

Student Conference on Conservation Science - Bangalore

www.sccs-bng.org



2013 CONFERENCE REPORT



COMPILED BY

SCCS 2013 Organizing Committee

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Final Report

Overview

The Student Conference on Conservation Science - Bangalore (SCCS-BNG) is a conference that aims to facilitate interaction, exchange of research ideas and methods, build contacts and capacity of young researchers in all aspects of conservation science. The SCCS-Bangalore 2013 conference was held from 25th to 28th September.

SCCS conferences originated in Cambridge (2000) and the first sister conference outside Cambridge began in Bangalore in 2010 as an annual event. Today there are additional sister SCCS conferences in New York, Brisbane and a new SCCS conference series started in November 2013 at Beijing, China.

SCCS-Bangalore started in 2010 with an initial focus on South and South-East Asia. Since 2012 we have broadened the geographical scope to include students studying and implementing conservation in Africa as well. Following feedback from the last conference, this year SCCS-Bangalore was a four-day conference with the first day featuring long workshops (9am to 4pm), a panel discussion and the second Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture. The 2013 conference was inaugurated by Drs. Upinder Bhalla, Dean, National Centre for Biological Sciences and Renee Borges, Chairperson, Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc in a brief session in the afternoon of 25th September 2013. The following three days of the conference (26th - 28th September) included seven plenary talks, 20 student talks and 70 posters. This year close to 400 people attended the conference, with 30 foreign participants from 11 countries. One evening plenary had an audience of 620. We received 100 abstracts, each of which was evaluated by at least three external reviewers. We selected 90 abstracts for the conference that were assessed to be of fairly good quality and selected 20 of these from diverse locations and fields to be presented as talks. We continued with the tradition of having a single talk session (no parallel sessions) at a time with 15 minutes allotted for each student talk. SCCS-Bangalore is unique in that it is organized by a consortium of institutions and supported by a much wider set of institutions and individuals. This model has enabled us to run the conference efficiently, to control costs and draw upon a wide and diverse range of expertise and resources.

Plenary speakers

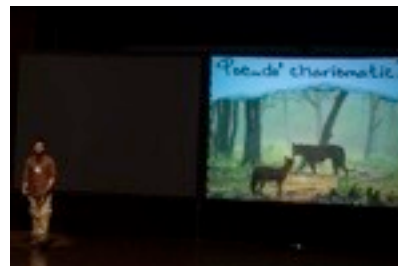
This year we had four excellent scientific plenaries by T N C Vidya, Kay Holekamp, Wolfgang Dittus and Wayne M. Getz. These talks covered long-term work on elephant social organisation and behavior in India, behaviour and physiology of spotted hyenas in Kenya, demography and social evolution of primates in Sri Lanka, and anthrax epidemiology in Namibia. All four talks were very well received by students and other participants.



Nigel Collar - Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture



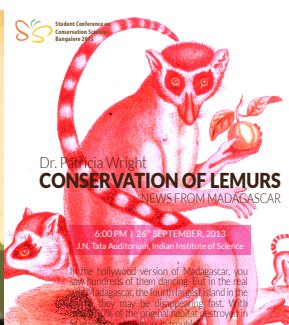
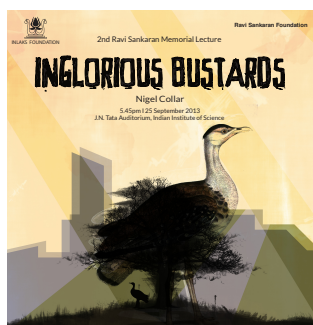
TNC Vidya Plenary



Student talk

Public engagement at SCCS

SCCS Bangalore believes in engaging with the public on key conservation issues. This year SCCS organized several talks that were open to the public. These talks were also highlighted to the public through attractive posters put up in public spaces across the city. The evening plenaries and the Ravi Sankaran Memorial lecture were public events. Patricia Wright, Romulus Whitaker and Nirmal Kulkarni gave the evening plenaries which focused on conservation in practice. These talks covered conservation of lemurs in Madagascar, setting up and nurturing numerous conservation institutions across India and a new model for forest conservation in the Western Ghats.



Highlights of select student talks

Students talked about various conservation issues including effects of herbivory, impacts of invasive species, wildlife disease, protected area planning, landscape ecology of large carnivores, primate behavior, foraging ecology of a species of bat, impacts of urbanisation on urban green spaces and many other very interesting conservation issues. The student talks presented work from seven countries, four Asian including India and three African.

SCCS-BNG and media

This year the conference had a media team consisting of volunteer science writers. The team coordinated different media related activities, made press releases of each day's events, facilitated regular media interviews with our plenary speakers, helped translate interesting student research for the public and provided visiting media personnel assistance through the conference.

SCCS – Bangalore 2013 received some online and print media coverage during the conference. The Times of India, a leading English newspaper in India interviewed a few of the student participants and highlighted the work they were presenting during the conference. Rom Whitaker one of the star evening plenary speakers of the conference was also featured in an interview with a Times of India reporter about his love and fascination for reptiles and what needs to be done to conserve them in India.

The links to some of these media articles can be found here –

About the conference: <http://www.currentscience.ac.in/Volumes/105/09/1206.pdf>

Student research: [20 gm bird braves human invasion, climate change](#)

[Young conservators](#)

Plenary speaker: [Working with reptiles is ingrained in my genes](#)

Who's Who Session

Twenty three institutions/organizations participated in the Who's Who session and this aspect of the conference was appreciated by the student participants. This platform allowed various institutions and NGOs working in the conservation field to publicize their work and potentially recruit interested students. This year we also focused our efforts on bringing representatives from different field stations across India so that students could become aware of potential field study sites.



Who's Who session



Who's Who session



Who's Who session

Who's Who Session Participants

1. Ecologics.in
2. Zoo Outreach Organization / Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society
3. Madras Crocodile Bank Trust/ Centre for Herpetology
4. Agumbe Rainforest Research Station
5. Andaman And Nicobar Islands Environmental Team (ANET) / Centre for Island Ecology
6. Turtle Survival Alliance
7. Equitable Tourism Options (Equations)
8. Gharial Conservation Alliance
9. Bombay Natural History Society
10. Indian Foundation for Butterflies
11. Wildlife Research and Conservation Society
12. Centre for Wildlife Studies / Wildlife Conservation Society-India
13. Kalpavriksh Environment Action Group
14. Mhadei Research Centre
15. Hypnale Research Station
16. India Biodiversity Portal
17. Humane Society International / India
18. WWF-India
19. Dakshin Foundation
20. Saevus Wildlife India Llp
21. Wildlife Trust of India
22. India Bioscience
23. Current Conservation

Workshops

This year we had 10 long workshops, and 26 short workshops of which six were repeated

