



Upamanyu Chakraborty



Siwa R.

Vantage point...

Current Protected Area Network of India

(Position as on June 30, 2018)

National Parks – 104; Area 40501.03 km² (1.23%)
Wildlife Sanctuaries – 551; Area 119775.80 km² (3.64%)
Conservation Reserves – 88*; Area 4356.49 km² (0.13%)
Community Reserves – 127; Area 525.22 km² (0.02%)
Total – 869; Area 165158.54 km² (5.02%)

*Khetri Bansyal Conservation Reserve in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan (area 70.18 sq km)

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- Annual Research Seminar



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Around the Campus

Training Workshop on Wildlife Techniques and Wildlife Conservation, Dehradun, 3-8th April, 2019.

A training workshop on 'Wildlife Techniques and Wildlife Conservation' for the students of Serampore College, University of Calcutta, and University of Burdwan was organised at WII. Twelve students accompanied by Dr. S. Banerjee, Assistant Professor, Serampore College participated in the training program. Both presentations and hands-on training was given on different tools and techniques such as trail transect, point count, sampling of macro-invertebrates, radio-telemetry and camera trapping. The participants were trained in use of different software, such as Distance, Presence and Mark. Students were also exposed to the wildlife forensic techniques, use of Drone in wildlife studies, GIS and M-STrIPES software. The students underwent a field visit to Rajaji National Park and Tiger Reserve. Day-to-day assessments of the students on the training imparted were carried out.

Wildlife Restraint and Immobilization Workshop with Special Reference to Elephants and Carnivores, Dehradun, 15-20th April, 2019.

A six-day field workshop was jointly organized by Wildlife Institute of India together with Tsavran Pharmaceuticals Limited, South Africa and Estonian University of Life Sciences, Estonia. The workshop was aimed at sensitizing the participants on variety of aspects related to wild animal capture including field demonstration of advanced techniques in wild animal capture and post-capture monitoring. A total of 18 veterinary medical professionals, zoo veterinarians, and university veterinary personnel participated in the workshop. The inputs were provided by the subject experts on various themes like Human-wildlife conflict with reference to large carnivores and elephants – systematic vulnerabilities, challenges & options;



Basic pharmacology & physiology; Chemical immobilization of carnivores & ruminants and remote injection systems; Immobilization of an elephant (Captive Elephant Facility); and Immobilization of free ranging deer. The major part of the training programme was conducted in the Rajaji Tiger Reserve.

World Heritage Day Celebrations at WII, 18th April, 2019.

The UNESCO C2C at WII celebrated World Heritage Day (WHD) 2019 by organizing a series of events. An anthology of nature writing, "Wild Treasures: Reflections on Natural World Heritage Sites in Asia" was released in a launch function held at WII. The anthology is a selection of 45 articles on 18 natural World Heritage Sites across Asia. The day's celebrations involved school students from three WHS of India namely, Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks, Uttarakhand; the Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area, Himachal Pradesh; and Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, Rajasthan as well as from Model School, National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (*Divyangjan*), Dehradun. The children participated enthusiastically in a drawing competition and a quiz contest. A cultural function in the evening witnessed performances by students and researchers, featuring traditional dances, songs, and poetry to commemorate the occasion.



Training Workshop on Wildlife Techniques for Frontline staff and Veterinarians of Gangotri-Govind SECURE Himalayan Landscape, Dehradun, 29th April to 1st May 2019.

A training workshop on Wildlife Techniques for Frontline staff and Veterinarians of Gangotri - Govind SECURE Himalayan Landscape, Uttarakhand was held at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. A total of 43 participants including nine veterinary officers of Forest Department of Uttarakhand were

trained on different wildlife monitoring tools and techniques during the three-day training program. The veterinary officers along with the forest staff of Gangotri National Park, Govind Wildlife Sanctuary and Uttarkashi Division were also trained about wildlife veterinary techniques and standard operating procedures for handling conflict situations. The training programme was organised as a part of ongoing "Secure Himalaya" project of the Wildlife Institute of India.

One-week Special Course on Wildlife Protection, Law and Forensic Science for Officer Trainees of Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Central Excise) Group-A, 70th Batch, Dehradun, 6-11th May 2019.

The Wildlife Institute of India conducted this special course for officer trainees of 70th Batch of Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Central Excise) Group-A. A total of 67 IRS Probationers participated in the course. The course provided extensive inputs on forensic science and its relevance in combating wildlife crimes. The officer trainees were taken to the Corbett Tiger Reserve, Ramnagar, where they interacted with the park manager and visited the reserve to understand the challenges in the protection of the animals from the poachers.



International Day for Biological Diversity Celebrated at WII, Dehradun, 22nd May, 2019.

