

IN THE ISSUE

- Picture of the Issue
- PA Network
- Around the Campus
- On the move



Umesh Tiwari



Sajan John

The Saviour...

Current Protected Area Network of India

Position as on December 14, 2012

National Parks: 102; Area 39918.54, (1.21%)
Wildlife Sanctuaries: 517; Area: 120428.11, (3.66%)
Conservation Reserves : 56; Area: 1998.15, (0.06%)
Community Reserves : 4; Area: 20.69 (0.00%)
Total Protected Areas : 679; Area: 162365.49, (4.94%)

* 2 Protected Areas in Uttarakhand State

Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary

(Area: 269.96 sq km; Districts - Nainital & Chmpawat; Date of Notification- 4.12.2012).

Pawalgarh Conservation Reserve

(Area: 58.25 sq km; District - Nainital; Date of Notification- 14.12.2012)

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Next Issue

- XXVIII Certificate Course



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Around the Campus



XXVIII Certificate Course in Wildlife Management

The course commenced on November 1, 2012 for the duration of 3 months. Ten officer trainees (2 each from Madhya Pradesh, India; Malaysia, Bhutan; 1 each from Lao PDR; Nepal; Vietnam; and Thailand) joined the course. The trainee officers were taken to Haridwar on November 11, 2012 to see Science Express Biodiversity Special Train. They were taken to Dhanaulti-Kaddukhal area on December 23,

2012 to familiarize them to the vegetation, altitudinal succession of vegetation and management of Eco-park.

The officer trainees were taken for their Orientation-Cum-Techniques Tour to Sariska Tiger Reserve and Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan from November 25, 2012 to December 7, 2012.

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X WII-Friends of the Doon 'Wildlife & Environment Quiz 2012', Dehradun, October 1, 2012.

The X WII-Friends of the Doon 'Wildlife & Environment Quiz 2012' – a collaborative activity of Wildlife Institute of India and Friends of Doon Society was organized on October 1, 2012 at Wildlife Institute of India to mark the celebrations of the Wildlife Week 2012. Fifteen schools participated in preliminary round and six of them qualified for the final round. The final quiz had six rounds viz Uttarakhand; Guess who; Audio Visual; Landscapes; Brain Strain; and Current Events as Rapid Fire Round. Ann Mary School won the WII-FoD Rolling Trophy, Book Prize and Sameer Ghosh Memorial Nature and Wildlife rolling trophy.

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One-week course on “Human Wildlife Conflict: Issues and Mitigation”, Dehradun, November 19-23, 2012. This course was conducted at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun as per the instructions from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, New Delhi. The course was for the in-service IFS Officers from various States of the country. A total of 25 IFS Officers from various states participated in the course. The officers were sensitized about their role in 'Human Wildlife Conflict'.

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Two-day workshop for IFS officers on “Ecodevelopment for Biodiversity Conservation: Assessment and way forward”, Dehradun, December 3-4, 2012. The course was conducted by Wildlife Institute of India for the IFS officers sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, New Delhi. A total of 21 officers participated in the course. The course was planned keeping in mind the fundamental principles and latest happenings in the eco-development in the field with reference to the empowerment of local communities and protection of Forests/ PAs/ Natural Ecosystems. The entire course was designed in the form of panel discussions. Three panel discussions were designed after intense discussions with experts at the WII.

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YETI-Young Ecologists Talk and Interact, Dehradun, December 5-7, 2012. YETI-Young Ecologists Talk and Interact, an annual conference organised by and for students of ecology, was held at the Wildlife Institute of India. The conference, co-hosted by the WII and Doon University, had over 250 student participants from across the country. Research talks and poster presentations by students spanned several fields of research in ecology, evolution and conservation from diversity of marine invertebrates to trends in populations of wild carnivores. Alongside workshops on a variety of field skills, academic approaches and other allied subject topics like wildlife photography and journalism, a number of eminent biologists and naturalists in this field shared findings and insights from their work on a range of subjects such as, theoretical approaches to studying ecological processes, animal behaviour, studying evolutionary processes of natural and sexual selection, natural history, scientific thinking, and conservation values and approaches.

