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A Relief Claim and Forest Safety Guide





MESSAGE *from the* HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

Himachal Pradesh is among the most gifted States of our great country. In the lap of the mighty Himalaya we are home to a rich diversity of people and cultures. Several rivers that originate and flow through the upper climes of our State, feed vital fresh water to the vast plains of our country. Our State is also home to a rich diversity of wildlife ranging from the fabled snow leopard to the rare Western Tragopan. The lives and livelihoods of the people of Himachal Pradesh are linked to the environment. Given the close interconnection between people and nature, interactions between them are inevitable. Sometimes such interactions can have a negative impact on people and their livelihoods.

The Wildlife Wing of the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department remains concerned of any negative impacts of wildlife on people and has remained proactive in drafting policies to address them. Recently, we upgraded financial relief provided to those affected from negative interactions with wildlife. We have also eased the process to file claims, so that all genuinely affected individuals can benefit from this policy.

This document tries to list these simplified steps and is split into three parts:

- The first part provides steps on how to file a claim for financial relief in case of a personal injury or loss of human life by wildlife. It also lists the steps to file a claim in case of livestock predation by wildlife. We also mention the forms to be filled out at various levels.
- The second part of this document provides safety tips on how to respond if you encounter wildlife around your village or while walking through the forest. These tips have been compiled based on good practices recommended by experts working on wildlife in Himachal Pradesh as well as other parts of the world.
- The third part talks about ways to ensure the safety of the livestock in the corral.

We hope that this document will be helpful to all people of the State as well as to frontline staff of the Forest Department.

Local communities of our State are the biggest custodians of our environment and we remain committed working with them to continue protecting it.

Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Wildlife Wing, Forest Department,
Talland, Shimla – 171 001

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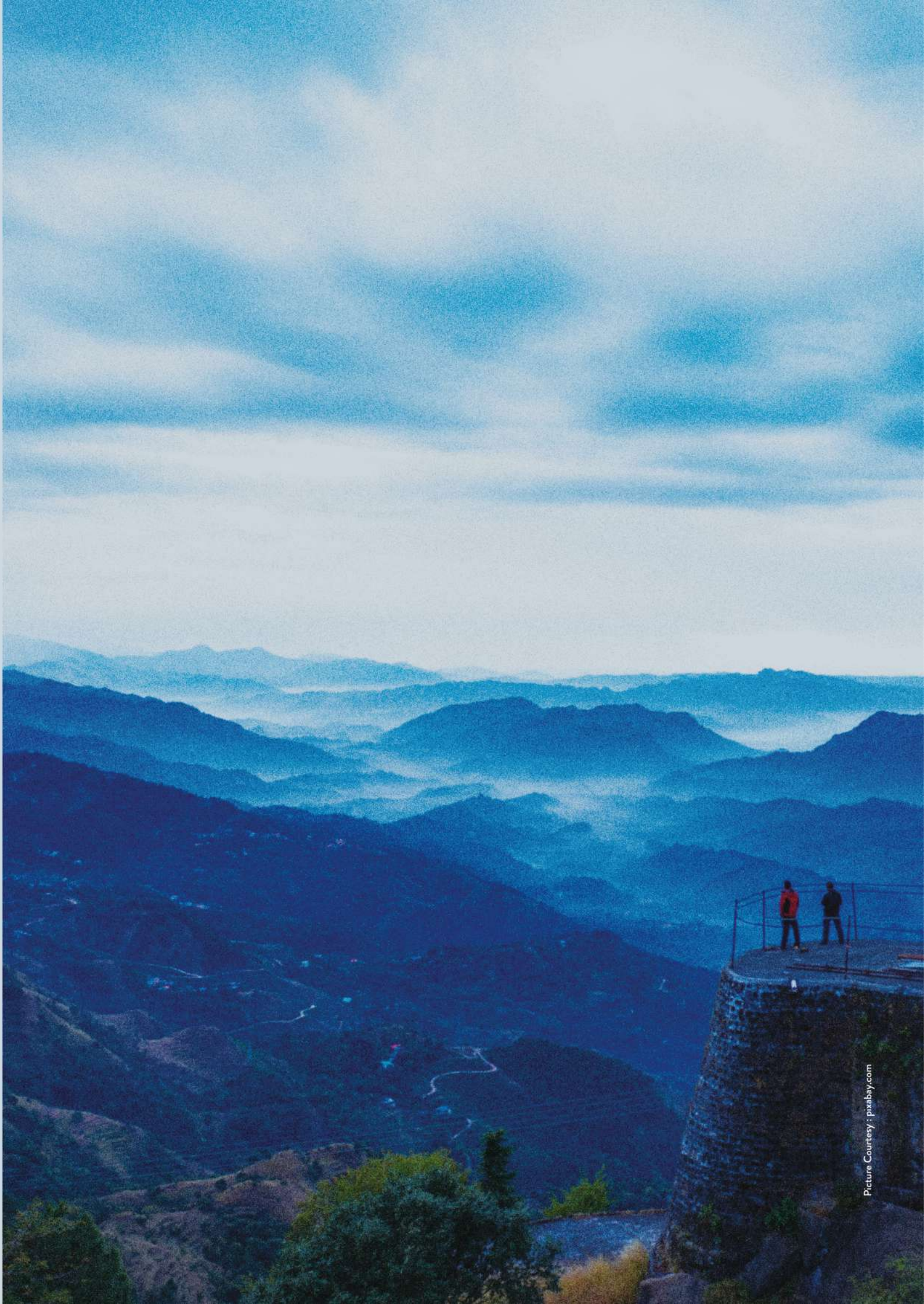
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PART - 1

Government of Himachal Pradesh
Forest Department

No. FFE-B-A (10)-1/2009

18 Dated Shimla-2, the 18-09-2018

Notification

In supersession of all previous Notification Nos. Fts (F)6-7/82-Loose, Fts-B(B)-6-7/82-II, FFE-B-A(10)-2005 and FFE.B-A(10)-1/2009 dated 09.04.1996, 27.08.2001, 20.07.2006 and 04.03.2014 regarding relief due to losses caused to human beings and domestic livestock by the Wild animals as defined in Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Governor, Himachal Pradesh is pleased to notify the following enhanced relief rates as under:-

