



Society of Nature Healers, Conservators
and Local Tourism Development, Bhopal



3rd NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LESSER-KNOWN SPECIES OF MP

17&18th January, 2025
BHOPAL

THEME 2025

Day-1

Current Status, Conservation Efforts
and Management Challenges of
Lesser Known and Endangered Species
of Madhya Pradesh

Day-2

Wetlands: Their Ecosystem
Services and The Communities-
Torch Bearers of Conservation

DATE

17-18 & 19th of January, 2025

VENUE

EPCO Conference Hall, Paryavaran Parisar
E-5, Arera Colony, Bhopal

ORGANISING AGENCY

SNHC India
(Society of Nature Healers, Conservators and
Local Tourism Development) Bhopal

COLLABORATIVE AGENCY

Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

SNHC India started organizing a 2 day National Conference on "**Lesser known species of Madhya Pradesh**" with the vision of Wildlife Conservation and sensitisation to youth as well as people in conservation, to plan and highlight conservation efforts and management challenges of Lesser Known species. Lesser known as in, species with very low distribution, less researched, rapid population decline, data deficient and Endangered.

To fill this conservation gap the first conference was organised in **Jan 2023** followed by the 2nd in **Jan 2024** with expected outcome being, to come up with better conservation action plans and management strategies for these species through utilization of available research data focusing on their current status, conservation challenges and way forward that is recommendations from the researchers and scientists for the concerned departments, wildlife institutes and NGO's to execute on the field and if data is deficient or unavailable in any of these species then it must be planned and detailed research is to be done to analyse the issues as without that nothing can be figured out.

In 2 days of both the conferences, about 15 technical sessions were held in which speakers shared their rich experience and hard work in the field and threw light on different aspects of Biology to Ecology, from conservation challenges to conservation strategies. People active in the field of nature conservation came together under one roof to plan and act for the conservation of these lesser-known species of Madhya Pradesh.

SNHC India is trying to fill the gap and strengthen the conservation community of Central India by highlighting very important and much needed topic of lesser-known species that are equally important as flagship species of Madhya Pradesh. We in Collaboration with **MP State Biodiversity Board** are coming up with the 3rd edition of the conference to push the conservation efforts & Management plans of lesser known Faunal species of MP.

For a broader and more scientific approach after conducting our 3rd Conference in Jan 2025 we will move to Landscape conservation resulting in the addition of few more states and a lot more diverse lesser-known species seeking attention there. The conference will then be titled as "**National Conference on Lesser-Known Species of Central Indian Landscape**" which will be a pivotal step in strengthening the conservation community of Central India.



ABOUT MPSBB

Madhya Pradesh State Biodiversity Board has been constituted by the State Government as per the provisions of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 notified by the Government of India. Objectives of the Board being Conservation of biodiversity, Sustainable use of its components and Equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and associated traditional knowledge.

Board has an advisory role in promoting biodiversity concerns among various stakeholders. One of the focus areas of the board includes promotion of research and advocacy of policy in gap areas. The lesser known faunal species is one such gap area which needs focus and action.

OUTCOME

- To review the available research data of lesser-known species of Madhya Pradesh.
- To give a platform to the National experts of these species.
- To highlight the conservation efforts & Management Challenges for these species.
- To highlight Lesser-Known Faunal diversity of Madhya Pradesh in National scenario.
- To promote more and more research and study of Lesser-Known Species.
- To propose effective conservation action plans and management strategies for these species.

