



भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान
Wildlife Institute of India

W.I.I. Newsletter

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News : Training Programme and Workshops

XXX P.G. Diploma Course in Wildlife Management at WII,

This 9-month Course commenced on September 1, 2008. Seven officer trainees joined the Course: three from the Forest Department of States from India and four from neighbouring countries.

State/ Country	No. of Trainees	Sponsor
Andhra Pradesh	1	MoEF
Orissa	1	MoEF
Haryana	1	MoEF
Nepal	1	SAARC
Sri Lanka	1	SAARC
Bhutan	1	SAARC
Bhutan	1	GTF

(MoEF - Ministry of Environment & Forests;
GTF - Global Tiger Forum; SAARC - South
Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)

The officer trainees visited Rajaji National Park on a Orientation tour during September 26-30, 2008. **Contact:** pratapsingh@wii.gov.in

Collaborative Workshops on "Leadership and organization development for performance and results" & "Proposal writing and project management", Dehradun, July 7-15, 2008. The UNITAR Hiroshima Fellowship for Afghanistan, started in late 2003, is a long-term initiative aiming at building leadership



Participants of the UNITAR Hiroshima Fellowship.

and management skills and providing technical and institutional support to a core group of senior Afghan government officials, academics and practitioners. The programme's long-term objective is to build a dedicated Fellowship Community in Afghanistan which can become a reference for planning and implementing capacity-building and training activities at the local and national levels. In order to provide a better learning environment and considering the security issues, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office for Asia and the Pacific (HoAP) requested the Institute to organize a workshop for Afghan civil servants.

The workshop on 'Leadership and organizational development and performance and results' focused on leadership and its impact on performance and results, stakeholders analysis, role of social capital and team development and facilitation. Workshop on 'Project planning and proposal writing' focussed at equipping participants with a basic knowledge of project planning and proposal writing in order to prepare them for work on their team projects. Professor Radha Kumar, member of the UNITAR Board of Trustees & Director, Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi attended the workshop's closing session and gave a talk on the reality of conflicts and their reasons. The objectives of the workshop were to: (i) enhance participants' understanding of project planning; (ii) introduce skills in proposal writing; and (iii) further develop team projects. 40 senior civil servants from various ministries and departments of the Government of Afghanistan participated in the workshop. **Contact:** vbm@wii.gov.in

Teacher's Training Course in Environment Education, Dehradun, August 7-12, 2008.

This training course was conducted at this Institute in collaboration with the Friends of Doon Society, Dehradun. The objectives of the course were to: (i) help teachers understand the linkages between environmental and sustainable development; (ii) equip teachers to use a problem-solving, activity oriented, participatory approach suitable for their students; (iii) help teachers acquire those values of responsible citizenship and care for the environment which will motivate them to take appropriate action where necessary to protect the environment; and (iv) help teachers to realize the necessity for continued updating of their knowledge and skills. A total of seven participants attended the course.

Six teachers, from schools of Dehradun, teaching Environment Education to classes' seven to twelve participated in the four-day program. The participants were given inputs on ecosystem & its functions; little creatures; waste accumulation and management; natural resources and its utilization; impact of human activities on environment; and healthy ecosystem. They also visited the library & documentation centre and forensic laboratory of the Institute and



Participants of Teacher Training Course with Shri S.K. Mukherjee, President, FoD and Dr. V.B. Mathur, Dean, WII.

learned some important techniques of identification of animal products. Two films on 'Work of Eco Task Force' and 'Vanishing vulture' were also screened for the participants. They got hands-on experience on recycling paper. Some assignment and teaching aid were also given to the participants so that they could use them during their teaching. Dr. V.B. Mathur, Dean, Faculty of Wildlife Sciences delivered the Valedictory address. Shri S.K. Mukherjee, President, Friends of Doon Society presented the certificates to the participants. **Contact:** bcs@wii.gov.in

Training Course on "Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Impact Assessment" for ICFRE Officers, Dehradun, August 18-22, 2008. The course was organized for the officers of the Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education. The objectives of the training course were to provide a theoretical rationale for mainstreaming biodiversity in impact assessment and improved decision-making and the guidance needed for developing an impact assessment