International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) is celebrated every year on a global scale on 22nd May, 2019. This year's celebrations focussed on biodiversity as the foundation for our food and health and a key catalyst to transforming food systems and improving human health. The aim was to leverage knowledge and spread awareness of the dependency of our food systems, nutrition, and health on biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. Wildlife Institute of India organised celebrations in the Institute by reviving the tradition of

drinking '*Nariyal Pani*' instead of the popular aerated drinks. Over 400 officials, staff and researchers participated in the event.

Two-day Training Workshop on Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Protected Areas, Dehradun, 6-7th June, 2019.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India entrusted Wildlife Institute of India (WII) to conduct a 'Training workshop on Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Protected Areas' for Indian Forest Service Officers. A total of 21 IFS Officers attended the training workshop. Apart from technical sessions on MEE Framework, discussions including group work for building convergence between PARIVESH, DSS, MEE and Wildlife Clearances for enhancing Compliance Monitoring was organised for the participants. The workshop received excellent feedback from the participants.

World Environment Day Celebrations, Harsil, 7th June 2019.

World Environment Day 2019 was celebrated at Government Inter College, Harsil, Uttarakhand on 7th June 2019 by Education for Biodiversity Conservation Team of Wildlife Institute of India under the project 'National Mission for Clean Ganga'. This year's theme for World Environment Day was 'Air pollution'. As part of the activities, students and teachers of the Government Inter College, Harsil were sensitized about 'Air Pollution and its Impacts' and were encouraged to get involved in fighting air pollution by introducing minor changes in their daily routine. Plantation drive was carried out by students and teachers. A total of 41 students and 8 teachers participated in the event. The event was also registered under global movement to Beat Air Pollution by United Nations Environment Programme.

Training Programme on 'Strength & Opportunity - Capacity Building' for the Frontline Staff of Nanda Devi & Valley of Flower (VoF) World Heritage Sites, 11-13th June 2019.

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 at WII organized a training programme for frontline staff of both these World Heritage Sites. Fourteen



frontline staff (forest guards and forest rangers) participated in this training. The training included classroom lectures on the overview of Outstanding Universal Values (OUVs) for Natural World Heritage Sites; Nanda Devi World Heritage Site - Criteria & Reporting Obligations; Wildlife Sample Collection and Processing including Wildlife Forensics; Wildlife Population Estimation & Monitoring in Himalayas; Human and Wildlife - Conflict or Interaction; and GIS & GPS. A half-day session on 'Wild Animal Capture Techniques: A Tool for

Wildlife Management' was also organized. The training programme received excellent feedback from the participants.

Two-day Workshop on “Rescue and Rehabilitation Techniques”, Bhagalpur, 18-19th June, 2019.

“Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation Project”, a joint project of the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and National Mission for Clean Ganga has been assigned the responsibility of capacity enhancement of field forest officers in managing emergent situations relating to aquatic wildlife conservation. The Component IV - Rescue and Rehabilitation of the project with active support from Component III and Bihar Forest Department organised a workshop on “Rescue and Rehabilitation Techniques” for field officers of Bhagalpur Forest Division. The objective of the workshop was to sensitize forest personnel on the biological characteristics of aquatic macro-fauna of main stream Ganga River and the various practices used for the effective management of distressed/ displaced animals. The workshop helped to enhance capacities of 33 officers and the frontline staff from various forest divisions of Bihar State.

XL Post Graduate Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management concluded

The 40th PG Diploma Course in Advanced Wildlife Management commenced from 1st September, 2018 and concluded on 30th June 2019. 13 officer trainees of the rank of DCF/ACF from 10 states participated in the course. The Management Term Paper Exercise at Valmiki Tiger Reserve, Bihar from 15-22 April, 2019, and the Management Plan Exercise was conducted at Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Kerala from 13 May - 6 June, 2019. All the Officer Trainees have successfully completed the course. The list of officer trainees who secured awards for their meritorious performance are given below:

Institute's Gold Medal for the 'Top Trainee'; and N R Nair Memorial Silver Medal for 'Best Management Plan' were bagged by Shri Bijo Joy of Rajasthan cadre. The 'Wildlife Preservation Society Silver Medal for the

'Second in Merit' and Silver Medal for the 'Best All Round Wildlifer' were given to Shri Pradyumn Gaurav of Bihar cadre. The Best Management Term Paper A.K. Chatterjee Silver Medal was awarded to Shri S. Vysak from Kerala cadre. The 'Top Trainee' in Wildlife Biology (Book Prize) was given to Ms. Esther Laltankim Serto of Manipur cadre.



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“Whenever we encounter wild animals in nature, we must only ever show kindness and compassion.”

— Paul Oxtan

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