

G.S. Bhardwaj



Jayanta

## Current Protected Area Network of India

(Position as on June 30, 2021)

National Parks – 106; Area 44,372.42 km<sup>2</sup> (1.35%)  
Wildlife Sanctuaries – 563; Area 1,22,296.93 km<sup>2</sup> (3.72%)  
Conservation Reserves – 102; Area 4,996.29 km<sup>2</sup> (0.15%)  
Community Reserves – 218; Area 1,445.70 km<sup>2</sup> (0.04%)  
Total – 989; Area 1,73,111.34 km<sup>2</sup> (5.26%)

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## In the Next Issue

- Van Mahotsav Celebrations



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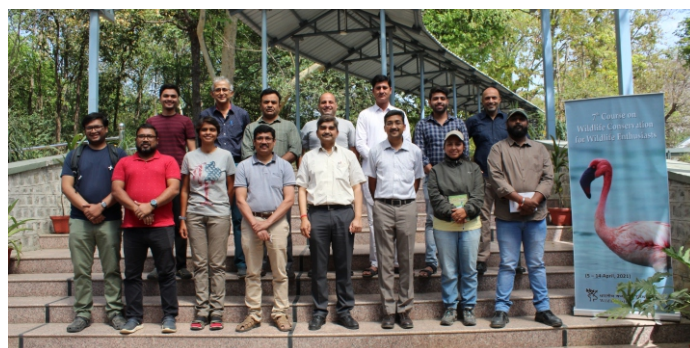
## Around the Campus

### First Meeting of the 'Scientific and Technical Advisory Group' for the Compilation of the Environmental Accounts in India, Dehradun, 5 April 2021.

The first meeting of the 'Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG)' for compilation of Environmental Accounts in India was held under the chairmanship of Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, DEA, Ministry of Finance, Govt of India through virtual mode. Twenty-five members of the STAG attended the meeting. Additional Director General (ADG), Social Statistics Division (SSD), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), briefed the members about the work related to environment statistics and accounts being undertaken by MoSPI. MoSPI made a brief presentation on the steps taken in the direction of Environmental Accounting. It was informed that under the UN-led project on "Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services", a study was conducted by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, in 8 districts of Karnataka covering different ecosystems.

Shri Sanyal emphasised the importance of Natural Capital Accounting, particularly concerning the policy dimensions. He stressed the need for regular accounts that would facilitate the policymakers in understanding the trade-offs between the economic decisions and their effect on the environment. The Chairman requested the members to send additional comments on the proposal, including the district-level studies, to SSD so that further steps could be initiated for the award of the studies. He also suggested that the work on the development of methods could start simultaneously. ADG, SSD extended the vote of thanks to the Chair and all the group members for the rich and fruitful discussions/suggestions, which paved the way for the smooth functioning of the proposed activities under the domain of environmental accounting. He requested the members to extend their cooperation for the finalisation of the proposed district-level survey.

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### 7th Course on Wildlife Conservation for Wildlife Enthusiasts, Dehradun, 5-14 April 2021.

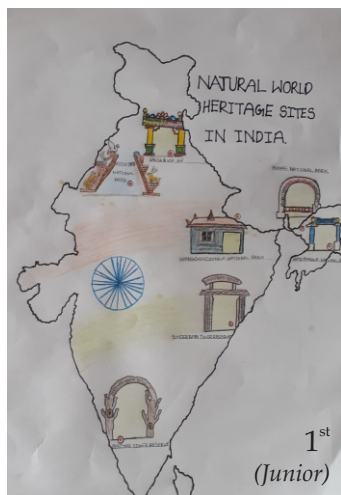
The 7th course on wildlife conservation for wildlife enthusiasts targeting professionals without formal training and experience in wildlife biology/conservation was first held in March 2020. However, after the first day of the course then it had to be cancelled due to the COVID pandemic lockdown restrictions. This course was then held in person at WII from 5-14 April 2021, and 12 participants attended (10 men and two women). The course involved four lecture-based sessions at WII and was delivered by WII faculty and experienced researchers covering Indian biogeography, wildlife conservation issues and strategies across the country, science and management of large mammal populations, biodiversity Conservation in the Indian riverscapes, recovery program for endangered species, illegal trade of wildlife parts and role of forensic science, the importance of citizen science initiatives. The participants were taken on a day trip to Benog Wildlife Sanctuary in Mussoorie and then on a five-day field visit to Kotdi Range in Lansdowne Forest Division. The participants were taken on long treks along the Kollu river there and were introduced to natural history observations, jungle crafts etc. They were also informed about wildlife management and habitat restoration, estimation of tiger population, socio-economic issues and challenges facing PA managers.

