

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010



Wildlife Trust of India

F-13, Sector-8,

Noida, UP- 201301 ,India

Tel: +120-4143900

Fax: +120-4143933

email-info@wti.org.in, Web: wti.org.in

CONTENTS

Executive Summary	4
Valmiki Conservation Project	5
Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation & Conservation (CWRC)	5
Centre for Bear Rehabilitation & Conservation (CBRC)	6
Greater Manas Conservation Project	7
Dibru-Saikhowa Wild Buffalo Rehabilitation Project	8
Panbari Corridor Securement Project	8
Uttar Pradesh Tiger Conservation Project	9
Siju-Rewak Corridor Securement	9
Selbalgre Village Reserve Forest	9
Insurance and Morale Boosting	9
Emergency Relief Network	10
Sloth Bear Conservation and Welfare Project	10
Whale Shark Conservation Project	11
Mithapur Coral Reef Securement Project	11
Marine Programme	11
Marine National Park	12
GTF Support Project	12
Garo Hills Community Conservation Project	12
National Elephant Corridor Project	12
Wild Buffalo Conservation Project	13
Van Rakshak Project	13
Rapid Action Projects	14
Executive Director's Discretionary Grant	15
All-India Tiger Estimation	16
Wildlife Enforcement	16

Wildlife Litigation Project	16
Wayanad Elephant Corridor Securement Project	17
Kollegal Corridor Securement	17
Groundtruthing of Nilgiri-Mysore Elephant Corridors	17
Corridor Project	17
Alternative Livelihood for Shahtoosh Workers	17
Markhor Recovery Project	18
Tibetan Conservation Awareness Campaign	18
Cheetah Reintroduction Project	18
Planning	18
Animal Action Week	18
Communications	19

Executive Summary

1. The court of the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (Special Act), Delhi, sentenced shahtoosh trader Ishaq Baig to one year in prison along with a fine of Rs 5,000. Ten shahtoosh shawls were recovered from his possession. A tiger skin was seized from three traders in Kozhikode district in Kerala on January 1.
2. Vikram Usandi, Forest Minister, Government of Chhattisgarh, has requested WTI to work for human-elephant conflict mitigation in the state.
3. The two clouded leopard cubs being hand-raised were relocated to a release site in Sanfan Range, Kachugaon Forest Division.
4. A survey of Kalandars in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, as well as in Nepal was initiated under the Sloth Bear Conservation and Welfare Project.
5. Survey for prey abundance, as part of the Cheetah Reintroduction Project, has been completed in Dubri WLS, Sanjay NP and three ranges of Guru Ghasi Das in Chhattisgarh. A consultative meeting on the Cheetah Reintroduction Project was held in Gajner and attended by Indian as well as international wildlife experts, discussed the feasibility of reintroducing the cheetah to India.
6. The District Collector of Wayanad has given permission for the voluntary relocation of the third settlement (Pulayankolly) in the corridor. Alternative land in Anapara has been registered in the name of the complying families. The houses constructed at Panavally were inaugurated. Six families from Valiya Emmadi settlement in Wayanad Elephant Corridor, have moved in to these new houses. The ownership of a total of 25.5 acres of land within Edayarhalli-Doddasampige Elephant Corridor in Karnataka was transferred to the Forest Department.
7. The two Asiatic black bear cubs in CBRC were translocated to the release site near Doigurung Forest Camp in Pakke Tiger Reserve to begin their acclimatisation to the wild.
8. Final notice has been served to the villagers of Silijuri, who had agreed to voluntarily relocate to an alternative site to facilitate securing of Panbari Corridor in Assam.
9. The Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and WTI have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the UP Tiger Project.
10. WTI documentary 'A shawl to die for' was awarded for Technical Excellence in cinematography at the prestigious CMS Vatavaran 2009 film awards.
11. The Madras High Court, in an interim judgment on November 5, passed the ruling in favour of the Tamil Nadu Forest Department in a case against private establishments which obstructed movement of wild elephants in Segur Plateau and around Mudumalai Tiger Reserve. Dr B Ramakrishnan, WTI field officer and R Aramugam, WTI consultant provided technical assistance to the Forest Department in the case.

Valmiki Conservation Project

Photographic capture-recapture sampling for tiger density estimation was initiated in the Valmiki Tiger Reserve. Status of husk stoves distributed to beneficiaries was assessed. Seven fuel efficient cook stoves were distributed in Khairahni and three stoves were distributed in Matiwara. More cook stoves are being made for further distribution. Charcoal briquettes were produced from sugar cane trash in several villages.



