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When you become a member of RSPN, you become a part of a dedicated network of individuals and groups working to preserve Bhutan's pristine natural environment and incredible biodiversity for generations to come. Whatever financial support you pledge will be used to aid our projects in schools, communities, and protected areas throughout the country. As the nation's oldest environmental NGO, we depend on the generosity of concerned individuals like yourself to enable our research and advocacy – we can't do it without you, and every bit counts!

www.rspnbhutan.org/be-a-member

Her Majesty Gyalsuen launches Jigme Khesar Environmental Research Fund (JKERF)



Her Majesty Gyalsuen with RSPN Board of Directors and staff

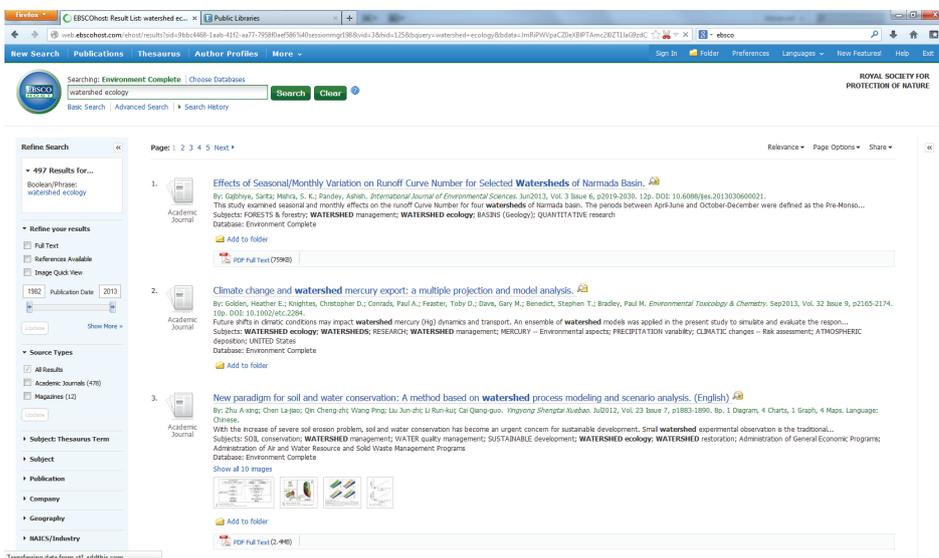
Coinciding with the visit of Her Majesty Gyalsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck to the Royal Society for Protection of Nature on 5 August 2013, Her Majesty launched the Jigme Khesar Environmental Research Fund (JKERF) as a part of the Jigme Khesar Environmental Resource Centre, which

was launched in October 2012. The JKERF is launched under Her Majesty Gyalsuen's initiative as the Royal Patron of the organization.

Bhutan's natural resources being the ultimate source of sustainability, the research fund will

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Electronic database training conducted