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### World Heritage Day, Dehradun, 18 April 2021.

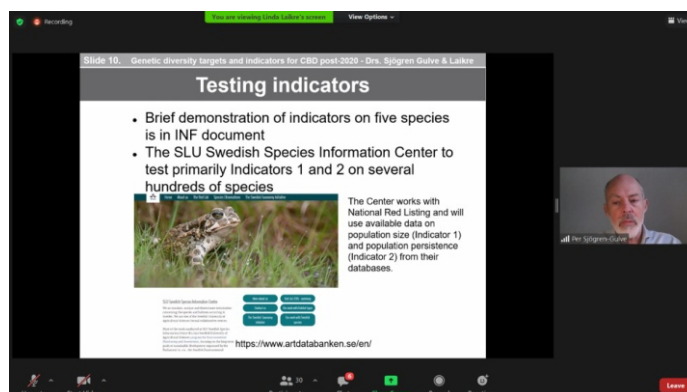
World Heritage Day is celebrated every year on 18 April with an aim to educate the public about the protection, preservation and promotion of World Heritage. It offers an opportunity to raise the public's awareness about the diversity of heritage and the efforts that are required to protect and conserve it, as well as draw attention to its vulnerability.





Due to the global outbreak of Covid-19 and the containment measures, WII-C2C celebrated World Heritage Day (WHD) by organising drawing and photography competitions for the Wildlife Institute of India community through online mode by following social distancing norms. The criteria for evaluation included relevance to the subject, originality/perspective, composition and overall presentation. The Drawing Competition had categories for junior (Natural heritage), middle (Heritage Sites and associated threats), and senior levels (Nature-Culture Linkage in Heritage). The best three entries from each of the categories were declared winners. The Photo Contest had three themes, namely, nature-culture Linkage, Heritage and Me, and Mesmerising Nature. The top three entries were awarded prizes. The main objective of this event was to sensitise and create awareness among youth and children towards Natural Heritage Conservation.

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### Webinar on CBD Indicators for Genetic Diversity of All Species for Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), Dehradun, 22 April 2021.

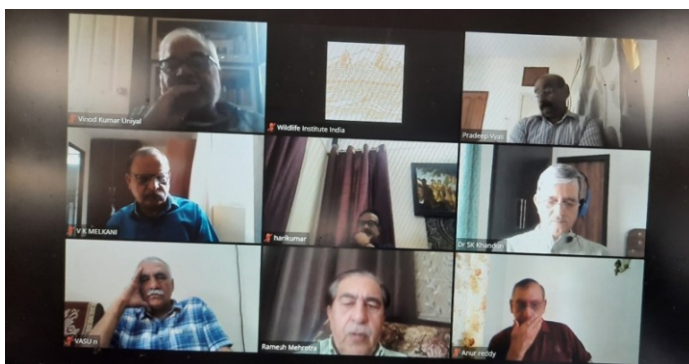
Professor Linda Laikre, Professor, Deputy Head of Department, Head of Division of Population Genetics, Director of Studies in Population Genetics, Department of Zoology, Stockholm University, organised a webinar on CBD indicators for genetic diversity of all species for post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This webinar was organised to present the three indicators developed for measuring genetic diversity in the post GBF 2020. These three indicators were developed by a group of conservation genetics scientists. Their focus was on the role of genetic diversity for the adaptive potential and long-term survival of species and ecosystems. They provided advice and a way forward for genetic diversity to the ongoing CBD process with the post-2020 framework.

Post-2020 GBF includes genetic diversity in their goals and targets but no measurable indicators.

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### Webinar on Biodiversity Means Business

**Industry, Dehradun, 27 April 2021.** Wildlife Institute of India participated in an online meeting on the topic 'Biodiversity Means Business Industry' conducted by the India Business & Biodiversity Initiative (IBBI) in collaboration with the European Union (EU) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 27 April 2021. The meeting was co-hosted by Dr Leena Pishe Thomas, Director, Global Business Inroads (GBI). This meeting was conducted for members of IBBI. In the meeting, members of IBBI such as Tata Steel, JSW Steel, ITC, Nestle and others shared case studies on best practices being implemented by them. The major focus of the work related to



business drives landscape restoration approach. Shri Prabir Deshmukh from IBBI informed that IBBI is the agency to represent biodiversity and business in CBD and under which there is a 10-point declaration on the environment.

