

KANHA
November 2018

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

Highlights

- ⇒ *1 water conservation programme – check dam built at Kauwajhodi Nallah, Chapri*
- ⇒ *1 existing waterhole cleaned at Kurrijhiriya near Chapri*
- ⇒ *1 shramdhaan for community assistance – cleaning of area around well at Batwar*
- ⇒ *6 awareness programmes on conservation activity*
- ⇒ *Organised meeting of Panchayat samiti members and members of village Eco Development Committees and villagers*
- ⇒ *12 villagers applied for LPG connection under Ujjwala Yojana with our help*
- ⇒ *3 compost pits prepared in villages*
- ⇒ *One person trained in preparing vermi-compost*
- ⇒ *2 anti-plastic programmes*
- ⇒ *Environment education programme conducted in 10 schools - attended by 366 students*
- ⇒ *7 nature and wildlife film shows -- attended by 311 students*
- ⇒ *2 unemployed youths placed in jobs at resorts*
- ⇒ *Organised mushroom cultivation training for SHG in Chapri*

Conservation work

| Date | Village | Activity | No. of participants |
|-------------|----------------|--|----------------------------|
| Nov 5 | Chapri | Check dam constructed on Kauwajhodi Nallah | 8 |
| Nov 6 | Batwar | Existing waterhole cleaned at Kurrijhiriya at Chapri | 6 |
| Nov 9 | Batwar | Shramdhaan programme to clear area next to well | 9 |
| Nov 11 | Bhagpur | Awareness programme on conservation activity | 16 |
| Nov 14 | Chapri | -----do----- | 19 |
| Nov 15 | Batwar | -----do----- | 13 |
| Nov 19 | Samaiya | -----do----- | 11 |
| Nov 26 | Chapri | Organised meeting of Panchayat Samiti members and members of Village Eco Development Committees (VEDC) and villagers | 44 |

| | | | |
|--------|----------|---|----|
| Nov 24 | Manegaon | Constructed compost pit at Kasturi Bai Maravi's residence | 1 |
| Nov 27 | Patpara | Constructed compost pit at Amar Singh Maravi's residence | 1 |
| Nov 29 | Kutwahi | Constructed compost pit at Laxman Uikey's residence | 1 |
| Nov 25 | Chapri | Mantu Parte trained in preparing vermi-compost | |
| Nov 10 | Manegaon | Anti-plastic programme | 12 |
| Nov 22 | Sautiya | -----do----- | 11 |
| Nov 14 | Chapri | Organised mushroom cultivation training for SHG and villagers | 20 |

In water conservation work, we organised a programme on November 5 to construct a check dam at Kauwajhodi Nallah, around 2.5 km from Chapri village, inside the jungle. Tiger, leopard and sambhar are spotted regularly in the area around the check dam. The team included 8 youths and elder villagers.



Chapri- Volunteers bring materials to build check dam at Kauwajhodi Nallah

Volunteers pose after check dam is built

During the month, our team organised programmes to clean 1 existing waterhole inside the jungle, which had become clogged with organic litter.



Batwar- Team cleans waterhole at Khurrijhiriya in jungle

On November 15, Amit and Sampath led a team of 9 people in a programme to clear wild growth around a well at Batwar. Due to heavy rains, wild growth had proliferated around the well and access to the well was affected. Our team, which comprised 5 youths and 4 women from the village, removed the wild growth and cleaned the area.



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

We held 3 programmes during November to promote awareness about conservation activities in villages. Details are given in the above table.

On November 26, we organised a meeting at Chapri of Panchayat Samiti, VEDC members and villagers of Chapri, Kutwahi, Sautiya, Batwar, Patpara and Manegaon. During the meeting Amit Awasthi explained that there is need to collectively work for wildlife conservation through community participation.

He emphasised that there is a need to improve fodder cultivation plots, implement stall feeding for cattle, stop illicit tree felling, and provide employment and skill development opportunities to youngsters and women. He asked the villagers to apply for LPG connections through Ujjwala Yojana in order to reduce their dependence on forests for firewood.

