

ZOO OUTREACH ORGANISATION ACTIVITY REPORT APR 2020 TO MAR 2021







CONSERVATION

STUDY OF MATERNAL /INFANT PERSONALITY IN BONNET MACAQUES

Objectives:

1. Investigate the impact of becoming a mother on female personality in bonnet macaques.
2. Explore determinants of variation in maternal care in wild population of bonnet macaques.
3. Test for links between maternal behaviour and infant personality development.

Activities:

- Birth season in bonnet macaques usually starts January until May, and last year, 25 infants were born in two groups. Unfortunately, 13 of them died before 2021, which is twice more than in previous years. Higher infant mortality in comparison to previous year, may be related to lockdown due to pandemic situation, and therefore, less anthropogenic food available for monkeys.
- In 2020, we collected 1795 min. of behavioural observations from 35 females, focusing on mother-infant relation, and their interactions with other group members.
- In 2021, the data collection in Thenmala is continuing, and presently we are also working on the manuscripts.
- At the end of March, we had to temporarily stop our work in Thenmala. In the meantime, new infants are being born in our study groups.

Partners: Prof. Mewa Singh (Mysore University, India), Prof. Lynne Isbell (University of California Davis, US), Zoo Outreach Organisation

PI: Malgorzata Arlet, PhD

Supported by: Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan



Supported by

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UNIVERSITY
IN POZNAŃ

INDIA'S ICHTHYOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS – PAST AND FUTURE

Objectives:

1. Support researchers to boost the collection of new fish species, capitalising on a wave of new species discoveries emerging from previously unknown underground / subterranean habitats in Kerala part of the Western Ghats.

Activities:

1. Subterranean Fish Surveys: Systematic surveys were carried out throughout the lateritic regions in the State of Kerala covering all major districts, Kannur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Thiruvananthapuram.

2. Molecular Genetic Analysis: Mitochondrial Col and cytb sequences were generated for the selected species of subterranean fishes of Kerala

Outcomes:

1. Improved information on the distribution of the members of five genera of subterranean fishes of Kerala

2. A potentially new species of Pangio – analysis and preparation of manuscript ongoing

3. The first phylogenetic analysis of the subterranean Synbranchid eels (genus: Ophichthys and Rakthamichthys) of Western Ghats – manuscript in preparation

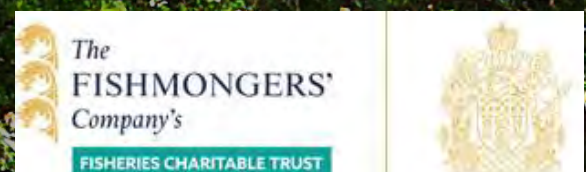
4. Existence of several cryptic species of Horaglanis from the subterranean wells of Kerala – manuscript on barcoding and cryptic species in preparation

5. Draft IUCN Red List assessments for all subterranean fish species of Kerala prepared and being reviewed

PI: Rajeev Raghavan & Sanjay Molur

Supported by:

Simon Birch - The Fishmongers' Company's





ARTICLES
8 (110pp)

COMMUNICATIONS
116 (1,380pp)

REVIEW
4 (69pp)

CONSERVATION APPLICATION
1 (9pp)

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS
59 (405pp)

NOTES
77 (305pp)

MONOGRAPH
4 (228pp)

BOOK REVIEW
1 (2pp)

CORRIGENDUM
1 (2pp)

EDITORIAL
2 (11pp)

ADDENDA
1 (3pp)

BUILDING EVIDENCE FOR CONSERVATION GLOBALLY!