Figure I: Residents of Doan valley display husk stoves

A team of experts from the Appropriate Rural Technology Institute (ARTI), Pune, organised a week-long training workshops for the villagers on Charcoal, Chulha and Biogas.



Figure II: Plantation being undertaken in the Doan Valley

Training for income generation activities (IGA) has also been arranged for several villagers at the Society for Rural Industrialization and Social Transformation Initiatives (SRISTI) Foundation, Patna. The villagers will be taken to Patna for the training. The training will help develop skills on IGAs like piggery, backyard poultry, marketing aspects of business, arrangement of finance through bank, micro-finance institutions etc. Plantation of sapling for firewood was completed as planned. In total, 1185 saplings were planted in common land and along road sides in 4 villages, and 385 saplings were planted in private land in 6 villages.

Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation & Conservation (CWRC)

A black panther, captured in Kehang Tea Estate following conflicts with humans, near Borjan Reserve Forest, was brought to CWRC by MVS Upper Assam. The animal will be transferred to the State Zoo.



Figure III: A king cobra 'rescued' from a hut in Bosagaon near CWRC

An adult male tiger was captured in Sivasagar, Upper Assam, after its attack led to the death of two humans. He was admitted and subsequently radio-collared, and released in Manas NP.

A hog badger was released after successful hand-raising in CWRC this month. This is the second instance that a hand-raised hog badger; a Schedule I animal, has been released.

A two-month-old rhino calf was found alone near Haldibari camp, Kohora. As the mother was not seen for 2-3 days, the calf was admitted to

CWRC for hand-raising. Another two-month old abandoned male rhino calf was brought to CWRC from Baghmari Camp, Bagori Range in Kaziranga National Park



Figure IV: Animal keeper comforts a rhino at CWRC



An elephant calf rescued from a tea garden ditch in Mariani, Jorhat, by the Forest Department officials, was admitted in CWRC. Another elephant calf, found alone in Burapahar was admitted too.

Mobile Veterinary Service – Central Assam

Two rhinos and two tigers were found dead in Agoratuli and Kohora ranges of Kaziranga. Post mortem was conducted.

In an *in situ* intervention, a rhino stuck in a mud pit in Agoratuli range was rescued and released. The MVS unit attended to an Asian elephant with bullet injuries on its left anterior elbow joint. In Sonai Rupai WLS, a male captive elephant that had run away

breaking its chains after killing its mahout was restrained through chemical immobilisation. In Orang NP, an elephant in musth was tranquilised and restrained. One sub-adult elephant calf right stuck in a mud pit was rescued, treated and reunited with the mother.

The MVS unit vaccinated 1400 livestock against Foot and Mouth Disease. Necropsy of two tigers and a rhino was conducted in Kaziranga National Park. Over 500 cattle were vaccinated against hemorrhagic septicemia, in Bagori. A total of 36 captive elephants were examined for various diseases and general fitness.

Centre for Bear Rehabilitation & Conservation (CBRC)

Rehabilitation of Asiatic black bears in Manas: Two bear cubs were collared with telonics radio transmitters. Since the radio-tracking began, the released bears have not returned to the cage which indicates that the duo is not starving in the wild.

Bears at West Bank, Pakke: Three hand raised bear cubs are ready for release and a survey was conducted for their possible release site. Eventually, after consultations with the DFO, an area near Doigurung camp about 27 km from West Bank was selected. It has been decided that the machan will be constructed about 3 km from Doigurung camp near Jutli Nala. Another bear cub was shifted to the release site near Doigurung camp.



Figure V: One of the bears after being radio-collared

The three bear cubs are being taken for daily walks into the forest for acclimatisation. The cubs were no longer dependent on the keepers and return to the enclosure only during feeding. Later, the cubs stopped returning to the enclosure area regularly. The three cubs were to be radio collared soon.

Greater Manas Conservation Project

Rhino Rehabilitation Project: Three rhinos were released from the *boma*, but Rhino 1 constantly began straying into human habitation. The Forest Department has been making efforts to prevent 'straying' of rhino 1 by increasing the vigil towards the southern boundary, where it mostly remains. The younger rhinos 2 and 3 have relatively smaller home ranges.

Fifty rain suits, 50 pairs of boots and five search lights were handed over to the frontline field staff of Manas TR to facilitate monitoring of the reintroduced rhinos among other wildlife.



Figure VI: Rhino 1, Mainao, one of the rehabilitated rhinos

Elephant Reintegration Project: Eight hand-raised elephant calves from CWRC were released the previous year to re-integrate them with the wild herds of Manas National Park. Of the eight calves, six older ones had separated into two groups comprising three individuals each, while two younger calves were being hand-raised. These animals had radio transmitters and were constantly been tracked.



