FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR’S DESK

Today while reviewing the Green Newspaper Clippings in Office from The Hindu, the clipping “Vizhinjam Breakwater work to resume from September” caught my attention. I felt like it was a great revelation to me. Over the past many days, the Latin Archdiocese is giving lead to the Fishermen & Local Community Protest against the upcoming Vizhinjam International Seaport Limited because it destroys their coast and homes, and threatens their lives and livelihoods. It is not that they fear that something will happen, it has already happened and anyone can witness the damage if you go to Shanghumugham and walk along the coast south of it, you will see that the beaches have disappeared, houses have been fully or partially destroyed, fishermen community are not able to conduct their livelihood activities, total disruption of the social life along the coast. And hence the protest. But the Government is of the view that there are vested interests and outsiders involved and that this is not a genuine protest. Mainline print and visual media are full of allegations and counter allegations and a layman can easily get confused. When I saw both these news headings side by side and read it, the picture was more clear to me. Any resident of Thiruvananthapuram will vouch the fact that the drastic erosion of Shanghumugham Beach and its surrounding coast has happened in the past few years and hence the direct connection to the construction of the breakwater is very evident. And this was not unexpected. This was very clearly pointed out in the submissions given by various NGOs, marine and coastal-related institutions, and, agencies during the various studies and assessments and the subsequent public hearing conducted. All this was overlooked and the Government, whichever political party it be, went ahead with the project. Governments have changed whereas the local community and the fishermen are at the receiving end now. But the Government still says the increasing coastal erosion cannot be connected to the breakwater construction and hence they will go forward with it. That interest is quite clear when you read the second news that the State has sought Rs. 2400 Cr from the Union Ministry for coastal protection. That is the vested interest behind pushing forward the breakwater construction - only then coastal erosion will aggravate, only then can you seek more funds from the Centre, and only then can the lives and livelihoods of politicians, bureaucrats, and construction lobbies be sustained. So now anyone who applies their brain even in the most minimal manner can understand which is genuine - the protest by the local community, or the interest of the Government to go forward with the VISL project?

Renjan Mathew Varghese
State Director

IMPORTANT NEWS ON NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT

GLOBAL

COP27 | We’re on a highway to climate hell, U.N.’s Guterres warns

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for a pact between the world’s richest and poorest countries to accelerate the transition from fossil fuels. He told countries gathered at the start of the COP27 Summit in Egypt on November 7 that they face a stark choice: work together now to cut emissions or condemn future generations to climate catastrophe. Despite decades of climate talks—the Egypt COP is the 27th Conference of the Parties—progress has been insufficient to save the planet from excessive warming as countries are too slow or reluctant to act, he noted. “Greenhouse gas emissions keep growing. Global temperatures keep rising. And our planet is fast approaching tipping points that will make climate chaos irreversible”, he said. “We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator” (Source: The Hindu, 12 November 2022).

A third of World Heritage Glaciers under threat, warns UNESCO Study

A third of the glaciers on the UNESCO World Heritage List are under threat, regardless of efforts to limit temperature increases, a study conducted by the UN body has found. But it was still possible to save the other two-thirds if the rise in global temperatures did not exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius. UNESCO is advocating for the creation of a new International Fund for Glacier Monitoring and Preservation. Such a fund would support comprehensive research, promote exchange
networks between all stakeholders and implement early warning and disaster risk reduction measures, the study said. Fifty UNESCO World Heritage Sites are home to glaciers, representing almost 10% of the Earth’s total glacierised area. They include the highest (next to Mt Everest), the longest (in Alaska), and the last remaining glaciers in Africa. The UNESCO study, in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), showed that these glaciers have been retreating at an accelerated rate since 2000 due to CO2 emissions, which are warming temperatures. They are currently losing 58 billion tons of ice every year – equivalent to the combined annual water use of France and Spain – and are responsible for nearly 5% of observed global sea-level rise. The glaciers under threat are in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Oceania, the study said (Source: The Hindu, 4 November 2022).

**National**

**Tamil Nadu gets its first Biodiversity Heritage Site in Arittapatti**

The Tamil Nadu Government issued a notification declaring Arittapatti and Meenakshipuram villages in Madurai district the first Biodiversity Heritage Site in the State. The site comprising 139.63 hectares in Arittapatti village (Melur block) and 53.8 hectares in Meenakshipuram village (Madurai East taluk) will be known as the Arittapatti Biodiversity Heritage Site, said a notification. Arittapatti village, known for its ecological and historical significance, houses around 250 species of birds including three important raptors - birds of prey, namely the Laggar Falcon, the Shaheen Falcon, and Bonelli’s Eagle. It is also home to wildlife such as the Indian Pangolin, Slender Loris, and Pythons. The area is surrounded by a chain of seven hillocks or inselbergs that serve as a watershed, charging 72 lakes, 200 natural springs and three check dams (Source: The Hindu, 22 November 2022).

