

Next Issue

- Training Programme on “Dossier Preparation for Natural World Heritage...”
- Culture-Nature Journey Symposium...
- WII-FoD Quiz...
- UNESCO C2C - ESP-Asia Conference ...
- Workshop for development of national human-wildlife conflict mitigation...



The monsoon effect...

Abhijit Dass

Current Protected Area Network of India

(Position as on 30 September, 2018)

National Parks: 104; Area 40501.03 sq km, (1.23%)
Wildlife Sanctuaries: 550; Area 119775.55 sq km, (3.64%)
Conservation Reserves: 87; Area 4286.31 sq km, (0.13%)
Community Reserves: 103; Area 427.21 sq km, (0.01%)
Total Protected Areas: 844; Area 164990.10 sq km, (5.01%)

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Avait Kumar



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Around the Campus

"Certificate Course on Nature Interpretation for Rural Youth under Green Skill Development Programme, Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam, 8-28 July, 2018.

The ENVIS Resource Partner at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun organized a Certificate Course on Nature Interpretation for Rural Youth under Green Skill Development Programme of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India at Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam. This course aimed to empower them so that they could enhance their socio-economic status and conserve biodiversity.



Altogether 26 youths from villages adjacent to the Protected Area (PA) participated in the 21 days course. The participants were provided inputs on Biodiversity, Protected Area Management, Vegetation Identification, Resource Mapping, Nature Trail, Tourism, First Aid, Pollution and Climate Change. Excellent feedback was received from the course participants.

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Consultative Workshop on 'Standardization of the Process of Preparation of State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (SBSAP) and Development of Resource Mobilization Strategy for Implementation of SBSAP' Dehradun, 20 July, 2018. India is a Party to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). To achieve the global and National Biodiversity Targets, the CBD mandates each Party to prepare National

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) or an equivalent instrument, and to ensure that this strategy is mainstreamed into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. NBSAPs are the principal instruments for implementing the Convention at the national level. In this context, all State Governments need to prepare and/or revise their State Biodiversity Action Plan (SBSAPs) in line with the NBSAP and 12 National Biodiversity Targets and develop a Resource Mobilization Strategy for implementation of SBSAP.

Accordingly, on behalf of National Biodiversity Authority and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Wildlife Institute of India conducted a one-day consultative workshop on standardization of the process of preparation of State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (SBSAP) and Development of Resource Mobilization Strategy for implementation of SBSAP at State level with the financial support from UNDP India, under the Chairmanship of Shri Hem Pande, Former Secretary, Govt. of India and Dr. Amarjeet Ahuja, Former Secretary, Govt. of India. The representatives of key Biodiversity Boards, viz., Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Maharashtra participated in the workshop and provided inputs for development of standard template of SBSAP. The Chairperson and Member Secretary of National Biodiversity Authority participated in the workshop through video conferencing and reiterated the commitment of NBA for steering the SBSAP preparation process.

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Certificate Course on Ganga Prahari Livelihood Enhancement under Green Skill Development Programme, Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, 23 July 12

August, 2018. A Certificate Course on 'Ganga Prahari Livelihood Enhancement' under Green Skill Development Programme of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India was organised at Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh. The program comprised of four components, i.e. Health and Wellness Program; Nursery Training Program; Prasad and Incense Making Program; and Tourist Guide Program. The three-week extensive course was supervised by resource persons from the Wildlife Institute of India; Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation

Organization (HESCO, Dehradun); various Central and State Tourism Departments; and Forest, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments. In all, 77 Ganga Praharis were trained under this skill development course.

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Training Workshop on “Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of Protected Areas” for IFS Officers, Dehradun, 2-3 August, 2018.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India sponsored a two-day training workshop for Indian Forest Service officers on “Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Protected Areas”. In all, 21 officers participated in the workshop. The workshop had presentations on MEE criteria and indicators; MEE of Tiger Reserves; MEE of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries; and Challenges in protection and management of Indian Coastal and Marine Protected Areas (CMPAs). The training workshop received excellent feedback from the participants.

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Capacity Building-cum-Planning Workshop on Ecotourism and Visitor-Use Management in Protected Areas', Dehradun, 8-10 August, 2018.

A three-day capacity building-cum-planning workshop was organized at the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun with support from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Government of India. The main objectives were to provide a platform for (a) Increasing awareness regarding planning frameworks for visitor-use management); (b) Review of the impact of the NTCA Guidelines on Tourism in Tiger

Reserves; and (c) Developing an outline for a long-term collaborative project for policy, planning, research and capacity building in the area of tourism management.

The workshop was attended by 20 forest officers from Tiger Reserves across six states of India and representatives from NTCA, WWF and Tata Trust Tourism Division. The workshop was conducted by the resource persons from University of Montana, United States; Griffith University, Australia; Dr. H.S. Pabla, Chairman, WII-TRAC; and Shri R. Bhartari, Chief Wildlife Warden, Uttarakhand.

