

IN THE ISSUE

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For the sake of research....



Kushagra

Current Protected Area Network of India

Position as on 31 December 2018

National Parks: 104; Area 40501.03, (1.23%)

Wildlife Sanctuaries: 550; Area: 119775.55, (3.64%)

Conservation Reserves : 87; Area: 4286.31, (0.13%)

Community Reserves : 127; Area: 525.22 (0.02%)

Total Protected Areas : 868; Area: 165088.10, (5.02%)

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Next Issue

- Two-day Conference in collaboration with University of East Anglia
- 3rd Ten-Day Orientation Workshop on 'Wildlife and Health Management'



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Around the Campus

Wildlife Week Celebrations at WII, Dehradun, 6th October, 2018. The XV WII-FoDS "Wildlife and Environment Quiz" 2018 – 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 2018. Twenty-six schools from Dehradun participated in the preliminary round. Top five scorers in the preliminary round were adjudged as finalists of the competition. The final quiz had five rounds, *viz.* (i) Uttarakhand; (ii) Odd One Out; (iii) Pictionary; (iv) In your Backyard; (v) Pop Culture.

The Asian School, Dehradun topped the list and won the WII-FoDS Sameer Ghosh Memorial Nature and Wildlife Rolling Trophy, Shield and Book Prize. Ann Mary School won second prize and St. Joseph's Academy School won the third prize and received WII-FoDS Book prizes. Dr. Mahesh Rangarajan, Professor of History and Dean of Academic Affairs, Ashoka University, Sonipat graced the occasion as Chief Guest and distributed the Prizes to the Winning Teams.

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2018 Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Asia Conference, Dehradun, 9-12th October, 2018. Wildlife Institute of India organised the 2018 Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Asia Conference in association with the Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Asia Regional Office, Republic of Korea at the Wildlife Institute of India. The theme of this year's Asia regional conference was "Communicating and Engaging Ecosystem Services in Policy and Practice in Asia".

The ESP Regional Conference offered a unique opportunity to share experiences with the ecosystem service community in



Asia and strengthen the regional network. The aim of this conference was to accelerate collaboration in Asia by expanding information-sharing among experts, policy-makers and practitioners on ecosystem services as a practical tool for nature-based solutions. Nearly 70 participants, including 25 nationals from Asian countries attended the conference comprising students, researchers, practitioners and government representatives.

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Two-day writing workshop for the development of the structure and framework of the National Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan (N-HWCM-SAP) and Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs), Dehradun,

15-16th October 2018. The Wildlife Institute of India organized a writing workshop for the development of the structure and framework of the National Human Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan (N-HWCM-SAP) and Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) for conflict mitigation with selected species, as part of its project entitled "Knowledge Support to Development of Guidelines, Specialized Field Studies and Training on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India". The project is a collaboration between WII, *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) GmbH and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

The primary agenda of the workshop was to review and deliberate on existing information on human-wildlife conflict and mitigation strategies so as to effectively structure the framework of N-HWCM-SAP and SOPs. The workshop was attended by 37 senior officials from MoEFCC and State Forest Departments, scientists and researchers. The workshop

included the formation of expert groups dealing with specific sections of the N-HWCM-SAP and species/case studies.

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Training Programme on Dossier Preparation for Natural World Heritage, Mixed and Cultural Landscapes Nomination of World Heritage Sites, Dehradun, 23rd October, 2018. The UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C) for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region at Wildlife Institute of India (WII) conducted a training programme on 'Dossier Preparation' at WII. It was an intensive one-day training designed to address the challenges of dossier preparation for World Heritage Sites. The resource persons made their presentations on Outstanding Universal Value, World Heritage criteria, nomination process for natural, mixed and cultural landscape sites. A group exercise and experience sharing session was held with the participants. The training programme was planned to enhance the capacity of young professionals in understanding and contributing to the nomination process of World Heritage Sites. Fifteen heritage professionals and researchers participated in the training programme.

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Symposium on Culture-Nature Journey: Beyond Borders in Asia and the Pacific, Dehradun and New Delhi, 24-26th October, 2018. The UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C) for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in association with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), ICOMOS India and associate partners organised this symposium. The symposium dwelled on

culture-nature linkages in the Asia-Pacific with focus on case-studies on Indian existing and potential World Heritage Sites. Along with the venue at WII, Dehradun, part of the symposium was also hosted by ASI, New Delhi with discussions on Kailash Sacred Landscape, Garo Hills Conservation Area and Indian Ocean Cultural Landscapes, Monsoon and Trade Routes. In all, 45 participants including students, researchers, practitioners and heritage professionals attended the symposium.