KEY SPEAKERS



Subharanjan Sen
PCCF Wildlife & CWLW
Madhya Pradesh



Dr. Anish Andheria
President - Wildlife
Conservation Trust



Dr. I P Bopanna
Landscape Coordinator
WWF-INDIA



Samir Kumar Sinha, Ph.D.
Joint Director & Chief Ecologist
Wildlife Trust of India



Mr. Ajay Gadikar
Joint Secretary, TNV
Indore, Member of the IUCN-
Species Commission for Hornbills



Dr. Gajanan Wagh
Professor Dept. of Zoology
Shri Shivaji Science College
Amravati, MH



Dr. Shubhalaxmi V
Founder & Managing Trustee
iNaturewatch Foundation
Mumbai



Dr. Arunima Singh
Sr. Biologist & Chief Functionary
TSA Foundation India



Devcharan Jathanna, PhD
Sr. Scientist & Programme
Head: Carnivore Conservation
Ecology, WCS-India



Dr. Amit Dubey
Head-Wetlands
WWF-India



Mr. Prasad Gaidhani
Wildlife Ecologist
WCT, Mumbai



Aly Rashid
Director & Field Naturalist
Jehannuma Wilderness, MP



Bhavna Menon
Independent
Conservationist &
Freelance writer, Pune



Dr. Pankaj Koparde
Asth. Professor Department
of Environmental Studies
MIT-WPU, Pune



Sanket Bhale
Director - Central India
Programme, WWF-India



Baiju Raj MV
Director-
Conservation
Projects for Wildlife SOS



Ashish Panda
Senior Project Associate
& Ph.D. Scholar
Wildlife Institute of India

SCHEDULE

DAY-1 (17th January, 2025)

Time	Topics/Details and Speakers
09:15-10:00	Registration
10.00-10.45	INAUGURATION By Chairperson, NBA, Chennai (TBC) or Addl. Director General of Forest (TBC), MOEF & CC, New Delhi
10:00-10:10	Introduction & Welcome of guests by Organizers
10:10-10:15	LIGHTING OF LAMP
10:15-10:45	Introductory remarks by the Guests, including the Keynote address by Mr. Subhranjan Sen, PCCF Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, MP
10:45-11:00	Identification and conservation of Lesser Known Species by Dr Anish Andheria, President, Wildlife Conservation Trust, Mumbai, MH
11:00-11:10	Memento distribution to dignitaries and Group Photo
11:10-11:40	Tea Break
	TECHNICAL SESSION -1
11:40-12:20	Conducting small carnivore research using camera traps: recommended best practices - by Mr. Devcharan Jathanna, PhD, Sr. Scientist & Programme Head: Carnivore Conservation Ecology WCS- India <i>Chaired By: Dr Suhas Kumar, IFS (Retd), Former PCCF, MP</i>
12:20-13:00	Stripes in the shadows- The story of Striped hyena - by Dr. I.P. Bopanna, Landscape Coordinator, WWF- INDIA <i>Chaired By: R Srinivasa Murthy, IFS (Retd), Ex. Member Secretary, MPSBB</i>
13:00-13:40	Nesting Ecology of Malabar Pied Hornbill in Pench Tiger Reserve, MP - by Dr. Gajanan Wagh, Professor, Dept. of Zoology, SSS College, Amravati MH & Member of IUCN Asia Hornbill Specialist Group <i>Chaired By: Mr Ajay Gadikar, Member of the IUCN-Species Commission for Hornbills</i>
13:40-14:30	Lunch Break
	TECHNICAL SESSION -2
14:30-15:10	Otter Ecology and Hydrology: Exploring the vital connection between Eurasian otters and hydrology in the Satpura landscape by Mr. Prasad Gaidhani, Wildlife Ecologist, WCT, Mumbai <i>Chaired By: Mr Jasbir Singh Chauhan, IFS (Retd), Former PCCF, MP</i>
15:10-15:50	Moths and Citizen science by Dr. V. Shubhalaxmi Reddy Founder & Managing Trustee, iNaturewatch Foundation, Mumbai Member of IUCN Commission on Education and Communication <i>Chaired By: Mr. K Raman, IFS (Retd), Former APCCF, MP</i>
15:50-16:30	Enter the Dragon: Understanding Odonates (Dragonflies & Damselflies) of Central India - by Dr. Pankaj Koparde, PhD Assistant Professor, Evolutionary Ecologist Department of Environmental Studies, MIT World Peace University, Pune, Maharashtra <i>Chaired By: Mr. Aseem Shrivastava, IFS, PCCF & HOFF, MP</i>
16:30-17:20	A panel discussion on “Wildlife Outside Protected Area's” moderated by Dr. Debadityo Sinha, Lead- Climate & Ecosystems at Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy in conversation with: Dr. Suhas Kumar, IFS (Retd), Former PCCF, MP R Srinivasa Murthy, IFS (Retd), Ex. Member Secretary, MPSBB Dr. Anish Andheria, President, Wildlife Conservation Trust, Mumbai, MH Dr. Yogesh Dubey, Professor, IIFM Bhopal Ms. Parveen Sheikh, Scientist-C, Conservation Department, BNHS Mumbai
	Hi Tea

