

ANNUAL REPORT

2012-13

(July, 2012 to June, 2013)



SIMLIPAL TIGER RESERVE

ODISHA, INDIA



Inauguration of Barehipani Cottage by Chief Secretary, Odisha on 09.06.13



Steering Committee meeting for Similipal Biosphere Reserve with Chief Secretary, Odisha



Review meeting by PCCF, Odisha at STR office, Baripada



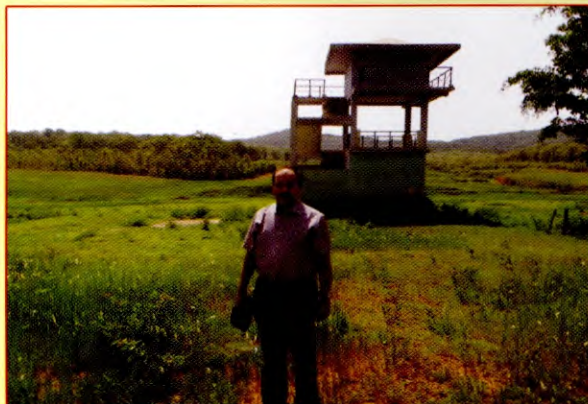
Quiz competition at Baripada on the occasion of Wildlife Week



Chief Secretary, Odisha on his visit to Barehipani



PCCF(WL), Odisha inspecting camera traps in Similipal



PCCF (Wildlife), Odisha on his visit to Jenabil meadow at STR



Core-buffer meeting at Baripada

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From Field Director's Desk.



The 1st Annual Report for Similipal Tiger Reserve (2011-12) was published in July 2012. This is the 2nd Annual Report, in which an honest attempt has been made to incorporate the efforts made during the period from July, 2012 to June 2013 to make Similipal a better place for tigers in particular and the animal kingdom in general.

Post naxal-attack period in Similipal has been a difficult time for the Management. Fear amongst the staff was still running high. Animosity between core and buffer staff was at its peak. Local protection assistants did not know their job well. Smugglers & Poachers had a field day. Similipal has braved it all. Things have taken a U-turn this year. Core & buffer staffs are now acting in unison & communicating with resurrected VHF medium like never before. Hence the uninterrupted flow of information leading to actionable intelligence at STR headquarters has put paid to the numerous attempts of Akhand Shikaris to poach in Similipal. Yes! the unthinkable has happened this year, with the complete prevention of mass hunting in every part of huge Similipal landscape. Thanks are due also to HWLWs, local NGOs & District Administration for their unstinted support.

This year is also special in the sense that a number of new initiatives have been launched. Amongst them are, the creation of a dog squad by procuring quality dogs from Hyderabad, selecting handlers amongst the staff & coordinating with Dog Training Centre of BSF at Teknapur for the training of Dogs & the Handlers. The sniffer & tracking dogs will be ready for field use in January 2014 to tackle the perennial problem of poisoning in Similipal.

Elephant ride at Gudgudia has at last seen the day light in Similipal during the year with Kunki elephants Mahendra, Sobha & Bhawani at the service for the 1st time. A forensic laboratory was established in the office of Field Director & RCCF, Baripada. Signatures of various animals like Tiger, Leopard, Wild boar, Sambar have already been created & stored for future use. The GIS laboratory was revamped with the engagement of an efficient analyst. The corrected digitized maps of Similipal Tiger Reserve & Similipal Sanctuary, was prepared after a strenuous exercise with the topo sheet vis-à-vis notification. It was really revealing to know that

a part of Hadgardh Sanctuary of Keonjhar WL Division was within STR as per the notification issued in 1976. Monitoring of tiger & its prey base was meticulously taken up with procurement and use of 170 trap Cameras without any assistance from professional agency, which revealed the presence of Stripe-necked Mongoose in STR for the 1st time. The elusive endemic White-banded Civet was also captured in the camera.

Unprecedented measures were initiated to maintain the inviolability of breeding habitats of tiger in STR. The results of these measures were there for all to see with increased sighting of animals by staff as well as tourists. A well researched Tiger Conservation Plan was also prepared & submitted to Govt. of India, eliciting appreciation from NTCA.

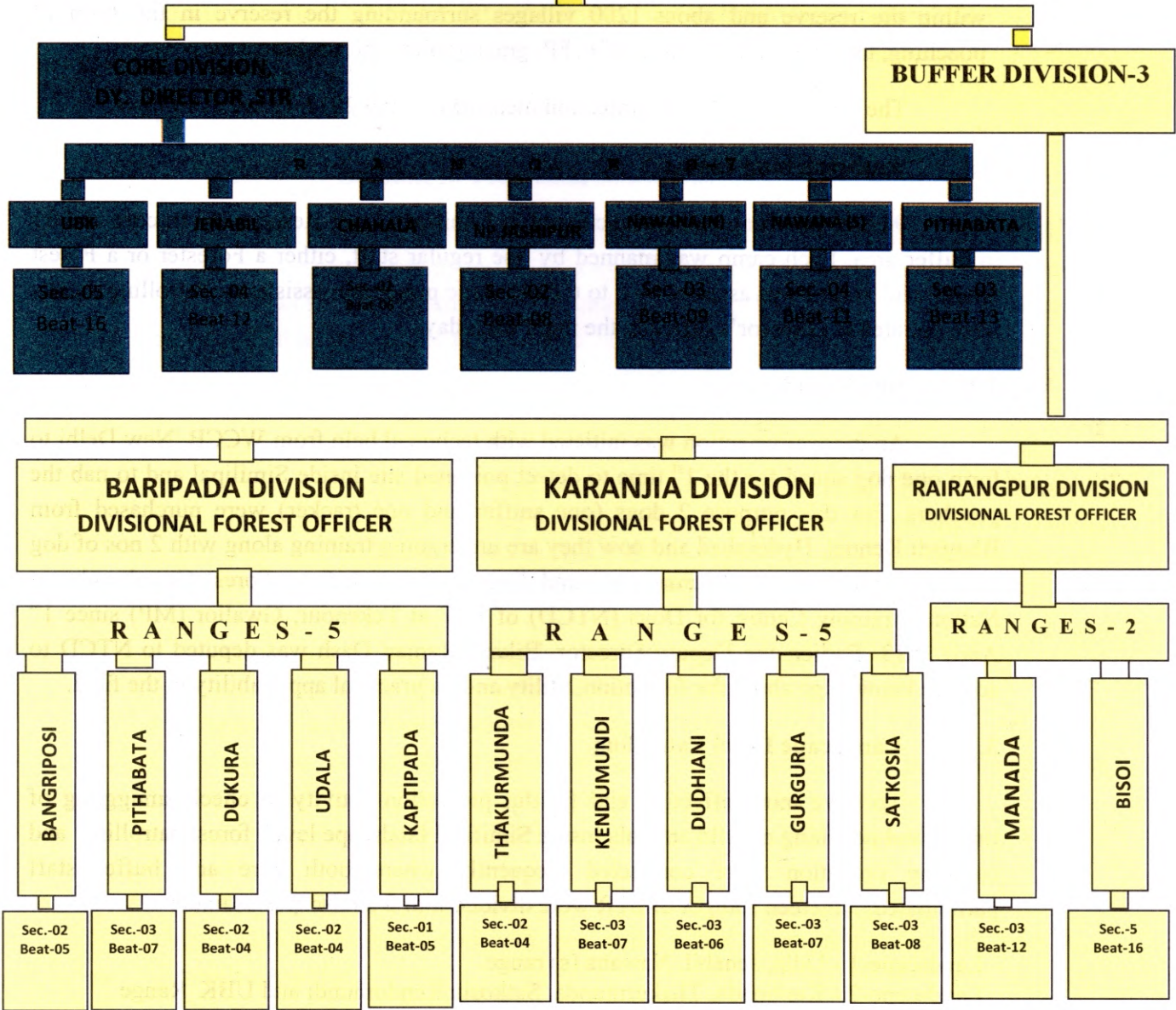
The annual lease amount for management of tourist complex at Ramatirtha & Gudgudia was enhanced from Rs 40000 to Rs 100000 during the year through conduct of a transparent tendering process. This along with record no. of tourists (24945) visiting Similipal this year has resulted in a quantum jump in revenue from Rs 13 lakh to Rs 21 lakhs

Local youth trained to function as eco guides were made to accompany each tourist vehicle entering Similipal from both the entry gates, compulsorily for the 1st time. Souvenir shops were opened at Jashipur & Pithabata respectively & fancy items bamboos, Sabai Grass materials made by local artisans, were sold to tourist for the 1st time. Measures were initiated with support from District Administration through convergence to beef up the economic condition of villagers residing within STR by planting of rubber sapling over 70 ha. in their private lands during the year. 4 professional poachers were persuaded to surrender before STR authority and brought into mainstream, in a landmark effort.

But the tempo needs to be maintained and the protection efforts need to be sustained. That alone can ensure a vibrant population of tigers back in entire Similipal landscape and ultimately in Odisha.

(Dr Anup K Nayak IFS)
Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve-
cum-Regional CCF, Baripada

**SIMULPATI FOREST RESERVE
KABUPATEN BOJONEgara**



3. PROTECTION MEASURES.

Similipal Tiger Reserve faces high anthropogenic pressure from the 68 villages within the reserve and about 1200 villages surrounding the reserve in the form of poaching, tree felling, collection of NTFP, grazing, fire, encroachment etc.

The highlights of forest protection measures during 2012-13 are as follows.

3.1 Anti-poaching camps.

94 anti-poaching camps functioned in Similipal Tiger Reserve, 63 in core and 31 in buffer area. Each camp was manned by one regular staff, either a Forester or a Forest Guard who in turn was assisted by 5 to 6 daily wage protection assistants. Patrolling details were collated at Director's office in the night each day.

3.2 Dog Squad.

An innovative action was initiated with technical help from WCCB, New Delhi to form one dog squad for the 1st time to detect poisoned site inside Similipal and to nab the poachers. For this purpose 2 dogs (one sniffer and one tracker) were purchased from Bhogadi Kennel, Hyderabad and now they are undergoing training along with 2 nos of dog handlers namely Bimala Kumar Jena and Jhantal Hansdah from Forest Guard cadre at National training Centre for Dogs (NTCD) of BSF at Tekenpur, Gwalior (MP) since 1st April 2013. Earlier, the Deputy Director, Bikash Ranjan Dash was deputed to NTCD to acquire knowledge about the formation, utility and its practical applicability in the field.

3.3 Landscape Level Patrolling.

To have more effective and fruitful protection activity to check smuggling of timber and poaching of wild animals inside Similipal landscape level forest patrolling and combing operation were conducted frequently where both core and buffer staff participated. Nineteen Ranges of STR were divided into 5 landscapes as under-

Landscape-1:- Udla, Jenabil, Nawana (s) range.

Landscape-2:- Kaptipada, Thakurmunda, Satkosia, Kendumundi and UBK Range

Landscape-3:- Pithabata (T) & (WL), Dukura and Nawana (N) range.

Landscape-4:- Bangriposi, Chahala&Bisoi range.