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The BIOFIN Technical Partner's Meeting, UNDP, New Delhi, 25th October 2018. Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) is a global programme launched by UNDP in 2012, currently being implemented in 31 countries of the world to address the biodiversity finance challenge in a comprehensive manner. India became part of the global team from May 2015 onwards. As part of BIOFIN Project, UNDP India, organized a technical partners meeting under the chairmanship of Ms. Anabelle Trinidad, Senior Technical Advisor, Global BIOFIN Programme. The agenda of the meeting was to discuss the progress made till date in first phase of BIOFIN project in India and to discuss the way forward in second phase of BIOFIN and the implementation of National Biodiversity Finance Plan. In the meeting, presentations were made by BIOFIN technical agencies and their contributions in developing India's National Biodiversity Finance Plan. A total of 15 participants attended the meeting.

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Planning Meeting Regional Expert Committee (REC) for Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries in 2018-19, New Delhi, 31st October 2018. Wildlife Institute of India organized a planning meeting with 64 experts of 16 Independent Regional Expert Committee (RECs) for Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries in 2018-19 under the Chairmanship of Shri M.S. Negi, Additional Director General of Forests (Wildlife) and Inspector General of Wildlife, Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India. The MoEFCC constituted 16 Independent Regional Expert Committees for undertaking Management Effectiveness Evaluation of 146 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries during 2018-19 in the country. In this meeting, the tentative plans of field visit for evaluation of 146 protected areas in the country during 2018-19 were discussed



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by 16 RECs. The results of MEE of 125 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries conducted during 2017-18 were also shared.

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National Training Workshop on Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation of Ganga States", Dehradun, 14-18th November, 2018.

National training workshop for College and University Teachers under WII-NMCG project "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" was conducted at Wildlife Institute of India. A total of 24 professors from five Ganga States viz. Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal participated in the workshop. The main objective of the workshop was to develop the skills of the participants in the area of aquatic biodiversity conservation. Theoretical emphasis was given on understanding the biology, ecology and monitoring for various taxa like invertebrates, dolphins, turtles and otters. A field visit to the Himalayan Environmental Studies & Conservation Organisation (HESCO), Suklapur was organised where interaction regarding the recharge of streams and rivers using isotopes, was discussed with the participants. A field monitoring demonstration was organised in Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand.

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Two-day Training Workshop on "Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Impact Assessment", Dehradun, 15-16th November, 2018. The two-day training workshop was conducted for Indian Forest Service Officers at Wildlife Institute of India. The objectives of the workshop were to (i) improve the mechanisms for mainstreaming biodiversity in

impact assessment for sound decision making and long term gains for conservation; (ii) enhance understanding of the issues and conflicts related to role of impact assessment in meeting conservation and development goals *vis-à-vis* ground realities; and (iii) review options for professionalizing EIA for positive outcomes for biodiversity conservation. A total of eleven officers from seven States attended this workshop.

Training inputs were given on Integration of biodiversity in impact assessment; EIA framework and best practices for mitigating impacts on biodiversity; Best practices for planning and implementing conservation solutions in transportation infrastructure development cumulative assessment of hydropower development. A film on Impacts of hydropower development was also screened. A panel discussion on the 'Role of Foresters in professionalizing EIA for biodiversity conservation' was held for the participants.

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Interaction meeting for Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of Fourth Cycle of Tiger Reserves in India, New Delhi,

20th November 2018. Wildlife Institute of India in collaboration with National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) organised an interaction meeting for Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Fourth Cycle of Tiger Reserves at Scope Complex, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Shri Anup Nayak, Member Secretary, NTCA and Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII. Over 75 participants attended the meeting, which included Field Directors of 50 Tiger Reserves, Chairman and Members of five Independent Regional Expert Committees, WII Faculty Members and NTCA Officials. The agenda of the meeting was to discuss the outcomes of fourth cycle of MEE of Tiger Reserves with Field Directors of all Tiger Reserves.

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OUV Training in Nanda Devi and Valley of flowers World Heritage Site, Joshimath,

Uttarakhand, 27-29th November, 2018. The Nanda Devi National Park (625 km²) and the Valley of Flowers National Park (88 km²) form the core zones of the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve (5,806 km²) that is spread across the districts of Chamoli, Pithoragarh and Bageshwar in Uttarakhand State. Both the core zones are listed as 'World Heritage Site'. In this

Context UNESCO C2C Organized a three day training programme for frontline staff of Nanda Devi and Valley of flowers World Heritage Site at Joshimath, Uttarakhand which include the overview of Outstanding Universal Values (OUVs) for Natural World Heritage Sites, Biodiversity and Research in Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve, OUV analysis group exercise. A one day field excursion was also organized to train the forest staff in best OUV monitoring techniques. Twenty five forest officials took part in the training programme.

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Stakeholders' Workshop on "Forests for Water", Dehradun, 28th November, 2018.