LONG WORKSHOPS

TITLE	RESOURCE PEOPLE
Basic GIS and Remote Sensing	Ravi Bhalla and V. Srinivas
Data Analysis consultation	Suhel Quader, Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi, Umesh Srinivasan, and Varun Varma
The nitty-gritty of writing and presenting research	Yateendra Joshi
Understanding Invasives	Lantana Working Group: Avik Ray, Tarsh Thekaekara, Ramesh Kannan, Dr. A J T Johnsingh and Geetha Ramaswami
Freshwater Conservation Biology: Concepts and Techniques	Robin Abraham, Tarun Nair, Vidyadhar Atkore, & Nachiket Kelkar
Occupancy sampling, modelling and estimation: what, why, and how?	Devcharan Jathanna
Conservation Science & Practical Management: Cooperation or Conflict?	Vidya Athreya and MD Madhusudan
Conservation Semi-Arid Savanna Grasslands and their Associated Fauna	Abi Tamim Vanak
Study Design in Ecology and Conservation	Advait Edgaonkar & Kavita Isvaran
Veterinary Medicine and Conservation Practice - A perspective	Dr Guha Dharmarajan, Dr Gowri Mallapur, Dr Sreejith Radhakrishnan, Dr Arun Zachariah & Dr Sridhar Ramaswamy



Photography workshop



Landscape genetics workshop



Conservation Philosophy workshop

SHORT WORKSHOPS

TITLE	RESOURCE PEOPLE
Thinking Quantitatively	Suhel Quader
Researching environmental issues with human subjects: An introduction to mixed methods approaches	Asmita Kabra
Elements of effective study design	Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran
How to Read a Scientific Paper	Nandini R.
Making Effective Presentations	Yateendra Joshi
Capture, handling & telemetric monitoring of large carnivores	Kay E. Holekamp
Ethics in Human and Animal Research	Krithi K. Karanth, Abi Tamim Vanak and Kartik Shanker
How R you doing? Using the R platform for managing and analyzing ecological datasets	Raman Kumar
Techniques To Aid Nocturnal Mammals Studies	Patricia C. Wright, R. Nandini and Divya Mudappa
Bioacoustics	Rohini Balakrishnan
Publication Ethics	T.A. Abinandanan
Graphics and Visualisation in R	Umesh Srinivasan
Landscape Genetics	Uma Ramakrishnan and Srinivas Vaidyanathan
Demystifying Conservation Education	Nimesh Ved & Pranav Trivedi
Science Journalism: The Long and the Short of It	Anil Ananthaswamy
Humans Among Wildlife or Wildlife Among Humans? The Complexities of Human Wildlife Conflicts	Vidya Athreya, MD Madhusudan, Kavita Isvaran, M. Anand Kumar, M.S. Nishant and Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi
Conservation Philosophy	Nigel J. Collar
Language and Ecology – Communicating Nature Through Local Languages	P. Jeganathan & S. Theodore Baskaran
How To Tell A Conservation Story	Pavithra Sankaran
Applications of Molecular Phylogenetics in Conservation Biology	K. Praveen Karanth
Workshop on Wildlife Corridors – Conservation Challenges for Large Mammal Dispersal	Dipankar Ghose & Joseph Vattakaven
Getting the Measure of Diversity: A Macro-ecological Perspective	Kartik Shanker, Navendu Page & SP Vijayakumar
Introduction to Basic Photography	Kalyan Varma
Story-telling Through Images	Kalyan Varma
How To Get Your Photo-story Published	SAEVUS
The Challenges of Coordinating Conservation Efforts	Chris Bowden

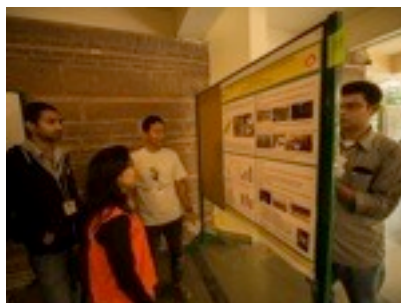
Collaborative events at SCCS 2013

Ravi Sankaran Inlaks Fellows' Meet - 24th September 2013

A one-day meeting was organized to get the recipients of the Ravi Sankaran Inlaks fellowship since 2010 to meet each other, discuss their work and their ideas about conservation and to interact with senior conservation practitioners. This meeting was held at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, just ahead of the Student Conference on Conservation Science-Bangalore (SCCS-Bangalore) and was attended by 14 Ravi Sankaran Inlaks fellows and four resource people.

Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture

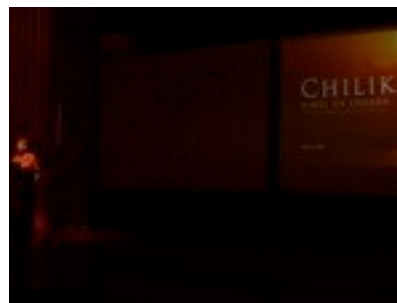
This year SCCS Bangalore with the Ravi Sankaran Foundation and Inlaks Foundation jointly hosted the second Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Nigel Col- lar.



Student poster and evaluation



Shekar Dattatri at film premiere



Chilika movie premiere

Jewel of Odisha - Movie Premiere

SCCS-Bangalore hosted the premiere of the film 'Jewel of Odisha' produced, photographed and written by Shekar Dattatri for Chilika Development Authority. The film is about the largest brackish water lagoon in Asia and is the largest wintering ground for waterfowl in the Indian subcontinent. The highly endangered Irrawaddy dolphin along with varied other biodiversity are found in this lagoon. In 1981 Chilika was designated as India's first Ramsar Site. However, by the late 1990s it had become a weed-infested, dying lake due to various ecological changes. This movie with its excellent visuals traces the trajectory of the careful, science-driven restoration of the wetland by the Chilika Development Authority.

Funding and sponsorships

SCCS-Bangalore 2013 had a budget of about Rs. 30 lakhs. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support we received from Wildlife Conservation Trust, National Centre for Biological Sciences, INLAKS India Foundation, Ravi Sankaran Foundation, Foundation for Ecological Security, The Duleep Mathai Nature Conservation Trust, Nature Conservation Foundation, Mr. Mohandas Pai, a resident of Bangalore who wishes to remain anonymous, Wildlife Trust of India, Bombay Natural History Society, WWF-India, Titan Company, International Crane Foundation, Mr. David Quammen, Greenpeace-India, Strand Life Sciences, Chilika Development Authority and Wildlife Conservation Society-India.

SCCS-Bangalore is developing long-term relationships with many of its donors and is glad to be supported by a diverse set of institutions and individuals. The finances for SCCS-Bangalore 2013 were largely managed by Madras Crocodile Bank Trust and some funds were routed through Nature Conservation Foundation and Indian Institute of Science.

Bursaries

With the support of our donors, the conference provided partial and full support for select students to attend the conference from their hometown. This year SCCS has supported about 40 students to attend the conference.



Inaugural session



Student awards



Young participants at their poster

Student Awards

SCCS had invited external referees to evaluate all student talks and posters. All talks were evaluated by a single panel while different groups of referees evaluated posters in different themes.

The award winners for best talks and posters in SCCS-Bangalore 2013 are listed below:

Best poster award: Devathi Parashuram

Best poster runner-up: Navendu Page

Best talk award: Varun Varma

Best talk runner-up: Yadugiri V T

Best talk second runner-up: Siddharth Bharath Iyengar

Best talk third runner-up: Shreya Dasgupta

Best talk fourth runner-up: Meghna Agarwala

This year we also had audience choice awards for the best poster and two awards for an online photo competition that was conducted for the SCCS student participants. The online photo competition was to highlight behind-the-scenes action for work presented at SCCS-Bangalore.