S.No	Particulars	Enhanced Rates (in Rupees)
1.	In case of death of human being.	4,00,000/-
2.	In case of permanent disability to human being.	2,00,000/-
3.	In case of grievous injuries/partial disability to human being.	75,000/-
4.	In case of simple injury to human being as per actual cost of medical treatment subject to maximum.	15,000/-
5.	In case of loss of Horse, Mule, Buffalo, Ox, Yak and Camel	30,000/-
6.	In case of loss of Cow Jersey and cross breed.	15,000/-
7.	In case of loss of Cow (local breed), Donkey, Churu, Churi & Pashmina Goat.	6,000/-
8.	In case of loss of Sheep, Goat and Pig.	3,000/-
9.	In case of loss of young ones of Buffalo, Cow Jersey and all other breeds, Mule, Yak, Horse, Camel, Churu, Churi, Donkey, Pashmina Goat, Sheep and Goat.	15,00/-

The following guidelines will be followed for grant of relief:-

- Production of postmortem report in case of loss of human life, certificate in case of grievous injury, partial & permanent disability and prescription slip as well as verification of actual cost of Medical treatment in case of simple injury (including Monkey bites) from the Medical officer of a Government Institution/Govt. recognized Medical Institution, as the case may be.
- The verification of loss of cattle that was actually caused by wild animal can be done by the Pradhan/Up Pradhan of Panchayat/Patwari/President Notified Area Committee/ Chairman, Municipal Committee, Commissioner/ Mayor/Deputy Mayor, Municipal Corporation of the area/Elected Member of the Cantonment Board area/Councilor of the area, Range Officer/Deputy Ranger/Forest Guard or any other forest officer higher in rank than a Range Officer, Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Pharmacist or officer authorized by Veterinary officer of the area.
- All DFOs in HP shall be the final authority to sanction all cases of relief claims on account of losses caused by the wild animals to humans and domestic livestock.
- The DFOs shall release 25% of the amount of relief prescribed for human loss/permanent & partial disability/grievous injury on receipt of report as interim relief immediately to the family of the deceased/affected person after due

verification in anticipation of formal sanction without delay. The balance amount will be released after receipt of the complete relief claim.

- For immediate disbursement of relief claim, a corpus fund will be created at the level of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)-cum Chief Wildlife Warden. All the budget allocations from the state as well as from State CAMPA in respect of relief shall be deposited in the aforesaid corpus fund. The PCCF (WL) will ensure the disbursement of relief amount in respect of aforesaid categories of losses on the same day on receipt of a request from the concerned DFO. The DFO concerned will ensure to send such requests by E-mail/ Fax asking for funds of relief amount on the same day of incident or on the day of receipt of information of the incident from the claimant. DFO will make payment of aforesaid 25% of the relief amount immediately from the budget available with him under any scheme and same will be recouped on receipt of funds from the Chief Wildlife Warden.
- All claims in respect of simple injury to humans shall be restricted to actual cost of medical treatment verified by the Medical Officer of a Government Institution/Govt. recognized Medical Institution subject to maximum of Rupees 15,000/- as prescribed above in the categories of losses.
- All cases of losses caused by the wild animals should be reported by the applicant to the nearest Forest Office within seven days of the incident and claims for relief is filed within one month to the nearest Range Forest Office under control of Divisional Forest Officer (territorial or wildlife). The claim can be filed either at the place where the loss by wild animal has occurred/reported or where the applicant resides. All time barred cases shall be sent to Govt. of Himachal Pradesh for approval.
- The relief will be granted in case of loss of livestock to the owner of the livestock. These rates would be applicable for killing of domestic animals by wild animals as defined in Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in cattlesheds/cowsheds, private land, private premises and forests.
- The relief in case of loss of the human being will be granted in the order of preference given below:-
 - Wife or husband, as the case may be.
 - Sons, unmarried or divorced daughters and children of predeceased son (equal share).
 - Daughters. (equal share).
 - Grand Children being children of his/her sons or daughters who died before him/her (equal share).
 - Father or Mother.
 - Brothers or sisters or children of the deceased brothers (equal share).
 - Failing all above any other next of kin entitled to a share in the estate.

All the prescribed rates shall be made applicable with immediate effect.

By Order,

Tarun Kapoor
Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. As above Dated Shimla-2 the

Copy forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. All the Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries /Secretaries to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
2. All the Heads of Departments in Himachal Pradesh.
3. All the Deputy Commissioners in Himachal Pradesh.
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoFF) HP Shimla-1.
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Wildlife) HP Shimla-1.
6. APCCFs (IT), CCFs/DFOs (Territorial & Wildlife).
7. Controller, HP Printing Press, Shimla for publication in H.P., Rajpatra.
8. Guard file.

18th Sept.
August, 2018

Sat Pal Dhiman

(Sat Pal Dhiman) 18-9-2018
Joint Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Ph.No. 0177-2621874



ATTACK ON HUMAN

Steps to claim relief from Himachal Pradesh Forest Department in case of attack on humans by wild animals leading to injury, disability or death.

Situation - A : In case of loss of human life due to attack by a wild animal.

Step 1 : The incident must be reported to the Forest Department within 7 days by the family of the victim. Application* to the Forest Department should be submitted within 30 days.

Step 2 : A postmortem should be conducted by the Medical Officer of a government institution or government recognized medical institutions.

Step 3 : Submit these documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard).

- Original postmortem report by Medical Officer
- Application to the Forest Department

Step 4 : Before submitting the above documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard), the beneficiary (see note 1) should keep a copy of all the documents for your record as proof of submission. You can take a photocopy or just take photos of the documents through your phone camera.

Situation - B : In case of full/partial disability or grievous injury to a human being due to attack by a wild animal.

Step 1 : The incident must be reported to the Forest Department within 7 days by the victim or the family of the victim. Application to the forest department should be submitted within 30 days.

Step 2 : A certificate/report stating the details of the injury and reasons thereof should be claimed from the Medical Officer of a government

institution or government recognized medical institutions (see Note 2)

Step 3 : Submit these documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard)

- Original medical certificate/report by Medical Officer.
- Application to the Forest Department

Step 4 : Before submitting the above documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard), a copy of all the documents should be kept with yourself for your record as proof of submission. You can take a photocopy or just take photo of the documents through your phone camera.

Situation - C : In case of minor injury to a human being due to attack by a wild animal.

Step 1 : The incident must be reported to the family of the victim. Application to the Forest Department should be submitted within 30 days.

Step 2 : A certificate/report stating the details of the injury and reasons thereof should be claimed from the Medical Officer of a government institution or government recognized medical institutions (see Note 2)

Step 3 : A prescription slip and verification of the total actual costs of medical treatment by Medical Officer should be obtained. Actual cost can be verified by taking signature and stamp of the Medical Officer on the medical bills.

