

TADOBA-ANDHARI TIGER RESERVE

OCTOBER 2018

Team:

Conservation Officer: Mr. Ajay Poddar

Field Assistant: Mr. Kishor Dudhbarai

Highlights of the month:

- ⇒ *5 anti-plastic and cleanliness drives - 220 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *2 check dams built through shramdhaan- 35 villagers participated*
- ⇒ *7 environmental education programmes- 455 students attended*
- ⇒ *4 women's SHG meetings were organized - 90 members attended*
- ⇒ *7 VEDC meetings were organized to discuss increasing grazing pressure in buffer zone - 205 members attended*
- ⇒ *1 meeting to select the candidates for four wheeler driver's training- 40 youths attended – 23 candidates selected*
- ⇒ *Man-animal conflict survey carried out in buffer villages*
- ⇒ *Wildlife Week 2018 Oct 1st to Oct 7th*

Conservation

Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
16/10/2018	Mudholi	Check dam construction	20
17/10/2018	Katwal	Anti-plastic drive	65
18/10/2018	Adegaon	--do--	50
23/10/2018	Khutwanda	--do--	40
25/10/2018	Mudholi	--do--	50

30/10/2018	Junona	Check dam construction	15
31/10/2018	Katwal	Bore well cleaned	15
		Total	255

On October 17th, 18th, 23rd, 25th and 31st, we organized cleanliness and anti-plastic programmes with villagers of Katwal, Adegaon, Khutwanda and Mudholi. Programmes were organized in order to sanitize the area around villages, as litter often leads wildlife to venture into the village and leads to man-animal conflict. We also collected over 15 kilograms of plastic litter through public participation (Shramdhaan). A total of 220 villagers volunteered for these activities.

On October 16th and 30th, we constructed check dams near Mudholi and Junona villages through Shramdhaan. 35 villagers volunteered for these activities.



Katwal: Students participate in clealiness drive and pose for picture after collecting plastic litter



(Left) Katwal- Volunteers remove weeds from area around handpump

(Right) Area after removal of weeds



(Left) Villagers construct check dam at Mudholi and (right) at Junona



Mudholi: Check dam completed

Education Programme

On October 11th, 12th and 13th, we visited and organized environmental education programmes in Zilla Parishad (ZP) schools of Bhamdeli, Sitarampeth, Katwal, Mudholi, Khutwanda and Chorgaon. A total of 420 students along with their teachers participated in the activities. We organized film shows, skit, documentaries and talks on wildlife conservation.

At Bhamdeli, during our programme, students performed a skit on co-existence between humans and wildlife

On October 12th, a film show was organized in the night on the request of villagers of Katwal and we had a chance to interact with a larger number of villagers who were present there for show. 65 villagers attended.

On October 20th and 27th, nature clubs of students of ZP school Khutwanda and Katwal participated in nature and bird watching trails where they identified several forest birds and learnt about biodiversity. Students participated in 'eco-friendly Rangoli' competition

as well. A total of 55 students participated in nature club activities. The nature clubs were set up by us and our team mentors the clubs.



(Left) Chorgaon : Students watch a documnetary on iconic tigresses Teliya sisters



(Right) Bhamdeli: Students perform a skit about co-existence between humans and wildlife



(Left) Khutwanda: Students observe forest birds during the bird watching trail



(Right) Katwal: Student draws a duck during 'eco friendly Rangoli' competition.

Sr. no	Date	Village/School	Programme	Participants
1	11/10/2018	ZP school, Bhamdeli	Wildlife film show: Teliya sisters of Tadoba	26
2	11/10/2018	ZP school, Sitarampeth	--do--	16
3	11/10/2018	ZP school, Kondegaon	Wildlife film show and documentary : man-animal conflict	26

4	12/10/2018	Mudholi	--do--	151
5	12/10/2018	Katwal	Classroom lecture and wildlife documentaries	80
6	12/10/2018	Katwal	Night film show on wildlife conservation and man-animal conflict	65
7	13/10/2018	Chorgaon	Wildlife film show and class room lecture	121
8	20/10/2018	Khutwanda	Nature and bird watching trail	35
9	27/10/2018	Katwal	'Rangoli' competition	20
			Total	540

Employment Cell

During October, we organized 4 self-help group (SHG) meetings and 7 village eco-development committee (VEDC) meetings, focusing on alternative livelihoods which would reduce dependence on the forests that leads to man-animal conflict and degradation of forest.

