

EIACP NEWSLETTER

Wildlife & Protected Areas Management

Knowledge for Conservation. Action for the Future.



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE



WILD BYTES & NEW DISCOVERIES

Highlights recent studies and new releases



MISSION LIFE ACTIVITIES

Promoting sustainable lifestyles through knowledge and participation



GREEN CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

Celebrating environmental observances through awareness and action



CAPACITY BUILDING

Highlights workshops, training programmes, and professional development initiatives

India's National Knowledge Resource on Wildlife & Protected Areas Management

EIACP Programme Centre at Wildlife Institute of India works towards strengthening the information network on wildlife and protected areas, supporting capacity building, awareness generation and informed decision making for the conservation.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

01. WILD BYTES & NEW DISCOVERIES
02. MISSION LIFE ACTIVITIES
03. CELEBRATION OF WORLD HERITAGE DAY
04. CELEBRATION OF WORLD EARTH DAY
05. CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL LEOPARD DAY
06. CELEBRATION OF WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY
07. CELEBRATION OF WORLD BEE DAY
08. CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
09. CELEBRATION OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
10. CELEBRATION OF WORLD CROCODILE DAY
11. CELEBRATION OF WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION & DROUGHT
12. CAPACITY BUILDING



Frogs in sight and sound: passive acoustics and visual surveys reveal complementary species detection in tropical rainforest anurans

Source: The Hindu & Research Matters

N V Rajiv^{1,2}, Abhijit Das¹

¹ Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

² Wildlife Conservation Society, Bengaluru, India

Research Snapshot

Monitoring amphibians in dense tropical rainforests is often hindered by rugged terrain, thick vegetation, and the nocturnal behaviour of many species. This study compared passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) using autonomous recording units with conventional visual encounter surveys (VES) in the Namdapha landscape of Arunachal Pradesh. While both methods detected a similar number of frog species, each recorded species that the other missed. Acoustic monitoring was particularly effective in detecting cryptic, arboreal, and fossorial frogs, whereas visual surveys identified non-calling and more conspicuous species. The findings demonstrate that combining acoustic and visual survey techniques provides a more comprehensive assessment of amphibian diversity, offering an effective approach for long-term biodiversity monitoring in tropical rainforests.

Key Takeaways

- Passive acoustic monitoring is an effective, non-invasive tool for surveying frogs in dense tropical forests.
- Combining acoustic monitoring with visual surveys increased recorded amphibian diversity by 21% compared to using either method alone.
- An integrated survey approach can improve long-term monitoring and conservation of amphibians in biodiversity-rich landscapes such as the Indo-Burma hotspot.

For more details visit link: <https://doi.org/10.3897/herpetozoa.39.e168386>



The image on the left shows the majority of endemic species detected during the survey. Top, left to right: *Alcalus fontinalis*, *Limnonectes motijheel*, and *Feihyla shyamrupus*; middle, left to right: *Xenophrys ancræa*, *Gracixalus patkaiensis*, and *Nidirana noadihing*; bottom, left to right: *Rhacophorus namdaphaensis*, *Raorchestes nasuta*, and *Microhyla eos*. Images by Abhijit Das and N.V. Rajiv.



Understanding the ecology and conservation of Jerdon's sea snake (*Hydrophis jerdonii* Gray, 1849)

Prachi Hatkar¹, Rohit Khatua², Ramesh Chinnasamy³

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² Postgraduate in Marine Biology Postgraduate student in Marine Biology at Berhampur University

³ Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Research Snapshot

Jerdon's sea snake (*Hydrophis jerdonii*) is a venomous marine reptile found across the Indo-Pacific, including Indian waters, yet it remains one of the least-studied sea snake species in the region. This review synthesizes over 175 years of published research to examine its distribution, habitat, morphology, ecology, and conservation status. The authors found that most available studies focus on species distribution and identification, while key aspects such as habitat ecology, population trends, reproduction, and feeding biology remain poorly understood. Although the species is currently listed as Least Concern by the IUCN, increasing threats from fisheries bycatch and habitat degradation, coupled with the absence of recent confirmed live records from India, highlight the urgent need for systematic field surveys and long-term monitoring.

Key Takeaways

- The last confirmed live record of *Hydrophis jerdonii* from Indian waters dates to 2008 off the Mangalore coast, with subsequent reports based mainly on preserved specimens.
- Existing research is heavily biased towards distribution and morphology, while ecological and population studies remain scarce.
- The review recommends integrated field surveys, ecological research, molecular studies, and fisheries-based monitoring to better assess and conserve this elusive marine reptile.

For more details, visit link: <https://doi.org/10.29103/joms.v3i2.26522>



Sea snake *Hydrophis* (Photo credit: Arne Redsted Rasmussen); **a.** Jerdon's sea snake, *H. jerdonii*, reported from Vietnam, **b.** *H. jerdonii* from Phuket port, Thailand.

First photographic record of the Himalayan Red Panda *Ailurus fulgens* (Mammalia: Carnivora: Ailuridae) in Yordi Rabe Supse Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh, India

Yomto Mayi Shantabala¹, Devi Gurumayum², Salvador Lyngdoh³

^{1,2} Zoological Survey of India, Arunachal Pradesh Regional Centre, Senki valley, Itanagar, Papum Pare, Arunachal Pradesh, India

³ Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India

Research Snapshot

Researchers have documented the first confirmed photographic record of the Endangered Himalayan Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*) in the remote Yordi Rabe Supse Wildlife Sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh using camera traps. Two independent detections, recorded at elevations of 2,409 m and 2,848 m, confirm the species' presence in dense temperate forests that had remained scientifically unexplored. The discovery fills an important gap in the known distribution of the Himalayan Red Panda and highlights the sanctuary's role in maintaining habitat connectivity across central and western Arunachal Pradesh. The study also underscores the need for systematic monitoring and stronger habitat protection amid increasing developmental pressures.