Figure VII: Mohan accompanied by Pari and Rupa

As per the recommendations made during the Governing Council Meet, one of the elephants (Mohan) was brought to the forest range office campus in Basbari range to be given away to the Forest Department. Initially, the Forest Department mahouts hesitated to accept the hand-raised but not trained elephant. It was proposed that an animal keeper from WTI would be placed to take care of Mohan for a month at least, till a Forest Department mahout agrees to take over. However, as monsoon is not a favourable time for training elephants, Mohan was in Uchilla camp under Basbari

range and is being managed as a captive elephant by two WTI staff.

Rupa and Pari had earlier remained with Mohan. However with the transfer of Mohan, they moved together in the wild covering about 20 km from Makhibaha and reached Uchilla Camp to rejoin Mohan. Although natural, this bonding is affecting reintegration of Rupa and Pari into the wild. Mohan was relocated to Panbari range of Manas National Park, and handed over to the Forest Department as per instructions of the Director. Rupa and Pari were fitted with bio-degradable radio collars and they headed south-wards. Their movement is being monitored to assess their reaction to the forced separation from Mohan.

Clouded Leopard Rehabilitation: The two hand-raised clouded leopard cubs were transferred to the soft release site in Singi Majuli under Sanfan Reserve Forest, Kachugaon Division. The clouded leopards are now being acclimatised in their new habitat. They have even tried to stalk and predate upon a jungle fowl.

Mutual interaction like playing is minimal between the two. The cubs have been attempting to hone their stalking skills. Infighting has been observed during feeding. Sharpening claws against tree trunks. During the course of the month, the cubs preyed on a feral dog inside the forest. Since then, the cubs have been spending more time on ground. They have attempted to prey upon barking deer, hoary bellied squirrel, red jungle fowl, golden langur and an unidentified bird species. They will soon be radio-collared in anticipation of their release.



Figure VIII: One of the two handraised clouded leopard cubs

Miscellaneous: Ex gratia payment has not been made yet to the family of late Hala Brahma who was trampled to death by wild elephants while protecting his crop. The payment could not be made as the bank account of the beneficiary has not been opened yet.

Dibru-Saikhowa Wild Buffalo Rehabilitation Project

Two wild buffaloes radio-collared and released back in the wild. The buffaloes have had no serious conflicts with humans, and their contact with humans has been minimal.

Mobile Veterinary Service, Upper Assam: A common leopard injured in conflict was captured in Aithakhuli camp, and was successfully released in Joypur Reserve Forest. A black panther was trapped by Forest Department personnel in a tea estate and was transferred to Assam State Zoo.



Figure IX: Animal keepers at the MVS field station attend to an adjutant stork

The MVS unit also assisted the Forest Department in a cattle immunisation drive in Hathikuli, Miripathar, Christian basti, Psitring Pahar, Airakhuti, Nutungaon and Kordoiguri. A total of 1060 animals were vaccinated against fatal cattle diseases - haemorrhagic septicaemia and black quarter.

Panbari Corridor Securement Project

Discussions are being held with residents of Siljuri and Methoni villages, following the written consent of the Karbi landowners of Siljuri. After receiving the written consent for voluntary relocation of more than 90 % of the residents of Siljuri, regular interaction on land acquisition was carried out with civil administration and the Park authority.

Uttar Pradesh Tiger Conservation Project



Figure X: Tiger attack victim in Sumernagar Mullah Toli

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and Wildlife Trust of India for the UP Tiger Project was signed. The prime objective of this project is to mitigate human-tiger conflict in Uttar Pradesh. The project also aims to conduct census and ecological studies on tiger in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and surrounding.

A 10-year-old boy was killed by a tigress and her two cubs in the sugarcane fields in Ghola, near Sathiyana Range, Dudhwa Tiger Reserve. Another woman was injured by the tiger in the fringes of Dudhwa National Park. The UP human-tiger conflict mitigation team was called in to control the situation.

Siju-Rewak Corridor Securement

Arrangements are being made for drinking water supply in Rewak Kosigre. The entire village is being divided into three units; each unit comprising 3-5 houses will be provided a water tank. Rewak-Kosigre Village Reserve Forest committee is satisfied with the implementation of activities. The Reserve is free of encroachment as it is being effectively guarded by the Nokma, who has also been convincing other locals on the benefits of protecting these resources.



Figure XI: Siju-Rewak Corridor

Rewak-Kosigre VRF: Arrangement has been made to ensure uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water for the villagers of Kosigre. A perennial water source has been identified, tapped and protected.

