



IDENTIFICATION AND ENLISTING OF WINTER MIGRATORY WATERFOWL AVIFAUNA AT NAGI BIRD'S SANCTUARY JHAJHA, JAMUI, BIHAR, INDIA.

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ABSTRACT The Nagi Dam Bird Sanctuary situated in the Jamui district of Bihar lies between latitude N 24.49' and longitude E86.23' & E86. 24' is spread over an area of 2.0957 square kilometres constructed by Bihar government. The Nagi Dam and Nakti Dam both are sanctuaries so close to each other. Nagi Bird sanctuary is approximately 19 km from Sono and 10 km from Jhajha within the district of Jamui, Bihar. Nakti bird sanctuary is approx 3 Km from Nagi, occupying similar habitat of flora and fauna. Both Nagi and Nakti bird sanctuaries are belted by rocky hillocks. In Nagi Dam there are total 14 waterfowl avifauna were recorded - Lesser Whistling-Duck, Bar-headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Cotton pygmy Goose, Tufted Duck, Common Pochard, Ferruginous Duck, Eurasian Wigeon, Gadwall, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Red-crested Pochard, Ruddy Shelduck and Greylag Goose, Great crested Grebe.

KEYWORDS : Avifauna, Nagi bird's sanctuary, Jamui, IWPA, IUCN

INTRODUCTION

Freshwater resources are very precious for life on our blue planet Earth. The number of dams and reservoirs has significantly increased in the last few years in Bihar. Nagi bird's sanctuary is one of the important dams for irrigation and fish production. It is rich in freshwater reservoirs and its fauna diversity and was declared as a Birds sanctuary in 2009. Diversity of fauna and its environment play a vital role within the community of the species. Having realized the importance of birds and wildlife in general, the Government of India has created several Protected Areas (PAs) such as national parks and sanctuaries where the wildlife including birds receives protection against poaching and destruction of habitat. Nagi dam has achieved fame as a bird's heaven mainly due to the high bird diversity and abundance that it supports, especially in the winter season. Avifauna play an important role in the maintenance of the food chain in the natural ecosystem. Each species of Aves are unique in its appearance in its habit and habitat where it is found. Aves are considered as excellent bio – indicators of the natural environment. Diversity of fauna and abundance are bio – indicators of the conditions of both terrestrial and watershed healthy ecosystem. (Sekercioglu 2006, Mistry et al. 2008)

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area:

The Nagi Dam Bird Sanctuary situated in the Jamui district of Bihar lies between latitude N 24.49' and longitude E86.23' & E86. 24' is spread over an area of 2.0957 square kilometres constructed by Bihar government. The Nagi Dam and Nakti Dam both are sanctuaries so close to each other. Nagi Bird sanctuary is approximately 19 km from Sono and 10 km from Jhajha within the district of Jamui, Bihar. Nakti bird sanctuary is approx 3 Km from Nagi, occupying similar habitat of flora and fauna. Both Nagi and Nakti bird sanctuaries are belted by rocky hillocks.

Identification:

The birds were identified using "A pictorial guide to the birds of the Indian Subcontinent by Grimmet et.al., (2014), The Book of Indian Birds year by Salim Ali, (2003) and other updated taxonomical keys. Binocular Cason Professional (8×40) and Nikon was used for close observation of birds.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The given study carried out in different zone of Nagi dam bird's sanctuary. Therefore, many migratory waterfowl avifauna were recorded during present study as listed below. Also, IUCN and IPWA schedules were mentioned in data.

Table 1: Aves Recorded In The Study Area With IWPA Schedules And IUCN Status

Sr. No.	Order	Family	Common Name	Zoological Name	IWPA	IUCN
1	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Lesser Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	IV	LC

2	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>	IV	LC
3	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	IV	LC
4	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Cotton pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	IV	LC
5	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	IV	LC
6	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	IV	V
7	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	IV	NT
8	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	IV	LC
9	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	IV	LC
10	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	IV	LC
11	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	IV	LC
12	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	IV	LC
13	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	IV	LC
14	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	IV	LC
15	Podicipediformes	Podicipedidae	Great crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	IV	LC

****International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Status:** LC- Least Concern, NT- Near Threatened, V – vulnerable,

****Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (IWPA) Schedules:-** Schedules I, Schedules II, Schedules III and Schedules IV.

CONCLUSION

Nagi bird's sanctuary was found to be the good habitat for these migratory waterfowl avifauna. Hence the Nagi bird's sanctuary is an important breeding and feeding site for waterfowl bird's species. Keeping this in view it is our suggestion to protect and conserve this aquatic ecosystem to sustain the aves diversity of this region. Proper management system, conservation awareness among local people and protection of habitats might help increase avian diversity in the study area.

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