

WILDLIFE ASSESSMENT OF THE CHANDRAGIRI HILLS, KATHMANDU: POTENTIAL FOR ECOTOURISM

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Abstract.

Wildlife assessments can provide crucial information regarding species richness, relative abundance and spatial, temporal, and ecological information on wildlife habitat associations. The assessment's information can in turn be used for developing management policies including for establishing touristic zones. We investigated wildlife occurrences in the Chandragiri Hills, Kathmandu Nepal from 2015-2019 to provide baseline data to inform the potential sites for ecotourism. During the study period, we recorded 30 mammal species, 199 bird species, 34 herpetofauna species and 77 butterfly species. The area harbors three globally and six nationally threatened mammal species, two globally and seven nationally threatened with one endemic bird species, one globally and nationally threatened herpetofauna, and one nationally threatened butterfly species. We also explored four potential hiking routes for observing wildlife and providing scenic views of the Himalayan range and Kathmandu city. Therefore, we expect Chandragiri Hills can become one of the hot spot for tourists to observe both common and threatened wildlife species in Nepal.

Key words: bird; butterfly; herpetofauna; mammal; hiking route; threatened species.

INTRODUCTION

Wildlife assessments provide critical data on species richness, abundance and spatial, temporal and ecological knowledge of their habitat (Katuwal et al. 2018). Assessments can be used to analyze the conservation status of species and to develop conservation action programs (Thomas 1982; Inskipp et al. 2016). In addition, data from assessments can benefit wildlife tourism through increased knowledge and potential observations. Increased tourists flow can also increase employment opportunities for local people and communities. Therefore, nature-based tourism is an emerging industry in developing countries, supporting nature conservation and the well-being of local people (Donohoe and Needham 2006). Hence, wildlife becomes an integral part of ecotourism as people are demonstrating increased interest towards wildlife-based tourism (Cong et al. 2014).

The Nepal government has established protected areas comprising about 24% of the total land area, including National Parks, Wildlife Reserve, Hunting Reserve, Conservation Areas and Cultural Heritage sites to conserve wildlife and enhance ecotourism (Baral et al. 2012). Most of these protected areas are in lowland and high land physiographic regions with few exceptional areas in the mid-hills region of Nepal (DNPWC 2018). Wildlife in protected areas of Nepal are well known (Jnawali et al. 2011: Inskipp et al. 2016) and ecotourism has occurred for decades (see Bookbinder et al. 1998). However, there are many other potential sites outside the existing protected areas, especially in mid-hills like near to Kathmandu Vallev (e.g., Phulchoki Mountain Forest) with diverse wildlife and natural beauty (Baral and Inskipp 2005; Jnawali et al. 2011; Katuwal et al. 2018). These places are more popular as weekend destinations for tourists. The Chandragiri Hills, which occur in the mid-hills region southwest of Kathmandu Valley, has similar topography and vegetation to Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park and Phulchoki Mountain Forest, and is expected to have diverse wildlife. However, a wildlife assessment has not vet been conducted in the Chandragiri Hills and the current information of wildlife is little known.

We conducted a baseline assessment of wildlife in the Chandragiri Hills to understand the potential for ecotourism near to Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal. We emphasized our assessment on mammal, bird, herpetofauna, and butterfly species along potential hiking routes. This assessment will provide a baseline data for conserving common and threatened species in this area (e.g., Higginbottom and Tribe 2004; Larm et al. 2018), which potentially may improve local livelihoods (KC et al. 2015), and strengthens local guardianship of endangered species and their habitats (Bookbinder et al. 1998).

1. MATERIALS AND METHODS 1.1. Study area

We conducted this study in Chandragiri Hills (Figure 1), comprising about 11 km² (27.6672° N, 85.2058° E) in Chandragiri Municipality, Kathmandu, Nepal, with an elevational range of 1300 to 2540 m. The Chandragiri Hills is about 16 km far from the core area of the Kathmandu city and is connected with major road with regular bus services. It is an historical place from where the Late King Prithivi Naravan Shah, the unifier of the Nepal Kingdom, had designed a military attack on the Kathmandu Valley during the 18th century. The cable car is operating since December 2016. The area is also famous for visiting the Bhaleshwor Mahadev temple which lies at the top of the Hills, with views of the Kathmandu Valley and Himalayan Range. The climate is sub-tropical to temperate which influences the occurrence of mixed vegetation including Alnus nepalensis, Schima wallichii, Castonopsis indica, Pinus roxburghii, Quercus spp., Rhododendron spp., etc. The Chandragiri Hills contains natural and planted forests and is managed as a community forest land.



Figure 1: Boundary of Chandragiri Hills, Kathmandu with potential hiking routes.

1.2 Study design

We used multiple methods to detect wildlife species including direct observation, remote cameras, live traps, and species' sign observations. Surveys were conducted for 20 days in July 2015 during the monsoon season, which constrained our efforts to available trails (0.5-4 km long) due to hazardous conditions off-trail by monsoon. We used direct observations and evidence of sign (e.g., tracks, scat, burrows) to identify mammal species along trails. We attached 10 cameras to trees along trails at locations considered likely to detect nocturnal species such as near animal trails. Cameras were typically positioned 40-50 cm above ground and operated from 18:00 to 7:00 am morning for 20 days, removing cameras daily to avoid theft. We surveyed birds along these same trails using line transect method (Bibby et al. 2000; Urfi et al. 2005; Siegel 2009) each morning from 6:30 to 12:00 noon, recording all species observed or heard. In addition, we also observed butterfly and herpetofauna along trails, open places and rivulets. We used field guides for mammals (Baral and Shah 2008), birds (Grimmett et al. 2000), butterflies (Smith 1994; Khanal and Smith 1997), and herpetofauna (Shah and Tiwari 2004) for species identification. We took photographs of all unidentified sign and species and consulted with experts for identification. Additionally, we also placed 40 live traps (Sherman/tube/ local/pitfall) for small mammals systematically baited with balls of oatmeal, biscuit, carrot etc. in March 2019 for 25 days. We checked traps each morning and evening and released animals' onsite immediately after identification. Besides, we also consulted some key informants and made several opportunistic visits to survey butterflies, herpetofuana, birds (also reviewed ebird list) and mammals till May 2019.

