

Dear Colleagues,

Please find below periodic thematic digest on '**Biodiversity and Forest**' from the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN).

Regards,
APMN team

News

[1] Himalayan bear killed by tiger

November 11, 2009

In the first recorded incident of its kind in Bhutan, a Himalayan black bear was killed and eaten by a royal Bengal tiger in the Jigme Dorji national park.

The carcass of the bear, with only its head, skin and paws remaining, was discovered by a team of foresters in Domenda, two days walk from Dodena in Thimphu, on November 7 at an altitude of 4,079 m. The kill has thrown up several questions on tigers being found at such high altitudes in winter, the relationship between bears and tigers in Bhutan's wild and the implications of the tiger's presence on the snow leopard habitat.

Source:

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=13949>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ygf2bbs>

[2] Flying frog and mountain mouse among new species in danger of going extinct

November 3, 2009

A mouse found in the mountains of Madagascar, a lizard that can run across water and a flying frog have all been added to this year's 'red list' of species in danger of going extinct.

Source:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/earthnews/6486724/Flying-frog-and-mountain-mouse-among-new-species-in-danger-of-going-extinct.html>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ylzs57k>

[3] 'Kashmiri Stag' on verge of extinction

November 1, 2009

'Hangul' (Kashmiri stag), the only surviving species of the red deer family in Kashmir, found at elevations of 3,035 meters appears to be on the verge of extinction.

According to the figures available with the state wildlife department, the rare animal's strength fell from 5,000 in the beginning of last century to 900 in 1980s, when militancy broke out in the border state. his deer lives in groups of two to 18 individuals in dense riverine forests, high valleys, and mountains of the Kashmir valley and northern Chamba in Himachal Pradesh.

Source:

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/other-states/article41749.ece>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yf2oymj>

[4] Indonesia to cut forest fires by 20% yearly

October 30, 2009

Indonesia said yesterday on the sidelines of an Asean meeting for environment ministers in Singapore that it aims to reduce its number of forest fires by 20 per cent a year.

Source:

<http://news.asiaone.com/News/Latest%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20091030-176768.html>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yg99pz6>

[5] Migratory birds start flying into Steel City

October 28, 2009

With the onset of winter, migratory birds from Russia, Baluchistan, Myanmar and the foothills of the Himalayas, have started arriving in the city to bring cheer to bird lovers. According to K K Sharma, in charge of Jharkhand and Bihar chapter of Ornithology Society of India, there's a decline in the number of birds visiting the city because of an increase in human activity along water bodies in Jubilee Park and Dimna Lake. "However, non-aquatic birds, including Wage Tail from Russia and Red-Headed Bunting from Baluchistan, have arrived in the city and its adjoining areas," he informed.

Source:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ranchi/Migratory-birds-start-flying-into-Steel-City/articleshow/5170375.cms>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ygt69bc>

[6] ASEAN meet highlights status of biodiversity

October 26, 2009

As the International Year of Biodiversity draws near, countries all over the world are assessing how they are faring against the 2010 Biodiversity Target of significantly reducing the loss of biological diversity.

The ASEAN member states, home to 20 percent of the world's known species of flora and fauna, are actively participating in international efforts to determine the real status of biodiversity and to reduce biodiversity loss.

Source:

<http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/226493/asean-meet-highlights-status-biodiversity>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/ygfvts>

[7] Forest wealth to help alleviate poverty

October 30, 2009

Farmers from Trongsa, Bhutan will not have to go to Zhemgang divisional forest office to avail permit for the use of forest products like in the past.

The time and cost saving measure will be made possible after the department of forests, with a strong focus on delivery of services through decentralisation, will allow the gewog offices and territorial forest offices to issue permits. With the main theme of "Managing Forestry Resources for Poverty Alleviation", forest officers will also sort out how to enhance the access of forest resources, especially non-wood products, by the community.

Source:

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=13842>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yzu95rq>

[8] Rapid changes in ecology

October 26, 2009

Some of the best brains in the world have come together in Bangalore to discuss forest canopies and explore the ways of combining disciplinary approaches to the pertinent questions on environment, social and conservation relevance.

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment, Bangalore (ATREE) in association with a host of organisations has organised the conference, which is a first to be held and hosted in Asia.

Source:

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/32669/rapid-changes-ecology.html>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yctzcko>

[9] UNDP supports GEF-funded adaptation project in Mountain forest ecosystem in Armenia

October 2009

The UN Development Programme (UNDP) is the implementing agency for a Global Environment Facility-funded (GEF) project to build up the resilience and adaption capacity of mountain forest ecosystems in Armenia, a biodiversity hotspot area containing half of the region's floral diversity, to protect against climate change effects.

Source:

<http://climate-l.org/2009/11/02/undp-supports-gef-funded-adaptation-project-in-mountain-forest-ecosystem-in-armenia/>

OR

<http://tinyurl.com/yd2okpy>

Events

[1] Global Change and the World's Mountains, 27 September - 3 October 2010, Perth, Scotland
More information:

http://mri.scnatweb.ch/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=355

[2] International Forestry and Environment Symposium, 18 - 19 December 2009, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka,

More information: <http://www.environmentlanka.com/sympo/>