Screenshot of the EBSCO electronic database

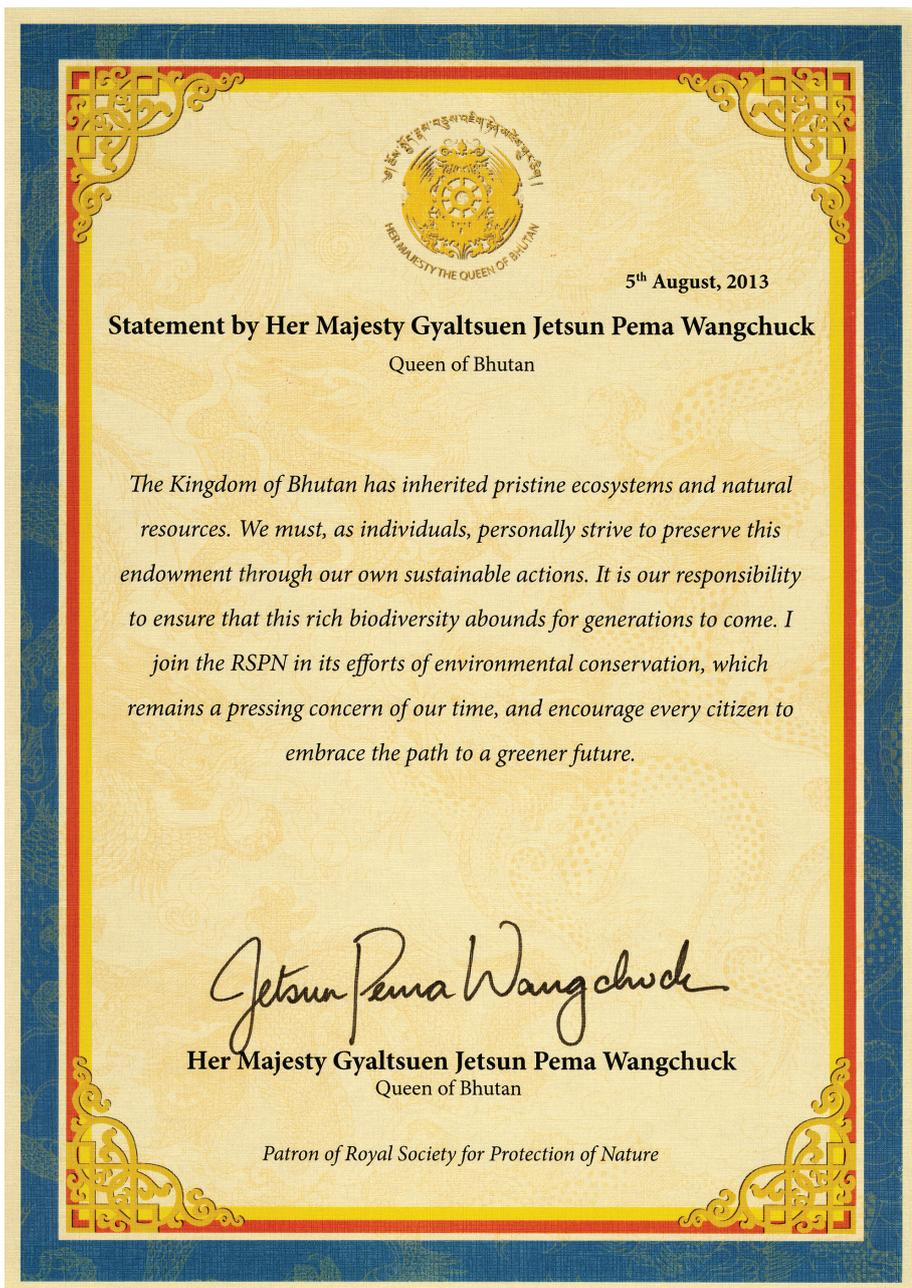
Over 30 participants attended a one hour webinar on how to use EBSCO's environmental databases in RSPN's Jigme Khesar Environmental Resource Centre (JKERC) Library. The webinar covered issues like how to construct searches and how to create a bibliography of the resources you have selected.

The webinar training was felt necessary as the JKERC currently has access to EBSCO Environment Complete and EBSCO's Sustainability Reference Centre. Combined these databases provide access to over 1000 full-text journals and 200 e-books related to the environment. RSPN members have free access to these databases.

The training was organized by Ms. Ariel Lebowitz, Head Librarian, JKERC, RSPN for the benefit of all users. She is always available to help any RSPN members to use any of the JKERC's electronic databases and help conduct searches for research materials.

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Her Majesty Gyaltsuen launches Jigme Khesar Environmental Research Fund (JKERF)



Royal Patron's statement granted to RSPN on 5th August, 2013

help to address an increasing need of science based information which is inadequately matched by research capacity in the country. It will also help to reduce dependency on external knowledge of our own natural resources.

RSPN hopes to create a conducive environment for national researchers who face challenges with restrictive policies with no mechanisms to fund research projects. While the primary objective is to support national researchers in their research projects, it will also address the policy and implementation gap that currently exists, which will contribute towards the ultimate goal of having a vibrant scientific community.

With the launch of the fund, the Royal Society for Protection of Nature, the parent organization which will manage the research fund under its Jigme Khesar Environmental Resource Centre announces the immediate availability of funding for four research project proposals from educational institutions across the country. A total sum of Nu. 500,000 is currently allocated for the fund from which a sum of Nu. 100,000 will be maintained as the seed money. Over the next few years, RSPN hopes to secure one million US Dollars as the research capital fund. The proportionate annual income from the investment of its capital fund will be allocated for annual research funds.