We considered images from remote cameras taken >30 min apart as independent events (see O'Brien et al. 2003; Jenks et al. 2011; Katuwal and Dahal 2013) and plotted detections time for each species. We compiled the list of species detected along with their conservation and trade status using the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) database, respectively.

2. RESULTS 2.1 Wildlife of Chandragiri Hills

We recorded 30 mammal species (three species identified at genus level only) of 16 families (Appendix 1). We detected three globally threatened species (Chinese Pangolin Manis pentadactyla, Leopard Panthera pardus, and Himalayan Black Bear Ursus thibetanus), six nationally threatened species (Leopard Cat Prionailurus bengalensis, Leopard, Chinese Pangolin, Barking Deer Muntiacus vaginalis, Himalayan Black Bear and Assam Macaque Macaca assamensis), and 10 were CITES listed species (Appendix 1 and 2). Through camera trapping, we confirmed the first occurrence of Chinese Pangolin in the Chandragiri Hills (Appendix 2). Our results indicated that most mammals were active during dawn and dusk (Figure 2). Large Indian Civet (Viverra zibetha) was recorded most frequently (48 detections) while Yellow-throated Marten (Martes flavigula) was detected only once. Among bats, we identified only the Woolly Horseshoe Bat (Rhinolophus luctus) and Greater Short-nosed Fruit Bat (Cynopterus sphinx).

We recorded 199 bird species from 47 families (Appendix 3). Most birds were resident (159 species) while some were winter (23 species) and summer (17 species) visitors. Among these bird species, we identified two globally threatened bird species (Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis* and Red-headed Vulture *Sarcogyps calvus*), seven nationally threatened species (Common Barn-owl *Tyto alba*, Brown Wood-owl *Strix leptogrammica*, Steppe Eagle, Red-headed Vulture, Himalayan Griffon *Gyps himalayensis*, Plain-



Figure 2: Frequency of mammals in camera traps at Chandragiri Hills in July 2015.

crowned Jay *Garrulus bispecularis*, and Gold-naped Finch *Pyrrhoplectes epauletta*), one was endemic species (Spiny Babbler *Acanthoptila nipalensis*), and 27 were CITES-listed species (Appendix 2 and 3).

We recorded 34 herpetofauna (10 amphibian species from five families, 24 reptile species from six families) (Appendix 2 and 4). The King Cobra (*Ophiophagus hannah*) was the only globally and nationally threatened (Vulnerable) species among the detected species in the Chandragiri Hills. We recorded 77 butterfly species from nine families (Appendix 2 and 5). The Golden Birdwing (*Troides aeacus*) was a CITES-listed species and the Common Siren (*Diagora persimilis*) was a nationally threatened species.

2.2 Identifying potential hiking routes

We identified four hiking routes in the Chandragiri Hills (see Figure 1):

Route 1) Thankot-Bhanjyang-Chandrigiri Hills: Visitors can start from Laglage Community Forest located in Thankot around 1300 m of elevation at the base of Kathmandu Valley. It is a well-managed hiking route for one hour and small trail afterward where visitors have opportunity to observe the Critically Endangered Chinese Pangolin and their burrows, other mammals like Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*), Barking Deer (*Muntiacus vaginalis*) along with the signs of felid species like Leopard, forest birds and soaring raptors, butterflies, and herpetofauna along the trail. In addition, visitors can enjoy the scenery of Kathmandu valley along the eastern side and beautiful mountain landscape on the western side at an elevation of 2260 m in the Bhanjyang area within 3 hours walk from the starting point. After a 30-45 min walk from Bhanjyang, visitors can reach the Chandragiri peak (2540 m). From the top of the Chandragiri Hills, visitors can enjoy views of the Kathmandu Valley and panoramic view of the Himalayan Range from Mt. Annapurna I (8091 m) to Mt. Everest (8848 m) in clear days.

Route 2) Godam-Bhanjyang-Chandgiri Hills: Visitors can drive from Godam (Thankot area) to Bhanjyang to the top of Chandragiri, or can walk which takes 3–4 hours. It is one of the ancient routes that connect the Kathmandu with Terai region of Nepal. The road also goes to the Chitlang village from Bhanjyang which is a famous for homestays. Due to open space, this area is more suitable for observing birds, butterflies, primates, squirrels, and mammal signs (e.g., leopard, civet).

Route 3) Chandragiri cable car station-Chandragiri Hills: This is also the historic and most difficult hiking trail used by local people to reach the Bhaleshwor Mahadev temple at top of Chandragiri. The route starts from cable car station passing through dense forest and is around 2-3 hours hike to the top of Chandragiri. There is a higher chance of observing Chinese Pangolin and its burrows, civets and Barking Deer, along with many forest birds, butterflies and herpetofauna. Visitors can also use a cable car and see the scenic beauty of the Himalayan Range.

Route 4) Matatirtha-Chandragiri Hills: There is a drivable road till Chakhel Deurali and then hiking trail to the Chandragiri top. However, the visitors can directly use the hiking trail to reach the Chandragiri within 3–4 hours from Matatirtha. This hiking route provides excellent views of the Kathmandu Valley and Himalayan range. This area is the best for bird watching and observing different butterflies, herpetofauna, and mammals.