Participants during the classroom session.

framework for integrating biodiversity; stimulate the importance of integrating socio-economic issues and economic valuation principles in EA framework for biodiversity; and facilitate peer-based learning among IA professionals. A total of 24 participants from different institutes under ICFRE participated in the course. The course was very well received and has created a demand driven need for conducting specialized courses in future with a focus on specific development sectors. **Contact:** ar@wii.gov.in

Summit of ISSC-MAP workshop, Dehradun, August 26, 2008. Summit of ISSC-MAP workshop in collaboration with the Industries Association of Uttarakhand was organized at the Institute. The seminar was chaired by Shri Pankaj Gupta, President of the Industries Association of Uttarakhand. The programme started with a short



Dr. S. Farooque, M.D., Himalayan Drug Co. addressing the gathering.

documentary showcasing the potential market for medicinal plants, the herbal wealth unexplored in the world, depletion of traditional knowledge-base in generations and plants becoming rare in the wild. Shri Pankaj Gupta emphasized the building of standards for sustainable development. Dr. S. Farooque, Himalayan Drug Co. spoke about India being the largest manufacturer and cultivator of medicinal plants in the world.

The procurement of the raw material is the prime concern of the industries and help in this regard is expected from the administration for upliftment of the herbal industry. Dr. Khalid Pasha from TRAFFIC-India emphasized on the objectives of the International Standards for Sustainable Wild Collection of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (ISSC-MAP). Dr. B. S. Adhikari spoke about the medicinal plant wealth of Uttarakhand and the need for building standards for sustainability. **Contact:** adhikarib@wii.gov.in

School in Herpetology, Dehradun, September 1-14, 2008. An intensive course in Herpetology (study of amphibians and reptiles) called the "School in Herpetology" was conducted at the Wildlife Institute of India. This unique programme was supported by the Science Engineering and Research Council, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India. This course targeted doctoral students and young faculty in Universities in India and neighbouring SAARC countries. The course



Dr. B.P. Singh, Advisor, DST releasing the poster for the course.

was designed to assist the students pursue careers in Herpetology. In all 26 participants, comprising of 20 students from India, three from Sri Lanka, one from Bhutan, one from Nepal and one from Bangladesh were selected for the course. The selection of these participants was made after advertising the course and screening from 65 applications.

The Inaugural lecture was made by Mr. Romulus Whitaker, Founder of the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust, Chennai. The course was organised in five modules: (i) Systematics and Biogeography, (ii) Ecology and Behaviour, (iii) Reproductive and Developmental Biology, (iv) Conservation and Management, and (v) Scientific writing. The team of core faculty members comprised of Prof. David Cannatella, Professor, University of Texas at Austin; Dr. Indraneil Das, University of Malaysia, Sarawak; Dr. Anselm De Silva, ARROS, Sri Lanka; Prof. S.K. Dutta, University of North Orissa; Prof. Vinod Kumar, University of Lucknow; Dr. S. Bhupathy,



Dr. Anselm De Silva demonstrating handling techniques.

SACON; Prof. K.K. Sharma, MDS University, Ajmer; and Dr. Karthikeyan Vasudevan, WII, Dehradun. Invited faculty included reputed scientists and academicians: Dr. Eric Smith, University of Texas at Arlington; Prof. B.C. Choudhury, WII, Dehradun; Dr. Ramesh K. Aggarwal, CCMB, Hyderabad; Dr. Geoff Hyde, NCBS, Bangalore; Dr. Brij K. Gupta, CZA, New Delhi; and Dr. Khalid Pasha, TRAFFIC India.

The students were also trained in laboratory techniques such as preservation, curation, morphometry, behavioural observation of amphibian larvae and regeneration experiments. A field trip was organized to Kaudiyala, Rishikesh in a riverside camp. The participants were exposed to field techniques in herpetology and photo-documentation. During the field trip the participants used various field techniques

and recorded fourteen species of amphibians and reptiles in the riverside camp site. This course will be conducted each year in different venues in the country for the next five years catering to students and young teachers in the Universities with support from DST.
Contact: karthik@wii.gov.in

IV-Internal Annual Research Seminar (IARS), September 16-17, 2008; and XXII Annual Research Seminar (ARS) of WII, Dehradun, September 18-19, 2008.