Key Takeaways

- First photographic evidence of the Himalayan Red Panda from Yordi Rabe Supse Wildlife Sanctuary, expanding the species' confirmed distribution in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Camera traps recorded the species at 2,409–2,848 m in undisturbed temperate forests with dense vegetation and bamboo undergrowth.
- The findings reinforce the conservation importance of this under-surveyed protected area and call for long-term monitoring, habitat connectivity, and community-led conservation initiatives.

For more details visit link: <https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.10110.18.6.29079-29084>



Camera trap image of *Ailurus fulgens* recorded at 2,409 m elevation, Darak Range on the eastern side of the Yordi Rabe Supse Wildlife Sanctuary.



Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) is a global initiative launched by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, to encourage individuals and communities to adopt sustainable lifestyles and contribute to environmental conservation. The movement advocates a transition from mindless and unsustainable consumption patterns to mindful and responsible use of natural resources.

The initiative promotes simple yet effective actions, including reducing waste, conserving water and energy, minimizing plastic usage, adopting sustainable energy practices, and reviving traditional conservation methods. These collective efforts play a significant role in addressing environmental challenges and fostering a healthier and more resilient planet.

Mission LiFE aims to build a global network of Pro-Planet People (P3) who actively practice environmentally responsible behaviour in their daily lives. By supporting the principles of a circular economy and emphasizing behavioural change, the initiative contributes to climate action and sustainable development at both local and global levels.

Its implementation is strengthened through widespread public participation, particularly via Eco Clubs in educational institutions, as well as through the active involvement of government agencies, organizations, and communities. Together, these efforts are fostering long-term environmental stewardship and integrating sustainable living into everyday life.



Plantation Drive and Cleanliness Drive at Wildlife Institute of India campus on World Environment Day, 05 June 2026

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2026, celebrated under the theme **“Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future.”**, the EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, in collaboration with the host institution, organized a series of activities aligned with the vision of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) to promote environmental awareness and sustainable living.

As part of the nationwide campaign **#EkPedMaaKeNaam**, a plantation drive was conducted on the WII campus. A total of 15 Amaltas saplings were planted, symbolizing a shared commitment to environmental stewardship, ecological restoration, and a greener future. The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from the WII fraternity, including the Director, Registrar, faculty members, researchers, officers, staff, and students, reflecting the institution’s collective dedication to environmental conservation.

A cleanliness drive was also organized across various locations within the campus to promote responsible waste management and sustainable lifestyles. Participants were divided into seven groups and assigned to different locations across the institute to undertake the cleaning activities. Working together, they reinforced the importance of collective action in creating and maintaining a healthy, clean, and environmentally responsible campus.



Activities under Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)

These activities embodied the spirit of Mission LiFE by encouraging mindful and sustainable actions in everyday life. The celebrations reaffirmed the commitment of the Wildlife Institute of India and its EIACP Programme Centre to fostering environmentally responsible behaviour and inspiring collective efforts towards climate action, ecological well-being, and a sustainable future. Every small action contributes to building a cleaner, greener, and more resilient planet for future generations.



Plantation Drive at Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, Rajasthan, on World Environment Day, 05 June 2026

To promote environmental stewardship and biodiversity conservation, a plantation drive was organized at Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University (MDSU), Ajmer. Participants planted saplings of Rohida (*Tecomella undulata*), the State Flower of Rajasthan, symbolizing a collective commitment to ecological restoration and a greener future. The activity encouraged students, research scholars, faculty members, and staff to actively contribute towards environmental sustainability and reflected the principles of Mission LiFE through responsible action and community participation.





1. Celebration of World Heritage Day, 18 April 2026

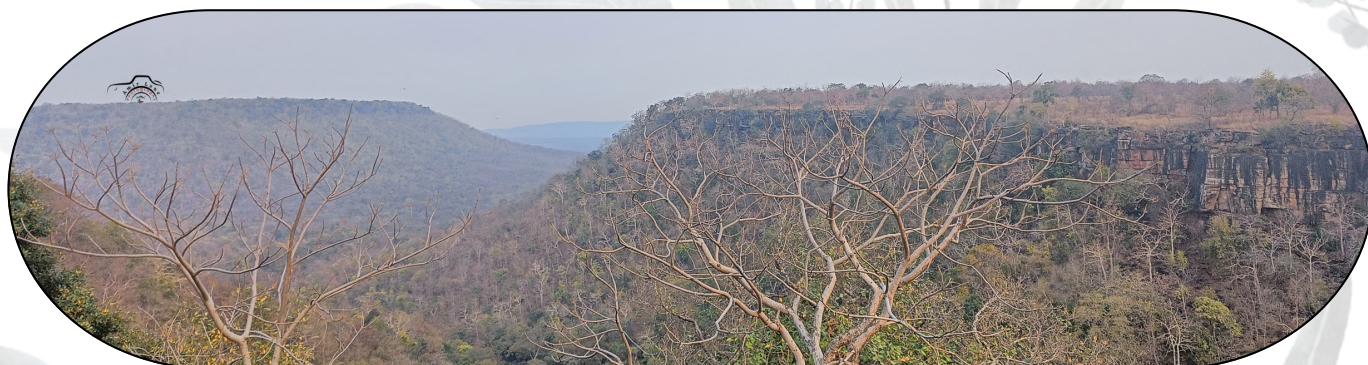
World Heritage Day, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, is observed annually on 18 April to promote the preservation and protection of cultural heritage and historical monuments across the world. The day was established by UNESCO following a proposal by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) to raise public awareness about the importance of safeguarding heritage for future generations. The theme for World Heritage Day 2026, **“Emergency Response for Living Heritage in Contexts of Conflicts and Disasters,”** emphasizes the need to strengthen resilience and develop effective measures to protect cultural heritage sites, traditional knowledge, and living practices from the impacts of conflicts, natural disasters, and other crises.