3. DISCUSSION

This study outlined the relevance of Chandragiri Hills for the conservation of different faunal groups. Though presently it is not part of any protected area, it holds a very rich faunal diversity, which may be considered for both global and national importance. The wildlife inventory and the potential tourist travel routes identified from this study can be served as a baseline data for developing ecotourism planning in Chandragiri Hills.

The observed species diversity in the Chandragiri Hills seems similar to that found in the nearest protected area, Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park in mid-hills of Kathmandu (DNPWC 2020). For mammal species, most are widely distributed in Nepal except the Chinese Pangolin, which occurs predominantly from eastern to central Nepal (Sharma et al. 2020a). The local communities of Chandragiri areas are willing to protect threatened species like Chinese Pangolin because these communities have more knowledge on the importance of the species (Sharma et al. 2020b). As Leopards appear abundant in this area, human-leopard conflict is frequent (see the recent killing of the Leopard https://english.khabarhub. com/2020/07/94225/). It is also not surprising that many local people have experienced injuries, livestock and pets depredations from leopard. For example, people put spiked collars on their dogs to mitigate attacks from Leopard. Interestingly, the frequently detected Large Indian Civet and Yellow-throated Marten in Chandrgiri Hills may provide good opportunities for wildlife observers. These species are hardly recorded in the Kathmandu Valley probably due to their often nocturnal and crepuscular behavior (Hunter 2011; Appel et al. 2013) or limited studies of their occurrence. Records of both summer and winter birds suggest the Chandragiri Hills could be a potential site for bird watchers throughout the year. The Chandragiri Hills could also serve as an appropriate site for watching bird migrations (especially Steppe Eagles and other raptors) during winter season in the Kathmandu Valley (V. Thapa and A.V. Rissen personal communications), similar to Thoolakharka in Pokhara, Nepal (Subedi and Gurung, 2018). Due to the presence of fewer water sources in the study area, amphibian diversity and distribution was limited. However, the King Cobra, most often recorded from the low lands in Nepal, is now widely reported from the mid-hills region (Thapa et al. 2019), probably due to more studies. Diversity of butterflies also suggests that the Chandragiri Hills provide suitable habitat for these species. Although anthropogenic land-use change and ongoing climate change are impacting the occurrence, distribution and diversity of many herpetofauna and butterflies (Lütolf et al. 2009; Wanger et al. 2010; Acharya and Chettri 2012), IUCN has not assessed the conservation status of most of these species. Therefore, we suggest that regular monitoring of habitat, threatened species found in this area, and reducing all kinds of threats (for example, hunting and poaching of the species as we recorded several snares used to capture pheasants and observed children collecting the pheasant eggs and young, habitat loss and fragmentation, and unplanned construction activities) and associated conflicts should be a priority for community forest members and local government to conserving their biodiversity.

Although charismatic species are often the main attractions for ecotourism, tourists are showing increasing interest toward readily-accessible landscapes with greater diversity of plants, birds, herpetofuana, and butterflies, as well as rare, less easily-observed, or less high-profile mammal species (Loubser et al. 2001; Lindsay et al. 2007; Kurnianto et al. 2016; Hausmann 2016). As Chandragiri Hills is a largely intact system with unique landscapes and biodiversity ranging from sub-tropical to the temperate, it has potential for wildlife-based ecotourism. Local communities can develop lodging for visitors interested to explore this area. In addition, local/regional government should take the responsibility for its regulation and promotion and simultaneously precautions should be taken to mitigate potential negative impacts of tourism on the vegetation, watershed, and wildlife, especially threatened species. A code of conduct should be developed for tourists against the possible impacts on wild animals thorough direct mortality (e.g., vehicle collision), providing food to attract species, degrading crucial habitats, introducing of exotic species, and transmission of infectious diseases (Shannon et al. 2017).

4. CONCLUSIONS

The Chandragiri Hills near to Kathmandu is one of the potential areas for wildlife observation of national to global significance, as well as providing scenic Himalayan views for Nepalese and foreigners or people who have short stay at Kathmandu. The extent of open areas in Kathmandu is declining (Ishtiaque et al. 2017); therefore the Chandragiri Hills can provide unique opportunities to observe wildlife near the capital city. We recommend local government consider promoting through national and international media of this area, as well as additional actions to promote the conservation of nationally and globally threatened species and their habitats.

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Appendix 1: Mammals recorded in Chandragiri Hills where DD is Data Deficient, LC is Least Concern, NT
is Near Threatened, VU is Vulnerable, CR is Critically Endangered.

S. N.	Order/Femily/Common	Scientific Name	Sighting	Conservation Status		CITE S
5. N.	Order/Family/Common Name	Scientific Name	Sighting Method	National	IUCN	5
Carniv	vora					
	Felidae					
1	Jungle Cat	Felis chaus	Direct	LC	LC	II
2	Leopard	Panthera pardus	Sign	VU	VU	Ι
3	Leopard Cat	Prionailurus bengalensis	Camera trap	VU	LC	Π
	Mustelidae		•			
4	Yellow-throated Marten	Martes flavigula	Direct, Camera trap	LC	LC	III
	Ursidae					
6	Asiatic Black Bear	Ursus thibetanus	Key informant	EN	VU	I
	Viverridae		~			
7	Large Indian Civet	Viverra zibetha	Camera trap, Sign	NT	NT	III
5	Masked Palm Civet	Paguma larvata	Direct, Camera trap	LC	LC	
	Canidae					L
8	Golden Jackal	Canis aureus	Direct	LC	LC	III
Artio	dactyla					
	Cervidae					
9	Barking Deer	Muntiacus vaginalis	Direct, Camera trap, Sign	VU	LC	
-	Suidae					
10	Wild Boar	Sus scrofa	Direct, Camera trap, Sign	LC	LC	
Chiro						
	Rhinolophidae					
11	Woolly Horseshoe Bat	Rhinolophus luctus	Direct	LC	LC	
	Pteropodidae					
12	Greater Shortnosed Fruit Bat Vespertilionidae	Cynopterus sphinx	Direct	LC	LC	
13	Pipistrellus Bat	Pipistrelle spp.	Direct			
	omorpha					
	Soricidae					
14	Asian House Shrew	Suncus murinus	Direct, Live trap		LC	
15	Himalayan Shrew	Soriculus nigrescens	Live trap	LC	LC	
Pholid						
	Manidae					
16	Chinese Pangolin	Manis pentadactyla	Camera trap, Sign	EN	CR	Ι