The IARS was chaired by Shri V.B. Sawarkar, Chairman, Training Research & Academic Council (TRAC). During the IARS, 25 presentations were made in seven sessions. These included studies on large carnivores, vegetation and habitat, herpetofaunal studies, human and development aspects, avifaunal studies, molecular genetics and forensics, and studies on insects. The presentations were based on recently initiated and ongoing research studies and were made by M.Sc. students, research fellows and faculty members of the Institute. The presentations were evaluated by a panel of judges. The following were adjudged as the five best presentations made and the concerned were awarded book prizes, each worth Rs. 1500/-.



Dr. K. Sankar, Research Co-ordinator briefing about the IARS of the Institute.

Shri V.B. Sawarkar chaired the Annual Research Seminar. In total 26, presentations were made in seven sessions. These included studies on large carnivores, human aspects of wildlife conservation, vegetation and wildlife habitats, avifaunal studies, molecular genetics and forensic studies, studies on coastal and marine biodiversity, and studies on invertebrates. The presentations were based on the ongoing research studies and were made by research



Winners of Best Presentation Awards during ARS & IARS.

fellows, faculty members, Fulbright fellow and a Ph.D. scholar of the Institute.

About 250 delegates/participants attended the ARS that included the Principal Chief Conservators of Forests (PCCFs), Chief Wildlife Wardens and other senior officials representing State Forest Departments, representatives of NGOs, scientists, conservationists, wildlife experts, faculty members, researchers, M.Sc. students and the Post Graduate Diploma course officer trainees of WII. A panel including eminent scientists, academicians, wildlife managers and conservationists judged the relevance and quality of research by the presentations made. The best five presentations made were given book awards, each worth Rs.1500/-.

In the concluding session, the significant enhancement in quality of the presentations in terms of visuals, graphics, scientific content and incisive analysis was appreciated. It was acknowledged that while some completed projects may have very useful management implications, others that have contributed to scientific knowledge and conservation wisdom were no less valuable. Shri Dey suggested that the findings of research projects as discussed during the ARS

Book Awards for Best Presentations

IV – Annual Internal Research Seminar

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| I | Mr. Sabuj Bhattacharya | Distribution, relative abundance and micro-habitat use of Royle's pika along sub-alpine - alpine ecotone in Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary, Western Himalaya. |
| II | Mr. Ashwini Upadhyay | Status, distribution and habitat use by wild ungulates in Changchenmo Valley, Eastern Ladakh. |
| III | Mr. Tapajit Bhattacharya | Distribution and relative abundance of carnivores, ungulates and galliformes in the western part of Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve, Sikkim: Preliminary Observations. |
| IV | Mr. Vinay Kumar Bhargav | Effect of mixed forest stands on the Biodiversity of borers (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae). |
| V | Mr. Krishnendu Mondal | Estimation of population and food habits of leopards in Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan. |

Book Awards for Best Presentations

XXII – Annual Research Seminar

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| I | Mr. Abishek Harihar | Responses of tiger (<i>Panthera tigris</i>), co-predators and their prey to removal of anthropogenic influences in Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand. |
| II | Ms. Ambica Paliwal | A GIS based approach for assessing habitat suitability for select ungulate species in Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve. |
| III | Ms. Sruthi Kumar | Nesting Ecology of three sympatric species of marine turtles in the Lakshadweep Islands of India and distribution patterns in the offshore lagoon and reef habitats. |
| IV | Ms. Sangeeta Angom | Molecular phylogenetics of Sangai <i>Cervus eldi eldi</i> and Hog deer <i>Axis porcinus</i> based on mitochondrial control region DNA sequence: Preliminary findings. |
| V | Mr. Upmanyu Hore | Diversity of Spiders in Terai Conservation Area: Higher Taxa surrogates and their Efficiency in Conservation. |

should be compared with the relevant previous studies. Shri Vinod Rishi suggested that ongoing research projects need not suggest recommendations. These could await completion of the projects. Shri Khatri welcomed the new initiatives of WII along with IIT, Delhi, on the role of sensor network in mitigating human-wildlife conflicts. He requested the Institute to take up more studies on wildlife corridors and especially in wildlife territorial divisions. Shri V.B. Sawarkar appreciated the efforts made by the researchers and faculty members in making excellent seminar presentations. He observed that the probing questions raised and suggestions made by the delegates/participants stimulated intellectual discussion and made significant contribution to the quality of the seminar. He summarised the two-day proceedings and dealt at length on the importance of the various themes, the quality of research and its direction and attainment of progress. He highlighted the contribution of projects to wildlife conservation efforts in the country.