Audience Choice 1: V Anoop

Audience Choice 2: Mahi Puri



Student poster



Students at talk



Interactions at talks



Photo Competition 1st Prize: Herman Njoroge (Kenya)

"I had just crossed River Ewaso Nyiro at a point known to harbor Hippos and crocodiles in an attempt to rescue my camera traps (Hanging on neck) from being carried away by the flash floods that were being experienced in the area. The consequences were a dislocated shoulder, twisted ankle and a near drowning experience. This picture was taken by my assistant after the horrifying experience. The toil was however worth it since this particular site produced very good data that has culminated into the work I am going to present in the SCCS-Bangalore 2013! ☺"



Photo Competition 2nd Prize: Ganga Ram Regmi (Nepal)

"I had been interviewing a 86 year old Sherpa (one of the ethnic groups of Nepal) woman for assessing her knowledge and perceptions about red panda and its conservation in Solukhumbu district in north-central Nepal. Though she was old, she was so interesting and had good knowledge and love with the wildlife occurred in the surrounding community forests. When I showed her a picture of red panda and its piled droppings, she immediately took me to the nearest forest and showed me the droppings of red panda at an elevation of 3800 m asl. That was the first presence record of red panda in that area and I had also used that location to develop my presence only red panda distribution models in Hindu-Kush Himalaya which I am presenting in this SCCS-Bangalore! "

In-kind support for various awards was kindly provided by numerous sources listed below:

Books from Centre for Wildlife Studies/ Wildlife Conservation Society-India

Books from Sandesh Kadur, Felis Creations

Books from Universities Press

Books from Dr. Kamal Bawa

Subscriptions from Current Conservation

Subscriptions from SAEVUS

Subscriptions from Sanctuary Asia

Books from Dr. Deepak Apte

Anonymous cash donor

Conference organisation and support

The conference was successful due to critical help and support of key people. We received tremendous logistical support from Geetha Gadagkar and Nirmala from CES, Gowri Mallapur and Mohan from MCBT and Nidhi Srivastava and Pradip Pyne from NCBS. At critical stages, Mr. T.S. Tirumurti, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi took personal efforts to ensure that the visas of several plenary speakers and participants were issued at extremely short notice. Milesworth Travels was the official travel partner and coordinated all ticket arrangements. Arjun Shankar and his team of Seema Shenoy and Swaroop S. put up an exciting new and youthful website (www.sccs-bng.org) with various dynamic features including the online abstract submission and review system. Mr. Venkatesh and his team from Vintage – The Ethnic Caterer provided excellent catering for the conference. Adhith Swaminathan continued as the SCCS-Bangalore Conference Administrator from May and played a major part in the conference organization. We have kept to the tradition of having all emails to SCCS replied to within a 24-hour period - something that was also appreciated by the participants.

SCCS 2013 was supported by a fairly large team of volunteers (about 40) from institutions located in Bangalore and Mysore (ATREE, CES, Dakshin Foundation, NCBS, and NCF). The teams of volunteers were vital as in previous years for the efficient running of the conference and are listed on page 19.

Conference Team

Conference Administrator: Adhith Swaminathan

Organising Committee

R. Sukumar (Lead Organiser, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore)

Hari Sridhar (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore)

Jahnvi Joshi (National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore)

Ravi Chellam (Madras Crocodile Bank Trust, Bangalore)

V.V. Robin (National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore)

SCCS Media Team

Sandhya Sekar

Neha Sinha

Shreya Dasgupta

Shreya Yadav

Suneha Mohanty

Advisory Committee

1. M.D. Madhusudan (Nature Conservation Foundation)
2. Suhel Quader (Nature Conservation Foundation)
3. Kartik Shanker (Centre for Ecological Sciences)
4. Firoz Ahmed (Aaranyak)
5. Asad Rahmani (Bombay Natural History Society)
6. Ghazala Shahabuddin (Ambedkar University Delhi)
7. Krithi Karanth (Centre for Wildlife Studies)
8. Mewa Singh (Mysore University)
9. Advait Edgaonkar (Indian Institute of Forest Management)
10. Asmita Kabra (Ambedkar University Delhi)
11. Nitin Rai (Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment)
12. Rhys Green (SCCS - Cambridge)
13. V.B. Mathur (Wildlife Institute of India)
14. Ravi Bhalla (Foundation for Ecological Research, Advocacy and Learning)
15. Uma Ramakrishnan (National Centre for Biological Sciences)
16. Ravi Singh (WWF-India)
17. Sarath Kotagama (University of Colombo, Sri Lanka)
18. Gopi Sundar (International Crane Foundation and Nature Conservation Foundation)

Resource persons (including talk and poster judges)

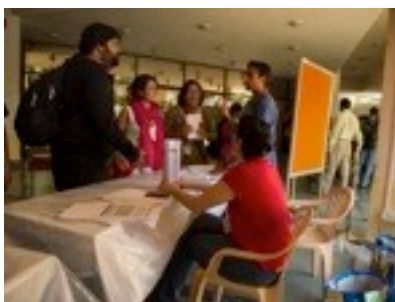
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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Abi Tamim Vanak | 27. M. Anandakumar |
| 2. Advait Edgaonkar | 28. Maria Thaker |
| 3. Anil Ananthaswamy | 29. Nachiket Kelkar |
| 4. Arjun Sivasundar | 30. Nandini Rajamani |
| 5. Arun Zachariah | 31. Navendu Page |
| 6. Asmita Kabra | 32. Nigel Collar |
| 7. Avik Ray | 33. Nimesh Ved |
| 8. Bhargavi Rao | 34. Nirmal Kulkarni |
| 9. Chris Bowden | 35. Nishant |
| 10. Deepak Barua | 36. Nitin Rai |
| 11. Devcharan Jathanna | 37. Nitya Ghotge |
| 12. Dipankar Ghose | 38. P. Pathak |
| 13. Farah Ishtiaq | 39. Patricia Wright |
| 14. G.S. Bhardwaj | 40. Pavithra Sankaran |
| 15. Geetha Ramaswami | 41. Pranav Trivedi |
| 16. Ghazala Shahabuddin | 42. Praveen Bharagav |
| 17. Guha Dharmarajan | 43. Praveen Karanth |
| 18. Jayashree Ratnam | 44. Raman Kumar |
| 19. Jegannathan P. | 45. Ramesh Kannan |
| 20. Kalyan Varma | 46. Ravi Bhalla |
| 21. Kartik Shanker | 47. Robin Abraham |
| 22. Kavita Isvaran | 48. Rohini Balakrishnan |
| 23. Kay Holekamp | 49. Romulus Whitaker |
| 24. Krithi K. Karanth | 50. S. P. Vijaykumar |
| 25. Krushnamegh Kunte | 51. SAEVUS |
| 26. M D Madhusudan | 52. Shomita Mukharjee |

53. Sreejith Radhakrishnan
 54. Sridhar Ramaswamy
 55. Srinivas Vaidyanathan
 56. Suhel Quader
 57. Sumanta Bagchi
 58. Sunetro Ghosal
 59. Sunil Limaye
 60. Sutirtha Dutta
 61. T. Ganesh
 62. T.A. Abinandanan
 63. Tarsh Thekaekara
 64. Tarun Nair
 65. Theodore Baskaran

66. TNC Vidya
 67. Uma Ramakrishnan
 68. Umesh Srinivasan
 69. Varun Varma
 70. Vidhyadhar Atkore
 71. Vidya Athreya
 72. Vidyanand Nanjundiah
 73. Vinatha Vishwanathan
 74. Vishwesh Guttal
 75. Wayne M. Getz
 76. Wolfgang Dittus
 77. Yateendra Joshi



Rom Whitaker plenary



Volunteers



Tea break



Conference registration



Workshop



Who's who session

Conference volunteers

Centre for Ecological Sciences:

1. Viraj Torsekar
2. Dinesh K.P.
3. Aparna Lajmi
4. Nitin Saxena
5. Swagat S.P.
6. Manvi Sharma
7. Kunal Arekar
8. Rayees A. Malik
9. Mehreen Khaleel
10. Ekta Choudhary
11. Kesang Bhutia
12. Amod Zambre
13. Anuradha B.
14. Bharti D.K.
15. Aditi J.
16. Anne T.