Heritage Walk on World Heritage Day

To mark the importance of World Heritage Day and to raise awareness about the conservation of cultural and natural heritage, the EIACP Centre commemorated the occasion on 18 April 2026 through a field visit in Madhya Pradesh, covering the Khajuraho Group of Monuments and Pandav Falls. The programme brought together GSDP students, EIACP members, and local community members.

The activity commenced with a heritage walk at Khajuraho, where participants explored the architectural brilliance and historical significance of the monuments. This was followed by a rally organized by the Archaeological Survey of India to promote awareness regarding the preservation and protection of cultural heritage. A pledge ceremony was also conducted, during which participants collectively reaffirmed their commitment to safeguarding India's rich heritage.

The field visit further provided exposure to the natural heritage of the region at Pandav Falls, where participants learned about its ecological significance and biodiversity. The programme highlighted the interconnection between cultural preservation and environmental conservation through experiential learning. Overall, the celebration successfully fostered awareness, responsibility, and active participation towards the protection of both natural and cultural heritage.



2. Celebration of World Earth Day, 22 April 2026

World Earth Day was observed on 22 April 2026 to raise environmental awareness and inspire collective action towards addressing climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. The theme for the year, **"Our Power, Our Planet,"** emphasized the urgent need to accelerate the transition to renewable energy and highlighted the role of individuals and communities in creating a sustainable future.

Awareness Poster Release on World Earth Day

To mark the occasion, the EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, released a series of awareness posters promoting environmental stewardship. The posters encouraged individuals to adopt simple yet impactful actions such as planting and nurturing trees, growing plants at home, conserving water and energy, reducing, reusing, and recycling waste, keeping surroundings clean, avoiding single-use plastics, and choosing sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling, and public transit. They also emphasized the importance of spreading environmental awareness and inspiring others to adopt greener lifestyles.

In addition, the posters highlighted key global environmental challenges, including deforestation, biodiversity loss, species extinction, and ecosystem degradation, while underscoring the role of healthy ecosystems in supporting human well-being and climate resilience. The awareness campaign reinforced the Earth Day 2026 theme, **"Our Power, Our Planet,"** by emphasizing the collective responsibility of individuals and communities in accelerating the transition towards renewable energy and building a more sustainable future for generations to come.





3. Celebration of International Leopard Day, 03 May 2026

International Leopard Day is observed annually on 3 May to raise awareness about the conservation of leopards and their ecological importance. The day brings together researchers, conservationists, and communities to promote efforts aimed at protecting leopard populations and their habitats. It also highlights the vital role of leopards in maintaining healthy ecosystems and encourages collective action towards their long-term conservation.

Awareness Poster Release on International Leopard Day

The EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, released an informative poster on the occasion of International Leopard Day 2026 to raise awareness about the ecological importance and conservation of leopards. The poster depicts leopards as silent and stealthy apex predators and keystone species that play a vital role in maintaining ecosystem balance by regulating prey populations and competing carnivores. It also highlights the nine subspecies of leopards and presents interesting facts about their unique rosette patterns, melanistic forms known as black panthers, remarkable adaptability to diverse habitats, nocturnal behaviour, and exceptional hunting abilities. The initiative aimed to enhance public understanding and appreciation of leopard conservation and to emphasize the importance of protecting these iconic big cats and their habitats.





4. Celebration of World Migratory Bird Day, 09 May 2026

World Migratory Bird Day is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. It has a global outreach and is an effective tool to help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

Awareness Poster Release on World Migratory Bird Day

To mark World Migratory Bird Day 2026 on 9 May, the EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, released an informative awareness poster highlighting the remarkable journeys undertaken by millions of migratory birds across oceans, forests, wetlands, and urban landscapes every year. The poster emphasized the theme “Every Bird Counts – Your Observations Matter,” encouraging public participation in bird monitoring and citizen science initiatives.

The poster also underscored the importance of individual contributions such as photographs, bird checklists, counts, and field observations in helping scientists understand migration patterns, habitat changes, and the threats faced by migratory species. Through this initiative, the Centre aimed to raise awareness about the conservation of migratory birds and inspire communities to actively participate in documenting and protecting avian biodiversity.



5. Celebration of World Bee Day, 20 May 2026

World Bee Day is observed annually on 20 May to raise awareness about the vital role of bees and other pollinators in maintaining healthy ecosystems, ensuring food security, and supporting sustainable development. The day also highlights the growing threats faced by pollinators, including habitat loss, climate change, pesticide use, and environmental degradation.

The theme for World Bee Day 2026, **“Bee Together for People and the Planet: A Partnership That Sustains Us All,”** emphasizes the interconnected relationship between pollinators, people, and nature. It calls for collective action to protect bees and their habitats, recognizing that their well-being is essential for biodiversity conservation, agricultural productivity, and our livelihood.



a) Awareness Poster Release on World Bee Day

To observe World Bee Day 2026 on 20 May, the EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, released an informative awareness poster based on the theme **“Bee Together for People and the Planet: A Partnership That Sustains Us All.”** The poster highlighted the indispensable role of bees and other pollinators in supporting biodiversity, food security, and sustainable livelihoods.