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On the Move

International Lions Club conference, Shamli, July 6, 2008. International Lions Club requested its members and non-members for submitting project proposals related welfare of society. Dr. Pranab Pal submitted a project proposal on "Civic sense and pollution control". He attended conference and presented a paper and received second best presentation award along with an appreciation certificate.

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Global Young Leaders Programme, Beijing, China, August 17-28, 2008. Mrs. Bitapi C. Sinha was nominated by the Clinton Global Initiative to participate in the Global Young Leaders Program titled "China anti-desertification and rural prosperity project" at Beijing and Ningxia. The programme was organized by the Global Institute for Tomorrow based at Hong Kong. 22 executives from various leading corporate houses and agencies participated in the programme, which was meant for leadership development with hands on learning experiences. During the course of the programme, participants were taken to Ningxia to learn about the Jinhu Eco-agriculture



Mrs. Bitapi C. Sinha with Laurence Brahm of Shambhala Foundation.

Tourism Company Ltd. popularly known as the Jinhu Enterprise. The enterprise is an outstanding example of the overall development of an area by involving the local communities in anti-desertification, ecotourism, and farmer's cooperative and women's association.

European Congress of Arachnology, University of Bern, Switzerland, August 22-30, 2008. The European Society of Arachnology annually conducts the Congress to promote research on spiders and facilitate exchange of the findings related to spider research between arachnologists.



Dr. V.P. Uniyal presenting his paper during the Congress.

Dr. V.P. Uniyal attended the 24th European Congress of Arachnology and presented a paper on "Effect of vegetation, microclimate and space on spider assemblages in Terai Conservation Area (TCA)". The paper was an output of ongoing four years research project 'Effect of management practices on spider diversity in TCA'.

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Campus News

Cash award to Shri Rajwar
Shri H.C.S. Rajwar, Stenographer Gr.- I secured the Bronze medal in Table Tennis (Sr. Veteran category) in the XVI All India Forest Sports & Games Meet held at Gandhinagar during February 1-5, 2008.



The Institute also awarded Shri Rajwar for his achievement. Shri P.R. Sinha, Director of the Institute presented an appreciation letter and cash award of Rs. 2500/- to him on the Independence Day.

Dr. G.S. Rawat receives D. Sc. Degree



Dr. G. S. Rawat, Professor, Department of Habitat Ecology, was awarded D.Sc. Degree in Botany from Kumaon University, Nainital

in May 2008 based on his thesis entitled "Alpine Vegetation of Western Himalaya - Species Diversity, Community Structure, Dynamics, and Aspects of Conservation". The thesis synthesizes ecological information on the alpine vegetation of western and north-western Himalaya for which Dr. Rawat has been collecting primary data since past two decades. The thesis in the form of a monograph on alpine vegetation will be published in due course.

Ph.D. awarded to Shri Panna Lal



Shri Panna Lal, Programmer, Computer & GIS Cell has been awarded Ph.D. in 'Forest Ecology & Environment' thesis entitled "Development

of Spatial Database in Geographical Information System Domain for Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve and Assessment of Landuse/Landcover Changes" by the Forest Research Institute University, Dehradun in September, 2008. The thesis has been completed under the supervision of Dr. V.B. Mathur, Dean, FWS (Supervisor) and Shri Qamar Qureshi, Professor (Co-supervisor).