Step 4 : Submit these following documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard).

- Original medical certificate/ report by Medical Officer.
- Original prescription slip/s by Medical Officer.
- Actual bills verified by Medical officer.
- Application to the Forest Department

- **Step 5 :** Before submitting the above documents, a copy of all the documents should be kept for your record as proof of submission. You can take a photocopy or just take photo of the documents through your phone camera.

Relief Rates

As per the notification FFE-B-A (10)-1/2009 dated:18/08/2018, following are the rates of relief in case of attack on human life under Himachal Pradesh Forest Department:

Srno.	Particular	Relief (₹)
1	In case of death of a human being	₹ 4,00,000/-
2	In case of permanent disability to human beings	₹ 2,00,000/-
3	In case of grievous injuries/partial disability to human beings	₹ 75,000/-
4	In case of simple injury to human beings as per actual medical bill subject to a maximum.	₹ 15,000/-

Notes

1. The relief amount in case of loss of a human life will be granted to the family member in the following order:

- Wife/Husband as the case may be or
- Sons, unmarried or divorced daughters and children of pre-deceased son (equal share)
- Daughter (equal share)
- Grand children being children of his/her son or daughter who died before him or her. (equal share)
- Father or Mother
- Brothers or sisters or children of the deceased brother (equal share)
- Failing all the above, then any other next of kin entitled to a share in the estate.

2. Following types of institutions can provide medical certificate for the purpose of claim.

- Public Health Centers (PHC)
- Community Health Centers (CHC)
- Sub Centers (SC)
- Civil Hospitals/General Hospital
- Medical College Hospitals

- District Hospital
- Sub-district Hospital
- Women Hospital

3. All claims in respect of small and minor injury will be restricted to the actual cost of the medical treatment verified by the Medical Officer, subject to a maximum of Rs 15,000/-.

4. The claim can be filed in the location of the incident or where the applicant resides.

5. The policy allows for the release of immediate claim of 25% of the relief amount, which the DFO can release, after authenticating the documents. This relief can take any time between 2 weeks to a month to reach the you. The rest of the relief amount might take few months.

ATTACK ON LIVESTOCK

Steps to claim relief from Himachal Pradesh Forest Department in case of livestock depredation under different circumstances.

Situation A: Livestock has been killed in the private land/premises and body of the animal is available for inspection and as evidence.

Step 1 : : Immediately inform the Forest Guard in-charge of the Beat OR Range Officer OR any other Forest Officer higher in rank than a Range Officer and local Veterinary Doctor. If veterinary doctor is not available then the village Pradhan can also be informed. (to be done within 7 days)

Step 2 : Take photo of the animal/s along with the owner of the livestock preferably in the presence of Forest Guard, veterinary doctor and village Pradhan

Step 3 : Get death certificate signed by Veterinary Doctor/Pradhan/Up Pradhan/ Forest Guard or Range Officer.

Step 4 : Fill up the application to Forest Department. Get a date stamp on the application.

Step 5 : Submit these documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard).

- Photo of the deceased animal with the owner.
- Death certificate
- Application to the Forest Department

Step 6 : Before submitting the above documents to the Forest Department (Forest Guard) keep a copy of all the documents with yourself for your record as proof of submission. You can take a photocopy or just take photo of the documents through your phone camera.

Situation - B : Animal has been killed in common land or forest and body of the animal is available for inspection and as evidence

(Same steps as the above)

Situation - C : Animal has been killed in the common land or forest and body of the animal is NOT available for inspection or evidence.

In such a case there is no provision of relief from the Forest Department. Evidence is essential to claim relief.

If livestock are attacked in the forest, there is a chance that the body of the animal may not be recovered immediately. To increase the chances of availing relief, one must inform the Forest Guard of such incident immediately. Scan the same area after 2 – 3 days of the incident. Chances are that you might be able to recover some body part of the animal. Claim for relief can be filed using this as evidence.

Relief Rates

As per the notification FFE-B-A (10)-1/2009 dated: 18/08/2018, following are the rates of relief in case of livestock depredation under Himachal Pradesh Forest Department :

Srno.	Particular	Relief (₹)
1	In case of loss of Horse, Mule, Buffalo, Ox, Yak and Camel	₹ 30,000/-
2	In case of Cow Jersey and cross breed	₹ 15,000/-
3	In case of loss of Cow (local breed), Donkey, Churu, Churi & Pashmina Goat	₹ 6,000/-
4	In case of loss of Sheep, Goat, Pig	₹ 3,000/-
5	In case of loss of young ones of all animals (Buffalo, Cow Jersey and all other breeds, Mule, Yak, Horse, Camel, Churu, Churi, Donkey, Pashmina Goat, Sheep and Goat)	₹ 1,500/-

Original notification by the Forest Department can be found at the end of the document.

Notes

1. Claim for relief can be filed by the owner or any of his/her family member. The relief will be granted to the owner of the livestock.
2. The relief should be reported by the applicant to the nearest Forest Office within 7 days of incident. The claim for relief should be filed within 30 days of incident.
3. The claim can be filed in the location of the incident or where the applicant resides.
4. The claim for relief is valid if the incident has taken place in cattle sheds/cowsheds or private land/ private premise or any common area including pastures/forests.
5. The verification of the loss of cattle that was actually caused by wild animal and issuance of death certificate can be done by any ONE of the following persons:
 - Pradhan/ Up Pradhan of Panchayat/ Patwari/ President of Notified area committee/ Chairman of Municipal committee
 - Commissioner/ Mayor/ Deputy Mayor/ Municipal Corporation of the Area/ Elected Member of the Cantonment Board area/ Councilor of the area
 - Range Officer/ Deputy Range Officer/ Forest Guard or any other Forest Officer higher in rank than a Range Officer
6. **NO** post mortem report or **FIR** is required in case of livestock.
7. If there are animals injured due to the attack and later succumb to their injuries, a new Form 2 has to be filled within 7 days of death of such animal and all the steps need to be performed again.
8. Please be advised to only file sincere claims as it might affect the relief towards genuine cases.
9. Forest Department addresses to claims pertaining to livestock depredation only. However, death of animal due to disease and accident (to be verified) is covered by Revenue Department.
10. Revenue Department also give compensation for livestock depredation. However, claim can be made either to the Forest Department or Revenue Department. **NOT TO BOTH.**



No. FFE-B-A (10)1/2018
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Department of Forests-B Section

From

Additional Chief Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2

To

1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-02
- ✓ 2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-02

Dated: Shimla-2, the 26 February, 2020

Subject: Submission of report regarding simplification of Forest
Department Procedure.