295 villagers attended these meetings and shared their thoughts. Newly-appointed range forest officer, Moharli buffer, Mr. Moon also attended one of the meetings and spoke to members of SHG, Katwal. Mr. Moon took an overview of the SHG's work since its formation and discussed about setting up a skill development centre.

In VEDC meetings, we discussed and explained short- and long-term benefits of fodder plantation. We also discussed about increasing man-animal confrontation in Moharli buffer and how to prevent it by adopting cattle sheds and stall feeding for cattle, which often fall prey to medium and large carnivores in the area.

Following our meeting with newly appointed TATR chief conservator of forests/field director Mr. N.R. Praveen, we started counselling the selected candidates for four wheeler drivers training programme to ensure that most of the trained candidates get placed in jobs after completion of the training. 40 youths from Katwal, Khutwanda, Mudholi, Kondegaon, Sitarampeth, Bhamdeli, Moharli, Junona, Dewada and Adegaon attended this meeting and we selected 23 from among them for the training. We are listing 30 candidates for the same.



*(Left) Moharli: Ajay Poddar speaks to candidates selected for four-wheeler driving training
(Right) Dewada: Selection of the candidates for same training programme.*



*(Left) Katwal: RFO Mr. Moon takes an overview of SHG work during a livelihood awareness session;
(Right) Bhamdeli- Kishor introduces small scale business ideas to members of SHG*



Khutwanda: Farmers and cattle owners attend a session on man-animal conflict

Details of the programmes are given below:

Sr. No.	Date	Village	Group	Attended	Program introduced
1	07/10/2018	Dewada	VEDC	22	Livelihood awareness/training programmes discussion.
2	14/10/2018	Junona	SHG (Irai Mahila Bachat Gat)	15	Small scale businesses discussed
3	15/10/2018	Bhamdeli	VEDC	25	Discussion over man-animal conflict in buffer
4	18/10/2018	Adegaon	VEDC	28	Utilizing 'Jan Dhan' fund for conservation activities
5	19/10/2018	Sitarampeth	VEDC	25	--do--
6	21/10/2018	Bhamdeli	SHG (Savitri Mahila Bachat Gat)	30	Small scale businesses discussed
7	22/10/2018	Junona	VEDC	35	Utilizing 'Van Dhan' fund for conservation activities
8	23/10/2018	Kondegaon	SHG (Valmiki Mahila Bachat Gat)	25	Small scale businesses discussed
9	24/10/2018	Katwal	VEDC	30	Four wheeler drivers training programme
10	28/10/2018	Kondegaon	VEDC	40	Grazing issues and to take up cattle stall feeding
11	30/10/2018	Mudholi	SHG (Adivasi Mahila Bachat Gat)	20	To set up skill development unit in Katwal by forest dept.
12	26/10/2018	Moharli	Local youths	40	Four wheeler drivers training programme
			Total	335	

List of candidates (four-wheeler driving training)

Sr.	Name	Age	Qualification	Village	Training
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No.					
1	Ankush Madhavi	20yr	8 th pass	Khutwanda	Four-wheeler driving training for youths of Moharli buffer
2	Yuvraj Madhavi	20yr	12 th pass	--do--	--do--
3	Snjay Madhavi	40 yr	B.A.	--do--	--do-
4	Ajinkya Poinkar	21yr	10 th pass	--do-	--do-
5	Sanket Bhaisare	20yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
6	Ganesh Poinkar	23yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
7	Shubham Bhaisare	20yr	12 th pass	--do--	--do--
8	Praveen Ambade	27yr	10 th pass	--do-	--do-
9	Amon Yete	22yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
10	Vitthal Neware	27yr	8 th pass	--do-	--do-
11	Sharad Choudhray	38yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
12	Gajanan Jambule	30yr	10 th pass	Mudholi	--do--
13	Prakash Gharat	38yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
14	Prateek Jambule	21yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
15	Vilas Dadmal	26yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
16	Suraj Gedam	22yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
17	Yogeshwar Pendam	24yr	12 th pass	--do-	--do-
18	Shankar Dadmal	26yr	10 th pass	Kondegaon	--do-
19	Anup Choudhary	27yr	10 th pass	--do--	--do-
20	Vinod Gharat	40yr	10 th pass	Bhamdeli	--do
21	Anand Nagdevte	26yr	8 th pass	Dewada	--do--
22	Bhimrao Nagdevte	28 yr	10 th pass	--do--	--do--
23	Vishal Tiwade	22yr	10 th pass	Adegaon	--do--