The poster depicted several important facts about bees, including that nearly 80% of flowering plants and around 75% of food crops depend on pollination, and that wild bees contribute significantly to ecosystem health. It also emphasized the alarming decline of pollinator populations worldwide due to habitat loss, pesticide use, climate change, and other environmental pressures.

In addition, the poster promoted simple bee-friendly actions, such as planting native flowering species, providing nesting habitats, and adopting organic and sustainable gardening practices to support pollinator conservation. Through this initiative, the EIACP Centre sought to encourage greater public awareness and collective action towards protecting bees and maintaining healthy ecosystems for people and the planet.

b) Short video message on World Bee Day

To mark the occasion, the EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India developed and disseminated an informative awareness video featuring Mr. Ritesh Kumar Gautam, Scientist C, Wildlife Institute of India. In his address, Mr. Gautam highlighted the crucial role of bees as primary pollinators that support the reproduction of nearly 75% of the world's flowering plants, and a significant proportion of food crops, thereby contributing to biodiversity conservation, agricultural productivity, and global food security.

The video also emphasized the growing threats to bee populations, including habitat loss, climate change, excessive pesticide use, pollution, and invasive species. It underscored the urgent need for collective action through pollinator-friendly practices such as planting native flowering plants, conserving natural habitats, reducing the use of harmful pesticides, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. The awareness video concluded with a call for individual and community participation in protecting bees and other pollinators, recognizing their vital contribution to ecosystem health and human well-being.



For more details visit link:
<https://youtu.be/tcw7C2BA8pQ>



6. celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity, 22 May 2026

The International Day for Biological Diversity is observed annually on 22 May to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity and to promote actions for its conservation and sustainable use. Biodiversity encompasses the variety of life on Earth, including plants, animals, microorganisms, and the ecosystems that support them, playing a vital role in maintaining ecological balance, food security, human well-being, and climate resilience.

The theme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2026, **“Acting Locally for Global Impact,”** emphasized the significance of community-driven initiatives and local conservation efforts in achieving global biodiversity goals and reversing biodiversity loss. The theme highlighted that collective actions at the local level can contribute substantially to protecting ecosystems, restoring habitats, and ensuring a sustainable future for both people and nature.

(a) Awareness Poster Release

To mark the occasion, the EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, released a series of informative posters highlighting the importance of biodiversity conservation, the role of local communities in safeguarding natural resources, and the need for individual and collective action to address global environmental challenges. The initiative aimed to inspire greater public awareness and participation in conserving the rich biological heritage of the planet.

Day 01 : Biodiversity The Web of Life Around Us, 19 May 2026

The poster depicts biodiversity as the “Web of Life Around Us” and emphasizes the theme “Acting Locally for Global Impact.” It explains that biodiversity encompasses the variety of life on Earth, including plants, animals, fungi, microorganisms, and the ecosystems they form. The poster highlights the three key components of biodiversity - species diversity, ecosystem diversity, and genetic diversity and illustrates their role in maintaining ecological balance and resilience. It also underscores the importance of biodiversity in supporting food and water security, pollination, soil fertility, healthy ecosystems, and climate adaptation, conveying the message that local conservation actions can collectively create a significant global impact.

Day 02: Acting Locally for Global Impact, 20 May 2026

The poster depicts the theme of International Day for Biological Diversity 2026, “Acting Locally for Global Impact,” emphasizing that small actions



undertaken by individuals, institutions and communities can collectively contribute to global biodiversity conservation. It showcases practical measures such as reducing single-use plastics, carrying reusable bags and bottles, planting native species, keeping habitats clean, and avoiding disturbance to wildlife.

The poster further highlights how local actions lead to positive community outcomes, including cleaner surroundings, responsible behaviour, and enhanced protection of forests, wetlands, and other ecosystems.

By illustrating the connection between local conservation efforts and broader biodiversity goals, the poster conveys the message that individual and collective actions at the grassroots level are essential for creating a sustainable future and achieving global environmental impact.

Day 03 : Small Species, Big Role, 21 May 2026

The poster depicts the significant ecological contributions of small species through the theme “Small Species, Big Role: Tiny Lives, Massive Ecological Impact.” It highlights the essential functions performed by organisms such as bees and butterflies, frogs, spiders, microbes, ants, earthworms, and fungi in maintaining ecosystem health and balance.

The poster illustrates how these species support pollination, soil fertility, pest control, nutrient cycling, decomposition, seed dispersal, and wetland health, emphasizing that even the smallest organisms play indispensable roles in sustaining biodiversity. It also promotes local conservation actions, including reducing pesticide use, protecting native plants, keeping soils and wetlands clean, avoiding single-use plastics, and preventing disturbances to small wildlife. The poster conveys the message that protecting small species through local actions can create meaningful global impacts for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem resilience.

Day 04 : Native Species Matter, 22 May 2026

The poster depicts the importance of native species in maintaining local ecological balance and promoting long-term biodiversity conservation under the message “Local Species, Local Balance, Global Impact.” It highlights how native plants and animals are naturally adapted to local environmental conditions, support pollinators such as bees and butterflies, provide nesting and resting spaces for wildlife, improve habitat quality, and strengthen ecosystem resilience.

The poster also contrasts the benefits of native species with the challenges posed by invasive and exotic species, which can disrupt local biodiversity, spread aggressively, and require greater resource inputs. It encourages practical local actions such as planting and protecting native species, conserving old trees and natural vegetation, supporting local plant nurseries, and avoiding invasive ornamental



plants. The poster conveys that protecting native species is a simple yet effective local action that can generate lasting positive impacts on biodiversity at the global level.