Sir/Madam,

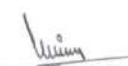
I am directed to refer to your letter No. WLM/Human Animal P-265
Conflict/ 3274 dated 25.07.2019 on the subject cited above and to enclose
herewith Proforma/ reporting formats I & II for seeking relief amount due to
losses caused by Wild Animals on human beings and domestic livestock duly
approved for taking further necessary action.

You are, requested to circulate the same to all field functionaries
under your control and give it wide publicity for benefit of general public.
These formats may also be uploaded on Departmental website.

Yours faithfully,



Supd. WLM
Pr. CCF
28/2/2020


(Sat Pal Dhiman) 26-2-2020
Joint Secretary (Forests) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Ph.No 0177-2621874

Endst. No. Human Animal Conflict/Vol. IV/ 9295-9306 Dated 3/3/2020

1. Copy alongwith its enclosures is forwarded to All CFs/CCFs (WL & T) in HP for information and necessary action. They are requested to circulate the same to all field functionaries under their control.
2. Copy alongwith its enclosures is forwarded to DFO (Publicity) for information and wide publicity for the benefit of general public.
3. Copy alongwith its enclosure is forwarded to CCF (IT, GIS & MIS) office of Pr. CCF (HoFF) HP for information and necessary action. He is requested to upload these formats on the departmental website.

Pr. CCF (Wildlife) HP

2/3/20

Reporting Format for Seeking Relief amount due to losses caused by Wild Animals on Human beings (information to be supplied by the applicant)

1. Name of sufferer:
2. Age:
3. Son/Daughter/Wife of:
4. Place of Attack:
(Village, Tehsil, District)
5. Permanent address :
6. Date/Time of attack by Wild animals:
7. How was the attack by the wild animal confirmed: **(Postmortem/Medical Report issued by Medical Officer)*
8. Date of giving information by the applicant to the concerned Forest Officer:

Signature of the victim/informer

Village & P.O.

Tehsil.

District.

Note: *Production of postmortem report in case of loss of human life, certificate in case of grievous injury, partial & permanent disability and prescription slip as well as verification of actual cost of Medical treatment in case of simple injury (including Monkey bites) from the Medical officer of a Government Institution/Govt. recognized Medical Institution, as the case may be.

Reporting Format for Seeking Relief amount due to losses caused by Wild Animals on Human beings (Information to be supplied by the concerned Forest Officer to Wildlife Warden of the area)

1. Name of Division:
 2. Range:
 3. Block:
 4. Beat:
 5. Dev. Block/Tehsil:
 6. Attack by which Wild Animal:
 7. Date & Time of attack:
 8. Location:
 - Village:**
 - (i) Name of Village
 - (ii) Distance from the nearest forest
 - Forest:**
 - (i) Name of Forest:
 - (ii) Distance from the nearest habitation:
 9. Information relating to the Victim:
 - (i) Name of Victim:
 - (ii) Age of Victim:
 - (iii) Male/Female:
 - (iv) What was the victim doing when attacked?
 - (v) State of health/ Physical fitness:
 10. Direction of attack: (a) Front/Behind/Side/Other.
 11. Was body dragged from the site of attack?
 12. Distance dragged
 13. Body eaten:
 14. Portion eaten:
 15. How was the attack by the wild animal confirmed? **(Postmortem/Medical Report issued by Medical Officer)*
 16. Details of pugmarks taken on spot:
 - i). Length of pugmark:
 - ii) Width of pugmark:
 - iii) Tracing of pugmark:
- Signature (Name of Forest Guard) I/C of the area
- Signature (Name of Block Officer) I/C Block
- Signature: (Name of Range Forest Officer) I/C of the Range

Reporting Format for Seeking Relief amount due to losses caused to domestic livestock by the wild animals (information to be supplied by the concerned Forest Officer to Wildlife Warden of the area)

1. Name of Division:
 2. Range:
 3. Block:
 4. Beat:
 5. Village:
 6. Name of the Development Block/Tehsil:
 7. Attack by which Wild Animal on domestic livestock:
 8. Date & Time of attack:
 9. Location:
 - Village:**
 - (i) In Cowshed:
 - (ii) In Farm:
 - (iii) Distance from the nearest forest:
 - Forest.**
 - (i) Name of Forests:
 - (ii) Distance from the nearest habitation:
 10. Was body of killed domestic livestock dragged from the site of attack?
 11. Distance dragged:
 12. Body eaten:
 13. Portion eaten:
 14. How was the attack by the wild animal confirmed? **(Death certificate furnished by the designated authority)*
 16. Details of pugmarks taken on spot:
 - i). Length of pugmark:
 - ii) Width of pugmark:
 - iii) Tracing of pugmark:
- Signature (Name of Forest Guard) I/C of the area
- Signature (Name of Block Officer) I/C Block
- Signature (Name of Range Forest Officer) I/C of the Range

Reporting Format for Seeking Relief amount due to losses caused to domestic livestock by the wild animals (information to be supplied by the applicant)

1. Name of owner of domestic livestock:
2. Son/Daughter/Wife of:
3. Permanent address :
4. Place of occurrence: (Cow shed/farm or in forest area)
5. Date and time of the attack by Wild animals on livestock:
6. Details of domestic livestock killed by Wild animal:
7. How was the attack by the wild animal on live stock: **(Death certificate furnished by the designated authority)*
8. Date of giving information by the applicant to the concerned Forest Officer:

Signature of the Owner
Village & P.O.
Tehsil.
District.

Note: **The verification of loss of cattle that was actually caused by wild animal can be done by the Pradhan/Up Pradhan of Panchayat/Patwari/President Notified Area Committee/ Chairman, Municipal Committee, Commissioner/ Mayor/Deputy Mayor, Municipal Corporation of the area/Elected Member of the Cantonment Board area/Councilor of the area, Range Officer/Deputy Ranger/Forest Guard or any other forest officer higher in rank than a Range Officer, Veterinary Officer or Veterinary Pharmacist or officer authorized by Veterinary officer of the area.*

Death Certificate

I certify that _____ number of _____ belonging to _____
s/o _____ of VPO _____ tehsil _____
district _____ has been killed by _____ on date _____ at
_____ hour at _____ (place of incidence).