Treatment in the wild

- Parag Nigam

Wild animals may be subjected to number of ailments that require management. This poses a challenge for both wildlife managers and veterinarians. Though the broad principles of management are same for both captive and wild animals they differ slightly in certain procedures. In wild animals behavioral and physiological changes in response to other animals or humans, level of aggression and expression of illness, injury or distress is different from that of captive animals. One of the major challenges during management of animals in distress include, limitation on the approach to the animals, safety of the rescue team, specific anesthetic requirements, capture, restraint and handling needs. One such challenge was dealt with successfully while managing a lame tusker at Nalowala Beat of the Jhimil Jheel Conservation Area (JJCA), Rasiabad, Haridwar Forest Division, Uttarakhand on August 2, 2008.

The elephant (adult male with tusks aged between 35-40 years) was sighted in a thicket by the forest staff on July 31, and again on August 1, 2008. During this period it did not move much and was confined to JJCA. This led to the suspicion that the animal was probably ill and therefore, kept on close observation. The DFO, Haridwar on August 2, 2008 requested assistance in managing the wild male elephant at Nalowala beat of JJCA. A field visit was carried along with Shri S.K. Chandola, Addl. PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Uttarakhand, Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) veterinarian and other forest department staff. The team approached the animal up to 10 m distance; however detailed observation could not be made because of dense ground vegetation. The animal moved further deep into the thicket. The trail made by the elephant was used to track it, but there were no signs of bleeding or any other discharge. By evening on the same day the tusker came out into an open area. The animal exhibited outward swaying of the left foreleg during movement. However, the animal was able to bear weight on all four legs. There was considerable swelling on the left fore limb though the animal was able to bear weight. Because detailed examination was not possible, it was decided that the animal will be immobilized and necessary medication and closer examination of the limb will be done.



Forelimb being examined by the rescue team.

Xylazine-ketamine combination in appropriate quantity was used to immobilize the animal as it provided standing sedation suitable for medication and minor manipulation. Though narcotics are the drugs of choice for immobilizing wild elephants, it was not used. The narcotics have fast induction and the animal goes down in lateral recumbence. This could be a major limiting factor while immobilizing lame animals because it is extremely difficult for a large animal like elephant lift by itself after the reversal is administered. Though Xylazine-ketamine combination has proved beneficial in managing captive elephants, its use in managing wild elephants is uncommon. This drug combination produces standing sedation in the animal and treatment and management of minor injuries could be attempted with caution. The choice of use of Xylazine-ketamine combination was made taking into consideration the state of the animal, the terrain, the prevailing field situation and logistics that were available. The rescue team approached the elephant on foot. Once the animal was out of a nearby water body, the elephant was darted at the rump region. The drugs were remotely injected employing Distinct model 60N equipment using metal darts. After the dart lodged onto the animal and the drug was delivered, the animal slowly moved about 100 meters into a thicket. The elephant was approached after 10 minutes to assess the level of anesthetic induction. The elephant showed symptoms of the drug taking effect.

A response from the elephant was elicited by casting dry wooden debris in its direction. The elephant showed reaction to our presence by swaying the trunk and making trumpet calls. Because the level of sedation was inadequate for administering any medicament to the elephant, it was left undisturbed for another 20 minutes. The elephant was once again approached and a supplemental dose of same immobilization drug combination was administered. The guttural sounds following second dart were deep, loud, and regular and could be appreciated from a distance of more than 100 m. The elephant could be handled for next 20 minutes during which examination and medication was done. Antibiotics, analgesics, steroids, anti-histaminic and tetanus toxoid were administered in appropriate doses. When the elephant started showing signs of discomfort, it was given reversal drug (Atipamezole hydrochloride and Yohimbine hydrochloride) intramuscularly and the body cooled by splashing water. After 18 minutes, the elephant started showing signs of drug reversal by showing ear and tail movements and reaction to our presence. The elephant's movement and activity were monitored from a safe distance. Subsequently, the animal moved into the shade of a tree nearby, lied down for some time and got up on approach. It was heartening to know that the animal had started grazing in the evening of the same day and a herd of 4 elephants (2 males and 2 females) joined the animal. The forest department staff monitored the elephant for next three days intensively.

