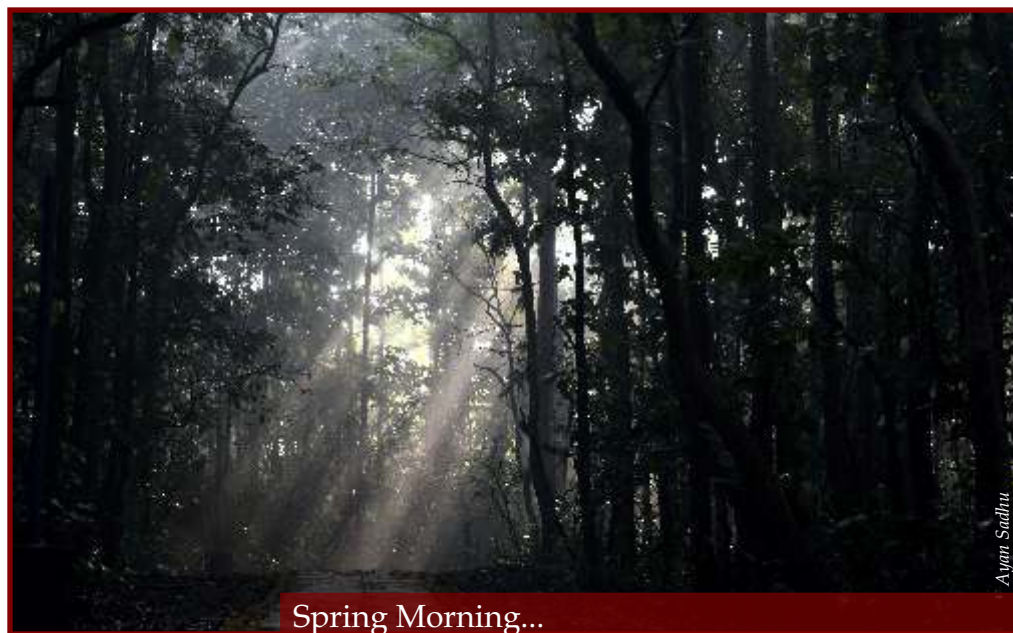


## IN THE ISSUE

- Picture of the Issue
- PA Network
- Around the Campus

## Next Issue

- Workshop on Wildlife Population Estimation
- World Heritage Day
- Second Level National Training Workshop for Spearhead Team
- Wildlife Restraint and Immobilization Workshop



Ayaz Sadhu

## Current Protected Area Network of India

Position as on March 31, 2019

National Parks – 104; Area 40501.03 km<sup>2</sup> (1.23%)  
Wildlife Sanctuaries – 551; Area 119775.80 km<sup>2</sup> (3.64%)  
Conservation Reserves – 87; Area 4286.31 km<sup>2</sup> (0.13%)  
Community Reserves – 127; Area 525.22 km<sup>2</sup> (0.02%)  
**Total – 869; Area 165088.36 km<sup>2</sup> (5.02%)**

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## Around the Campus



### XXXIV Certificate Course in Wildlife Management concluded

The Certificate Course began on November 1, 2018. A total of 18 officer trainees joined the course, of which nine officer trainees were from six different states of the country and nine were from foreign countries (five from Malaysia and four from Myanmar).

Apart from the classroom teaching, the officer trainees were taken to Chilla for Orientation-cum-Technique Tour on 16-28 November 2018 for thirteen days to learn various techniques pertaining to wildlife management. The Management Tour was conducted at various protected areas of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chennai and Colombo, Sri Lanka during 5-27 January, 2019. The Valedictory Function was organized on 31 January, 2019. All the officer trainees have successfully

completed the course. Shri Jitendra Agarwal, Former Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Graphic Era University, Dehradun as Guest of Honour. They presented the certificates and awards to the following officer trainees:

Institute's Gold Medal for the Top Trainee was awarded to Mr. Mariaswamy K.M. The Silver Medal for the Best All Round Wildlifer; Institute's Silver Medal for Wildlife Management; and Institute's Silver Medal for the Best Foreign Trainee were bagged by Ms. Natalia Nadia Yahya.

