

Dibyendu Biswas

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Research interests: Movement & Behavioural Ecology, Ornithology, Conservation ecology, Environmental Impact Assessment, Disease Ecology

Work Experience

- 1. Project Fellow**, Wildlife Institute of India, India June, 2018 – Present
 - Led the vulture team to develop a conservation plan for vultures as part of the “Integrated Landscape Management Plan for Greater Panna Landscape, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh” (<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1830540>)
 - Conducted vulture surveys through area search methods across more than 47,000 sq. km. of study area for distribution modelling of cliff-nesting vultures in the Greater Panna Landscape
 - Headed the vulture satellite telemetry exercise inside Panna Tiger Reserve during winters of 2020 and 2022, for the capture and tagging of 25 vultures including critically endangered Indian Vultures, Red-headed Vultures and migratory Griffon vultures, a first and the largest scientific undertaking on vultures in India (<https://india.mongabay.com/2022/04/geotagging-to-monitor-vultures-in-mps-panna-tiger-reserve/>)
 - Conducted avifaunal surveys across 222 points in Panna Tiger Reserve during the summer of 2021. Additionally, assisted in the winter bird surveys along with conducting a citizen science project with the Panna Forest Department between 2021-2022.
 - Performed a radio-collaring exercise on a Royal Bengal Tiger in Panna Tiger Reserve. Gained experience in camera trapping and sign surveys as part of the project.
 - Assisted in organizing expert and stake-holder consultation workshops for the comprehensive development of relevant plans.
 - Conducted training and capacity building workshops for forest staff on identifying and carrying out vulture census in Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary in 2021
- 2. Project Biologist**, Sālim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, India Sept, 2017 – Feb, 2018
 - Studied avifaunal and butterfly diversities for environmental impact assessment as part of the project titled ‘Faunal Diversity documentation study at Chemfab Alkalis Ltd, Campus, Kalapet, Puducherry’, in India.
 - Partook in discussions with experts for the development of a technical report on the project
- 3. Research Assistant**, Sālim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, India June – August, 2017

- Studied faunal diversity in the project titled ‘Rapid Biodiversity study for the Proposed Multi-product SEZ/Industrial Park of M/s Tata Steel SEZ Limited at Gopalpur, Ganjam, Odisha’, in India.

Education

M.Sc. in Ecology and Environment Studies
School of Ecology and Environment Studies
Nalanda University

2015 – 2017

[**Subjects studied:** Fundamentals of Ecology, Earth Science, Biodiversity, Avifaunal Diversity (Independent Study Course), Nano-materials in the Environment, Research Methodology in Natural Science, Sustainable Development, Water in Sustainable Development, Geo-hydrology, Environmental Law and Policy, Environmental Economics, Environment and Society, Master's Dissertation Work on niche partitioning of birds]

B.Sc. (Honours in Chemistry)
University of Calcutta

2011 – 2015

Honours Papers: Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry
General Papers: Physics, Mathematics, English, Bengali

Internship Experience

1. Graduate Internship 2016 – 2017
Organization: Nalanda University, India
 - Conducted study on niche partitioning of some common birds in and around Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Conducted surveys on avifaunal diversity in and around Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary
2. Summer Internship April – May, 2016
Organization: Nature Mates – Nature Club and ZSI – Kolkata, India
Conducted surveys on spider diversity across two butterfly parks in Kolkata

Publications

Books and Reports:

1. WII, 2022, Integrated Landscape Management Plan for Greater Panna Landscape, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, ISBN: 81-85496-77-3
2. Biswas, D., Arun, P.R., Jayapal, R., and Kalle, R. (2018). Faunal Diversity documentation study at Chemfab Alkalis Ltd, Campus, Kalapet, Puducherry.
3. Prakash, L., Biswas, D., Arun, P.R., and Kalle, R. (2017). Rapid Biodiversity Study for the Proposed Multi-product SEZ/ Industrial Park of M/s Tata Steel SEZ Limited at Gopalpur, Ganjam, Odisha. *SACON Project Report # PR18*, Pp:82

Newsletters and Popular Articles:

1. Biswas, D. (2022). Threatened Vultures (বিপন্ন শকুন). *Abhikhhep* 1429: 315- 320 (in Bengali)

2. Biswas, D., Arun, P.R., Jayapal, R., and Kalle, R. (2017). Faunal Diversity in a Greenbelt of a Chemical Industry, Puducherry. *SACON Newsletter*, Vol. 14(4): 6-7
3. Kalle, R., Arun, P.R., Biswas, D., and Prakash, L. (2017). Rapid Biodiversity Survey at the Multi-Product Special Economic Zone (SEZ)/Industrial Park at M/s Tata Steel SEZ Limited, Gopalpur, Odisha. *SACON Newsletter*, Vol. 14(3): 5

Peer Reviewed Journal:

1. Dibyendu Biswas, Ramesh Krishnamurthy. Predictive Distribution Modelling of Critical Habitat Availability and Prioritization for the Vultures in the Greater Panna Landscape, India. *Authorea*. January 06, 2023. (Submitted) DOI: [10.22541/au.167303810.08571162/v1](https://doi.org/10.22541/au.167303810.08571162/v1)
2. Biswas, D., and Krishnamurthy, R. (2022). Movement Ecology of the Resident Vultures of Panna Tiger Reserve, India – Insight into the Home Range Outside the Protected Areas (Manuscript In Preparation)

Participation and Awards

Scholarships:

1. **DST-INSPIRE Scholarship in 2011** by Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India for pursuing my Undergraduate in one of the basic science subjects (Chemistry).

Scientific Presentations:

1. Jointly presented a webinar titled, “Our Rapture Around Scavenging Raptors: A dive into the role of vultures in restoring ecosystem balance and health”, as part of the National Wildlife Week (02nd – 08th October 2022) organized by ENVIS Resource Partner – Wildlife and Protected Areas, Wildlife Institute of India
2. Presented on the topic, “Satellite Tracking of Vultures in Panna Tiger Reserve, Central India: Towards Landscape Approach for Conservation” in 1st annual symposium of Indian Regional Association of Landscape Ecology held from 03rd to 05th October 2021 (*virtual*)
3. Poster presentation on the topic, “Role of Grassland and Greenbelts of Industries in Biodiversity Conservation” at the SCB – Asia Section Conference held from 19th – 20th March, 2018, Amity University, Noida, New Delhi NCR. (*in-person*)
4. Poster presentation on the topic, “Niche Partitioning of Some Common Birds in and around Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary” at the 8th Students’ Conference on Conservation Science – Bengaluru held from 21st – 24th September, 2017, IISc, Bengaluru. (*in-person*)

Other Information

Certificate Courses:

1. “Ecology in R” taught by Russell J Gray on Udemy
2. “QGIS 3: from Beginner to Advanced” taught by Zoran Petrovic on Udemy
3. “Biostatistics Fundamentals using Python” taught by Juan Klopper on Udemy

4. “Linux Mastery: Master the Linux Command Line” taught by Internet of Things Academy on Udemy
5. “The Complete R Programming for Data Science” taught by Numyard Data Science Team on Udemy

Software skills:

R (proficient), ArcGIS Pro (proficient), QGIS (proficient), Linux Command Line (proficient), Python (basic)

Languages:

Bengali (Native), English (Proficient), Hindi (Intermediate)

Interests/ Hobbies:

Soccer, Violin, Philately, Martial Arts