Amit also asked the VEDC members and villagers to assist Forest Department staff in keeping a check on poaching and illegal activities.



Chapri - Amit Awasthi explained that there is need to collectively work for wildlife conservation through community participation

Amit Awasthi provided information regarding Ujjwala Yojna for LPG connection to villagers of buffer area. He helped them fill up application forms to get benefits of the

scheme. SF aims to promote usage of LPG in these villagers so as to reduce their dependence on forests for firewood.

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 giving assistance to villagers in setting up vermi-compost tanks and compost pits. During November, we helped 3 villagers dig compost pits – Kasturi Bai Maravi of Manegaon on November 24, Amar Singh Maravi of Patpara on November 27 and Laxman Uikey of Kutwahi on November 29.



Manegaon - Compost pit prepared with our assistance at Kasturi Bai's house

On November 25, our team provided training in preparing vermi-compost to Mantu Parte of Chapri village.



Chapri- Vermi-compost tank set up with our assistance at Mantu Parte's house

On November 10, our team organised an anti-plastic programme at Manegaon. 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 November 22.



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

Education

During the month our team organized environment education programmes in 10 schools in the villages in our area of operations.

| S. no | Date | School | Village | Number of participants |
|--------------|-------------|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Nov 1 | Government Primary School (GPS) | Sautiya | 22 |
| 2 | Nov 6 | GPS | Chapri | 28 |
| 3 | Nov 15 | Government Middle School (GMS) | Batwar | 29 |
| 4 | Nov 16 | GPS | Kutwahi | 31 |
| 5 | Nov 17 | GMS | Dhamangaon | 34 |
| 6 | Nov 19 | Education guarantee scheme school (EGS) | Samaiya | 21 |
| 7 | Nov 20 | GPS | Manegaon | 37 |
| 8 | Nov 23 | GMS | Patpara | 39 |
| 9 | Nov 24 | GPS | Batwar | 27 |
| 10 | Nov 27 | GMS | Mocha | 98 |
| | | | <i>Total</i> | <i>366</i> |



Kutwahi - Students listen to Sampath's lecture on conservation

Education van programme

There were 7 film shows on nature and wildlife conservation in November.

| S. No. | Date | Village | Film name | Participants |
|---------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | November 12 | Patpara Manegaon | Land of tiger part-1 | 37 |
| 2 | | Batwar | ----do---- | 42 |
| 3 | November 13 | Bhagpur | ---do--- | 32 |
| 4 | | Samaiya | ---do--- | 28 |
| 5 | | Kutwahi | ---do--- | 38 |
| 6 | November 14 | Dhamangaon | ---do--- | 39 |
| 7 | | Mocha | ---do--- | 95 |
| | | | Total | 311 |



Patpara - Students watch film on nature and wildlife conservation

Livelihood programmes

On November 14, we organised a programme to train villagers in cultivating mushrooms. The training was held for members of Mahaveer SHG in Chapri village. Trainers Mrs Raima Bai Parte and Mr Mantu Parte taught the members the technique for oyster mushroom cultivation.

Amit Awasthi explained about the economic benefits of mushroom cultivation and provided guidance for marketing as well. SF provided 3 kg mushroom spawn during the training. 20 packets were prepared by the trainees during the training. Executive Director for SF Mr Giri Venkatesan was also present during the training.



Chapri- Mushroom cultivation training for Mahaveer SHG

Employment Cell

We helped 2 youths get jobs during the month of November

| S. No. | Date | Village | Name | Monthly Salary in rupees | Education | Age | Job |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Nov 22 | Patpara | Sachin Dhurwey | 3800/- + meals | 9 th standard | 22 | Waiter at Vanya Resort, Khatiya |
| 2 | Nov 25 | Chapri | Rameshwer Uikey | 4200/- + meals | 9 th standard | 21 | Worker at Kanhatola Resort, Kutwahi |



Rameshwer Uikey (of Chapri) who got a job as waiter with our help at Kanhatola Resort, Kutwahi