

Minutes of the two days regional workshop for wetland managers of wetlands of Eastern States (Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha) held during 26-27 September, 2019 at Kolkata (WB) .

Two days regional workshop was organized during 26th -27th September, 2019 at Kolkata by Zoological Survey of India (ZSI). A total of 26 participants including Wetland managers of wetlands in northern States (Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Odisha), officers from MoEFCC and ZSI were present in the workshop. The list of participants and delegates is attached at Annexure.

Dr.C. Raghunathan Addl. Director, Zoological Survey of India welcomed the delegates. Inaugural address was delivered by Ms. Manju Pandey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India which also included the purpose and objectives of the workshop.

Dr. Ajeet Patnaik, Former PCCF, Odisha gave a presentation on preparation of Ecosystem Health Cards followed by a preparation on Brief Documents and Integrated Management Plans for Wetlands by Dr. Ritesh Kumar, Wetland International South Asia, New Delhi.

The presentation was followed by interactive session with participants after which hands on filling up of proforma of Brief Document, Health Card and IMP of wetlands identified from above States was done by all the participants. During the workshop Wetland Health Card (WHC), Brief documents (BD) and Integrated Management Action Plan (IMPs) of identified wetlands (List of wetlands is at annexure-II) from participating States prepared are as follows:

1. **Uttar Pradesh:** WHC, BD, Wetland Mitra prepared for all 13 wetlands and IMP prepared for 7 wetlands.
2. **Odisha:** WHC, BD and IMP prepared for all 3 wetlands.
3. **Jharkhand:** WHC, BD prepared for all 5 wetlands and IMP prepared for only for 1 wetland.
4. **Bihar:** WHC, BD and IMP prepared for all 3 wetlands (Moti jheel replaced by Kusheswar Asthan)
5. **West Bengal:** WHC, BD and IMP prepared for 2 wetlands (Ravinder Sarover was not considered as identified)

The issues discussed and decisions taken during the workshop are given below:

Brief Documents

- a. All brief documents to be prepared using available information. Wetlands name, area, nodal officer, a summary description of water regimes, ecosystem services and threats are core information fields. For rest, information if not available, may be stated as not available.
- b. Wetlands managers may access the site of Zoological Survey of India website for information on faunal resources. Link:

http://faunaofindia.nic.in/php/ess_books_list.php

- c. Ramsar Sites with updated Ramsar Information Sheet will be considered as Brief Documents, given a complete information overlap between the two documents.
- d. Filled in brief documents with maps should be sent to the Ministry at c.singh@nic.in

Ecosystem Health Cards

- a. Wetlands managers should strive to prepare the health card using the essential variables at this stage. These are: Change in wetlands area to non-wetlands use, degree of choking of natural inlets, degree of choking of natural outlets, Do/ BOD, COD (for urban wetlands), proportion of wetland occupied by invasive macrophytes, ration of current annual waterbird count to five year's average (for wetland protected areas), availability of wetland map, management plan and notification under extant regulation.
- b. The final score will be ranked as follows:
 - a. A+ for score between 0.96 to 1
 - b. A – for score between 0.91 – 0.95
 - c. B+ for score between 0.86 – 0.90
 - d. B- for score between 0.81 – 0.85
 - e. C+ for score between 0.76 – 0.80
 - f. C- for score between 0.71 – 0.75
 - g. D for score between 0.61-0.70
 - h. E for all score between 0.6 and below
- e. Filled in ecosystem health cards should be sent to the Ministry at c.singh@nic.in

Wetlands Mitra

- a. Existing stakeholder and citizen groups will be collated and included within the progress report.

- b. Electronic module for 'Wetland Mitra' prepared by EPCO will be shared with all states. The module will be translated to English prior to circulation.

Wetlands Management Plans

- a. For all wetlands designated as Protected Areas, the PA management plans shall be reviewed in terms of their adequacy to address threats. Executive summaries of such management plans shall be forwarded to the Ministry at c.singh@nic.in
- b. For all other wetlands, framework management plans should be prepared and forwarded to MoEFCC. Within the first six months of programme implementation, the framework management plans should be converted into integrated management plans in line with NPCA guidelines.