Landscape-5:- Gurguria, Dudhiani, Manda and National park range.

Landscape wise coordination meeting of all the core and buffer staffs were conducted bi-monthly and workshops were organized at Jashipur, Udala and Baripada on three different dates under the direct supervision of Field Director for their capacity building on wildlife laws and patrolling activities.

3.4 Coordination with police.

Landscape wise coordination meeting of Range Officers and IICs of police were organized at Jashipur, Udala and Baripada on three different occasions with participation of Field Director, STR and SP, Mayurbhanj to improve forest-police coordination in protection activities. An orientation training was organized during June, 2013 for Odisha Special Security Force deployed at Gurguria and Nawana to acquaint them with wildlife laws.

3.5 Capacity Building of Protection Assistants.

4 number of day-long Capacity building programmes were organised for the protection assistants working on daily wages in anti-poaching camps in side Similipal under the direct supervision of Field Director and Deputy Director. Local NGO "Sangram" was associated in the training programme.

3.6 Akhand Shikar.

This is a traditional method of ritualised mass hunting practice adopted by tribal living in and around Similipal. The period usually stretches from *Makar Sankranti* in January to *Raja Sankranti* in June though the peak period is around *Maha Vishubha Sankranti* in April. Following strategies were adopted to prevent *Akhand Shikar* during this year.

- Joint combing operation at regular intervals by core and buffer staff in vulnerable routes in association with Honorary Wildlife Warden.
- Flag march with police personnel in suspected villages.
- Mobilisation of staff of all the three buffer Divisions and STR core at vulnerable locations during the peak period in April for round the clock surveillance.
- Awareness of villagers and EDCs in association with NGOs and Honorary Wildlife Wardens.
- Archery Competition organized on the eve of Sankranti among tribals in 5 sensitive buffer ranges in association with local tribal NGO to dissuade the people from mass hunting practice.

Due to coordinated effort at all level, the incidents of mass hunting were prevented this year.

3.7 Monsoon Patrolling.

Special strategy was adopted for prevention of poaching and tree felling during monsoon. Combined foot patrolling in vulnerable locations and routes were carried out by core and buffer staff. Surveillance on water channels, salt licks were kept. Movement of suspected poachers in sensitive villages was monitored.

3.8 Deployment of Special Force.

20 nos able bodied local youths/ ex-army personnel were deployed at three vulnerable locations like Sarua, Gunduria and Mahavirsal in side Similipal to check intrusion of poachers and wood cutters. Movement of khadia tribes within STR was monitored.

3.9 Informer Network.

Informer network in Similipal were strengthened with support from local people and NGOs by which advance information are received helping in prevention of crime relating to poaching and wood cutting.

3.10 Synchronisation of Wireless Network.

Wireless is the only means of communication in Similipal. VHF sets of two band width, i.e., low band sets in core area stations and high band sets in buffer area stations were functioning in STR for which there was difficulty in communication between core and buffer area staff. There was also difficulty in communication with the stations of adjoining Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary. Steps were taken to synchronise communication network of Similipal core, buffer and Kuldiha Sanctuary by bringing all the stations to a single band width and frequency with support from Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project.

3.11 Inviolable Area.

The core area of Similipal Tiger Reserve is an important breeding habitat of tiger which needs to be kept absolutely undisturbed. To keep the habitat inviolable, certain areas of Upper Barakamuda, Jenabil and National Park Range were declared as "no-go" area where strict restriction were imposed on movement of all vehicles including departmental vehicles, research activities and collection of NTFP by the people. This has resulted in visible increased movement of tigers and its prey species in the area including capture of tiger cubs in trap cameras. Restrictions on collection of NTFP and constant persuasion have induced the settlers in UBK and Bahaghar to opt for relocating to outside the reserve.

3.12 Achievement in Protection.

- Incidence of *Akhand Shikar* has been completely prevented during the year.
- On 53 occasions the patrolling staff has encountered poachers and timber smugglers in inviolable core area during the year.
- 12 poachers were arrested and 2 country made guns seized in inviolable core area alone.
- 66 poachers & timber smugglers have been arrested in entire STR.
- 16 country made guns seized from poachers by the patrolling staff in entire STR .

- Seizure of five leopard skin, one RBT skin, two motor cycles, deer skin, live pangolin, mouse deer and elephant tusks during joint raids.
- More than 40 baby Rose-ringed Parakeets and 6 baby Oriental Pied Hornbills have been seized while being transported out of Similipal.
- Total 48 nos of intrusion of poachers have been thwarted due to advance information received from informers.
- The details of offence cases detected by STR (core and buffer) during the year are given below.

Name of the division	Total no of cases detected	OR	UD	No of persons arrested	Important seizure made				
					Gun	Tiger Skin	Vehicle	WL/ Trophy	Timber
STR	25	05	20	10	06	-	-	-	-
Baripada	43	26	17	43	09	Leopard skin-3, RBT-1	M/c-1	Vulture-1, mousedeer-1 deer skin-2etc	Timber-2.091 cum
Karanjia	06	06	-	06	-	Leopard skin-1	M/c-1	Pangolin-01, elephant bone tusk shaped-2	-
Rairangpur	09	08	01	07	01	-	-	Elephant tush-02	-
Total	83	45	38	66	16				

3.13. Surrender of Poachers.

For the 1st time in the history of Similipal, a hardcore poacher Dhanu Soren and his 3 other accomplices surrendered their guns on 14/3.2013 before the STR authority with a vow to leave the pernicious practice and return to the mainstream. The NGO "Sangram" had taken the role in persuading them. They have joined the work force of protection in Similipal and have been engaged as Protection Assistants in anti-poaching camps.

3.14 Use of Arms.

After naxal attack in 2009 all the arms and ammunitions of field staff were deposited in the District armory as per the directives of Govt. The arms and ammunitions have been received back from District armoury this year and issued to the Range Officers of STR core division for use in field during protection duty as detailed below. The core staff has resorted to blank firing twice to protect themselves from poachers.

Name of the arm	Number in use	No of cartridges supplied with arms
.32 Revolver	05	800
.315 Rifle	11	560
12 Bore DBBL Gun	28	1600

4. HUMAN RESOURCE

4.1 Deputation to STPF.

F & E Department notification no. IIIF(F)-63/12/5625 Dtd.14.03.2013 was issued to bring on deputation the ground level Forest Personnel less than 30 years of age (63 Forest Guards & 18 Foresters) from 4 Divisions to STPF for its early operationalisation. Accordingly a selection committee headed by Field Director initiated the process.

4.2 Retirement.

Following officials of Similipal Tiger Reserve, Baripada retired from service during this period.

- Sri Kalikinkar Kar, ACF, Karanjia Division 31.01.2013
- Sri Debendra Bai, ACF, Rairangpur Division 31.01.2013
- Sri Budhu Mahali, ACF, Baripada Division 31.01.2013
- Sri Bijay Kumar Behera, Office Superintendent 31.03.2013
- Sri Bijay Nath Marndi, Range Officer 30.04.2013
- Sri Mahadev Ghose, Sr.Clerk 31.01.2013
- Sri Mantribara Mohanta, Forester, STR Division 30.11.2012
- Sri Bhaskar Chandra Patra, Forester, STR Division 30.04.2013
- Sri Sirish Chandra Barik, Forest Guard, STR Division 31.10.2012

4.3 New Incumbents.

- Sri Narendra Kumar Nayak, Joined as A.C.F, STR on 07.11.2012
- Mrs.Ansu Pragyan Das, joined as Asst. Director, STR on 03.12.2012
- Sri Sanjay Kumar Swain, IFS Joined as DFO, Baripada on 08.05.2013
- Sri Arun Kumar Patra, Joined as ACF Baripada on 05.06.2013
- Sri Kumenda Palei, Joined as Head Clerk, STR on 11.03.2013
- Sri Debasis Mohanty, Joined as Jr.Clerk, STR on 06.06.2013
- Sri Satya Ranjan Behera, engaged as Field Biologist, STR on 01.01.2013
- Sri Manish Kumar Bakshi, engaged as GIS Analyst, STR on 10.01.2013

4.4 Staff Strength of STR as on 30.06.2013.

Sl No.	Category of Post	Sanctioned Strength	Staff in Position	Vacancy
1	C.C.F	01	01	00
2	Divisional Forest Officer/ Deputy Director	05	05	00
3	Asst. Conservator of Forests/ Asst. Director	09	03	06
4	Forest Range Officer	19	12	07
5	Forester	53	52	01
6	Forest Guard	143	131	12

5. ALLOTMENT & EXPENDITURE IN 2012-13.

Scheme	Allotment (in Lakh)	Expenditure (in Lakh)
Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme	195.540	195.540
State Plan (Wildlife)	36.689	36.689
State Plan – 13 th F.C. Grant (PCCF, Odisha)	1.25	1.25
Central Plan Scheme	9.23	9.23
Non Plan – Other Charges	6.08	6.08
Integrated Action Plan (IAP)	87.424	18.6198
CAMPA – (APO-2010-11), PCCF, Odisha (Spill over amount of 2011-12)	11.96	11.96
CAMPA – (APO-2011-12), PCCF, Odisha (Spill over amount of 2011-12)	2.78	2.74909
CAMPA – (APO-2012-13), PCCF, Odisha	2.15	-
CAMPA – (APO-2010-11), Wildlife wing (Spill over amount of 2011-12)	117.50	116.66928
CAMPA – (APO-2011-12), Wildlife wing (Spill over amount of 2011-12)	69.17	57.01582
TOTAL	539.773	455.80299

6. DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES.

During the year 2012-13 some of the important developmental works taken up in Similipal Tiger Reserve are as under:-

- * Completion of construction work of Range Officer's residence at Jashipur with the cost of Rs.2.00 lakh.
- * Completion of construction work of section office for Forester at Joranda with the cost of Rs.4.00 lakh.

- * Digging of 10 (Ten) nos of well inside Similipal Tiger Reserve (Core) with the cost of Rs. 5.00lakh.
- * Construction of 15 (Fifteen) nos Toilet inside Similipal Tiger Reserve (Core) for field staff at a cost of Rs. 6.00lakh.
- * Construction of 2 (Two) nos Garage at Chahala & Dhudruchampa Range offices for parking of four wheelers at a cost of Rs.1.00lakh.
- * Digging of 4 (Four) number of Tube well at Dhudruchama, Pithabata, Ramtirtha & Jashipur at a cost of Rs. 4.00lakh.
- * Reconstruction of WHS inside Similipal Tiger Reserve (Core) at Chahala, Dhuduram and Kairakachha.
- * Installation of 60 nos solar street lights in the villages in side Similipal.