Prim	ates					
	Cercopithecidae					
17	Rhesus Macaque	Macaca mulatta	Direct	LC	LC	II
18	Assam Macaque	Macaca assamensis	Direct	VU	NT	II
Rode	entia					
	Muridae					
19	House Rat	Rattus rattus	Direct, Live trap	LC	LC	
20	Himalayan Rat	Rattus pyctoris	Live trap	LC	LC	
21	Indo-Chinese Rat/ Sikkim Rat	Rattus andamanensis	Live trap	DD	LC	
22	Fawn-colored Mouse	Mus cervicolor	Live trap	LC	LC	
23	House Mouse	Mus musculus	Live trap	LC	LC	
24	Soft-furred Rat	Millardia meltada	Live trap	LC	LC	
25	Rat	Rattus sp.	Live trap			
26	Mouse	Mus sp.	Live trap			
	Sciuridae					
27	Irrawaddy Squirrel	Callosciurus pygerythrus	Direct	LC	LC	
28	Particoloured Flying Squirrel	Hylopetes alboniger	Direct	LC	LC	
29	Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel	Dremomys lokriah	Direct	LC	LC	
	Hystricidae					
30	Indian Crested Procupine	Hystrix indica	Sign	DD	LC	

Appendix 2: Wildlife of Chandragiri Hills: a-e mammals (a-Chinese Pangolin, b-Wild Boar, c-Leopard Cat, d-Large Indian Civet, e-Masked Palm Civet), f-j birds (f-Golden-throated Barbet, g-Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, h-Gold-naped Finch, i-Steppe Eagle, j-Kalij Pheasant), k-o herpetofauna (k-King Cobra, l-Darjeeling Worm Snake, m-Variegated Mountain Lizard, n- Marbled Toad, o-Myanmar Pelobatid Toad), p-t butterflies (p-Himalayan Jester, q- Grey Count, r-Colour Sergent, s-Large Silver Stripe, t-Indian Fritillary.



S. N	Order/Family/Commo Scientific Name		Migration	Conservation Status		CITES
2.11	n Name		Status	National	IUCN	
	Galliformes					
	Phasianidae					
1	Hill Partridge	Arborophila torqueola	Resident	LC	LC	
2	Kalij Pheasant	Lophura leucomelanos	Resident	LC	LC	III
	Columbiformes					
	Columbidae					
3	Rock Dove	Columba livia	Resident	LC	LC	
4	Speckled Woodpigeon	Columba hodgsonii	Resident	LC	LC	
5	Oriental Turtle-dove	Streptopelia orientalis	Resident	LC	LC	
6	Western Spotted Dove	Spilopelia suratensis	Resident	LC	LC	
7	Grey-capped Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	Resident	LC	LC	
8	Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	Treron sphenurus	Resident	LC	LC	
	Caprimulgiformes					
	Apodidae					
9	House Swift	Apus nipalensis	Resident	LC	LC	
	Cuculiformes					
	Cuculidae					
10	Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis	Resident/Su mmer migrant	LC	LC	
11	Green-billed Malkoha	Phaenicophaeus tristis	Resident	LC	LC	
12	Western Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus	Resident	LC	LC	
13	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	Resident	LC	LC	
14	Oriental Cuckoo	Cuculus saturates	Summer migrant	LC	LC	
15	Large Hawk-cuckoo	Hierococcyx sparverioides	Resident	LC	LC	
16	Grey-bellied Cuckoo	Cacomantis passerines	Summer migrant	LC	LC	
17	Lesser Cuckoo	Cuculus poliocephalus	Summer migrant	LC	LC	
18	Fork-tailed Drongo- cuckoo	Surniculus dicruroides	Summer migrant	LC	LC	
	Pelecaniformes					
	Ardeidae					
19	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Resident	LC	LC	
20	Indian Pond-heron	Ardeola grayii	Resident	LC	LC	
21	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	Resident	LC	LC	

Appendix 3: Birds recorded in Chandragiri Hills where DD is Data Deficient, LC is Least Concern, NT is Near Threatened, VU is Vulnerable, EN is Endangered.

