WILDLIFE INFORMATION LIAISON DEVELOPMENT

ACTIVITY REPORT 2023-2024
RESEARCH AND
CONSERVATION
BUILDING EVIDENCE FOR CONSERVATION GLOBALLY!

12 issues published
2092 pages published
232 publications

THE JOURNAL OF THREATENED TAXA

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. Wildlife Information Liaison Development publishes JoTT, and Zoo Outreach Organisation hosts and supports the journal.
ARTICLES

36 (568pp)

BOOK REVIEW

1 (2pp)

COMMUNICATION

121 (1205pp)

EDITORIAL

1 (2pp)

NOTES

151 (43pp)

REVIEWS

2 (20pp)

SHORT COMMUNICATION

27 (129pp)
HIMALAYAN LANGUR PROJECT & HIMALAYAN RESTORATION PROJECT

PURPOSE

Himalayan Langur & Restoration Project brings coexistence between humans and wildlife by training the communities and women self-help groups with eco-based adaptations along the mid elevations of western Himalaya to restore the highly degraded forests with native plants, provide ecology-based livelihoods to communities, create corridors for wildlife, and mitigate negative interactions.

NURSERY

- Construction of rain shed and fencing for protections from cattle & goats.
- Sowed around 2220 seeds of diverse species. Soil preparation and treatment for 3500 Quercus leucotrichophora seeds.
- 308 Himalayan Poplar Populas ciliate, 460 Walnut Julans regia, 256 Celtis australis, 117 Plum Prunus armeniaca, 180 Soapnut Sapindus mukoros, and 100 wild Pear Pyrus pashia, Horse Chestnut Aesculus indica, and Grewia optiva saplings have been germinated or propagated.
- Regular seed collection, weeding, & counting of germinated saplings.
- Collected 203 Aesculus indica seeds and approximately 1000 Celtis australis seeds.

COMMUNITY

- The village panchayat head of Rathiyar has committed to a project involving seven wards, 28 villages, and 538 families. The project requires 860 ha of farmable land. Support from Pradhan and Principal of Rajkiya Varisht Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Chamba, and, and 5-year Himachal Pradesh Forest Department approval. On March 21, 2024, the Himalayan Restoration Project began.
- Prepared map of Rathiyar panchayat
- Perception studies & crop damage assessment in Rathiyar panchayat villages.
- Discussions with women self-help groups in 3 villages.
HIMALAYAN LANGUR PROJECT & HIMALAYAN RESTORATION PROJECT

FIELD WORK

- Behavior studies of Chamba sacred langur.
- Study on people's dependency on forest products and livelihood.
- Recording a photographic list of plant species, List of plant species fed upon by langurs & Nativity list of species in the area.
- Designing a tourist awareness board.
- Labeling and arranging herbarium sheets.
- Setting up camera traps with the forest department.
- Survival count of saplings (~576).
- Perception studies and crop damage assessment data.
- 2nd langur census conducted in Kalatop Khajjiar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- 10+ publications in Zoos Print in the past 1 year.
- Collected 5000+ native seeds for propagation and plantation.
- Surveyed and selected areas for plantation in 2024.

NALLUSAMY WETLAND RESTORATION

OBJECTIVES

- Baseline biodiversity assessment.
- Master planning for canal and check dam reservoir restoration.
- Education outreach for local communities.
- Volunteer programs and talk series for Bosch Global Software Technologies Pvt. Ltd (Bosch) employees.

ACTIVITIES

- Rapid biodiversity assessments (30+ birds, 120+ invertebrates, 120+ plants of which 70% are native, 15+ reptiles and amphibians, 2 fish species (both non-native) and 4 mammals).
- Networking with local NGO partners.
- Community surveys.
- Outreach programs in Keeranatham model school.
- 3 Educator training workshops for local NGO partners, Bosch employees, and community leaders/teachers.

RESULTS

- Training of 60 NGO members and Bosch employees in education techniques and they were provide educational packets to conduct their own programmes.
- Profile of species based on wetlands and waterbodies.
- Collaborative approach to wetland restoration with stakeholder involvement.
- Sensitization of 1076 Bosch employees about restoration and biodiversity conservation through 12 online talk series and 2 trips to Nilgiri Biosphere Nature Park visit.
- Clean-up drive conducted with local stakeholders and Bosch volunteers. About 200 kg of non-degradable garbage was removed from the wetland and segregated into plastic, glass and metal to ensure recycling.

Sponsor: Bosch Global Software Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
Local NGO partners: RAAC, Kowsiga Neerkarangal, Recompose Recyclers.

CSR initiative by

BOSCH
ASSESSMENT

- Redlisting of Tiger beetles – The data compilation of the tiger beetles, that are primarily endemic to the forests of the Western Ghats mountains of the southwest, and the forested highlands of northeastern India, and the mapping are completed. The Redlist workshop to assess the status is scheduled to be held in June 2024. The results will be uploaded on the IUCN Red List website (www.iucnredlist.org) and will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Global Red List assessments of 60+ Tarantula species in India targeted for completion by 2024. The Redlist workshop is schedule to be held in July 2024. Compilation of data and the experts for the workshop is over.

ACTIVITIES

- Recce survey to Mutton, Chinnamutton, Colachel, Thoothukudi, Thengapattinam & Mangalore harbours to conduct landing surveys harbours to assess trawling impacts on marine invertebrates and to document species diversity.
- Invertebrate surveys at Nallusamy Check Dam, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, recording 150+ species.
- Highlighted the need for marine invertebrate conservation at the 1OCEAN Conference-cum-Workshop for educators in Coimbatore.

EDUCATION

AND OUTREACH
RAM HATTIKUDUR ADVANCED TRAINING IN CONSERVATION (RHATC)

The RHATC course is developed to address a big lacuna in the system that connects conservation with daily life living. It prepares successful and holistic conservation leaders irrespective of their gender, educational, social, & economic status. It builds leaders to take up conservation as a career standing on the shoulder of giants in their field. It is a unique course which looks at practical aspects of conservation, situational challenges, cooperative works, inclusive thought processes, ethics and practice, democratic and objective decision making, application of science, etc.

The program is dedicated to the memory of Ram Hattikudur and Sally Walker. The course bridges the gap between theory & conservation action. This year was the third successful year. The theme of the third course was grassland ecosystem conservation.

- Ten Fellows selected from diverse regions across India.
- Included workshops, field visits, and interactive sessions with conservation experts.
- Topics covered included wildlife conservation, grassland restoration, wetland conservation, IUCN Red-list assessments, policies, food security, freshwater biodiversity, conservation biology principles, small mammal conservation, and human-wildlife coexistence.
- Other skills covered include nature guiding, conservation education, filmmaking, fundraising, and grant writing.
- Interacted with 60 Mentors, 27 Resource People, 5 Leaders, 24 Field Assistants/contacts, 6 Alumni Interactions, and 32 organizations working on conservation issues.
- Published special edition of Zoo's Print and developed the grassland education packet.
- Concluded with a 15-day practical field challenge mentorship period with The Grassland Trust where the fellows worked on specific projects related to grassland restoration, poultry waste management, ecotourism, Dhangars, and wildlife monitoring.

**Sponsor:** Sanjay Manohar Family & Friends, Coromandel International Limited, Mansukhani Family, and RHATC alumni & many individuals through Ketto Online Ventures platform.
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