I undersigned have visited the place of incident on date _____ and found _____
number of bodies / _____ no of heads / _____ number of skins of _____
colour. I confirm that the bodies were completely eaten / killed by _____

According to owner, the deceased animal/s belonged to the age group of:

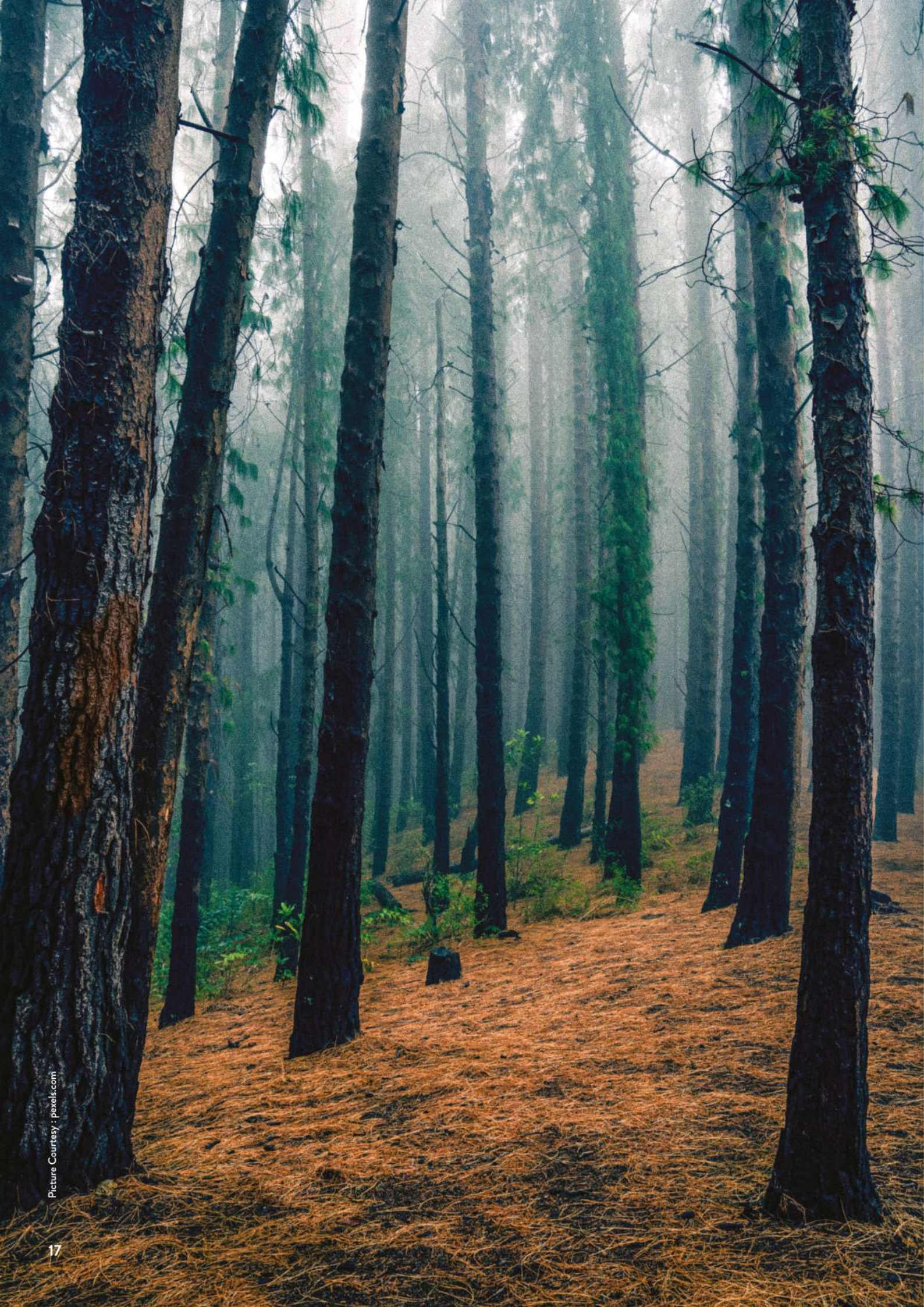
1 - 3 years / 3 - 7 years / 7+ years and were _____ male/s and _____ female/s

Place : _____

Date : _____

Signature & Designation _____

Note: This death certificate can be issued by: Pradhan/ Up Pradhan of Panchayat/ Patwari/ President of Notified area committee/ Chairman of Municipal committee/ Commissioner/ Mayor/ Deputy Mayor/ Municipal Corporation of the Area/ Elected Member of the Cantonment Board area/ Councilor of the area/ Range Officer/ Deputy Range Officer/ Forest Guard or any other Forest Officer higher in rank than a Range Officer/ Veterinary Officer/ Veterinary Pharmacist or Officer authorized by Veterinary officer of the area.



PART - 2

General safety precautions and guidelines while walking through the forest or heavily vegetated areas to avoid sudden and unpleasant encounter with any wild animal.

1. Always travel in groups. Make noise, sing or talk loudly. Always let animals know you are there.
2. If travelling alone, ensure you make sound or play music on your phone. Alternatively, you can blow whistle or attach a small bell on your back pack.
3. Always carry a stick.
4. If camping in the forest, ensure that you keep the camp clean. Avoid smelly and greasy foods. Cook away from your camp site. Burn food waste completely in a hot fire and pack everything else in boxes. Store all foods away from your campsite.
5. Keep children inside the camp after dark as they make for easy target.
6. While trekking, do not allow small children to lag behind. Either carry them or make them walk with you.
7. Avoid taking pet dogs to the forest. They might attract wild animals like leopards and bears to you.
8. Avoid thick bushes or shrubs whenever possible. When the terrain or vegetation makes it hard to see, make extra noise.
9. Avoid areas where there is animal carcass. Chances are the predator might be lurking around.
10. If there is an animal close by, do not try to take photos, videos or selfies with the animal.

Always keep an eye on the animal. Ensure that you have a safe distance of few hundred meters between you and the animal before you start to take any photos or videos.

