Performance of human–wildlife conflicts compensation scheme in Karnataka, India

Naveen Kumar Naik, P. Venkatesh, D. R. Singh, Alka Singh, G. K. Jha, V. Sangeetha, D. K. Sharma and M. Balasubramanian*

Compensation serves as a post-conflict management tool for human–wildlife conflicts. In the Bannerghatta National Park (BNP) region, Karnataka, India, around 57.4% and 95% of the farmers received compensation for crop loss and cattle kill respectively. Compensation claims incurred transportation and paper costs of 60–70% and 30–40% respectively, and it took 7.6–12.3 months on average to receive compensation. Crop loss applications had the lion's share of the total applications, while the compensation paid share was relatively less in the total compensation paid. Inadequacy of compensation was a major constraint. Separate advance fund provisions for crop loss, livestock depredation, property damage and human-related losses in proportion to annual cases can prevent the delay and inadequacy of compensation.

Keywords: Compensation scheme, constraints, human–wildlife conflicts, national park, performance.