SCHEDULE

DAY-2 (18th January, 2025)

Time	Topics/Details and Speakers
09:15-10:00	Registration
	TECHNICAL SESSION - 1
10:00-10:40	Wetlands in MP, their status and Ecosystem Services including the Ramsar Sites by Mr. Lokendra Thakkar , Chief Scientific Officer, EPCO Bhopal <i>Chaired By: R. Srinivasa Murthy, IFS (Retd), Former Member Secretary, MPSBB</i>
10:40-11:20	Multi stakeholder action for wetland conservation: A case study from period urban Bengaluru - by Dr. Amit Dubey , Head Wetlands, WWF-India <i>Chaired By: Mr Saurabh Popli, Associate Professor, SPA Bhopal</i>
11:20 -11:50	Tea Break
	TECHNICAL SESSION - 2
11:50-12:30	Engaging Communities in Wetland Conservation: Successes & Insights by - Mr. Samir Kumar Sinha , Ph.D., Joint Director and Chief Ecologist at Wildlife Trust of India <i>Chaired By: Mr Praveen Chandra Dubey, IFS (Retd), Former PCCF, MP</i>
12:30-13:10	The dwindling waterfowl counts at the Ramsar sites of Indore - by Mr. Ajay Gadikar , Joint Secretary, TNV Indore, Member of the IUCN-Species Commission for Hornbills <i>Chaired By Ms. Parveen Sheikh, Scientist-C, Conservation Department, BNHS Mumbai</i>
13:10-13:50	Protecting India's Freshwater Turtles: Research and Conservation Stories - by Dr. Arunima Singh , Sr Biologist & Chief Functionary at TSA Foundation India & Rescue & Rehabilitation of Freshwater Turtles by Mr. Ashish Panda , PhD Scholar at Wildlife Institute Of India, Senior Project Associate at NMCG-WII <i>Chaired By: Prof. Dr R J Rao, Former Vice Chancellor, BU Bhopal</i>
13:50-14:35	Lunch Break
	TECHNICAL SESSION - 3
14:35-15:00	Conservation Catalyst Programme - Supporting Grassroots actions for Lesser Known Species Conservation by Mr. Sanket Bhale , Director Central India & Head of Strategy, Design & Impact, WWF-India <i>Chaired By: Mrs. Sangita Saxena, State Director, WWF-India, M.P. & CG</i>
15:00-15:35	Responsible Tourism around Lesser-Known Species by Mr. Aly Rashid , Director & Field Naturalist, Jehannuma Wilderness, MP <i>Chaired By: Mr. Vikram Singh Parihar, IFS, Former FD, Pench Tiger Reserve, MP</i>
15:35-16:20	Communities in Conservation and responsible communication by Ms. Bhavna Menon , Independent Conservationist & Freelance Writer, Pune & Torchbearers of Conservation Mr. Radheshyam Pemani Bishnoi from Jaisalmer, Rajasthan & Mr. Chittrak Pramanik from Howrah West Bengal will present their eminent work & Journey. <i>Chaired By: Mr K Raman, IFS (Retd), Former APCCF, MP</i>
16:20-17:15	Fate of neglected species: Unveiling Wildlife Crime by Hunting Communities & Human-wildlife conflict by - Baiju Raj MV , Director - Conservation Projects for Wildlife SOS <i>Chaired By: Mr Jasbir Singh Chauhan, IFS (Retd), Former PCCF, MP</i>
17:15-17:45	Valedictory Session & Adoption of Workshop Recommendations
	Hi Tea