11. Every animal has a personal space- the distance within which the animal feels threatened. If you enter that space, then it may become aggressive and attack you.
12. Give female animals more space. Female are especially fierce defenders of their young and may respond aggressively if they perceive a threat to their cubs.
13. Do **NOT** feed wild animals. They will associate humans with food and chances of being attacked may increase.
14. If you find an animal with minor injuries or small wounds, then best is to not intervene and let it recover on its own. Most minor injuries are self-healing and require minimal or no intervention.
15. If the animal is grievously injured and bleeding excessively, then inform the Beat Officer/Forest Guard immediately. Do not yourself go near the animal to help it. It might be dangerous for you and stressful for the animal. Always maintain a safe distance from any wild animal.
16. If you find a dead body of an animal, **DO NOT TOUCH IT**. It might contain germs and deadly viruses. If the animal is a recent kill then leave the area immediately. Chances are the predator is close by keeping a watch and might attack you to save its kill.
17. Always be vigilant.
18. In case of any unfortunate encounter with wild life, please reach out to the nearest government institution or government recognized medical institutions immediately and inform the Forest Officer within 7 days of such incident.

*Safety precautions and guidelines,
to keep in mind, if you encounter
specific animals*

ASIATIC BLACK BEAR

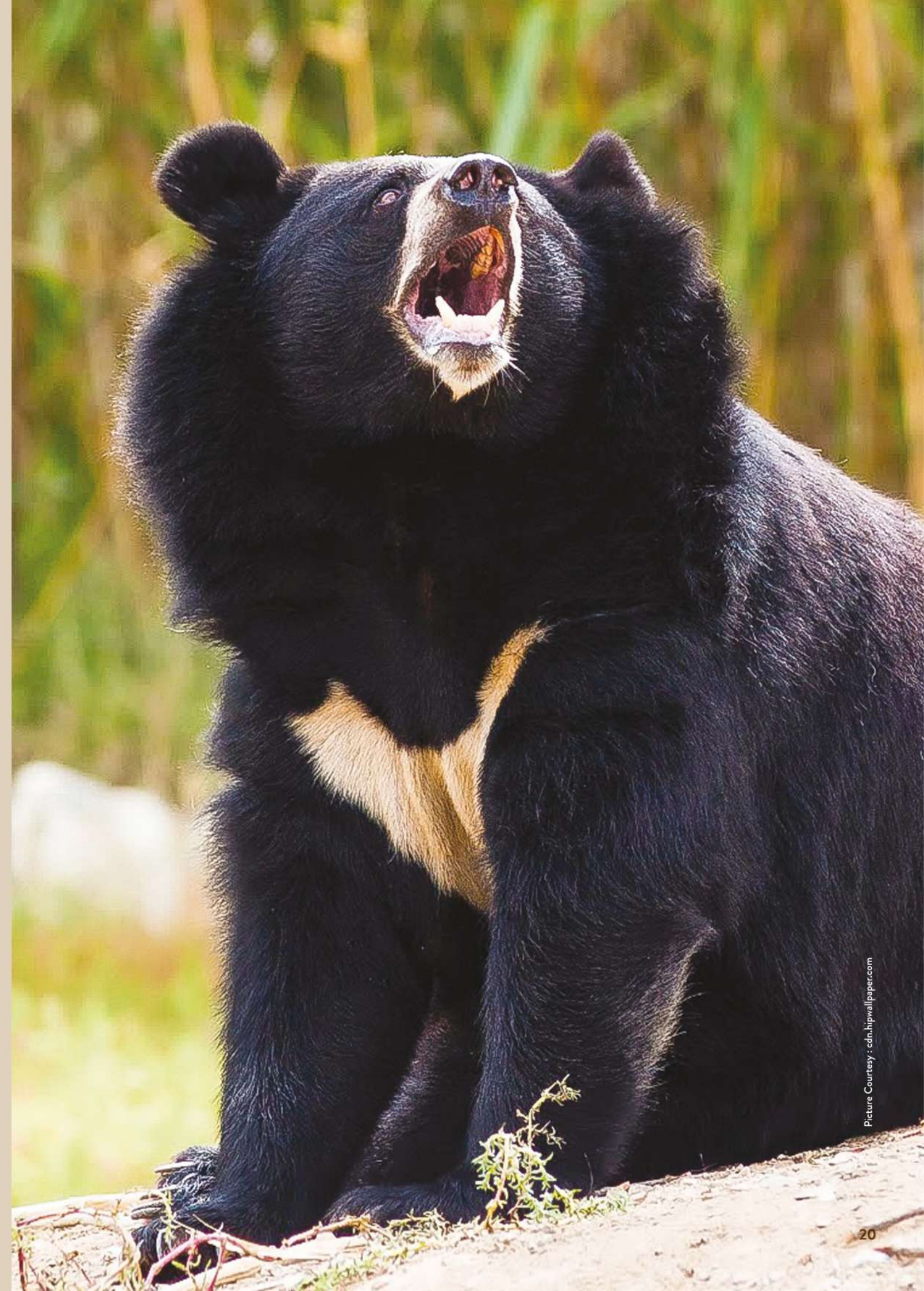
Identification : The Asiatic Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), also known as the Tibetan black bear, the Himalayan black bear, or the moon bear, is a medium sized, sharp-clawed, black-coloured bear with a distinctive white or cream “V” marking on its chest.

Diet : The Asiatic Black Bear is an omnivore which consumes a great variety of foods including fruit, berries, grasses, seeds, nuts, invertebrates, honey and meat (fish, birds, rodents and other small mammals as well as carcasses).

Safety Tips:

1. Black bears, like humans, use trails and roads. Don't setup camp close to trail they might use.
2. Walk with the wind at your back, if possible. Bears can smell you before they see or hear you.
3. Be careful when approaching a big boulder/rock, as bears happen to rest there.

4. If you encounter bear cubs, immediately leave the place as mother will be nearby.
5. If you encounter a bear, stand your ground. **DO NOT RUN OR CLIMB TREES.**
6. Do NOT provoke the bear. Just stay still and clam and slowly make yourself appear larger by putting your arms above your head. Keep talking in a normal voice.
7. Slowly move away from the path of the bear while maintaining the gaze at the bear.
8. If the bear still approaches you use bear deterrents, including bear spray and yell and throw stones at the bear. Back off as quickly and as far as possible while facing the bear. **DO NOT RUN.**
9. If the bear attack you **DO NOT PRETEND BE DEAD.** Attack back. Protect your head and use rocks or sticks to fight back.





HIMALAYAN BROWN BEAR

Identification : Himalayan Brown Bears (*Ursus arctos isabellinus*) have furry coats in shades of blonde, brown, black, or a combination of those colors; the long outer guard hairs are often tipped with white or silver, giving a “grizzled” appearance.