The elephant moved deep into the forest after the second day. The staff observed the animal and reported that it walked normally and also the swelling on the knee had considerably reduced. The operation resulted in successful recovery of the lame wild elephant. The coordinated efforts by the forest department and WTI veterinarian were extremely important for the success in this operation. Without synchronized team work such an operation would not have been possible. **Contact:** nigamp@wii.gov.in

Welcome - New Faculty

The Institute recruited much awaited eight new faculty members - scientists. Seven of them joined WII during September, 2008. We welcome them all.

Shri Sandeep Kumar Gupta

Sandeep Kumar Gupta did M.Sc. in Biotechnology from Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut in 2002. He worked in Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad as a Research Fellow in Laboratory for Conservation of Endangered Species (LaCONES) for almost four years. His extensive experience is in development of molecular (DNA based) markers for Wildlife Conservation and Forensics. He worked as a scientist in a Biotech Corporate, Hyderabad for two years on development of diagnostic procedures and genotyping. He is married and has a son and takes interest in visiting historical places. He joined the Institute on September 5, 2008.



Dr. K. Ramesh

After obtaining his Master's degree in Wildlife Biology from AVC College, Tamil Nadu, Dr. K. Ramesh joined Wildlife Institute of India as a research fellow in 1995 and completed his Ph.D. in the year 2003 on "Spatial and Ecological Distribution of Pheasants in the Great Himalayan National Park, Himachal Pradesh". He joined the WII as a faculty member on September 5, 2008. He has extensive research experience, specifically on birds and mammals of the Western Himalaya and Terai Arc Landscape. His area of special interest includes Quantitative Ecology, Remote Sensing, GIS, Advance Spatial Analysis, Biostatistics, Radio-Telemetry, Wildlife Population Estimation and Monitoring. He is a member of IUCN/SSC/Pheasant Specialist Group, and is on the advisory committees for Pheasant Conservation and Identification of Critical Wildlife Habitat, constituted by the Government of Himachal Pradesh. He is a recipient of prestigious Distinguished Foreign Scholar Award by the US Regional Association of the International Association for Landscape Ecology and NASA-MSU Professional Enhancement Award by National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Michigan State University, USA. He specializes on Landscape Ecology, Monitoring Protocols and Human-Wildlife Interface Solutions. He has traveled widely and is interested in sports.



Shri R. Suresh Kumar

He obtained his Master's degree from the Wildlife Institute of India in 1997 and subsequently worked as a Research Fellow for a project on the status and distribution of Pheasants in Arunachal Pradesh. He has traveled extensively in the high mountains of the Himalaya as part of his research work and discovered a new subspecies of Scater's monal pheasant. He also worked with NGO's like Zoo Outreach Organization for a short duration and later the Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysore for a study on a new species of monkey discovered from western Arunachal Pradesh – the Arunachal macaque. His studies on the macaque have been instrumental in establishing not only the habitat requirements of the species but also its unusual social organisation and behavioural profile. During the last two years, he has been involved in a long-term study on the offshore distribution and movement of Olive Ridley sea turtles along the Orissa coast. He has accumulated valuable field and laboratory experience in taxonomy, ecology, genetics and satellite telemetry. He joined the Institute on September 5, 2008.



Dr. Bilal Habib

Dr. Bilal Habib obtained his Master's degree in Wildlife Sciences from Aligarh Muslim University and joined WII faculty on September 15, 2008. Before joining the Institute, he worked with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS – International Conservation) for Afghanistan Biodiversity Conservation Program as Wildlife Survey Program Manager. His key responsibilities included design and coordination of wildlife surveys in Wakhan Corridor region of Afghanistan, Capacity Building for Afghanistan in the environment sector and development of Red List for Afghanistan and assistance in CITES training course. He was awarded doctoral degree in Wildlife Sciences from Aligarh Muslim University in 2007 on "Ecology of Indian Wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes* Sykes, 1831) and modeling its potential habitat in the Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary, Maharashtra". He has received training in Remote Sensing and GIS from Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehra Dun. He has published several papers on application of Remote Sensing and GIS in Wildlife Studies and has also contributed to National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). His research interests include Carnivore Ecology, Prey-predator Dynamics, Human-carnivore Conflict, Population Dynamics, Mating Strategies and Advanced Modeling. He is very keen to travel to distant places and is also interested in photography and sports.