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### Seminar on 'Indigenous Urbanism', Dehradun, 8-9 January, 2019.

The UNESCO C2C-WII in association with University of East Anglia, United Kingdom organised a seminar on 'Indigenous Urbanism - Exploring Climate Justice in Resilient Cities' at the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, India. Key themes of the seminar were (i) Relevance of indigenous tribal people, their knowledge and culture for climate resilient cities; (ii) Significance of materiality and memory of indigenous communities to climate justice and sustainable cities; (iii) Role of traditional knowledge and tribal interactions, including with non-humans in positive urban transformations; and (iv) Lessons from law, governance and climate action/inaction in (emerging) urban areas.

The seminar brought together 30 members belonging to a multidisciplinary group of academics and practitioners in exploring ideas on co-producing sustainable urbanisms, focusing on tribal knowledge/ culture, cities and climate.

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### Consultation and Field Survey in Garo Hills Conservation Area, Meghalaya, 9 January 2019.

The UNESCO C2C-WII organised a Community Stakeholder Consultation in Tura, Garo Hills, Meghalaya. The primary objectives of the consultation were to (i) share information about the status and process of Garo Hills Conservation Area as a proposed World Heritage Site; and (ii) enhance understanding of the unique culture and traditions of the communities of Garo Hills for their appropriate reflection in the World Heritage nomination document.

A total of 27 participants, including local community representatives and Forest Department personnel attended the consultation and provided positive feedback on the proposed nomination of the site as World Heritage.

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> Ten-day Orientation Workshop on Wildlife & Health Management, Dehradun, 16-25 January, 2019.

The workshop was organized with the objectives of (i) Providing an exposure on various aspects of wildlife management and included topics ranging from basics of species biology; (ii) Behaviour and ecology to conservation challenges in Uttarakhand; (iii) Dimensions of human-wildlife conflict; (iv) Wildlife forensics; (v) Emerging zoonoses, ex-situ management, rescue, rehabilitation; and (vi) Legal issues for relevant field investigations.

The workshop was sponsored by Uttarakhand Forest Dept. and CAMPA, Uttarakhand. The workshop was attended by 26 field veterinary officers including 11 women officers. The field



component included visit to Chidiyapur Wildlife Transit Rehabilitation Centre, Haridwar for demonstration of sterilization techniques in macaques. The participants subsequently visited the Wildlife S.O.S's facility (Elephant Conservation & Care Centre and Bear Rescue Facility) at Agra. A field excursion at Keoladeo Ghana National Park was also undertaken followed by visit to Sariska Tiger Reserve.

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### **One-week Compulsory Training Course for Indian Forest Service Officers on “Management of Coastal and Marine Biodiversity in India: Challenges and Prospects”, Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, 4-8 February, 2019.**

This one-week course was jointly organized by Wildlife Institute of India in association with Department of Environment & Forest, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. This course addressed the following thematic issues: (i) How effective are administrative/ governance/ legal frameworks for conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and are these frameworks promoting integration of biodiversity conservation and livelihood enhancement? (ii) What are the existing and potential threats for conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity? (iii) What are the current policy and governance challenges to coastal and marine biodiversity conservation? What is the role of community in the governance and management of marine protected areas and ecologically sensitive coastal areas?

The course was attended by 27 IFS officers. Apart from classroom sessions, the participants were taken to Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park (MGMNP), Wandoor, Jhansi Rani Marine National Park and Baratang mangrove forests for field exposure. The course received excellent feedback from the participants.

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### **Consultation Meeting on Nomination Document of Kailash Landscape as a Proposed World Heritage Site, Dehradun, 4 February, 2019.**

UNESCO Category 2 Centre (C2C) at WII prepared a draft document for 'Sacred Mountain Landscape and Heritage Routes' as a Mixed (Cultural and Natural) Site as per Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World



Heritage Convention. It was submitted for the “Meeting of Advisory Committee on World Heritage Matters (ACWHM)” convened by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at New Delhi on 18th January, 2019. As a follow-up to the ASI meeting, UNESCO C2C-WII organised a “Consultation meeting on nomination document of Kailash Landscape as a proposed World Heritage Site” at Dehradun.