7. CENSUS & POPULATION MONITORING.

7.1 Mid-Winter Waterfowl Census.

Mid-Winter Waterfowl Census in Mayurbhanj district was conducted in 43 water bodies comprising 3 sites at Rairangpur Division, 12 Sites in Karanjia Division and 28 sites in Baripada Division on 6th January, 2013. The census was coordinated by FD cum RCCF, Baripada himself. 5 groups were formed. About 10 bird experts were engaged. A training programme was conducted for them on 5th afternoon. About 6000 birds thronging to these water bodies were counted. Total 42 species were identified. Out of which the inter-continental winter migrant were 18 spp., where as the rest 24 spp were local migratory and resident birds. New bird spp identified this year are 1. Baer's Pochard 2. Rudy Shelduck or Brahminy Duck 3. Red-necked Grebe. These spp were not recorded in this area earlier. Most common spp were found to be Red-Crested Pochard followed by Lesser Whistling Duck, Tufted Duck, Gadwall and Little cormorant respectively.

7.2 Elephant Census.

No elephant census was conducted during the period.

7.3 Population structure of elephants in Similipal Tiger Reserve (core) during 2012.

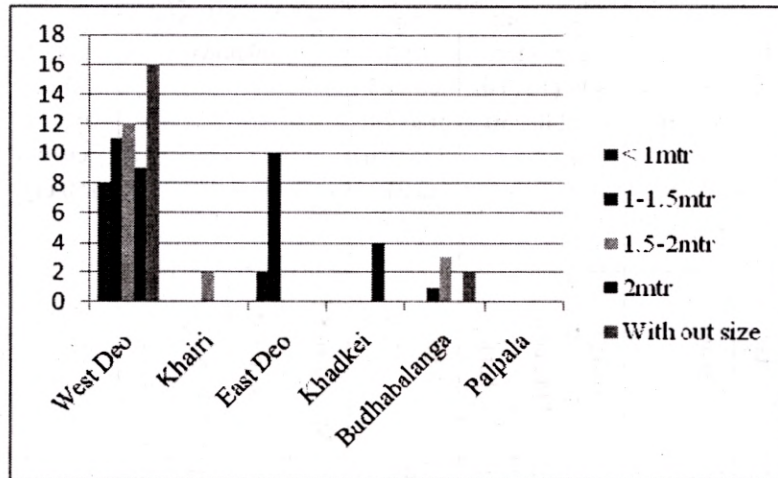
Name of Range	Adult Bulls	Adult Cows	Sub-Adult Bulls	Sub-Adult Cows	Adult/sub-Adult unknown	Juvenile	Calf	Total
UBK	07	55	10	26	00	11	23	132
Jenabil	03	25	04	06	00	05	09	52
Nawana(N)	00	08	00	01	00	01	04	14
Chahala	04	26	04	10	00	10	08	62
Nawana(S)	00	02	00	02	00	02	00	06
National park	00	09	03	03	00	03	00	18
Pithabatha	01	30	04	01	00	05	09	50
Total	15	155	25	49	00	37	53	334

Division/ Area	Adult Bulls > 8 Ft. or >240 cm			Adult Cows >7 ft or >210 cm	Sub adult bulls 5 ft to 8 ft (151 cm to 240 cm)			Sub adult cows 5 ft to 7 ft (151cm to 210 cm)	Adult – Sub adult unknown				Total Juvenile 4 ft to 5 ft (121 cm to 150 cm)	Total calf < 4 ft. or < 120 cm	Grand Total
	Tusker	Makhana	Total		Total	Tusker	Makhana		Total	Total	More than 8 ft.	7 ft. to 8 ft.			
Similipal Core	15	00	15	155	24	01	25	49	00	00	00	00	37	53	334
Baripada	05	-	05	27	00	01	01	04	-	-	-	-	05	10	52
Karanjia	03		03	01	01	-	01	11	-	-	-	-	02	05	23
Rairangp ur	04	-	04	12	06	-	06	14		01		01	02	08	47
Total	27	00	27	195	31	02	33	78	00	01	00	01	46	76	456

Elephant **Census Figure** of core and buffer during 2012.

7.4 Crocodile Census.

Survey of muggers in similipal was conducted on 21.01.2013 & 22.01.2013 to ascertain the status of muggers inside similipal Tiger Reserve. The direct sighting method was used to count the number of muggers. Different river systems were surveyed and direct sighting as well as indirect evidence such as tunnel, basking place, scute mark on the ground were collected. The body length was measured by ocular estimation during direct sighting, while the same was also estimated from the tracks of hind paw and the tail marks. The body length is equal to approximately 14x paw length and approximately 65 times the maximum distance between two lines created because of movement of tail. A total of 80 Muggers were found in six different river systems in STR. Highest number of crocodiles were found in West Deo river followed by East deo, Khadkei, Budhabalanga and Palpala river.



7.5 Muggers Sighted in different rivers of Similipal during Census Period.

River Systems	West Deo	East Deo	khairi	B.Balanga	khadkei	Palpala	Total
2012	60	07	06	-	09	-	82
2013	56	12	02	06	04	-	80

7.6. Phase-IV tiger monitoring.

7.6.1 Ungulate prey density in STR.

A 3 day transect line survey was conducted in October 2012 and April 2013 in 177 transect lines covering core as well as buffer area over entire landscape of 2750 sq km of STR for relative abundance of prey species. The division wise divide of units is as follows: STR Core- 73 units, Baripada- 28 units, Karanjia- 48 units and Rairangpur- 28 units.

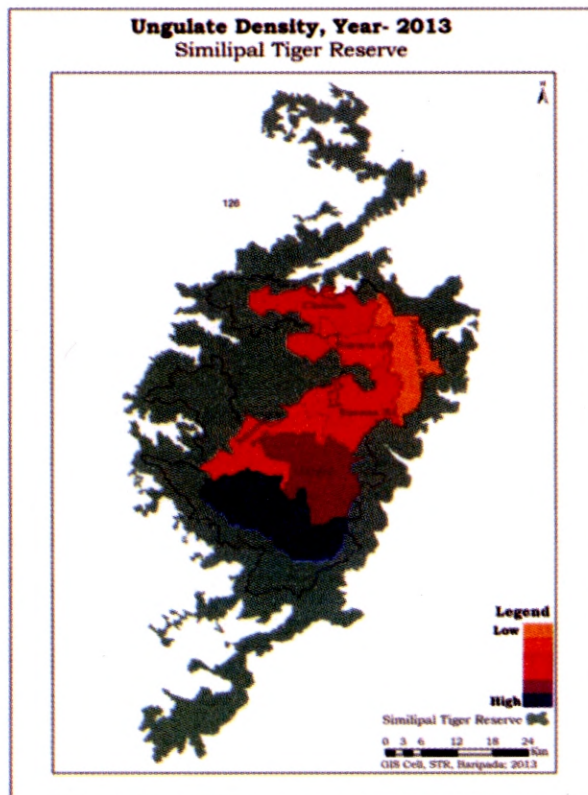
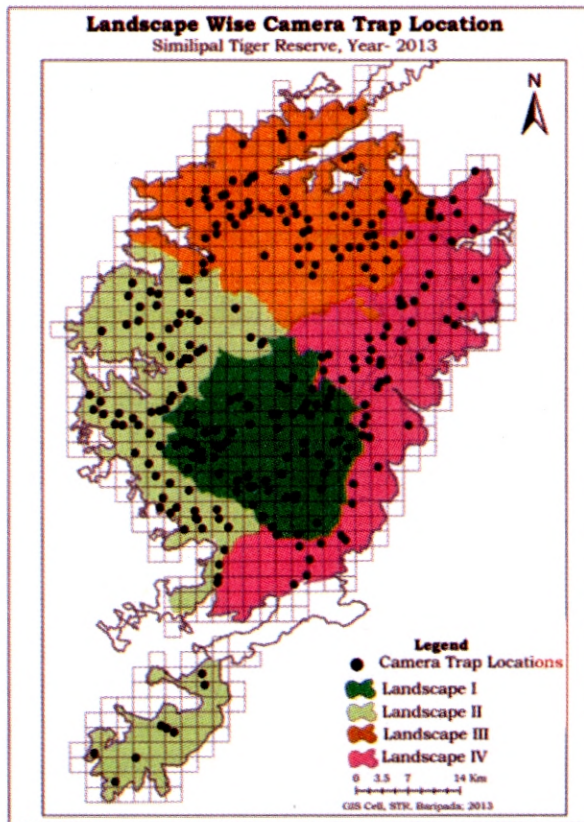
During survey period prey species were encountered along the transect lines like Sambar, Chital, Barking deer, Wild pig, Common langur, Rhesus macaque, Indian gaur, Giant squirrel and Pea fowl. The estimated over all prey population density was calculated for the STR- Core based on software DISTANCE 4.0. The prey density was found to be 6.9/Km² in post monsoon seasons (October 2012) where as 3/Km² in pre monsoon seasons (April 2013). However, available prey density is quite minimal in buffer area of tiger reserve, except Langur and Wild pig. The density was found to be 1.3/Km² in 2012. In 2013 pre-monsoon survey, Langur (n = 564) was found to be most dominant species in buffer followed by cattle (n = 322), rhesus (n = 129), barking deer (n = 50) and wild pig (n = 46).

7.6.2 Carnivore sign survey.

Similarly carnivore sign survey was conducted during October 2012 and April 2013 in 177 units covering both core and buffer areas. The division wise break up of units is as follows: STR Core- 73 units, Baripada- 28 units, Karanjia- 48 units and Rairangpur- 28 units. A total 449 and 383 carnivores signs were encountered in October 2012 and April 2013 respectively. The direct or indirect evidence of carnivores like Tiger, Leopard, Jungle cat, Wolf, Jackal, Hyena, Sloth bear were encountered. In **post monsoon survey 2012**, highest carnivore signs (n = 215) were observed in STR- Core followed by Karanjia (n = 121), Rairangpur (n = 82) and Baripada (n = 31) in that order. Out of these, 75 tiger signs were encountered in STR- Core followed by 8 signs in Rairangpur, 3 signs in Karanjia. However, no tiger signs were observed in Baripada. While in **pre-monsoon survey 2013**, carnivore signs (n = 190) were observed in STR- Core followed by Karanjia (n = 100), Rairangpur (n = 71) and Baripada (n = 22), which is less compared to post monsoon survey. Maximum 37 tiger signs were encountered in STR followed by one sign in Karanjia, one sign in Baripada. However, no tiger sign was observed in Rairangpur division. Similarly highest 93 leopard signs encountered in STR followed by 14 signs in Karanjia, 4 signs in Baripada and one sign in Rairangpur division. The tiger, leopard, jungle cat, wolf, jackal, hyena and sloth bear were encountered along the forest paths or routes in survey time. The additional species like leopard cat and ratel were observed in April 2013 survey.

