

# Socio-economic consequences of cattle predation by the Endangered Persian leopard *Panthera pardus saxicolor* in a Caucasian conflict hotspot, northern Iran

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL 1 The questionnaire form used to obtain data on leopard–cattle conflict and the perceptions and attitudes of local people towards the leopard.

Questionnaire No.:                      Date:                      Location of interview:  
 Interviewer:                      Participant(s):                      Interviewee's village:

A.  
 Name                      Gender:                      Age:                      Education level:                      Occupation(s):

B.  
 1) Have you ever witnessed/heard any wildlife attacks to human in this area?  

Species	Attacked who?	When?	Where?	I was present at the scene	Severity of injury	Description
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2) Have your experienced any cattle loss to wildlife during the past three years (2009–2011)?  

Predator	Total loss	Location	Date	Time	Description
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3) Have you insured your cattle?  
 Yes                      By which organization/scheme? How many head of cattle? How often?  
 No                      Why?  
 I have not heard about the insurance and/or compensation schemes

4) How do you deal with leopard predation of your cattle (if any)?

C.  
 1) Which of the following animals exists in this area? Have you ever seen them? (with identification pictures)

	Leopard	Wolf	Bear	Lynx
I know it				
I have seen it				

2) Explain your leopard observation during the past year (if any):

Alive/carcass	Location	Date	Time	Number	Behaviour	Cause of death
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- 3) How many years does a leopard live?
- 4) Does the local leopard population have recently changed? Why?
- 5) How many cubs can a leopard born each time? How frequently?
- 6) What is the leopard's main food in this area?
- 7) Do leopards attack people?

D.

- 1) It is important to maintain the leopard population in Iran for future generations:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 2) There is no need to have leopards in this area because leopards exist in other parts of Iran:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 3) Leopards have an important role in this area:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 4) Leopards, like other organisms, have the right to exist in Iran:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 5) Leopards can help tourism in this area:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 6) Leopards cause a lot of damage to livestock:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 7) Leopards are threat to human:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_

*Conservation attitude*

- 8) Leopards deserve protection in Iran:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 9) Leopards should be allowed to be hunted in a specific hunting season in this area:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 10) Leopards that come close to human settlements must be killed:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 11) Leopards that kill livestock must be killed:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 12) Villagers should receive compensations for the leopard-caused damages:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_
- 13) If leopards attack livestock due to poor husbandry, the government is not obliged to compensate the damage:  
Agree\_\_ Unsure\_\_ Disagree\_\_