

KANHA
December 2016

Team: Amit Awasthi – *Conservation Officer*
Sampathlal Dhurve – *Field assistant*

Highlights

- ⇒ *One shramdhaan programme on water conservation – check dam built at Sunaghat Nallah, Batwar*
- ⇒ *One shramdhaan for community assistance – cleaning of area around well at Bhagpur*
- ⇒ *4 compost pits prepared in 4 villages*
- ⇒ *2 anti-plastic programme in 2 villages*
- ⇒ *3 awareness programmes on water conservation*
- ⇒ *Environment education programme conducted in 11 schools - attended by 378 students*
- ⇒ *3 unemployed youths placed in jobs at local resorts*

Conservation work

Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
Dec 11	Batwar	Check dam constructed on Sunaghat Nallah	14
Dec 18	Bhagpur	Shramdhaan programme to clear area next to well	10
Dec 12	Samaiya	Constructed compost pit at Narsingh Uladi's residence	1
Dec 15	Samaiya	Constructed compost pit at Faghulal Uddey's residence	1
Dec 24	Kutwahi	Constructed compost pit at Meera Bai Batti's residence	1
Dec 30	Chapri	Constructed compost pit at Rama Pusham's residence	1
Dec 20	Batwar	Anti-plastic programme	12
Dec 23	Sautiya	-----do-----	12
Dec 9	Batwar	Awareness programme on water conservation	24
Dec 23	Patpara	-----do-----	20
Dec 24	Sautiya	-----do-----	11
Dec 25	Samaiya	-----do-----	14

On December 11, a check dam was constructed at Suna Ghat Nallah, around 2.5 km from Batwar village, inside the jungle. Nilgai and sambhar are spotted regularly in the area and our team found fresh pug marks of a leopard at the site while building the check dam. The team of 13 included youths and adult villagers.



Check dam built at Sunaghat Nallah, near Batwar

On December 18, Amit and Sampath led a team of 11 people in a programme to clear wild growth around a well at Bhagpur. Due to heavy rains during the monsoon, wild growth had proliferated around the well and access to the well was affected. Our team, which comprised 10 villagers from the village, removed the wild growth and cleaned the area.



Bhagpur- Site around well before (left) and after (right) our programme

Our team encourages organic farming as part of our strategy to reduce the impact of chemical fertilisers on fields adjoining prime wildlife areas. Part of our work includes assistance to villagers in setting up vermi-compost tanks and compost pits. During December, we helped 4 villagers dig compost pits – Narsingh Uladi of Samaiya on December 12, Faghulal Uddey of Samaiya on December 15, Meera Bai Batti of Kutwahi on December 24, Rama Pusham of Chapri on December 30.



Samaiya - Compost pit dug with our assistance at Narsingh Uladi's house

On December 20, our team organised an anti-plastic programme at Batwar. Amit and Sampath spoke to the villagers about the harmful impact of plastic/polythene on the environment and motivated them to remove such litter from the village. The team of villagers and students went around the village, collecting plastic and polythene litter/waste, which were then buried in a pit on the outskirts of the village.

A similar anti-plastic programme was organised at Sautiya on December 23.



Batwar - Village children with plastic litter collected during our anti-plastic programme

Education

During the month, our team organized environment education programmes in 11 schools in the villages in our area of operations.

S.no	Date	School	Village	Number of participants
1	Dec 1	Government Primary School (GPS)	Manegaon	33
2	Dec 2	Education guarantee scheme school (EGS)	Bhagpur	18
3	Dec 3	GPS	Chapri	35
4	Dec 7	Government	Dhamangaon	39

		Middle School (GMS)		
5	Dec 8	GMS	Batwar	27
6	Dec 10	EGS	Samaiya	19
7	Dec 12	GPS	Kutwahi	32
8	Dec 14	GPS	Batwar	28
9	Dec 15	GMS	Patpara	33
10	Dec 17	GPS	Sautiya	24
11	Dec 19	GMS	Mocha	90
			Total	378



Manegaon - Students listen to Sampath's lecture on conservation

Livelihood programmes

As part of our programme to reduce pressure on forests, we have been encouraging villagers to take up alternative livelihood options. In Kanha, we have been encouraging villagers to take up vegetable farming as there are several resorts around Mocha and there is a steady flow of tourists who demand fresh vegetables.

Over the past 3 years, we have assisted around 40 villagers in taking up vegetable farming and they are earning around 500-1,000 rupees a week in additional income. The vegetable patches are typically of small size and located in the backyards of the residences. Some villagers have now got enough confidence to expand and are planning to use part of their farm land for this activity.



Chapri – Maya Bai (left) and Sarita Bai (right) tend to vegetable patches set up with our help

Employment Cell

We helped 3 youths get jobs during the month of December

S. No.	Date	Village	Name	Monthly Salary in rupees	Education	Age	Job
1.	Dec 6	Chapri	Girani Yadav	3500/- + meals	5 th standard	19	Worker at Royal Sylvan Resort, Chapri
2	Dec 16	Chapri	Malti Bai Markam	3000/- + meals	8 th standard	19	Worker at Pawarwadi Resort, Mocha
3	Dec 28	Patpara	Dhaniram Maravi	4500/- + meals	8 th standard	26	Waiter at Mogli Resort, Khatiya



Girani Yadav (of Chapri) who got a job as a waiter with our help at Royal Sylvan Resort, Chapri