

**Gretchen Kaufman**

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**From:** Dr. Deborah McCauley <info=viewwildlife.org@mail96.suw17.mcsv.net> on behalf of Dr. Deborah McCauley <info=viewwildlife.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2016 12:26 PM  
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**Veterinary Initiative for Endangered Wildlife**

## **e-News June 2016**

**This spring VIEW's impact** was strongly evident during two important conservation activities in Nepal. Our VIEW Veterinary Fellow, Dr. Amir Sadaula participated in two translocation operations of endangered Greater one-horned rhinos and critically endangered swamp deer. He was a necessary member of the wildlife capture team ensuring the safety of both humans and endangered wildlife.



Dr. Amir Sadoula (with mask) moving an Asian one horned rhino in Chitwan.

**Five Greater one-horned rhinos** were moved from Chitwan National Park (NP) to Bardiya NP to improve their population and genetic diversity. In March, our VIEW Veterinary Fellow, was featured in a BBC photo (above) helping to move rhinos from Sukhivar area of Chitwan NP to Babai Valley region of Bardiya NP. Three females, and 2 males were darted with a tranquilizer, captured, and trucked to the chosen release site. The birth of a new baby rhino to one of the females on 22<sup>nd</sup> of May was a welcome sign of a successful release.



Photo by Dean Purcell / Getty Images

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**A veterinarian is a key asset** in a wildlife capture team to aid in assuring safe capture, immobilization and re-release of wildlife for management or research projects. Dr. Amir Sadaula is based at our Chitwan field laboratory and participates in most wildlife capture events, including translocation. He helps to select and manage dangerous drugs for immobilization, monitors the darted wildlife while under anesthesia, and obtains important biological samples for disease analysis.

Dr. Sadaula was instrumental in the important discovery of the first ever greater one-horned rhino with tuberculosis (TB) last year, a deadly disease that can be transmitted to other rhinos, endangered animals and humans. As a result, he is now testing all translocated rhinos and has so far has found none with evidence of TB.

Our VIEW Veterinary Fellow was called out on another conservation project to move endangered swamp deer to Bardiya NP. These majestic ungulates are the largest of the deer species and are named for their habit of lounging in mud baths with moss draped from their antlers. Efforts are being made to improve their population numbers and genetic diversity in Bardiya NP so in May, three females and two males were captured at dawn in the jungle of Shuklaphanta NP in far western Nepal with a 300-meter net placed across the grassland habitat. Deer were then chased toward the net where a team of wildlife professionals restrained them for Dr. Amir to administer a long acting sedative by hand. As you can imagine, this is a very dramatic and somewhat dangerous procedure and requires a lot of careful coordination to be successful. The deer were transported to Bardiya National Park within 8 hours where they were released into their new home. Once again, Dr. Sadaula collected important biological samples to help investigate potential diseases in the deer that were moved. This information will be added to the growing database of disease knowledge that VIEW is collecting.



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**Including a veterinarian in the wildlife capture team** helps ensure safety of the team as well as the endangered wildlife during capture, immobilization and transport and investigating disease during these operations improves their chances for survival in the ever changing challenges they face in the wild. VIEW has been emphasizing the need to include disease investigation as an important part of the wildlife translocation program in Nepal. We are delighted to see this starting to happen on a routine basis this year.



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I want to personally thank all of you who help us at VIEW in the many ways you provide support, encouragement and hands-on assistance. Please accept my sincere thank you!

We need **YOUR HELP to increase our FRIENDS**, so please share in our efforts by forwarding this email to your friends and letting us know of people that would be interested in VIEW. Plus, don't forget to follow our regular field activities and LIKE us on Facebook.

We couldn't do this critical work without the generosity of your support!

With appreciation,

*Dr. Deborah McCauley*

*Executive Director*  
*VIEW - Veterinary Initiative for Endangered Wildlife*

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**or mail checks to our home office**  
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Thank you!



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