It will be announced on an annual basis for competitive individual and institutional research proposals. A team of qualified technical staff will review project proposals. Besides research projects, it will also support research related conferences and the publication of research work.

The fund's ultimate goal is to build a consortium of professional national researchers and establish a technical research review panel.

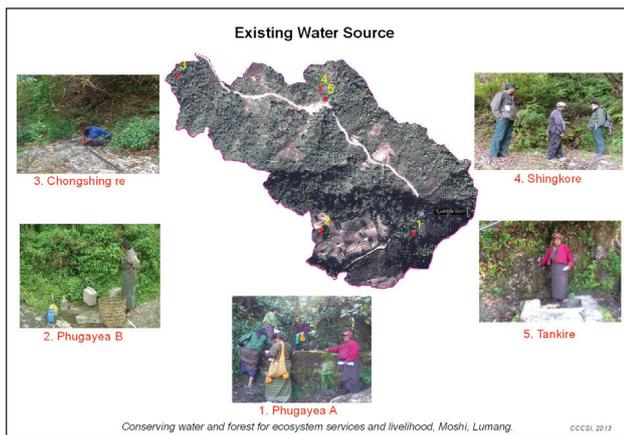
Her Majesty granted a Patron's Statement to the RSPN during the visit. Her Majesty also granted audience to the Board of Directors, RSPN Staff and awarded mementos and certificates to the outgoing Board members of RSPN.

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Conserving Water and Forest for Ecosystem Services and Livelihoods



A community based participatory project in Conserving Water and Forest for Ecosystem Services and Livelihood (CWFESL), funded by the Government of Finland is aimed at better management of natural resources in rural communities in Wamrong Dungkhag under Trsahigang Dzongkhag.

The project so far has under taken baseline survey of the affected area, training of trainers on watershed management manual, participatory assessment of the watershed in

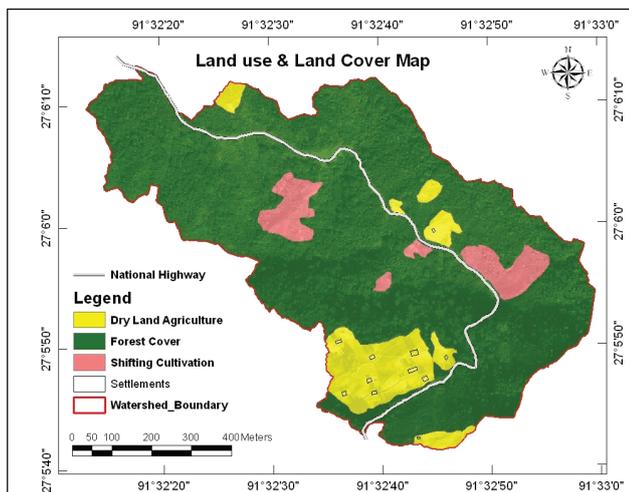
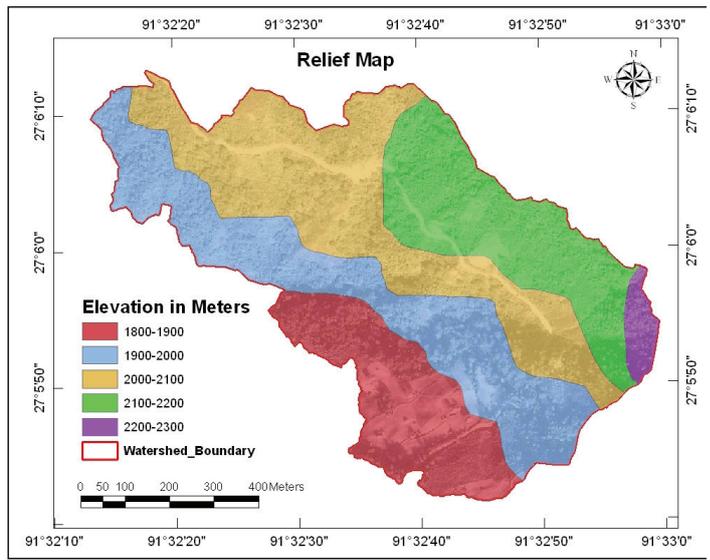
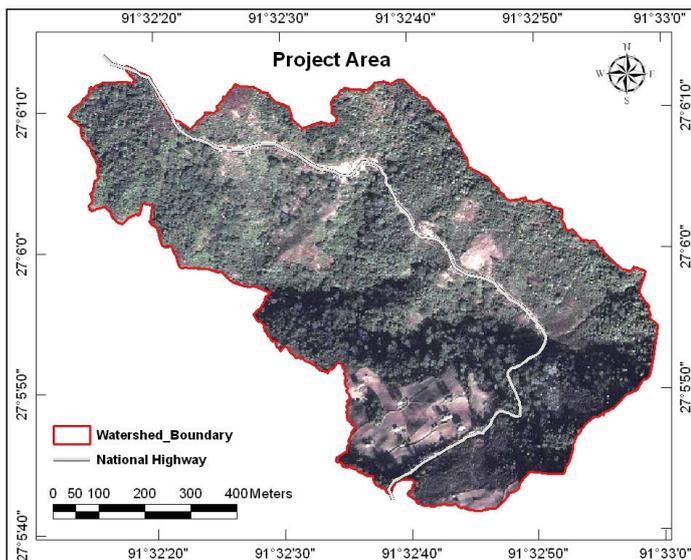
Moshi and mapping of watershed area and forest rehabilitation program in Mochenma.

