



# The Green Gazette

## Volumes 3 and 4



### What it includes

- Our Works
- Our Achievements
- Publications and Media Coverage
- Our Website Portal & Credits



wildwingsbengal@gmail.com



# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### Lighting Up Garkilla Kherobari: Igniting Awareness for the Indian Grey Wolf

As part of our ongoing mission to spotlight lesser-known wildlife and deep-rooted nature connections, we brought our awareness initiative to Garkilla Kherobari village in Deul, Shibpur. Led by our enthusiastic team member, Dibyendu Mondal—who stepped into the educator's role for the day—the campaign lit up the village with discoveries about the Indian Grey Wolf.

Through a lively audio-visual presentation, villagers uncovered fascinating truths about the wolves' habitats and their vital role in maintaining ecological balance. Engaging leaflets were handed out, and the vibrant energy from the village's youth—who peppered the session with questions—was truly inspiring. We're deeply grateful to WWF India for their invaluable support as a collaborating partner in making this event a success.

These programs are more than just informative—they're designed to ignite curiosity and foster a conservation mindset in young hearts, emphasizing the urgent need for Indian Grey Wolf protection. We're excited to continue nurturing this awareness journey and building lasting appreciation for our natural world.



WINGS



# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Empowering Villages through Wolf Conservation Awareness

Micro Awareness Campaigns by WINGS under the Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Project (WWF-India) have significantly impacted the villages of Rakshitpur, Akandara, and Malandighi.

Spearheaded by our dedicated member Dibyendu Mondal, these campaigns focus on educating local communities about the importance of conserving the Indian Grey Wolf and protecting its natural habitat. Through engaging discussions, visual presentations, and interactive sessions with villagers, especially children and farmers, Dibyendu has fostered awareness about coexistence and ecological balance. These grassroots initiatives aim to reduce human-wolf conflicts and promote sustainable practices that support wildlife conservation, ensuring the long-term survival of this keystone species.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Community Engagement for Indian Grey Wolf Conservation in Dhanbani and Kantaberia

As part of the Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Projects, WINGS has undertaken Micro-level Awareness Campaigns in the villages of Dhanbani and Kantaberia, led by our committed team member Dibyendu Mondal.

These campaigns are designed to raise awareness among local communities about the critical role the Indian Grey Wolf plays in maintaining ecological balance and the urgent need to conserve its rapidly shrinking habitat.

Dibyendu has been actively engaging with villagers through door-to-door visits, interactive sessions at local schools, and community gatherings to spread knowledge about the species, its behavior, and the threats it faces—particularly from habitat loss and human-wildlife conflict.

These campaigns also promote sustainable practices and foster a sense of responsibility among locals, encouraging coexistence rather than conflict. By involving people at the grassroots level, the campaign is helping build a stronger, community-driven conservation movement aimed at preserving not just the Indian Grey Wolf, but the entire ecosystem it supports.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Spreading Awareness on Striped Hyena Conservation at Churulia NK School

WINGS successfully conducted a Hyena Conservation Awareness Campaign at Churulia NK School to spread knowledge and consciousness about the conservation of the striped hyena, a lesser-known yet ecologically significant species. This event is a part of the WTI-funded Rapid Action Project on Striped Hyena Conservation in Paschim Bardhaman. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 70 students, along with the Headmaster and the entire faculty of the school.

The programme was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Dr. Anupam Khan, Divisional Forest Officer, Durgapur Division, who served as the Chief Guest. The special guests included Dr. Kaushik Deuti, Scientist-E from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), and Mr. Prosenjit Sheel, Officer-in-Charge/Project Head of the Sundarbans Tiger Project, Wildlife Trust of India office. Officials from the Asansol Territorial Region, including the Ranger and Beat Officer, were also present, showcasing strong support for the cause.

The awareness campaign primarily centered around striped hyena conservation, with a specific focus on the pressing issue of road kills. A comprehensive and engaging presentation highlighted the ecological role of the striped hyena and the conservation efforts being led by WINGS NGO. To make the session interactive and impactful, brochures were distributed among students, providing key information about the species, their habitat, and the threats they face.

