



eNewsletter of WII

WINTER 2022



© Chandan Janti

43rd Post-Graduate Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management Commenced, 1 October 2022.

The Wildlife Institute of India, an Autonomous Institution under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, has been conducting Post Graduate Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management for in-service Forest/ Wildlife Officers, who are engaged in managing natural forest resources particularly wildlife and protected areas. The course is designed to enhance the capacity of forest officers to effectively manage Protected Areas (PAs), Wildlife related issues outside PAs and conservation of endangered species.

Ten-month 43rd Post-Graduate Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management commenced on 1 October 2022 at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. A total of eleven officer trainees (one each from Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Rajasthan, Tripura and Telangana; two each from Odisha, Uttar Pradesh; and one lady officer from Myanmar) Diploma course. The following field tours were carried out during the reporting period: (i) Orientation Tour was carried out from 30 October 2022 to 4 November 2022 at Lansdowne Forest Division (Kalagarh) and its adjoining area; and (ii) High Altitude Tour was carried out from 27 November 2022 to 3 December 2022 at Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary and Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve.

bcs@wii.gov.in



Next
Issue

- PG Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management
- Certificate Course in Wildlife Management

First-ever Marine Mammal Stranding Response Workshop in Tamil Nadu, Rameswaram, 17-20 October 2022.

The Wildlife Institute of India, with the support of CAMPA, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Govt. of India, has organized the first-ever national training workshop on Marine Mammal Stranding Response at Gulf of Mannar, Rameswaram. This training workshop was organized as a part of the CAMPA-Dugong Recovery Programme in partnership with the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), and Central Zoo Authority (CZA) with inputs from the Pondicherry University, Wildlife Conservation Society-India, OMCAR Foundation, Reefwatch Marine Conservation, Karnataka. A total of 18 participants from the coastal states/UTs of India participated in the four-day training program. The main objectives of the workshop are to train the officers towards the rescue and rehabilitation of stranded live marine mammals and post-mortem of stranded dead mammals as per the guidelines of the MoEFCC. The participants were mostly Range Forest Officers and Veterinary Officers nominated by the concerned state governments.

jaj@wii.gov.in

National Training Workshop on Bio-diversity Conservation for Women Scientists and Technologists Working in Government Sector, Dehradun, 14-18 November 2022.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has launched a scheme called "National Training Programme for Women Scientists and Technologists working in Government Sector". As a part of this scheme, the DST has initiated training programmes exclusively for women scientists/ technologists. Under this scheme, the WII organized a one-week training workshop on Biodiversity Conservation. A total of nineteen women scientists and technologists working in the Government sectors participated in this workshop.

The main objective of the workshop was to enable the participants to be aware of approaches in biodiversity conservation, causes of decline in natural resources, habitat and species, as well as conservation issues in the field. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr Renu Singh, Director of Forest Research Institute. Prominent resource persons from the Institute and outside were invited to deliver lectures and deliberate on the various aspects of wildlife conservation. The participants greatly valued their interactions with Dr Ruchi Badola, Registrar and other women resource persons who had excelled in different fields. The participants visited the Forensic, GIS and Eco-toxicology labs in the Institute. A field visit to Rajaji National Park was organized wherein they were sensitized to the field techniques related to conservation Science. The participants also visited HESCO and Asan Conservation Reserve (Ramsar Site) to get a preliminary experience of water quality monitoring, bird watching and the ecology of migratory and resident water birds. The participants also had an interaction with Ganga Praharis at Chandi ghat, Haridwar, where they learned how the community is involved in Ganga biodiversity conservation.

sangeetaangom@wii.gov.in



GIS Day 2022 Celebrations: Workshop on Natural Heritage and Geoinformatics, Dehradun, 16-17 November 2022.

WII-C2C organized a two-day "Workshop on Natural Heritage and Geoinformatics" in an annual event that has become a highlight of WII's calendar. Like in past years, the number of registrations and participants in this event by researchers for researchers was more than 100 participants.

Inputs were provided by the faculty members and experts during the workshop. A presentation and demonstration of drone flying, within the auditorium and on the WII sports ground, by Mr Ankit Singh and Mr Ravi shared very relevant field experiences about obtaining permission to fly drones in and around protected areas.