**PM Modi launches Mission LiFE in the presence of U.N. Secretary-General**

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres jointly launched Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) with PM Modi, a new initiative for a sustainable and healthy lifestyle at the Statue of Unity in Gujarat. Listing climate change and global warming as the main challenges before the world and mankind, the PM underlined that Mission LiFE makes the fight against climate change democratic with the contribution of everyone in his/her own capacity. PM Modi described the Mission LiFE as a global initiative by India to help the world in its fight against climate change and lead to a sustainable way of life to achieve the sustainable development goals set by the UN (Source: The Hindu, 20 October 2022).

**India hails Compensation Fund approved at UN Climate Summit**

India called as historic the UN Climate Summit in Egypt for securing an agreement on establishing a fund to address ‘Loss and Damage’ due to climate change-induced disasters, saying “the world has waited far too long for this”. Making an intervention in the Closing Plenary of COP27, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav also said the world should not burden farmers with mitigation responsibilities (Source: The Hindu, 20 November 2022).

**India’s Purnima Devi Barman honored with U.N.’s highest environmental award**

Dr Purnima Devi Barman has been honored with the U.N. Environment Programme’s 2022 Champions of the Earth Award in the Entrepreneurial Vision category. A Wildlife Biologist, Dr. Barman leads the “Hargila Army”, an all-female grassroots conservation movement dedicated to protecting the Greater Adjutant Stork from extinction. The women create and sell textiles with motifs of the bird, helping to raise awareness about the species while building their own financial independence. UNEP said that since its inception in 2005, the annual Champions of the Earth Award has been awarded to trailblazers at the forefront of efforts to protect our natural world. It is the UN’s highest environmental honor (Source: The Hindu, 22 November 2022).

**Nicobar Project gets assent for diversion of 130 sq km of forest**

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has granted an in-principle (Stage 1) clearance for the diversion of 130.75 sq km of forest in Great Nicobar Island for the mega ₹72,000 crore project that includes a transshipment port, an airport, a power plant, and a greenfield township. The project implementation agency is the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation (ANIIDCO). “It is not clear,” says Debi Goenka, Executive Trustee of the Conservation Act Trust (CAT), “how ANIIDCO, the project proponent, will compensate for the loss of these virgin tropical forests teeming with endemic and endangered species with artificial tree plantations in the faraway State of Haryana”. “It is also apparent,” he continues, “that it will be almost impossible to get 130 sq km of forest land in Haryana that are contiguous and undisturbed” (Source: The Hindu, 8 November 2022).

**State**

**A. Achyuthan, a man synonymous with environmental activism, passes away**

He was among the founders of the Kerala Paristhithi Samrakshana Samiti, also known as the Kerala Environment Protection Council, in the early 1970s that exclusively took up
They are palm-like, dioecious trees and shrubs native to the Old-World tropics and subtropics. It grows wild on the banks of rivers, canals, ponds, and backwaters of Kerala and also serves as a natural fence. It is one of the important “Keystone Plant”, next to bamboos & reeds, extensively used by the coastal and island people for their minor economic needs.

Kerala to become 100% renewable energy based State by 2040: CM

Kerala aspires to become a 100% renewable energy based State by 2040 and net carbon neutral by 2050, Chief Minister has said while inaugurating the India Climate and Development Partners’ Meet, hosted by the State Government and the World Bank, and releasing the Kerala State Action Plan on Climate Change 2023-2030 (Kerala SAPCC 2.0). It is an “inclusive, sustainable” plan with a focus on climate change adaptation in key sectors including agriculture, coastal fisheries, water resources, health, forests, and biodiversity. It is also designed to enhance the resilience of vulnerable communities against climate-induced hazards. (Source: The Hindu, 7 December 2022)

New honeybee species, endemic to Western Ghats, found

A new species of endemic honeybee has been discovered in the Western Ghats. It has been named Apis karinjodian and given the common name Indian Black Honeybee. The distribution of Apis karinjodian ranges from the central Western Ghats and Nilgiris to the southern Western Ghats, covering the States of Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and parts of Tamil Nadu. The species has been classified as near threatened (NT) in the State based on the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria. The finding has been published in the September issue of the journal Entomon, a peer-reviewed journal brought out by the Association for Advancement of Entomology. The Research Team behind the discovery comprised Shanas S. from Kerala Agricultural University’s Integrated Farming Systems Research Station, Karamana; Anju Krishnan G., a PhD Research Scholar from the Zoology Department of SN College, Cherthala (affiliated to the University of Kerala); and Mashhoor K. from the EMEA College of Arts and Science, Malappuram (Source: The Hindu, 4 November 2022).

