

## IN THE ISSUE

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*For the sake of research...*

## Current Protected Area Network of India

Position as on 31 December 2017

National Parks: 103; Area 40500.13, (1.23%)

Wildlife Sanctuaries: 544; Area: 118931.80, (3.62%)

Conservation Reserves : 76; Area: 2567.95, (0.08%)

Community Reserves : 46; Area: 72.61 (0.002%)

**Total Protected Areas : 769; Area: 162072.49, (4.93%)**

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## Next Issue

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ten-day Orientation  
Workshop on Wildlife & Health  
Management
- 5<sup>th</sup> Course on Wildlife  
Conservation for Wildlife  
Enthusiasts



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## Around the Campus

### XXXIII Certificate Course in Wildlife Management

XXXIII Certificate Course in Wildlife Management began on November 1, 2017. The course duration is 3-months. A total of 13 officer trainees joined the course, of which six officer trainees are from five different states of the country and the rest seven are foreign nationals. Three foreign trainees belong to Malaysia and four are from Myanmar.

Apart from the classroom teaching, the officer trainees were taken to Chilla for Orientation-cum-Technique Tour on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 for twelve days to learn various techniques pertaining to wildlife management.

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### Study Tour of Wildlife Officials from Sri Lanka, Dehradun, 1-15<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) organised a study tour of 28 frontline staff of the rank of Range Assistant in the Department of Wildlife Conservation, Government of Sri Lanka during first fortnight of October. The objective of this study tour was to provide first-hand



experience of various management practices related to habitat management for endangered species, wildlife protection, control of human activities, wildlife interface conflicts and tourism. The classroom lectures at WII and field visit to Kanha and Pench Tiger Reserves helped the visiting officials to understand the scientific ways of protected area management. Daily patrolling, elephant camp, grassland management, tourism regulation and community involvement in conservation were discussed during the field visit. Excellent feedback ratings were received from the participants.

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## **XV WII-FODS “Wildlife and Environment Quiz” 2017, Dehradun, 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.**

The XV WII-FODS “Wildlife and Environment Quiz” 2017 – a collaborative activity of Wildlife Institute of India and Friends of The Doon Society (FODS) was organized at Wildlife Institute of India to mark the celebrations of the Wildlife Week 2017. In all 25 schools from Dehradun and Mussoorie participated in the preliminary round. Top Five scorers in the Preliminary round were adjudged finalists. Ann Mary School topped the list and won the WII-FODS Sameer Ghosh Memorial Nature and Wildlife Rolling Trophy, Shield and Book Prize. Shri Damodar Sharma, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary (Forests), Government of Rajasthan & Member, WII-Governing Body graced the occasion as Chief Guest and distributed the Prizes to the Winning Teams.

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## **Hands-on Training on Marine Biodiversity Monitoring with Scuba Diving by CAMPA-Dugong Recovery Programme, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Tamil Nadu, 8–15<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.**

Wildlife Institute of India in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Forest Department and SDMRI organized one-week special course in 'Hands-on Training on marine biodiversity monitoring with scuba diving for the frontline staff of Tamil Nadu Forest Department' as part of CAMPA-Dugong Recovery Programme at Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park, Tamil Nadu. The main objectives of this training were to

provide: (a) basic knowledge of marine biodiversity of Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay and their conservation; (b) knowledge on dugongs and their conservation; (c) SCUBA diving in open water; and (d) hands-on training of under-water marine biodiversity monitoring using quadrats, LIT and PIT methods.

A total of 10 Range Forest Officers and four Researchers participated in the training. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Tamil Nadu; Director, Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park; Wildlife Warden, Gulf of Mannar National Park; and Director, SDMRI provided inputs in the course along with WII Team.

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## **MSTrIPES Workshop, Dehradun, 9-11<sup>th</sup> October 2017.**

Monitoring System for Tigers – Intensive Protection and Ecological Status (MSTrIPES), a National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) funded program, is a scientific tool to acquaint field staff to modern field techniques and patrolling protocols useful for wildlife conservation especially in tiger landscapes of the country. This software tool shall be used for the upcoming All India Tiger Estimation Exercise during 2017-18 and annual intensive monitoring of tiger, co-predator, prey and their habitat. As a part of implementing the programme, the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Level Training Workshop for Computer Technicians and Field Biologists of 15 Tiger Reserves was conducted at Wildlife Institute of India. During this three-day workshop, 29 participants underwent a hands-on training in both MSTrIPES Mobile Application and Desktop Version. The participants were exposed to the implementation of MSTrIPES in reducing the response time towards detrimental events like poaching or habitat degradation and as a comprehensive tool to keep the pulse of tiger reserves.

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## **Conservation Awareness Workshop for School Children, Dehradun, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.**

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) organised a 'Conservation Awareness Workshop' for the students of St. Patrick's Academy, Dehradun and Rabea Girls Public School, Delhi. The main objective of the workshop was to introduce and acquaint the participants about the existence and importance of faunal diversity of India, NMCG-WII Biodiversity Conservation and

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Ganga Rejuvenation project. A total of 140 students participated in the workshop. A quiz was conducted for the participants on 'Biodiversity of India'. The students were also briefed about the importance of forensic science in wildlife conservation and specimens of animal's skin were displayed.