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Inception Workshop on WII-GIZ Human-Wildlife Conflict Project, Dehradun, 24 August, 2018.

The Wildlife Institute of India launched a new project on “Knowledge Support to Development of Guidelines, Specialized Field Studies and Training on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India”, funded by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH under the Indo-German Technical Cooperation project entitled “Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India (HWC)”.

The inception workshop was chaired by Dr. H.S. Pabla, Chairman, WII-TRAC and Dr. Konrad Uebelhoefer, Programme Director, Indo-German Biodiversity Programme, GIZ. The workshop was organized to launch the project activities and to initiate planning for developing National Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan (N-HWCM-SAP) and Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) for conflict mitigation with selected species. The primary agenda of the workshop was to share information of the overall cooperation



Around the Campus

72nd Independence Day Celebration at WII, August 15, 2018.

India's 72nd Independence Day was celebrated in the Wildlife Institute of India campus on 15th August, 2018. Hoisting the national flag, Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director recalled the sacrifices of the countrymen during the freedom struggle that finally led to India's Independence. He said that Government of India had assigned several new responsibilities to the Institute for planning and implementing species recovery programmes in respect of 4 critically endangered wild animal species *viz.* Great Indian Bustard, Gangetic Dolphin, Dugong and Manipur Deer and the Institute had taken up the challenge of 'field conservation' in 14 States of the country, where these species occur. Similarly, under the National Mission for Clean Ganga the Institute has recently established a 'Ganga Aqualife Conservation and Monitoring Centre' in the campus and 'Ganga Biodiversity Knowledge Centres' have also been established at Narora and Sarnath in Uttar Pradesh; Sahibganj in Bihar and Bhagalpur in Jharkhand. He urged the Institute's scientists, researchers, students and staff for their continued support in successfully meeting the various challenges and new responsibilities assigned to the Institute.

On this occasion, the awards and certificates were given to the following school children, who had excelled in programmes organized during World Environment Day 2018:

Painting Competition

S.No.	Name of Student	School Name	Prize
1	Sahil Khan	Lovedale Academy	I
2	Paras Gupta	St. Patrick's Academy	II
3	Ishika Tiwari	Lovedale Academy	III

Poster Making Competition

S.No.	Name of Student	School Name	Prize
1	Ankita Chanyal	Lovedale Academy	I
2	Bhawna Gurung	Hilton's School	II
3	Dimple Kaur	DSKSS Secondary School	III

A certificate of appreciation was given to Shri Satish Kumar for providing excellent services in the Organic Solid Waste Management Programme initiated by the Institute in January, 2018. The flag hoisting ceremony was followed by launching of Organic Solid Waste Management Programme in WII staff campus.

among MoEFCC-GIZ-WII and to discuss the framework, key elements, approach and work-plan for drafting N-HWCM-SAP and SOPs. The workshop was attended by 39 senior forest officials, scientists and researchers. The workshop included case studies, knowledge café, and group discussions on N-HWCM-SAP and SOPs for carnivore and herbivore species. At the end, frameworks and key elements of N-HWC-SAP and SOPs were finalized.

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National Consultation Workshop for 'Recommending the Future Status of Sea Cucumber Conservation in India', Dehradun, 3

September, 2018. A National Consultation Workshop for recommending the future status of Sea cucumber conservation in India' was held at Wildlife Institute of India. The workshop was attended by experts and managers representing various National and International Institutions, NGOs, and State Forest Departments. It was organized to get the inputs and



opinions of experts and managers on the current conservation status of sea cucumbers in India so that the MoEFCC can be appraised appropriately to decide on the listing of sea cucumbers in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Presentations were made on the ecology, status, distribution and ecological role of sea cucumbers in India and on a recent survey of sea cucumbers in Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar regions. The participants were of a considered view that the present history of sea cucumbers in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 should continue.

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3rd Himalayan Research Seminar (HRS),

Dehradun, 10 September 2018. The HRS was chaired by Dr. M.K. Pandit, Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Delhi. A total of 19 presentations were made in five technical sessions *viz.*, Ecological Patterns; Aquatic Ecology; Human dimension and interface; Ecology and modelling and Plant ecology; and Ethnobotany. Twelve poster presentations were also made in the HRS.

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XIV Internal Annual Research Seminar (IARS),

Dehradun, 11 September 2018. The IARS was chaired by Shri V.K. Uniyal, Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Kerala. Twelve presentations were made in four technical sessions *viz.*, Status and Distribution; Ecology and Behaviour; Taxonomy and Genetics; and Anthropogenic drivers and Impacts. The presentations were based on recently initiated and ongoing research studies and were made by research fellows of the Institute.