ACTIVITIES OF WWF-INDIA KERALA STATE OFFICE

Conservation Projects

Documentation of the Biodiversity and Preparation of Coffee Table Book for Thiruvananthapuram Zoo.

The Zoo Coffee Table Book was released on 2nd October 2022 at Museum Auditorium as part of Wildlife Week Celebrations by Dr. S. Reena, Chairperson, Education Standing Committee, Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation and Ward Councilor, Nanthancode in the function presided over by Mr. Renjan, State Director. Senior Education Officer and Project Officer also attended the session.
One Planet Academy

Senior Education Officer and State Director attended the Zoom Call on the new version of OPA on 9 November 2022. Following the same, a discussion was initiated with Ms. Neha Raghav on a proposal for developing outreach kit on OPA as suggested by State Director. Sree Chithira Thirunal Residential Public School, Kunnathukal, Thiruvananthapuram requested WWF-India to conduct an exhibition as part of their Science Exhibition, “Spectra 2022”. State Director proposed that this platform could be used for the outreach of OPA. Kerala State Office prepared bookmarks, standees and arranged a LED Screen at the school on 11 November 2022. The students were guided to join the new OPA at the exclusive desk setup for this. A total of 700 individuals including students, teachers and parents attended the outreach session. State Director and Mr. Libinlal, Project Consultant led the event, with the help of Mr.R.Harishkumar, the Administrative Assistant and volunteers from Academy of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (AMAS) based at Neyyattinkara.

The newly joined interns Ms Mahima and Mr Abdul were given the task of visiting and exploring the new OPA platform and critically evaluate from the perspective of the end user, a student or teacher. They took two days to complete the exercise and gave their feedback including comments and suggestions for improvement in the form of a brief report which was shared with Ms Neha and Ms Radhika for due consideration on further development of the portal.

Nature Connect

Observation of Big Bird Day

Kerala State Office observed the Big Bird Day on 8th October with the participation of thirteen birders at Punchakkari wetlands, the birding hub of Thiruvananthapuram City. The team listed out 39 birds which includes six migratory species. The participants got a chance to observe the birds close range.

Dragonfly Festival 2022 - The Wetland Biomonitoring for the month of October was conducted between 9th and 23rd at all the 4 wetlands.
The proposal for conducting training programs for the frontline staff of 7 PAs in Kerala as part of Dragonfly Festival 2022 was accepted by the Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department and an official order was issued. Anushreedha, Project Officer with the help of Dr. Sujith V. Gopalan (SOS) contacted all the 7 PAs and scheduled the training programs. Emails were sent to all the PAs along with the Government order and the Program Schedule.

The first training was held at Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary on 22nd and 23rd November. Senior Education Officer led the team along with Dr. Sujith V. Gopalan, Balachandran V., Jeffin John and Govind Girija. Around 35 staff of the Department participated in the two-day event. The training was very interesting and participatory. All the participants actively participated in the competitions conducted in connection with the same.

The Odonate Training Workshops at 7 PAs was successfully completed in December. The inaugural sessions were graced by the presence and active involvement of the respective Wildlife Wardens, Divisional Forest Officers, Assistant Wildlife Wardens, Range Officers, and Deputy Range Forest Officers. The frontline staff who took part in the training program included Section Forest Officers, Beat Forest Officers, Eco-Development Committee (EDC) Members, Trackers and Guides. Experts from SOS, covered topics like Introduction to Odonates, Field Identification and Taxonomy, How Odonates can be effectively used in Park Management and also on Odonate Photography during the training programs in each PA. Field sessions were conducted on the second day and participants observed first-hand where and how to observe and identify Odonates. Field sessions we conducted at all the PAs except Munnar Wildlife Division. This was because of heavy rain throughout the day, but instead, it was compensated with interactive activities like additional quizzes and games. The interactive quizzes and photography competition held as part of the part of the program showcased the commendable observation and photography skills of the forest staff. Prizes were given away for the winners of these competitions.