7.6.3 Camera Trap study.

Based on carnivore signs presence, the areas were initially classified for placing the camera trap tools. Landscape wise camera was installed in 2 x 2 Km grid (4 Km²) of different ranges in STR as well as buffer area. In landscape I, it was decided to cover 438.2 Km² of area under UBK, Jenabil and NP ranges of STR for monitoring of tigers and its co-predators through camera trap study. Accordingly 80 cameras were placed from 15th May 2012 to 30th June 2012. In Landscape II, 650.8 Km² of area were covered for camera trapping under Gurguria, Kendumundi, Thakurmunda, Satkosia and Dudhiani ranges of Karanjia Division. 74 nos. of cameras were fixed between 17th November 2012 and 10th January 2013. In Landscape III, 605.8 Km² of area were chosen for intensive camera trapping under Bangiriposi, Manada, Bisoi, Chahala and Nawana (N) ranges. 69 nos. of cameras were fixed in the above ranges from 18th January 2013 to 6th March 2013. In Landscape IV the camera trapping is being carried out since May 2013. Initial analysis of photos captured during camera trapping days indicated the presence of tigers.(33 no. of photo captured in 17 different locations over 4 ranges), leopards(112 photographs captured in 54 different locations), leopard cats, jungle cats, hyenas, jackal, ratel, civet cats including White banded Civets, mongooses including Strip-necked Mongoose among others.



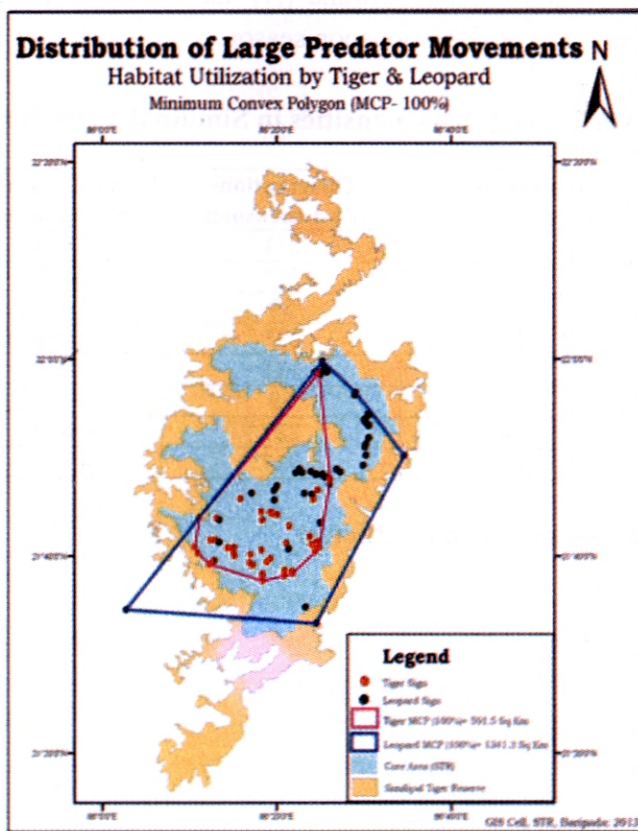
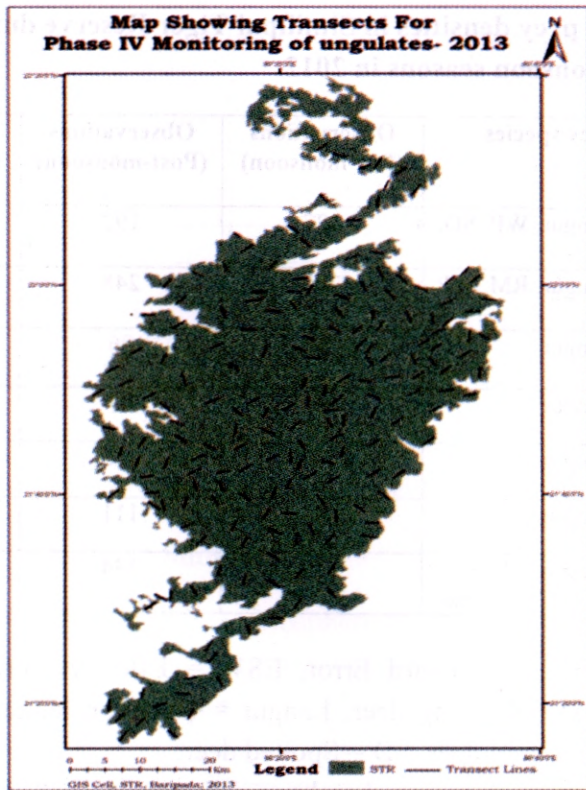


Table 1- Range wise prey densities in Similipal Tiger Reserve during their pre-monsoon and post-monsoon seasons in 2012.

Range	Prey species	Observations (Pre-monsoon)	Observations (Post-monsoon)	D±SE(km ²) Pre-monsoon	D±SE(km ²) Post-monsoon
Chahala	BD, Langur, WP, SD, MD	127	192	4.3±1.3	5.6±2
Jenabil	BD, Langur, RM, WP Sambar,	201	248	4.6±1.9	5.5±1.7
National Park	BD, Langur	52	96	3.9±1.4	6.5±1.4
Nawana (N)	BD, Langur	69	99	4.1±2.2	5.2±1.5
Nawana (S)	BD, Langur, WP	116	155	4.8±2.2	6.9±2.5
Pithabata	BD, Langur	101	111	3.9±1.7	7±1.5
UBK	BD, Langur, RM, WP, SD, MD, Sambar	230	334	5.5±1.7	5.9±1.3

D-Individual Density, SE = Standard Error, ESW = Effective Strip Width, AIC = Akaike Information Criteria, BD = Barking deer, Langur = Common langur, WP = Wild pig, RM = Rhesus macaque, MD = Mouse deer, SD = Spotted deer.

The highest number of species has been detected in UBK range followed by Jenabil, Chahala, Nawana (S), National Park, Nawana (N) and Pithabata range. However, number of sighting and density increased in post-monsoon season.

Table 2 -Seasonal variation of prey densities in Similipal Tiger Reserve, Odisha (2012).

Prey	Observations (Pre-monsoon)	Observations (Post-monsoon)	D±SE(km ²) Pre-monsoon	D±SE(km ²) Post-monsoon
Barking deer	230	211	1.6±3.2	1.6±0.4
Chital	40	36*	5± 2.2	indeterminable
Sambar	91	89	2.8±1.8	4±1.8
Mouse deer	21*	23*	indeterminable	indeterminable
Wild pig	145	131	3.2±0.7	4.8± 1
Rhesus Macaque	60	59	6 ±1.6	7±1.4
Common Langur	248	227	10.2±2	16±2.7
Overall Prey	814	717	4.9±0.6	6.9±0.8

* = Concerned species data not sufficient

Table 3- Available prey densities in buffer areas of Similipal Tiger Reserve in 2012.

Species	Observations	ESW (m)	D±SE	%CV	AIC
Barking Deer	25*		indeterminable		
Wild Pig	46	45.1	1.8 ± 2.1	26.8	105
Hare	16*		indeterminable		
Common Langur	98	33.5	2.5 ± 3.2	22.4	263.4
Pea Fowl	22*		indeterminable		
Overall Prey	144	37	1.3 ± 2.3	15	429.1

* = Concerned species data not sufficient. The available prey density is quite minimal in buffer area of tiger reserve, except Common langur and Wild pig

7.6.4 Checklist of birds of Similipal.

The checklist of birds for the biosphere reserve was constantly updated during the year and photographic documentation commenced. Satyesh Naik, Pune has come forward to assist STR in the documentation effort. Many new additions were made to the existing list like Brahminy duck, Baer's pochard and Red-necked grebe among others. So far, 361 spp have been enlisted in the biosphere reserve.

7.6.5 Inter –State Movement of Elephant in Baripada Circle during 2012.

Year	State From Where Entered	Entry Point	Herd Composition
2011	West Bengal	Dheridihi Under Rasgovindapur Range	79
2012	West Bengal	Suliapada & Rasgovindapur	115

7.6.6 Herd Composition during 2012.

Year	Adult Tusker	Adult Female	Sub-Adult Tusker	Sub-Adult Female	Juvenile	Calf
2011	08	12	14	24	17	04
2012	10	25	20	30	20	10

From last sixteen years inter-state migration of elephants has been recorded in Baripada division from neighbouring state Jharkhand and the migration involves three states such as Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha. During 2011 total 37 villages from Baripada Division and more than 20 villages from Balasore Division of Odisha were affected due to interstate migration of elephants. This migration was for a period of about one month from 10th November to 14th December 2011 with herd composition of 79 elephants. The group consisted of Adult Tusker 08, Sub-Adult tusker 14, Adult

Female 12, Sub-Adult female 24, juvenile 17 and Calf 04 nos. The herd entered through Dheridihi under Rasgovindpur Range of Baripada Division and then moved towards Betnoti Range and Balasore Wildlife Division.

In 2012, interstate migration of total 115 elephants was noticed in two phases from Suliapada to Betnoti Range within a period of one month from 10th November to 16th December 2012. In the first phase about 42 numbers of elephants reached Banakati and ghanghana and stayed at Suliapada RF near Nadhakundia which gradually increased to more than 100. Then the forest staff with the help of local villagers and other volunteers successfully drove them back to West Bengal border via Tadki-Tilojodia, Masinakati. But after some time they again came back to Suliapada RF near Nudhakundia village and gradually moved towards Betnoti Range in the second phase. The group consisted of Adult Tusker 10, Adult Female 25, Sub-adult Tusker 20, sub-adult female 30, Juvenile 20 and Calf 10.

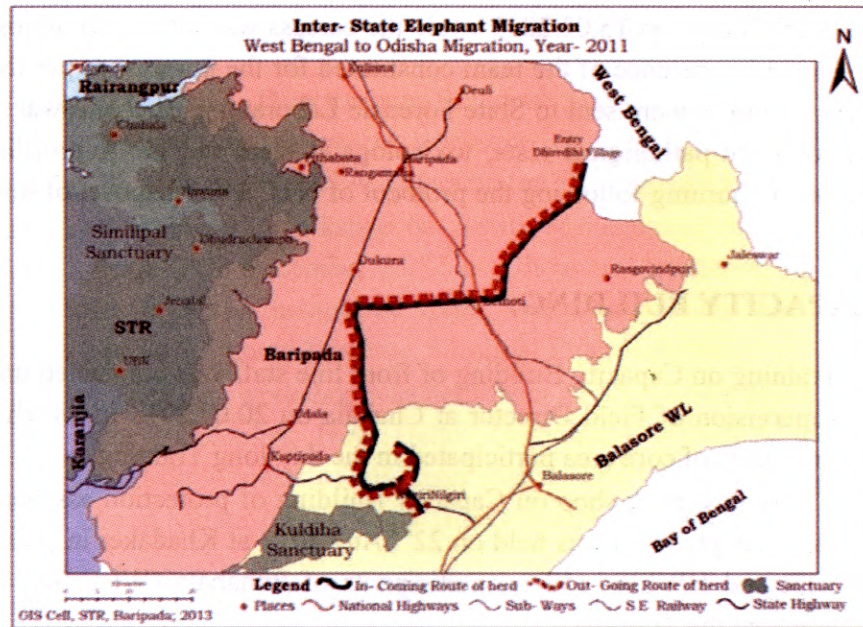
7.6.7 Man-Elephant Conflict in Baripada Circle-2012-13.