17

issues published

2524

pages published

274

publications

The Journal of Threatened Taxa (JoTT) is an open access and print, peer reviewed monthly (not including special edition, supplementary and monographs), rapid, international journal for conservation and taxonomy. JoTT is a platform for quick and timely publication of research findings, reviews and other aspects of science related to conservation and taxonomy including subject areas like ecology, behavior, physiology, methodology, veterinary, diseases, management, and models among others. JoTT encourages professional and amateur upcoming scientists from around the world to publish. The journal provides assistance and mentors first time writers, or writers of non-native English language countries in presenting science to the world. **JoTT is published by Wildlife Information Liaison Development and Zoo Outreach Organisation hosts and supports the journal.**





EDUCATION
OUTREACH

HUMAN-ELEPHANT COEXISTENCE – PREVENTION AND MITIGATION OF CONFLICT

Title:

Human-Elephant Coexistence workshop and programs in North Bengal:
Prevention and Mitigation of Conflict

Objectives

1. To educate target groups viz., educators and local community, about the issue of Human-Elephant Conflict and need for coexistence
2. To reduce Human-Elephant Conflict by conveying positive attitudes and effective preventative and practical behavior
3. To expand educators network in North Bengal

Activities

- Human-Elephant Coexistence HECx – getting along with elephants workshop was organized at Chalsa, Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal.
- Thirty two educators such as school and college teachers, NGOs, Research scholars interested in education, forest department personnel, and individuals interested in wildlife took part in the three day program.
- The teaching guide and ele-kit packets in Bengali were used during the workshop. The same were also provided to the participants in bulk number to do awareness programs immediately after the training.

Results:

A total of 35 people were trained and the trainees reached out to about 1500 people who live in tea gardens immediately after the training.

Partners: SPOAR, HNAF and West Bengal Forest Department

PI: B.A. Daniel

Supported by: Asian Elephant Support



ASIAN ELEPHANT
SUPPORT

HOOLOCK GIBBON CONSERVATION

Title: Hoolock Gibbon Conservation in the Protected Areas of Tripura, Northeast India through Training and Education.

Objective:

The primary objective is ensure long-term conservation of Hoolock Gibbon and its habitat by engendering well-trained, skilled and motivated frontline staff and conservation educators.

Activities:

- Two capacity building trainings each for three days will be conducted for forest frontline staff.
- Two teaching of trainers workshops will be conducted each for three days using Hoolock Gibbon Conservation as a theme.

Progress:

Recently funded project and the project activities will be pending due to Corona Pandemic.

Impacts: Sixty (60) forest frontline staff and Sixty (60) educators will be trained through the project.

Partner: Tripura Forest Department

PI: R. Marimuthu

Supported by: US Fish & Wildlife Service





ZOO'S PRINT

COMMUNICATING SCIENCE FOR CONSERVATION

12

issues

569

pages

109

articles

- Reptile Rap # 8 (28pp)
- Bugs R All # 8 (44pp)
- SMM # 8 (21pp)
- Plantasia # 4 (13pp)
- Tidbits # 4 (3pp)
- Bird-o-soar # 33 (165pp)
- End the trade # 1 (1p)
- Vet Brief # 3 (14pp)
- Field Report # 3 (6pp)
- ZOO activities # 1 (2pp)
- Froleg # 3 (12pp)
- Ex situ # 1 (6pp)
- Mammal Tales # 11 (40pp)
- General Articles # 8 (171pp)
- Wild Young Minds # 1 (1p)
- Book Review # 5 (9pp)
- Announcements # 4 (4pp)
- Corrigenda # 1 (3pp)
- Highlight # 1 (24pp)
- Wild Vibes # 1 (2pp)





COMMUNITY

PROJECT KAZHIRU

Title: Targeting to achieve zero mortality in HEC areas in partnership with Tamil Nadu Forest department.

Objectives:

1. To educate stakeholders to modify livelihood / lifestyle methods incompatible that are incompatible in HEC areas.
2. To educate local bodies representatives in developing safety protocols in conflict areas.
3. To plan and organize mass awareness programmes for the community in HECx in conflict prone areas of Coimbatore forest range.

Activities:

1. Eight (8) one-day training programmes
2. Mass HECx awareness programmes were conducted during October and November

Progress:

The stakeholder awareness programme is pending due to Corona Pandemic. The same will be conducted in the upcoming year.

Results/Impacts:

- 5000 students, teachers and community people were benefitted through the mass awareness programmes.
- Through the one day training about 250 line department staff will be made them understand the HEC issues and the need for HECx and eventually make them to help forest department activities.

