

STUDENT CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION SCIENCE - BENGALURU
www.sccs-bng.org/



2015 CONFERENCE REPORT



COMPILED BY
SCCS 2015 Organizing Committee

SCCS is strengthening the careers of young conservation scientists around the world
with events in Cambridge, Bengaluru, New York, Brisbane, Beijing and Hungary

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Some parts of the report have been adapted from a report submitted to SCCS-Bengaluru by the Research Media Services Division of Gubbi Labs.

OVERVIEW

The Student Conference on Conservation Science (SCCS) – Bengaluru 2015 was held from September 8th - 11th, bringing together students and young researchers in the science and practice of biodiversity conservation. SCCS first originated in Cambridge 16 years ago. The first SCCS sister conference began in Bengaluru, moving on to become an annual event since 2010. Today, there are SCCS sister conferences the world over in Beijing, Brisbane, New York and Tihany.

SCCS-Bengaluru facilitates interaction, encourages exchange of research ideas and methods, sharing of knowledge and experience related to conserving wildlife and helps build contacts and capacity. Our geographic focus is countries from Africa, South and South-East Asia. This year, we had 400 participants with 33 foreign participants from 11 countries. The largest contingent of foreign participants was from Sri Lanka.

The conference was a four-day affair, with Day 1 featuring long workshops (09:00 to 16:00), followed by Ben Mirin's public SkyIsland Beatbox performance and the Ravi Sankaran Memorial lecture by Dr. T. R. Shankar Raman. SCCS 2015 was inaugurated by Drs. Satyajit Mayor, Director, National Centre for Biological Sciences and Renee Borges, Chairperson, Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc. We had 7 plenary talks, 15 student talks, 71 student posters, and 46 workshops this year. Bird walks and Loris walks were conducted early in the morning and late evenings on IISc campus for the first time. These walks were very popular amongst the conference participants.

SCCS-Bengaluru 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.



Study locations of SCCS 2015 participants

PLENARY TALKS

Our plenary speakers this year were

(a) T. R. Shankar Raman, a senior conservation scientist with Nature Conservation Foundation, who delivered the Fourth Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture, during which he shared his experiences in forest restoration in the Anamalai Hills of the Western Ghats;

(b) James D. Nichols, who talked about how science can help with conservation on the ground by introducing everyone to a quantitatively rigorous, adaptive management strategy;

(c) Krushnamegh Kunte, from the National Centre for Biological Sciences, who talked about retaining a sense of wonder for nature, and his passion -- butterflies;

(d) Sudha Vasan, from the University of Delhi, who asked how the increased movement of people and materials within India affects today's villages;

(e) Kanchi Kohli, a researcher and activist, who elucidated the conflicting aims of development and environmental management;

(f) Uma Ramakrishnan, from the National Centre for Biological Sciences, who unraveled the mysterious relationships between DNA, ancient history, movement and conservation in animals; and

(g) Jairam Ramesh, former Minister of Environment and Forests, talked about climate change and Indian policies.

Videos of these plenary talks will be made available online on the [SCCS-Bengaluru YouTube Channel](#).



Jairam Ramesh delivering the final plenary talk of the conference 'Towards Paris and After: The Climate Challenge'



A student in the audience asks a question



Sudha Vasan talking about migration, rurality and social ecology

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

We received a record of **150** abstract submissions! Each abstract was evaluated by at least three external reviewers. We selected 85 abstracts for the conference that were assessed to be of fairly good quality. Of these, we selected 15 from diverse locations and fields to be presented as student talks, while the remaining were selected for student posters.

The list of abstract reviewers is given later in this report. We sincerely thank them for their help and support.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

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. Students gave presentations on a variety of topics, including habitat use by leopards in India, movement of the greater flamingo along the southern coast of India, mass nesting behaviour in Olive Ridley turtles in Odisha, human-wildlife conflict in different contexts and examining how official documentation has represented forest areas in Meghalaya. While these are highlights of talks on research by Indian students, talks by students from Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Benin, and Nepal were also scheduled. Rodrigue Castro Gbedomon from Benin in West Africa elaborated about a case study, which showed that community based forest management with involvement of NGOs could be effective in improving economic conditions of people on the borders, while at the same time improving forest conditions. Soumya Chintani from Sri Lanka, spoke about the effect of *Mimosa pigra*, one of the worst invasive species in the world, in Sri Lanka. The weed was introduced into Sri Lanka from Australia, when the government imported some hydropower equipment. She found that in spite of awareness programme about the weed, people have not been following instructions regarding how to eradicate the plant, which has in turn favoured its spread.

There were 70 student posters on display on different interesting topics such as the effect of introduced chital on forest vegetation communities in the Andaman islands, assessment of cheetah prey base outside protected areas in Southern Kenya, and the role of natural habitat affecting pollinator interactions in an urbanized landscape.



Student talks



Student poster sessions

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AT SCCS 2015

Increasing public awareness about conservation issues is a mainstay of the conference -- and an important way in which it differs from other conferences. The evening plenary talks by T. R. Shankar Raman, Krushnamegh Kunte, Kanchi Kohli and Jairam Ramesh were open to the public. These talks were announced widely through posters within Bengaluru and also on social media.

We had Ben Mirin, a beatboxer from Brooklyn, New York, USA bring a unique dimension to conservation at the Art & Conservation session on Day 1. Beatboxing is a form of music made purely from the human vocal chords. Ben enthralled the audience with a performance that was a "fusion between birdsong and the beatbox". This performance was a part of his 'Sky Island Beatbox' project along with collaborators V.V. Robin and Prasenjeet Yadav, from the National Centre for Biological Sciences. Ben's public event at SCCS was publicized on the SCCS website, SCCS social media handles, as well as by the three collaborators in print media and on Radio Fever.

We screened a short film 'Eastern Himalaya: Ancient Risks - Future Threats' by Sandesh Kadur before Jairam Ramesh's public talk on Day 4. This powerful 20-minute film showcases the rapidly changing conditions in the Eastern Himalayan mountain range - in terms of climate, population growth, and unplanned economic development. It presents a kaleidoscope of arresting images, from mountain vistas and wildlife facing the devastating after-effects of landslides and industrial earth-moving machinery that are transforming these extraordinary landscapes. Underlying the sumptuous imagery is an urgent message that cannot fail to move anyone interested in mountains, environmental change, climate, and development.

This year, SCCS has been especially active on social media -- Facebook and Twitter. Contests were organised, in collaboration with our media partner, Gubbi Labs, which engaged participants before they came to the conference.