Name of The Division	Human Killed By Elephant	Human Injured By Elephant	House damage By Elephant	Compassio nate amount paid in Rs	Crop Damage By Elephant	Compassio nate amount paid in Rs	Death Of Elephant
Baripada	02	01	38	83500	471.09Ac	4711240	02
Rairangpur	01	-	-		54.624Ac		04
Karanjia	03	02	84	336000	375.555Ac	2710570	00
Balasore	03	-	159	7175260	570.37Ac	5729260	02

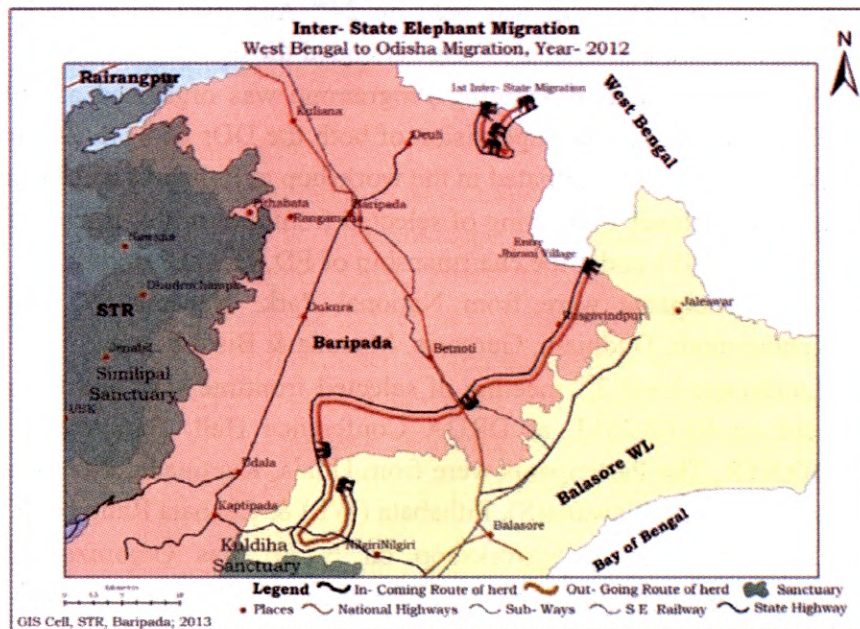
8. DEATH OF ELEPHANT DURING 2012-13.

Name of The Division	Date of Detection	Place of Detection Compt No/Range	sex	Age	Nature Of Mortality
STR	01.12.12	Lalpani nala Pithabata (WL) Range.	Male-Sub-Adult		Poaching
	11.01.13	Compt No BLW-11 Chahala Range	Female	40 Yrs	Heart failure
	20.01.13	Compt No-KH 26 Jenabil Range	Male		Pneumonia
	11.05.13	UBK Range -Matughar Beat	Female		Old Age
Rairangpur	14.12.12	Bisoi Range, TungruRF, Compt-5	Female	50Yrs	Putrefied
	18.12.12	Bisoi Range, compt no KD-4	Female	40 Yrs	Poisoning
	12.4.13	Bisoi Range, Talabandha, compt BLW-07	Female	15 Yrs	Poisoning
	19.5.13	Rairangpur range, sec-Sargada, beat-Chadeipahadi,	Female		Sun stroke
Karanjia	-	-	-	-	-
Baripada	03.10.12	Kaptipada range, sec-sarat, Beat-Sanadei, Notto RF	Unknown		Putrefied
	19.11.12	Chipat Astia village, Pithabata Range, Sec-Manchabandha	Male-sub-adult		

Inter-State Migration of Elephant During 2011.



Inter- State migration of Elephant during 2012.



9. DEATH OF TIGER.

Carcass of one female Royal Bengal Tiger was detected by the staff in Jodapal Beat of Nawana South Range on 15.02.2013 while the carcass was intact and almost fresh. Post-mortem was conducted in presence of the team constituted for the purpose as per the protocol of NTCA. The viscera samples were sent to State Forensic Laboratory, Bhubaneswar and Wildlife Institute of India for histo-pathological tests, toxicological tests and DNA profiling. The carcass was disposed off by burning following the protocol of NTCA for disposal of body parts of tigers and leopards.

10. CAPACITY BUILDING.

- Training on Capacity Building of front line staff was conducted under the guidance and supervision of Field Director at Chahala on 20.07.2013 in which more than 110 front line staffs of core area participated in the day-long Training.
- 1st.one day work shop on Capacity Building of protection assistants of Similipal Tiger Reserve, Division was held on 22nd.Aug.2012 at Khadakei in presence of FD,STR, DD STR and HWLWs.114 no participants of Pithabata (WL), Nawana(N) & Nawana(S) attended the Training.
- 2nd.one day work shop on Capacity Building of protection assistant of Similipal Tiger Reserve core Division was held on 23rd.Aug.2012 at Jenabil in presence of DD,STR. 94 no assistants and staff of Jenabil & UBK range attended the Training.
- 3rd one day work shop on Capacity Building of protection assistant of Similipal Tiger Reserve core Division was held on 24th Aug.2012 at Nuagaon.83 no participants of National park and Chahala Range attended the training.
- One day Orientation Training Programme was organised at Pithabata & Jashipur on 02.11.2012 under the supervision of both the DDs of STR. 24 and 55 Nos of Guide & Tour Operators participated in the workshop at Pithabata and Jashipur respectively .
- Landscape level 1st meeting of selected frontline staff & Range officer of STR was held on 08.01.2013 under the chairmanship of FD,STR at Jashipur.
The Participants were from National Park, Nawana (N), Satkosia, Thakurmunda, Kendumundi, Dudhiani, Gurguria, Manada & Bisoi Range.
- Landscape level 2nd meeting of selected frontline staff and Range officer of STR was held on 02.02.2013, at DRDA Conference Hall, Baripada in presence of FD and DD,STR. The Participants were from Udala, Kaptipada, Pithabata, Dukura, Bangriposi, UBK, Jenabil, Nawana(S), Pithabata (WL) & Chahala Range of STR.
- One day Training / workshop on NTFP was Organized at Nawana under the chairmanship of FD,STR on 27.03.2013. 82 Participants from 7 STR Core Ranges attended the meeting.
- One day Orientation Training Programme on Wildlife was organized at Gurguria & Nawana in the presence of DD & DD (ecotourism) STR and DFO Karanjia, on

11.06.2013 for Police official (S.P.G/Ex- Army) stationed at both these places after Maoist attack 2009.

10.1. Trainings & Workshops.

- Dr.A.K.Nayak, IFS, Field Director-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, participated in the one day follow-up workshop on future Mid-Career Training Programme for IFS officers at IGNFA, Dehradun on 18th September 2012
- A National Level Training / Workshop on Health Management of large carnivores was held on 10th to 12th December 2012 at Dheradun organized by NTCA, in collaboration with Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, which was attended by Sri.Bikash Ranjan Dash, Deputy Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve.
- A National level meeting / workshop was held from 27.05.2013 to 28.05.2013 in the Tagore Hall, Scope Complex, New Delhi, Organised by NTCA for all Field Director/Chief Wildlife Warden of all Tiger states. The meeting / workshop was attended by Dr.Anup Kumar Nayak, Field Director-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest.
- A National level meeting/ workshop on Prevention, Detection & Investigation was held from 17th to 21st December 2012 at CBI Academy Gazaibad, New Delhi organized by Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India, which was attended by Sri Sanjaya Kumar Swain, IFS, ACF, Baripada Division.

10.2 In-Service Training.

8 nos of Forest Guard of STR Division underwent their forestry training at various training institutions of Odisha during the year.

10.3. Training on Tranquilization.

- A state level training programme on tranquilization technique was held on 18.12.2012 to 19.12.2012 at Nandankanan Zoological Park. Sri Jyoti Ranjan Senapati, Forester; Md. Iqbal Khan, Forest Guard; Sri Ajit Kumar Mohanta, Elephant Inspector. of Baripada Circle participated in the training.
- A state level training programme on tranquilization technique was held on 28.05.2013 to 30.05.2013 at Nandankanan Zoological Park. Sri Jyoti Ranjan Senapati, Forester; Sri Parmeswar Mohanta, Forester; Md. Iqbal Khan, Forest Guard; Sri Ajay Kumar Naik, Forester; Hrusikesh Pradhan, Forest Guard. of Baripada Circle participated in the training.
- A Division level training programme on tranquilization technique was held on 07.06.2013 at Karanjia in which 30 no. of staff participated in the training.

- A Division level hands-on skill development programme on tranquilization technique was held on 10.06.2013 at Rairangpur for 3 members of the circle tranquilization team consisting of Mr Khan, Mr Senapai and MrMohanta.

10.4 Meetings.

- 15th Local Area Committee meeting of Similipal Biosphere Reserve was held on 3rd.July. 2012 at Office of the DFO, Baripada Division under the chairmanship of the Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Baripada. The DFOs of Mayurbhanj, and other District level officials including NGOs attended.
- District level Forest / Police Co-ordination meeting of Similipal Biosphere Reserve was conducted for the 1st time on 17th.July.2012 in Office of the Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Baripada, in which SP and all the SDPOs of Mayurbhanj District along with DFOs participated. A detailed plan was chalked out for prevention of Akhanda Shikar apart from holding of regular Sub-divisional level meeting between Range officers and IICs.
- 10th general body meeting of Similipal Eco-Tourism Society was held on 21st.July.2012 under the chairmanship of Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest at Baripada. It was decided to waive out entry application fee Re1/-from the Tourist against supply of an application form.
- Similipal Biosphere Reserve Management Council meeting for the year 2012-13 was held on 31st.July. 2013 at Odisha Secretariat Conference Hall, Bhubaneswar, under the chairmanship of Sri B.K.Patanaik , IAS Chief Secretary, Odisha, in which Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Baripada made a presentation. Management action plan for Similipal Biosphere Reserve 2012-13 was finalized in the meeting.
- Circle level Co-ordination meeting with Energy Dept. on electrocution of Elephant was held on 13.08.2012 in office of the Field Director Similipal Tiger Reserve-Cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Baripada, under his chairmanship in which Superintendent Engineer Balasore, Superintendent Engineer, Mayurbhanj Circle attended with all DFO's of Baripada Circle.
- State level DFO's conference was held from 17.08.2012 to 18.08.2012 at Secretariat Building, Bhubaneswar, which was attended by Field Director Similipal Tiger Reserve-Cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Baripada & Deputy Director Similipal Tiger Reserve.
- Meeting of DFO / ACF / Range Officers of Core/Buffer of Similipal Tiger Reserve was held on 30th.Aug.2012 at Manchabandha Central Nursery, Baripada.