A WhatsApp group was started for each PA where information on Odonates and study materials are shared. The field staff also regularly upload photos in the group and they are identified with the help of experts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Protected Area (PA)</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Outreach</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Parambikulam Tiger Reserve</td>
<td>2-3 December</td>
<td>30 (+20 Students)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vazhachal Forest Division</td>
<td>4-5 December</td>
<td>36</td>
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</table>
Students attending sessions at Parambikulam

Group photo at Parambikulam

Field session at Vazhachal

Group Photo Vazhachal

Technical Session at Munnar

Prize distribution at Munnar

Inaugural session at PTR

Group Photo at PTR

Inaugural session at SVNP

Field session at SVNP

Group Photo at Wayanad WLS

Field session at Wayanad WLS

Stone Art given away as one of the prizes

Prize - Torch and Foldouts of Butterflies and Birds

People 4 Planet

Magical Mangroves

Magical Mangroves program is progressing across Kerala State with Volunteers taking on-ground sessions. Mr. Raphy Neelamkavil has taken 3 on-ground sessions. He spoke at a workshop as WWF Volunteer organized by the State Wetland Authority Kerala (SWAK), Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (CWRDM), Kozhikode in collaboration with the Wetlands Institute for South Asia (WISA) regarding the formulation of an Integrated Management Plan for Vembanad-Kol Wetlands. Another one was conducted for students of St. Joseph’s CMI School Pavaratty and the last one for BBALPS Manathala, Chavakkad. The total outreach for the three programs were 90 participants. The other volunteers are scheduling meetings for the month of December.
ECHO

Sree Sankara College, Kalady emerged the State-level winners of ECHO 2022 and represented the State during the ECHO National Summit held on the online platform on 30 September 2022. Kerala State Office sent out the Certificate awarded to the College, Certificate of Appreciation awarded to Dr.K.D.Mini, the Teacher Coordinator, Certificate awarded to all the four Core Team Volunteers, a Panda Trophy as the Memento of Appreciation for the college along with a covering letter. Certificates were received by Dr. Ayona Jayadev, the Teacher Co-ordinator of All Saints College, Thiruvananthapuram for submitting their project report.

Beach Combing Program for Thiruvananthapuram District

With the objective of monthly monitoring of the migratory shore birds, SEO coordinated the “Beach Combing” on 30th October & 27th November 2022 at Perumathura, Poovar and Veli Beaches of TVM District. Twelve Birders participated in the activity.

Bird Monitoring Program at Museum and Zoo Compound

As per the request of the Department of Museum and Zoo, Thiruvananthapuram, KLSO is lending technical support to them for conducting monthly birding activity inside their compound. This month, Anushreedha led the team along with Reji Chandran, an active WWF Volunteer on 15th October. There was a total of 12 participants for the program including the staff from Zoo and students from colleges.

Observation of Wildlife Week

Kerala State Office observed National Wildlife Week 2022 in association with Cochin College, Ernakulam on 6th October 2022 on the theme, “To Know, Love & Protect the Wild”. The program was inaugurated by Renjan Mathew Varghese, State Director, WWF India in a function presided over by Dr. Geetha M., Principal of the College. Dr. Smitha N.R., Assistant Professor & HOD, Dept. of Zoology, and Dr. Vineeth Kumar T.V., Assistant Professor of the Department were the organizers. Following the inaugural address, a session on “Wildlife within Forests - Status, Issues & its Conservation” was taken by Mr. Tiju C. Thomas, Asst. Coordinator, WGNL of WWF India. He spoke about the wildlife conservation initiatives taken up by WWF India, especially under WGNL Division. The second session was titled “Wildlife outside Forests - Status, Issues & its Conservation” by Mr. Renjan. He spoke about the Marine Turtle Conservation being carried out in Kerala, Asian Waterbird Surveys happening across Kerala etc. Further on Mr. A K Sivakumar, SEO, conducted an interactive quiz on Wildlife. The participants thoroughly enjoyed this session and participated wholeheartedly. The program was attended by 80 participants.
The State Director was invited to deliver the lead talk in the observation of Wildlife Week conducted by the Department of Zoology, Hislop College, Nagpur in the online mode on Saturday 8th Oct 2022 from 2.00-3.30pm.

Senior Education Officer led an Open Quiz for the public on the theme “Wildlife of Kerala” on Sunday, 9th October, in connection with the National Wildlife Week organized by Department of Museums & Zoos. More than 500 public listened to the quiz with an engagement of 80 people

The Valedictory Function was held on 4th November and the State Director and Project Officer received the memento from Dr. Thomas Isaac, Former Finance Minister of Kerala.

Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race 2022

The Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race 2022 was coordinated by WWF India, Kerala State Office in association with Yuhina Canopy, United Way, Nikon and the Nodal Office of Christ University at Thiruvananthapuram with the support of HSBC Ltd. It was held on Sunday, 13th November 2022. Thiruvananthapuram Bird Race 2022 was conducted in eleven sites this year. Permission letters were sought from NCESS, JNTBGRI at Palode, Thiruvananthapuram Wildlife Division, DFO (Thiruvananthapuram) Director of Forest Training Institute at Arippa. Senior Education Officer invited PCCF(SF) in person for TBR chief guest and unfortunately, he couldn’t attend the event due to unexpected reasons.

An Orientation Session was conducted on 11th November at the Nodal Office at Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram and saw the participation of 30 persons. Teams were allocated and the birding protocol was explained during this session. The permission and requests were officially sought for locations wherever necessary like forest divisions and institutions. 11 teams covered the district – Kallar-Ponmudi forests, Arippa forests, Bonacaud Forests, JNTBGRI Campus and Palode forests, IISER Campus, Amboori, Kadinamkulam wetlands, Akkulam-Veli wetland complex including NCESS campus, City – Museum and Zoo compound, Punchakkary Wetlands and Kottoor forests.

The birders and amateurs conducted the survey from 6:30am to 4:00pm and attended the Evening Get-Together at the Christ University Nodal Office by 6:00pm. Sri. Praveen J., Scientist from Bird Count India was the Chief Guest for the event. During his address, he spoke about many more bird documentation programs based on Citizen Science approach in which the participant birders can contribute to bird data for Kerala. All the 11 teams shared their experiences during the event and were presented with a memento.

The birders reported 184 species. Arippa recorded 92 species which was the highest amongst the 11 sites. The participants also reported the environmental pollution and land degradation they observed during the race and conveyed their apprehensions regarding the same and assured cooperation and support for any activities concerning its conservation.
Orientation Meeting on 11 November

Arippa Team 1

Arippa Team 2

Bonacaud

Neyyar-Amboori

Kottoor

Akkulam-Veli

Kallar-Ponmudi

City – Museum and Zoo, Kesavadasapuram and Kannammoola

Kadinamkulam

Palode

Group Photo from Evening Get-Together

Post program press release was sent to important dailies like The Hindu, NIE and ToI and the news appeared in all these dailies.

Campaign on “I Stand with our National Heritage Animal”

The campaign “I Stand with our National Heritage Animal - The Elephants” to address elephant deaths on railway tracks in Walayar, Kerala, in association with like-minded individuals and NGOs was held at Museum and Zoo premises on 12.11.2022. The campaign included signature campaign, postcard campaign, handprint campaign and candlelight vigil. Mr. Renjan Mathew Varghese and Ms. Veena Maruthur, an environmentalist spoke on the occasion. More than 300 visitors lend their voice for the campaign.

Invited Talk - Session on Plastic Waste Management at Chinmaya Vidyalaya

Trivandrum Chapter of VFI - Volunteer for India, a registered non-profit organisation, having presence in 28 Indian states, is working on creating awareness about waste management, specially to children under 15 years and also to the society at large. They plan to conduct awareness
sessions in schools, clean-up drives, paint-a-wall challenges and other related activities. They came up with the proposal to collaborate with WWF-India and to have our expertise on board. They are organizing awareness sessions in few of the selected schools followed by action components like plastic auditing, establishing segregated waste management process in schools and houses of the children attending the sessions and so on.

Under this program, Senior Education Officer led a session on plastic and plastic waste management at Chinmaya School, Kunnumpuram, Thiruvananthapuram and was attended by 90 students.

Invited Talk – Session on Living Planet Report 2022 – Renjan Mathew Varghese

The State Director was invited to give an online talk on Living Planet Report 2022 as part of Faculty Improvement Program organised by UGC HRDC of Calicut University from 11.30am to 1.00pm on 29th November. Around 39 teachers participated in the event.

Inauguration of the add-on course on Organic Composting at Sree Sankara College, Kalady

Senior Education Officer was invited to inaugurate an add-on course on “Organic Composting” at Sree Sankara College, Kalady. He addressed the participants and delivered a short inaugural address on the course and briefed on the present significance of the course subject. It was held on 8 November 2022 online and 48 students, faculty members and Principal of the college attended the session.