An interactive quiz session followed the presentation, where students actively participated and showcased their understanding. Winners were rewarded with prizes, which further encouraged interest in wildlife conservation.

The campaign not only educated young minds about a species often misunderstood and overlooked but also fostered a sense of responsibility towards wildlife protection. WINGS, through such initiatives, continues to build grassroots awareness and community involvement in the conservation of India's diverse fauna.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025

### Community Awareness Drive on Indian Grey Wolf Conservation at Labna Para

A successful micro-level awareness campaign was conducted on 21st April 2025 at Labna Para Village under the Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Project.

The program was organized with the active support and coordination of the Kantaberia BEAT Officer.

Our dedicated member, Dibyendu Kumar Mandal, played a key role in facilitating the event and engaging with the local community.

The campaign focused on educating villagers about the ecological importance of the Indian grey wolf and promoting peaceful human-wildlife coexistence. The response from the community was highly positive, with enthusiastic participation and valuable interactions.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Awareness Drive on Striped Hyena Conservation at Alkusha and Samdi Village

A successful International Hyena Day Awareness Campaign was conducted on 27th April 2025 at **Alkusha Village** under the WTI-funded Rapid Action Project on Stiped Hyena Conservation in Paschim Bardhaman.

The program was organized with the active support and coordination of Sarisathali Beat Office and Fulberia-Bolkund Gram Panchayat.

Our dedicated members, Suvodip Chakraborty and Arindam Roy, played a key role in facilitating the event and engaging with the local community.

The campaign focused on educating villagers about the ecological importance of the Indian Striped Hyena and promoting peaceful human-wildlife coexistence. The response from the community was highly positive, with enthusiastic participation and valuable interactions.



Also, we successfully conducted another campaign on the same day at **Samdi Village** under the WTI-funded Rapid Action Project on Stiped Hyena Conservation in Paschim Bardhaman.

The program was organized with the active support and coordination of Sarisathali Beat Office and Samdi Gram Panchayat.

Our dedicated members, Dibyendu Kumar Mondal and Arindam Roy, played a key role in facilitating the event and engaging with the local community.

The campaign focused on educating villagers about the ecological importance of the Indian Striped Hyena and promoting peaceful human-wildlife coexistence. The response from the community was highly positive, with enthusiastic participation and valuable interactions





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Hyena Conservation Awareness Drive inside Tara Coal Mines, Churulia**

WINGS, in collaboration with Wildlife Trust of India and David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, conducted a large-scale Hyena Awareness Campaign inside Tara East and West Coal Mines, Churulia. The initiative focused on educating workers and truck drivers about the ecological role of the Striped Hyena, aiming to bust myths, encourage coexistence, and mitigate roadkill.

Protecting wildlife starts with awareness.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

**Mega awareness campaign on Indian grey wolves at Akandara village**

We are proud to share the success of a Mega Awareness Campaign at Akandara Village conducted under the WWF-India Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Project (IGWCP) by WINGS, in collaboration with Bardhaman Forest Division and Durgapur Range.

Facilitated by Dibyendu Mondal, the campaign aimed to raise awareness among local communities about the importance of conserving the Indian Grey Wolf and promoting sustainable coexistence with wildlife.

Sougata Mukherjee, ADFO Burdwan Forest Division, and Sudip Banerjee, Range Officer Durgapur range, attended the event, and more than 20 other forest department staff also attended the event..

The enthusiastic participation of the villagers and the active support of the forest department made this event truly impactful.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> May'2025

## 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

### Micro-level Awareness Campaign at Kulboni Village

We are proud to share the success of a Micro-level Awareness Campaign conducted under the WWF-India Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Project (IGWCP) by WINGS, in collaboration with the Barddhaman Forest Division and Durgapur Range.

Facilitated by Dibyendu Mondal, the campaign aimed to raise awareness among local communities about the importance of conserving the Indian Grey Wolf and promoting sustainable coexistence with wildlife.

