

## Status Paper of Langtang National Park

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### Abstract

The Langtang National Park, gazetted in 1976, covers a total area of 2,130 sq km in the Himalayan mountain region of Central Nepal. The park has an extremely varied vegetation, which ranges from upper tropical forest to alpine grass and shrubs. Over 3,000 people reside within the park, and close to 17,000 people are estimated to depend on park resources to varying extents. Economically, local residents still rely primarily on agriculture and livestock herding, and are permitted to graze animals and gather dead wood within the park. Other human activities, that affect rangeland resources include logging, hunting, and trade in medicinal plants. Features of the current management practices include defined user groups with specific rights and decision-making patterns, pastoral management systems including transhumance, rotational and deferred grazing, control of stocking rates, burning to promote desirable species growth; and religious beliefs and practices.

# **B** **Status of Grasslands in Mountain Protected Areas: Management Issues and Gaps**