Selbalgre Village Reserve Forest

A thorough survey was done to identify critical A'khings between Nokrek and Selbalgre landscape. A brief survey to assess the biodiversity of Selbalgre VRF was also conducted. Discussion has also been initiated with people of Jade gindam for creation of Village Reserve forest.

Insurance and Morale Boosting

Insurance claim (of Rs One lakh) against death of Sri Sukleshwar Deka, casual staff of Burachapori WLS, Assam, was settled by the company.

Financial support of Rs 20,000 was provided to Desh Raj, Forest Guard, Rajaji NP for medical treatment. He was injured in an accident inside the park. Financial support of Rs 5,000 was provided to Ram Nath, Forest Guard, Haridwar division, Uttarakhand for medical treatment. Nath was attacked by a leopard that had strayed into Haridwar jail.



Figure XII: Siya Devi, widow of late Mool Chand, receives insurance cheque

An insurance death claim for late Mool Chand, Driver, Keoladeo National Park, Rajasthan, was settled. A cheque of Rs 1,00,000 was handed over to his wife.

Emergency Relief Network

ERN Membership cards are renewed every three years. This year, membership cards of several ERN members were renewed.

Sloth Bear Conservation and Welfare Project

Sloth Bear Trade Control: Field information on illegal trade was collected.

Alternative Livelihood for Kalandars (Project areas: Madhya Pradesh & Bihar): Progress of the kalandars in Bihar was monitored. They are doing well in their respective alternative livelihoods. Additional support provided to several Kalandars in distress. In Bhopal, all except one (Asin Khan) of the eight kalandars rehabilitated under the project are performing well. In Madhya Pradesh, an assistance of Rs 20,000 was provided to a former bear dancer - Rias Khan. He bought a Maruti van for alternative livelihood, after investing the remaining amount himself.

Chhattisgarh: WTI team visited Chorbhatti kalandar settlement in Chhattisgarh to see the farmlands of the rehabilitated kalandars. The kalandars and their family have worked hard in the fields; a good harvest is expected.

A pan-India survey of kalandars with dancing bears was initiated as planned during a visit by WSPA representative Neil D'Cruz. This survey is being carried out in Nepal, UP, Maharashtra, MP, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.



Figure XIV: Kalandar Altaf Khan's wife runs his grocery shop



Figure XIII: Saleem Khan at his shop



Figure XV: Street play artists at a rehearsal

Sloth Bear Campaign: An action plan has been charted for the next stage of the campaign taking it beyond street play performances. The campaign area will be mapped into separate circles. Apart from street plays, group meetings and workshops will be conducted with villagers and school children. Twenty villages in the four blocks of Sambalpur district, Orissa have been selected for campaigning.

A 12-year-old girl was attacked and injured by a sloth bear in a forest near Majhi Sahi village, Baud district, Orissa. Villagers shot the bear who escaped behind her two cubs. The villagers picked the cubs. Within hours, the bears were taken away and are currently being kept in a makeshift den

in Charichak Forest Rest House.

Whale Shark Conservation Project

More than 70 whale sharks were rescued this year. A draft report on whale shark biology has been compiled for the whale shark recovery plan. Forty four fishermen have been enrolled with the project to report sightings of whale sharks.



Figure XVI: The inflatable whale shark at a rally

The design of the habitat study was finalised in consultation with CMFRI at Kochi. A list of all fishing villages along the coast has been compiled for further study.

A survey on historical sightings of the whale shark along the coast of Gujarat has been completed. A total of 143 fishermen from 29 fishing villages were interviewed. A training to identify individual whale sharks using non-invasive photo ID technique was organised by

Brad Norman of ECOCEAN. The Indian hub for global whale shark identification has been established. The software required for data analysis has been installed.

Three more fishing communities have agreed to report sightings of whale sharks to the project implementers, bringing the total number of participating fishing communities to seven.

Whale Shark Genetic Study :WTI has entered into an MoU with the Centre for Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) for habitat study and genetic analysis of whale sharks.

Whale Shark Campaign: The third whale shark day was celebrated at Dwarka on November 27. The whale shark day also saw a participation from students, fishing community, forest officials, Tata Chemicals Limited representatives and marine experts from India and abroad.

Mithapur Coral Reef Securement Project



Figure XVII: Collared butterfly fish in Mithapur

A draft proposal for coral reef project in Mithapur was prepared. Mithapur coral reef boundary has been mapped. The project area has been georeferenced. Survey of coral reefs off the Mithapur coast was carried out. A scientific proposal for 'conservation of coral reefs off Mithapur coast through transplantation' was drafted.