Beatboxer Ben Mirin at the Art & Conservation session



Film Screening on Day 4

WHO'S WHO IN CONSERVATION

The Who's Who in Conservation session provides a platform for conservation agencies including NGOs, research institutions and university departments to showcase their work. This session provides an opportunity for conference participants to learn about the work of these agencies as well as discuss possible career opportunities and collaborative work.

This year, we had 18 Who's Who participants, with a mix of conservation action groups, NGOs, magazines and research institutions:

1. Ecologics
2. WILD OTTERS
3. ENVIS Centre on Avian Ecology at Bombay Natural History Society
4. Shen - Snow Leopard Enterprises, part of Nature Conservation Foundation
5. Indian Foundation for Butterflies
6. Kenneth Anderson Nature Society
7. Nature Conservation Foundation
8. Foundation for Ecological Security
9. Ravi Sankaran Fellowship
10. Wildlife Conservation Society-India Program
11. National Institute of Advanced Studies
12. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
13. Dakshin Foundation
14. Applied Environmental Research Foundation
15. Current Conservation
16. Wildlife Conservation Trust
17. Dragonfly India
18. Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, University of Kent



Who's Who in Conservation at SCCS 2015

WORKSHOPS

The skill-based and capacity building workshops offered at SCCS have always been the highlight of the conference. This year we had 14 long workshops, and 32 short workshops. Long workshops were held from 09:00 - 16:00 on Day 1 of SCCS, while the short workshops were conducted from 14:00 - 16:30 on the remaining three days. We made it a point to have at least one workshop every day, with no cap on the number of participants.

In order to expand the range of workshops offered at SCCS, there was a call for workshop proposals on our website as well as social media handles. Twenty four workshops were new and conducted for the first time this year and have been highlighted in the list of workshops on the following pages.

A majority of the workshops received tremendous positive feedback from participants. An overwhelming 88% of participants found that attending workshops of their choice enhanced their understanding of the subject and/or equipped them with additional skill sets.



Neha Sinha's workshop on Advocacy for Conservation



The practical workshop on Animal Handling Techniques was extremely popular with students

S. No.	LONG WORKSHOPS	RESOURCE PERSONS
1	Study design in ecology and conservation	Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran
2	Advanced conservation genetics	Shomita Mukherjee, Subhankar Chakraborty and Vishnupriya Kolipakam
3	The nitty-gritty of writing and presenting research	Yateendra Joshi
4	Introduction to GIS and Remote Sensing using Quantum GIS	Ravi Bhalla and Srinivas Vaidyanathan
5	Social and Ecological Dimensions of Freshwater Biodiversity Conservation	Jagdish Krishnaswamy, Nachiket Kelkar, Tarun Nair
6	Animal Handling Techniques	Uma Ramakrishnan, V.V. Robin, Vivek Ramachandran, Varad Giri, Ishan Agarwal, Krishnapriya Tamma, C.K Vishnudas, Nishma Dahal
7	Google Earth Engine Hands-on Workshop NEW	Noel Gorelick
8	Bird Ringing for Science & Conservation NEW	Farah Ishtiaq
9	Framing Conservation Education in the context of Conservation Practice: a vital component NEW	Anand Pendharkar, Ian Bride
10	The Science of Scientific Writing NEW	Karthik Ramaswamy
11	The Kodagu Game - Interactive models for Conservation Policy Development and Testing NEW	Swen Bos
12	Ecological Monitoring of Tropical Insect Diversity: Field and Lab Techniques NEW	Krushnamegh Kunte
13	Inferences for Animal Populations: Basics of Capture-recapture and Occupancy Modeling NEW	James D. Nichols
14	Seeing the political in the ecological: Applying social science ideas and methods to conservation issues NEW	Adam Jadhav, Nitin Rai

S. No.	SHORT WORKSHOPS	RESOURCE PERSONS
1	How R you doing? Using the R platform for managing and analyzing ecological datasets	Raman Kumar, Soumya Prasad
2	Thinking quantitatively	Suhel Quader
3	Making effective presentations	Yateendra Joshi
4	Graphics and visualisation in R	Divya Vasudev
5	Language and Ecology - Communicating Nature Through Local Languages	P. Jeganathan and S. Theodore Baskaran
6	Applications of molecular phylogenetics in conservation biology	K. Praveen Karanth
7	Publication ethics	T.A. Abinandanan
8	Getting the Measure of Diversity: A Macro-ecological Perspective	Kartik Shanker, Navendu Page, SP Vijaykumar, Varun Torsekar
9	Observational study of animal behaviour and its importance for animal conservation	Nishant M.S, Shreekanth Deodhar, Sreedhar Vijaykrishnan
10	Trust, Instinct, Common sense: Managing people & teams	Gopakumar Menon and Vena Kapoor
11	Elements of effective study design	Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran
12	An introduction to conservation genetics	Shomita Mukherjee and Subhankar Chakraborty, Vishnupriya Kollipakam
13	Landscape genetics	Uma Ramakrishnan, Srinivas Vaidyanathan and Prachi Thatte
14	Introduction to basic photography	Prasenjeet Yadav
15	How to tell a conservation story	Pavithra Sankaran
16	Conservation story-telling with images	Kalyan Varma
17	The challenge of coordinating conservation for Asia's Critically Endangered Vultures. Lessons and application for other conservation examples	Chris Bowden
18	Contribution of science in conflict management ^{NEW}	Meena Venkataraman, R. Padmawathe, M. Ananda Kumar
19	'Data entry' as an academic process: basics of data management and organization ^{NEW}	Aniruddha Marathe, Nachiket Kelkar

20	Business & Biodiversity - working with businesses for conservation in India NEW	Yashada Kulkarni, Akshay Nachane, Prachiti Mule
21	An Introduction to Popular Science Writing NEW	Sandhya Sekar
22	What's behind a scientific article? What can sociological/ethnographic studies tell us about doing science and of writing a scientific paper? NEW	Pankaj Sekhsaria, John Matthew
23	Mobile Field Data Collection using OpenDataKit (ODK) NEW	Ujaval Gandhi
24	Principles of Monitoring Ecological Populations and Communities: Why, What and How? NEW	James D. Nichols
25	What is chemical ecology? NEW	Shannon Olsson, Radhika Venkatesan
26	Freshwater Fish Conservation: Concepts, Techniques and Strategies NEW	V. V. Binoy, Rajeev Raghavan, Neelesh Dahanukar, Neethi Mahesh, Unmesh Katwate, Siby Philip
27	Can conditional approvals and legal compliance help achieve better conservation outcomes?" NEW	Kanchi Kohli
28	Seeing the political in the ecological: Applying social science ideas and methods to conservation issues (abbreviated version) NEW	Adam Jadhav, Nitin Rain
29	Ecological Monitoring and Conservation of Tropical Insect Biodiversity NEW	Krushnamegh Kunte
30	Workshop: An introduction to eBird and eBirding NEW	P. Jeganathan, Rohit Chakravarty, Garima Bhatia, Raman Kumar
31	Advocacy for Conservation NEW	Neha Sinha
32	Working with the Press NEW	Neha Sinha

COLLABORATIVE EVENTS AT SCCS 2015

Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture

Ravi Sankaran was one of India's leading field biologists and ornithologists, who passed away suddenly in 2009. He had worked on birds all over India, from the northeast to the Andamans to the deserts of Rajasthan. In his honour, Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lectures have been held annually since 2012 as part of SCCS-Bengaluru.