	Strigiformes					
	Tytonidae					
22	Common Barn-owl	Tyto alba	Resident	VU	LC	II
	Strigidae					
23	Spotted Owlet	Athene brama	Resident	LC	LC	II
24	Mountain Scops-owl	Otus spilocephalus	Resident	LC	LC	II
25	Collared Owlet	Glaucidium brodiei	Resident	LC	LC	II
26	Brown Wood-owl	Strix leptogrammica	Resident	VU	LC	II
27	Asian Barred Owlet	Glaucidium cuculoides	Resident	LC	LC	II
28	Rock Eagle-owl	Bubo bengalensis	Resident	VU	LC	
	Accipitriformes					
	Accipitridae					
29	Crested Serpent-eagle	Spilornis cheela	Resident	LC	LC	II
30	Black Kite	Milvus migrans	Resident	LC	LC	II
31	Shikra	Accipiter badius	Resident	LC	LC	II
32	Steppe Eagle	Aquila nipalensis	Winter migrant	VU	EN	II
33	Northern Goshawk	Accipiter gentilis	Resident	LC	LC	II
34	Mountain Hawk-eagle	Nisaetus nipalensis	Resident	LC	LC	II
35	Black Eagle	Ictinaetus malaiensis	Resident	LC	LC	II
36	Himalayan Buzzard	Buteo refectus	Winter migrant	LC	LC	II
37	Long-legged Buzzard	Buteo rufinus	Winter migrant	LC	LC	II
38	Red-headed Vulture	Sarcogyps calvus	Resident	EN	CR	Π
39	Himalayan Griffon	Gyps himalayensis	Resident	VU	NT	II
40	Oriental Honey- buzzard	Pernis ptilorhynchus	Resident	LC	LC	II
41	Bonelli's Eagle	Aquila fasciata	Winter migrant	LC	LC	II
42	Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus	Winter migrant	LC	LC	II
43	Besra	Accipiter virgatus	Resident	LC	LC	II
	Bucerotiformes					
	Upupidae					
44	Common Hoopoe	Upupa epops	Resident	LC	LC	
	Coraciiformes					
	Alcedinidae					
45	White-breasted	Halcyon	Resident	LC	LC	

	Kingfisher	smyrnensis				
	Piciformes					-
	Megalaimidae					
46	Great Barbet	Psilopogon virens	Resident	LC	LC	
47	Golden-throated Barbet	Psilopogon franklinii	Resident	LC	LC	
48	Blue-throated Barbet	Psilopogon asiatica	Resident	LC	LC	
	Picidae					
49	Scarlet-breasted Woodpecker	Dryobates cathpharius	Resident	LC	LC	
50	Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	Dendrocopos hyperythrus	Resident	LC	LC	
51	Darjeeling Woodpecker	Dendrocopos darjellensis	Resident	LC	LC	
52	Lesser Yellownape	Picus chlorolophus	Resident	LC	LC	
53	Greater Yellownape	Chrysophlegma flavinucha	Resident	LC	LC	
54	Grey-capped Woodpecker	Picoides canicapillus	Resident	LC	LC	
55	Speckled Piculet	Picumnus innominatus	Resident	LC	LC	
	Cariamiformes					
	Falconidae					
56	Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo	Passage migrant	LC	LC	II
57	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	Resident and passage migrant	LC	LC	II
58	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	Resident	LC	LC	Ι
	Psittaciformes					
	Psittacidae					
59	Alexandrine Parakeet	Psittacula eupatria	Resident	LC	NT	II
60	Rose-ringed Parakeet	Psittacula krameri	Resident	LC	LC	
61	Slaty-headed Parakeet	Psittacula himalayana	Resident	LC	LC	II
	Passeriformes					
	Oriolidae					
62	Maroon Oriole	Oriolus traillii	Resident	LC	LC	
63	Indian Golden Oriole	Oriolus kundoo	Summer migrant	LC	LC	
	Vireonidae					
64	White-bellied Erpornis	Erpornis zantholeuca	Resident	LC	LC	

	Campephagidae				
65	Long-tailed Minivet	Pericrocotus ethologus	Resident	LC	LC
66	Scarlet Minivet	Pericrocotus flammeus	Resident	LC	LC
67	Indian Cuckooshrike	Coracina macei	Resident	LC	LC
68	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	Lalage melaschistos	Resident	LC	LC
	Rhipiduridae				
69	White-throated Fantail	Rhipidura albicollis	Resident	LC	LC
	Dicruridae				
70	Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Resident	LC	LC
71	Ashy Drongo	Dicrurus leucophaeus	Resident and partial migrant	LC	LC
72	Hair-crested Drongo	Dicrurus hottentottus	Resident	LC	LC
73	Bronzed Drongo	Dicrurus aeneus	Resident	LC	LC
74	Lesser Racquet-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus remifer	Resident	LC	LC
	Laniidae				
75	Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach	Resident	LC	LC
76	Grey-backed Shrike	Lanius tephronotus	Winter migrant	LC	LC
77	Brown Shrike	Lanius cristatus	Winter migrant	LC	LC
	Corvidae				
78	Rufous Treepie	Dendrocitta vagabunda	Resident	LC	LC
79	Grey Treepie	Dendrocitta formosae	Resident	LC	LC
80	Plain-crowned Jay	Garrulus bispecularis	Resident	EN	LC
81	Black-headed Jay	Garrulus lanceolatus	Winter migrant	LC	LC
82	House Crow	Corvus splendens	Resident	LC	LC
83	Large-billed Crow	Corvus macrorhynchos	Resident	LC	LC
84	Red-billed Blue Magpie	Urocissa erythroryncha	Resident	LC	LC
85	Common Green Magpie	Cissa chinensis	Resident	LC	LC
	Stenostiridae				
86	Yellow-bellied Fairy- fantail	Chelidorhynx hypoxanthus	Resident	LC	LC
87	Grey-headed Canary- flycatcher	Culicicapa ceylonensis	Partial migrant	LC	LC
	Paridae				