Marine Programme

Scientific proposals for coral reef and whale shark projects have been submitted to the forest department. The second scientific advisory council and governing council meetings for the whale shark project and the coral reef project was held in Ahmedabad. An important outcome of the governing council meeting was that the necessary permissions for whale shark, coral reef and Gir corridor projects will soon be approved.

Marine National Park

Poshitra and Chank reef have been identified as transplant sites for Acropora. This has been approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden.

GTF Support Project

WTI was formally inducted into GTF as a member, under Category E of membership. Reminders for submission of updated Tiger Action Plans (if available) have been sent to relevant tiger range countries, for incorporation into the 2nd edition of "Action Tiger: Tiger Action Plans of 12 tiger range countries". Laos has responded that the pending evaluation report for the capacity building training at Wildlife Institute of India, of one GTF-USFWS sponsored candidate from the country, would be submitted soon.

Four tiger range countries – Malaysia, Bangladesh, Nepal and Indonesia – have sent their respective updated National Tiger Action Plan's (NTAP's).

Garo Hills Community Conservation Project

The three-year Development plan outlining details including implementation, timeline, resource requirement, and logical explanation of the entire process was prepared. Establishment of a nursery and plantation in 10 hectares in Selbalgre VRF has been completed.

Selbalgre VRF demarcation has been completed.

Mandalgre: As a welfare incentive for creating the reserve, a hanging bridge is being constructed in the village.



Figure XVIII: Bridge construction in Mandalgre

Kosi (Rewak) VRF: The Kosi Village Reserve Forest (elephant corridor) was inaugurated.

National Elephant Corridor Project



Figure XIX: Elephant Corridor signage

WTI team visited all of the 11 elephant corridors in Uttarakhand to finalise locations for fixing the signage and to meet the forest officials for assessment of the status of individual corridors. A proposal for ground-truthing selected corridors in Assam, was submitted to Elephant Family for support. Monitoring of the Doddasampige-Edayarahalli elephant corridor was undertaken to assess usage of the corridor by elephants and other animals in dry season. A total of 24 signage were fixed in the six elephant corridors in Karnataka.

To register Edayarahalli-Doddasampige elephant corridor land in the name of forest department, the draft transfer deed was submitted to the DFO

Chamrajnagar who confirmed that the agreement is in order.

A state level workshop on securing elephant corridors and human-elephant conflict mitigation in northern India was organised along with the Project Elephant, MoEF and Uttarakhand Forest Department in Dehradun.

The ongoing expansion of Indian Oil refinery unit in Digboi, Assam, threatens movement of elephants across the Upper Dihing East – Upper Dihing West corridor at Golai-Powai. WTI officials visited the corridor and discussed the matter with the DFO. IOC has reportedly agreed to set aside some part of the acquired land as green corridor.

The Tamil Nadu Forest Department in consultation with WTI had filed a case against resort and encroachers whose presence is obstructing elephant movement through crucial corridors in the Segur Plateau and adjoining areas of the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve of the Nilgiris. The court ordered clearing of all encroachments including tourist resorts and removal of physical barriers like fences.

Vivek Menon has been selected as a member of the Elephant Task Force constituted by Project Elephant.

WTI has signed an MoU with the Elephant Family for a five-year financial support to elephant conservation projects in India.

Wild Buffalo Conservation Project

Udanti Wild Buffalo Recovery: The Third Governing Council meeting of the Udanti Wild Buffalo Project was held at Raipur. An MoU for a three-year extension of the project was signed between WTI and Chhattisgarh Forest Department.

The proposal for Wild buffalo conservation breeding has been modified and submitted to Chhattisgarh Forest Department to be forwarded to the Central Zoo Authority (CZA).

Fourth Governing Council meeting of the Udanti Wild Buffalo Project was held in Raipur



Figure XX: Pregnant Wild buffalo in Udanti

Van Rakshak Project

A training was organised for the frontline staff of various national parks across the country. VRP trainings were held for 490 frontline forest department staff from Gir, Gujarat, to more effectively protect the endangered Asiatic lion.

A capacity-building training was conducted for the frontline Forest Department staff in Karbi Anglong. During the course of the training, three seizures were made by the trainees. Several unclaimed teak wood planks, barking deer meat and a trophy made of swamp deer antlers were seized.

Rapid Action Projects

An RAP was sanctioned to protect Bengal floricans and their habitat in Agrang-Betbari, Manas NP, through regular patrolling by volunteers. Monitoring of the nesting Bengal floricans through newly-erected bamboo towers (machans) was carried out.