- 1st meeting for identification of Eco-Sensitive zone of Similipal Sanctuary / National Park was held on 31st.Aug, 2012 at Manchabandha Central Nursery, Baripada, under chairmanship of Deputy Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve.
- 1st meeting of the Technical Committee to study strengthening the protection and enforcement measures in Similipal Tiger Reserve was held on 16th.Oct.2012 at Bhubaneswar. The meeting was attended by Field Director Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest & DFO.Baripada / Karanjia Division.
- Meeting on Issues on Similipal was held with Collector & Dist. Magistrate Mayurbhanj on 11.12.2012, at Baripada.
- 1st Sub-divisional level Co-ordination meeting of Forest and Police officials of Similipal Biosphere Reserve was held on 21.12.2012 at Jashipur in presence of both FD,STR and SP Mayaurbhanj. The meeting was attended by Range officer. National park, Gurguria, Dudhiani, Kendumundi, Thakurmunda, Satkosia, Bisoi & Manada and IIC & OIC of Jashipur, Karanjia, Thakurmunda, Mahuldiha & Bisoi Police Station.
- 2ⁿ Sub-divisional level Co-ordination meeting of Forest and Police officials of Similipal Biosphere Reserve was held on 27.12.2012 at Udala. The meeting was attended by Range officer.Udala, Kaptipada, Dukura and IIC / OIC of Udala, Kaptipada, Sarat, Khunta, Badasahi Police Station.
- 3rd Sub-divisional level Co-ordination meeting between Forest & Police official of Similipal Biosphere Reserve was held on 05.01.2013 at Baripada. The meeting was chaired by Field Director, STR along with Superintendent of Police Mayurbhanj and was attended by Range officer Pithabata (WL), Pithabata (T), Bangriposi, Rasgobindapur, Betnoti and IIC / OIC of Baripada, Bangriposi, Kuliana, Rasgobindapur, Betnoti Police Station.
- 16th .local committee of Similipal Biosphere Reserve was held on 22.01.2013 at o/o the D.F.O, Baripada Division. For the 1st time A.D.M. Mayurbhanj have attended the meeting for collector & District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj, who is a member of the said committee. It was decided to include vice-chairman, Zilla Parishad of Mayurbhanj District and Miss.Sanjukta Basa, chairperson, SANGRAM, as member of local committee.
- 22.04.2013 a meeting of the stakeholders was held for finalization of Eco-Tourism plan for Similipal Tiger Reserve in the O/O Field Director Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional CCF, Baripada
- 27.06.2013 Similipal Biosphere Management Council meeting for the year 2013-14 was successfully conducted under the chairmanship of Sri Jugal Kishor Mohapatra, IAS, Development Commissioner-Cum-Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha at conference Hall of Planning & Co-ordination Department, Secretariat Building on 27.06.2013. Management Action Plan for Similipal Biosphere Reserve 2013-14 was finalised in the meeting.

- A meeting of DFO/ACF/Range Officer of Core & Buffer area of Similipal Tiger Reserve was held at Manchabandha Central Nursery, Baripada on 18.06.2013.
- 11th. General Body of Similipal Eco-Tourism Society was held on 18th June, 2013 under the Chairmanship of Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve-cum-Regional Chief Conservator of Forest, Baripada at Baripada.

11. Tiger Conservation Plan.

A comprehensive Tiger Conservation Plan for protection and management of Similipal Tiger Reserve and its adjoining area for the period from 2013-14 to 2022-23 was prepared as per the guidelines issued by NTCA. Prior to formulation of the plan, a series of consultation meetings were organised with various stake holders to seek their opinions. Threadbare discussion was held with forest officials and the plan was finalised. The plan, after scrutiny and discussion by PCCF (Wildlife), Odisha, was sent to NTCA for approval.

12. RESEARCH ACTIVITY.

12.1. Research works undertaken in similipal Biosphere Reserve during the Year 2012-13.

SL No	Activity	Year	Conducted by	Report Submitted or Not
1	Survey of 11 villages in STR for their dependency on non timber forest products .	Since Aug 2012	FD cumRCCF, Baripada.	ongoing
2	Diversity Assessment and Documentation of Pteridophytes of Similipal Biosphere Reserve, Odisha.	1 st April 2011-31 st Dec 2012	Institute of minerals & materials Technology (CSIR), BBSR.	Final Report Submitted.
3	Mass propagation and Reintroduction of <i>Eria meghasaiensis</i> an endemic & threatened orchid of Similipal Biosphere Reserve.	2012-13	Regional Plant Resource Center.	Progress Report Submitted
4	A survey of Birds of prey with Special reference to Gyps vultures in similipal Tiger reserve.	28 th March- 2 nd April	BNHS	Report Submitted.
5	Camera Trap survey of Cryptic and nocturnal fauna of STR like Civet, Leopard cat and Rattle	2011-12	North Odisha university	Report not submitted
6	A study on prey-base & their influence on Tiger distribution pattern in STR.	2011-12	North Odisha university	Report not submitted.
7	Economic Analysis of Biodiversity Conservation. The case of Similipal Biosphere Reserve in Odisha, India.	2012	IIT,Kharagpur	On going
8	Prey distribution and its density in STR	2012-13	FD cumRCCF, Baripada	submitted
9	Food pattern of tigers in Similipal through scat analysis	2012-13	FD STR	submitted
10	Photographic database of fauna of Similipal	2012-13	FD cumRCCF, Baripada	submitted
11	Data on MFP products collected in 10 villages adjoining core of STR	2012-13	FD cumRCCF, Baripada	Ongoing
12	Photographic documentation of birds of Similipal	2012-13	FD STR	Ongoing
13	Photo album of individual tigers of Similipal	2012-14	FD STR	Ongoing

12.2 Findings on survey of vultures by BNHS.

During the present survey there were seventeen sightings of seven species of raptors. There was an alarming decline in populations of raptors from 1993 (Samant *et al.* 1995) both in protected as well as surrounding areas. The encounter rate of Crested Serpent-eagle was 18.9 km/raptor while for oriental Honey-buzzard it was 54km/raptor in 1993 but it was 260km/raptor for Crested Serpent eagle and 390.5/raptor for Oriental Honey Buzzard during 2013 when both protected area and adjoining areas were considered in both surveys. It could be an indication of deterioration of habitat in adjoining areas and the effect of the pesticide and insecticide poisoning in the nearby agriculture fields.

12.3 Interim Findings of RPRC on study of *Eria meghasaniensis* Orchids.

Altogether, 35 Plants were identified. It was found that the average lengths of plants were 7-15 cm. The seed size also very small it seems to be of 1mm in length and 0.2mm in diameter. The capsules were surface sterilized and seeds were dusted on different nutrient medium. Effect of different growth regulators on the germinations and seedling development were studied. Effects of cold treatment and different light intensity on seed germination were studied. From the observations, it is clearly evident that the seeds are extremely slow in germination.

12.4 Findings of study on Food Pattern of Tigers through Scat analysis by Field Director, STR

Tiger scat analysis was carried out to estimate the proportion of different prey species consumed by tiger. 20 Sample scats of tigers were collected from the study area between February 2012 and June 2012 within an area of approximately 1195 km². Most (82%) contained more than two prey items and while the remainder contained (18%) single prey. The most commonly represented prey species was sambar (34.1%), followed by barking deer (21.9%), wild pig (17.1%), common langur (14.6%), chital (9.8%) and mouse deer (2.5%). In terms of prey biomass contribution, Sambar contributed the maximum (62.91%) followed by barking deer (11.53%), wild pig (9.49%), common langur (7.56%), chital (7.46%) and mouse deer (1.03%).

13. RELOCATION DRIVE.

- ACF,STR held monthly meeting with the rehabilitated villagers at Amdiha in an effort to ascertain and solve difficulties faced by the villagers.
- Process for settlement of rights for Jenabil villagers under FRA already rehabilitated at Amdiha was initiated with the help of Revenue officials for regularization.
- FD,STR and Collector, Mayurbhanj discussed with villagers at Jamuna and UBK for their relocation.

- Field verification for settling the rights under FRA was completed expeditiously in respect of UBK and Bahaghar settlements as well as for Kabataghai, Jamuna and Bakua villages.

14. FRIENDS OF SIMILIPAL TIGERS.

An innovative programme has been launched in Similipal Tiger Reserve namely "Friends of Similipal Tigers" since July-2012 to create a group of volunteers from among the School & Colleges around the Tiger reserve on the "catch them young" principle.

- Around 300 applications were received from 12 nos of institutions (School/College).
- 1st introductory meeting was held on 02.09.2012 at Sri Maa Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Baripada with a thorough interactive discussion on Food, Biology, Home range and Threats of Similipal Tigers.
- 43 selected students were taken for a field tip inside the Tiger Reserve on 18.11.2012.
- On 5th.June 2013 world Environment Day was observed with 20 volunteers (boys/Girls) of friend of Similipal Tigers distributing Stickers / Cards among Vehicle / Passersby on Main Road of Baripada Town.

15. ECO-TOURISM INITIATIVES.

The reserve remained open to visitors from 9th November to 30th June. Only 60 vehicles were allowed to enter through two entry gates i.e. Pithabata and Jashipur. Gate keepers at all the check gates along the tourist route were given uniform jackets with inscription of STR to give a unique feeling amongst the tourists. A record number of 24945 tourists visited the reserve during 2012-13 and fetched Department Rs.20.38 lakh, out of which Rs 8.56 lakh was deposited with Govt treasury as revenue and rest accrued to SES. Introduction of e-reservation system was initiated for the visitors. Well trained Eco-guide with every tourist vehicle was made compulsory. An eco-tourism plan for development of potential sites around STR was prepared in consultation with stakeholders like tour operators, hoteliers, Tourism officials and submitted to PCCF on 09/05/2013

Better sighting of wild animals were recorded along the tourist circuit particularly at Bhajam and Chahala. Even Leopards were reported to have been sighted a few times during the year at both these places. Signages were placed at many places along the route indicating presence of animals and other tourist attractions for better appreciation of tourists. Souvenir shops at Jashipur & Pithabata were opened for selling of fancy items made up of Bamboo, and Sabai grass. Paper bags were sold at the two entry gates in exchange of poly bags.

Elephant ride was introduced for the 1st time at Gurguria with Kunki Elephants Mahendra, Shobha, Bhabani & Rajkumar alongwith Sibani, which was at the centre of tourist attraction during the year. Rs 72000 revenue was earned from this activity alone during the year. However due to restriction imposed by Sate Govt on movement of foreign tourists in Primitive Tribe Group areas during the year, the number of foreigners were reduced.

15.1 Visitor Profile.

Year	India	Foregin	Total	Revenue Collected in Rs.
2010-11	9663	49	9712	6,84,020
2011-12	13709	83	13792	13,36,450
2012-13	24452	43	24495	20,38,052

15.2 Sightings.

Date	Place	Time	Who sighted	Animals sighted
5/12	Chahala	1830	CWLW,Odisha	1 leopard
6/12	Patbil	1700	Relocation committee	Tiger
6/12	Chahala	1600	Saroj Behera,Otv	1 leopard
12/12	Bhajam	700	Raju guide with Tourists	1 leopard
2/13	Patbil	1800	ORSAC	Tigress with 3 cubs
2/13	Chahala	600	RPRC scientists	Sambar
3/13	Matughar	1730	CCF(KL)	Tiger
5/13	Chahala	1400	Smt Hembram Minister,handloom	A herd of 100 chitals

15.3 Ramathirtha.

84900 day visitors were reported at Ramtirtha during the tourism year 2012-13. One unfortunate incident was also reported, in which one visitor from Jarkhand staying in the complex died by drowning in the Khairi River.