Dr. J.A. Johnson

Dr. Johnson obtained M.Sc. degree in Zoology in 1995 from Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli. In 2000, he was awarded a doctoral degree from the same University on his work "Diversity and ecological structure of fishes in streams of Western Ghats". He described three new species and found out several new records of fishes from Western Ghats. During 2001 to 2003, he was awarded DST – Young Scientist Fellowship to work on spatio-temporal changes in habitat utilization patterns of fishes in southern Western Ghats. He is also a recipient of Young Scientist Award from the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), Calcutta and



Zoological Society of India, Bihar for the best paper presentation. He taught Biology and Biotechnology from 2003 to 2008 in various colleges in India and north-east Africa. His primary interests are stream fish ecology, habitat ecology, conservation biotechnology, captive breeding, and fish taxonomy. Dr. Johnson has 30 research paper publications in international and national peer reviewed journals to his credit. He is a life member of the Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata and Inland Fishery Society, West Bengal. He is married and has a son. He joined the Institute on September 29, 2008.

Shri Gopi G.V.

He obtained his masters degree in Life sciences and subsequently started his research career at Wildlife Institute of India in 2001 by quantifying the impact of marine trawl fishing on sea turtles along the coastal waters of Orissa. He continued working on conservation genetics of sea turtles along the entire mainland coast of India and later investigated the salt water crocodile nest biology. On completion of these research studies, he registered for his doctoral work on ecology and conservation of one of India's largest heronry at Bhitarkanika mangroves. He has worked as a Scientist in the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED) in the north-east unit at Arunachal Pradesh between March 2007 and October 2008. While at GBPIHED, he conducted studies on recovery process and patterns of higher vertebrates and vegetation following shifting cultivation and documented human-wildlife conflicts at the higher altitudes of western Arunachal Pradesh. His present research and conservation interests are studying threatened faunal species, people-wildlife issues, community based natural resource management in the eastern Himalayan landscape and coastal and mangrove ecosystems of India. He joined the Institute on October 15, 2008. He is married to Sangeeta Angom, a doctoral research fellow at WII. Their hobbies include traveling, listening music, doll collection and nature photography.



Dr. Punyasloke Bhadury

Dr. Punyasloke Bhadury did his M.Sc. in Marine Resource Development and Protection from Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh, UK after being offered the prestigious Commonwealth DFID Scholarship. Subsequently, he obtained his Ph.D. in marine molecular ecology from the University of Plymouth and Plymouth Marine Laboratory in UK. His Ph.D. work was on the molecular ecology and biodiversity of free-living marine nematodes from north-west Europe. After completing his Ph.D., he pursued his post-doctoral level research in molecular ecology and functional genomics of marine phytoplankton from Princeton University, USA. He joined the Institute on October 15, 2008. Dr. Bhadury's special interests include molecular and taxonomic approaches to understanding the biodiversity of marine plankton and benthic communities, biogeography and evolution as well as environmental biotechnology.