The power fence in the fringe villages of Kaziranga National Park has significantly reduced crop damage by wild animals and the production of crops (mustard/rice) has exceeded 90%.

Installation of Bore-well in Dholkhand range (Sendhli beat) of Rajaji National Park to provide drinking water for the anti-poaching staff and wildlife.

Rescue of flood affected wildlife on the north bank of river Brahmaputra, during the annual floods.

A tractor was provided to Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary. The vehicle will be used to draw water tankers to replenish water holes to ensure water supply for wild animals as well as for fire protection activities.

Provided logistic support to frontline staff for reintroduced rhino monitoring in Manas Tiger Reserve.

A study had been sanctioned to understand the human- grizzled giant squirrel conflict in Rajapalayam, Western Ghats, Tamil Nadu.

Studying the direct and indirect evidences for establishing the use of roads (Highway 67 and 212) by wildlife and road traffic in Bandipur National Park.

Rapid Impact Assessment on the sea turtle nesting areas due to oil spill off the Orissa coast (Pentha to Jatadhara) and (Jatadhara to Devi River mouth).

A survey was sanctioned to determine the status and conservation requirements of the gharial population in Gandak, to assess possible restocking sites for the species and to formulate a recovery and reintroduction plan.

A set of 33 first-aid kits, 3 ANDS LITE LED cells, 60 torches, and 10 ANDS LITE Solar lanterns and panels were provided to the Orang National Park staff, to facilitate effective anti-poaching efforts.

Understanding the need to raise awareness in Sibsagar, Palash Ranjan Goswami, General Secretary of Seven Look – a local NGO, proposed a campaign on vulture conservation in Sibsagar district. Art competitions for school children, mobile camps, rallies and street plays



Figure XXI: Volunteers patrol Bengal florican habitat



Figure XXIII: Grizzled giant squirrel



Figure XXII: Forest guards display solar lanterns and panels provided under the RAP

to educate local people on the status of vultures and their importance were carried out. Leaflets and posters (in Assamese) will be prepared and distributed to extend the reach of the campaign.

Updates from ongoing RAPs:

Panighatta human-elephant conflict mitigation project: An Early Warning System has been installed in a 7 km stretch of severely affected villages- Kolibari, Panighata and Zabra near Naxalbari.

Establishing novel ways for monitoring tiger and preventing poaching of wildlife using local networks in Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh: A team of five persons have been assigned to monitor tigers and keep a check on illegal activities in Kawal WLS. The team confiscated a number of wire traps, clutch wire nooses, foot traps and porcupine traps (all of 18-20 kg) set up by poachers in the sanctuary. The team also alerted the forest officials on sand-mining going on in the sanctuary.

Executive Director's Discretionary Grant



Figure XXIV: Grain distribution as relief for crop depredation by elephants

About 7700 kgs of rice was given away as human-elephant conflict relief to 140 farmers residing around Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh.

Generation of employment opportunities by providing sewing machines and training to village women of Thakurpur village, Motichur Range, Rajaji National Park, to reduce biotic pressure on the park.

Four tents were given to Manas Bhuyapara Conservation and Eco-tourism Society to facilitate patrolling in Manas Tiger Reserve.

Further to the RAP conducted in 2008-09, a bigger project "Assessment of tiger population dynamics and densities in the Upper Nilgiri Plateau of South India, along with identification of prey base levels and densities, human-tiger conflict-prone areas, and behavioural patterns" has been approved. However, through EDDG, compensation scheme for tribes people who have lost Toda buffaloes to cattle-lifting by tigers, will be continued. Additionally, more Toda buffaloes will be purchased to maintain the pool of Toda buffaloes, for the compensation scheme.

'Sanctuary Asia' subscription for Forest Department officials and other stakeholders.

Status survey on globally threatened *Cycas circinalis* L. in Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu.

Providing support for transport of Gujjars in Rajaji National Park: In addition to helping the FD in convincing the community for voluntary relocation, WTI also provides funds to help transport consenting Gujjar families along with their belongings to the respective rehabilitation sites. Currently, there are 25 families that have agreed to move out of the Park to Gandikhata.

All-India Tiger Estimation

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) has entrusted Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) to carry out phase III of Tiger Census Project in the state of Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. A workshop was organised to train selected Chhattisgarh Forest Department staff on 'Tiger, Co-Predators, Prey and Habitat Status Data Entry System'.

Wildlife Enforcement

A tiger skin and a leopard skin were seized at Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, in a joint undercover operation by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) assisted by the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI). Three experienced wildlife traders were arrested. Two persons were arrested in Pallivasal, Munnar, for illegal attempts to sell stuffed and mounted wild animal trophies. Mounted heads of a tiger and a leopard were seized from the accused.