A stakeholders' workshop on "Forests for Water" was organized by Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun in partnership with Foundation for Ecological Security (FES), Anand at Dehradun. A total of 63 participants and resource persons from various organizations *viz.* Forest Research Institute, Forest Survey of India, IIT Roorkee, ATREE Bangalore, Peoples Science Institute, Water Aid India, G.B. Pant Himalayan Institute, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Veditum India Foundation etc. participated in the event. The objective was to bring together the experiences of the various stakeholders in conservation of forest for water and to carve out pathways for future collaborations. The highlight of the workshop was the talk by Dr. Michael P. Dombeck on "Forests for water". Dr. Dombeck is the former chief of the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Bureau of Land Management and currently serves as the Executive Director of the David Smith Post-doctoral Fellowship Programme on Conservation Biology.

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One-week Compulsory Training Programme for IFS Officers on "Illegal Trade in Wildlife and Role of Wildlife Forensics in Dealing with Wildlife Crime", Port Blair, 3-7th December, 2018.

The Wildlife Institute of India conducted the One Week Compulsory Training Programme on "Illegal Trade in wildlife and role of wildlife forensics in dealing with wildlife crime" at Port Blair. A total of 36 IFS Officers participated in the course. The course provided extensive inputs on forensic science and its relevance in combating Wildlife crime. The first day concentrated on theoretical inputs. The trainees were taken to field during next three days to Jolly Boy Island, Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park, Mangrove Forest in Baratang Island and Havelock Islands, where they were given inputs on investigation, crime scene analysis, evidence collection and mock exercises. Overall feedback of the course was very good.

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Inception Meeting on UNDP Project SECURE Himalaya, Dehradun, 11th December 2018.

WII organized the Inception meeting on Project SECURE Himalayas (Securing livelihoods, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of high range Himalayan ecosystems) funded by UNDP on International Mountain Day. The main objective of the workshop was to prepare a road map for implementation of the WII project pertaining to the delineation of the landscape boundaries, identifying the key stakeholders and villages in the landscape. The purpose of this meeting was also to decide on the tentative dates of the four workshops to be conducted in the two landscapes in Uttarakhand (Gangotri-Govind and Darma-Byans). In all, 32 people including specialists and forest officials from various organizations attended the meeting. Four presentations on WII



studies were made in the meeting. Based on the deliberations, the road map for implementation of these studies under SECURE Project was prepared.

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Training Program on Monitoring of Outstanding Universal Value of Natural World Heritage Sites, Kudremukh National Park, 14-15th December, 2018.

UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C) for World Natural Heritage Management and Training for Asia and the Pacific Region at WII organized a training program on 'Monitoring of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of Natural World Heritage Site' at Kudremukh National Park, Western Ghats World Heritage Site, Karnataka. The purpose of this workshop was to build capacity and sensitize world heritage site frontline staff and other stakeholders with the best OUV monitoring techniques. The workshop provided valuable information on the Out Standing Universal Value for Natural and World Heritage Sites, Monitoring & Reporting, OUVs and SWOT analysis. An interactive discussion with forest frontline staff on the current status of OUVs of the heritage site and explored monitoring, planning and management strategies was also held during the workshop. In all, 20 participants including, DFO, Forest Guards, Range Forest Officers (RFO), Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) participated in the training programme.

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Training course on Eco-development planning for Biodiversity Conservation, Dehradun,

19-26th December, 2018. As part of the ongoing Post Graduate Diploma Course, under the module on "Eco-development Planning for Biodiversity Conservation", the *Namami Gange* – the WII project "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" has sponsored the lateral entrant officers at ACF/DCF level from five Ganga states at Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun. The objectives were to discuss the various aspects of biodiversity conservation and importance of community participation highlighting the importance of motivation in the process of natural resource

conservation, understanding the causes of conflict and the possible measures for their resolution as well as mitigation. The course also aimed at the methods and practical experiences utilised to ensure cooperation between the various stakeholders involved in ensuring sustainable resource utilisation and eco-development. A total of eight forest officials participated in the training course.

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Three-day Module on 'Wildlife Management' for IFS officers, Dehradun, 26-28th December 2018.

A 3-day module on 'Wildlife Management' was organised at WII for IFS officers undergoing induction training at Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, Dehradun. The schedule included a variety of themes related to the topic, including Wildlife Census and Monitoring, Wildlife Forensics, Overview of Wildlife Health, Management Effectiveness Evaluation, Human-Wildlife Interface, Wetland Management, Use of technology in Wildlife, *ex-situ* Conservation, and World Heritage Management. The programme culminated with a panel discussion on 'Emerging issues in wildlife management'. A field trip to Asan Barrage was also organised for the officer trainees. A total of 36 officer trainees attended the programme from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

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The continued existence of wildlife and wilderness is important to the quality of life of humans.

- Jim Fowler

Source: <https://www.brainyquote.com/topics/wildlife>