Day 05 : Protected Areas Safeguarding Biodiversity, 23 May 2026

The poster depicts the vital role of protected areas in conserving biodiversity and maintaining ecological balance. It highlights how protected landscapes safeguard wildlife and plant species, preserve critical habitats such as forests, wetlands, grasslands, and rivers, and contribute to water security, carbon storage, and climate resilience. The poster also emphasizes the importance of protected areas in supporting nature education, responsible tourism, and sustainable livelihoods for local communities.

Further, the poster encourages responsible local actions, including avoiding littering, not feeding or disturbing wildlife, staying on designated trails, and promoting eco-tourism practices. It conveys the message that while protected areas serve as strongholds for biodiversity conservation, responsible behaviour and community participation are essential for maintaining their ecological integrity and ensuring long-term benefits for both people and nature.

b) International Day for Biological Diversity, 22 May 2026 Celebrated at College of Forestry, VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture & Forestry, Ranichauri, Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand

The EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, in collaboration with the College of Forestry, VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture & Forestry, Ranichauri, Tehri Garhwal; Uttarakhand Biodiversity Board; Centre for Sustainable Ecology and Biodiversity Research; Department of Bioscience, Graphic Era University; and Amber Foundation, celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May 2026 at the College of Forestry campus, Ranichauri, Tehri Garhwal.

Organized under the global theme, "Acting Locally for Global Impact," the programme brought together students, researchers, and faculty members to promote awareness about biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, traditional knowledge, and food security.



The programme began with introductory remarks by Dr. J.C. Kuniyal, Head of Department, VCSG Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Ranichauri and Dr. V.P. Uniyal, Professor at Graphic Era University who emphasized the importance of biodiversity monitoring, community participation, and mountain-sensitive conservation approaches. Expert lectures highlighted biodiversity conservation in the Himalaya, the role of local communities in protecting natural heritage, and the significance of traditional ecological knowledge. A documentary on biodiversity conservation was also screened, followed by an interactive discussion.

The second session featured Shri Bipin Jardhari, Subject Matter Expert, Ranichauri who shared his experiences on traditional seed conservation, indigenous crop varieties, and community-led approaches to food security. The programme concluded with remarks by Dr. Vijay Kumar Yadav, Assistant Professor and a vote of thanks by Mr. Ayan Dutta, Information Officer, EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India.

c) Digital Poster Competition on International Day for Biological diversity

To commemorate the International Day for Biological Diversity 2026, the EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun organized an online Digital Poster Competition on the theme "Acting Locally for Global Impact." The competition encouraged participants to creatively depict the importance of biodiversity conservation and the role of local actions in achieving global environmental goals.

Participants submitted digital posters under sub-themes such as *Local Biodiversity*, *Global Impact*; *Biodiversity Around Us*; *Small Species, Big Role*; *Nature in My Neighbourhood*; and *Native Species Matter*. The entries showcased the significance of conserving local ecosystems, protecting native species, and promoting sustainable practices.

The top three entries were awarded with prizes, while e-certificates were provided to all valid participants. The competition served as an effective platform for fostering environmental awareness and encouraging active engagement in biodiversity conservation, particularly among young citizens.



DIGITAL POSTER COMPETITION



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIODIVERSITY 2026
Acting locally for global impact

22 May 2026

Theme: 'Acting Locally for Global Impact'

Sub-theme (choose any one):

- Local Biodiversity, Global Impact
- Biodiversity Around Us
- Small Species, Big Role
- Nature in My Neighbourhood
- Native Species Matter

Last Date for Submission:
20 May 2026, 5:30 PM IST

Top 3 entries will be awarded
E-certificates for all valid participants

Organised By
EIACP Programme Centre,
Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