YETI, which began as a small students' meet for researchers studying ecology-evolution-conservation in 2008 in Bangalore, the very next year fledged into a country-wide, low-costs, low-frills, student initiative to annually meet, exchange and review knowledge and advances in their research. In 2011, YETI was held in Guwahati and this year, students brought it to



Around the Campus



Dehradun. The conference was very useful for students in meeting peers, exchanging ideas, getting research inputs, discovering new perspectives and venues of research, making friends and updating his knowledge.

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Training workshop on 'Health Management of Large Carnivores', Dehradun, December 10-12, 2012.

Training workshop on 'Health Management of Large Carnivores', Dehradun, December 10-12, 2012. The workshop was organised by the Institute under the aegis of National Tiger Conservation Authority with the objective of imparting training to field veterinarians on handling of wild felids



in distress, treatment and medication needs for large felids, immobilization and restraint techniques and understanding basics of health management in wild carnivores. Emphasis was provided on ethical, humane and scientific management of large felids. The workshop was attended by 23 participants representing various state Forest Departments. It included managers and veterinarians from Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Apart from the faculty members of the Institute, external resource persons were invited from Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar. Inputs were also provided by Professor Richard Kock from Royal Veterinary College, London and Dr. Tony Sainsbury from Zoological Society of London. The workshop was coordinated by Dr Pradeep K Malik and Dr Parag Nigam from Department of Wildlife Health Management.

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On the Move

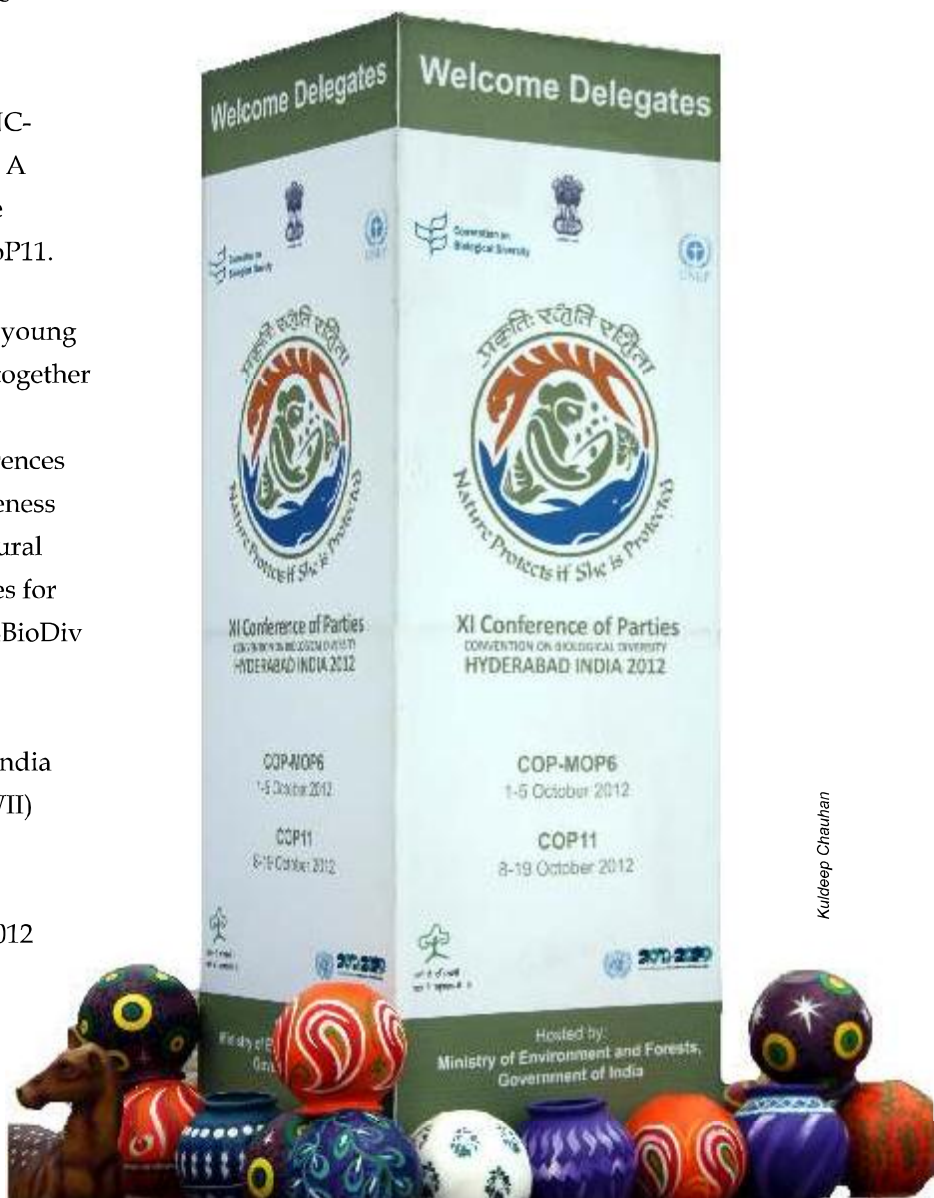
Participation of WII in CoP-11, Hyderabad, October 1-19, 2012.

