

Status of human-wildlife conflicts in the lower Namkha region, Humla, Nepal

Tenzing Lama¹, Pema Tsoijom Lama¹, Rinzin Phunjok Lama^{1,*}

¹Third Pole Conservancy, GPO Box 26288, Kathmandu, Nepal

Introduction

- Namkha: largest rural municipality in Nepal
- Rich in highland biodiversity (wildlife)
- Non-protected landscape, overlooked in terms of conservation
- First ever assessment of human-wildlife conflict in lower Namkha

Methodology

- Municipality level focal group discussion and participatory livestock mortality cause identification and their rankings
- Semi-structured questionnaire survey with 100 households



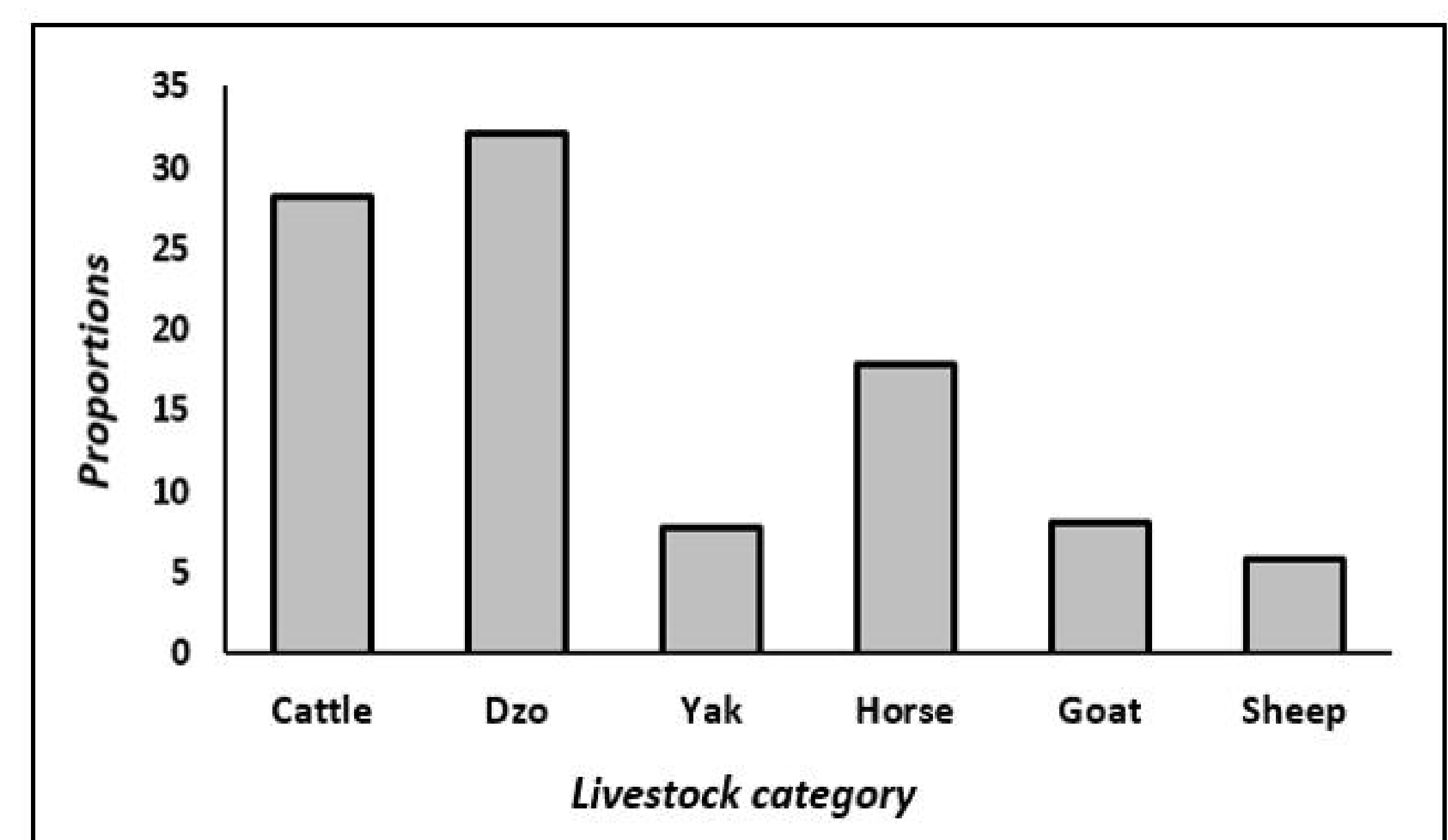
First photographic record of snow leopard in Humla

Results

Livestock mortality causes and their ranking

Livestock mortality causes	Ward number					Average score
	2	3	4	5	6	
Natural death	4	3	5	6	5	4.6
Accident	7	6	4	5	3	5
Disease	11	8	7	7	4	7.4
Snow/cold	4	6	6	10	4	6
Snow leopard	4	9	3	7	11	6.8
Leopard	2	1	2	4	0	1.8
Himalayan wolf	5	0	0	7	9	4.2
Golden jackal	5	4	6	2	0	3.4
Himalayan black bear	6	10	5	6	0	5.4
Red fox	0	3	1	0	0	0.8
Golden eagle	1	2	4	3	0	2
Feral dog	6	0	10	6	0	4.4

Livestock holdings



Livestock losses

Livestock category	Livestock mortality causes						Total
	Accident/ Natural death	Disease	Snow leopard	Leopard	Wolf	Himalayan black bear	
Cattle	23	21	1		1	7	53
Dzo	19	15				6	40
Yak	6	9					15
Horse	24	29					53
Goat	7	24		3	1		35
Sheep	12	10			4		26
Total	91	108	1	3	6	13	222
Proportions	40.99	48.65	0.45	1.35	2.70	5.86	100

Local's attitude towards wildlife

Wildlife species	Response in (%)				
	Strongly like	Like	Neutral	Dislike	Strongly dislike
Blue sheep	81	18	1		
Musk deer	87	11	2		
Himalayan langur		10	25	35	30
Porcupine		2	13	37	48
Snow leopard	3	28	39	18	12
Himalayan wolf	1	19	31	31	18
Leopard	1	20	42	24	13
Black bear		4	24	28	37
Golden jackal		11	24	28	37
Red fox	12	47	22	11	8

Conclusion

- Disease is the main cause for livestock mortality
- Porcupine and Himalayan langur are major crop raider
- Local's showed more acceptance to snow leopard but least to Himalayan black bear

Future needs

- Biodiversity assessment including species distribution and conflict hotspots mapping
- Strengthening and capacity building of locals institutions
- Conservation education and conflict mitigation

Acknowledgements

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