15.4 Devkund.

It is a tourist place within the buffer area of Similipal Tiger Reserve having religious significance. During the year, as many as 96106 no. of tourists visited the place and Rs 3,50,150 earned towards entry fees from 6712 no of vehicles.

15.5. Similipal Ecotourism Society (SES).

The SES was formally registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 having the registration Number-Mbj-7783-63 of 2006-07 on dt.21.12.2006. The 10th & 11th General Body meeting of SES was held on 21.07.2012 & 18.06.2013 at Salbani Forest House under the chairmanship of F.D.,STR -Cum-R.C.C.F, Baripada.

An amount of Rs.17,69,448/- was spent during the year 2012-13. The main work component of the year was Construction of Souvenir Shop at Ramtirtha, Construction of Platform for 4 nos. tented accommodation at Jamuani, Renovation of water Tank at Ramtirtha and Renovation of Timber House at Bareipani. For management of tourists

facility at Ramthirtha and Gurguria, T.K.International pvt ltd was outsourced through a transparent tendering process for 2 years from 11/2012.The annual fees was raised from Rs 40000 to Rs 1, 00,000 payable to SES. Income of the SES during the year 2012-13 was Rs.13,70.807/- and the source of income was mainly from entry fee, accommodation charges and Bank interest. An amount of Rs.54, 50,298/- was available with the SES at the end of the financial year 2012-13.

16. STAFF WELFARE.

Following measures were taken for the welfare of staff residing within STR.

- The hostels constructed during 2010 were made habitable by providing water supply etc and put to use by allocating the same amongst the deserving staff for keeping their families at Jashipur and Baripada respectively.
- A landmark decision was taken in the Governing Body Meeting of SES and Rs1 lakh was earmarked for meeting medical expenses of staff including the Protection Watchers staying in the core areas of STR.
- Medicated quality Mosquito nets were provided to all the staff residing in STR core. Out of 400 numbers, 250 number of nets were donated by M/S Lal Traders, Badampahad.
- 150 number of quality blankets were given away in collaboration with Ms Lal Traders, Badampahad and Mr P.K.Mohanty, Cuttack during the advent of winter.
- TA bills and Medical bills of all staff staying within core were cleared.

17. RESCUE AND RELEASE OF WILD ANIMAL.

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Range	Place of Rescue	Date of rescue	Date of Rehabilitation	Place of Release	Name Of Animals
1	Baripada	Bangriposi	Chandanpur	9.7.2012	9.7.2012	Bidhubhandar PRF	Python
2	Baripada	Kaptipada	Nuasahi village	10.7.2012	10.7.2012	Nachhipur RF	Banded Krait
3	Baripada	Pithabata	Murgabadi,	14.07.2012	15.07.2012	Barah Kamuda	Owl
4	Baripada	Dukura	Purunapani	15.7.2012	-	expired	Mouse deer
5	Baripada	Bangriposi	Chandanpur	24.7.2012	25.7.2012	Bidhubhandar PRF	Python
6	Baripada	Udala	Bhudrubani	6.8.2012	6.8.2012	ED-8	Banded Krait
7	Baripada	Udala		11.8.2012	12.08.2012	ED-8	Banded Krait
8	Baripada	Bangriposi	Kanchhinda	15.8.2012	15.8.2012	Bidhubhandar PRF	Python
9	Baripada	Kaptipada	Kaptipada Chhak	19.8.2012	19.8.2012	Notto RF	Banded Krait
10	Baripada	Kaptipada	Kaptipada Chhak	19.08.2012	19.08.2012	Notto RF	Banded Krait
11	Baripada	Bangriposi	Simila Chhak	20.08.2012	21.8.2012	Bidhubhandar PRF	Python
12	Baripada	Bangriposi	Dahisahi village road	21.08.2012	21.8.2012	Bidhubhandar PRF	Python
13	Baripada	Kaptipada	Sono river	29.08.2012	29.08.2012	Similipal Sanctuary (Manbhanga Nato)	Python
14	Baripada	Kaptipada	Kaptipada near Sone river	29.08.2012	29.8.2012	Similipal RF near Manbhanga	Python

15	Baripada	Udala	Hrusikesh rout of Radha	06.09.2012	6.9.2012	ED-8	Python
16	Baripada	Bangriposi	Tangiabasa village	27.09.2012	27.09.2012	Bidhubhandar PRF	Python
17	Baripada	Pithabata	Children park Baripada	02.10.2012	02.10.2012	Balidiha RF	Rhesus macaque-2nos.
18	Baripada	Kaptipada	Dhansole village	10.10.2012	12.10.2012	Inside Similipal RF	Indian cobra
19	Baripada	Pithabata	Dhansole village	10.10.2012	12.10.2012	Inside Similipal RF	Indian cobra
20	Baripada	Pithabata	Mahua hotel, Baripada	11.10.2012	12.10.2012	Inside Purunapani RF	Indian cobra
21	Baripada	Pithabata	Ambika Mandir, Baripada	14.10.2012	14.10.2012	Inside Purunapani RF	Indian cobra
22	Baripada	Kaptipada	Ambika Mandir, Baripada	14.10.2012	14.10.2012	Inside Purunapani RF	Indian cobra
23	Baripada	Udala	near Kuanrpal	17.10.2012	18.10.2012	died on 18.10.12	Black-shouldered kite
24	Baripada	Pithabata	Palbani, Baripada	03.11.2012	04.11.2012	Similipal RF	Chameleon
25	Baripada	Kaptipada	Rangamatia (Nedam)	04.11.2012	04.11.2012	Similipal Sanctuary (Notto RF)	ground turtle
26	Baripada	Udala	Ward No.01 Bandhasahi	08.11.2012	09.11.2012	Similipal RF Compt. No.ED-8	Chamelion
27	Baripada	Kaptipada	Patpur village	10.12.2012	10.12.2012	Similipal Sanctuary (Bada Ghagara)	Sambar
28	Baripada	Kaptipada	Sarisua village	12.12.2012	12.12.2012	Nalakanja	Banded Krait
29	Baripada	Pithabata	Jaldiha	19.01.2013	19.01.2013	Handed over to Bisoi Range Officer	Parakeets
30	Baripada	Pithabata	Sirisbani chhak	29.01.2013	29.01.2013	Handed over to Bisoi Range Officer	Parakeets
31	Baripada	Dukura	Chauliasole	31.01.2013	02.02.2013	Similipal Tiger Reserve	Black cobra
32	Baripada	Udala	Kantisahi village	19.02.2013	19.02.2013	Kuldiha Sanctuary	Spotted deer
33	Baripada	Pithabata	Takatpur plantation	22.02.2013	03.03.2013	Chahala , STR	Pariah Kite
34	Baripada	Ras Govindpur	River Sana nai near village Pudapada.	03.03.2013	03.03.2013	River Sana nai near village Pudapada.	Banded Krait
35	Baripada	Udala	Bhimali	11.03.2013	12.03.2013	Chahala	Sand Boa
36	Baripada	Deoli	Near Dharampur village	06.04.2013	06.04.2013	Chahala	Spotted deer
37	Karanjia	Gurguria	Birasingh Ho, Kaptira, Jashipur.	29.7.2012	29.07.2012	Comptt. No.KH22 of Ransa Beat	Pangolin
38	Karanjia	Karanjia	Singda	03.03.2013	03.03.2013	National Park Range, Compt. NO.KH-22	Spotted deer
39	Karanjia	Dudhiani	Nadagadhia	04.03.2013	04.03.2013	Palashgadha R.F. of Dudhiani Range	Banded Krait
40	Karanjia	Thakurmunda	Village Mituani	02.06.2013	02.06.2013	2nos. sent to Nandankana Zoo	Hornbill chick 4 nos.
41	Karanjia	Thakurmunda	Nakipal village	15.06.2013	15.06.2013	Noto RF	Wild boar
42	Karanjia	Karanjia	Galusahi	17.06.2013	17.06.2013	Chandiabill RF .	Python
43	Karanjia	Dudhiani, Tato	Near village Gidhibas	27.06.2013	-	-	2 nos. Pied Hornbill
44	Rairangpur	Manada	Allhapani	08.10.2012	08.10.2012	Similipal Sanctuary	Python
45	Rairangpur	Bisoi	Baripada Division	06.03.2013	18.03.2013	Chahala	Parakeet 25nos.

46	Rairangpur	Bisoi	Kendumara	19.05.2013	19.05.2013	Bidubhandar D.P.F.	Python
47	Rairangpur	Bisoi	Block office , Bisoi.	22.06.2013	3.06.2013	Bidubhandar P. R. F.	Banded krait ,
48	Rairangpur	Bisoi	Katas village	24.06.2013	24.06.2013	Bidubhandar RF	Banded krait

ABSTRACT

Sl. No.	Name of Species	Nos. of rescued animal	Name of Range
1.	Rose ringed Parakeets	42	Pithabata/ Bangripsi
2.	Python	12	
3.	Banded krait	10	
4.	Cobra	5	
5.	Spotted deer	3	
6.	Chameleon	2	
7.	Oriental pied Hornbill	6	Dudhiani/ Thakurmunda
8.	Black cobra	1	Dukura
9.	Rhesus macaque	1	Pithabata
10.	Kite	2	
11.	Owl	1	Pithabata
12.	Sand boa	1	Udala
13.	tortoise	1	Kaptipada
14.	Sambar	1	Kaptipada
15.	Pangolin	1	Gurguria
16.	Mouse deer	1	Dukura
17.	Wild boar	1	Thkakudmunda
Total		91	

18. CIRCLE TRANQUILIZATION TEAM.

A circle level tranquilization team was constituted with the following staff for operation of tranquilization gun etc. to capture problem animals to prevent wildlife depredation.

1. Sri Jyotiranjana Senapati, Forester, Baripada Division
2. Sri Parameswar Mohanta, Forester, Karanjia Division
3. Sri Ajit Kumar Mohanta, Elephant Inspector
4. Md. Iqbal Ahmed, Forest Guard, Rairangpur Division

The above staff underwent tranquilization training held at Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubaneswar from time to time. The team was deputed under leadership of ACF, STR for control of problematic bears in Nilagiri and Jaleswar Range in Balasore WL Division.

19. AWARENESS MEASURES.

a. Archery Competition.

Archery competitions were organized among tribal youth in different fringe villages in 5 ranges around Similipal during 10th April to 15th April, 2013 in association with local tribal NGOs to dissuade the villagers from going to Similipal for Akhand Shikar.

b. Similipal Mahotsav.

Similipal Mahotsava was organized at Durdura village on 04.03.2013 in a coordinated effort of Zilla Prishad Member, local PRI Members, local committees of Jashipur Block and Administration to create awareness among people for conservation of Similipal. Field Director and Deputy Director addressed the gathering on the occasion.

c. Meeting with PRIs.

A series of meetings were held at Jashipur, Baripada, Barehipani and Gurguria with the PRI Members of the three GPs inside Similipal namely, Astakuanr, Gurguria and Barehipani to gain the confidence of the villagers by addressing their socio-economic issues and involving them in protection of Similipal. 90 Solar street lights were fixed in these GPs in consultation.

d. Awareness programme with WTI.