National Centre for Biological Sciences :

17. Siddharth Iyengar
18. Anusree A.S.
19. Amruta Varudkar
20. Nelum Wickramasinghe
21. Mihir Umarani

22. Priya Tamma

Nature Conservation Foundation:

23. Rishi Sharma
24. Narayan Sharma
25. Anushree B.
26. Lansothung Lotha
27. Abhishek Goyal
28. Ganesh R.

Dakshin Foundation:

29. Murali M.
30. Mrinalini Siddhartha
31. Paroma Sengupta
32. Nupur Kale
33. Marianne Manuel
34. Sajan John

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment:

35. Chintan Sheth
36. Prasanna Kolte
37. Vikram Aditya
38. Allwin Jesudasan
39. Aniruddha Marathe

Others:

40. Rakhee Karumbaya

41. Chetan Nag

42. Sartaj Ghuman

43. Shakthi Sritharan

44. Prasanjeeth Yadav

Other contributors and acknowledgements

Photo and video coverage: Kalyan Varma, Prasenjit Yadav and Ganesh Shankar

The Organising Committee of SCCS-Bangalore 2013 thanks the three Host Institutions of SCCS-Bangalore 2013 (Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc; National Centre for Biological Sciences and Madras Crocodile Bank Trust) for all the institutional support that they have received.

Many thanks are due to numerous members of staff from the organising institutions for their help. These include:

Indian Institute of Science: S. Nirmala, Geetha Gadagkar, Palani, Guest house caretakers, Security Personnel.

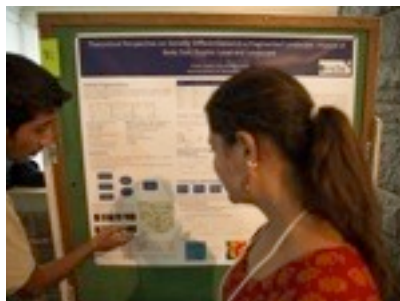
Madras Crocodile Bank Trust: Gowri Mallapur, Mohan

Nature Conservation Foundation: Rakhee Karumbaya

National Centre for Biological Sciences: Nidhi Srivastava, Shaju Varghese

Logo Design: Raman Kumar

Web design and implementation: Arjun Shankar



Students at poster



Student interacting



Students at poster

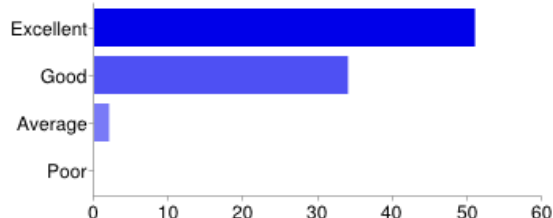
Feedback from participants

We collected feedback from participants on the conference and also specifically on individual workshops. This year we had increased the number of workshops and plenary speakers based on feedback from the previous year's conference.

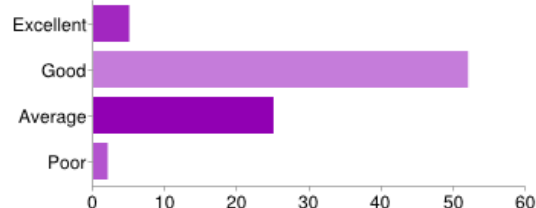
We requested participants to provide their feedback on the 2013 conference through an online feedback form integrated into the SCCS website. Only 87 of the 400 participants provided their feedback, despite several reminders. A summary of the feedback is provided in the form of visuals below. The main take-home points that we will keep in mind when planning next year's conference, are:

1. Participants were happy with the overall content and structure of the conference. In particular, the student talks, workshop sessions, Who's Who session and plenary sessions received largely positive feedback.
2. The responses indicate that there is room for improvement in the organisation and time allotted to the poster session. The responses are also equivocal on whether the conference should introduce speed talks from next year.
3. Majority of the respondents found the conference useful in multiple ways including learning new skills, acquiring information on conservation science and meeting people in their field.
4. Majority of the respondents learnt about the conference by word-of-mouth or through online mailing lists. Only a small proportion of people learnt about the conference through posters put up on institute notice boards.
5. Most of the plenaries were rated highly by the respondents. Approximately 20% of respondents felt that the conference could include more plenary talks.
6. Different aspects of conference organisation (website, email communication with organisers, food, lodging, registration and payment, outreach) were also scored highly by the respondents.
7. Approximately 25% of the respondents felt that the conference registration fee was too high.
8. We have to find more engaging ways of collecting feedback

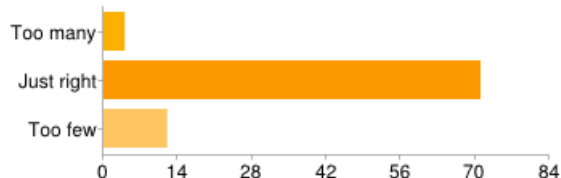
How would you rate the Conference overall -



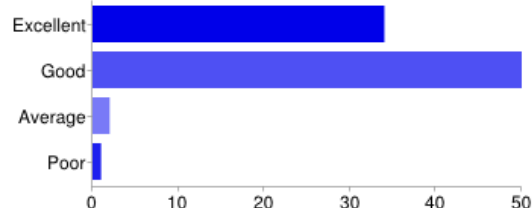
What do you think about the organisation of the poster session? -



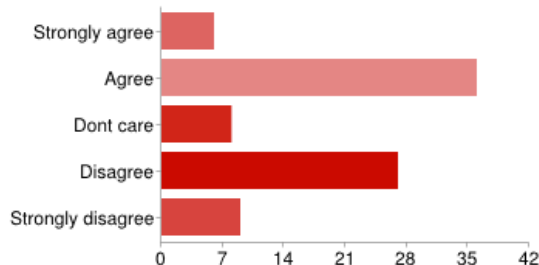
What did you think about the number of student talks? -



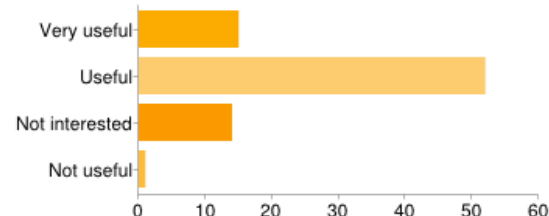
What do you think about the organisation of the workshop sessions? -



