



Safeguard a Himalayan Wilderness

The Himalayan mountain range runs straight through Nepal and is a dramatic example of the force of Earth's tectonic activity over millennia. The great Himalayas actually include four parallel mountain ranges that rise up from lowlands to mid-mountains to the highest peaks in the world. The variation in elevation has produced ecological niches that feature alpine forests, pasture lands, lakes, and astounding biodiversity.

In the extraordinarily beautiful, middle-mountain Himalayan region of western Nepal, conifer, broadleaf, and pine forests and shimmering lakes shelter over 200 species of birds, mammals and butterflies, including Endangered Alpine Musk Deer and Vulnerable Himalayan Black Bear. The Vulnerable Himalayan Wolf, a subspecies of Grey Wolf, has been documented traveling through the area. The Endangered West Himalayan Yew is a native conifer tree in steep decline.

The Badimalika and Ramaroshan areas here host abundant biodiversity, and also hold high sacred and cultural value for people. The lush pasturelands and hills of Badimalika host a shrine that is visited by thousands of pilgrims each August. Directly to the south at lower elevation, Ramaroshan is a wetland area with 12 lakes, marshy grasslands, forests, and open hills and valleys.

Rainforest Trust seeks \$641,782 to support working with our partner, National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), to establish 100,000 acres here as a Forest Conservation Area (FCA), a provincial-level government designation that prohibits extractive activities and allows the sustainable use of forest resources.

SAVE HIMALAYAN SPECIES FROM EXTINCTION

The Endangered Alpine Musk Deer faces local extinction from habitat decline and poaching. The Endangered Himalayan Wolf is persecuted and killed in retaliation by herders for killing sheep. Our partner will offer focused activities to improve the wolf-herder relationship and highlight the wolf as a flagship species to help grow ecotourism.

West Himalayan Yew grows across the Himalayas, but it is being driven to extinction largely because it is one of the only wild sources for the anti-cancer drug, Taxol, and it is estimated to have declined by up to 90% in Nepal due to harvesting for medicinal and other uses.



100,000
ACRES

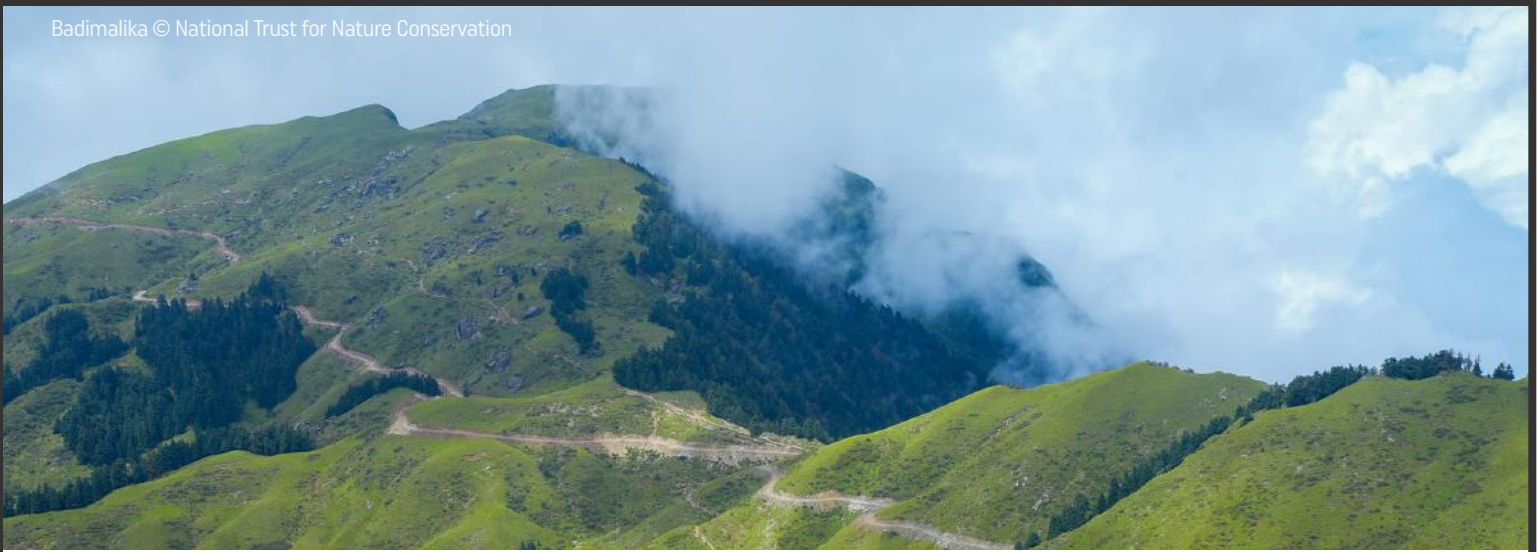
\$641,782
PROJECT COST

\$6.42
COST PER ACRE

11,057,977 mT
CO₂ EQUIVALENTS
STORED

KEY SPECIES:

