



भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान
Wildlife Institute of India

W.I.I. Newsletter

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News : Training and Workshops

XXVII Certificate Course in Wildlife Management

The XXVII Certificate Course in Wildlife Management began on November 1, 2011 with 16 officer trainees of the rank of Range Forest Officers, DCF's & equivalent from different States within country and abroad.

State/ Country	No. of participants
Kerala	2
A & N Islands	1
Chhattisgarh	1
Nagaland	1
Tripura	1
Bangladesh	4
Bhutan	2
Malayasia	2
Vietnam	2

The course started with a basic grounding in wildlife biology & field techniques and later addressed all major aspects of wildlife management including the very important human dimensions. The important exercises included Crime Scene Investigation; Sample Collection; Identification of Different Wildlife Parts and Products; Filing of Charge Sheet; Wildlife Photography; GPS and Map Reading. A mid-term and open feedback session for officer trainees was organized on December 27, 2011.

During the period more emphasis was given to practicals, class interaction, group discussions, audio-visual shows, and local day excursions. The officer trainees undertook the Orientation-cum-Techniques Tour at Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand from November 8-19, 2011. The tour was conducted by establishing camp at Chilla Forest Annexe. The objective of this tour was to orient and familiarize trainees with different wildlife techniques. **Contact: gautam@wii.gov.in**

XXXIII Advanced Post Graduate Diploma in Wildlife Management Course

The reporting period was a busy time for the officer trainees of the PG Diploma Course. They visited Kedarnath Wildlife Sanctuary and Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve from October 15-21, 2011 as part of their High Altitude Tour. During the visit, they learnt about temperate forests, subalpine forests and alpine meadows - their ecology, wildlife use and the conservation & management issues. They also got an insight into the pioneering work being done for solid waste management in the Valley of Flowers National Park.

For the Techniques Tour, the group visited the Rajaji National Park from December 3-20, 2011. They did extensive camera trapping of Chilla and surrounding areas of the Rajaji National Park. **Contact: mukul@wii.gov.in**

One Week Compulsory Training Course on "Human-Wildlife Conflict: Issues and Mitigation", Dehra Dun, December 12-16, 2011. This course was conducted at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun as per the instructions from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, New Delhi. The course was for the in-service IFS Officers from various States of the country. The officers were sensitized about their role in Human Wildlife Conflict. There was a panel discussion on the topic "Improvement in the working of Forest

Departments - Need for career development through training and improvement of skills". The idea for such panel discussions was to have suggestions for up-gradation of skills of foresters, adoption of modern techniques and their applications in forestry activities and advancement of individual careers with the ultimate aim of improving the working of the State Forest Department for efficient service delivery to the people. A total of 23 participants attended this course.

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VII-Internal Annual Research Seminar (IARS), October 10, 2011; and XXV Annual Research Seminar (ARS) of WII, Dehra Dun, October 11-12, 2011. The IARS was chaired by Shri Vinod Rishi, Former, ADG(WL), MoEF, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

During the IARS, a total of 15 presentations were made in four technical sessions viz. Vegetation Ecology and Population Estimation; Captive Management and Conservation Breeding; Development and Conservation Interface and Habitat and Species Assessment. The presentations were based on recently initiated and ongoing research studies of the Institute. The presentations were evaluated by a panel of judges. The following were adjudged as the 'five best presentations' and the concerned research personnel were awarded book prizes each worth Rs. 1500/-:



VII Internal Annual Research Seminar

Rank	Name of the researcher	Topic of Presentation	Principal Investigator(s)
I	Krishnendu Mondal	Multi-scale resource selection by leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>) in Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan.	Dr. K. Sankar, Sh. Qamar Qureshi and Dr. Y.V. Jhala
II	Sitendu Goswami	Evaluation of housing and enclosure enrichment practices in the sloth bear (<i>Ursus ursus</i>) enclosures of three zoos.	Shri P.C. Tyagi and Dr. P. Nigam
III	Aniruddha Majumder	Survival rate, habitat use and home range of tiger (<i>Panthera tigris</i>) in Pench Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh.	Dr. K. Sankar, Sh. Q. Qureshi, Dr. Y.V. Jhala, WII and Dr. Rajesh Gopal, NTCA
IV	S.R.Chandramouli	Amphibian diversity in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.	Dr. Karthikeyan Vasudevan
V	R. Lakshminarasimha	Conservation breeding of Western Tragopan (<i>Tragopan melanocephalus</i>) in Himachal Pradesh: Current status and proposed interventions for scientific management of captive populations.	Dr. K. Ramesh

The XXV Annual Research Seminar of the Institute was chaired by Prof. R. Sukumar, Chairman, Training, Research and Academic Council (TRAC). A total of 19, presentations were made in five technical sessions viz. Ecology and conservation of carnivores; Faunal Diversity; Ecology and conservation of birds; Development and conservation interface and Large mammal: Translocation, reintroduction and rescue. The presentations were based on the ongoing research studies and were made by research fellows and faculty members of the Institute.