Hyderabad hosted the COP-MOP6 Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and XI Conference of Parties (COP11) on Convention on Biological Diversity. It was organised by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India. The Institute participated in an 'Interactive Fair on Biodiversity' during CoP-MoP6 and CoP 11 held at the HICC-HITEX Complex in Hyderabad.

The Institute showcased its achievements and ongoing activities and displayed its commitment to conservation of biological diversity. The Institute was also given the responsibility to showcase the activities of member organizations of Indian National Committee of International Union for Conservation of Nature (INC-IUCN). Four booths were arranged for INC-IUCN. A large number of faculty members from the Institute participated in the deliberations held during the CoP11.

Go4BioDiv is an International Youth Forum where young individuals from different parts of the globe come together to share their experiences, discuss about global environmental issues and engage in the UN Conferences on Biodiversity (CBD-CoP). It aims at raising awareness about the inter-dependencies of biological and cultural diversity as well as intergenerational responsibilities for the biodiversity conservation. In October 2012, Go4BioDiv took place for the third time – parallel to CoP 11 in Hyderabad, India. It was hosted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India and carried out by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) with support by various international partners. In accordance with the COP 10 decisions (Nagoya mandate/ Aichi targets), the theme of Go4BioDiv 2012 was 'Conserving coastal and marine biodiversity for sustaining life and livelihoods'. Therefore, Go4BioDiv brought together young people from

the most outstanding marine and coastal sites our planet has to offer. There are 35 messengers aged 18 to 29 and live or work in over 20 different marine World Heritage Sites around the world or in one of the nine coastal states and one Union Territory of India. They joined CoP-11 in Hyderabad from October 16 to 19 during the High-Level Segment to present their messages to decision-makers and the wider public via a powerful youth declaration, creative performances involving street theatre and a colourful exhibition and various side-events. The whole event was prepared and accompanied by a strong virtual exchange via an online platform and an e-coaching course, creative tasks as well as extensive press work.



On the Move



Ms. Jayanti Natarajan, Hon'ble Minister of Environment & Forests, Government of India released the special Go4BioDiv brochure during the UNDP Award Ceremony.