88	Great Tit	Parus major	Resident	LC	LC
89	Green-backed Tit	Parus monticolus	Resident	LC	LC
90	Black-lored Tit	Machlolophus xanthogenys	Resident	LC	LC
91	Black-throated Tit	Aegithalos concinnus	Resident	LC	LC
92	Yellow-browed Tit	Sylviparus modestus	Resident	LC	LC
	Cisticolidae				
93	Striated Prinia	Prinia crinigera	Resident	LC	LC
94	Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius	Resident	LC	LC
	Pnoepygidae				
95	Scaly-breasted Cupwing	Pnoepyga albiventer	Resident	LC	LC
	Hirundinidae				
96	Red-rumped Swallow	Cecropis daurica	Resident	LC	LC
97	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	Resident and summer migrant	LC	LC
	Pycnonotidae				
98	Red-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus cafer	Resident	LC	LC
99	Himalayan Bulbul	Pycnonotus leucogenys	Resident	LC	LC
100	Mountain Bulbul	Ixos mcclellandii	Resident	LC	LC
101	Striated Bulbul	Pycnonotus striatus	Resident	LC	LC
102	Black Bulbul	Hypsipetes leucocephalus	Resident	LC	LC
	Phylloscopidae				
103	Grey-bellied Tesia	Tesia cyaniventer	Resident	LC	LC
104	Chestnut-headed Tesia	Cettia castaneocoronat a	Resident	LC	LC
105	Blyth's Leaf-warbler	Phylloscopus reguloides	Resident	LC	LC
106	Buff-barred Warbler	Phylloscopus pulcher	Resident	LC	LC
107	Greenish Warbler	Phylloscopus trochiloides	Summer and Passage Migrant	LC	LC
108	Ashy-throated Warbler	Phylloscopus maculipennis	Resident	LC	LC
109	Whistler's Warbler	Phylloscopus whistleri	Resident	LC	LC
110	Grey-cheeked Warbler	Phylloscopus poliogenys	Resident	LC	LC
111	Green-crowned Warbler	Phylloscopus burkii		LC	LC

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112	Chestnut-crowned Warbler	Phylloscopus castaniceps		LC	LC
113	Grey-hooded Warbler	Phylloscopus xanthoschistos	Resident	LC	LC
114	Hume's Leaf-warbler	Phylloscopus humei	Resident	LC	LC
115	Lemon-rumped Leaf- warbler	Phylloscopus chloronotus	Resident	LC	LC
116	Black-faced Warbler	Abroscopus schisticeps	Resident	LC	LC
	Sylviidae				
117	White-browed Fulvetta	Fulvetta vinipectus	Resident	LC	LC
	Zosteropidae				
118	Whiskered Yuhina	Yuhina flavicollis	Resident	LC	LC
119	Oriental White-eye	Zosterops palpebrosus	Resident	LC	LC
	Timaliidae				
120	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler	Erythrogenys erythrogenys	Resident	LC	LC
121	Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler	Pomatorhinus ruficollis	Resident	LC	LC
122	Black-chinned Babbler	Cyanoderma pyrrhops	Resident	LC	LC
123	Grey-throated Babbler	Stachyris nigriceps	Resident	LC	LC
	Pellorneidae				
124	Puff-throated Babbler	Pellorneum ruficeps	Resident	LC	LC
125	Rufous-winged Fulvetta	Schoeniparus castaneceps	Resident	LC	LC
	Leiotrichidae				
126	Nepal Fulvetta	Alcippe nipalensis	Resident	LC	LC
127	Spiny Babbler	Acanthoptila nipalensis	Resident	LC	LC
128	White-throated Laughingthrush	Garrulax albogularis	Resident	LC	LC
129	White-crested Laughingthrush	Garrulax leucolophus	Resident	LC	LC
130	Striated Laughingthrush	Grammatoptila striata	Resident	LC	LC
131	Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron erythrocephalum	Resident	LC	LC
132	Streaked Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron lineatum	Resident	LC	LC
133	Red-billed Leiothrix	Leiothrix lutea	Resident	LC	LC
134	Rufous Sibia	Heterophasia capistrata	Resident	LC	LC
135	Hoary-throated Barwing	Sibia nipalensis	Resident	LC	LC

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136	Blue-winged Minla	Siva cyanouroptera	Resident	LC	LC
	Certhiidae				
137	Rusty-flanked Treecreeper	Certhia nipalensis	Reident	LC	LC
	Sittidae				
138	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	Sitta cinnamoventris	Resident	LC	LC
139	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	Sitta frontalis	Resident	LC	LC
140	White-tailed Nuthatch	Sitta himalayensis	Resident	LC	LC
	Sturnidae				
141	Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	Resident	LC	LC
142	Jungle Myna	Acridotheres fuscus	Resident	LC	LC
143	Chestnut-tailed Starling	Sturnia malabarica	Resident	LC	LC
144	Brahminy Starling	Sturnia pagodarum	Resident	LC	LC
	Turdidae				
145	Pied Thrush	Geokichla wardii	Summer migrant	LC	LC
146	Scaly Thrush	Zoothera dauma	Winter migrant	LC	LC
147	Tibetan Blackbird	Turdus maximus	Resident	LC	LC
148	Black-throated Thrush	Turdus atrogularis	Winter migrant	LC	LC
149	Grey-winged Blackbird	Turdus boulboul	Resident	LC	LC
150	White-collared Blackbird	Turdus albocinctus	Resident	LC	LC
	Muscicapidae				
151	Oriental Magpie-robin	Copsychus saularis	Resident	LC	LC
152	Dark-sided Flycatcher	Muscicapa sibirica	Summer migrant	LC	LC
153	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	Ficedula strophiata	Resident	LC	LC
154	Verditer Flycatcher	Eumyias thalassinus	Resident and partial migrant	LC	LC
155	Slaty-blue Flycatcher	Ficedula tricolor	Winter migrant	LC	LC
156	Ultramarine Flycatcher	Ficedula superciliaris	Summer migrant	LC	LC
157	Red-throated Flycatcher	Ficedula albicilla	Winter migrant	LC	LC
158	Blue Whistling-thrush	Myophonus caeruleus	Resident	LC	LC
159	Blue-capped Rock- thrush	Monticola cinclorhyncha	Summer migrant	LC	LC

