

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
(WILDLIFE) WEST, MUMBAI**

NEAR MHB COLONY, L.T. ROAD, BORIVALI (WEST), MUMBAI - 400 091.
Ph-(022) 28692593 FAX-(022) 28692668 E-mail : apccfwlmumbai@mahaforest.gov.in

Sub.: The Technical committee meeting
held on 28/04/2014 for evaluating research
/study projects.

No.D-4/Wildlife/ C.S.No.1/ 376 /of 2014-15
Mumbai – 400 091, Dated 17/05/2014

To,

1. Dr.Santosh Gaikwad - Professor of Anatomy, Bombay, Veterinary college, Near Mahananda Dairy, Goregaon (East) Mumbai-400 065
2. Suvarna More - Dept.of Zoology, P.V.P.Mahavidyalaya, Kavthe Mahakal, Dist.Sangli.
3. Chief Conservator & Director, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali
4. Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Pune / Kolhapur
5. Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Thane
6. Ms. Iravatee Majgaonkar, student of MSc Wildlife Biology and Conservation at National Centre for Biological Science, Bangalore -560 065, Email id- iravatim@ncbs.res.in, mscwildlife@ncbs.res.in
7. Krishna Tiwari, Conservation Centre. Bramhand Society, Phase V, Bldg no. 2, flat no 503, Ghodbunder road, Thane (W) Pin-400 607
8. Vijay Awasare, Faizal Muzawar and Nitin Valmiki, C/o Faizal Muzawar, MHB Colony Room no.106/107, Mahavir Nagar, Ekta Nagar, New Link Road, Opp. D.P. Petrol pump, Kandivali (West), Mumbai-400 067,
9. Dr. Abi Tamim Vanak, National Environmental Sciences Fellow, and Fellow, Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation ATREE, Bangalore , Email id-avanak@atree.org, abivanak@gmail.com, Fax-(91)8023530070
10. Dr. Orusilyas Vitae, AB-91, Medical Colony Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202 002, Email. Id- orus16@rediffmail.com
11. Kartik Shankar, Associate Professor for Centre for Ecological Science IISC, Bangalore- 560012, Email id- kshanker@ces.iisc.ernet.in
12. Dr. P.A Sebastian, Collaborator Division of Arachnology Dept. of Zoology Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Kochi Kerala 682013, Email id-shoffice@sancharnet.in
13. Dr. Deepak Barua, Assistant Professor Biology Pune- 411008, Email id-dbarua@iiserpune.ac.in
14. Dr. Narendra Y. Kadoo, Senior Scientist, Biochemical Sciences Division, CSIR National Chemical Laboratory, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune-411008
15. Niyati S. Bajekal Student, Krantisinh Nana Patil College of Veterinary Science, Shirwal, dist. Satara
16. Nitin Walmiki, C/o Faizal Muzawar, MHB Colony Room no.106/107, Mahavir Nagar, Ekta Nagar, New Link Road, Opp. D.P. Petrol pump, Kandivali (West), Mumbai-400 067

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

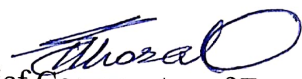
17. Rebecca Hui, Email id- rebcui3@gmail.com

18. Mayukh Dey, Student of Fergusson College, Pune Email id- mayukh.d27@gmail.com

✓ 19. Supriya Radheshyam JhunJhunwala, 22 Vaikunth Society, Lallubhai Park, Andheri,
Mumbai-400 058, Email id- sjhunjhunwala2@rediffmail.com

Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Committee, for evaluation and approval of research / study project held on 28/04/2014 at APCCF (Wildlife) West, Mumbai office are enclosed here with for information and necessary action.

Encl - As above


Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)
and Chief Wildlife Warden

Copy submitted to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) Maharashtra State, Nagpur for information.

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

Minutes of the meeting of the Technical Committee, for evaluation and approval of research / study project related to Wildlife in Protected Areas and other areas held on 28-04-2014 in office of Office Of The Additional Principal Chief Conservator Of Forests (Wildlife) West, Mumbai

The meeting of Technical Committee, for evaluation and approval of scientific research / study in the protected areas and pertaining to the scheduled species, held on 28-04-2014 at Borivali was chaired by of Shri S.A. Thorat, APCCF (Wildlife) West, Mumbai. The list of persons attending the meeting is enclosed as annexure "A".

