. These should be commensurate with the killing of the most strongly protected species given the indiscriminate nature of snares.



Partner with communities to identify areas at high risk of snaring and establish community anti-snare units.



Prohibit materials used to make snares inside protected areas should be strongly prohibited under law.



Increase the number, and improve the welfare, of rangers across all Asian Big Cat landscapes.



Assess how legislation can better address the issue of snaring outside of protected areas.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a young tree sapling in a forest. The person is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt and a silver metal watch on their left wrist. The background is a blurred natural setting with trees and foliage.

OUR MISSION IS TO CONSERVE NATURE AND REDUCE THE MOST PRESSING THREATS TO THE DIVERSITY OF LIFE ON EARTH.

TRAFFIC

Our mission is to ensure the trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature.



Working to sustain the natural world for the benefit of people and wildlife.

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