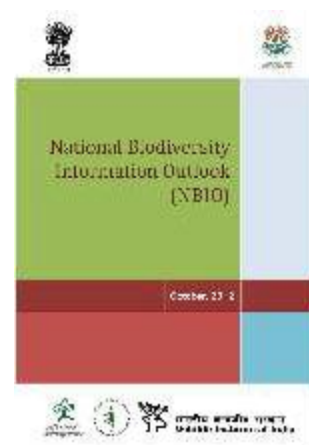
On the occasion of the CBD CoP-11 at Hyderabad, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India decided to release commemorative stamps. For this purpose, a theme 'Endemic Species of Indian Biodiversity Hotspots' was chosen and Wildlife Institute of India was assigned the responsibility to coordinate the work with the Department of Posts, Government of India. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India released the set of 4 commemorative stamps and the 'First Day Cover' during the inaugural session of the CBD CoP-11 High Level Segment in Hyderabad on October 16, 2012.



Presently, biodiversity data and information lies dispersed and distributed amongst various individuals and institutions. This opaqueness has resulted in the duplication of efforts on the one hand and is also impairing the progress of India emerging as a leader in the field of biodiversity informatics. To address this situation, the MoEF and National Biodiversity Authority embarked on the process of developing a National Biodiversity Information Outlook, whose prime responsibility was assigned to the Wildlife Institute of India. The WII team developed the NBIO, whose goal is to (1) Identify barriers in the progress of developing biodiversity informatics in the country. (2) Prioritize biodiversity data discovery and publication and (3) Develop a road map for channelizing investments in this emerging area so that they become scientifically, ecologically, economically and socially relevant.

The NBIO is an overarching framework of collaboration with an aim to facilitate free and open access to biodiversity data. The NBIO was launched during the CBD-CoP-11 at Hyderabad by Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India.

India is the first country in the world to develop a National Biodiversity Information Outlook.



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International Conference on '3rd Urban Biodiversity and Climate Change (URBIO2012), Mumbai, October 8-12, 2012.

Dr. Pranab Pal, Field Technical Officer participated in the international conference, which was organized by Department of Humanities and Social Science, Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai. The conference was sponsored by MOSPI, India; National Biodiversity Authority, India; UNEF; NABARD; SANDEE Sanctuary; ICLEI; INSEE; and MoEF. More than 200 delegates participated from 25 countries shared their views. Dr.



Pal delivered a plenary lecture on "Land use changes due to improper meddling with nature's resource and its influence on biodiversity conservation".

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IIIrd Session Uttarakhand History & Culture Association on Himalaya States of India History & Culture, MPG College, Mussoorie , October 15-16, 2012.

Dr. Pranab Pal, Field Technical Officer participated in the conference, which was jointly sponsored by Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi; Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi; and Govt. of Uttarakhand. Dr. Pal presented a paper on 'Conservation Biodiversity in India: Ways and Challenges'. A total of 120 delegates attended the conference.

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Three-day training programme on 'Wildlife Conservation: Issues & Concerns' for Representatives of Indian Army in the State Boards for Wildlife, Kabini River Lodge, Karnataka, December 12-14, 2012.

A total of 14 Senior Army Officers, mostly of the rank of Brigadier, who represent the Army in various State Boards for Wildlife, participated in the programme. Col. Michael James, Director, Policy (Ecology), Land Works and Environment, Directorate Integrated Headquarter of MoD (Army) also participated from the Army Headquarters. Shri V.B. Sawarkar, Former Director, WII, and Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Baljit Singh were invited as the resource persons. Shri B.G. Hoshmath, APCCF (Project Tiger), Karnataka inaugurated the programme. The training programme included indoor interactions as well as field tours including nature walk guided by the Head Naturalist, Jungle Lodges and Resorts.

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Review

Corbett's Legacy

A FILM BY BEDI BROTHERS (35 MIN)

Corbett's Legacy is a documentary film by wildlife film makers Naresh & Rajesh Bedi. It is picturization of the success of tiger conservation programme in Corbett National Park. The film is a tribute to Jim Corbett and F.W. Champion who were instrumental in its formation.