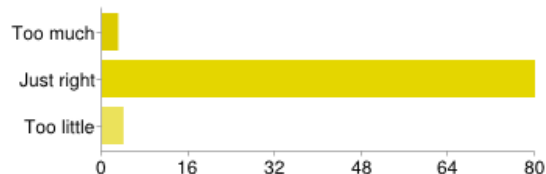
Would you like to see student speed talks (4 mins) at SCCS -



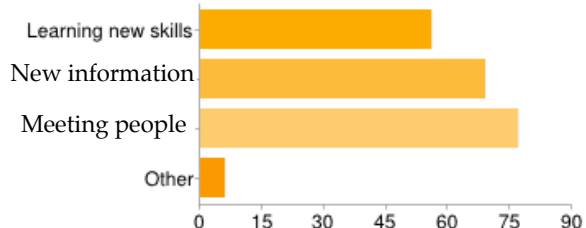
How did you like the Whos Who session? -



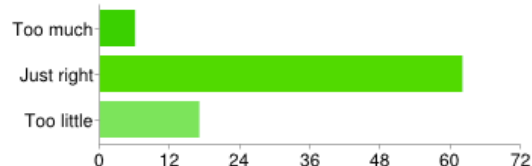
What did you think about the time allocated to the student talks? -



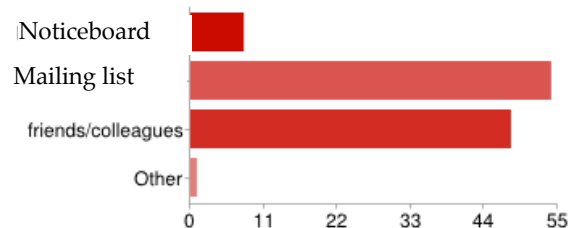
What did you find useful about the conference?



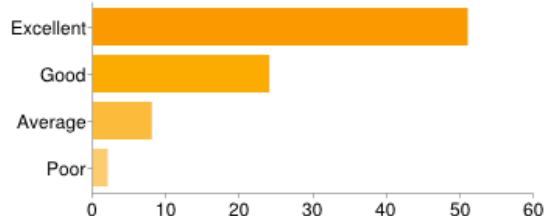
What did you think about the time allocated to student posters? -



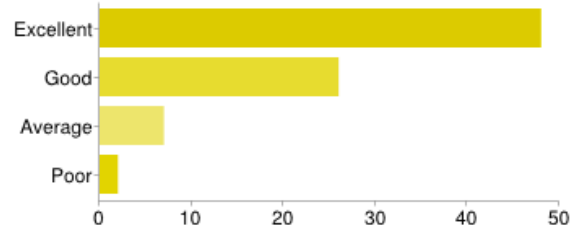
How did you find out about the conference?



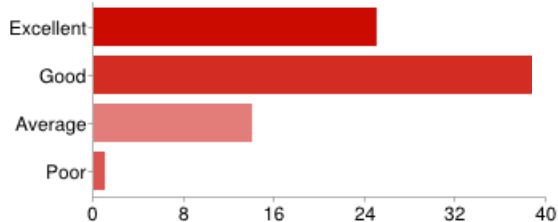
How would you rate the plenary talk of Romulus Whitaker -



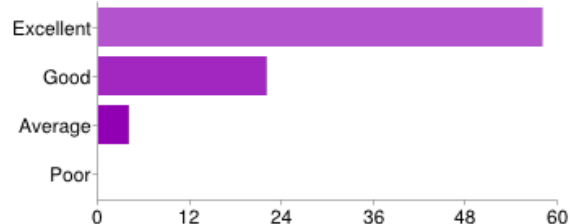
How would you rate the plenary talk by Nigel Collar? -



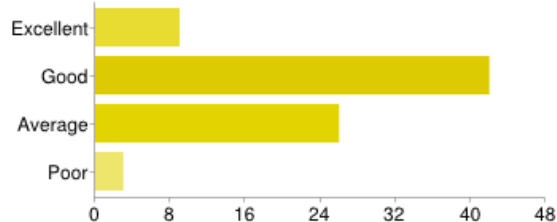
How would you rate the plenary talk of TNC Vidya -



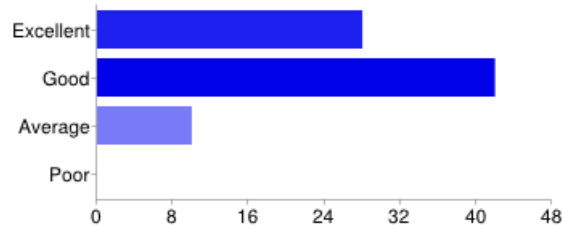
How would you rate the plenary by Patricia Wright -



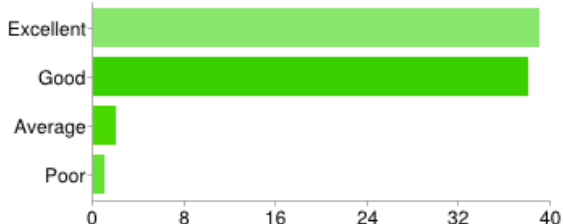
How would you rate the plenary talk of Wayne Getz -



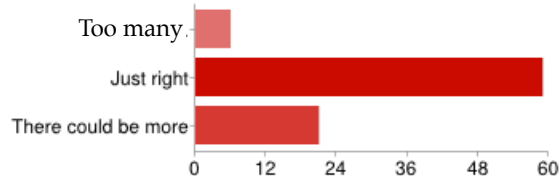
How would you rate the plenary talk of Wolfgang Dittus -



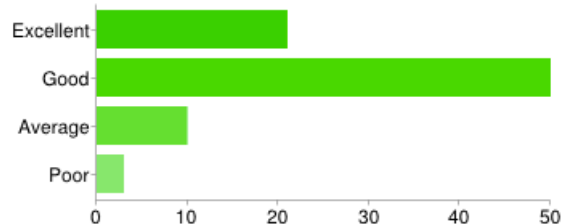
How would you rate the plenary by Kay Holekamp -



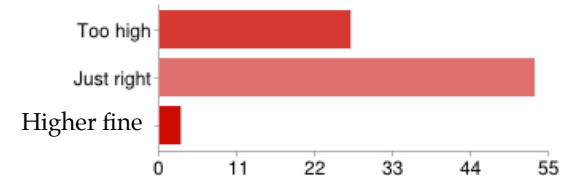
What do you think about the number of plenary speakers? -



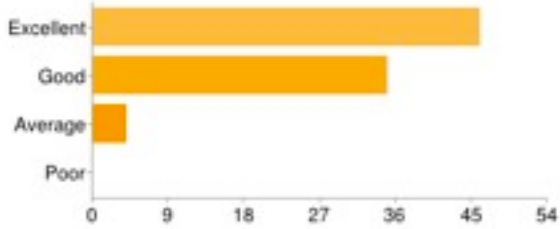
How would you rate the plenary talk of Nirmal Kulkarni -



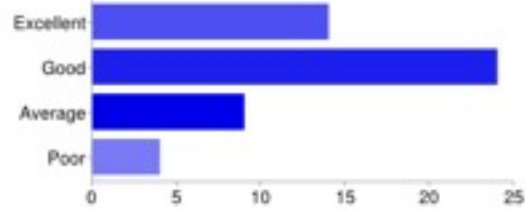
What did you think about the registration fee? -



