

TADOBA-ANDHARI TIGER RESERVE

MAY 2019

Team:

Conservation Officer: Mr. Ajay Poddar

Field Assistant: Mr. Kishor Dudhbarai

Highlights of the month:

- ⇒ *5 anti-plastic and public hygiene programmes to mitigate man-animal conflict - 129 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *250 pits dug for plantation- 32 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *1 foot patrol – 12 local youths participated*
- ⇒ *3 environment education programmes - 80 students attended*
- ⇒ *2 nature club activities in which 60 saplings were prepared – 22 students participated*
- ⇒ *6 women’s SHG meetings were organized - 95 members attended*
- ⇒ *7 VEDC meetings were organized - 156 members attended*
- ⇒ *Celebrations as per green calendar- World Migratory Bird Day, Recycling Day, International Bio-diversity Day*

Conservation

Date	Village(s)	Activity	No. of participants
02/05/2019	Kondegaon	Bore well cleaned	10
03/05/2019	Katwal	Anti-plastic drive	40
08/05/2019	Kondegaon/Mudholi	Cleanliness drive	47
11/05/2019	Khutwanda	Foot patrol in buffer area	12
26/05/2019	Adegaon	Anti-plastic drive	32
28/05/2019	Mudholi	Pits dug for plantation (80)	13
30/05/2019	Khutwanda	--do-- (170)	19

		Total	173
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On May 2nd, 3rd, 8th and 26th, we organized cleanliness and anti-plastic programmes at Katwal, Kondegaon, Mudholi and Adegaon. The programmes were organized to sanitize the area around villages as food litter sometimes leads wildlife to venture into villages and causes man-animal conflict. We also collected over 8 kilograms of plastic litter through public participation (*shramdhaan*). A total of 129 villagers including members of women’s self-help groups (SHGs) and children volunteered for these activities.



(Left) Adegaon- Children collect plastic litter during anti-plastic drive



(Right) Kondegaon- Villagers volunteer to clean a drainage canal in village

On May 28th and 30th, we organized a pre-plantation drive with villagers of Mudholi and Khutwanda. Villagers dug 250 pits around their village through *shramdhaan*. A total of 32 villagers participated in the drive. Saplings will be planted in these pits during the forthcoming monsoon.



Khutwanda - Villagers dig pits for plantation of saplings during monsoon

On May 11th, we organized a foot patrol in the buffer area around Khutwanda involving local youths and the Forest Guard. Participants learned about identification of scat, pug marks, etc. during the patrol.



Khutwanda- Local youths participate in foot patrol (Right) youths learn about scat identification

Education Programme

During May, we organized environment education programmes in Kondegaon, Mudholi, Adegaon and Katwal villages. We organized these programmes with students and teachers in order to make them aware of the importance of biodiversity and conservation. We taught them about the importance of nature and wildlife through interactive sessions and nature games. A total of 80 students participated in the programmes.

Students of Nature club 'Wagh' from Kondegaon village prepared 60 saplings to be planted around their school's premises. A total of 22 children participated in the activity and are willing to prepare more saplings ahead of the monsoon.



(Left) Kondegaon- Students learn about biodiversity through an interactive nature game

(Right) Katwal- Children prepare saplings for plantation



Khutwanda- Children observe birds during bird watching and nature trail

Celebration

World Migratory Birds Day

On May 14th and 15th, on the occasion of World Migratory Birds Day, we organized talks on bird species found in Tadoba. Students also prepared bird baths and placed them at several locations. A total of 18 children from Mudholi participated in this activity.

World Recycling Day

On May 17th, on the occasion of World Recycling Day, we organized a workshop on making paper bags for women of Katwal village. 15 women participated in the workshop and prepared more than 40 paperbags from old newspapers.