Jim Corbett and F.W. Champion were friends who thought of tiger conservation way back in 1930's almost forty years before the launch of Project Tiger by Govt. of India. Jim Corbett was passionate about tigers and deeply concerned about their fate and rapid loss of their habitat. Champion was an IFS officer, who served for twenty five years in the Forest Department till India gained independence in 1947. He was posted as the Deputy Conservator of Forests in Kalagarh Forest Division after the formation of the Corbett National Park. Champion's pool situated near Sarpduli FRH is named after him. The then Governor of United Province Sir Malcom Hailey's fore-sightedness and effort by Jim Corbett and F.W. Champion resulted in the formation of Hailey National Park on 8th August 1936. At the time of its formation, it was India's first NP. Together they dreamt of making it as one of the foremost National Parks of the world. The NP was renamed as Corbett National Park in 1957 as homage to Jim Corbett after his death in Kenya.

This film describes about Jim Corbett's life illustrating some significant events using archival footage and stills. It also touches upon the role of F.W. Champion in pioneering wildlife photography. This footage was obtained from the British Museum of Natural History and the British Film Institute during the research carried out under US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Wildlife Institute of India's collaborative project on

"Development of Interpretive Facilities in Corbett National Park".

Corbett's famous hunts of man-eating tigers have been reconstructed and beautifully inducted in the first half of the film. The film beautifully reconstructs Corbett's shooting of big tiger - The Bachelor of Powalgarh - which measured 10.7' and was not a man-eater. One of the climaxes of the film is the big *shikar* by Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India during 1936 to 1942 that was filmed by Jim Corbett himself.

The second half of the film deals with the rich wildlife and sheer beauty of the Corbett National Park. Bedi Brothers have love and passion for Corbett and have been visiting since their childhood. With their cinematic skills they have recorded the diverse habitats as well as fauna and flora of the Park. They were fortunate to film some intimate scenes of tigers and film Ramganga landscape from hot air balloon.

Farewell

Dr. Anil Kumar Bhardwaj

Dr. Bhardwaj is a 1985 batch Indian Forest Service officer of the Kerala Cadre on deputation to WII. Since 1988, he has worked as a manager in different protected areas (PAs) of the southern Western Ghats.

Periyar Tiger Reserve has undertaken an innovative initiative to involve local communities in protected area management, and was associated with the planning and implementation of this important programme. Maintaining an interest in this subject, he undertook his doctoral work on "Assessment of Ecodevelopment Initiatives in Periyar". He was involved in many action research projects of the Institute in the area of Protected Area and wildlife management. His special areas of interest include community participation in biodiversity conservation and ecotourism. He was involved in training field managers, providing technical support for management planning of PAs to states and upgrading the WII database. He was a member of the IUCN Sustainable Use Specialist Group. He was repatriated to his parent department after completing his second tenure on deputation at this Institute on October 5, 2012.



Dr. Gobind Sagar Bhardwaj

Dr. Bhardwaj obtained M.Sc. and M.Phil. degrees in botany from Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, winning the gold medal for the latter. In 1994, he joined the Indian Forest Service in the Rajasthan Cadre and obtained a postgraduate diploma in wildlife management from the Wildlife Institute of India. As a manager of natural resources, he served in various capacities in different forest divisions of Rajasthan, including Ranthambhore National Park. It was during his tenure in Ranthambhore that he developed a deep passion for wildlife, especially the tiger, which resulted in a book, Tracking Tigers in Ranthambhore. He undertook his doctoral work on "Plant

Resource Utilization by the Avian Fauna in Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary". In the year 1999, he received a state award for outstanding services to the State of Rajasthan. The award was specifically given for saving the life of villagers and a tiger that had strayed outside the forest into a village, during which he was badly mauled by the tiger in this episode. He was working as a senior scientist in the department of Protected Area Network, Wildlife Management & Conservation Education. He was repatriated to his parent department after completing his tenure on deputation at this Institute on November 23, 2012.



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"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

— Mahatma Gandhi