The Ravi Sankaran Foundation and Inlaks Foundation along with SCCS-Bengaluru jointly hosted the fourth Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture, which was delivered by T. R. Shankar Raman.

Ravi Sankaran - Inlaks Fellows' Meet - 7th September 2015

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 National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, just ahead of SCCS and was attended by 11 Ravi Sankaran Inlaks fellows.

Post-conference trip to Bheemeshwari Nature & Adventure Camp - 12th September 2015

A post-conference day trip to Bheemeshwari Nature and Adventure Camp was organized on September 12, 2015, in association with Jungle Lodges & Resorts (JLR). 50 conference participants and 6 volunteers went on this trip. Activities at the nature camp included a brief introduction to the landscape and the history of the camp, an hour-long walk through the forest with forest guards during which they learnt about the diverse flora and fauna of the region, and bird watching. Participants were excited to spot giant squirrels, hornbills, emerald doves and otters. The highlight of the trip was a coracle ride, where participants came up close with mugger crocodiles in the Bheemeshwari River. Jungle Lodges and Resorts hosted this visit by SCCS participants and it included the various activities, lunch and snacks. Participants returned to Bengaluru the same evening.

The trip received an overwhelming positive response from all participants who signed up for it.



Coracle ride on the Bheemeshwari River



Participants at the post-conference trip to Bheemeshwari Nature & Adventure Camp

NEW AT SCCS 2015

BIRD WALKS

Early morning bird walks on the IISc campus were conducted on Days 2 to 4 of SCCS-2015. There was an average of 30 enthusiastic participants each day, who were split into groups lead by volunteers from the Nature Conservation Foundation, Centre for Ecological Sciences (IISc) and SRM University. Groups spotted an average of 18 bird species each day. Greenish warblers, common winter migrants to peninsular India, having arrived, were heard on a couple of mornings.

LORIS WALKS

By popular demand, volunteers from the Urban Slender Loris Project (USLP) conducted loris walks on the IISc campus on Days 3 and 4. The slender loris is a small nocturnal primate found only in Sri Lanka and Southern India. They are arboreal and require continuous forest canopy. A large proportion of the slender loris population in Bengaluru is found on IISc campus. There was a tremendous response to the loris walk, with over 70 registrations on Day 3. Participants were split into groups led by USLP core members and volunteers. Most groups managed to sight lorises by their characteristic 'eyeshine' and loris calls were heard throughout the walk.



Early morning bird walk at IISc
(Photo: Arun Chikkamarappa)



Participants assemble for the late evening loris walk at IISc

WEBSITE

In an effort to go paperless, everything from participant registration, abstract submission and review, to workshop registration was done online via the [SCCS website](#).

Two new features were added to the website this year: the reviewer dashboard and the workshop organiser dashboard. The former allowed abstract reviewers to sign into the website to view and score abstracts assigned to them. The latter allowed workshop organisers to view the participants registered for their workshops and gave them the ability to upload resource materials as well as email the registered participants. We received tremendous positive feedback about both these features.

VOLUNTEER T-SHIRTS

T-shirts were designed especially for volunteers, which made them easier to spot and approach for help in the crowd at SCCS 2015. In addition, these t-shirts made for a great memento after the conference!

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Being a conservation conference, we ensure that we reduce the waste that we generate and manage our waste responsibly.

Food left over from lunch and dinner on Days 2 to 4 was picked up by Jacob Cherian, from Windows to NGOs, and donated to an orphanage in Hennur, Bengaluru.

The flex used to make the SCCS standees and banner were donated to the Plus One Initiative by Amit Inamdar. Flex is made from PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride), which is next to impossible to completely recycle. Instead, the Plus One Initiative (<http://plusoneinitiative.weebly.com/>) strives to upcycle the flex into unique products like school bags, which are donated to underprivileged children.

We also requested all participants to return the plastic pouches and lanyards from their nametags, to be reused at next year's conference.

STUDENT AWARDS

Evaluators chose three noteworthy/exceptional talks and three poster presentations. They took cognizance of different attributes of the study including academic rigour, enterprise of the researcher, novelty of the research, the background in which the research was conducted and potential impact the research may have on conservation research, practice and/or its discourse – all-important factors that go into making conservation research relevant and important in the real world. The above criteria were provided as pointers and not as a prescriptive list; referees decided amongst themselves what attributes they thought were important, based on the presentations they evaluated.

Additionally, referees were also requested to provide written/online feedback to each individual presenter ranging from their presentation style, the quality of their science, research and conservation recommendations, and the improvements they suggested.

All talks were evaluated by a single panel, while different groups of referees evaluated posters in different themes.

Maria Thaker, Hari Sridhar and Abishek Harihar coordinated the entire process.

TALK AND POSTER AWARD WINNERS

Exceptional talks and Shivarama Karanth Conservation Award winners:
Grace Agatha Nugi, Rachakonda Sreekar and Rodrigue Castro Gbedomon.