DAY-3 (19th January, 2025)

06:15-11:00	FIELD VISIT TO VAN VIHAR NATIONAL PARK
07:00-08:30	Birdwatching in leadership of Mr. Ajay Gadikar & Dr. Gajanan Wagh
08.30 -10.00	Odonates (Dragonflies & Damselflies) Field Session - by Dr. Pankaj Koparde
10:00 -10:30	Breakfast followed by Group photo & Dispersal



ABOUT BHOHAL CITY

Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh, is a fascinating amalgam of scenic beauty, old historic city and modern urban planning. It is the 11th century city Bhojpal, founded by Raja Bhoj, but the present city was established by an Afghan soldier, Dost Mohammed (1707-1740). His descendants built Bhopal into a beautiful city.

The two lakes of Bhopal still dominate the city, and are indeed its nucleus. Bordered along their shores stand silent sentinels that testify to the growth of the city.

Bhopal today presents a multi-faceted profile; the old city with its marketplaces and fine old mosques and palaces still bears the aristocratic imprint of its former rulers, among them the succession of powerful Begums who ruled Bhopal from 1819 to 1926. Equally impressive is the new city with its verdant, exquisitely laid out parks and gardens, broad avenues and streamlined modern edifices. It is greener and cleaner than most cities in the country.

Bhopal has enacted the concept of unity in diversity. Here, people of all religions and communities live by mutual goodwill and brotherhood.

The main centres of rural and urban culture in the city are Bharat Bhawan, Museum of Mankind, Swaraj Bhawan and Ravindra Cultural Bhawan. Van Vihar has also been developed for conservation of wild animals, in which there are rare wild animals of different species. Surrounded by lakes and hills, this district is famous for its natural shade.

PROGRAMME COORDINATORS

Vikas Singh Baghel | Ranjeet Singh

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Kolar Road, Bhopal-462042

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snhconference@gmail.com



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Interested researchers may send the soft copy of abstract for poster presentation on theme "Lesser Known Faunal Species of Madhya Pradesh" for poster presentation (**Font:** Times New Roman, **Font Size:** 12, **Spacing:** 1.5 and in 250 words) via email at snhconference@gmail.com and submitter must be registered for acceptance of the abstract. The last date of abstract submission is on or before **10th Jan 2025**, selected candidates will be updated via email.

REGISTRATION

Student:	₹ 600/-	Research Scholars:	₹ 1100/-
Faculty / Academician / Professional:	₹ 1500/-	Educational Institution / NGO's:	₹ 2100/- *
Business / Industrial Institution:	₹ 5000/- ** (Outside Bhopal)		
Accompanying Person:	₹ 600/-		

Registration fees includes the Registration Kit (Folder, Writing Pad, Pen & Other Reading Materials), Participation/ Presentation Certificate, Breakfast- Lunch- Hi Tea of both the conference days.

* Conference inclusions for 02 delegates is included in this category.

** Other than conference inclusions accommodation (basic) for 02 delegates on twin sharing basis for both (02) days of the Conference is also included in this category.

Registration Link:

<https://tinyurl.com/23wssuwt>



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BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS :

Name of the Account : Society of Nature Healers, Conservators and Local Tourism Development Bhopal (SNHC and LTD Bhopal)

Bank & Branch : Bank of Baroda, Arera Colony, Bhopal

Account No. : 29210100012345

IFSC : BARB0ARERAC (0 - ZERO)



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3rd NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LESSER-KNOWN SPECIES OF MP

17&18th January, 2025
BHPAL

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