The enthusiastic participation of the villagers, along with the active support of the Forest Department, made this event truly impactful.

The programme was held at Kulboni on 18th May 2025, where the Kantaberia Beat Officer and local community members were present.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

27<sup>th</sup> May 2025

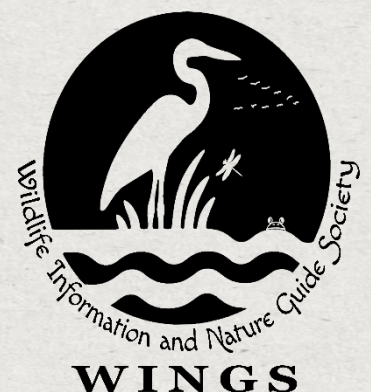
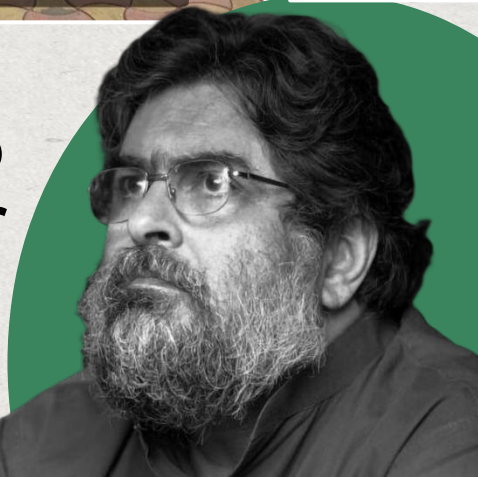
Hunting practices, particularly during traditional festivals like Folharini Puja, pose a serious threat to local wildlife. In several rural areas, hunting is considered a predominant ritual during this time, leading to significant ecological damage and endangerment of species in proximity to human habitation.

To address this critical issue, the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, has taken proactive steps by conducting intensive monitoring operations from 26th to 28th May. These operations involve searching for weapons, nets, and trapped animals in vulnerable areas to prevent illegal hunting activities.

Our dedicated member, Aritri Chatterjee, represented WINGS during this initiative and actively participated in ground-level actions to support conservation efforts.



31<sup>st</sup> May 2025  
Valmik Thapar  
(1952-2025)





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 1<sup>st</sup> Week of June 2025

WINGS, in collaboration with WWF-India and the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, successfully executed micro-level awareness campaigns under the Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Project in the villages of Aduria, Malandighi, and Bistupur, Shibpur. Our dedicated efforts aimed to educate local communities about the importance of conserving the Indian Grey Wolf and its habitat. Through engaging interactions and informative sessions, we empowered residents with knowledge about the ecological significance of these majestic creatures. By fostering community involvement, we're working towards a harmonious coexistence between humans and wildlife, ultimately contributing to the conservation of this vital species.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025

To celebrate World Environment Day, WINGS, in collaboration with the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation (DSWF), Eastern Coalfield Ltd (ECL) arranged a large-scale Biodiversity Awareness Campaign inside ECL Kajora Office, especially focusing on Striped Hyenas on 4th Jun 2025.

The programme was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Dr. Anupam Khan, Divisional Forest Officer, Durgapur Division; Biswajit Mal, Range Officer, Ukhra; Mine Agent of ECL Kajora Area; General Manager of ECL Kajora Area; Assistant General Manager of ECL Kajora Area, showcasing strong support for the cause.



*“Awareness is the first step towards conservation.”*





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Milestone Moments for Team WINGS!

On World Environment Day, this 5th of June marks a truly incredible day in our conservation journey — 5 awareness campaigns in a single day.

We successfully conducted:

Two Indian Striped Hyena Awareness Campaigns

1. Bathanbari, Maithon (from Hadla BEAT)
  2. DVC Left Bank F.P. School, Kalyaneswari (from Hadla BEAT)
- and Three Indian Grey Wolf Awareness Campaigns

1. Sarenga, Durgapur (from Gopalpur BEAT)
2. Kotalpukur, Durgapur (from Basudha BEAT)
3. Banagram, Durgapur (from Basudha BEAT)

We thank our dedicated members Dibyendu Mondal and Suvodip Chakraborty, whose tireless efforts and unwavering passion made this monumental feat possible.