The Chairperson welcomed all the Technical Committee members, special invites and researcher. The meeting started with welcome address by the chairperson. Out of 14 research proposals listed for meeting 10 proposals were discussed by the Technical Committee. The gist of the deliberation the presentation by the researches and discussion held on proposed, field work related to research projects are given below.

- 1. Project Title - Understanding the breeding ecology of white-backed vultures**
(Gyps bengalensis) in a mixed use landscape in the districts of Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra.

Researcher - Ms. Iravatee Majgaonkar, student of MSc Wildlife Biology and Conservation at National Centre for Biological Science, Bangalore -560 065

This project is sponsored by NCBS Bangalore an autonomous centre under Department of Atomic Energy (project being funded by department of Science and Technology Government of India.) The project aims at determining breeding success of white backed-vulture which nests in landscapes having different land use pattern and understanding their nest site selection pattern of forage availability and possible threat during the breeding period. The project will not involve collection of any biological substances, photography will be done during day time without any flash equipment. This will involve observing nests in a non invasive measure habitat variables directly or by using remote tools sensing and conducting structured interviews in villages situated around nesting site. This project will add to scientific data related to white backed-vulture conservation. Study area will be Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Dist. in Maharashtra, for the period from may 2014 to May 2015.

Project is recommended by committee.

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

2. Project Title - Documenting Leopards using Infrared Camera Traps in Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali, Mumbai

Researcher - Krishna Tiwari, Conservation Centre. Bramhand Society, Phase V, Block no. 2, flat no 503, Ghodbunder road, Thane (W) Pin-400 607

This project is funded by National Geography Society for Natural Geographic Television Documentary series Titled Urban Jungles.

Project aims at documentation of leopards using infrared Camera traps in and around the peripheral areas of SGNP, Arey Milk Colony and Film city it will also record the behavior, ecological character of leopards. Shri Krishna Tiwari will be working independently on this project and will not require any supervisory or monetary support from forest Department. There is no trophy hunting or collection of specimen involved in this study. The leopard will only be observed and monitored through the camera traps and this footage and information will be purely used for research, documentary and film only.

The project aims to answer some important queries, as frequencies of the leopards coming out in human settlement, their dependency on human settlement for survival, preference of densely populated neighborhood, versus less inhabited areas, attraction to garbage and scavenging prey of livestock found in abundance statements, territorial boundaries of leopard in and around SGNP peripheral areas.

This documentation using infrared camera traps will help in mitigation of man, animals (leopards), conflict in Protected Areas in this city of Mumbai. This project is recommended by Director, SGNP, Borivali.

Committee recommends project proposal, this being - Special type of shooting, necessary prescribed fee will be recovered by Chief Conservator & Director, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali, permission is granted for one year which will be further extended after reviewing output by Chief Conservator & Director, SGNP, Borivali.

Project recommended.

3. Project Title - Project for the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali-1. Reptile and Amphibians Survey and account of that give base line data. 2. Mammals Survey with special reference to Human and Animal Conflict 3. Fresh Water Native Fish of Powai Vihar and Tulshi Lake reference to anthropogenic activity

Researcher - Vijay Awasare, Faizal Muzawar and Nitin Valmiki, C/o Faizal Muzawar, MHB Colony Room no.106/107,
d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

Sanjay C
Phase V, Block
No funds of their own Project report is send to Chief Conservator & Director, SGNP , Borivali for deciding importance of the subjects and to take necessary decision.

4. **Project Title** - Permission to conduct occupancy surveys of mammals in grassland of Maharashtra Pune (Wildlife)

Researcher - Dr. Abi Tamim Vanak, Natioal Environmental Sciences Fellow, and Fellow, Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation ATREE, Bangalore

Absent

5. **Project Title** - Habitat Suitability modeling and corridor mapping of Gaur. Kolhapur (Wildlife)

Researcher - Dr. Orus Ilyas Vitae, AB-91, Medical Colony Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202 002

The project proponent Dr. Orus Ilyas explained project by power point presentation and contained that there is sharp declined in numbers of gaur in Western Ghat this is objected by committee members & verified with data available in APCCF office. It is revealed form record that numbers of gaur has not shown any decline in the population . Also the project title is not self explanatory, proposal was not submitted as per guideline approved by government of Maharashtra. Hence project proponent has been advised to submit application in proper format with all required details.

