

## TADOBA-ANDHARI TIGER RESERVE

JULY 2020

### Team:

*Conservation Officer: Ajay Poddar*

*Field Assistant: Kishor Dudhbarai*

### Highlights of the month:

- *2 garbage management programmes to mitigate human-wildlife – 55 villagers participated*
- *2 foot patrols in buffer area – 19 youths participated*
- *2 plantation drives- 250 saplings planted*
- *3 nature games - 97 children participated*
- *1 nature trail- 25 children participated*
- *3 women's SHG meetings were organized - 31 members attended*
- *2 VEDC meetings- 33 members attended*
- *3 livestock management meetings- 41 villagers attended*
- *Assisted 2 villagers to claim compensation for their cattle killed by carnivores*
- *Global Tiger Day 2020 celebration*

### Conservation activities

Date	Village(s)	Activity	No. of participants
15/07/2020	Khutwanda	Garbage management	29
16/07/2020	Kondegaon	Plantation drive (150 saplings planted)	10
18/07/2020	Mudholi	Foot patrol	09
19/07/2020	Khutwanda	Foot patrol	10
20/07/2020	Mudholi	Garbage management	26
25/07/2020	Khutwanda	Plantation drive (100 saplings planted)	07

10/07/2020	Mudholi	Livestock management	15
14/07/2020	Ashtha	-do-	14
23/07/2020	Kondegaon	-do-	12
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132</b>

During the month of July, we organized garbage management programmes at Mudholi and Khutwanda. After the programmes, conservation officer Ajay Poddar gave a talk on cleanliness and precautions to be taken for COVID19. The programmes were organized in order to sanitize the area around villages, as garbage spillover and food leftovers lure wildlife into villages and cause human-wildlife conflict. We also collected over 5 kilograms of plastic litter through public participation (shramdhaan). A total of 55 villagers volunteered for the drives.

Our team consists of local village youths, who have been supporting Satpuda Foundation and Forest Department in nature conservation activities.

We organized joint foot patrols at Khutwanda and Mudholi forest beats with Forest Department staff and volunteers from the villages. Keeping in focus recent tiger mortality case, we patrolled areas adjoining farmlands. Patrolling teams also noted water levels of water bodies, hoof and pug marks, presence of birds etc. The youths were also taught about floral indicators of bio-diverse forests.



*Mudholi- Youths patrol an area prone to poaching and observe hoof and pug marks during the patrol*

### ***Environment Education Programme***

<b>Sr. no</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Village/School</b>	<b>Programme</b>	<b>Participants</b>
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1	11/07/2020	Kondegaon	Nature game	30
2	21/07/2020	Ashtha	-do-	32
3	24/07/2020	Katwal	-do-	35
4	26/07/2020	Bhamdeli	Nature and bird watching trail	25
			<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>

During the month of July, we organized students' sensitization drive through wildlife conservation awareness and environment education programme in Kondegaon, Ashtha, Katwal and Bhamdeli villages. We engaged children in interactive nature game through which they learned about identification of wildlife and importance of their conservation. After the wildlife conservation session, we spoke to children about the COVID19 pandemic and its impact. A total of 122 children participated in the activities.



*(Left) Bhamdeli- Children participate in an interactive nature game*



*(Right) Khutwanda- Children observe birds during a bird watching and nature trail around a water body*

### ***Employment Cell***

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Attended</b>	<b>Program introduced</b>
1	12/07/2020	Dewada	SHG (Ramabai Mahila Bachat Gat)	10	Livelihood awareness session

2	17/07/2020	Katwal	SHG (Jai Matadi Mahila Bachat Gat)	09	Identification of birds and plants for aspiring nature guides
3	19/07/2020	Wadala	VEDC	16	Water conservation discussion
4	27/07/2020	Kondegaon	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	12	Identification of birds and plants for aspiring nature guides
5	30/07/2020	Khutwanda	VEDC	17	Discussion on joint foot patrolling in buffer involving MSEB employees

Due to current lockdown situation, most of the forest dwelling communities are going through hardship. Members of women's self-help groups (SHGs) requested us to conduct programmes on alternative livelihood options. Some members agreed to join online craft making course with the assistance of Satpuda Foundation.



*Kondegaon- Members of women's SHG attend a livelihood awareness session*

In village eco-development committee (VEDC) meetings, we talked about preventing electrocution of wild animals. We involved primary response teams (PRTs), Forest Department and Electricity Board. We also discussed the issues associated with domestic cattle grazing inside forests and resultant attacks on

cattle by wildlife. Some villagers have set up cattle sheds and do not allow their cattle to graze in forest areas. We discussed the benefits of fodder plantation and different types of grass during the meeting.



*Khutwanda- Meeting with cattle owners about livestock management*

*(Right) Meeting with PRT and VEDC members about preventing electrocution of wild animals*



*Wadala- Pandurange Dadmal, who opted for cattle shed with our support*

## ***Global Tiger Day 2020***

On July 29, Global Tiger Day, we organized a plantation drive with villagers of Khutwanda and a rally to promote awareness about tiger conservation at Katwal. During the rally, children chanted slogans and displayed placards about tiger conservation. Children also put on tiger masks while rallying through the village. Villagers selected a barren spot outside the village and planted saplings of various trees. After the rally and plantation, our colleagues Ajay Poddar and



Kishor Dudhbarai spoke to participants about the significance of the day. A total of 75 villagers participated in the rally and plantation drive.



*Katwal- Tiger conservation awareness rally on the occasion of Global Tiger Day 2020*



*Khutwanda- Plantation drive*