A series of presentations by researchers were given as follows:

Mr Nishant Kumar talked about his study of black kites and their urban environments; Neeraj Mahar on the study of decadal land use and land cover in Ladakh; Ms Moumita Chakraborty on her project to study the elusive red panda; A presentation on dolphins and changing river morphology by Ms Dipa Taye; Mr Ayan Sadhu talked about modelling tiger connectivity corridors in the semi-arid landscape; Mr Krishna Murari presented on the conservation of rhinos with reference to Valmiki Tiger Reserve; Mr Udhaya Raj brought up the important technique of layer stacking satellite data, and Ms Aishwarya Ramachandran provided a thorough outlook of using geospatial tech for river ecology.

Dr Anukul Nath of WII-C2C guided a hands-on session for all the participants to perform basic raster calculations like GLM and prediction. This was followed by Dr Chitiz Joshi of WII-C2C demonstrating predictive LULC modelling in the context of mangroves, while Ms Anindita Debnath of WII-C2C introduced the audience to the InVEST model of simulating climate change.

gautam@wii.gov.in.

Seventh Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of NMCG-WII Project, Dehradun, 29 November 2022.

The seventh meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the NMCG-WII project, sponsored by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) under the Namami Gange programme, was held at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun under the chairmanship of Shri G. Asok Kumar, Director General, NMCG. Dr Anil P. Joshi, Padma Bhushan & founder HESCO, Prof. Rajiv Sinha, IIT Kanpur, Prof. Jamal A. Khan, AMU, Aligarh participated in the meeting as a member of the Committee. Shri G. Asok Kumar and members of the Committee released the brochures on the six small tributaries of the Ganga River, namely Asan, Chandan, Solani, Garra, Song and Suswa, brochures in Hindi on 11 major tributaries of the Ganga River, brochure on amphibians and reptiles of Ganga River, and brochure on the satellite telemetry of birds. Progress of the project from April to October 2022 was presented to the Committee by Dr Ruchi Badola, Scientist G and PI, NMCG-WII project. The Committee appreciated the work progress and encouraged WII to carry forward the activities in collaboration with other agencies to achieve better results.



sangeetaangom@wii.gov.in.

International Heritage Symposium on Nature Culture Linkages and Eco-Disaster Risk Reduction Strengthening Bonds, Building Resilience, Dehradun, 8-10 December 2022.

In keeping with the dynamic concept of heritage with a special ability to connect culture to nature and people to their identities, the Wildlife Institute of India organized this symposium. A series of sessions brought together leading experts and venerated speakers who provided clarity on enhancing nature-culture connections and how they can contribute to solutions for reduced disaster risks.

Keynote speaker Dr Shikha Jain, Director, DRONAH, expressed her concern on the weakened relationship between man and nature while also bringing up the potential future where such bonds may be restored. In a brief comment post-Dr Jain's speech, Chief Guest for the symposium, Dr Erach Bharucha, Director, BVIEER, brought up the concept of 'biophilia' which will help promote the need for re-wilding and eco-restoration. A lively presentation and documentary screening on the legendary Jim Corbett and some talks were delivered by the experts.

A talk on "Nature-Culture Linkages: Towards a Competence-based Academic Framework" by Dr Neel Kamal Chapagain, Director at Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University, was delivered. The symposium included a visit for the delegates to Rajaji National Park through the Mohand gate. The visitors experienced the wonders of a verdant forest landscape and its inseparable human components through stops at past settlements, ably guided by the Forest Department staff.

gautam@wii.gov.in.



Farewell...

Dr. V.P. Uniyal, Scientist-G

Dr V.P. Uniyal, Scientist-G superannuated on 31 December 2022. He joined the Wildlife Institute of India in 1999. He has been associated with Forestry Research Education and Extension Project (FREEP) in the Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (GHNPCA) in the Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh, where he conducted research on the insect fauna of the park, besides designing a long-term ecological monitoring protocol for it. He headed the research team working on FREEP-GHNP Research Project for more than four years. He was posted in the Department of Landscape Level Planning & Management of the Institute.



"The animals of the world exist for their own reasons."

-Alice Walker

<https://kidadl.com/quotes/best-wildlife-quotes-for-animals-and-nature-lovers>

Post Box # 18, Chandrabani, Dehra Dun 248 001 (Uttarakhand)
Tel.: +91-135-2640141-115, 2646100; Fax: +91-135-2640117;
✉ wii@wii.gov.in 🌐 www.wii.gov.in 🐦 @wiiofficial1

Patron: Director
Editors: Dr. Bitapi C. Sinha and K.K. Shrivastava
Design: Kuldeep Chauhan
Photo Credit: Vinod Verma & Dr. R. Suresh Kumar

The views expressed in this e-newsletter are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Wildlife Institute of India.