Ten wildlife traders were arrested in three undercover operations carried out in Palakkad district, Kerala, by the Forest Department, assisted by WTI. A fish owl, two red sand boas and 24 kgs sandalwood were seized.

A wildlife trader and his two associates were arrested in Thrissur, Kerala. A silver owl was seized.

The Bihar Forest Department assisted by WTI seized two leopard skins and apprehended four wildlife traders in Valmikinagar near Valmiki Tiger Reserve, Bihar.

A tiger skin was seized from three traders in Kozhikode district in Kerala. The traders were arrested.



Figure XXV: The three accused in custody, display the seized tiger skin in Thrissur

Wildlife Litigation Project

WTI team visited Hyderabad to assist prosecution authorities, against bail petition of six people accused in the Nagarjuna Sagar Tiger Reserve poaching case. The accused including three police personnel and a national level sportsperson (shooter) were arrested for hunting deer within the Tiger Reserve. Their bail petition was dismissed by the Judicial Magistrate - I Class, of Kalwakurthy, Mehboobnagar district in Andhra Pradesh.

The court of the additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (Special Act), Delhi, has sentenced shahtoosh trader Ishaq Baig to one year in prison, along with a fine of Rs 5000.

WTI was the only NGO participant in a meeting called by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) to discuss India's stand at the forthcoming CITES convention (Doha, Qatar), and to deliberate on the agenda.

Wayanad Elephant Corridor Securement Project

The keys to the six newly constructed houses at Panavally was handed over to the four tribal and two non tribal families who voluntarily relocated from Valiya Emmadi. Now that the families have shifted to their new houses, their old settlement will soon be dismantled.



Figure XXVI: An elephant in Wayanad Corridor, Kerala

To secure corridor land from the 3rd settlement-Pulayankolly - permission has been sought from the District Collector for voluntary relocation of resident families to alternate site of their choice. The District Collector gave the final permission for voluntary relocation of the third settlement, Pulayankolly, to an alternative site of their choice to facilitate securement of the corridor. Alternate land in Anapara (Sekady) was registered in the name of the people to be relocated. Construction of houses at the alternative site for Pulayankolly families was initiated. This is the third settlement in the corridor to accept the voluntary relocation facilitated by the project.

Kollegal Corridor Securement

WTI secured 25.5 acres of land in the Edayarhalli-Doddasampige Elephant Corridor and handed over to the state forest department. WTI retains the right to monitor the corridor for use by animals for few years.



Groundtruthing of Nilgiri-Mysore Elephant Corridors

The permission to groundtruth Nilgiri-Mysore corridors has been obtained from the CWLW Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Groundtruthing of Chamrajnagar-Talamalai at Punjur elephant corridor has also been initiated.

Corridor Project

To acquire the corridor land, a list comprising names of landowners and compensation to be paid by the Assam Government and WTI has been prepared. The list has been certified by the Circle Officer, Bokakhat.

Alternative Livelihood for Shahtoosh Workers

Based on the market survey, potential suppliers for raw pashm were shortlisted. As the production continued after a gap of about a year, most spinners associated with the project, had taken up work with local dealers. However, about 50 spinners were convinced to join the project.

Dues from sale of Pashma products through various exhibitions were cleared. Artisans and KHPPT



Figure XXVII: Weaving Pashmina as an alternative to Shahtoosh whose production was banned in Jammu & Kashmir since 2002.

received their share from the amount deposited in the bank account of KHPC.

Dastakar – Nature Bazaar Exhibition: Preparations (packing, finishing, listing and coding of products) were made for the Dastakar exhibition.

Markhor Recovery Project

WTI and Nature Conservation Society, Mysore, struck an agreement to work collaboratively in several locations for the Markhor recovery project. Dr MK Ranjitsinh and Dr Rahul Kaul attended the State Wildlife Advisory Board meeting held after a gap of ten years. The meeting was chaired by the Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah, who also launched four WTI publications – *Hunt for Hangul, Goats on the Border, Mountain Migrants, and Predator Alert.*

Tibetan Conservation Awareness Campaign

The post- campaign survey will be done in 11 Tibetan settlements in Dehradun (Clement town, Dekyling, Tsering Dhonden, Manduwala, Rajpur, Herbetpur, Lakhanwala, Kheri Camp, Happy Valley and Selaqui) and Delhi (Majnu-ka-tila).