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Celebration of World Ozone Day, 2018 at WII, Dehradun, 14 September, 2018.

The ENVIS Resource Partner at Wildlife Institute of India on "Wildlife and Protected Areas" celebrated World Ozone Day. As part of the celebrations, a documentary titled "The Antarctic Ozone Hole - From Discovery to Recovery, a Scientific Journey" was screened along with two other short video clips from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which included the message from the Executive Director of UNEP- Erik Solheim. Awareness posters on the Ozone Day were also displayed at the Institute's auditorium. The event was attended by WII's Faculty, Diploma Trainee Officers, Researchers, M.Sc. Students and other staff and was highly appreciated. An interactive quiz was also conducted amongst the attendees based on the documentary screened and the winners were awarded.

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Seminar on Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation, Dehradun, 17 September 2018.

The seminar was chaired by Dr. Savita, Director, Forest Research Institute. A total of ten presentations were made in two technical sessions' *viz.*, Biodiversity Conservation in Ganga; and Community Participation and Awareness Creation. A total of 25 poster presentations were also made during the seminar.

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Seminar on Endangered Species Recovery Programme, Dehradun, 18 September 2018.

The seminar was chaired by Dr. P.K. Mathur, Former Dean, Wildlife Institute of India. A total of four presentations were

Around the Campus

made in two technical sessions *viz.*, Terrestrial Species; and Aquatic Species. A total of 25 poster presentations were also made in the seminar.

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XXXII Annual Research Seminar (ARS),

Dehradun, 19-20 September 2018. Dr. S.S. Negi, Former Director General and Special Secretary, MoEFCC gave the inaugural address in the ARS. Dr. H.S. Pabla, Chairman, WII-Training, Research and Academic Council was the Seminar Chairperson. A total of 24 presentations were made in six technical sessions *viz.*, Species recovery programmes; Mammalian Ecology; Landscape management and climate change; Human-wildlife Interface and Invasive Species Ecology; Tools and Techniques for Wildlife Management; and Wildlife Monitoring. The presentations were based on the ongoing/completed research studies and were made by research fellows and faculty members of the Institute. The following best presentations were awarded in the concluding session of ARS:

3rd Himalayan Research Seminar of WII, 10 September 2018

Name	Title of the Presentation
I Hussain Reshamwala	Risky homes with easy food: Denning of the generalist and widely distributed carnivore red fox
II Meghna Bandopadhyay	Elevation effects on small carnivores in Great Himalayan National Park, Himachal Pradesh
III Ranjana Pal	Abiotic and biotic determinants of species distribution: a case study of snow leopards of Upper Bhagirathi basin, Western Himalaya

Name	Title of the e-Poster Presentation
I Dr. Anjali Uniyal	Valuation of Ecosystem Services (ESS) Flowing from a Community Managed Forest in Dhauladhar Range, Himachal Pradesh
II Chirag Giridhar	Response of subalpine and alpine plant communities to experimental warming.

III Rishabh Srikar	Status of agriculture and crop landrace diversity in Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand
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14th Internal Annual Research Seminar, 11 September 2018

Name	Title of Presentation
I N. Lakshminarayanan	Undefined boundaries, prickly neighbours: some preliminary insights on human–elephant conflict in Chhattishgarh
II Shaheer Khan	Living in the Anthropocene: Space use and movement of Indian grey wolf
III Rohit Jha	Dog is not a bird's best friend! Breeding distribution and proximate factors affecting nest success in four exclusively river-island nesting birds in the National Chambal Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh

Seminar on Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation, 17 September 2018

Name	Title of Presentation
I Dr. Niladri Dasgupta	Prioritization of areas for conservation in mainstem Ganga River
II Ravi Sharma	Identifying effective education strategies for creating a connect between the resources and community living along the Ganga
III Dr. Sangeeta Angom	Capacity building for biodiversity conservation of various stakeholders of Ganga River

Name	Title of the e-Poster Presentation
I Amanat K. Gill	Evaluating the ecosystem services of Ganga River: A framework
II Ekta Sharma and Manisha Mallick	Pathway for community mobilization in Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation: Case Studies from Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal

III Bitupan Baruah	An overview of anuran and squamate reptile diversity along Ganga and Alaknanda Rivers, India
Syantika Banerjee & Goura Chandra Das	The past and present distribution of aquatic and semi-aquatic mammals of the Ganga River basin

Endangered Species Recovery Programme, 18 September 2018

Name	Title of Presentation
I Dr. Anant Pande	Conserving the seagrass sentinels: an update on the Dugong Recovery Program
II Dr. Rashid H Raza	Understanding Distribution, Abundance & Anthropogenic Stressors of Gangetic River Dolphin in Ganga - Brahmaputra System
III Dr. Chongpi Tuboi	Implementation of action plan for conservation of Manipur's brow antlered deer or <i>Sangai</i> : An update