Alpine Musk Deer (EN),
West Himalayan Yew (EN),
Agaupani Mountain Lizard (VU)



Collection of timber, fodder, and non-timber forest products has increased along with the gradual conversion of lakes into paddy fields. Poachers habitually burn forest areas to drive out wildlife. Haphazard construction of roads and tourism infrastructure has caused pollution, habitat degradation, and created landslide areas.

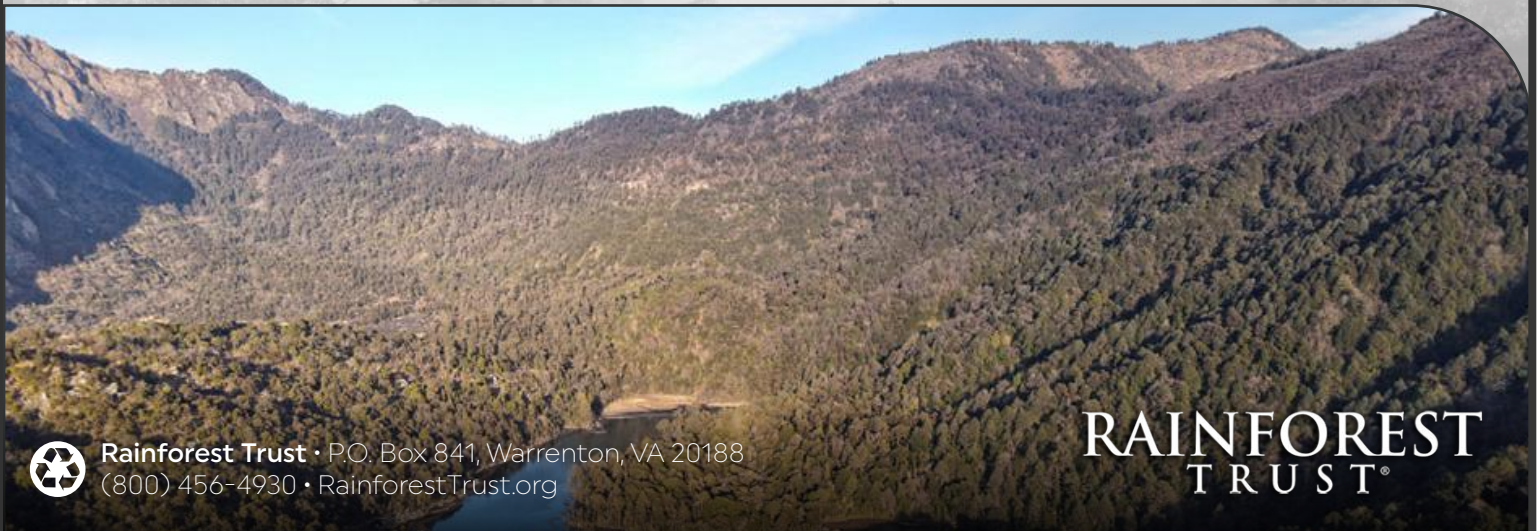
Commercial-scale logging, hunting, and mining will not be allowed in the FCA. The project will carry out a new biodiversity survey to document the great diversity of plants here.

PROTECT A MOUNTAIN CORRIDOR FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION

The proposed Badimalika-Ramaroshan FCA is located between the 55,600-acre Khaptad National Park and 26,200-acre Rara National Park, forming a connecting corridor between the mid-hills region and the higher mountains. This type of multi-elevation corridor is critically important for species adaptation and resilience in the face of climate change.

Responsible ecotourism and sustainable resource management should increase economic opportunities for local communities while strengthening cultural and religious identity. Regular community-based anti-poaching patrols will be conducted and trained forest guards will also be deployed to critical forest areas.

Ramaroshan © National Trust for Nature Conservation



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