About 225 delegates/participants attended the ARS that included the Principal Chief Conservators of Forests, Chief Wildlife Wardens and other senior officials representing State Forest Departments, delegates representing 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, conservationists and wildlife managers examined the relevance and quality of research by the presentations made. The presentations made by the following researchers on the topics cited were adjudged the 'best five presentations' made during the XXIV Annual Research Seminar of the Institute:

All five researchers were given book awards, each worth Rs.1500/-

In the concluding session, comments on the ARS were made by the following:

Shri Pranay Waghay, Member, Governing Body, WII - He complimented the efforts made by WII and the State Forest Departments for tiger re-introduction in Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves. He mentioned about the Institute's initiatives since 1990s in protecting Indian forests and PAs and called for more partnership between wildlife activists and professionals. He also urged WII to take up more research on habitat loss issues.

Sh. Biswajit Mohanty, Member, Governing Body, WII- He emphasised the need for more scientific research in protected areas which in-turn will help in conservation of wildlife in the country. He opined that good fact based, statistically robust research by WII will be helpful



XXV - Annual Research Seminar

Rank	Name of the researcher	Topic of Presentation	Principal Investigator(s)
I	Harikrishnan, S.	High density and biomass of terrestrial herpetofauna in rainforests of Andaman Islands.	Dr. Karthikeyan Vasudevan
II	A. Pragatheesh	Impacts of National highway- 37 on wild animal movements between Kaziranga National Park and Karbi-Anglong hills, Assam.	Dr. Asha Rajvanshi and Dr. V.B. Mathur
III	Shazia Quasin	Spider diversity in response to vegetation and microclimate along altitudinal gradient in Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve.	Dr. V.P.Uniyal and Dr. K. Sivakumar
IV	Mousumi Ghosh	Study of bird species numbers and densities in the east and west Himalayas.	Dr. Dhananjai Mohan and Shri Pratap Singh
V	Sutirtha Dutta	Effects of environmental stochasticity and human landuse changes on the threatened fauna of Kachchh.	Dr. Y.V. Jhala

Wildlife Week celebrated at the Institute

The "9th Wildlife and Environment Quiz 2011" - a collaborative activity of Wildlife Institute of India and Friends of Doon Society was organized on October 1, 2011 at the Institute to mark the celebrations of the Wildlife Week 2011. Eight schools participated in elimination round. Five teams qualified for the final round. The final quiz had five rounds viz India/Uttarakhand, Environment and Ecology, Animation, Audio Visual, Brain Strain and Rapid Fire. There was a special round for audience also. Ann Mary School topped the list and won the WII-FoD Rolling Trophy, Book Prize and Sameer Ghosh Memorial Nature and Wildlife Rolling trophy. Welham Girls School won second prize and St. Thomas College won the third prize and received WII-FoD Book prize. Ms. Savita Sharma Principal, Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFS) graced the occasion as Chief Guest and distributed the Prizes to the Winning Teams.



A State level quiz competition was also organized for the students of different districts of Uttarakhand as part of the Corbett Platinum Jubilee celebrations on October 8, 2011 at the Institute. It was conducted by the Institute in collaboration with the Forest Department of Uttarakhand. The winners were awarded during the Corbett Platinum Jubilee celebration. **Contact: vbm@wii.gov.in; melkani@wii.gov.in**

in policy decisions with a more effective tools.

Shri Vinay K. Sinha, Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Maharashtra - He was happy to note that the presentations covered various aspects of ecology and conservation of wildlife. He suggested that the Institute should take up research projects regarding wild-pig damage control in and around forest areas and also restoring forest connectivity between PAs. He found that an increasing interface between environmental issues and livelihoods should also be included in the topics of presentations during the ARS.

Shri Vinod Rishi, Former Addl. Director General (Wildlife), MoEF - He mentioned about WII's very special status in India. He suggested that the major findings of the research projects pertaining to conservation issues in the country should be showcased to the policy decision makers in appropriate forum, as well.

Mr. John Dunham, Science Office, US Embassy, New Delhi - He informed that the Science Office, US Embassy, New Delhi and the Wildlife Institute of India have a very long association with

regard to wildlife research and management in the country and he hoped that the association will continue in future, as well. He complimented the Institute's efforts to organize the seminar in a professional way and congratulated the young scientists for the excellent seminar presentations.