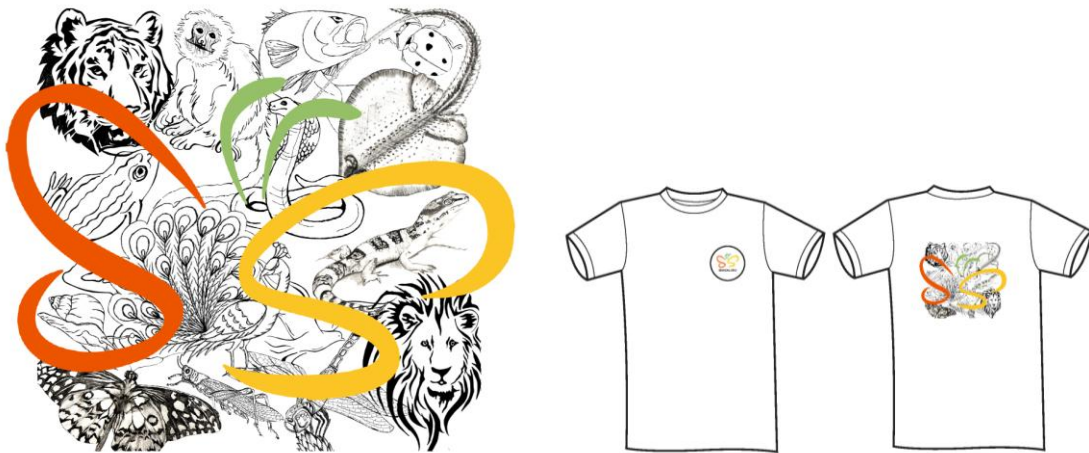
Exceptional posters and Shivarama Karanth Conservation Award winners:
Krishna Anujan, Parvathi Krishna Prasad and Vidisha Kulkarni.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONTEST WINNERS

This year, we held two contests on our [Facebook page](#) in collaboration with our media partner, Gubbi Labs.

Contest 1: Design a t-shirt for SCCS-Bengaluru

The winners of this contest were Arjan Basu Roy and Devsena Roy Chowdhury, who co-designed the winning entry. This design was printed on conference t-shirts, which were pre-ordered and bought at the conference venue. There was an inexhaustible demand for the limited stock of t-shirts, which sold out in flash.



The winning design was printed on t-shirts, which could be pre-ordered

Contest 2: Send us a fieldwork photograph which tells a story

There were two categories in this contest: Judges' choice and Most number of likes on Facebook. The winners and their photographs with corresponding captions are below.

Judges' Choice:

First prize: Subrat Debata



The blackbuck is the only living species of the genus Antelope. In India its historic range has been fragmented. In many parts of India, this species is culturally protected among different communities. The Balipadar- Bhetnoi area of Odisha is the only place in Eastern India where local communities play a vital role for their protection and conservation. However, the population is now facing new challenges from the livestock as a competitor for existence. Should we say it a co-existence or competition? What should be the management implications?

Runner's up: Arjan Basu Roy



Every day, thousands of various reptiles and many other creatures are dying due to road accident!! When a single human being die in a road accident it becomes a headline in local newspapers and channels. But for the other creatures the next car is going on the same way just ignoring the killed animal on road. Let's be unbiased about our own species and pay equal attention for all the species which are getting affected for the so called developmental activity of one species, sadly us, the Homo sapiens!!

Most no. of likes on Facebook:

First prize: Ganga Ram Regmi (565 likes)



PIPLE KAILA's Kitchen, local popcorn and conservation: Generally in South Asian culture, females are responsible for kitchen work. But 'PIPLE KAILA' had prepared meals for my field team. Here he was cooking corn in a traditional way which was our daily snacks during our field work. He used to hunt wildlife in past but we were able to convince him to stop hunting and foster him in conservation

Runner's up: Sidhanta Sekhar Bisoi (519 likes)



The abode of Kanta Baunsuni in Sindhipar village near Damanjodi in southern Odisha is one of such sacred grove which is rich in rain forests of bamboo (Bambusa bambos) plants uncut for hundreds of years. The bamboo plants are believed to be the shrine of goddess 'Devi Kanta Baunsuni' which is named as per the local odia name 'Kanta Baunsa' of Bambusa bambos plant. This is one of the indigenous practices of ancient India which is preserved and managed by the tribals of southern Odisha. Today the conservatory ritual of the tribals in southern Odisha has played an important role as valuable storehouse of biodiversity containing innumerable kinds of endemic and endangered plants and animals that have become rare and extinct in other forests.

FUNDING AND SPONSORSHIPS

SCCS-Bengaluru 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 2015 were managed by Foundation for Ecological Security, Asian Nature Conservation Foundation, National Centre for Biological Sciences and Indian Institute of Science.

SCCS-Bengaluru 2015 had a budget of Rs. 31,00,000. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support we received from the donors listed below.

1. AMM Foundation
2. Wildlife Conservation Trust
3. Ravi Sankaran Foundation
4. Foundation for Ecological Security
5. National Centre for Biological Sciences
6. Inlaks India Foundation
7. Bombay Natural History Society
8. Wildlife Trust of India
9. The Duleep Matthai Nature Conservation Trust
10. Nature Conservation Foundation
11. WWF-India
12. Indian Institute of Science
13. Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment
14. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
15. Krithi Karanth
16. Centre for Wildlife Studies

We gratefully acknowledge in-kind support from the following individuals and organisations:

1. Jungle Lodges and Resorts - Post-conference trip to Bheemeshwari Nature & Adventure Camp for 60 participants
2. Sanctuary Asia - Free online subscriptions for volunteers and prize winners
3. Kalyan Varma - Photography and filming
4. Prasenjeet Yadav - Photography and filming
5. Indian Academy of Sciences - Hostel facilities
6. Centre for Ecological Sciences (IISc), National Centre for Biological Sciences, Nature Conservation Foundation, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment, and Dakshin Foundation - Volunteers

BURSARIES

With the support of our donors, the conference provided partial travel reimbursements to student presenters to attend the conference from their hometowns. This year SCCS has supported 31 Indian students and 27 foreign students to attend the conference.



PEOPLE BEHIND THE CONFERENCE

The sixth edition of SCCS was largely successful due to excellent assistance and support of key people.

We were supported by a fairly large team of 50 volunteers from institutions located in Bengaluru (ATREE, CES, IISc, Dakshin Foundation, NCBS and NCF). Our volunteers were vital as in previous years for the efficient running of the conference and their names are listed later in this report.

CONFERENCE TEAM

Organising Committee:

R Sukumar (Lead Organiser, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science)

Kavita Isvaran (Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science)

Ravi Chellam (Foundation for Ecological Security, Anand & Asian Nature Conservation Foundation & Madras Crocodile Bank Trust)

Tarsh Thekaekara (The Shola Trust)

Vena Kapoor (Nature Conservation Foundation)

Arshiya Bose (Black Baza Coffee Co.)