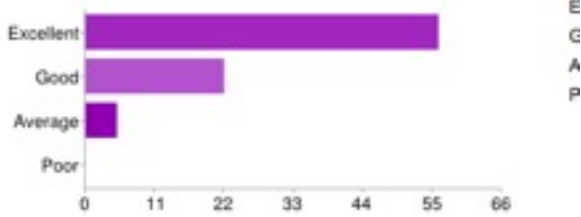
How would you rate the conference website? -



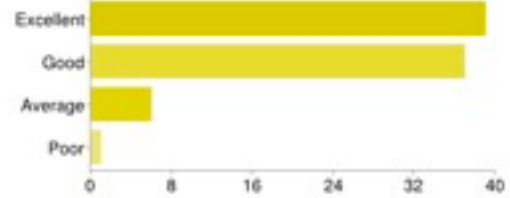
How would you rate the accommodation provided at this conference



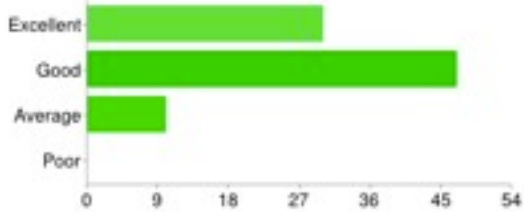
How would you rate email exchanges with the conference organizers



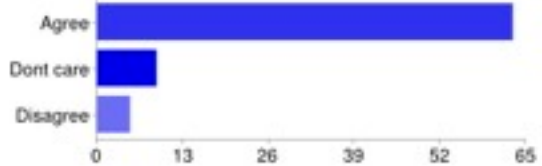
What did you think about the online mode of registration and payment.



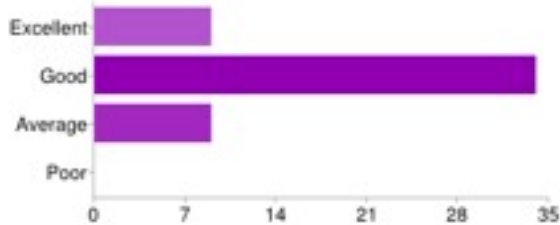
What did you think about the food served at the conference overall?



Do you like the idea of your work being taken to the public (media)?



How would you rate the discussion on research ethics -



Schedule



25 - 28 SEPTEMBER
FULL SCHEDULE

Time	Event	Venue
08.00	Registration	JN Tata Main Auditorium
09.00	Long Workshops	
	Basic GIS and Remote Sensing Ravi Bhalla and V Srinivas	CES Computer Lab
	Conservation Science & Practical Management: Cooperation or Conflict? Vidya Athreya and MD Madhusudan	JN Tata Main Auditorium
	Conservation Semi-Arid Savanna Grasslands and their Associated Fauna Abi Tamim Vanak	JN Tata Seminar Hall A
	Freshwater Conservation Biology: Concepts and Techniques Robin Abraham, Tarun Nair, Vidyadhar Atkore, & Nachiket Kelkar	JN Tata Seminar Hall C
	Occupancy sampling, modelling and estimation: what, why, and how? Devcharan Jathanna	JN Tata Seminar Hall B
	Study Design in Ecology and Conservation Advait Edgaonkar & Kavita Isvaran	KSCST
	The nitty-gritty of writing and presenting research Yateendra Joshi	Materials Engineering
	Understanding Invasives Lantana Working Group	CES Seminar Hall
	Veterinary Medicine and Conservation Practice - A perspective Dr Guha Dharmarajan, Dr Gowri Mallapur, Dr Sreejith Radhakrishnan, Dr Arun Zachariah & Dr Sridhar Ramaswamy	Satish Dhavan Classroom
	Data Analysis consultation Suhel Quader, Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi, Umesh Srinivasan, and Varun Varma	CES class room

10.30	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium	
10.50	Long Workshops Continue	Various Venues. Refer Above.	
13.00	Lunch	JN Tata Main Auditorium	
14.00	Long Workshops Continue	Various Venues. Refer Above.	
16.00	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium	
16.30	Conference Inauguration	JN Tata Main Auditorium	
17.00	Chilika - Jewel of Odisha Movie Premiere	JN Tata Main Auditorium	
17.45	Inglorious Bustards! NIGEL J. COLLAR Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture	JN Tata Main Auditorium	
19.00	Dinner	Gymkhana (Student Amenities Centre)	

	REGISTRATIONS / FUNCTION
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Time	Event	Venue
08.00	Registration	JN Tata Main Auditorium
08.30	Anthropogenic influences on the behaviour & physiology of African carnivores Kay Holekamp	
09.30	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium
09.50	Talks Session 1 Exchange Of Pests And Pathogens Associated With A Native And An Invasive Legume Tree In The Cape Floristic Region, South Africa. Dewidine Van Der Colff Chytrid Fungal Disease Of Amphibians: A New Fuel To The Fire Of Indian Amphibian Conservation? Keerthi Krutha Mesocarnivore "Release": An Opportunity For Aquatic Ecosystem Health Monitoring Or A Biologist's Fantasy? Herman Njoroge Behavior And Vertical Space Use In Javan Lorises (Nycticebus Javanicus) In Talun Plantation, Garut, Java. Prescillia Putri Assessing Landscape-Scale Determinants Of Dhole Cuon Alpinus Occurrence In The Western Ghats Of Karnataka, India. Arjun Srivathsa Tiger Connectivity In Peninsular India. Meghana Natesh Exploring The Effects Of Patchiness And Fragmentation: Genetic Connectivity Of A Sky Island Bird In The Western Ghats Pooja Gupta Foraging Ecology Of Hipposideros Aff. Ruber In An Agricultural Landscape In Ghana, West Africa Evans Nkrumah	JN Tata Main Auditorium
12.00	Who's Who in Conservation	JN Tata Main Auditorium
13.00	Lunch	JN Tata Main Auditorium

14.00	Short Workshops	JN Tata Main Auditorium
	Getting the Measure of Diversity: A Macro-ecological Perspective Kartik Shanker, Navendu Page & SP Vijayakumar	
	How to read a Scientific Paper Nandini R.	
	How To Tell A Conservation Story Pavithra Sankaran	
	Landscape Genetics Uma Ramakrishnan and Srinivas Vaidyanathan	
	Science Journalism: The Long and the Short of It Anil Ananthaswamy	
	Conservation Challenges for Large Mammal Dispersal Dipankar Ghose & Joseph Vattakaven	
	Introduction to Basic Photography Kalyan Verma	
	The Challenges of Coordinating Conservation Efforts Chris Bowden	
	Making Effective Presentations Yateendra Joshi	
	How R you doing? Using the R platform for managing and analyzing ecological datasets Raman Kumar	
	Elements of effective study design Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran	
	Thinking Quantitatively Suhel Quader	
16.30	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium

Monitoring Butterfly Abundance Along An Urbanization Gradient: A Case Study From Kolkata

Swarnali Mukherjee

Habitat Selection Of Western Purple Faced Langurs (*Semnopithecus Vetulus Nestor*) In Relation To Land Use Patterns

Poster Surendranie Cabral

Multi-Taxa Approach For Better Conservation Strategy: A Case Study From Villages Located On The Periphery Of STR, Maharashtra, India.