For watershed management in Moshi, plantation program was initiated in and around the water sources. Based on space availability, three plantation sites were chosen: Shinko re/tanki re area, Chongshing re area and Phugayea area. The green shaded area on the map shows the location of the plantation sites.

A total of approximately 3.5 hectares of forest enrichment has been done in the

watershed area and about 2450 saplings have already been planted.

Based on the plantation sites, major locally available species planted included Bainang shing (*Quercus griffithii*), Gongtsenang shing (*Alnus nepalensis*), Lem shing (*Exbucklandia populnea*), Rawa shing (*Toona ciliata*), Roptang shing (*Rhus chinensis*), Zala shing (*Schima wallishi*), Khey shing (*Juglans regia*), Banana and Soo (Bamboo spp.).



WORD SAFARI

In this edition, we have compiled a list of Birds found in Phobjikha valley. We will publish in series in our upcoming editions. (Source: *The Black-necked Crane Visitor Centre Activity Guide*, pp. 41-43, RSPN, Thimphu).

Find and encircle the words which are **bold** and underlined. We have encircled one to help you get start with.

IUCN Status	Other small birds	
	Common name	Latin name
Least Concern	Ashy-throated Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>
Least Concern	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>
Least Concern	Beautiful Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus pulcherrimus</i>
Least Concern	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>
Least Concern	Black Faced laughing thrush	<i>Garrulax affinis</i>
Least Concern	Black-billed Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Vulnerable C2	Black-necked Crane	<i>Grus nigricollis</i>
Least Concern	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>
Least Concern	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>
Least Concern	Brown bush warbler	<i>Bradypterus luteoventris</i>

W	E	G	O	O	S	E	T	P	E
H	A	P	H	S	N	A	L	R	A
T	H	R	Y	S	A	D	I	I	G
H	O	O	B	U	L	B	U	L	L
R	R	S	I	L	R	E	Y	I	E
Y	T	E	R	R	E	E	O	A	S
U	W	F	K	W	R	R	N	O	S
S	I	I	A	E	G	E	U	U	E
H	N	N	S	N	M	O	L	N	R
W	G	C	H	U	A	I	P	T	G
H	H	H	M	T	G	O	G	O	N
I	N	S	I	H	P	H	R	I	N
S	A	R	R	A	I	G	E	N	N
T	D	U	C	T	E	L	A	E	G
L	T	S	P	C	R	A	N	E	P
I	V	U	E	H	A	I	R	O	O
N	N	O	D	S	H	N	U	X	S
G	O	R	E	D	S	T	A	R	T
B	A	B	B	U	S	H	L	R	N

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