

TADOBA-ANDHARI TIGER RESERVE

APRIL 2019

Team:

Conservation Officer: Mr. Ajay Poddar

Field Assistant: Mr. Kishor Dudhbarai

Highlights of the month:

- ⇒ *3 anti-plastic drives and programmes to reduce man-animal conflict - 68 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *1 check-dam built- 9 villagers volunteered*
- ⇒ *4 women's SHG meetings were organized - 48 members attended*
- ⇒ *7 VEDC meetings were organized - 82 members attended*
- ⇒ *5 environment education programmes in Zilla Parishad (ZP) schools – 192 students attended*
- ⇒ *Nature club activity - Seed collection with students of Zilla Parishad (ZP) School, Khutwanda - 18 students participated*

Conservation

Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
04/04/2019	Katwal	Anti-plastic and cleanliness drive	18
15/04/2019	Kondegaon	--do--	20
21/04/2019	Khutwanda	Check dam construction	9
27/04/2019	Moharli	Anti-plastic drive	30
		Total	77

On April 4th, 15th and 27th, we organized cleanliness and anti-plastic programmes with villagers and children of Katwal, Moharli and Kondegaon. Programmes were organized to clean the main public areas in and around the villages and around the hand pumps and

wells. Wild growth and litter provide shelter to snakes and scorpions and attract scavengers. 68 villagers participated in activities organized by us.

On April 21st, nine villagers of Khutwanda volunteered to construct a check dam.



Children and elder villagers participate in cleanliness and anti-plastic drive at Moharli (left) and Kondegaon (right)

Environment Education

On April 4th, 9th, 16th and 24th we visited UdiyaTola, Adegaon, Bhamdeli and Khutwanda Zilla Parishad Schools to conduct programmes in order to teach students about Tadoba's biodiversity and its importance in the landscape. During these visits, our team interacted with students and organized lectures and presentations on forest fires. Various documentaries and film shows on wildlife conservation were shown to the students. A total of 160 students attended.

On April 21st, we organized a nature trail for students of Zilla Parishad School, Sitarampeth. During the nature trail, students spotted various birds and learnt about biodiversity and its conservation. A total of 32 students participated.

On April 27th, we also organized a walk for students of ZP school Khutwanda. During the walk, we collected over 1 kilogram of mixed seeds of local trees. A total of 18 students of the nature club 'Aswal' participated in the drive.



(Left) Adegaoon- Kishor explains about causes of forest fires and how to prevent them



(Right) Sitarampeth- Students learn about wildlife conservation through a local game 'Annasakhri'



Khutwanda- Members of the nature club 'Aswal' pose after collecting 1 kilogram of mixed seeds during the seed collection drive

Education Programmes:

Sr.no	Date	Village/School	Programme	Participants
1	04/04/2019	UdiyaTola	Tiger Tale, documentary on waste management	44
2	09/04/2019	Adegaoon	Class room lecture about forest fires, prevention	38
3	16/04/2019	Bhamdeli	--do--	41
4	21/04/2019	Sitarampeth	Nature trail and bird watching	32

5	24/04/2019	ZP school, Khutwanda	Class room lecture about forest fires, prevention	37
6	27/04/2019	-do-	Nature club activity-walk, seed collection	18
			Total	210

Employment Cell

During April, we organized 4 self-help group (SHG) meetings and 7 village eco-development committee (VEDC) meetings, focusing on alternative livelihoods which would reduce villagers' dependence on forests. 130 villagers attended these meetings.

In the VEDC meetings, we discussed about man-animal conflict in summer season when villagers tend to venture into conflict prone areas for minor forest produce (MFP) which often leads to confrontation with large carnivores and fatal attacks. We discussed about ways to reduce villagers' dependence on forests through the adoption of alternative livelihood options. We also spoke about forest fires during the season, ways to prevent fires and the need for all villagers to support fire-fighting efforts when fires do break out. A total of 82 villagers attended these meetings.

In the SHG meetings, we held review discussion with women of Katwal and Mudholi villages, who we had earlier trained in making paper bags. We also arranged a video tutorial for women who are interested in paper straw and bag making. A total of 48 women from different SHGs attended these meetings.



(Left) Sitarampeth- Farmers and VEDC members attend a session on MFP collection, forest fires and man-animal conflict



(Right) Katwal- Our colleague Kishor talks to women who are willing to take up paper straw making

Details of the programmes are given below:

Sr. No.	Date	Village	Group	Attended	Program introduced
1	04/04/2019	Bhamdeli	VEDC	12	Discussion about MFP collection and alternatives. Talk on man-animal conflict
2	05/04/2019	Kondegaon	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	11	Review work of SHG since its formation
3	08/04/2019	Dewada	VEDC	15	Livelihood awareness/training programmes discussion, review work of VEDC since its formation
4	06/04/2019	Sitarampeth	VEDC	8	Livelihood awareness/training programmes discussion, review work of VEDC since its formation
5	08/04/2019	Mudholi	SHG (Lakshmi Bai Mahila Bachat Gat)	10	Review work of SHG since its formation
6	15/04/2019	Dewada	SHG (Ramai Mahila Bachat Gat)	10	Formation of group and video tutorial of paper straws and bags making.
7	16/04/2019	Katwal	SHG (Jai Mata Di Mahila Bachat Gat)	16	--do--
8	17/04/2019	Mudholi	VEDC	20	Discussion about MFP collection and alternatives. Talk on man-animal conflict
9	22/04/2019	Adegaon	VEDC	10	--do--
10	26/04/2019	Katwal	VEDC	12	
11	30/04/2019	Moharli	VEDC	6	Local employment

					generation through soon to be established BRTC project
			Total	130	