Abishek Harihar (Panthera)

Administrative and Support team:

Devathi Parashuram (Conference Administrator)

S. Nirmala (Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science)

Nidhi Srivastava (National Centre for Biological Sciences)

Latha K.S. (National Centre for Biological Sciences)

K. P. Pandian (National Centre for Biological Sciences)

Chandrashekar Kannan (Foundation for Ecological Security)

Ubedulla Khan (Foundation for Ecological Security)

Thomas George (Foundation for Ecological Security)

Manish Bhatt (Foundation for Ecological Security)

M. O. Sriram (Asian Nature Conservation Foundation)

Arjuna Shankar (www.arjunashankar.com/)

Advisory Committee:

1. M.D. Madhusudan (Nature Conservation Foundation)
2. Suhel Quader (Nature Conservation Foundation)
3. Kartik Shanker (Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science)
4. Firoz Ahmed (Aaranyak)
5. Asad Rahmani (Bombay Natural History Society)
6. Ghazala Shahabuddin (Researcher and Consultant in Biodiversity; Senior Fellow, Centre for Ecology, Development and Research (CEDAR))
7. Krithi Karanth (Associate Conservation Scientist, Wildlife Conservation Society (USA))
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. Sejal Worah (WWF-India)
17. Gopi Sundar (International Crane Foundation and Nature Conservation Foundation)
18. K.V Devi Prasad (Head, Dept. of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Pondicherry University)
19. Kamal Bawa (University of Massachusetts & Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment)
20. Shomita Mukherjee (Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore)

WORKSHOP RESOURCE PERSONS

1. Adam Jadhav
2. Advait Edgaonkar
3. Akshay Nachane
4. Anand Pendharkar
5. Aniruddha Marathe
6. C.K Vishnudas
7. Chris Bowden
8. Divya Vasudev
9. Farah Ishtiaq
10. Garima Bhatia
11. Gopakumar Menon
12. Ian Bride
13. Ishan Agarwal
14. Jagdish Krishnaswamy
15. Jairam Ramesh
16. James D. Nichols
17. John Matthew
18. K. Praveen Karanth
19. Kalyan Varma
20. Kanchi Kohli
21. Karthik Ramaswamy
22. Kartik Shanker
23. Kavita Isvaran
24. Krishnapriya Tamma
25. Krushnamegh Kunte
26. M. Ananda Kumar
27. Meena Venkataraman
28. Nachiket Kelkar
29. Navendu Page
30. Neelesh Dahanukar
31. Neethi Mahesh
32. Neha Sinha
33. Nishant M.S.
34. Nishma Dahal
35. Nitin Rai
36. Noel Gorelick
37. P. Jeganathan
38. Pankaj Sekhsaria
39. Pavithra Sankaran
40. Prachi Thatte
41. Prachiti Mule
42. Prasenjeet Yadav
43. R. Padmawathe
44. Radhika Venkatesan
45. Rajeev Raghavan
46. Raman Kumar
47. Ravi Bhalla
48. Rohit Chakravarty
49. S. Theodore Baskaran
50. Sampath Seneviratne
51. Sandhya Sekar
52. Shannon Olsson
53. Shomita Mukherjee
54. Shreekanth Deodhar
55. Siby Philip
56. Soumya Prasad
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Our cheerful army of volunteers at SCCS-Bengaluru 2015, along with a few members of the Organising Committee



Hard at work and never without a smile on their faces!



Our hardworking volunteers managed to find the time to attend a few sessions at the conference

KEY SERVICE PROVIDERS

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Online Registration

DoAttend (www.doattend.com)

OTHER SUPPORT

1. Ben Mirin - Sky Island Beatbox during the Art & Conservation session at SCCS 2015
2. Bird walks at IISc - Rohit Chakravarty, Raman Kumar, Pavithra Sankaran, Ganeshwar SV, Pronoy Baidya, Hari Sridhar & Jaydev Mandal
3. Loris walks at IISc - Harish Prakash, Vidisha Kulkarni, Soumya Kori, Arun Visweswaran, Padma, Ashoka Hallur, Ramaswamy, Sheshadri, Poornima, Harshitha
4. Kamal Bawa and Sandesh Kadur for screening 'Eastern Himalaya: Ancient Risks - Future Threats'

We also thank the host institutions of SCCS-Bengaluru 2015 (Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc; National Centre for Biological Sciences, Foundation for Ecological Security, Asian Nature Conservation Foundation and Madras Crocodile Bank Trust) for all the institutional support that they have provided.

CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

This year we made a provision to submit feedback online about the conference in general, which is available here: www.sccs-bng.org/feedbacks/new

85% of the participants found the scheduling of the conference to be 'just right', while the remaining 15% found it 'too packed'.

We asked if there any specific topic participants would like to see covered at future SCCS conferences? Some of the suggestions we received were:

In plenaries:

1. Conservation of ecosystems
2. Community conservation
3. Marine conservation

In workshops:

1. Sustainable ecotourism
2. Environmental law
3. Methodological challenges in wildlife research

A majority of the conference participants thought the food was excellent, while a small percentage of them found the menu to be monotonous.

We asked participants to rate the 2015 conference overall, based on general organisation, volunteer support, food, access, venue, and accommodation. 68% of the respondents loved the conference, while the remaining 32% thought it was 'all right'. The good news is that nobody was 'disappointed'!

Finally, we asked participants to rate the 2015 conference in comparison to previous SCCS-Bengaluru conferences, in terms of general organisation, volunteer support, food, access, venue, and accommodation. 15% found that it was much better this year, 35% thought it was similar to previous conference, while the remaining attended SCCS for the first time this year.



Participants networking over coffee

SCHEDULE



08:00-09:30 Registration & Bursaries			
09:30-13:00	Long Workshops	Resource Persons	Venue
	Bird Ringing for Science & Conservation (Starts at 05:45)	Farah Ishtiaq	Jubilee Garden, IISc
	Animal Handling Techniques (Bus to venue leaves at 06:45)	Uma Ramakrishnan, V.V. Robin, Vivek Ramachandran, Varad Giri, Ishan Agarwal, Krishnapriya Tamma, C.K Vishnudas, Nishma Dahal	Gerry Martin's farm
	Google Earth Engine Hands-on Workshop (Bus to Google office leaves at 07:45)	Noel Gorelick	This workshop will be held at the Google Office on Old Madras Road
	Study design in ecology and conservation	Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran	CES Classroom
	Advanced conservation genetics	Shomita Mukherjee, Subhankar Chakraborty and Vishnupriya Kolipakam	Choksi Hall
	The nitty-gritty of writing and presenting research	Yateendra Joshi	Cistup Classroom
	Introduction to GIS and Remote Sensing using Quantum GIS	Ravi Bhalla and Srinivas Vaidyanathan	CES Lotka Volterra
	Social and Ecological Dimensions of Freshwater Biodiversity Conservation	Jagdish Krishnaswamy, Nachiket Kelkar, Tarun Nair	JN Tata Seminar Hall B
	Framing Conservation Education in the context of Conservation Practice: a vital component	Anand Pendharkar, Ian Bride	MRDG Conference Room
	The Science of Scientific Writing	Karthik Ramaswamy	CES Seminar Hall
	The Kodagu Game – Interactive models for Conservation Policy Development and Testing	Swen Bos	Cistup Seminar Hall
	Ecological Monitoring of Tropical Insect Diversity: Field and Lab Techniques	Krushnamegh Kunte	Environmental Chemistry Lab, CES
	Inferences for Animal Populations: Basics of Capture-recapture and Occupancy Modeling	James D. Nichols	JN Tata Seminar Hall A
	Seeing the political in the ecological: Applying social science ideas and methods to conservation issues	Adam Jadhav, Nitin Rai	JN Tata Seminar Hall C
11:30-11:50 Refreshments			
11:50-13:00 Long workshops continue			
13:00-14:00 Lunch			
14:00-16:30 Long workshops continue			
16:30-16:50 Refreshments			
16:50-17:10 Conference Inauguration			
17:10-17:40 Art & Conservation Session with Ben Mirin			
17:40-19:00 Recasting the conservation landscape: a restoration experience (Ravi Sankaran Memorial Lecture) / T. R. Shankar Raman			
19:00-21:00 Dinner			