Throughout the day, villagers and students actively participated, showing great enthusiasm and curiosity about these often-misunderstood species. Engaging sessions, informative visuals, and interactive discussions helped foster a deeper connection between the local communities and the rich biodiversity around them.



Bathanbari, Maithon



DVC Left Bank F.P. School,  
Kalyaneswari



Sarenga, Durgapur, Gopalpur Beat



Kotalpukur, Durgapur, Basudha Beat



Banagram, Durgapur, Basudha Beat



# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 11<sup>th</sup> July 2025

On 10th July 2025, WINGS, in collaboration with Eastern Coalfields Limited (A subsidiary of Coal India), the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, organized a powerful Biodiversity Awareness Campaign at the Satgram-Sripure Area. With the enthusiastic participation of ECL officials, forest personnel, and local staff, the campaign focused on:

“Promoting the importance of biodiversity”



**“All good things  
Are wild and free”**

Henry David Thoreau



# Our Works



26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025

### Say NO to Illegal Wildlife Trade!

Team WINGS took to the streets of Asansol Bastin Bazar, Asansol City Bus Stand, and Asansol Girja More Hawkers Market today to raise awareness against illegal wildlife trade - particularly about Indian birds.

The initiative is being jointly carried out by the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal(Durgapur Division), WINGS, and Birdwatchers' Society. As part of the campaign, leaflets are being distributed to pedestrians, and awareness stickers have been placed near shops where illegal wildlife trade is often suspected.

With local support and forest guards standing strong, we're spreading the message — “Wildlife belongs in the wild, not in cages!”

Let's protect our biodiversity and speak up for the voiceless.





# Our Works



26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025

WINGS made a vibrant mark at Bonomotsob 2025, hosted by the West Bengal Forest Department at Nagar Van, Durgapur.

We inspired young minds through:

- A dynamic Biodiversity Awareness PPT, celebrating our region's rich flora and fauna.
- A fun-filled Quiz Competition that tested and boosted students' eco-knowledge.
- A Tree Identification Activity, encouraging students to explore and connect with nature firsthand.



**"The Earth is what we all  
have in common."**  
Wendell Berry





# Our Works



26<sup>th</sup> May to 26<sup>th</sup> July'2025

## 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025

WINGS conducted a Biodiversity Awareness Campaign at ECL Sonapur Bazari Area Office. The event focused on educating employees about local biodiversity, conservation practices, and preserving native flora and fauna.

Interactive sessions, visual displays, and discussions highlighted simple steps individuals can take to support wildlife conservation.

A big thanks to Eastern Coalfields Limited (A subsidiary of Coal India) and the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, for allowing us to make this campaign impactful.



## 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025

WINGS had the joy of guiding a refreshing Nature Walk at Ramkrishna Mission Vidyapith, Purulia, where young minds connected deeply with the rhythms of nature.

From spotting birds and butterflies to learning about native plants and their role in the ecosystem, the walk turned into a living classroom of discovery and wonder.

Moments like these remind us how nature inspires curiosity, respect, and a sense of responsibility in the next generation.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> September'2025

## 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2025

**Snake Awareness and Safety Workshop at Nuvoco Vistas Corp. Ltd. – Gangajalghati**  
WINGS (Wildlife Information and Nature Guide Society), in collaboration with the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, successfully conducted a Snake Awareness and Safety Session on 1st August 2025 at Nuvoco Vistas Corporation Limited, Gangajalghati.

The session focused on:

- Understanding common snakes of our region
- Identifying venomous vs. non-venomous species
- First aid and emergency response to snakebites
- Myths vs. facts about snakes
- Importance of coexistence and conservation

With active participation from the employees and security staff, the session was both interactive and informative. From live presentations to engaging discussions, the audience showed great interest in learning how to coexist safely with snakes.