MORE INFO



Winners of Digital Poster Competition

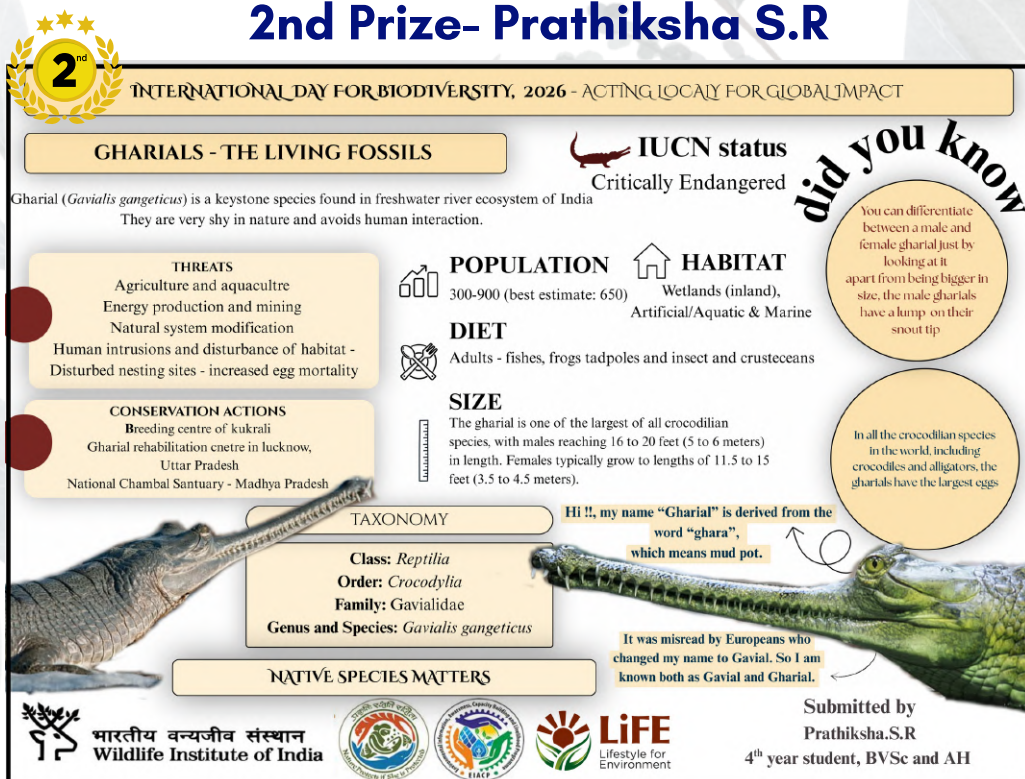
1st Prize- Salvee Thakur



The first prize winning poster, "Small Bee, Big Impact-Honeybees", highlights the indispensable role of bees as pollinators in sustaining biodiversity, food security, and healthy ecosystems. It effectively communicates the ecological significance of honeybees, the major threats they face including habitat loss, pesticide use, and pollution and promotes simple, actionable measures such as planting pollinator-friendly flowers, reducing pesticide use, and raising awareness about pollinator conservation. The poster creatively reinforces the message that protecting small species through local actions can generate significant global benefits for biodiversity conservation, aligning closely with the 2026 theme, "Acting Locally for Global Impact."

2nd Prize- Prathiksha S.R

The second prize winning poster highlights the importance of Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*), a Critically Endangered freshwater crocodilian and keystone species of India's river ecosystems. Through engaging illustrations and informative content, the poster raises awareness about the gharial's ecological importance, biology, conservation status, and the threats it faces. It effectively emphasizes the need to conserve freshwater habitats and protect this unique species, reinforcing the message that local conservation efforts are essential for safeguarding global biodiversity in line with the theme "Acting Locally for Global Impact."



Winners of Digital Poster Competition

2nd Prize- Suman Mallick



Suman Mallick presented an informative poster highlighting the growing threat of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) to native biodiversity and ecosystem health. The poster effectively explains how invasive species outcompete native flora and fauna, disrupt ecological balance, and negatively impact agriculture, forests, wetlands, and wildlife habitats. It also emphasizes the importance of preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species through responsible environmental practices, early detection, public awareness, and community participation. By drawing attention to a significant yet often overlooked conservation issue, the poster reinforces the importance of local action in protecting native biodiversity, in line with the competition theme, "Acting Locally for Global Impact."

3rd Prize- Upasana Pattanayak



The poster, "Safeguarding Native Horseshoe Crabs along the Balasore Coastline of Odisha," highlights the ecological significance of horseshoe crabs as ancient "living fossils" and keystone species that support coastal and estuarine ecosystems. The poster effectively showcases the threats posed by habitat loss, coastal development, pollution, unsustainable fishing practices, and climate change, while emphasizing practical conservation measures such as protecting nesting sites, reducing marine pollution, promoting sustainable fisheries, and strengthening community awareness and long-term monitoring. The poster strongly reflects the competition theme, "Acting Locally for Global Impact," by demonstrating how conserving native coastal species contributes to the protection of global biodiversity.

7. Celebration of World Environment Day, 05 June 2026

World Environment Day is celebrated every year on 05 June to mark the importance of the day. The theme for World Environment Day 2026, **"Inspired by Nature For Climate For Our Future"**, emphasizes the vital role of nature in addressing climate change and building a sustainable future. It highlights the need for ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, clean energy adoption, and sustainable lifestyles to strengthen climate resilience and safeguard the planet. The theme also calls for collective action and global cooperation to protect natural resources and ensure a healthier environment for present and future generations.

a) One-day seminar at Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer, Rajasthan, 05 June 2026

The EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Science and Department of Botany, Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University (MDSU), Ajmer, and with support from the Rajasthan State Biodiversity Board, organized a programme on 05 June 2026 to commemorate World Environment Day. The event promoted environmental awareness, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable lifestyles among students, researchers, and faculty members.

The programme was presided over by Prof. Suresh Kumar Agrawal, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, MDSU, who emphasized the role of educational institutions in fostering environmental stewardship and encouraging youth participation in biodiversity conservation initiatives. Prof. Ashish Bhatnagar delivered the keynote lecture on the concept of the Ecological Footprint, highlighting the importance of responsible consumption, resource efficiency, and environmentally sustainable lifestyles.

An Environmental Quiz Competition on biodiversity conservation and environmental issues was organized as part of the celebration, providing students with an opportunity to enhance their knowledge of contemporary environmental challenges and conservation practices. The event also included a plantation drive, during which participants planted saplings of Rohida (*Tecomella undulata*), the State Flower of Rajasthan, symbolizing a collective commitment to ecological restoration and biodiversity enhancement.

The programme served as an effective platform for promoting environmental responsibility and inspiring participants to adopt sustainable practices for a greener and more resilient future.



b) Only Photography Contest on World Environment Day

To commemorate World Environment Day 2026, the EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, organized an online photography competition under the Mission LiFE initiative on the theme "Say No to Single-Use Plastics." The competition aimed to encourage participants to capture original photographs highlighting climate action, plastic-free lifestyles, responsible environmental behaviour, clean habitats, sustainable practices, protected areas, local ecosystems, and community-led environmental initiatives.

The competition was open to participants from all age groups and professional backgrounds. The entries showcased diverse perspectives on environmental conservation, biodiversity protection, and sustainable living, reflecting a strong commitment towards reducing plastic pollution and promoting eco-friendly practices.