08:00-08:30	Registration		
08:30-09:30	On Integrating Science and Conservation: How Can We Make Our Science Most Useful? / James D. Nichols		
09:30-09:50	Refreshments		
09:50-10:00	SCCS 2015 Group Photo		
10:00-12:00	STUDENT TALKS		
T1	A leopard in your tea-cup: diet and habitat use of an adaptable felid in a forest-production landscape mosaic / Aritra Kshetry		
T2	Metapopulation dynamics of birds in a rubber-forest mosaic affected by hunting / Rachakonda Sreekar		
T3	The Customary use of Vulturine Parrots (<i>Psittichas fulgidus</i>) in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea and its Implications on Conservation / Grace Agatha Nugi		
T4	Movements of greater flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i> along the southeast coast of india, tracked through satellite transmitter/ Tuhina Sanjay Katti		
T5	Impacts of urbanization and associated anthropogenic perturbation on fitness of the Rock Pigeon (<i>Columba livia</i>): Implications on in situ conservation / Kajanka Jehan Mathiaparanam		
12:00-13:00	Who's Who in Conservation		
13:00-14:00	Lunch		
14:00-16:30	Short Workshops	Resource Persons	Venue
	How R you doing? Using the R platform for managing and analyzing ecological datasets	Raman Kumar, Soumya Prasad	CES Lotka Volterra Room
	Making effective presentations	Yateendra Joshi	Cistup Seminar Hall
	Trust, Instinct, Common sense: Managing people & teams	Gopakumar Menon and Vena Kapoor	MRDG Conference Room
	Landscape genetics	Uma Ramakrishnan, Srinivas Vaidyanathan and Prachi Thatte	Choksi Hall
	Introduction to basic photography	Prasenjeet Yadav	JN Tata Seminar Hall B
	Contribution of science in conflict management	Meena Venkataraman, R.Padmawathe, M. Ananda Kumar	JN Tata Main Auditorium
	'Data entry' as an academic process: basics of data management and organization	Aniruddha Marathe, Nachiket Kelkar	KSCST Seminar Hall
	An Introduction to Popular Science Writing	Sandhya Sekar	CES Classroom
	Freshwater Fish Conservation: Concepts, Techniques and Strategies	V. V. Binoy, Rajeev Raghavan, Neelesh Dahanukar, Neethi Mahesh, Unmesh Katwate, Siby Philip	CES Seminar Hall
	Can conditional approvals and legal compliance help achieve better conservation outcomes?*	Kanchi Kohli	JN Tata Seminar Hall C
	Advocacy for Conservation	Neha Sinha	JN Tata Seminar Hall A

16:30 - 16:50 Refreshments

16:50 - 18:00 **POSTER SESSION**

- A01 Ecological Niche Modeling of Assamese Macaque in South and South-East Asia / **Ganga Ram Regmi**
- A02 Phenology and plant pollinator interactions of Rhododendron species in Sikkim, Himalyas. / **Shweta Basnett**
- A03 Management of wetlands with special reference to the invasive aquatic macrophytes in Barak Valley, Assam, North East India / **Nami Prasad**
- A04 Prevalence of intestinal parasitic infections in free-ranging red panda *Ailurus fulgens*, Cuvier 1825 (Carnivora: Ailuridae: Ailurinae) in Nepal / **Tirth Raj Ghimire**
- A05 A case study on Pygmy Hogs in the Pygmy Hog breeding center / **Smita Dutta**
- A06 Forensic molecular tool in wildlife conservation / **Devika V S**
- A07 Effect of habitat degradation on behavioral patterns of a freshwater species, zebrafish (*Brachydanio rerio*) / **Tamal Roy**
- A08 Karbi Anglong: Participatory modelling and integrated landscape approaches for development and conservation, part 1: Understanding the local agricultural system. / **Swen Petrus Maria Bos**
- A09 Vital Statistics: Preliminary Information on Population Trends of the Forest Owlet in East Kalibhit Range, Madhya Pradesh / **Prasanna N S**
- A10 Social behavior among vultures during feeding (A case study from Ghachowk and Pithauli Vulture restaurants, Nepal) / **Anisha Pokharel**
- A11 Dry seeds of rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*) - a fall-back food for golden langur in fragmented habitat of Assam, India / **Debahutee Roy**
- A12 Natural resources and their utilization pattern by the ecosystem people of Chatla floodplain wetland of Barak Valley, Assam, Northeast India / **Priyanka Sarkar**
- A13 Bats in God's Place: In-situ conservation of bats in the sacred caves of Gupteswar, Southern Odisha along Easternghat, India / **Subrat Debata**
- A14 Traditional Livelihood and Natural Resource Dependence of a Resettled Birhor Community. / **Vijaylakshmi Suman**
- A15 Providing connectivity between two meta-population of Kanha Tiger Reserve and Pench Tiger Reserve / **Sprih Harsh**
- A16 Variations of species composition of Seagrass related to the sediment characters in the Southern Coast of Sri Lanka / **Herath Mudiyanelage Udari Ayeshya**
- A17 Tree cavities and associated vertebrate fauna: a case study in Rani Reserve Forest, Kamrup, Assam / **Minarul Haque**
- A18 Plant Diversity as Surrogate for Insects in Tropical Landscapes / **Kai Zhang**
- A19 Foods and Habitats of Asian small-clawed otters and smooth-coated otters, northern Cambodia / **Naven Hon**
- A20 To study the population characteristics and habitat use by Ladakh Urial in the Trans-Himalayan region / **Zehidul Hussain**
- A21 Urban lizards run faster and have bolder escape strategies / **Anuradha Batabyal**
- A22 Conservational value of Dunumadalawa forest reserve in central Sri Lanka based on the endemism of the avifauna / **Tharangi Roshima Kumari Hettiarachchi**
- A23 Comparative Assessment Of Undisturbed And Restored Mangrove Areas Based On Birds As Indicator Species. / **Prasad Anil Kulkarni**
- A24 Sacred Grove's Potential in Mitigating Climate Change through Carbon Sequestration / **Arpitkumar Shantilal Patel**
-