Special thanks to Nuvoco management and the West Bengal Forest Department for their support and commitment to environmental education and workplace safety.



Rough-Scaled Sand Boa  
Eryx conicus





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> September'2025

## 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025

🐾 WINGS- "Howl of Hope" on International Wolf Day 🐾

Paschim Bardhaman | 13 August 2025

International Wolf Day began with inspiring opening remarks by Dr. Gourav Dhar Bhowmick, Assistant Professor at IIT Kharagpur, setting the stage for a powerful gathering under the WWF-India-funded Conservation Catalyst Programme (CCP). The event united senior forest officials, scientists, conservation partners, students, and community members to champion the conservation of the Indian Grey Wolf in one of West Bengal's most industrialized districts.

Among the distinguished dignitaries were Mr. Bidyut Sarkar, Chief Conservator of Forests – South East & South West Circles; Mr. Kalyan Das, Ex-Chief Conservator of Forests & Officer on Special Duty; Dr. Anupam Khan, Divisional Forest Officer – Durgapur Division; Ms. Sanchita Sharma, Divisional Forest Officer – Burdwan Division; Mr. Rahul Kumar, Divisional Forest Officer – Birbhum Division; Ms. Purabi Mahato, Divisional Forest Officer – Kangsabati South, Purulia District; Ms. Anusua Roy, Divisional Forest Officer – Working Plan, Bankura South; Ms. Sarada Saha, Assistant Divisional Forest Officer – Durgapur Division; and Mr. Koustuv Sasaru, Assistant Divisional Forest Officer – Kangsabati South.

Thought-provoking sessions included Dr. Qamar Qureshi, former scientist at the Wildlife Institute of India, on carnivore conservation; Dr. Santanu Ray, former professor at Visva-Bharati University, on species distribution modelling in mammal conservation; and Dr. Kaushik Deuti, Scientist-D at the Zoological Survey of India, on the Indian Grey Wolf. WWF-India was represented by Ms. Neha Sinha, and the Wildlife Trust of India by Mr. Prasenjit Seal.

Dr. Arkajyoti Mukherjee, Secretary of WINGS, presented the key achievements of the Indian Grey Wolf Conservation Project, followed by a visually captivating conservation video by Mr. Prasenjit Choudhury. A major highlight was the release of the Paschim Bardhaman Biodiversity Map, illustrated by Sridipta Manna, revealing the district's remarkable wildlife richness despite its industrial footprint.

The day concluded with a united pledge to protect the Indian Grey Wolf—a true howl of hope for the future.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> September'2025

## 30<sup>th</sup> August 2025

### Biodiversity Awareness Campaign at Kunustoria

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, WINGS successfully organized a Biodiversity Awareness Campaign at the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) Kunustoria Area Office in Kunustoria. The event aimed to educate employees about the rich local biodiversity, promote conservation practices, and emphasize the importance of preserving native flora and fauna.

Participants learned about simple yet effective steps to support wildlife conservation through engaging interactive sessions, visual displays, and thought-provoking discussions. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Eastern Coalfields Limited (a subsidiary of Coal India) and the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal, for collaborating with us and making this campaign a resounding success.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> September'2025

## 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Hyena Awareness Campaign at Brindabani Village near Maithon Dam

In Paschim Bardhaman, the quiet little village of Brindabani, located near the banks of Maithon Dam, became the center of a special awareness campaign. In recent times, the sighting of hyenas in the area had created fear among the villagers. Many believed these animals to be extremely dangerous for humans.

To dispel this fear, WINGS and the West Bengal Forest Department (WBFD) jointly organized an awareness program. On behalf of the NGO WINGS, Mr. Arindam Roy and Dr. Arkajyoti Mukherjee, along with officials of the Asansol Territorial Range, held an interactive session with the villagers. They explained that hyenas are not harmful to humans. Instead, they play a vital role in keeping the environment clean, as they naturally consume carcasses and waste, thereby maintaining ecological balance and preventing the spread of infectious diseases.