Diet : They are omnivores and feed on a variety of plant parts, including berries, roots, and sprouts; fungi; and fish, insects, and small mammals, especially ground squirrels. Contrary to popular mythology, Brown Bears are not particularly carnivorous; they derive up to 90% of their dietary food energy from vegetable matter.

Safety Tips:

1. Brown bears, like humans, use trails and roads. Don't setup camp close to trail they might use. Walk with the wind at your back, if possible.
2. Bears can smell you before they see or hear you.
3. Be careful when approaching a big boulder/rock, as they tend to rest there.
4. If you encounter bear cubs, immediately leave the place as mother will be nearby.
5. Stay away from fresh diggings. These are the indication that brown bear is nearby or visited that site.
6. If you encounter a brown bear stand your ground. **DO NOT RUN OR CLIMB TREES.**
7. If the bear shows aggressive behaviour then, use bear spray to fend it off. Back off as quickly and as far as possible while facing the bear. **DO NOT RUN.**
8. If the bear attacks, then lay down in a cocoon posture, cover face head and stomach and **PRETEND TO BE DEAD.**
9. Stay still and quiet and wait it out. The bear should lose interest in you and stop attacking.
10. Even if the bear stops attacking, continue to play dead till the bear leaves the place which could take up to 20-30 minutes.



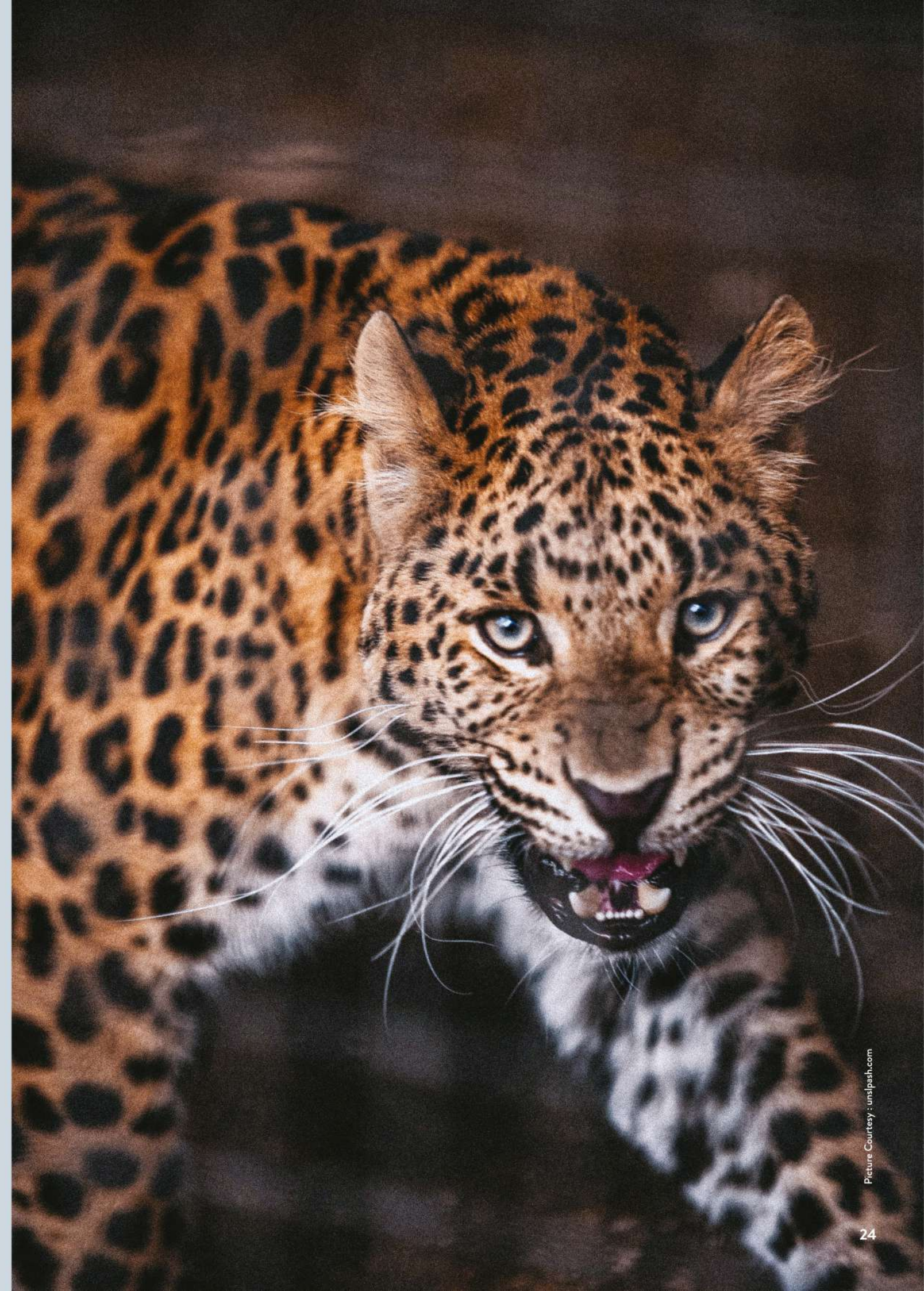
COMMON LEOPARD

Identification : Common Leopards (*Panthera pardus*) live in highly variable habitats. They feel just as secure in swampy tropical forests as in rugged mountains. These cats have an elongate and muscular body. Their paws are broad and their ears are short. In tropical regions their coats tend to be shorter and sleeker, whereas in colder climates their fur is longer and denser. The coloration varies from the color of straw to grayish to even chestnut.

Diet : The leopard is a versatile, opportunistic hunter, and has a very broad diet ranging from rodent to deer.

Safety Tips:

1. Common leopard tries to avoid encounters with people. They usually prefer to walk away in such situations.
 2. The risk of an attack by a common leopard exists only if it feels threatened by humans, if it is on a kill, if it is injured or if it is with young cubs.
 3. Leopards are usually active after dark, so it is best to avoid going to the forest or fields at such times.
 4. If it's inevitable to go to forests or fields after dark go in groups or with another person. Keep talking or play music on mobile phone so that the leopard gets to know that someone is approaching and moves away.
 5. Children are more susceptible to attacks by a
6. leopard, so keeping them secure inside after dark is highly important.
 7. While walking in forests do not allow small children to lag behind. Either carry them or make them walk with you.
 8. If you find leopard cubs, leave the place immediately as the mother might be close by.
 9. Stand your ground and **DO NOT RUN** or make any sudden movement.
 10. If you are sitting when you see the leopard, slowly get up so that the leopard sees you as a bigger person which it avoids.
 11. Raise your hands in the air or clap and shout in order to appear bigger and stronger.
 12. Chances are the leopard will avoid you and take a different route.
 13. If you see a leopard inside a corral or in your livestock yard, do not close any exit points for the leopard. Keep a safe distance and make noise so that the leopard moves out of the corral.
 14. If you see a leopard under stacked hay, move to a safe distance and make noise. This will give leopard safe space and an intimation to leave.
 15. Pet dogs are easy prey for the leopard. Keep the dog inside the house at night to keep it safe and to avoid leopard coming close to your house.