Invited Talk – Session on Living Planet Report 2022 – Renjan Mathew Varghese

Invited Talk

The State Director led the talk on “Sustainable Development and Ecological Footprint” on 6th December, 2022 at the Refresher Course in Environment Science conducted by UGC HRDC, University of Kerala at Kariyavattam. Around 105 College Teachers, mostly from within Kerala, and few from outside the State attended.

Green Lit Festival

The State Director attended the Green Lit Festival organized at Bengaluru International Convention Centre on 18th December, 2022 in which WWF-India was also co-organizer.

Field session for Higher Secondary School Teachers

Senior Education Officer led a field session at Punchakkari wetlands for 40 Teachers who were part of Higher Secondary School Teachers Transformation Program, organized by Dept. of Botany & Zoology, Govt. Women’s College, Thiruvananthapuram on 10 December 2022.

Webinars & Meetings attended

- Renjan Mathew Varghese attended the launch of the Whale Shark Project in Kerala by Wildlife Trust of India organised at Hotel Apollo Dimora on Friday 7th Oct 2022.
from 10.00am to 12.30pm in which Mr Ganga Singh, IFS, PCCF (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden was the Chief Guest.

- Renjan Mathew Varghese attended the National Conference organised on Wednesday 12th Oct by TERI in the background of the upcoming COP 27 at Egypt.

- Renjan Mathew Varghese and Libinlal, Project Intern attended the Seminar on Coastal Disaster Risk Reduction organised by Loyola College of Social Sciences at the College Auditorium on Thursday 13th Nov from 2.00-5.00pm.

- The State Director attended the Celebration of Day of German Unity organised by Goethe Zentrum, Thiruvananthapuram Chapter on Saturday 22nd Oct from 7.00-9.00pm at Hotel O by Tamara

- Renjan Mathew Varghese and Anushreedha S S attended the UNESCO-UNFCCC webinars series - 3rd “Eight Monthly Conversations on Climate Change Education for Social Transformation” on Tuesday, 25th October from 1.30-2.30pm.

- The State Director, Project Officer and Senior Education Officer attended the webinar organised on Friday 28th Oct from 11.00am to 1.00pm by CSE-NMCG on Contextualizing Urban Waterbodies Management in India: Approach, Priorities and Planning Mechanisms


- Ms. Anushreedha S.S. attended “COP15 communications call” on 10th November 2022.

- Ms. Anushreedha S.S. attended “UNFCCC side event on Multi-level Climate Governance organized by TERI” on 16th November 2022.

- The State Director attended the webinar organised by CSE titled “The Plastic Lifecycle” on 22 November 2022.

- Ms. Anushreedha S.S. attended Authentic Storytelling Workshop held on 29th November

- The State Director attended the launch of the Environmental Forum at Christ University Nodal Office Thiruvananthapuram on 12th November, 2022. Around 20 experts active in the field of nature conservation and environment protection attended. The event witnessed active discussions and deliberations.

- Senior Education Officer attended a webinar on Wetlands and Disaster Risk Reduction organized by UNDP on 15th December 2022.

- Senior Education Officer was invited for the Bird Survey conducted in Silent Valley National Park from 26 to 30 December 2022. He was deputed as Team Leader for the Neelikkal Base Camp which is around five kilometers far from the boundaries of the park and accessible only via trekking through steep climb. His team reported 86 species of birds including Shaheen Falcon, Jungle Nightjar, Black Eagle, Nilgiri Wood Pigeon etc.

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Diwali Celebrations

The KLSO staff celebrated Diwali on 10th October 2022. The team went out for a movie and then had lunch together. We also got some gifts for the occasion.

State Strategy Plan meeting led by Diwakar Sharma

The State Team and Dr. Diwakar Sharma, Director, National Conservation Programme, WWF-India together conducted a brainstorming session for two days for developing a State Conservation Strategy. All the staff members were part of this exercise.

Article for Aranyam

Aranyam is the official monthly magazine of the Kerala Forests & Wildlife Department. The State Director was requested to give an article emphasising relevance of NGOs in conservation. The article was submitted focusing on WWF’s work. The article written in English was translated using English to Malayalam transliteration online tools and finally verified and corrected by the Senior Education Officer.

Finance Offsite Meeting

The Accts & Admn Officer Mr. Anandu Krishnan attended the Finance Offsite Meeting organised by WWF-India Finance Division at Bandavgarh Tiger Reserve from 16-19 November 2022.

Sugathakumari Teacher Memorial Functions

The State Director and the Senior Education Officer attended the events at two different locations and spoke on the occasion.