The competition was open to participants from all age groups and professional backgrounds. The entries showcased diverse perspectives on environmental conservation, biodiversity protection, and sustainable living, reflecting a strong commitment towards reducing plastic pollution and promoting eco-friendly practices.

The top three entries were selected for awards, and e-certificates were provided to all eligible participants. Selected photographs will be featured through the outreach activities and social media platforms of the EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India. The competition successfully promoted public participation in environmental conservation and reinforced the importance of individual actions in addressing climate change, reducing single-use plastic consumption, and supporting the objectives of Mission LiFE.

Winners of Photography Competition


Photography Competition Winners


1 1st Prize- Chandra Shekhar S Chauhan	EIACP Programme Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun Photography Competition – Climate Action Through My Lens: Say No to Single-Use Plastics
2 2nd Prize- Sirsendu Gayen	
2 2nd Prize- Harischandra Prasad Vissamsetti	
3 3rd Prize- Shubhabrata Bose	
3 3rd Prize- Satyabrata Samal	


Congratulations to the Winners!



EIACP Centre
Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2026

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Climate Action Through My Lens

'Say No to Single-Use Plastics'

Capture original photographs showing climate action, plastic-free habits, clean habitats, responsible tourism, sustainable lifestyles, or local environmental action.

Top 3 entries will be awarded
E-certificates for all valid participants

Last Date for Submission
02 June 2026 5:30 PM IST

#NowForClimate



REGISTER NOW



1st Prize- Chandra Shekhar S Chauhan



2nd Prize- Sirsendu Gayen



Winner of Photography Competition

Photography Competition – Climate Action Through My Lens: Say No to Single-Use Plastics

2nd Prize- Harischandra Prasad Vissamsetti



3rd Prize- Shubhabrata Bose



3rd Prize- Satyabrata Samal



8. Celebration of World Crocodile Day, 17 June 2026

Observed annually on 17 June, World Crocodile Day 2026 was celebrated under the theme **"Legacy in Every Scale."** The theme highlighted the remarkable evolutionary history of crocodilians, which have survived on Earth for more than 200 million years, and emphasized the importance of conserving these ancient reptiles and their habitats.

The day aimed to raise awareness about the ecological significance of crocodiles, alligators, caimans, gharials, and other crocodilian species, which play a vital role in maintaining the health and balance of wetland and riverine ecosystems. It also drew attention to the threats they face, including habitat degradation, illegal hunting, poaching, pollution, climate change, and human-wildlife conflict.

World Crocodile Day encouraged governments, conservation organizations, researchers, and local communities to strengthen conservation efforts through habitat protection, scientific research, community participation, and sustainable management practices. The observance served as a reminder that safeguarding crocodilians and their ecosystems is essential for preserving biodiversity and ensuring ecological resilience for future generations.

Awareness Poster Release on World Crocodile Day

To commemorate World Crocodile Day 2026, the EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, released an informative poster titled "Guardians of Wetlands and Rivers" to raise awareness about the ecological importance and conservation of crocodilians.

The poster highlighted crocodiles as apex predators and keystone species that play a crucial role in maintaining the health and balance of freshwater rivers, wetlands, estuaries, and coastal ecosystems. It emphasized their contribution to regulating prey populations, supporting biodiversity, and sustaining ecological processes.

The poster also provided information on the 26 recognized crocodilian species found across the world, including crocodiles, alligators, caimans, and gharials, and highlighted the conservation status of India's Critically Endangered Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*).

It drew attention to major threats faced by crocodilians, such as habitat degradation, freshwater pollution, illegal hunting and wildlife trade, human-wildlife conflict, and climate change.

In addition, the poster encouraged individuals to protect wetlands and river ecosystems, reduce pollution, support conservation initiatives, respect crocodile habitats, and report illegal wildlife activities. The poster promoted responsible environmental behaviour and strengthened public awareness about the need to conserve crocodilians and their habitats for future generations.





9. Celebration of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, 17 June 2026

The United Nations Desertification and Drought Day is observed annually on 17 June to raise awareness about land degradation, desertification, and the sustainable management of natural resources. The 2026 global theme, **"Rangelands: Recognize. Respect. Restore."**, highlighted the urgent need to conserve and restore rangelands that support the livelihoods, food security, and climate resilience of nearly two billion people worldwide.

The theme emphasized the ecological importance of grasslands, savannas, shrublands, and pastures, which provide essential ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, water regulation, and sustainable grazing resources. It also called attention to the growing threats posed by land degradation, overgrazing, climate change, and unsustainable land-use practices.

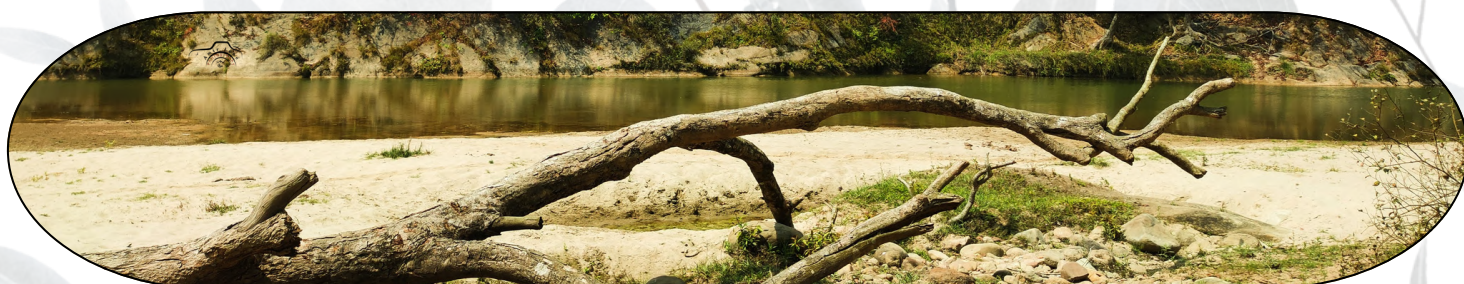
Desertification and Drought Day 2026 encouraged governments, communities, and individuals to adopt sustainable land management practices, restore degraded landscapes, and strengthen local stewardship to ensure healthy and productive rangelands for present and future generations. To commemorate the day, the EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, released two informative posters highlighting the importance of combating desertification and drought.