160	Chestnut-bellied	Monticola	Resident	LC	LC
	Rock-thrush	rufiventris Niltava	Resident		LC
161	Small Niltava	macgrigoriae		LC	
162	Rufous-bellied Niltava	Niltava sundara	Resident	LC	LC
163	Indian Blue Robin	Larvivora brunnea	Resident	LC	LC
164	White-tailedBlueRobin	Myiomela leucura	Resident	LC	LC
165	Spotted Forktail	Enicurus maculatus	Resident	LC	LC
166	Slaty-backed Forktail	Enicurus schistaceus	Resident	LC	LC
167	Hodgson's Redstart	Phoenicurus hodgsoni	Winter migrant	LC	LC
168	Plumbeous Water- redstart	Phoenicurus fuliginosus	Resident	LC	LC
169	White-capped Water- redstart	Phoenicurus leucocephalus	Resident	LC	LC
170	Blue-fronted Redstart	Phoenicurus frontalis	Winter migrant	LC	LC
171	Blue-capped Redstart	Phoenicurus coeruleocephala	Winter migrant	LC	LC
172	Common Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus	Passage migrant	LC	LC
173	Pied Bushchat	Saxicola caprata	Resident	LC	LC
174	Grey Bushchat	Saxicola ferreus	Resident	LC	LC
175	Himalayan Bush-robin	Tarsiger rufilatus	Resident	LC	LC
	Chloropseidae				
176	Orange-bellied Leafbird	Chloropsis hardwickii	Resident	LC	LC
	Dicaeidae				
177	Plain Flowerpecker	Dicaeum minullum	Resident	LC	LC
178	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	Dicaeum ignipectus	Resident	LC	LC
	Nectariniidae				
179	Green-tailed Sunbird	Aethopyga nipalensis	Resident	LC	LC
180	Black-throated Sunbird	Aethopyga saturate	Resident	LC	LC
181	Crimson Sunbird	Aethopyga siparaja	Resident	LC	LC
182	Fire-tailed Sunbird	Aethopyga ignicauda	Summer migrant	LC	LC
	Ploceidae				
183	Baya Weaver	Ploceus philippinus	Summer migrant	LC	LC
	Estrildidae		Ĭ		
184	Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	Resident	LC	LC

185	White-rumped Munia	Lonchura striata	Summer migrant	LC	LC
	Passeridae				
186	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	Resident	LC	LC
187	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	Resident	LC	LC
	Motacillidae				
188	Paddyfield Pipit	Anthus rufulus	Resident	LC	LC
189	Rosy Pipit	Anthus roseatus	Resident	LC	LC
190	Olive-backed Pipit	Anthus hodgsoni	Winter migrant	LC	LC
191	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	Winter migrant	LC	LC
192	White-browed Wagtail	Motacilla maderaspatensis	Summer migrant	LC	LC
193	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	Winter migrant	LC	LC
	Fringillidae				
194	Common Rosefinch	Carpodacus erythrinus	Winter migrant	LC	LC
195	Beautiful Rosefinch	Carpodacus pulcherrimus	Winter migrant	LC	LC
196	Dark-breasted Rosefinch	Procarduelis nipalensis	Winter migrant	LC	LC
197	Yellow-breasted Greenfinch	Chloris spinoides	Winter migrant	LC	LC
198	Gold-naped Finch	Pyrrhoplectes epaulette	Winter migrant	VU	LC
	Emberizidae				
199	Crested Bunting	Emberiza lathami	Summer migrant	LC	LC

S.N.	Class/Order/Family/Com	Scientific Name	Conservation Status		CITES
	mon Names		IUCN	National	
	Amphibia				
	Anura				
	Bufonidae				
1	Himalayan Toad	Duttaphrynus himalayanus	LC		
2	Black-spined Toad	Duttaphrynus melanostictus	LC		
3	Marbled Toad	Bufo stomaticus	LC		
	Microhylidae				
4	Narrow-mouthed Frog	Microhyla ornata	LC		
	Megophryidae				
5	Myanmar Pelobatid Toad	Megophrys parva	LC		
	Ranidae		1		
6	Skittering Frog	Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis	LC		
7	Indian Bull Frog	Hoplobatrachus tigerinus	LC		
8	Nepalese Cricket Frog	Fejervarya nepalensis	LC		
9	Indian Burrowing Frog	Sphaerotheca breviceps	LC		
	Rhacophoridae				
10	Java Whipping Frog/Common Tree Frog	Polypedates leucomystax	LC		
	Reptilia				
	Squamata				
	Agamidae				
11	Common Garden Lizard	Calotes versicolor			
12	Three Keeled Mountain Lizard	Japalura tricarinata	LC		
13	Variegated Mountain Lizard	Japalura variegata			
14	Kashmiri Rock Agama	Laudakia tuberculata			
	Scincidae				
15	Brahminy Skink	Eutropis carinata	LC		
16	Spotted Forest Skink	Sphenomorphus maculatus			
17	Sikkim Skink	Asymblepharus sikimmensis			
	Varanidae				
18	Bengal Monitor Lizard	Varanus bengalensis	LC	Susceptible	Ι
	Typhlopidae				
19	Brahminy Blind Snake	Indotyphlops			

Appendix 4: Herpetofauna recorded in Chandragiri Hills where LC is Least Concern, VU is Vulnerable.