National Level Activities

- a. At national level, a concept of a National Wetlands Center will be put in place. The center will serve as a nodal institution for provide capacity development and knowledge support to State Wetlands Authorities, wetlands managers and other stakeholders in conservation and sustainable management of wetlands. (Action by Ministry)
- b. The Ministry shall facilitate access to Forest Survey of India database on wetlands and related features from the national database. (Action by Ministry)
- c. A working group on national wetlands inventory shall be set up to prepare a data architecture for Indian wetlands. Within three months, the working group shall prepare the architecture of a National Wetlands Inventory, taking into account various advancements in the field of inventory, especially in use of satellite data. (Action by Ministry)

On 27th September 2019, the team visited Crocodile Breeding Center at Bhagwatpur in Sunderbans to observe conservation measures. Prof. J.K. Garg, Former Professor, Indraprasth University, New Delhi gave a presentation on mapping and monitoring of wetlands using Geoinformatics. The field trip was completed at 10:00 AM on the same day.

The workshop was concluded by 5:30 PM on 27.09.2019.

Annexure-I

List of Participants
Regional Workshop on Conservation and Management of Wetlands for
Wetlands Managers & Stakeholders of Eastern States
26th -27th September 2019, Kolkata

Sl. No.	Name of Participant	State	Designation
1	Dr. S. Kulandaivel	W.B.	Joint Director, SBR, Forest Department, Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata
2	Sh.G.R.Santosha	W.B.	DFO, SBR, Forest Department, Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata
3	Mr.Anirudhha Paul	W.B.	Scientific Officer, East Kolkata Wetland Development Authority, Kolkata
4	Sh.Bikash Ranjan Dash	Odisha	DFO, Mangrove Forest Division, Rajnagar, Kendrapara, Odisha
5	Dr.Samrat Gowda	Odisha	DFO, Chilika Division, Balugaon, Khurda, Odisha
6	Sh.Vijay Shankar Dubey,	Jharkhand	DFO, Bokaro, Jharkhand
7	Sh. Srikant	Jharkhand	DFO, Gulma, Jharkhand
8	Sh. Ved Prakash Kamboj	Jharkhand	DFO, Latehar, Jharkhand
9	Sh. Sanjaya Srivastav	Uttar Pradesh	APCCF & Executive Officer, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, Lucknow
10	Sh. Neeraj Kumar	Uttar Pradesh	CF, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, Lucknow
11	Sh.SantoshTewari	Bihar	APCCF, Forest Department, Govt. of Bihar
12	Sh.Kamaljit Singh	Bihar	Conservator cum Additional Secretary Dept.of EF&CC, Govt.of Bihar
13	Sh.Ashutosh Marwah	Bihar	APCCF, Forest Department, Govt. of Bihar
14	Dr.Ajit Pattnaik	Resource Person	Formerly Chief Executive Officer, CDA, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
15	Prof. J.K. Garg	Resource Person	Former Professor, Indraprasth University, New Delhi
16	Dr.Ritesh Kumar	Resource Person	Director, Wetland International, New Delhi
17	Dr.Suresh Babu	Resource Person	Programme Officer, WWF, New Delhi
20	Mr.Chandan Singh	MoEFCC	Joint Director, Wetland Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
21	Mrs.Manju Pandey	MoEFCC	Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC
22	Dr.Kailash Chandra	ZSI	Director, ZSI, Kolkata
23	Dr.C. Raghunathan	ZSI	ZSI, Kolkata
24	Dr.Basudev Tripathy	ZSI	ZSI, Kolkata
25	Dr.Santosh Kumar	ZSI	ZSI, Kolkata
25	Dr.Prabhakar Rai	ZSI	ZSI, Kolkata
26	Dr.Amitava Majumdar	ZSI	ZSI, Kolkata

Annexure-II

SI No	Name of the States along with no. of wetland finalized on 26.09.2019	Name of the Wetlands	WHC	BD	IMP	WM
1	Bihar (3)	Kanwar	✓	✓	✓	-
		Baraila	✓	✓	✓	-
		Motijheel (Kusheswar Asthan)	✓	✓	✓	-
2	Jharkhand (5)	Ialmatia	✓	✓	✓	-
		Barkipona	✓	✓	-	-
		Tegaoan	✓	✓	-	-
		Rakamsera	✓	✓	-	-
		Amboa dan	✓	✓	-	-
3	Odisha (3)	Chilika	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Ansupa	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Bhitarkanika	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Uttar Pradesh (13)	Upper Ganga	✓	✓	-	✓
		Sur Sarovar	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Nawabganj	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Patna Bird Sanctaury	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Saman	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Sandi	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Samaspur	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Sarsai Nawar	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Bakhira	✓	✓	-	✓
		Suraha	✓	✓	-	✓
		Sheikha	✓	✓	-	✓
		Sauj	✓	✓	-	✓
		Parvati Aranga	✓	✓	-	✓
5	West Bengal (3)	East Kolkata Wetland	✓	✓	✓	-
		Sundarbans	✓	✓	✓	-
		Rabindra Sarovar	Not considered			
Total		27	26	26	16	16