

**NAVEGAON-NAGZIRA TIGER RESERVE
FEBRUARY- 2020**

Team:

Mukund Dhurve – Assistant Conservation Officer

Highlights

- ⇒ *Joined Forest Department staff on foot patrols on 5 occasions*
- ⇒ *1 shramdhaan programs to clean water hole*
- ⇒ *3 shramdhaan programs to clean area next to hand pumps*
- ⇒ *3 anti-plastic programs*
- ⇒ *Organized 1-day nature camp at Nagzira for 1 school - 31students and 3 teachers attended*
- ⇒ *2 youths sent for driving training program*
- ⇒ *Wetlands Day celebrated at Bolunda school*
- ⇒ *Helped SHG at Bhajepar prepare vermi-compost pit*

Conservation

Date	Village	Activity	No. of participants
20, 21, 22/02/2020	Pongezara	Our volunteers from youth club joined Forest Dept. in day and night patrol	5
23/02/2020	Mangezari to Bagadband	Our volunteers from youth club joined Forest Dept. in day and night patrol	4
24/02/2020	Comp. No. 109	Our volunteers from youth club joined Forest Dept. in day and night patrol	6
25/02/2020	Comp. No. 114	Program to clean water hole	5
01/02/2020	Thadezari	Program to clean area around hand pump	5
11/02/2020	Kodelohara	Program to clean area around hand pump	5
15/02/2020	Wadegaon	Program to clean area around hand pump	6
01/02/2020	Thadezari	Anti-plastic program	4
11/02/2020	Kodelohara	Anti-plastic program	5
15/02/2020	Wadegaon	Anti-plastic program	4

Our team organized a programme on February 25 to clear a water hole in Compartment No. 114, which had become clogged with silt and organic litter.



Water hole cleaning at Comp. No. 114

Our team organized 3 community assistance programs on February 1, 11 and 15 to clear areas around hand pumps at Thadezari, Kodelohara and Wadegaon. Unemployed youths from Mangezari participated in all the programs which were led by Mukund. (Details of the programs provided in the table above)

Water had spilled over while people drew from the hand pumps and had stagnated, leading to proliferation of mosquitoes and insects. Our teams cleared the area, removing scum and organic growth and dug canals to drain away the stagnant water.



Volunteers clean area around hand-pump at Thadezari

Our team joined the Forest Department in day and night patrols on 5 occasions during the month (details are given in the table above). Besides our staff, volunteers from a youth club at Mangezari also joined in the patrols. The youth club was set up with our assistance and is mentored by our Conservation Officer Mukund Dhurve.



Day patrol at Comp. No. 109 (Left)



Night patrol on Mangezari-Bagadband road

During the month, our team organized 3 anti-plastic programs to clean polythene/plastic litter from villages. The programs were organized on February 1, 11 and 15 at Thadezari, Kodelohara and Wadegaon villages respectively. Mukund organized the programs which were attended by villagers and village eco-development committee (VEDC) members. The plastic litter has been kept in our Mangezari office and will be sent to Tiroda for recycling.



Anti-plastic program at Wadegaon

Education

There were 6 education programs in February 2020.

Sr. no	Date	Name of School	Events	No. of Participants
1	03/02/2020	Ashram School, Koilari	Information on wetlands and birds	73
2	05/02/2020	Adilok High School, Bolunda	Information on wetlands and birds	106

3	10/02/2020	Ashram School, Mendha	Information on wetlands and birds	103
4	13/02/2020	GES High School, Kuradi	Information on wetlands and birds	170
5	19/02/2020	Bhimrao High School, Wadegaon	1-Day Nature Camp	31
6	28/02/2020	ZPPS, Pindkepar	Information on wetlands and birds	54
			Total	537



Wetlands Day celebration at Bolunda School



Bird-watching programme on Wetlands day

On February 5, we celebrated World Wetlands Day at Adilok High School, Bolunda. During the programme, our team gave students information about wetlands and their importance, prominent wetlands in the region, different species of local water birds and migratory birds. A total of 103 students and 5 teachers participated in the programme.



Making list of unemployed youth

On February 19, Satpuda Foundation and Forest Department jointly organised a one-day nature camp for teachers and students of Bhimrao High School, Wadegaon to promote awareness about local biodiversity and the need for conservation. We organized a nature trail and a nature game for the students and teachers and also a safari in Nagzira. 31 students and 2 teachers attended the camp. The expenses for the camp and the logistics were handled by the Forest Department while our team was the trainers.



Nature Trail at Nagzira for students of Wadegaon School

On February 27, we assisted Jai Seva Bachat Gat, a self-help group (SHG) based in Bhajepar, in setting up a vermi-compost unit as part of our initiative to promote organic farming and reduce the impact of chemical-based fertilizers on farms adjoining forests.

Employment Cell Training activities

During the month, we identified 2 youths to attend a driving training programme at Ashok Leyland Driving Training Centre, Chhindwara. The expenses for the month-long training programme will be borne by the Forest Department.

Sr. no	Name	Village name	Qua.	Age	Trade
1	Santosh Neharu Kodwati	Kodelohara	12	23	Ashok Leyland Driving Centre, Chhindwara
2	Reval Laxman Uikey	Koilari	12	24	Ashok Leyland Driving Centre Chhindwara