Partners: Nature Conservation Society, Tamil Nadu Forest Department, District Administration, School Education Department and Department of Environment

PI: R. Marimuthu

Supported by : U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, USA

இசைந்து வாழ்தல்

வீதி நாடகம் HECx - Street Play

HUMAN-ELEPHANT COEXISTENCE

Title: Human Elephant Coexistence HECx - Advocating through awareness programmes in Tamil Nadu

Objectives:

I. To bring the attitudinal change among the community and school children.

Activities:

- Street plays themed on Human Elephant Coexistence will be performed in Burgur hills of Erode Forest Division.
- Five school awareness programmes on HECx

Progress:

Sixteen street plays (16) were conducted in March 2021 and the school awareness programmes are pending due to Corona Pandemic.

Impacts:

- Through the street plays, three thousand (3000) villagers were reached out on the necessity of Human Elephant Coexistence.
- About 500 plus students taught about HECx through school awareness programmes.

Partners: Chief Education Officer, Erode Dist., District Co-ordinator, National Green Corps, Erode Dist., District Eco-club Coordinator, Erode, District Education Officer, Gobichettipalayam, Tamil Nadu Forest Department

PI: R. Marimuthu

Donor: International Elephant Foundation, USA

ZOOREACH NEWS

Zoo Outreach Organisation &
Wildlife Information Liaison Development
present



The Sally Walker Lifetime Award for Conservation

to
Dr. Lala Aswini Kumar Singh

for
outstanding and dedicated
service to Indian wildlife

Executive Director

12 October 2020



Sally Walker, our Founder, spent 40 years of her life volunteering for wildlife conservation and better zoo management; most of that time living in India and working selflessly for the cause.

She initiated and established several key actions and contributed immensely to the objectives of conservation. In honour of her innumerable and tremendous service to zoos, wildlife, India, South Asia, and the world, we announced the Sally Walker Conservation Fund at Zoo Outreach Organization to continue key areas of her interest.

It gives us great pleasure to award the first The Sally Walker Lifetime Award for Conservation to Dr. L.A.K. Singh (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6973-7006>) who have done you a tremendous contributions to wildlife. For the last 40 years he has been an active 'Researcher' on wildlife and biodiversity.

VISHAL AHUJA

LOCATION
Chamba Valley, Chamba district,
Himachal Pradesh

OCCUPATION
Project Assistant,
Wildlife Information Liaison
Development Society

NOMINATED BY
Payal B. Molur, Wildlife Educator

A resident of Chamba Valley, Vishal was hired by the Himalayan Grey Langur Project when it received the Conservation Leadership Award in 2012, and receives limited support from Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society. For the past eight years, he has been documenting the wild dietary preferences of the Himalayan grey

langur, rhesus macaque and Himalayan black bear in the fragmented landscape around Khajjiar-Kalatop Wildlife Sanctuary. He has observed that the lack of adequate habitat has resulted in increased human-wildlife interactions, such as crop-raiding of agricultural fields and accidental attacks by bears.

With support from SNF, Vishal seeks to initiate a long-term habitat restoration project that will include setting up a native plant nursery, collecting and germinating wild native plants, and rewilding abandoned terraced farmlands with the consent and support of the landowners. Dedicated, passionate and diligent, Vishal is a wonderful community liaison. He believes his project will ultimately provide food and habitat to wild species, while reducing crop depredation. Vishal's work will be guided by Dr. Sanjay Molur, Executive Director, Zoo Outreach Organisation.



COURTESY: VISHAL AHUJA

SANCTUARY ASIA WILDLIFE SERVICE AWARD 2020



We, at Zooreach, are proud to share that Dr. Sanjay Molur, Executive Director, Zoo Outreach Organization, has received Sanctuary Asia's prestigious 'Wildlife Service Award 2020' <<https://fb.watch/3njoFS7Fw1/>> for his pioneering work in the field of wildlife conservation for over a quarter of a century.

We also take this opportunity to thank all our supporters, funders, associates, and well-wishers for being there with us through thick and thin. If you share our love for wildlife, please support our work. ~ Zooreach Team





