



March 25, 2020

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Partners Around the World,

I wanted to reach out to you, our global snow leopard conservation community, and let you know that I've been thinking about you, as has my entire team.

My deepest wish is that you are well. I hope and pray that you, your family, and friends are safe and holding up okay at this extraordinary time. There's been much suffering and tragedy around the world; it's been hard not to get affected. Like you, I too have been trying my best to stay positive, keep safe, be with family, and keep the work going from home.

The Snow Leopard Trust offices are closed and all of us, in the US, Asia, and in other parts of the world, are working from home. Some of our field staff are in the mountains doing whatever fieldwork is possible, but everyone is making sure to prioritize their own safety and the safety of our partner communities. Our trap cameras and radio collared snow leopards and ibex continue to collect data for us remotely.

I am using this time to write and publish new information on snow leopard conservation, create contingency plans, and develop focused conservation strategies with our teams and our Board of Directors. It is nothing like being together in the same room, but just having the technology to undertake these exercises amidst the prevailing lockdowns has been a big relief and huge help.

The pandemic reminds us of the need to care for each other. It also reminds us that we need to be taking much better care of our precious natural world. It reiterates the need to ensure a healthy planet and healthy wild ecosystems, and reminds us once again that conservation is not a local issue. Whatever we do to protect our species and ecosystems – and don't do – will have global implications.

You have always demonstrated great care in your unwavering support for saving the cats and their mountain habitats. We all stand united in this work and this passion. In the coming days, we will try to nurture this amazing conservation community. We will put out special content in social media and also host live online sessions with our field staff, so that you can interact with them directly, ask them questions and share your ideas. I hope that we can all stay connected and continue to lend strength to each other.

I know that together we will weather this storm. And once we do, let us redouble our resolve to ensure a safe and healthy future for snow leopards, for their mountain ecosystems, and for humanity itself.

Charu Mishra  
Executive Director  
Snow Leopard Trust