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### **First National Training Workshop on "Biodiversity Conservation and Monitoring of Aquatic Species of Ganga River", Dehradun, 6-12<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.**

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun under the project "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" conducted its first national training workshop for spearhead teams from the Ganga River States on "Biodiversity Conservation and Monitoring of Aquatic Species of Ganga River". The workshop was attended by 36 forest officials from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. The aim of this workshop was to train the officers and frontline staff with

the skills and capacities required for the biodiversity monitoring, conservation and management of the riverine species along the Ganga River. The objective of the workshop was to form spearhead teams for each of the Ganga River state and train them in the areas of aquatic biodiversity monitoring for practical and action-oriented implementation of science-based research activities carried out by the WII. These trained spearhead teams will train other frontline staff for successful biodiversity monitoring and restoration of the Ganga River. A field visit was also organized from 10-12<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at the National Chambal Sanctuary, Morena, Madhya Pradesh.

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### **Second Consultative Meeting on 'Preparation of the Zonal Master Plan for Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around Protected Areas', Shimla, 6-8<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.**

The second Consultative Meeting on 'Preparation of the Zonal Master Plan for Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) around Protected Areas' was organised by the Wildlife Institute of India at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. A total of 29 representatives from eight States *viz.* Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir participated in the meeting. Dr. Amita Prasad, Additional Secretary, MoEFCC was the Chief Guest of the inaugural session. She reiterated the commitment of the MoEFCC in building capacity to prepare Zonal Master Plans by the States. A visit to the Eco-Sensitive Zone of the Shimla Water Catchment Wildlife Sanctuary was also organised as part of the meeting.

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### **One-Week Special Courses in Wildlife Protection, Law and Forensic Science for Officer Trainees of Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise) Group-'A', 68<sup>th</sup> Batch, Dehradun, 30<sup>th</sup> October-3<sup>rd</sup> November and 13-17<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.**

Wildlife Institute of India conducted Special Course in Wildlife Protection, Law and Forensic Science for 182 Officer Trainees of Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise) Group-'A', 68<sup>th</sup> Batch. The objectives of this training was to provide (i) basic knowledge of wildlife and conservation perspectives; (ii) knowledge on relevant laws and policies to





protect wildlife and prevent its illegal trade at National as well as International levels; (iii) introduction to Wildlife Forensics; and (iv) hands-on training for identification of wildlife products and parts that are in illegal trade.

Simple identification tips were also shared with the officer trainees for easy interpretation. Inputs were provided on provisions of the Biodiversity Act of India and trade of different taxa including insects, birds and reptiles. A visit to Corbett National Park was also organized to explain issues related to management of the natural resources in the large landscapes and tools and techniques used in their protection.

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### **Two days Workshop on Eco-development for Biodiversity Conservation: Assessment and Way Forward, Dehradun, 20-21<sup>st</sup> November 2017.**

A two days training workshop for Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers was organized at the Wildlife Institute of India,



Dehradun. A total of 13 participants belonging to 11 States *viz.* Maharashtra, Goa, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Arunachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh attended the workshop. Field experiences of implementing the ecodevelopment approach for biodiversity conservation were shared with the participants. Methods to sustain ecodevelopment in the long-term and upscale the approach at the landscape level were discussed. Modalities related to access and benefit sharing of bio-resources with local communities were also discussed.

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### **Consultative Workshop for Preparation of Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project (BCRLIP) Implementation Report, Dehradun, 4-8<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun under the Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihood Improvement Project (BCRLIP) conducted a workshop for preparation of



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final implementation report of the aforesaid project. The objectives of the workshop were to (i) share the experience of implementation of BCRLIP by various implementing agencies; (ii) discuss framework for mainstreaming conservation in development; and (iii) assess physical and financial progress of activities under various components of BCRLIP from date of start till 30 September 2017.

The workshop was attended by project personnel of three Field Learning Centres (FLCs) and five project implementation sites along with the senior environment and social development specialists of the World Bank. Thirty four participants including Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Conservator of Forests, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Divisional Forest Officers, Range Forest Officers, Forest Guards and other professionals *viz.* landscape planners, ecologists, sociologists, project officers, social mobilizers and livelihood facilitators participated in the workshop.

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### Module on Wildlife Management for the Inducted IFS Officers, Dehradun, 6-9<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

On a request from the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun, the Wildlife Institute of India organized a 4-day module on wildlife management for the inducted IFS officers undergoing their 10-week induction course in IGNFA. A total of 32 officers from 9 States *viz.* Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat attended the module.