Through discussions and information sharing, nearly 90 villagers felt a sense of relief, and much of their fear was reduced. They were reassured that with proper awareness and coexistence; there is no cause for alarm. On the same day, three camera traps were installed to monitor the movement of hyenas in the area.

This initiative by WINGS and WBFD not only helped to dispel fear but also strengthened the bond between villagers, conservationists, and the Forest Department. We often hear about "ground-level awareness," but it is these small steps that truly set an example of it.





# Our Works

26<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> September'2025

# 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025

# Say NO to Illegal Wildlife Trade!

Team WINGS took to the streets of Durgapur Station Market, Durgapur City Bus Stand, and Sarat Pally today to raise awareness against illegal wildlife trade — particularly concerning Indian birds.

This awareness initiative was jointly organized by the Forest Department, Government of West Bengal (Durgapur Division), WINGS, and the Birdwatchers' Society. As part of the campaign, leaflets were distributed to pedestrians, and awareness posters and stickers were placed near shops where illegal bird trade is often suspected.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Vijay Salimath, Dr. Gourav Dhar Bhowmick, Mr. Saptarshi Mukherjee, Mr. Sukanta Roy, and Ms. Sreeparna Das for their invaluable support.

From WINGS, sincere thanks to Nirjhar Banerjee, Uma Dutta, Chandra Chur Ray, and Dibyendu Kumar Mondal, whose efforts helped bring this campaign to life alongside the dedicated officers of the West Bengal Forest Department.

With strong support from residents, volunteers, and forest officials, we continue to spread the message —

*"Wildlife belongs in the wild, not in cages!"*





# Our Achievements



**Awarded "Bon Bandhu Award 2025" by Durgapur Forest Division on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2025**



**Five display boards promoting slow and cautious driving have been installed at strategic striped hyena crossing points, with messages in three different languages. This initiative is part of the WTI-funded Rapid Action Project (RAP) on striped hyena conservation in Paschim Bardhaman.**



**Grantee:** Dr. Arkajyoti Mukherjee (Wildlife Information and Nature Guide Society)

**Grassroots Conservation Small Grant**

**Project:** Landscape-Level Assessment and Conservation of Indian Grey Wolves in Eastern India: A Focus on Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal

**WINGS Awarded the Prestigious WCT-BEES Grassroots Conservation Small Grant 2025-26**



**Dr. Arkajyoti Mukherjee  
Secretary, WINGS**

## Few words from The Secretary

“Over the past six months, we have reached communities across three districts through more than 35 awareness camps, bringing together local people, students, and officials to promote harmony and coexistence with small mammals. Alongside these outreach activities, our team is carrying out important ecological research to better understand the habitats, behaviors, and challenges faced by these endangered species. In the coming months, we are set to expand our conservation efforts, combining science, community participation, and long-term commitment to protect wildlife and ensure a sustainable future where people and nature thrive together.”



# Publication & Media Coverage



You can read the paper here  
[Catsg.org](https://catsg.org) (Current Issue)



The fishing cat captured by camera trap in Madhaiganj, Paschim Bardhaman. Photo: WINGS

 Manish Kumar Chattopadhyay

Published in “Down to Earth”  
On 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2025

## In a first, Bengal maps twin wolf corridors near Durgapur

Krishnendu Mukherjee  
@timesofindia.com

**Kolkata:** After elephant corridors, Bengal has successfully mapped two wolf corridors — a first such initiative — decoding movement patterns of urban wolves near industrial town Durgapur, less than 200 km from Kolkata.

Not only in Bengal, such a corridor-mapping — part of Indian grey wolf conservation project in West Burdwan — is probably the first of its kind in India.

Durgapur-based Wildlife Information and Nature Guide Society (WINGS), with help of the Bengal forest dept and the WWF-India, has successfully mapped presence of at least 30 wolves in four packs, using the corridors connecting West and East Burdwan.

