

TADOBA-ANDHARI TIGER RESERVE

JUNE 2019

Team:

Conservation Officer: Mr. Ajay Poddar

Field Assistant: Mr. Kishor Dudhbarai

Highlights of the month:

- ⇒ *3 programmes to clean areas around bore wells and remove plastic litter to reduce chances of man-animal conflict - 85 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *260 pits dug for plantation - 22 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *1 foot patrol – 8 local youths participated*
- ⇒ *6 environment education programmes-176 students attended*
- ⇒ *1 nature club activity - 50 saplings prepared - 15students participated*
- ⇒ *8 women’s SHG meetings organized - 104 members attended*
- ⇒ *7 VEEDC meetings organized - 147 members attended*

Conservation

Date	Village(s)	Activity	No. of participants
06/06/2019	Katwal	Anti-plastic drive	40
11/06/2019	Khutwanda	Foot patrol	08
13/06/2019	Khutwanda	Anti-plastic drive	35
17/06/2019	Mudholi	Cleanliness drive	10
22/06/2019	Mudholi	Pits dug for plantation (140)	12
24/06/2019	Kondegaon	Pits dug for plantation (120)	10
		Total	115

On June 6th, 13th and 17th, we organized cleanliness and anti-plastic programmes at Katwal, Khutwanda and Mudholi. The programmes were organized in order to sanitize the area around villages, as litter sometimes leads wildlife to venture into the village and causes man-animal conflict. We collected over 5 kilograms of plastic litter through public participation (shramdhaan). A total of 85 villagers including members of women's self-help groups (SHGs) and children volunteered.

On June 22nd and 24th, ahead of the monsoon, we organized a pre-plantation drive with villagers of Mudholi and Kondegaon. Villagers dug 260 pits for plantation around their villages through shramdhaan. A total of 22 villagers participated in the drive.

Following recent reports of snares and wire traps in sensitive areas, on June 11th, we organized a foot patrol in the buffer area around Khutwanda village involving local youths with Forest Guard. Participants learned about key points to notice during patrol like scat identification, directions etc. A total of 8 local youths participated in the patrol.



(Left) Mudholi- Villagers clean the area around bore well through shramdhaan

(Right) Katwal- Children collect plastic litter during anti-plastic drive



(Left) Kondegaon (Right) Mudholi- Ahead of monsoon, villagers volunteer to dig pits for plantation in programme organized by us



Khutwanda- Local youths participate in foot patrol in buffer zone

Education Programme

During the month of June, we visited and organized environment education programmes in Kondegaon, Katwal Mudholi and Khutwanda 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 nature and wildlife's value through interactive sessions and various nature games. A total of 176 students participated in the programmes.

Students of Nature club 'Ashwal' from Katwal village prepared 50 saplings to be planted around their school's premises. A total of 15 children participated in the activity and said they were willing to prepare more saplings.



*(Left) Mudholi- Kishor interacts with students during an environment education programme
(Right) Kondegaon- Children engage in an interactive nature education game*



Katwal – Nature club 'Ashwal' prepares saplings for plantation drive



Khutwanda- Students being taken for a nature trail at a nearby perennial water body

Sr. no	Date	Village/School	Programme	Participants

1	04/06/2019	Kondegaon	Nature/environment education outdoors	25
2	09/06/2019	Mudholi	-do-	20
3	23/06/2019	Katwal	Nature club 'Aswal' activity - saplings prepared (50)	15
4	26/06/2019	Mudholi	Classroom lecture	28
5	27/06/2019	Kondegaon	--do--	35
6	28/06/2019	Katwal	--do--	40
7	29/06/2019	Khutwanda	Nature trail	28
			Total	191

Employment Cell

During June, we organized 7 village eco-development committee (VEDC) meetings and 8 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 and shared their thoughts.

In the SHG meetings, we discussed several livelihood-related issues. We also formed groups of interested members who are willing to take up training in making paper bags and in embroidery. A total of 104 members attended these meetings.

In the VEDC meetings, we discussed about the proposed plantation to be done, collection and distribution of saplings. We also focused on increasing usage of solar-powered fencing in farm lands to prevent herbivore conflict as well as carnivores and other wildlife from being electrocuted by electric fencing. We also discussed and explained short- and long-term benefits of fodder plantation. We also discussed about increasing numbers of man-animal confrontation in Moharli buffer area and how to prevent it by adopting cattle sheds and stall feeding for their cattle, which often fall prey to medium and large carnivores around the area. A total of 147 villagers attended these meetings.



Khutwanda- Members of women's SHG prepare bags from old newspapers



Mudholi- Kishor interacts with members of VEDC to discuss about plantation and check dams to be constructed

Details of the programmes are given below:

Sr. No.	Date	Village	Group	Attended	Program
1	02/06/2019	Bhamdeli	VEDC	20	Livelihood awareness/training programmes
2	03/06/2019	Mudholi	SHG (Valmiki Mahila Bachat Gat)	15	Making of paper bags
3	07/06/2019	Dewada	VEDC	18	Plantation drive
4	08/06/2019	Sitarampeth	VEDC	25	Livelihood awareness/training programmes
5	10/06/2019	Adegaon	VEDC	30	--DO--
6	12/06/2019	Kondegaon	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	10	Making of paper bags

7	14/06/2019	Sitarampeth	SHG (Adivasi Mahila Bachat Gat)	13	--do--
8	15/06/2019	Junona	SHG (Irai Mahila Bachat Gat)	12	Awareness session on livelihood options
9	16/06/2019	Adegaon	SHG (Indira Mahila Bachat Gat)	10	--do--
10	18/06/2019	Bhamdeli	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	17	Making of paper bags
11	19/06/2019	Khutwanda	SHG (Nutan Mahila Bachat Gat)	15	Making of paper bags
12	20/06/2019	Katwal	SHG (Ramai Mahila Bachat Gat)	12	Sewing and embroidery training
13	21/06/2019	Kondegaon	VEDC	20	Usage of solar-powered fencing
14	23/06/2019	Mudholi	VEDC	15	--do--
15	25/06/2019	Khutwanda	VEDC	19	--do--
			Total	251	