The committee members opinioned that study should carried out in broad perspective, about general prey base inclusive of gaur as this area is tiger reserve, study on prey base for better management is of immense necessity .

Dr. Orus Ilyas consented to modify the scope and objective of study with regards to requirement of management .

She is advised to submit revised proposal in consultation with Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Kolhapur for further action.

6. **Project Title** - Frugivorous birds of the western Ghat: A macroecological
SGNP Borivali, Kolhapur, Thane Protected area

Researcher - Kartik Shankar, Associate Professor for Centre for Ecological
IISC, Bangalore- 560012

Absent

7. **Project Title** - Diversity of spiders and related organisms from the protected and
unprotected areas of Western Ghat of Maharashtra- Kolhapur (Wildlife)

Researcher - Dr. P.A Sebastian, Collaborator Division of Arachnology Dept. of
Zoology Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Kochi Kerala 682013

Absent

8. **Project Title** - Plant phenology and pollinator diversity in major forest types in the
BWS-Pune (Wildlife)

Researcher - Dr. Deepak Barua, Assistant Professor Biology Pune- 411008

This project aims to understand the relationship of the timing of plant reproductive events & dependent insect communities specifically how this varies across species in different forest types through seasons & between years. This project is sponsored by IISER Trivandrum and Pune project involves collections of certain plant specimens and some specimens of insects. As area of operation for this project is Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary. Such type of sample collection requires permission from Chief Wildlife Warden.

Research in this project will be useful for forest management as well as wildlife management hence committee recommended permission to the project subject to permission for sample collection from CWLW, Nagpur this project for period up to June-2018.

Permission for one year may be granted and further extended every year up to Dec-2018 after review of performance by CCF Pune Wildlife Division.

Project Recommended.

9. **Project Title** - Permission for survey and sampling in Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary
Pune (Wildlife)

Researcher - Dr. Narendra Y. Kadoo, Senior Scientist, Biochemical Sciences Division,
CSIR National Chemical Laboratory, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan,
Pune-411008

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

Project aims to Studying adaptation biology and understanding / exploiting medicinally important plants for useful bioactives. This project sponsored by C.S.I.R National Chemical laboratory Pune.

This is project involves collection of sample of 10-12 leaves of selected plant species every month during the year 2014-15 main objective is to understand the physiology of forest trees and their response to the changing environment. Main focus will be on plant species, Ficus talboti (Pipar), Ficus arnottiana (Payar) and Memecylon umbellatum (Anjan). These are commonly found tree species is semi-evergreen forest of Western Ghats.

Period of research will be May-2014 to Mar-2015. Research will be carried out by Dr. Narendra Kadoo and his team of other 6 persons. Research in this project is useful for forest management and basics data collection of medicinal plants available in Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary.

Committee recommended this project.

10. Project Title - Parasitological Studies on one Carnivores and Three Hebivores in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve Kolhapur (Wildlife)

Researcher - Niyati S. Bajekal Student, Krantisingh Nana Patil College of Veterinary Science, Shirwal, dist. Satara

This project aims to study Parasitological Studies on one Carnivore and Three Hebivores in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve in association with Mr. Rohan Bhate, Honorary Warden of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve. This research will be carried out by 6 student of Krantisingh Nana Patil College of Veterinary Science, Shirwal Dist-Satara.

This project will be carried out privately by their own funds.

Project involves

1. Tracing of routes taken by the animals In their search for food and water.
2. Photography of soil, water and snails from the river bank and hair, boe, seeds and germinated seeds, flies found in scat samples and photography of scat sample itself.
3. Collection of scat samples of the specified animals.
4. Collection water, soil and snails near the river bank.
5. Collection of hair, bones from the scat samples of the carnivore and collection of seeds and germinated seeds form the sample, and insects and flies around the sample.

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

6. Transportation of the sample to the laboratory.

As this study can be carried out in buffer area of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve in management point of view. research will be useful for managing buffer area protect wildlives in core area Committee recommends this project ,for carring out buffer zone of Sayhadri Tiger Reserve. Period of project will be May 2014 to Oct. 2014.

Project is recommended by committee.

11. Project Title - Monitoring Vulture Breeding Population in Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary with awareness measures.