Cheetah Reintroduction Project



Figure XXVIII: Participants at the Consultative Meeting on the Cheetah Reintroduction

A consultative meeting was held at Gajner, Rajasthan, and was attended by cheetah, carnivore, grassland ecologists and reintroduction scientists from India and abroad. Representatives from the MoEF, scientists from Wildlife Institute of India and Chief Wildlife Wardens of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan also attended the meeting. Potential habitats for reintroducing cheetah populations were identified. Survey for prey abundance has been completed in Dubri WLS, Sanjay NP and three ranges of Guru Ghasi

Das in Chhattisgarh.

Planning

Funds were secured for the RAPs including for the translocation of Hoolock gibbons in Arunachal Pradesh.

Vivek Menon attended a fund-raiser event organised by the Elephant Family in London. He also went on a four-nation fund-raising trip and about six new donors have agreed to contribute to WTI's activities for this financial year.

Animal Action Week

Rohit KR of S.B.O.A. School & Junior College, Chennai and Prachurya Baruah of Maharshi Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, Guwahati have been declared winners for the nationwide school-level wildlife painting competition conducted as part of Animal Action Week 2009.

Communications

The website received 77,024 visitors and 1,68,685 page views. Ninety Nine stories were uploaded on the website and 810 media hits were recorded. New WTI website with more features (including a visual gallery, wild rescues in 2009, notes from Vivek Menon, etc) was uploaded.

Two WTI documentaries – '*A shawl to die for*' and '*On the right track*' – were shortlisted for the prestigious CMS Vatavaran film awards held in the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. '*A shawl to die for*' won an award for Technical Excellence in Cinematography.

WTI 2010 calendar was designed and printed. A total of 2,000 copies were printed. Seasonal greeting cards were printed using entries received for the nation-wide painting competition, organised as part of the Animal Action Week 2009.

Two Occasional Reports – *Hunt for Hangul-Establishing the presence of hangul in Dachigam National Park, Jammu & Kashmir* and *No Mast Kalandar-The beginning to the end of dancing with bears* were printed.

WILDLIFE TRUST OF INDIA

BALANCE SHEET AS ON MARCH 31, 2010

AS AT 31.3.09 AMOUNT (Rs.)	FUNDS & LIABILITIES	AS AT 31.3.10 AMOUNT (Rs.)	AS AT 31.3.09 AMOUNT (Rs.)	ASSETS	AS AT 31.3.10 AMOUNT (Rs.)
909,541.80	CORPUS FUND Opening Balance 909,541.80		23,878,559.25	FIXED ASSETS (Schedule " C ")	25,891,246.06
909,541.80		909,541.80		CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES	
19,842,608.23	CAPITAL FUND Opening Balance 23,878,559.25			CURRENT ASSETS :	
2,915,889.20	Add : Addition during the year 1,457,532.78		305,179.31	Cash in hand	111,177.11
3,651,852.10	Add : Transfer from General Reserve 3,825,213.32		(478,566.72)	Bank balance in designated account	3,822,392.86
26,410,349.53	29,161,305.35		59,298,496.00	Fixed Deposits	65,779,828.00
7,360.00	Less : Sale/ loss /Theft during the year 1,037,595.12		3,227,447.00	Accrued Interest	2,126,445.63
2,524,430.28	Less : Depreciation 2,232,464.17				
23,878,559.25		25,891,246.06		LOANS & ADVANCES	
14,043,007.78	GENERAL RESERVE Opening Balance 24,580,370.74		425,674.00	Security Deposits	406,174.00
9,030,512.29	Add : Excess of income over Expenditure 5,424,771.68		2,063,314.66	Advances	4,404,210.85
3,651,852.10	Less : Amount transferred to capital fund 3,825,213.32		140,436.49	Prepaid Expenses	223,745.00
7,360.00	Add : Sale during the year 355,050.12		942,203.00	Tax Deducted at Source	1,529,000.88
151,342.77	Add : Net Addition as per schedule D 8,252,331.35				
24,580,370.74		34,787,310.57			
39,176,922.92	UNUTILISED FUNDS (Schedule " B ")	41,080,646.64			
	CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS				
1,257,348.28	Sundry Amounts Payable	1,625,475.32			
89,802,742.99	TOTAL	104,294,220.39	89,802,742.99	TOTAL	104,294,220.39

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts - Schedule "E"
In terms of our report of even date attached

FOR KOSHI & GEORGE
Chartered Accountants
(Reg. No. 003926N)



GEORGE KOSHI
Partner
M.No.82961

Delhi
4.09.2010

FOR WILDLIFE TRUST OF INDIA

(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & C E O)

(TRUSTEE)

(TRUSTEE)