Prachi Mhaske

Variability In Home Range Size And Habitat Associations In Wild Nile Tilapia As Potential Responses To Fishing Pressure.

Wasseem Emam

Nest Site Characterization Of Oriental Pied Hornbill And Grey Hornbill In Tropical Dry Forests Of The Western Himalayas

Poster. Ushma Shukla

Philopatry, Dispersal And Migration In Tiger (*Panthera Tigris*).

Digpal Gour

Behavioural Variations In Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphins Across A Major, Minor And Intermediate Port Along The Southwest Coast Of India.

Divya Panicker

Spatially Structured Mesopredator Suppression And Release In A Species-Rich Terrestrial Carnivore Assemblage.

Samir Randera-Rees

A STUDY OF RESOURCE SELECTION BY BLACK KITES IN NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (NCR), INDIA.

Nishant Kumar

Effect Of Introduced Spotted Deer (*Axis Axis*) On Forest Floor Herpetofauna Of Andaman Islands.

Nityaprakash Mohanty

Collective Movement And The Evolution Of Cooperation.

Jaideep Joshi

Pasture Management And The Role Of Traditional Institutions In Long Term Sustenance Of High Altitude Pastures.

Rashmi Singh

Preliminary Study Of Intragroup Interaction In Male Bonnet Macaques (*Macaca Radiata*).

Harish Prakash

Female Social Organisation In An Asian Elephant Population In Southern India.

Nandini Shetty

Functional Corridors For Wildlife Conservation In Human Dominated Landscape Of Western Ghats, India.

Paramesha Mallegowda

IMPORTANCE OF GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEM FOR CONSERVATION OF DRY ZONE AVIFAUNA I.A.I.

Sandunika Ileperumarachchi

Is Ficus Microcarpa Trees Help To Connect Fragmented Habitats In Dry Zone Secondary Forests?

D.G.R.M.M. Kaushalya Rathnayake

The Effect Of A Pulsed Rainfall Regime On Dry Forest Tree Seedlings.

Lalitha Krishnan

Comparison Between The Hatching Success And Hatchling Fitness Between In-Situ And Hatchery Conservation Efforts In Sri Lanka.

Nupur Kale

Ecological Study And Food Habit Analysis Of Endemic Bat Species '*Rhinolophus Beddomei*' In The Western Ghats Of Maharashtra.

Swapnil Girade

Male Associations And Interactions In Asian Elephants.

Keerthipriya Palanivel

Tracking Movement Pattern Of Bar Headed Goose In Jammu And Kashmir, India.

Neeraj Mahar

Den Of Striped Hyena In Gir National Park And Sanctuary, India.

Shamshad Alam

Habitat Use By Travancore Flying Squirrels In A Mixed-Use Landscape In The Western Ghats.

Tarun Suri

Theoretical Perspective On Genetic Differentiation Across Space In Mammals: Impacts Of Body Size, Trophic Level And Landscape.

Prachi Thatte

Exploration Of The Boldness And Aggression In Climbing Perch (*Anabastestudineus*), A Fresh Water Fish.

Bhagyashree Ingle

18.00	Conservation of Lemurs: News from Madagascar PATRICIA WRIGHT	JN Tata Main Auditorium
19.00	Dinner	Gymkhana (Student Amenities Centre)

- REGISTRATIONS / FUNCTION
- WORKSHOP
- SPECIAL SESSION
- PLENARY
- BREAK
- PRESENTATIONS

Time	Event	Venue
08.00	Registration	JN Tata Main Auditorium
08.30	Demography: A Window to the Evolution of Primate Societies Wolfgang Dittus	JN Tata Main Auditorium
09.30	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium
09.50	Talks Session 1 Effect Of Herbivory On The Interaction Of Grasses And Their Multiple Fungal Mutualists In A High Altitude Trans-Himalayan Rangeland Yadugiri V T Facilitative Effects Of A Dwarf Shrub Increases Diversity Of An Alpine Rangeland Siddharth Iyengar Tracing The History Of Climatic And Anthropogenic Influence On The Banni Grassland, Kachchh, Gujarat - A Multi Proxy Approach. Anusree A.S. Leading Indicators Of Grassland To Woodland Transitions In A Savanna Ecosystem Amit Agrawal	JN Tata Main Auditorium
10.50	Six Blind Researchers and the Study of Anthrax in Etosha National Park Wayne M. Getz	JN Tata Main Auditorium
12.00	Who's Who in Conservation	JN Tata Main Auditorium
13.00	Lunch	JN Tata Main Auditorium
14.00	Short Workshops	JN Tata Main Auditorium
	Capture, handling & telemetric monitoring of large carnivores Kay E. Holekamp	
	Conservation Philosophy Nigel J. Collar	

Ethics in Human and Animal Research
Krithi K. Karanth, Abi Tamim Vanak and Kartik
Shanker

Humans Among Wildlife or Wildlife Among
Humans? The Complexities of Human
Wildlife Conflicts

Vidya Athreya, MD Madhusudan, Kavita
Isvaran, M. Anand Kumar, M.S. Nishant and
Kulbhushansingh Suryawanshi

Language and Ecology – Communicating
Nature Through Local Languages
P. Jeganathan & S. Theodore Baskaran

Researching environmental issues with
human subjects: An introduction to mixed
methods approaches
Asmita Kabra

Techniques To Aid Nocturnal Mammals
Studies
Patricia C. Wright, R. Nandini and Divya Mudappa

Story-telling Through Images
Kalyan Verma

The Challenges of Coordinating
Conservation Efforts
Chris Bowden

Graphics and Visualisation in R
Umesh Srinivasan

Elements of effective study design
Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran

How R you doing? Using the R platform for
managing and analyzing ecological datasets
Raman Kumar

Odonates Of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra, India: Distribution Across Land-Use And Ecological Niche Modeling Of Selected Species. Pankaj Koparde

Identifying The Patterns In Human-Wildlife Conflict Cases As Reported From Asia And Africa. Ankur Kumar

Freshwater Fish Conservation Policy In India Using Western Ghats As A Case Study Priyanka Iyer

Sea Turtles In The East Coast Of Sri Lanka: An Emerging Conservation Success Story. Gajaba Ellepola

ASSESSMENT OF DIVERSITY OF BIRDS IN THE INDIGENOUS FARMING SYSTEMS OF THE SIKKIM HIMALAYAS Kishor Sharma

Estimating Distribution Pattern And Abundance Of Mesopredators In A High Tiger Density Area, Corbett National Park (CNP) During 2010-11 Anindita Bidisha Chatterjee

Do Conservation Attitudes Of Fishermen Influence Their Livelihoods? Emerging Asylum Of Globally Threatened Lesser Adjutant (*Leptoptilos Javanicus*) In Eastern Province Sri Lanka. SAUMYA BANDARA

IUCN Red List Assessments For Indian Orchids And Amphibians. Brawin Kumar

Common Waters: Factors Influencing Perceptions Towards Small Cetaceans In A Fishery Dominated Habitat In Sindhudurg, Maharashtra. Ketki Jog