SNOW LEOPARD

Identification : Snow leopards (*Panthera uncia*) have long thick fur, and their base color varies from smoky gray to yellowish tan, with whitish underparts. They have dark gray to black open rosettes on their body with small spots of the same color on their heads and larger spots on their legs and tail. Unusually among cats, their eyes are pale green or gray in color.

The snow leopard leads a largely solitary life, although mothers may rear cubs in dens in the mountains for extended periods.

Snow leopards are crepuscular, being most active at dawn and dusk. They are known for being extremely secretive and well camouflaged.

Diet : Snow leopards are carnivores and actively hunt their prey, though, like many cats, they are opportunistic feeders, eating whatever meat they can find, including carrion and domestic livestock. They can kill animals three to four times their size, such as the Bharal, Himalayan Tahr, and Argali but will readily take much smaller prey such as hares and birds.

Safety Tips:

1. Snow Leopards are not known to attack human and avoid them as much as possible.
2. However, any animal can attack if it feels cornered or threatened.

3. If you accidentally confront a snow leopard then, keep calm. **DO NOT TRY TO RUN AND DO NOT TURN YOUR BACK TO IT!**
4. Make sounds in a loud, firm voice and make yourself look as large as possible. Back away slowly while keeping the snow leopard in view.
5. Allow a free exit for the snow leopard, most likely it will try to flee towards steep cliffs as they feel safe there. If possible, move towards flatter terrain.
6. If the snow leopard follows you, maintain eye contact and keep talking while backing away.
7. If the snow leopard attacks, then fight back. Aim for the eyes and face. Use rocks, sticks or any personal belongings as weapons. You need to convince the snow leopard that you are not a prey but a threat.
8. If you find snow leopard cubs, leave the place immediately. The mother could be around and would feel threatened by your presence.
9. If snow leopard has managed to enter your corral, then do not go near any escape points. Open the main door and clear the exit as soon as possible.



TIBETAN WOLF

Identification : Wolves (*Canis lupus*) have a sharp face and a pair of big pointed ears and are little bigger than domestic dogs. Fur coloration varies greatly, running from gray to gray-brown, all the way through the canine spectrum of white, red and brown. Wolves have distinct winter and summer pelages that alternate in spring and autumn. They are seldom alone and usually found in pairs or packs.

Diet : Their diet comprises of domestic sheep, mountain sheep, wild yaks, domestic goats, and antelopes.

Safety Tips:

1. It's unlikely that you may encounter a Tibetan wolf, even when in territory.
2. If you spot one, be vigilant and maintain a safe distance.
3. If you accidentally find yourself closely confronted by a wolf, then stand your ground.
4. **DO NOT RUN.**
5. Slowly back away while maintaining eye contact with the wolf.
6. If the wolf approaches you, then, take a step towards the wolf and make loud noises to scare it off.
7. Do not throw food. Feeding wolves can habituate them to humans and they will associate us with food.
8. If attacked, **DO NOT PLAY DEAD.** Attack back and aim for the eyes.
9. If there is a pack of wolves in front of you, try to locate the alpha wolf and use the above tactics targeted at him, while watching out for the rest of the band. If the alpha feels challenged then, it's likely that the rest of the pack will also hesitate.
10. Avoid exposing your back to the rest of the pack. Stand with your back against a tree or a large rock.
11. To fight the wolves, use rocks, sticks, bear spray or air horn.



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Picture Courtesy : images7.alphacoders.com

PART - 3

Ensuring the safety of livestock within the corrals

The losses of herders are maximized when the predator attacks the livestock within the corrals. To prevent such incidents, the following precautionary measures can be adopted to strengthen the corrals and safeguard the livestock.

1. Build strong corrals using local material and rocks.
2. Ensure that there are no gaps in the walls.
3. All windows need to be covered using a metal mesh or grill. The gap between each grill should not be more than 8 cm.
4. Use strong metal door.
5. Ensure that the doors and windows close completely without leaving any gaps.
6. Keep doors closed after sunset till sunrise.
7. Cover the top of the corral with wire mesh and ensure that it is completely stable. Use heavy rocks to support it on the walls of the corral.
8. Alternatively, a metal frame with wired mesh can be constructed to fit the roof of the corral

If there has been attack on your corral, there are chances that predator will come back within next 10 days to attack again. Following measure can help you protect your corral from repeat attacks

1. **DO NOT** dispose the carcass of the livestock as hungry predator is likely to attack again.
2. To file relief claim from the Forest Department,

inform the Forest Guard in-charge of the Beat and Pradhan. Take photos of the dead animals along with the owner, in their presence.

3. Transport the ALL carcasses at least 2 kms away from the site of attack in the direction that the predator is likely to have gone. Carcasses should be transported by dragging it along the path to leave a scent trail.
4. **DO NOT BURY OR BURN** the carcasses as there will be remains that may attract the predators.
5. Dip a few pieces of cloth in diesel and hang them around the corral, not more than 10 meters apart. Keep away from fire.
6. Set up a fladry (chatho) about 1 meter from the corral fence. Use items that make noise and smell of diesel. Distance between the objects should not be more than 1 meters and distance to ground at 20 cm.
7. Tie guard dog close to the corral after the attack.
8. First few nights after the attack, one must remain alert and use lights and sounds to keep the predator away.
9. Combination of above measures used simultaneously is always better than single measure.
10. These temporary measures, to deter carnivores, must be removed within 3-4 week to avoid letting them get habituated to it.

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OTHER RESOURCES

http://www.projectwaghoba.in/awareness_materials.html
<https://carnivora.net>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopard>
<https://www.coniferousforest.com/tibetan-wolf.html>
<http://www.hpwildlife.gov.in/>

DESIGN CREDITS

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