18:00 - 19:00 Butterfly Stories: From Biology to Conservation / **Krushnamegh Kunte**

19:00 - 21:00 Dinner





08:00-08:30	Registration		
08:30-09:30	Moving mountains: migration, rurality and social ecology / Sudha Vasan		
09:30-09:50	Refreshments (20 minutes)		
09:50-12:00	STUDENT TALKS		
T6	Forests of the Mind: Examining official Forest representations in a Shifting cultivation (jhum) landscape in Garo hills, India / Amit John Kurien		
T7	Economic and ecological outcomes of forest managed by community in partnership with NGO: A case study from Tobé-Kpobidon forest, Benin / Rodrigue Castro Gbedomon		
T8	A study of land cover change in Papikonda National Park, Eastern Ghats, Andhra Pradesh, using NDVI based time series analysis / Vikram Aditya		
T9	Integrating Stand, Spectral and Geospatial Information for Aboveground Forest Carbon Estimation: A Comparative Study from Sub-Tropical Forests, Nepal / Hem Raj Acharya		
T10	Edge effect on diurnal Lepidoptera diversity indicates need to re-describe the TDEFs of India. / Rishiddh Avnish Jhaveri		
12:00-13:00	Who's Who in Conservation		
13:00-14:00	Lunch		
14:00-16:30	Short Workshop	Resource Persons	Venue
	Thinking quantitatively	Suhel Quader	KSCST Seminar Hall
	Graphics and visualisation in R	Divya Vasudev	CES Classroom
	Language and Ecology – Communicating Nature Through Local Languages	P. Jeganathan and S. Theodore Baskaran	Cistup Classroom
	Applications of molecular phylogenetics in conservation biology	K. Praveen Karanth	CES Seminar Hall
	Publication ethics	T.A. Abinandanan	Choksi Hall
	The challenge of coordinating conservation for Asia's Critically Endangered Vultures. Lessons and application for other conservation examples	Chris Bowden	Cistup Seminar Hall
	What's behind a scientific article? What can sociological/ethnographic studies tell us about doing science and of writing a scientific paper?	Pankaj Sekhsaria, John Matthew	JN Tata Seminar Hall A
	Mobile Field Data Collection using OpenDataKit (ODK)	Ujaval Gandhi	CES Lotka Volterra
	What is chemical ecology?	Shannon Olsson, Radhika Venkatesan	JN Tata Seminar Hall B
	Seeing the political in the ecological: Applying social science ideas and methods to conservation issues (abbreviated version)	Adam Jadhav, Nitin Rain	MRDG Conference Room
	Ecological Monitoring and Conservation of Tropical Insect Biodiversity	Krushnamegh Kunte	JN Tata Main Auditorium
	Working with the Press	Neha Sinha	JN Tata Seminar Hall C
16:30-16:50	Refreshments		

16:50-18:00 **POSTER SESSION 2**

- B01 Understanding the range limits of *Primula* species along the elevation gradient of Sikkim Himalaya, India: insights from a transplant experiment / **Priya Darshini Gurung**
- B02 Food for Thought: Diet Separation between the Forest Owlet, Spotted Owlet and Jungle Owlet in Madhya Pradesh / **Ridhi Rajesh Chandarana**
- B03 Tree diversity in Pan Jhum, a traditional betel leaf based agroforestry system in Barak Valley, Assam / **Biswajyoti Bikomiya Deori**
- B04 Diversity and current status of goblin spiders (Oonopidae) in rapidly changing ecosystems in Sri Lanka / **Uda Gedara Sasanka Lakmali Ranasinghe**
- B05 Effect of pine plantation on litter arthropod fauna in Upper Hanthana forest reserve, Kandy District, Sri Lanka / **Saumya Erandi Silva**
- B06 Assessment of cheetah prey base outside protected areas in Southern Kenya. / **Noreen Mukhwana Mutoro**
- B07 Effect of intensive artisanal fishery on aggregated small tuna population in coast and offshore areas off Southern Sri-Lanka / **Chathuri Chandima Walpita**
- B08 Nest congregation of stingless bee, *Trigona iridipennis* Smith. in coffee Agro forest ecosystems of Kodagu district, Karnataka / **Manu T. N.**
- B09 Spider Family (Araneae) Assemblage in High Altitude Ecosystems: A Case Study in Askot wildlife Sanctuary, Western Himalaya (India) / **Uttaran Bandyopadhyay**
- B10 Assessing Habitat Quality of Forest-Corridors through NDVI Analysis in Dry Tropical Forests of South India: Implications for Conservation and Management / **Paramesha Mallegowda**
- B11 Understanding the role of natural habitat affecting pollinator interactions in an urbanization landscape / **Ronita Mukherjee**
- B12 Conceptions of two local stakeholder groups towards the crop-raiding Bawean warty pig (*Sus blouchi*), endemic to Bawean island, Indonesia. / **Shafia Zahra**
- B13 Distribution pattern of odonates relative to different biotopes in Rani Reserve Forest and its adjacent areas. (Work in progress) / **Dipti Thakuria**
- B14 Analysis of human perceptions and temporal patterns of human-snow leopard conflict in Nepal Himalayas / **Balkumar Nepali**
- B15 Identifying the patterns of crop raiding by wild ungulates and elephants in Ramnagar Forest Division, Uttarakhand. / **Ankur Kumar**
- B16 Predicting distribution of Himalayan wolf and its relation with environmental variables / **Swati Saini**
- B17 Effect of Management Modalities and Forest Condition on Forest Carbon Biomass in Pine Dominated Forests, Mid Hill Nepal / **Anita Dandekhya**
- B18 Fractional Cover Assessment Using MESMA Technique in Doon Valley / **Florencia Matina Tuladhar**
- B19 Finding the cause and securing the future of highly problematic Sloth bear population in Nilgiri, Eastern India. / **Prakash Chandra Mardaraj**
- B20 Diversity and Habitat Occupancy of Odonata in Sinharaja Man and Biosphere Reserve, Sri Lanka / **Amila Prasanna Sumanapala**
- B21 A comparative limnological study on plankton diversity and the effect of pollutants on Chandubi Lake, Deepar Beel and Digholipukhuri, Assam / **Dhurjati Pathak**
- B22 Spatial Ecology And Habitat Utilization Of King Cobras (*Ophiophagus hannah*) In Northeast Thailand / **Inês Maria Simões Silva**
- B23 Assessment of Diversity of Fauna and Flora in High-Grown Tea Plantations in Dimbula Region of Nuwara Eliya District, Sri Lanka / **Chathuranga Iroshan Deshapriya**
- B24 Aquatic insects diversity and water quality: A comparison of two freshwater habitats in Colombo district, Sri Lanka / **Agasthya Malinatha Wickramarachchi Thotagamuwu**