Lepidopteran Inhabitants On Mammalian Dung In The Wasgomuwa National Park, Sri Lanka. Dishani Hewavithana

Bridging Conservation And Development; Relocating Of *Systomus Martenstyni* Is The Only Hope. Nadeela Hirimuthugoda

Diversity Of Avifauna Across Landscape Elements & Its Implication In Conservation: A Case Study From Amboli, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra. Priti Bangal

The Complexities Of 'Conservation And Livelihoods' – Lantana Furniture Programme Near Mudumalai. Nishita Vasanth

Role Of Vegetation Characteristics On The Distribution Of Three Hornbill Species In And Around Pakke Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh. Soumya Dasgupta

Current Status Of Wildlife In Marat Longri WLS, Karbi Anglong, Assam, India Kamal Azad

A Novel Approach To Assessing The Conservation Status Of Woody Plants Distribution And Occupancy Modelling Of The Globally Threatened Cheer Pheasant

***Catreus Wallichii* In Nepal** Sonam Tashi Lama

RAPID DISTRIBUTION ASSESSMENT OF RED PANDA *AILURUS FULGENS* IN THE HINDU-KUSH HIMALAYA REGION USING ENSEMBLE MODEL PREDICTIONS Ganga

Ram Regmi

Sun, Sand And Fenny, Goa Has Tigers Too! - An Assessment Of Large Mammal Presence In Goa Mahi Puri

Exploring The Effect Of Leaf Litter Removal On Soil Organic Carbon In Community-Managed Oak Forests (Van Panchayat) Of The Central Himalaya. Vinay Nair

Avian Monitoring, Distribution And Density Of IIFM Campus Anjali Aggarwal

Assessment Of Bamboo Harvesting On The Avifaunal Diversity Of Purna Wildlife Sanctuary, Gujarat Nikunj Jambu

What Drives Fish Diversity In The Rainforests Of Central Western Ghats, India. Vidyadhar Atkore

18.00	Herpetologist In Wonderland ROMULUS WHITAKER	JN Tata Main Auditorium
19.00	Dinner	Gymkhana (Student Amenities Centre)

	REGISTRATIONS / FUNCTION
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Time	Event	Venue
08.00	Registration	JN Tata Main Auditorium
08.30	Asian Elephant Social Organization in Southern India T.N.C. Vidya	JN Tata Main Auditorium
09.30	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium
09.50	Talks Session 3 Choose The Threat Or Play It Safe? Planning For Resilient Marine Protected Areas In The Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Pei Ya Boon Effect Of Ageratina Riparia On The Regeneration Of Montane Forest Species In The Knuckles Forest Reserve, Sri Lanka Prabha Rupasinghe Assessing Forest Degradation In Tropical Deciduous Forests In Central India Meghna Agarwala Atmospheric Nitrogen And Phosphorus Deposition Reduces Tropical Dry Forest Tree Seed Germination Varun Varma Predicting Shifts In Bioclimatic Envelopes Of Indian Biomes For 2050 And 2080 Under A2 And B2A Climate Scenarios Dina Rasquinha Elephant-Railways Conflict In Northern West Bengal Shreya Dasgupta Show Me The Money: Understanding Online Donations For Biodiversity Conservation Diogo Verissimo Diogo Verissimo Impact of Urbanisation on Green Spaces, Corridors and Change in Bird Diversity of Pune Shivam Trivedi	JN Tata Main Auditorium

**'How Much And Of What?' Biomass Consumption
From Prey Occurrences In Scats Of Tropical Felids.**

Stotra Chakrabarti

**Population Trend And Habitat Associations
Of The Forest Thrush (*Turdus Lherminieri*) On
Montserrat, West Indies**

Devathi Parashuram

**Can Awareness Raising Minimize Road Kills
Of The Endangered Fishing Cat *Prionailurus*
Viverrinus?**

Ashan Thudugala

**Comparative Ecology of House Sparrow (*Passer*
Domesticus) and Tree Sparrow (*Passer Montanus*)
in Assam University, Silchar Campus**

Pallabi Dey

**Surveying Bird Diversity And Developing
Community Conservation Measures With
Schoolchildren In Jejuri, Rural India**

Chandrakant Redican

**Pollution Biomarkers In The Spiny Lizard
(*Sceloporus Spp.*) From Two Suburban
Populations Of Monterrey, Mexico**

Chandrakant Redican

**Habitat Occupation Of Butterflies In Regenerating
Forest Compare To A Natural Forest At
Maragamuwa- Naula Sri Lanka**

Buddhika Weerakoon

**Conservation Implications Of Seed Rain In Mid
Elevation Grasslands Of Silent Valley: A Case
Study**

Anoop V

**Status And Abundance Of Tigers In Manas
National Park, Assam**

Dipankar Lahkar

**Exploration Of Population Status And Habitat
Structure Of Hornbills In Intanki National Park,
Nagaland, Northeast India**

Lansothung Lotha

**Population Status Of The Nilgiri Tahr In Its
Southernmost Range In The Western Ghats, India**

Hopeland P

Poster Session 3 contd....

JN Tata Main Auditorium

Study Of The Ability Of Children To Identify Indian Fauna And Assessment Of Trigger Mechanisms That Enhance Knowledge Of Indian Biodiversity

Shruti Karkhedkar

Leveraging Citizen Science As A Source Of Ecological Data

Thomas Vattakaven

Abundance Of Wild Ungulates Along An Altitude Gradient And Impact Of Livestock And Dogs In Sikkim, India

Tanushree Srivastava

Effects Of Urbanization On Spatial Distribution,Threats And Conservation Of Freshwater Fishes In Mahaoya,Sri Lanka

Santhushya Hewapathirana

Study On Habitat Features Of House Sparrows (*Passer Domesticus Indicus*) In Bangalore

Karthik Murthy

Trends Of Bushmeat Consumption And Traditional Hunting On Wild Mammal By Indigenous Community Living Near Protected Area In Nagaland

Satemma Longchar

From Local To Global: Identifying Gaps In Conservation Research Using A New Global Collaboration Engine System

Jared Margulies

Estimating The Free-Ranging Dog Population Using Natural Marks In Two Distinct Localities Of Bangalore (Work In Progress)

Siddhant Nowlakha

An Assessment On Hunting In Nagaland: Impact On Biodiversity

Pilot Dovih

13.00

Lunch

JN Tata Main Auditorium

14.00

Short Workshops

Applications of Molecular Phylogenetics in Conservation Biology
K. Praveen Karanth

LHC

Bioacoustics
Rohini Balakrishnan

JN SEM C

	Demystifying Conservation Education Nimesh Ved & Pranav Trivedi	JN Sem B
	Publication Ethics T.A. Abinandanan	LHC
	How To Get Your Photo-story Published SAEVUS	JN Sem A
	Graphics and Visualisation in R Umesh Srinivasan	KSCST
	Making Effective Presentations Yateendra Joshi	Mat eng
	Elements of effective study design Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran	Satish Dhavan Classroom
	Thinking Quantitatively Suhel Quader	LHC
16.30	Tea	JN Tata Main Auditorium
16.50	New Experiment: Safeguarding Private Forests as a Long-Term Conservation Strategy Nirmal Kulkarni	JN Tata Main Auditorium
18.00	Awards and Closing Remarks	