Name	Title of the e-Poster Presentation
I Priyamvada Bagaria	Challenges in mapping the grassland habitats of highly endangered species of both marine and desert ecosystems
II Swapnali Gole	Uncharismatic habitats: studying seagrass ecosystems in a coral-centric marine world

III Sajal Sharma

Use of advanced technology for monitoring Gangetic River Dolphin and its habitat
Abundance and distribution of Ganges River Dolphin, *Platanista gangetica gangetica* in Brahmaputra River System

Ashwin Warudkar & Sunny Deori

32nd Annual Research Seminar of WII, 19-20 September 2018

Name	Title of Presentation
I Tapajit Bhattacharya	Assessment of climate change effects on wildlife species in the Indian Himalayan Region: An initiative in three biotic provinces
II Ninad Mungi	What makes <i>Lantana camara</i> invasion, a success? Degrading forests and adaptive plasticity!



भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान में हिन्दी पखवाडे के दौरान हिन्दी कार्यशाला का आयोजन, देहरादून, 24 सितम्बर, 2018.

भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान में 24 सितम्बर, 2018 को हिन्दी पखवाडे के अन्तर्गत हिन्दी कार्यशाला एवं हिन्दी सामान्य ज्ञान प्रश्नोत्तरी के कार्यक्रमों का आयोजन किया गया। संस्थान की वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक डा० रुचि बडोला द्वारा 'जेवविविधिता एवं गंगा जीर्णोद्धार' पर सारगर्भित व्याख्यान दिया गया। डा० वी०पी० उनियाल वैज्ञानिक 'जी.' ने 'कीड़े मकोड़ों का संसार' विषय पर हिन्दी में बहुत ज्ञानवर्धक जानकारी दी। डा० बी०एस० अधिकारी, वरिष्ठ वैज्ञानिक एवं श्री के०के० श्रीवास्तव, वरिष्ठ तकनीकी अधिकारी द्वारा हिन्दी सामान्य ज्ञान प्रश्नोत्तरी का संचालन किया गया। कार्यशाला को संस्थान के निदेशक, डा० वी०बी० माथुर एवं कुलसचिव, श्री अजय श्रीवास्तव द्वारा संबोधित किया गया। कार्यक्रम का संचालन श्री ए०के० दूबे, सहायक निदेशक (राजभाषा) द्वारा किया गया। हिन्दी कार्यशाला में संस्थान के अधिकारी एवं कर्मचारीगण उपस्थित रहे।

III Shri Shutarshi Paul	Movement ecology of swamp deer along upper Gangetic plains of north India
Name	Title of the e-Poster Presentation
I Tista Ghosh	Insight into RhoDIS: A molecular approach for rhino forensic and population management in India
II Ankita Bhattacharya	Misty mountain hop: A scoping study in two Protected Areas of Himachal Pradesh, India
III Urjit Bhatt	Catch me if you can: Does moon illumination influence mammal activity in Manas National Park?
Suyash Katdare	Demographic status of Gharial, <i>Gavialis gangeticus</i> in the National Chambal Sanctuary

More than 600 delegates attended the ARS that included senior officials of MoEFCC, Principal Chief Conservators of Forests, Chief Wildlife Wardens and delegation from NTCA and WWF, scientists, wildlife experts, National Mission for Clean Ganga, NGOs, faculty members, researchers and officer trainees.

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Meeting of Chief Wildlife Wardens of States and Union Territories of Government of India,

Dehradun, 21-22 September, 2018. A two-day meeting was organized at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun under the Chairmanship of Shri Siddhanta Das, Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) to discuss the issues and challenges related to wildlife conservation in the country. The Chief Wildlife Wardens or their representatives of



23 States & Union Territories participated in the meeting. Shri M.S. Negi, Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEFCC and Dr. Amit Mallik, IG (NTCA), MoEFCC were present as Guests of Honour. The meeting focused on various important issues such as, use of modern technology in Wildlife Management; Population management for mitigation of Human-Wildlife Conflicts; and Use of M-STripES in tiger monitoring and possibilities of its replication in other PAs. The senior officials discussed the priorities of research and capacity building, human wildlife conflict scenario and best practices in the respective States.

A meeting of CWLWs with the Chairmen of the 13 Regional Expert Committees of Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) and WII faculty representatives was also organized. In the meeting, the result of MEE of 125 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries conducted during 2017-18 was shared by Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII. The management strengths, management weaknesses and immediate actionable points were discussed by 13 Chairmen with the respective CWLW State representatives.

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"If you don't love animals, you'll never love the wild."

— Anthony T. Hincks

(Source: <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/wildlife>)