Earlier in 2024, a study on elusive Indian wolf in south Bengal had unearthed presence of approximately 15-24 of the animals near Durgapur.

According to Arkaajyoti Mukherjee, ecologist and secretary of WINGS, the corridors identified are forests of Madhaiganj-Kantaberia to Garh Jungle of West Burdwan — the intra-district corridor — and forests under Ukhra and Durgapur ranges of West Burdwan to those under Panagarh, Durgapur and Guskara ranges in East Burdwan — the

### 30 URBAN WOLVES IN 4 PACKS

Graphic: Dipankar Chanda

- ▶ Two wolf corridors in S Bengal
- ▶ One intra-district corridor in West Burdwan, the other connects forests of W Burdwan with those in E Burdwan
- ▶ Intra-district corridor Madhaiganj-Kantaberia to Garh Jungle of West Burdwan
- ▶ Inter-district corridor Forests under Ukhra and Durgapur ranges of West Burdwan to those under Panagarh, Guskara ranges in East Burdwan
- ▶ Presence of at least 30 wolves in four packs in these corridors



inter-district corridor. Forests under Durgapur range are spread over both East and West Burdwan.

“We found the highest abundance in the corridors—each stretching over 10 kilometres—in the past one and a half years,” he added. “The study identified two core breeding habitats and several rendezvous sites—a location wolves use to care for pups after they have outgrown the den,” said Manish Kumar Chattopadhyay, lead field expert.

A recent Wildlife Institute of India (WII) study estimated around 3,000 Indian wolves remaining in the wild.

Qamar Qureshi, former scientist with WII, said: “Wol-

ves are landscape species. The space they use to move from one forest patch to another doesn't always fall under protected areas. So, identifying wolf corridors will help shift policymakers' attention to lesser-studied species like wolves. Species like hyenas and Bengal foxes also share grasslands with wolves—a habitat that is degrading fast.”

Researchers have also done analysis of wolves' dietary behaviour through micro-histological scat studies. “It revealed a diet dominated by livestock (goat and sheep), with evidence of scavenging on cow and buffalo remains. Rodent bones (likely Indian hare) and bird remains (likely

Indian peafowl) were also found,” said Arnish Bose, lead field expert.

The researchers have also started installing fladry deterrent flags — brightly coloured flags that hang close together, creating a moving, fluttering barrier — in some conflict-prone areas in West Burdwan. According to Mukherjee, wolves are naturally cautious of new sights, sounds, and movements. Kalyan Das, ex-chief conservator of forests under whose tenure the field work started, said during routine soil conservation work in Ukhra and Durgapur in 2017, the staff had first reported about sporadic sightings of wolves.

## First Photographic Documentation of Fishing Cat from Bardhaman District

A Milestone for WINGS: First Record of Fishing Cat in Paschim Bardhaman

We are delighted to share that our study has been published in CATnews (IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group), documenting the first-ever photographic record of the Fishing Cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*) from Paschim Bardhaman district, West Bengal.

In October 2024, during our Indian Grey Wolf conservation project, a camera trap captured an adult female Fishing Cat — extending the known range of this globally threatened species into western West Bengal for the very first time.

About the Fishing Cat

State Animal of West Bengal

Listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List

A vital indicator of healthy wetland ecosystems

Threats

Wetland destruction from urbanization, agriculture, and mining

Road accidents in human-dominated landscapes

Poaching and illegal trade

Increasing human–wildlife conflict as wetlands shrink

Why this matters

This finding shows the resilience and adaptability of the Fishing Cat, even in fragmented and human-influenced habitats. It also highlights the urgent need to conserve wetlands outside protected areas, including community-managed landscapes.

Our study area also recorded Indian Grey Wolves, Bengal Foxes, and Jungle Cats, showcasing the biodiversity value of these non-protected lands.

This achievement was made possible through the collaboration of our co-authors, WWF-India, the West Bengal Forest Department, and local communities. Together, we aim to strengthen conservation for West Bengal's very own State Animal.