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### WII-BNHS Staff Training Workshop Report on Quantitative Conservation Tools, Dehradun, 11-17<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) is a premier conservation organization and a long-standing partner of Wildlife Institute of India (WII), and a collaborator in the Institute's Great Indian Bustard (CAMPA funded) Project. As per the request from BNHS, the Wildlife Institute of India organized a workshop to train select staff of BNHS on theory and application of quantitative tools in ecology and conservation.

The workshop was attended by 27 participants. The participants were trained in advanced topics covering statistical techniques, analytical software for data analysis, remote sensing and species distribution modelling.

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### Third National Level MSTRIPES Training Workshop for Computer Technicians, Dehradun, 12-15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

The third National level training workshop on MSTRIPES for the computer technicians of the Tiger Reserves was conducted by the Institute. Over 80 participants from 28 Tiger Reserves, State Forest Departments, State Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur and three officials from the National Tiger Conservation Authority (Delhi, Bengaluru and Nagpur Regional Offices) attended the workshop. Field and interactive class room sessions were organized to make the participants familiar with data collection, entry, archiving, analyses,



merging and generating reports on patrol, ecological, camera trap and conflict modules of the program. Framework for collecting data for All India Tiger Estimation Exercise 2018 through MStrIPES was also explained to the participants.

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### **UNESCO C2C WII at the ICOMOS General Assembly, New Delhi, 13-14 December 2017.**

UNESCO C2C - WII was invited by ICOMOS India as a partner for the 19<sup>th</sup> ICOMOS General Assembly held in Delhi, India during December, 2017. As part of the primary theme of 'Heritage and Democracy' under the ICOMOS GA Scientific Symposium, UNESCO C2C WII co-organised the thematic session titled "Culture-Nature Journey: Exploring the complexities of human relationships with natural and cultural places" in Delhi.

A special plenary session of the 'Culture-Nature Journey' was organised by UNESCO C2C-WII on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 titled "Connecting Countries: Supporting transnational heritage conservation through linking culture and nature". The focus of the session was how uniting approaches to culture and nature

can support international conservation partnerships. A keynote speech was given by Mr. Sanjeev Sanyal, economist, writer, environmentalist, urban theorist and currently Principal Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. A joint publication of UNESCO C2C WII, UNESCO New Delhi and DRONAH titled 'Cultural Landscapes of Asia' was also released during the event along with UNESCO C2C Bulletin for the period July 2017 to September 2017.

### **Sensitization and Training Workshops of "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" Project, Kolkata, 19-24 December 2017.**

The NMCG-WII project team organized a series of sensitization and training workshops in the state of West Bengal, from 19<sup>th</sup> December till 24<sup>th</sup> December 2017. On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017, a sensitization workshop was organized for the Youth and University students at the Zoological Garden, Alipore, Kolkata. A launch-cum-sensitization workshop was organized on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017, in collaboration with the West Bengal Forest Department. The objective of the workshop was to sensitize the West Bengal Forest Department and other key stakeholders regarding the NMCG-WII sponsored "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" and CAMPA funded "Development of Conservation Action Plan for River Dolphins" projects. Representatives of over 25 line agencies and departments participated in this workshop.

A two-day training programme on "Monitoring of aquatic biodiversity of Ganga River" was organized for the officials of the West Bengal Forest Department on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2017. The spearhead team of West Bengal Forest Department facilitated this training workshop and also provided professional inputs. On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2017, a "Sensitization-cum livelihood assessment workshop" was organized for the fishermen community at Nabadwip, Nadia district, West Bengal. A sensitization workshop was also organized for the Religious Group at Nabadwip, Nadia district, West Bengal on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

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## **'Visit of His Excellency Shri V.P. Singh Badnore, the Honble Governor of Punjab and Administrator, Union Territory of Chandigarh to Wildlife Institute of India, 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.**

The Hon'ble Governor of Punjab & Administrator, Union Territory of Chandigarh, His Excellency Shri V.P. Singh Badnore visited the Wildlife Institute of India on 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2017. The Hon'ble Governor expressed his pleasure to be at the Institute and recalled his long association with the Institute in working towards the goal of wildlife conservation in general and tiger conservation in particular. The programme of his visit included interaction with the faculty and research staff of the Institute. The presentations were made on four topics comprising 'Tiger Conservation in India: An Update' delivered by Dr. Kausik Banerjee; 'Tiger Conservation in Sariska' by Dr. Parag Nigam; 'Conservation of the Great Indian Bustard' by Dr. Sutirtha Dutta; and 'Management of Keoladeo National Park: A World Heritage Site' by Dr. K. Sivakumar. The Hon'ble Governor acknowledged the Institute's scientific inputs in successfully bringing the tiger back in Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves. He emphasised the need to connect local communities with conservation and stressed the importance of their support for achieving conservation success. Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII recalled the dynamic leadership provided by the Hon'ble Governor as Chairman of the Rajasthan State Empowered Committee set up to deal with tiger conservation and wildlife management issues post Sariska debacle.

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**"If we can teach people about wildlife, they will be touched.  
Share my wildlife with me. Because humans want to save  
things that they love."**

**— Steve Irwin**

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