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### WII's Meeting with CPPGG to discuss the projects on Biodiversity Accounting and Ecosystem Services, 28 May 2021.

A meeting was organised between WII and the Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance (CPPGG) on 28 May 2021 to discuss the projects of mutual interest relating to biodiversity and natural resource accounting. WII and CPPGG have already signed an MoU recently for biodiversity accounting related work. In the meeting, a brief presentation was made by Dr Nasim Ahmad, Project Scientist, on a project proposal submitted by WII to CPPGG on 'Economics of biodiversity, Ecosystem services and its cross-sectoral linkages with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the State of Uttarakhand'. Dr Manoj Pant, Additional CEO, CPPGG appreciated the proposal and requested to coordinate with Forest and Environment Department to work in collaboration, and Additional subjects like green budget, biodiversity financing, ecosystem services may also be included. In the end, it was committed by CPPGG that this proposal will be taken soon through approval in the executive committee meeting.

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### Virtual meeting with MEE Chairpersons to discuss the field plans of MEE of 210 PAs, Dehradun, 4 June 2021.

Wildlife Institute of India organised a virtual meeting with chairpersons to discuss field plans and progress made so far in the MEE process. Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII, opened the meeting and was

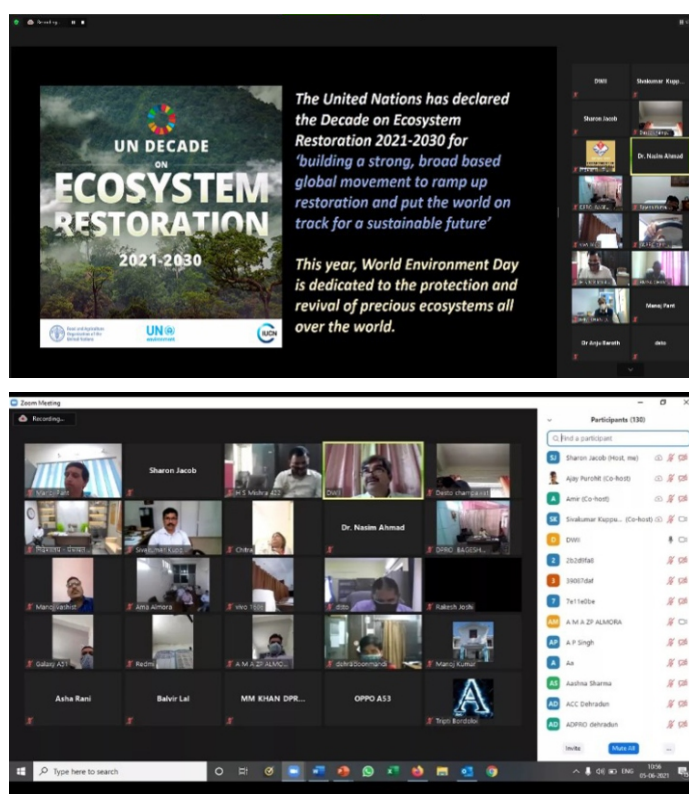
concerned about the well-being of all the MEE team members in this COVID-19 pandemic. The chairpersons have informed their tentative travel plans and committed to complete the field visit before December 2021. Some of the chairpersons expressed happiness in using the MEE web application for the submission of evaluation results.

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### Celebration of World Environment Day, Dehradun, 5 June 2021.

Wildlife Institute of India - ENVIS Centre, in collaboration with the Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance (CPPGG), organised a webinar on the theme 'Restoring Our Ecosystem for Sustainable Living' on World Environment Day. More than one hundred participants from various line departments of Uttarakhand attended the webinar. The theme of this year was 'Ecosystem Restoration'. Dr Manoj Pant, Additional CEO, CPPGG and Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Director, WII, gave their opening remarks. Other key panellist includes Dr K. Sivakumar Scientist-F WII, Dr Nasim Ahmad Ansari Project Scientist WII, and Dr Nihal Ahmad Siddiqui Assistant Professor UPES Dehradun.