## Twin wolf Corridors near Durgapur – First for Bengal

In a remarkable first for Bengal, wildlife researchers have successfully mapped two wolf corridors near Durgapur, unlocking new insights into the movement of urban wolves. The study, carried out by WINGS with support from the Bengal Forest Department and WWF-India, has confirmed the presence of at least 30 wolves across four packs in West Burdwan. This pioneering effort is not just about wolves—it also sheds light on the importance of natural corridors for other lesser-known species like hyenas, whose survival depends on these landscapes. A milestone that brings us closer to protecting India's overlooked wildlife heritage



# WINGS MEMBERSHIP

**For 1 Year**  
Earning Member-1100  
Student(up to PG)-330  
Student(School)-20

## Membership Benefits

- Opportunity to protect the future of nature.
- Opportunity to participate in Conservation Work with field training.
- Quarterly Nature walks with experts from different fields of wildlife.
- Free entries in events conducted by WINGS.
- Opportunity to attend Webinars by experts
- Opportunity to participate in our online portal, Biodiversity of West Bengal events.
- Opportunity to perform project and research work.
- Enhances creativity.

**Scan & Read**  
**Annual Book 2024-25**



# WINGS

**"Conserving nature since 2019"**



**Registration no: S0005627 of 2019-2020**

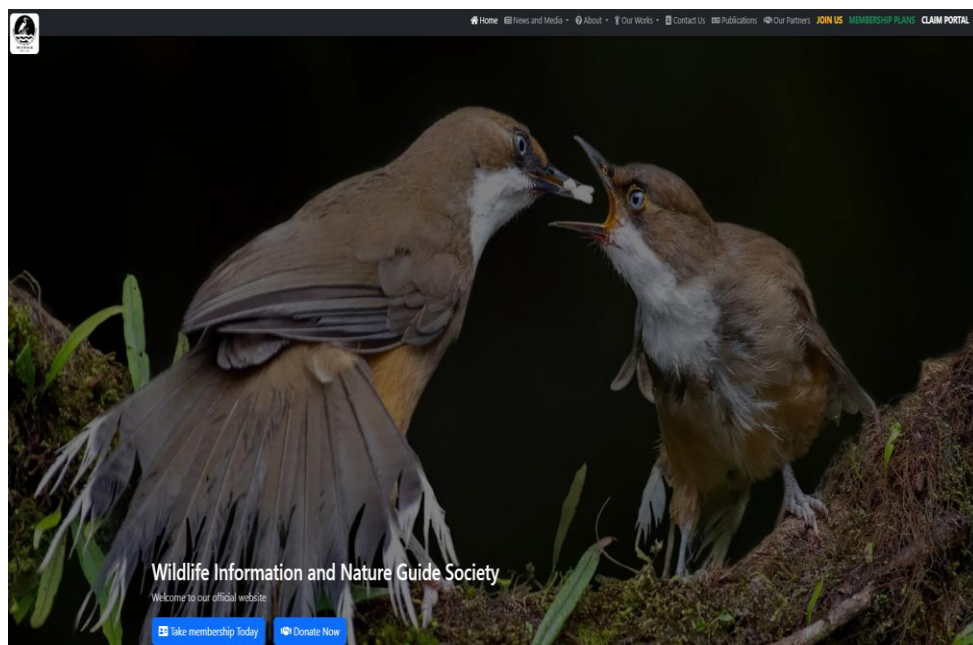
**wildwingsbengal@gmail.com**

**+91 6296223818**

**<https://wildwingsindia.in/>**

## Our Website Portal

[www.wildwingsindia.in](http://www.wildwingsindia.in)



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**now**



### OUR AREAS OF WORKING

- Wildlife Management and Soil Moisture Conservation Plan**
- Biodiversity Survey and Monitoring**
- Community Engagement**
- Scientific Research on Ecology and Environment**
- Collaborative Wildlife Conservation Works**
- Modern Agricultural Techniques**

**Design and Conceptualization:** Diptesh Goswami  
**Front Cover Courtesy:** Jayanta Manna  
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