Researcher- Nitin Walmiki, C/o Faizal Muzawar, MHB Colony Room no.106/107, Mahavir Nagar, Ekta Nagar, New Link Road, Opp. D.P. Petrol pump, Kandivali (West), Mumbai-400 067

This project aims

1. The study will involve attempts to understand why vulture population decline, and what forms of active management such as captive breeding and support of wild populations can be used to protect vulnerable species.
2. Identify and monitor vulture breeding locations in the PWLS and nearby areas.
3. Monthly monitoring of vulture populations
4. This study also involve awareness drive in the nearby area of PWLS, local consultation is primary need in this project. (in this we will consult with local peoples in nearby area and tell them not to use diclofenac and other such drugs which can harm the vulture populations)

This project will be helpful for better understanding behavior of vulture and their conservation.

Study will be helpful to collect data of vultures in and around Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary. Project proponent Shri. Nitin Walmiki propose to carry out this project with help of 4 other persons with financial assistance from Forest Department. As project is important for conservation and management and vultures.

Committee recommends to project subject to approval of funds from higher authority. Project proponent is advised to contact local Protected Area Authority i.e. Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) Thane and assist them to finalize proposal for obtaining financial approval from higher authority.

Project is recommended.

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx

12. Project Title - Understanding Leopard Adaptations in Urban Areas of SGNP Borivali

Researcher- Rebecca Hui, Email id- rebcui3@gmail.com

This project aims to investigate the relationship between urbanization and leopards in the periphery of the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali and determine potential mitigation measures to minimize future conflict.

Project proponent Rebecca Hui is a foreign researcher and she has not submitted authentication from ministry of external affair. This project can not be recommended.

Committee does not recommend this project

13. Project Title - Conserving Crocodiles and their natural habitat

Researcher- Mayukh Dey

Project was discussed in the meeting. As the researcher is very young student and not working under senior experienced guide. He is advised to submit his proposal through his senior advisor under whom he is working.

Regarding other matters he is requested to approach Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali with authority is revised proposal.

Proposal is appreciated and recommended subject to above fulfillment.

14. Project Title - Ecosystem service provided by the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali

Researcher - Supriya Radheshyam Jhunjunwala

Absent

ANNEXURE- A

List of Technical Committee Members who attended the meeting

1. Dr.Santosh Gaikwad - Professor of Anatomy, Bombay, Veterinary college, Near Mahananda Dairy, Goregaon (East) Mumbai-400 065
2. Suvarna More - Dept.of Zoology, P.V.P.Mahavidyalaya, Karthe Mahakal, Dist.Sangli.

List of Forest Officers who attended the meeting

1. Chief Conservator & Director, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali
2. Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Pune/ Kolhapur
3. Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Thane

List of Researcher who attended the meeting

1. Ms. Iravatee Majgaonkar, student of MSc Wildlife Biology and Conservation at National Centre for Biological Science, Bangalore -560 065
2. Krishna Tiwari, Conservation Centre. Bramhand Society, Phase V, Bldg no. 2, flat no 503, Ghodbunder road, Thane (W) Pin-400 607
3. Vijay Awasare, Faizal Muzawar and Nitin Valmiki, C/o Faizal Muzawar, MHB Colony Room no.106/107, Mahavir Nagar,Ekta Nagar, New Link Road, Opp. D.P. Petrol pump, Kandivali (West), Mumbai-400 067,
4. Dr. Orusilyas Vitae, AB-91, Medical Colony Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh-202 002,
5. Dr. Deepak Barua, Assistant Professor Biology Pune- 411008,
6. Dr. Narendra Y. Kadoo, Senior Scientist, Biochemical Sciences Division, CSIR National Chemical Laboratory, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune-411008
7. Niyati S. Bajekal Student, Krantisingh Nana Patil College of Veterinary Science, Shirwal, dist. Satara
8. Nitin Walmiki, C/o Faizal Muzawar, MHB Colony Room no.106/107, Mahavir Nagar,Ekta Nagar, New Link Road, Opp. D.P. Petrol pump, Kandivali (West), Mumbai-400 067
9. Rebecca Hui,
10. Mayukh Dey, Student of Fergusson College, Pune

d:\d4 12-13 30 11.12\2013-14\research meeting\28.04.2014meeting.docx