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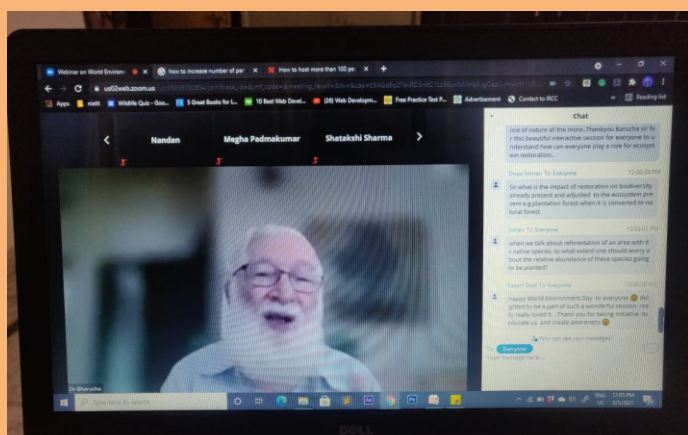
## Activities under NMCG

### World Turtle Day Celebrated by WII, Dehradun, 23 May 2021.

An online workshop was organised on World Turtle Day, titled "Importance of turtles through art and craft". The participants were given a presentation on the importance of turtles in the ecosystem and how people can contribute to their conservation? A hands-on session on water-colour art and craft was also administered.

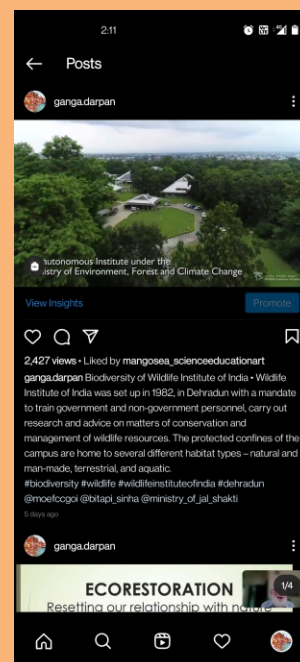
### World Environment Day Celebrated by WII, Dehradun, 5 June 2021.

World Environment Day was celebrated by the Institute during the time of the pandemic period by following the governments' guidelines in this regard. Two online activities, "Take a pledge to save the environment" and "Making peace with nature", on World Environment Day were organised. Both the activities got a great response.



A webinar session with Dr Erach Bharucha was organised on World Environment Day. The topic of the session was "Planning and Implementing Ecosystem Restoration". Dr Bharucha shared his experiences with the participants on the subject and enlightened them with various ways of ecosystem restoration.

A promotional video on the Wildlife Institute of India's biodiversity was developed in-house. The video showcases all kinds of rich biodiversity present in and around the WII's campus in Chandrabani, Dehradun.



## Financial Assistance to Family of Deceased Employees, Dehradun, 30 June 2021.

Employee Welfare Committee provided death relief to in-service employees who expired in the last seven years. The payment was made from the Employee Welfare Fund, raised by the employees. Dr Dhananjai Mohan, Director, has provided relief to aggrieved families of the following staff: Late Shri H.C. Pathak, Late Shri Isham Pal, Late Shri Purushottam Mishra, Late Shri Surendra Pal Singh, Late Shri Rajesh Kumar Sagar, Late Shri Farid Ahmed, Late Shri Dil Bahadur, Late Shri Rai Singh Negi, Late Shri Trilok Singh, Late Shri Satendra Singh Negi, Late Shri Mahendra Singh Rawat, Late Shri Paras Nath, Late Shri Vijay Prakash Baluni, Late Shri Sudhir Kukreti.

Dr YV Jhala, Dean, Faculty of Wildlife Sciences, Dr Monali Sen, Registrar and all the members of the Employee Welfare



Committee were also present on this occasion. The officials have desired to always stand in support of the staff in future too.

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## Farewell...



**Shri Arun Kumar Dubey**  
Internal Audit Officer  
December 1989 to June 2021



**Shri B.S. Aswal**  
Staff Car Driver  
November 1985 to June 2021



**Shri Kripal Singh**  
Cook  
March 1987 to May 2021

Patron: Director, WII  
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*"If you are not filled with overflowing love, compassion and goodwill for all creatures living wild in nature, You will never know true happiness."*

- Paul Oxtan

Source: <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/wildlife-conservation>