



2015 Annual Report

The Snow Leopard Network (SLN) is a worldwide organization dedicated to facilitating the exchange of information between individuals around the world for the purpose of snow leopard conservation. Our membership includes leading snow leopard experts in the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

The main goal of this organization is to implement the Snow Leopard Survival Strategy (SLSS), which offers a comprehensive analysis of the issues facing snow leopard conservation today.

SLN Steering Committee (2015-2017):

Ms. Lu Zhi, Ph.D. (People's Republic of China) - Chair
Mr. John Farrington (Bhutan) - Member
Mr. Kun Shi, Ph.D. (People's Republic of China) - Member
Mr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz, Ph.D. (Pakistan) - Member
Ms. Sibylle Noras (Australia) - Member
Mr. S. Sathyakumar, Ph.D. (India) - Member
Mr. Steve Redpath, Ph.D. (United Kingdom) - Member

Charudutt Mishra, Executive Director

The SLN Steering Committee is supported by:
Rakhee Karumbaya, Program Coordinator

Steering Committee Meeting

The Steering Committee held a meeting (via Skype) in February 2015 which introduced all new members to each other and identified items for support by the SC in the forthcoming year. Items included the Snow Leopard Survival Strategy, the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program, the Grants Program and the role of the SLN in lobbying on snow leopard policy issues.

Snow Leopard Survival Strategy (SLSS)

After the renewal and complete update of the SLSS in late 2014, the editors and then Steering Committee under Chair Dr David Mallon decided to create a website

for the SLSS to be an evergreen document able to be updated as major new research and information becomes available.

The SLSS website was completed and launched in march 2015 at this web address. <http://www.snowleopardsurvival.org/>

SLN support of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP).

Individual and organisational members of SLN were involved in the following -

Bishkek, March 2015. The first GSLEP Steering Committee Meeting.

Paris, November 2015. The GSLEP convened a meeting with range country delegates, representatives from NGOs including WWF and the Snow Leopard Trust, and international organizations including the United Nations Development Programme - UNDP and INTERPOL HQ.

Snow Leopard Forum in Yushu, Qinghai, China

In July 2015, a snow leopard forum was held in Yushu, Qinghai, China. Participants included representatives from range countries like India, Pakistan, Nepal, Mongolia and range provinces from China, as well as, representatives of SLT. People shared their findings from the field, reviewed existing gaps in conservation and discussed potentials of collaboration. It was exciting to see that Chinese NGOs and nature reserves have taken active initiatives in population monitoring and collection and distribution of information. The forum will become a regular event among the people who work in the field to have an exchange.

2015 Grant Projects

After review of numerous applications the following grant projects received support:

- 1). Abundance, Distribution and Conservation of Snow Leopards (*Panthera uncia*) in Humla District, Nepal
- 2). Analysis of temporal variation in prey use and livestock depredation of snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*) in Pakistan and potential links to climate change
- 3). Estimating the populations of snow leopards and their potential prey and assessing human attitudes toward snow leopards at the Western Tien Shan mountains, Xinjiang China
- 4). Project Snow Leopard Skardu Baltistan
- 5). Conduct snow leopard sensitization workshop in Wangchuck Centennial Park (WCP), Bhutan

Membership

By the end of 2015 SLN membership totalled 631 members from over 41 countries. 18 new members were welcomed to the SLN during 2015.

Bibliography

By the end of 2015 the SLN Bibliography contained 1414 articles and references with 16 new additions during the year.

SLN Communications

Two News Alerts and over 60 Twitter communications were sent out during 2015. The SLN Twitter feed now has 235 followers amongst many NGO and conservation agencies.