Satyanarayan Das, Honorary Wildlife Warden of Mayurbhanj District in collaboration with Wildlife Trust of India organized awareness programmes and health camps in fringe villages of Similipal under Karanjia Division. A number of poachers vowed to stop the pernicious practice of killing wild animals during these awareness programmes.

e. Monthly G.P.meetings.

As per directives of the Govt, Pallisabha is being held in each Gram Panchayat twice a month, i.e, on 1st and 16th. Efforts were made to have a discussion with the villagers on protection of Similipal in each Pallisabha held in the three GPs in side Similipal. Ms. Sanjukta Basa, Honorary Wildlife Warden of Mayurbhanj has taken the lead to attend Pallisabha along with Forest Department staff for such discussion.

f. EDC revival.

Steps were taken to revive the existing 161 Eco Development Committees constituted in three buffer Divisions of Similipal in association with Honorary Wildlife Wardens and local NGOs.

g. Awareness in villages.

Awareness programmes were organized in association with the NGO "SPARDA" in Chakidi area under Bangiriposi Range which is very sensitive from timber cutting and poaching point of view.

h. Gram Swaraj.

The organization conducted awareness programmes and Cycle Rallies in Ghatkumari area to create awareness on protection of Similipal. The organization had also organized workshop on the occasion of World Environment Day with participation of Public Representatives, PRI Members, Village Committees, Honorary Wildlife Wardens, Govt Officials and Media.

i. Awareness in Schools.

Awareness programmes were organized in Badkhaman High School in the fringe area of Similipal in association with the NGO "STARR" with participation of students and their parents of nearby schools with subsequent follow up programmes. Similar programmes have been organized in Patsanipur high School in association with Dr. Ramakanta Mohanta, District Coordinator, Eco Club.

j. Quiz Competition.

Inter School/College quiz Competition on Wildlife was held on the occasion of 58th Wildlife week 2012 on 7th Oct.2012 at DRDA Conference Hall, Baripada .20 students from 6 Schools & 4 Colleges participated in the competition conducted by Dr.Anup Kumar Nayak, IFS, Field Director, Similipal Tiger Reserve.

- Team of MKC High School and St.Anne's Convent, Baripada stood 1st. respectively in School & College category.
- Honorable Maharaja Sj.Praveen Chandra Bhanja Deo, MLA, Moroda graced the occasion, distributed prizes to the winners and launched the Annual Report of STR 2012-13 (July-June).
- Sanctuary Cub Magazine was subscribed for one year for 4 Schools namely, St. Anne's Convent, MKC High School, Sri Satyasai Vidyavihar & Bhanjpur High School as a token a gift from Similipal Tiger Reserve to sensitize the students on wildlife.

k. Radio Programme.

A radio programme called "*Similipal Swara*" sponsored by Similipal Tiger Reserve was broadcasted in All India Radio, Baripada from October, 2012 to June, 2013 where resource persons from Forest Department, Honorary Wildlife Wardens, Social Workers, Teachers discussed on various issues relating to Similipal.

20. INVOLVEMENT OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

20.1 Kherwal Uthnon Foundation.

This organization conducted Archery Competition among tribal in association with Forest Department to dissuade the villagers from going for *Akhand Shikar*.

20.2 SANGRAM.

The organization was associated with all the Divisions of Similipal Tiger Reserve in detection of offences, intelligence collection and capacity building of frontline staff, awareness of villagers and revival of EDCs.

20.3 STARR.

A series of awareness meetings for the students their parents were organized at Badakhaman and Ananthapur in Kaptipada Range by this NGO in association with STR.

20.4 SPARDA.

This organization conducted awareness programmes for 13 number of villages in a sensitive area called Chakidi under the supervision of Sh Narendra Naik, ACF.

20.5 Indian Grameen Services.

This organization has come up with programmes for capacity building of local villagers at Jamuani to involve them in eco-tourism activities.

20.6 Wildlife Trust of India.

The organization in association with the Honorary Wildlife Warden Sri Satyanarayan Das conducted health camps and awareness programmes in fringe villages of Similipal under Karanjia Forest Division.

20.7 Wild Orissa.

Participated in the 8 day long sign survey conducted from 22/4/13 to 27/4/13 in Podadiha. They also participated in the elephant census conducted during 6/12.

21. RUBBER PLANTATION IN BUFFER VILLAGES.

Measures were initiated with support from District Administration through convergence to beef up the economic condition of villagers residing within STR by planting of rubber sapling over 70 ha of private land at Bareipani during the year.

22. BAN ON INSECTICIDES IN STR.

A ban was imposed vide FD's O.O. no 2425 dated 22/06/13 on use of highly poisonous insecticide like Themete and Monochrotophos (red label) in side Similipal and their transport to Similipal which were often used for killing wild animals by the villagers. Agriculture and Horticulture Department officials were requested to promote use of organic pesticides and manure in the crop fields in side Similipal.

23. NEW FORENSIC LABORATORY AT STR.

For the first time forensic lab was established in STR office during January 2013. Initially six permanent mounting slides were prepared from the hairs obtained from seized animals. The tissue samples from the flesh of seized Barking deer were used in preparation of slide for further DNA analysis.

Signatures of following animals were prepared from their hair in the laboratory:

Sl. no	Date	Species	Sex	Range	Place
1	01.01.13	Leopard	Un known	Udala	Baniabasa
2	15.02.13	Tiger	Female	Nawana (S)	Jodapal
3	17.03.13	Langur	Un known	Dukura	Dukura
4	17.03.13	Giant squirrel	Un known	Dukura	Dukura
5	01.05.13	Barking deer	Un known	Kaptipada	Badakhman
6	15.05.13	Barking deer	Un known	Kaptipada	Kuldihi

24. GIS LABORATORY UPGRADED.

The GIS Laboratory of STR was upgraded with softwares and engagement of a full time efficient GIS analyst on contractual basis. GIS lab was utilized to its fullest extent and following works were carried out during the year

- Corrected GIS map of Similipal Tiger Reserve showing the part of Hadgarh Sanctuary within the TR after due verification of the notification and consultation with concerned D.F.O.s
- Corrected GIS map of Similipal Sanctuary with respect to notification
- GIS map of Similipal Biosphere Reserve
- GIS map of Baripada Circle showing Divisions and Ranges
- Monitoring of tiger signs in GIS domain

25. VISIT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

- **19.11.2012 to 22.11.2012:** Visit of Technical Committee on strengthening the protection and enforcement measures in Similipal under the Chairmanship of S.J. Saroj Kumar Pattanaik, former CWLW, Odisha.
- **23.11.12 to 25.11.2012:** Visit of Appraisal Team on centrally sponsored scheme constituted by NTCA, consisting of Dr. Khageswar Naik, Retd. CCF, MP, Dr. Urmila Pingle and Ravi Kiran Goverkar, AIG, NTCA, Nagpur.
- **31.01.2013 to 01.02.2013:** Visit of standing committee of Odisha Legislative Assembly under the chairmanship of Mr. Prafulla Mallick, MLA to Chahala, Bareipani and Joranda.
- **18.02.13 to 20.02.2013:** Dr. P.S. Easa, expert member of Technical committee for strengthening Protection & Enforcement measures of Similipal Tiger Reserve visited Similipal.
- **03.05.2013:** Visit of standing committee of Odisha Legislative Assembly to Similipal Tiger Reserve under the chairmanship of Sri. Ananta Das, MLA.

26. OFFICIALS WHO VISITED STR.

- **26.09.2012 to 28.09.2012:** Mr. Sangram Keshari Behera, Mr. Ramaswamy P. & Mr. Santosh Joshi. IFS probationers of Odisha cadre.
- **06.12.2012 to 09.12.2012:** C.E.E. Team from Ahmedabad.
- **08.12.2012 to 09.12.2012:** Sri. Suresh Chandra Mohapatra, IAS, Principal Secretary, water resources.
- **19.12.2012 to 20.12.2012:** Dr. B.K. Nanda, Consultant OFSDP, Odisha,
- **22.12.2012 to 23.12.2012:** Dr. Sudarsana Panda, Director, Nandankanan.
- **24.12.2012 to 25.12.2012:** Sri Binay Kumar Behera, IPS, Addl. D.G.
- **25.12.2012:** Mr. Kamalakanta Nayak, MLA, Jashipur,
- **21.01.2013 to 22.01.2013:** Mr. Jugal Kishor Mohapatra, IAS, Principal Secretary, Development Cum Addl. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha & Dr. Arabindha Padhee, IAS, RDC, Central zone, Cuttack.
- **01.02.2013 to 04.02.2013:** Mr. D.K. Rout and Smt. Choudhury Sobhabati Devi, Scientist, ORSAC, BBSR.
- **17.02.2013 to 18.02.2013:** Ranger Trainees of Madhya Pradesh Forest Rangers College, Ballaghat,

- 21.02.2013 to 22.02.2013: Forest Ranger Trainees of Andhra Pradesh Forest Academy, Hyderabad .
- 28.02.2013 to 29.02.2013: Mr.Ravikiran Goverkar, DIG, NTCA.
- 02.03.2013: Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha to Similipal Tiger Reserve (Jashipur).
- 13.03.2013 to 14.03.2013: Mr.Prabhakara Behera, IFS. CCF (KL).
- 11.05.2013 to 14.05.2013: Sri P.N.Padhi, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Odisha.
- 19.05.2013 to 20.05.2013: Sri J.D.Sharma, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife).
- 08.06.2013 to 09.06.2013: Mr.Bijay Kumar Patanaik, IAS, Chief Secretary, Odisha, visited Similipal Tiger Reserve and inaugurated fall view Cottage at Barehipani on 9th.June.2013.

27. OBITUARY.

1. Sri Sanatan Badra, a Protection Assistant working in Upper Barakamuda camp of UBK Range was killed by a wild elephant on 14.11.2012 while he was on duty.
2. Sri Rama Chandra Murmu, a Protection Assistant working in Khadkei camp of Nawana North Range died on 23.06.2013 while he was undergoing treatment for cerebral malaria at Cuttack.

The Annual report has been prepared with inputs from Bikash Ranjan Dash, Deputy Director, Narendra Kumar Naik, ACF, Dilip Kumar Jena,R.O, Ugrasena Jena, R.O, Dharani dhara Mahakud, Satyaranjan Behera,Field Biologists, Sandeep Ranjan Mishra,Research Fellow, Manish Bakshi,GIS Analyst and others.



Routine joint patrolling by core and buffer staff



Surrender of three hard core poachers before STR Authority on 14.03.2013



Arrest of poachers with leopard skin in Udala on 02.02.2013.



Seizure of a very old tiger skin at Baripada on 22.08.2012



Camera trapped Leopard in STR



Exposure visit to Chahala by volunteers of Friends of Similipal Tigers.



Volunteers of 'Friends of Similipal Tigers' at work



Visit of Standing Committee of OLA to STR



Archery Competition among Tribals organised on 16.04.13

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