International Biodiversity Day

On May 22nd, we organized a rally to promote awareness about conservation and a class room lecture in Kondegaon and Bhamdeli village. We explained about endangered species found in the landscape. Children took out a rally through the village, chanting slogans about wildlife protection. A total of 45 children participated in the activities.



(Left) Mudholi- Children place a bird bath in a house on the occasion of World Migratory Birds Day (Right) Kondegaon- Conservation awareness rally on International Biodiversity Day



(Left) Katwal - Women make paper bags from old news papers on World Recycling Day

(Right) Bhamdeli- Kishor speaks to children about endangered species found in the Tadoba landscape

Sr. no	Date	Village/School	Programme	Participants
1	10/005/2019	Kondegaon	Nature/environment education	25
2	22/05/2019	Mudholi	-do-	31
3	27/05/2019	Katwal	Bird watching and nature trail	24
4	19/05/2019	Kondegaon	Nature club activity - 25 saplings prepared	10
5	31/05/2019	Katwal	--do-- (35)	12

			Total	102
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Celebration

Sr. No.	Date	Occasion (as per green calendar)	Activity	Village/No. of participants
1	14/05/2019	World Migratory Birds Day	Bird bath prepared	Mudholi/08
2	15/05/2019	--do--	--do--	Mudholi/10
3	17/05/2019	World Recycling Day	Paper bags prepared from old news papers	Katwal/15
4	22/05/2019	World Biodiversity Day	Awareness rally and lecture	Bhamdeli/45

Employment Cell

During May, we organized 7 village eco-development committee (VEDC) meetings and 6 women self-help group (SHG) meetings, focusing on alternative livelihoods which would reduce dependence on the forests that leads to man-animal conflict and degradation of forests. A total of 251 villagers attended these meetings.

In the SHG meetings, we discussed a handloom project proposed to be established in Moharli by the Forest Department. We also formed groups of members interested in being trained in making paper bags and in embroidery. The training will be provided to these SHG members in order to reduce their dependence on forests. A total of 95 members attended these meetings.

In the VEDC meetings, we discussed about plantation to be done in the buffer area and collection and distribution of saplings from nurseries. We also focused on increasing usage of solar-powered fencing in farm lands to prevent conflict with wildlife. We also discussed and explained short- and long-term benefits of fodder plantation. We also discussed about increasing man-animal conflict around Moharli and how to reduce it by adopting cattle sheds and stall feeding for cattle, which often fall prey to carnivores around the area when they go to the forests for grazing. A total of 156 villagers attended these meetings.



(Left) Dewada- VEDC meeting being held to discuss plantation



(Right) Katwal – Kishor speaks to members of women's SHG about handloom project to be set up by Forest Dept.

Details of the programmes are given below:

Sr. No.	Date	Village	Group	Attended	Program introduced
1	04/05/2019	Junona	VEDC	25	Livelihood awareness/training programmes discussion
2	05/05/2019	Adegaon	VEDC	30	--do--
3	06/05/2019	Bhamdeli	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	14	Sewing and embroidery training
4	07/05/2019	Khutwanda	SHG (Indira Mahila Bachat Gat)	16	-do-
5	12/05/2019	Junona	SHG (Irai Mahila Bachat Gat)	17	Paper bag making
6	13/05/2019	Dewada	VEDC	20	Grazing issue and man-animal conflict workshop
7	16/05/2019	UdiyaTola	VEDC	15	Workshop on solar-powered fencing
8	19/05/2019	Sitarampeth	VEDC	20	--do--
9	20/05/2019	Dewada	VEDC	25	Sapling collection and distribution for plantation
10	21/05/2019	Khutwanda	VEDC	21	--do--
11	24/05/2019	Mudholi	SHG (Valmiki	13	Paper bag making

			Mahila Bachat Gat)		
12	25/05/2019	Dewada	SHG (Ramai Mahila Bachat Gat)	18	Sewing and embroidery training introduction
13	29/05/2019	Sitarampeth	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	17	Paper bags making
			Total	251	