Welcome Guests

- ♦ In-service SFS officers undergoing a Two-Week Refresher Course at SFS College, Dehradun, *July 10, 2008.*
- ♦ Participants of SAARC countries undergoing a two-week training module on 'Enhancing livelihood opportunities of forest dependent communities through NTFP management and its value addition' from IGNFA, Dehradun, *July 18, 2008.*
- ♦ 19 Range Forest Officer trainees and a faculty member from SFS College, Burnihat, *July 31, 2008.*
- ♦ 30 cadets accompanied by their two masters from Rashtriya Bhartiya Sainya College, Dehra Dun Cantt, *July 31, 2008.*
- ♦ IFS Officer Trainees (2008 Batch) who have recently joined IGNFA, New Forest, Dehradun, *August 14, 2008.*
- ♦ 25 in-service SFS Officers of the General Refresher Course at SFS College, Dehradun accompanied by their faculty members, *August 21, 2008.*
- ♦ 29 IFS officers (1987 Batch), of an Advanced Forest Management Course at IGNFA, Dehradun, *August 28, 2008.*
- ♦ 17 officers participating in a two-week Management Development Programme for senior officers of the Govt. of Nepal at Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, *September 3, 2008.*
- ♦ 40 students from DAV, Ambala under DNA Clubs Programme, *September 12, 2008.*
- ♦ B.Sc. Forestry students and faculty from Kathmandu Forestry College, Kathmandu, Nepal, *September 16, 2008.*
- ♦ 4 officer trainees (2007-09 batch) undergoing P.G.Diploma & M.Tech Course at IIRS, Dehradun, *September 15, 2008.*
- ♦ 39 B.Sc. Forestry (3rd year) students and their faculty and eight supporting staff from Tribhuvan University, Institute of Forestry, Pokhara, Nepal, *September 17, 2008.*
- ♦ 24 B.Sc. (Forestry) students, one staff member and a supervisor from the Forest College & Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Mettupalayam, *September 23, 2008.*
- ♦ 20 B.Sc. Forestry (3rd year) students accompanied by their two faculty and six supporting staff from Tribhuvan University, Institute of Forestry, Hetauda Campus, Nepal, *September 23, 2008.*
- ♦ 22 IFS Officers attaining their 10 years of service and presently undergoing an Advanced Forest Management Course at IGNFA, Dehradun, *September 25, 2008.* **Contact: oao@wii.gov.in**



25 SFS officer trainees of 2007-09 batch from SFS College, Dehradun, August 25, 2008.

हिन्दी पत्रिका का विमोचन

संस्थान में सितम्बर 1 से 14, 2008 के दौरान हिन्दी पखवाड़े का आयोजन किया गया। सितम्बर 12, 2008 को हिन्दी दिवस समारोह का आयोजन किया गया। इस अवसर पर संस्थान के निदेशक श्री प्रिय रंजन सिन्हा ने संस्थान द्वारा प्रकाशित हिन्दी पत्रिका 'वन-वैभव' के द्वितीय अंक का विमोचन किया। हिन्दी पत्रिका में भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान परिवार के सदस्यों ने अपनी रचनाओं, लेखों व अन्य साहित्य का योगदान किया है। संस्थान में राजभाषा हिन्दी में अधिक अच्छी तरह से अभिव्यक्ति व प्रयोग को प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से 'वन-वैभव' का प्रकाशन किया गया। इसमें कुछ वैज्ञानिक प्रपत्रों के अलावा संस्थान के बारे में जानकारियों को भी शामिल किया गया है।

हिन्दी पखवाड़े के दौरान संस्थान में दो हिन्दी प्रतियोगिताओं का भी आयोजन किया गया। इन प्रतियोगिताओं के विजेता निम्नलिखित हैं:

हिन्दी टंकण प्रतियोगिता: सितम्बर 1, 2008 को आयोजित इस प्रतियोगिता में 10 प्रतियोगियों ने भाग लिया। प्रथम पुरस्कार (₹ 1000.00) – श्री नीरज गुप्ता, द्वितीय पुरस्कार (₹ 700.00) – कुमारी पद्मा रानी व तृतीय पुरस्कार (₹ 500.00) – श्री प्यार चन्द असवाल ने प्राप्त किया।

हिन्दी श्रुतलेख प्रतियोगिता: सितम्बर 4, 2008 को आयोजित इस प्रतियोगिता में 16 प्रतियोगियों ने भाग लिया। प्रथम पुरस्कार (₹ 1000.00) – श्रीमती शशीबाला उनीयाल व श्री नीरज गुप्ता, द्वितीय पुरस्कार (₹ 700.00) – श्रीमती मंजु बिश्नोई व तृतीय पुरस्कार (₹ 500.00) – श्री कुलदीप चौहान ने प्राप्त किया।

हिन्दी दिवस समारोह के इस अवसर पर उपरोक्त प्रतियोगिताओं के विजेताओं को निदेशक महोदय द्वारा पुरस्कृत किया गया। उन्होंने अधिकारियों व कर्मचारियों से अधिकाधिक कार्य हिन्दी में करने हेतु अनुरोध किया। समारोह में संस्थान के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों और बड़ी संख्या में कर्मचारियों ने भाग लिया। **सम्पर्क:** पी०के० अग्रवाल adminsec@wii.gov.in



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