The primary objective of the meeting was to solicit comments/suggestions/additional information on the draft tentative list document from stakeholders and experts from Uttarakhand. The major outcomes of the consultation were to revisit the proposed title of the site; Re-define the area to include only the Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand; Re-assess the viability of each of the proposed criteria; and consider commissioning short studies for additional information on various cultural and natural attributes of the site.

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### **Two-Week Foundation Training Course on Wildlife Management, Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area, Kullu, 7-27 February, 2019.**

The two-week training course was organized for the frontline staff of Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area (GHNPCA). In all, 40 forest guards and deputy rangers participated in this training course. The classroom sessions were conducted at UNESCO C2C at WII for the first batch during 7-11 February and 13-17 February, 2019 for second batch. Field training was organized at Sairopa, GHNPCA, Kullu.



The training programme was designed to provide basic and recently introduced technology for the management of forests and wildlife. The inputs were provided on Wildlife Census Techniques; Forensic Lab visit; Wildlife Sample Collection and Processing; Ecotourism; and Legal Framework for Protection of Wildlife. Hands-on training on Wildlife Forensics, GPS technology and Drone technology was also provided to the participants.

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### **6<sup>th</sup> Course on Wildlife Conservation for Wildlife Enthusiasts, Dehradun, 18–27 February, 2019.**

Wildlife Institute of India organised the course for wildlife enthusiasts. A total of nine participants attended the course. The participants underwent four days of classroom sessions that dealt with Indian biogeography; Wildlife conservation and challenges across the country; Science and management of tiger reintroduction; Wildlife trade and dealing with wildlife crime; Managing wild animals in stress. The participants were taken on a five-day field tour to the Kotdi range of the Lansdowne Forest Division adjoining to Corbett TR, and on



the return to Dehradun they were also taken to Jhilmil Conservation Reserve.

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### **Meeting on 'Action Taken' on the Findings of Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) Exercise Conducted during 2017-18 and Release of the 'MEE of PAs 2017-18' Report, New Delhi, 20-21 February, 2019.**

In collaboration with Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) organized a two-day meeting on 'action taken' on the findings of Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) exercise conducted during 2017-18 at India International Centre, New Delhi. In the meeting, Shri Siddhanta Das, DGF&SS, MoEFCC, Shri Praveen Garg, AS&FA, MoEFCC, Shri M.S. Negi, ADG (Wildlife), MoEFCC, Shri Soumitra Dasgupta, IGF (Wildlife), Shri S.P. Vashishtha, DIG (Wildlife), MoEFCC and Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII provided inputs. Other participants of the meeting were Chief Wildlife Wardens & their representatives from 26 States/UTs, PA managers & their representatives from 119 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, Chairmen of the 13 Independent Regional Expert Committee (REC) of the MEE, WII Faculty representatives of 13 REC of MEE.

This meeting was called to review the follow-up actions taken or need to be taken on the findings of MEE exercise conducted for 119 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries during 2017-2018. The report on MEE of 119 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries was released by Shri Siddhanta Das, DGF&SS, MoEFCC and Shri Praveen Garg, AS&FA, MoEFCC. The results of MEE of 119 National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries were presented by Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, WII in the meeting.

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### **Launch of WII Products and Services, New Delhi, 27 February 2019.**

In an event on Clean Ganga Movement held at New Delhi, WII's products and services of the project "Biodiversity Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation" were launched. Present on the occasion were Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon'ble Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India, Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Road



Transport Highways and Shipping, Government of India, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon'ble Minister of State, Water Resources, River Development and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. Satya Pal Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Human Resource Development, Smt. Hema Malini, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Smt. C. Mary Kom Hmangte, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri U.P. Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India and Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga.