		braminus			
	Colubridae				
20	Boulenger's Kellback	Amphiesma parallelum			
21	Himalayan Keelback	Amphiesma platyceps			
22	Buff-striped Keelback	Amphiesma stolatum			
23	Common Trinket Snake	Coelognathus helena			
24	Copper-headed Trinket Snake	Coelognathus radiatus			
25	Common Bronzeback Tree Snake	Dendrelaphis tristis			
26	Himalayan Trinket Snake	Orthriophis hodgsoni			
27	Common Wolf Snake	Lycodon aulicus			
28	Indian Rat Snake	Ptyas mucosa		Susceptible	II
29	Darjeeling Worm Snake	Trachischium fuscum			
	Elapidae				
30	Indian/Common Cobra	Naja naja			II
31	Monocled Cobra	Naja kaouthia	LC		II
32	King Cobra	Ophiophagus hannah	VU	VU	II
	Viperidae				
33	Mountain Pit Viper	Ovophis monticola	LC		
34	White-lipped Pit Viper	Trimeresurus albolabris	LC		

S.N.	Order/Family/Co mmon Name	Scientific Name	Conserva	Conservation Status	
			IUCN	National	CITES
	Lepidoptera				
	Nymphalidae				
1.	Common Tiger	Danaus genutia			
2.	Glassy Tiger	Parantica aglea			
3.	Striped Blue Crow	Euploea mulciber			
4.	Chocolate Pansy	Junonia iphita			
5.	Yellow Pansy	Junonia hierta			
6.	Lemon Pansy	Junonia orithya			
7.	Peacock Pansy	Junonia almanac			
8.	Common Earl	Tanaecia julii			
9.	Grey Count	Tanaecia lepidea			
10.	Common Lascar	Pantoporia hordonia			
11.	Yellow Coster	Acraea issoria			
12.	Common Leopard	Phalanta phalantha			
13.	Common Map	Cyrestis thyodamas			
14.	Common Sailor	Neptis hylas			
15.	Common Sergeant	Athyma perius			
16.	Eastern Courtier	Sephisa Chandra			
17.	Grand Duchess	Euthalia patala			
18.	Himalayan Sergeant	Athyma opalina			
19.	Indian Fritillary	Argyreus hyperbius			
20.	Indian Red Admiral	Vanessa indica			
21.	Indian Tortoiseshell	Aglais cashmirensis			
22.	Large Silverstripe	Childrena childreni			
23.	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui	LC		
24.	Red Lacewing	Cethosia bibilis			
25.	Himalayan Jester	Symbrenthia hypselis			
25.	Orange Staff Sergeant	Athyma cama			
27.	Colour Sergeant	Athyma nefte			
28.	Vagrant	Vagrant egista	LC		
29.	Common Siren	Hestina persimilis		VU	
30.	Indian Commodore	Auzakia danava			
31.	Great Eggfly	Hypolymnas bolina			
32.	Bluetail Jester	Symbrenthia niphanda			
33.	Common Castor	Ariadne merione			

Appendix 5: Butterfly recorded in Chandragiri Hills, where LC is Least Concern, VU is Vulnerable.

34.	Gray Pansy	Precis atlites			
35.	Bhutan Sergeant	Athyma jina			
36.	White Commodore	Limenitis dudu			
37.	Yellow Sailor	Neptis ananta			
38.	Banded Treebrown	Lethe confusa			
39.	Himalayan Fivering	Ypthima sakra			
40.	Common Fivering	Ypthima baldus			
41.	Large Three Ring	Ypthima nereda			
42.	Newar Three- Ring	Ypthima newara			
43.	Tiger Brown	Orinoma damaris			
	Lycaenidae				
44.	Peablue	Lampides boeticus			
45.	Purple Sapphire	Heliophorus epicles			
46.	Silver Grey- Silver Line	Spindasis nipalicus			
47.	Common Hedgeblue	Actyolepis puspa			
48.	Large Hedge Blue	Celastrina huegeli			
49.	Common Cerulean	Jamides celeno			
50.	Dark Grassblue	Zizeeria karsandra			
51.	Pale Grass Blue	Pseudozizeeria maha			
	Riodiniidae				
52.	Double Banded Judy	Abisara bifasciata			
53.	Dark Judy	Abisara fylla			
54.	Punchinello	Zemoros flegyas			
55.	Striped Punch	Dodona adonira			
56.	Tailed Punch	Dodona eugenes			
57.	Lesser Punch	Dodona dipoea			
58.	Plum Judy	Abisara echerius			
	Papilionidae				
59.	Common Bluebottle	Graphium serpedon	LC		
60.	Common Mormon	Papilio polytes	LC		
61.	Common Mime	Chilasa clytia dissimilis	LC		
62.	Golden Birdwing	Troides aeacus	LC	Susceptible	II
63.	Paris Peacock	Papilio paris	LC		
64.	Rose Windmill	Byasa latreillei	LC		
65.	Spangle	Papilio protenor	LC		
66.	Tailed Jay	Graphium agamemnon	LC		

(7	C1	Constitution	LC	
67.	Glassy Bluebottle	Graphium cloanthus	LC	
68.	Lime Swallowtail	Papilio demoleus	LC	
69.	Common Peacock	Papilio polyctor	LC	
70.	Red Helen	Papilio helenus	LC	
71.	Great Mormon	Papilio memnon	LC	
	Pieridae			
72.	Great Blackvein	Metaporia agathon		
73.	Common Emigrant	Catopsilia pomona		
74.	Indian Cabbage White	Pieris canidia		
75.	Dark Clouded Yellow	Colias fieldii		
76.	Hill Jezebel	Delias belladonna		
	Hesperiidae			
77.	Fulvous Pied Flat	Pseudocoladenia dan		