Dr. H.S. Pabla, PCCF(WL) and CWLW, Madhya Pradesh - He suggested that the Institute should take up more studies pertaining to human dimensions and wildlife utilization.

Prof. R. Sukumar, Chairman, TRAC, in his concluding remarks congratulated the faculty and researchers for the excellent presentations made during the seminar. He suggested that the word "Research" could have been a better alternative for the word "Project", often used in the presentations, as "Project" builds knowledge base while "Research" builds intellectual capital. He also stressed that since WII is a national premier institute in the field of teaching, training and research, it should play key role in policy making decisions with regard to various wildlife and conservation issues of the country. He also mentioned about WII's role in developing the coexistence

model of wildlife conservation and urged that this should be taken forward at large landscapes. He also suggested that more attention could be given on habitat studies and ecological processes. **Contact: sankark@wii.gov.in**

International Conference on "Advances in Ecological Research" (ICAER-2011), Bikaner, December 19-21, 2011. Dr. Pranab Pal participated in this international conference, which was organized by Maharaja Ganga Singh University, Bikaner, India. The objective of the conference was to discuss the environment crises, the society is facing today. It focused on: (a) Ecology and environment; (b) Resources & Management; (c) Pollution & Environmental Degradation; (d) Monitoring, Conservation & Policies; and (e) Desert Ecology to which a special symposium is devoted. The participants were invited from several parts of the country as well as abroad i.e. Norway, USA, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. Dr. Pal presented a paper on "Impact of Global Warming and Climate Change on Biodiversity". **Contact: ppal@wii.gov.in**

And the award goes to...

The Institute participated in 19th All India Forest Sports & Games Meet, 2011 conducted by the Forest Department, Uttarakhand during December 16-20, 2011 at Dehra Dun. The WII's contingent participated in Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Table Tennis, Carrom, Billiards, Chess and Rifle Shooting. It is a matter of pride that Dr. Manoj Kumar Agarwal won the Bronze Medal out of 45 Shooters in 22 Open Sight 50 m Rifle Shooting event held at Jaspal Rana Shooting Range, Pondha, Dehradun. **Contact: adhikarib@wii.gov.in; manojkumar@wii.gov.in**



Welcome Guests

- ◆ 25 students accompanied by two teachers from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Forest College & Research Institute, Mettupalayam on October 7, 2011.
- ◆ 31 Forest Guards accompanied by one Instructor from Office of the DFO, Civil & Soyam Van Prabhag, Almora on October 10, 2011.
- ◆ 38 students of Class XII and their teachers from Bikaner University, Rajasthan on October 11, 2011.
- ◆ 39 students of Class XII and teachers from CARMAN School, Premnagar, Dehra Dun on October 13, 2011.
- ◆ 25 trainees of Foresters Training Course (2011-12) accompanied by one Instructor from Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Training Division, Pinjore on October 14, 2011.
- ◆ 15 RFO trainees accompanied by one Officer and five Assistants from Uttarakhand Forestry Training Academy, Haldwani, Nainital on October 14, 2011.
- ◆ 13 Nature Guards/Forest Guards of Rampur Range accompanied by their two officials under Nature Guide Training Programme (Phase-II) from Rajaji National Park on October 14, 2011.
- ◆ 12 students accompanied by five staff members from Ladoo College, Jodhpur on November 2, 2011.
- ◆ 57 B.Sc. students and six staff members from Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan; Hazarimal Somani College of Arts & Science; and J.P. College of Commerce & Management Studies Mumbai on November 15, 2011.
- ◆ 24 FRO trainees (Batch 2010-11) and by two Instructors from Forest Rangers College, Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh on November 16, 2011.
- ◆ 25 students, two teachers, one JCO and three OR under an Army Officer of an educational/motivational tour under project Sadbhavana by Army (HQ 68 Mtn Bde, C/o 56 APO) for the underprivileged students from remote villages of Kupwara district in J&K, November 22, 2011.
- ◆ 36 students of M.Sc. Environmental Science and a faculty member from Birla College, Kalyan, Maharashtra on November 28, 2011.
- ◆ 35 students of Environmental Science and a faculty member from Mumbai University on December 8, 2011.
- ◆ 14 Officers undergoing the promotional course for Assistant Commandants along with one Instructor from SSB Academy, Srinagar (Garhwal) on December 16, 2011.
- ◆ 34 students and a faculty member from Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal on December 26, 2011.
- ◆ 33 students and a faculty member from Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal on December 28, 2011.

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