Ganga Darpan Interpretation Centre at Sarnath and Ganga Tarini, a floating museum in Varanasi were inaugurated. Besides this, Pravisya Ganga Prahari Programme was launched. Two publications *viz.* Biodiversity Profile of Ganga River and Conservation Reference Guide for Turtles and Crocodilians were also released during the event. Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director, Wildlife Institute of India, Dr. S.A. Hussain, Dr. Ruchi Badola and Dr. Bitapi C. Sinha along with their team members were also present on this occasion.

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### **Professional Development Programme (PDP) for Enhancing EIA Effectiveness, Dehradun, 25 February 2019 – 8 March 2019.**

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) sponsored 'Professional Development Programme (PDP) for Enhancing EIA Effectiveness' was conducted at the



Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The PDP was designed for MoEFCC officials involved in reviewing EIA reports and engaged in environmental decision-making. The aim of the programme was to significantly contribute to the professional development of these officials so that biodiversity concerns are mainstreamed in the decision making for enhancing the effectiveness of EIA as a tool against a background of rapidly declining natural heritage.

In all, 28 officials from MoEFCC, State Forest Departments and Pollution Control Boards participated in this programme. The training programme received an excellent feedback.

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### **Course for the Students of Hiroshima University, Dehradun, 10-22 March, 2019.**

A group of 22 students and faculty from the Hiroshima University, Japan and University of Texas, Austin, USA visited WII Dehradun during March, 2019 as a part of their on-site training in India on a course on 'Nature Conservation and Forest Dwellers' Livelihood'. The field visit was organised at Rajaji Tiger Reserve, Uttarakhand with the objective to explore income-producing activities and conservation prerogatives around protected areas. This graduate course is offered through the Taoyaka Program of the Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC) of Hiroshima University (HU), Japan and the Wildlife Institute of India of Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India, in cooperation with the LBJ School of Public Affairs (LBJ School) and the Institute for Innovation, Creativity and Capital (IC2) of The University of Texas at Austin (UT).

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## Wildlife Institute of India's participation in Kumbh Mela Exhibition - 2019 at Prayagraj, 14 January - 4 March, 2019.

The Wildlife Institute of India participated in the Kumbh Mela Exhibition - 2019 at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh installed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India. The theme of the exhibition was Green Good Deeds. The objective of the exhibition was to educate people about the challenges of Climate Change, India's rich tradition of protecting environment, the safeguard/concerns addressed while examining cases for environment/forest clearance, problems of pollution, saving of biodiversity and ecology, how a citizen can contribute towards the environment by adopting Green Good Deeds, etc.

Wildlife Institute of India displayed the journey of the river Ganga from source to sea, the biodiversity, its value and threats, and how one can contribute to safeguarding the lifeline of India. Films produced by the National Mission for Clean Ganga on various aspects, like biodiversity of Ganga, Ganga Prahari initiatives, steps taken towards cleaning the river and the ghats and involvement of community living on the banks of the river were screened throughout the Mela period.

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## 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day celebrated

The 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day was celebrated at the Wildlife Institute of India on 26 January, 2019. Dr. V.B. Mathur, Director hoisted the National flag. Addressing the Institute faculty, staff & researchers he said that the Institute had performed various tasks assigned by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India very successfully. Recently, the MoEFCC had assigned the responsibility of both planning and implementing 'Professional Development Scheme for Environment Regulators'. He said that International agencies, viz. National Geographic and Asian Development Bank are now collaborating with WII for many projects in India in the field of wildlife and environment conservation.

He also distributed Certificate of Appreciation to the WII staff viz. Shri Mahesh Tyagi, S.T.O, Engineering Cell and Ms. Poonam Pal, Artist, NMCG project for providing excellent services to the Institute.

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Patron: Director

Editors: Dr. Bitapi C. Sinha and K.K. Shrivastava

Layout & Design : Kuldeep Chauhan

Photo credits: Chandan Jani (WII Building), Vinod Verma, Natalia & K.K. Shrivastava

*"Humankind must begin to learn that the life of an animal is in no way less precious than our own."*

— Paul Oxtan, Wild Heart Wildlife Foundation

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