Awareness Poster Release on World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

Poster 1 : El Niño – A Climate Phenomenon That Fuels Droughts, Drives Desertification, and Impacts Lives

The poster highlights the impacts of El Niño, emphasizing how changing climate patterns affect ecosystems, biodiversity, food security, and human livelihoods. It explains that rising temperatures, reduced rainfall, water scarcity, agricultural losses, changes in marine ecosystems, and increased wildfire risks contribute significantly to environmental degradation and the expansion of desertification.

The poster depicts the importance of restoring degraded lands, conserving water resources, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, planting native vegetation, and encouraging community-led land management to enhance resilience against drought and desertification. It also reinforces the Mission LiFE message, "Our Land. Our Future. Our Responsibility.", inspiring collective action to protect, restore, and sustainably manage ecosystems for a more resilient future.



Poster 2 : Rangelands: Recognize Respect Restore

The poster highlights the importance of rangelands as vital ecosystems that support biodiversity conservation, food and water security, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods. It explains that grasslands, savannas, shrublands, deserts, alpine meadows, wetlands, and floodplains together cover a significant portion of the Earth's land surface and sustain millions of people and wildlife worldwide.

The poster depicts the major threats to rangelands, including land degradation, overgrazing, climate change, water scarcity, and biodiversity loss, while emphasizing the need for sustainable land management, restoration of degraded landscapes, conservation of native vegetation, and responsible use of land and water resources. It also encourages community participation in protecting and restoring rangelands, reinforcing the Mission LiFE message, "Our Land. Our Future. Our Responsibility," and promoting collective action towards resilient ecosystems and sustainable development.



Workshops

1. One-day module on Human–Wildlife Conflict Management & Conservation under MCT Phase–III (18) for IFS Officers, 03 June 2026

The EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, in collaboration with the host institute and Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy, conducted a module of the Mid-Career Training Phase-III (18) Course for Indian Forest Service officers on Human-Wildlife Conflict Management and Conservation Programmes on 03 June 2026 at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Dr. Ramesh Chinnasamy, Course Coordinator, Scientist-E and Coordinator EIACP Centre, WII, followed by the inaugural address by Dr. Gobind Sagar Bhardwaj, IFS, Director, WII, who emphasized the importance of science-based approaches for managing human-wildlife interactions. An overview of the activities and conservation initiatives of the Wildlife Institute of India was also presented.

Technical sessions covered species recovery programmes for dugongs and river dolphins, highlighting habitat conservation and ongoing research efforts. A session on human-wildlife conflict management focused on key issues, emerging challenges, and future strategies for promoting coexistence.

The training also included a field practical on forensic investigation of injuries in human-wildlife conflict situations and demonstration of sample collection methods. Participants further received hands-on exposure to animal capture techniques used in managing human-wildlife conflicts. The programme concluded with a panel discussion on advances and critical perspectives in human-wildlife conflict management, bringing together experts and practitioners from the wildlife sector.

The training provided valuable scientific insights and practical knowledge, strengthening the capacity of forest officers to address human-wildlife conflicts through evidence-based and collaborative conservation approaches.



2. IGNFA Elective Module: Three days Module on Managing Human Wildlife Coexistence in Agriculture Landscapes for IFS probationers 29 June 2026 to 01 July 2026

The EIACP Centre, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, in collaboration with the host institute, organized a three-day IGNFA Elective Module on "Managing Human–Wildlife Coexistence in Agriculture Landscapes" from 29 June to 1 July 2026 at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The module was coordinated by Dr. Ramesh Chinnasamy, Scientist-E and Coordinator EIACP Centre, WII, with Dr. Amarjeet Kaur, Scientist-C, WII and EIACP Co-Coordinator. The programme was attended by Indian Forest Service (IFS) Probationers.

The training programme aimed to strengthen participants understanding of human-wildlife conflict management through an integrated landscape approach. The sessions covered the drivers and patterns of human-wildlife conflict, species-specific conflict management involving bears, herbivores, large carnivores, and reptiles, as well as the impacts of land-use change on wildlife and local communities.

Expert lectures and interactive discussions highlighted community-based conflict mitigation measures, emergency and crowd management in human-wildlife interface zones, legal and administrative frameworks, policy gaps, and practical approaches for effective conflict management. The programme also included role-play exercises, case studies, guided discussions, and thematic presentations by officer trainees, providing opportunities for experiential learning and knowledge exchange.

Special sessions on media engagement in human-wildlife conflict management and managing wildlife in human-dominated landscapes further enhanced participants understanding of communication strategies and adaptive management approaches. The module concluded with reflections, self-assessment, and discussions on participant commitments towards promoting sustainable coexistence between people and wildlife.

The programme provided valuable scientific insights and practical exposure, strengthening the capacity of future forest managers to address conservation challenges and implement effective human-wildlife coexistence strategies in agricultural and human-dominated landscapes.



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