Wildlife Week 2018 – Tadoba- Andhari Tiger Reserve

Day 1:-Bicycle & awareness rally

On the inaugural day for Wildlife Week 2018, we organized a bicycle and awareness rally. Students from Zilla Parishad School Moharli, Katwal, Mudholi, Khutwanda and Kondegaon participated in the programmes along with their teachers. Forest Department officials, local law enforcement officials and Sarpanch also participated in the rally organized from Moharli gate. Over 250 students participated in both of the programmes. Programmes were organized in order to kick start the Week and underline its importance.



Katwal: Students during the marathon; children pose with animal masks on



Moharli: Conservation awareness rally and introduction of Wildlife Week 2018

Day 2:- Drawing competition & skit

On October 2nd, we organized a drawing competition for members of women's self-help groups from buffer zone villages and a skit competition for students of Zilla Parishad schools.

30 members from different self-help groups participated in the drawing competition and created interesting artworks. It was the first such programme organized for SHG in village.

Students of Zilla Parishad School, Mudholi and Katwal performed a skit, where they portrayed co-existence between humans and animals from the ages and anthropogenic pressure on forests nowadays.



Mudholi: Members of women's self- help group participate in drawing competition



Katwal: Students performing a skit on co-existence between humans and wildlife

Day 3 & 4:- 'Catch the tail' Kabaddi tournament

On October 3rd and 4th, we organized a 2-day Kabaddi tournament titled 'Catch the tail' in Mudholi. 8 teams having 7 players each participated from Mudholi, Katwal, Kondegaon, Khutwanda, Adegaoon and Sitarampeth villages. We organize sports events for local children in order to develop competitiveness and resilience from a young age.



Mudholi: First day of the 'Catch the tail' Kabaddi tournament



Mudholi: Final of the kabaddi tournament

Day 5:- Shramdhaan activities (anti-plastic drive and check dam construction)

On October 5th, we organized anti-plastic and cleanliness drives in Adegaon village followed by a check –dam construction through shramdhaan. More than 60 villagers, including children, participated in the activity.



Adegaon: Anti-plastic drive; children collect plastic litter



Adegaon: Check dam construction through shramdhaan

Day 6:- Essay writing & drawing on environmental issues & wildlife

On October 6th, we organized drawing and essay writing competitions for students of Zilla Parishad School, Chorgaon. The theme was wildlife and environmental issues. 40 students participated in the competitions.



Chorgaon: Drawing and essay writing competition

Day 7:- Prize distribution and closing ceremony

On October 9th, we organized prize distribution and closing ceremony of Wildlife Week 2018. On the occasion, Mr. R.G. Moon (Range Forest Officer, Moharli buffer) was invited along with Sarpanch, Mrs. Gajbhe of Katwal village and principal of the school, Mr. Rajgire.

Mr. Moon addressed the participants and the attendees and spoke about the need to protect biodiversity. Our Conservation officer Ajay Poddar also addressed the villagers about wildlife conservation involving local communities and thanked them for their participation. The invited guests then distributed the certificates of participation and prizes to the winners and runner-ups.



Katwal: Prize distribution and closing ceremony

Wildlife week 2018: TATR

Sr. No.	Programme	Location	No. of participants
Day 1 - October 1st , 2018			
1	Bicycle Marathon	Katwal, Mudholi	30
2	Conservation awareness rally and lecture	Moharli	220
Day 2 – October 2nd , 2018			
3	Drawing competition and Skit	Katwal, Mudholi	40
Day 3- October 3rd , 2018			
4	Kabaddi Tournament	Mudholi	52

Day 4- October 4th , 2018			
5	--do--	--do--	26
Day 5- October 5th , 2018			
6	Shramdhaan activities	Adegaon	60
Day 6 –October 6th , 2018			
7	Essay writing and drawing competition	Chorgaon	40
Day 7 – October 9th , 2018			
8	Prize distribution and closing ceremony	Katwal	95
9			563