18:00-19:00 The challenge of environment regulation in an aspirational economy / **Kanchi Kohli**

19:00-21:00 Dinner



DAY 4

11 SEPTEMBER 2015



08:00-08:30	Registration
08:30-09:30	How does genetics aid conservation? / Uma Ramakrishnan
09:30-09:50	Refreshments
09:50-12:00	STUDENT TALKS
T11	Decoding the mass nesting behaviour of olive ridley turtles in Odisha, India. / Akash Verma
T12	Asian elephants in the tropical rain forests of Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve, Assam / Abhijit Boruah
T13	The association of human disturbances and vigilance by Tibetan Wild Ass, <i>Equus kiang</i> , in Trans-Himalayan India / Prameek Meena Kannan
T14	Assessment of determinant of human-wildlife conflict in Panna tiger reserve, with particular reference to villager's livestock herding and fencing strategies / Durga Prasad Srivastava
T15	Is incomplete knowledge helping the spreading of invasive <i>Mimosa pigra</i> ? A case study on public awareness. / Saumya Chinthani Wanniaracchchi
12:00-13:00	POSTER SESSION 3
C01	Habitat correlates of the forest small mammal community in northeast India / Sahila D Kudalkar
C02	Solving the puzzle: Can we have community-based conservation in Cusuco National Park, Honduras? / Guillaume M C G Demare
C03	The effect of introduced chital (<i>Axis axis</i>) on forest vegetation communities in the Andaman islands / Krishna Anujan
C04	Ranging and movement pattern of Lesser Florican (<i>Sypheotides indica</i>) in Rajasthan / Antharagam Mohan
C05	Influence of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi on natural regeneration of grassland disclimaxes in Dothalugala MAB Reserve, Sri Lanka / Viraj Niroshana Gunaratne
C06	Riverine obligate bird species in the Ganges: ecological and anthropogenic correlates / Ankita Sinha
C07	Where have all the lorises gone: slender loris, citizen scientists, and urban growth in Bangalore / Vidisha Madhava Kulkarni
C08	Species specific primers and a Panel of Microsatellites for Sloth Bear (<i>Melursus ursinus</i>). / Kaushalkumar Ganeshbhai Patel
C09	Vocalization characteristics override phylogenetic signal in green colored Sri Lankan <i>Pseudophilautus</i> species / Navarathna Mudiyansele Tharindu Gunathilaka
C10	Estimating hornbill density using spatially explicit capture recapture methods / Ravinder Kaur Kirpal Singh
C11	Seasonal changes in forage quality of ungulates along the elevation gradient in Sikkim Himalaya, India / Tanushree Srivastava
C12	Factors Influencing Fishermen's Perception of Otters along the Bhadra River, India / Parvathi Krishna Prasad
C13	Herpetofaunal species richness and abundance in different forest types at the Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve, Thailand / Matthew Steven Crane
C14	Assessment of Nest Sites of Forest Owlet and Spotted Owlet in Khandwa District, Madhya Pradesh / Megha Rao
C15	Developing landscape level habitat suitability maps for selected mammals in Western Himalaya - a case study in Askot Landscape, Uttarakhand / Ankita Bhattacharya
C16	Diversity of Avifauna in a Tropical Lowland Forest in South West, Sri Lanka: A Comparative Study of Different Habitats / Shachindrika Rukshani Wijesinghe
C17	"No Entry for the Elephants" Benefits of Crop Guarding: A Case Study from North Kanara District, Karnataka. / Sangram Parida
C18	Investigating habitat change in Lala Bustard Sanctuary using Remote Sensing and GIS / Nisarsingh Rajendra Chaudhari
C19	Comparative study on diversity and distribution of spiders in different forest habitat type in Guwahati metro (on going) / Awarlin Chetia
C20	Impact of invasive plant <i>Lantana camara</i> and road-edge on butterfly habitat use in a tropical moist deciduous forest in India / Suman Attiwilli
C21	Fisheries in Gulf of Kachchh: Importance, conflicts and conservation strategies / Emma Fatima
C22	Effectiveness of Community-based Conservation: A study from the Great Himalayan National Park (Tirthan Valley), Himachal Pradesh, India / Priyanka Singh
C23	Sustainable practices in modern fishing scenarios: Conservation of Barred spiny eel in Kolavai lake, Tamil Nadu / Dinesh Kumar Sivasankaran

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:30	Short Workshop	Resource Persons	Venue
	Getting the Measure of Diversity: A Macro-ecological Perspective	Kartik Shanker, Navendu Page, SP Vijaykumar, Varun Torsekar	JN Tata Seminar Hall A
	Observational study of animal behaviour and its importance for animal conservation	Nishant M.S, Shreekanth Deodhar, Sreedhar Vijaykrishnan	Cistup Seminar Hall
	Elements of effective study design	Advait Edgaonkar and Kavita Isvaran	CES Classroom
	An introduction to conservation genetics	Shomita Mukherjee and Subhankar Chakraborty, Vishnupriya Kollipakam	CES Lotka Volterra
	How to tell a conservation story	Pavithra Sankaran	CES Seminar Hall
	Conservation story-telling with images	Kalyan Varma	JN Tata Main Auditorium
	Business & Biodiversity - working with businesses for conservation in India	Yashada Kulkarni, Akshay Nachane, Prachiti Mule	MRDG Conference Room
	Principles of Monitoring Ecological Populations and Communities: Why, What and How?	James D. Nichols	JN Tata Seminar Hall B
	Workshop: An introduction to eBird and eBirding	P. Jeganathan, Rohit Chakravarty, Garima Bhatia, Raman Kumar	JN Tata Seminar Hall C

16:30-16:50 Refreshments

16:50-18:00 Towards Paris and After: The Climate Challenge/ **Jairam Ramesh**

18:00-19:00 **Closing Remarks and Student Awards**

