

**Add-On Course offered by
Department of Zoology
Govt. Gen Degree
College, Keshiary**



VALUE-ADDED COURSE ON
**MAN-ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS:
TOWARDS CONSERVATION OF
HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM**



Contact: Department of
Zoology,GGDC, Keshiary



Department of Zoology
Government General Degree College at Keshiary

Telipukur, TilaboniMahishamura, Keshiary, Paschim Medinipur, PIN : 721135

VALUE-ADDED COURSE ON
MAN-ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS: TOWARDS CONSERVATION OF
HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM

Introduction:

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the complex interactions between humans and animals, with a focus on conservation efforts to sustain habitats and ecosystems. The course will explore the challenges and opportunities presented by man-animal encounters and equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to contribute to effective conservation strategies.

Man-animal conflict represents a complex scenario where human activities intersect with natural wildlife habitats, resulting in adverse encounters and challenges for both human well-being and wildlife conservation. This phenomenon is increasingly prevalent due to factors such as habitat loss, human population growth, changes in land use, human activities, and climate change. In the context of India, several instances exemplify man-animal conflict. In West Bengal's Medinipur region, encounters between elephants and human settlements have led to crop damage, property destruction, and human fatalities. Similarly, areas like Junnar and Nashik in Maharashtra experience conflicts between humans and leopards due to urban expansion into leopard habitats. The Sundarbans face challenges with tiger-human conflict, prompting strategies for coexistence.

The impact on human communities is profound, encompassing economic losses, safety concerns, and psychological impacts. Crop raids by wildlife lead to significant economic losses for farmers, affecting livelihoods and food security. Attacks on humans by wildlife pose serious safety concerns, causing fear and anxiety within affected communities and resulting in psychological stress.

On the wildlife conservation front, man-animal conflict leads to retaliatory killings and habitat fragmentation. Retaliatory killings threaten conservation efforts for endangered

species, while habitat fragmentation can isolate populations, impacting genetic diversity and long-term survival.

Mitigation strategies are crucial for addressing man-animal conflict. Community engagement, early warning systems, habitat protection and restoration, technology utilization, and policy interventions play key roles. Involving local communities in conservation efforts fosters understanding and cooperation. Early warning systems help reduce human casualties by enabling preventive measures. Safeguarding natural habitats and restoring degraded areas mitigates conflicts by providing sufficient space and resources for wildlife. The use of technology, such as GPS tracking and camera traps, aids in understanding wildlife movements. Policy interventions, including land-use planning and compensation schemes, are essential for balancing human needs and wildlife conservation.

In conclusion, man-animal conflict necessitates a holistic approach involving communities, policymakers, and conservationists. By addressing root causes and implementing strategic mitigation measures, we can work towards a future where humans and wildlife coexist harmoniously, ensuring the preservation of biodiversity and the well-being of both populations.

Aims of the Course

1. To enable the students to identify the different causes of Man-wildlife conflict
2. They will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to address real-world conservation issues
3. To provide the students with awareness about the tools needed to contribute to the conservation of habitats and ecosystems
4. Making them valuable contributors to the field of conservation ecology
5. By the end of the course, students will have gained a deep understanding of the challenges due to man-animal encounters

Duration of Course: The course shall extend over a period of three months (30hrs).

Admission Procedure:

Candidates for admission to the course should be students of **the Government General Degree College at Keshiary**, Paschim Medinipur. Interested students shall apply for admission at the time of notification in the prescribed form. Certificates will be issued to the candidates on successful completion of the course.

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SYLLABUS

MAN-ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS: TOWARDS CONSERVATION OF HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM

Course objectives

- To know the different causes of Man-wildlife conflict
- To acquire knowledge and skills to address real-world conservation issues
- To provide the students awareness about the tools needed to contribute to the conservation of habitats and ecosystems
- Gained a deep understanding of the challenges due to man-animal encounters
- Making the students as a valuable contributor to the field of conservation ecology

UNIT I

Introduction to Man-Wildlife Conflict and Conservation Ecology

Analyzing the causes and consequences of human-wildlife conflict, Case studies of successful and unsuccessful conflict resolution, developing strategies for minimizing conflict and promoting coexistence, Basic principles of ecology and ecosystem dynamics, Introduction to key conservation concepts and theories

UNIT II

Different reasons of Human-Wildlife Conflict

Analyzing the causes and consequences of human-wildlife conflict, Case studies of successful and unsuccessful conflict resolution, developing strategies for minimizing conflict and promoting coexistence

UNIT III

Ethical and Legal Aspects of Conservation

Exploring ethical considerations in conservation, understanding international and national laws related to wildlife protection, Role of policymaking in habitat conservation

UNIT IV

Conservation Technologies

Introduction to modern technologies in conservation, GIS and remote sensing applications in habitat monitoring, Conservation genetics and its role in managing wildlife populations

UNIT V

Conservation Planning and Management

Formulating conservation plans for specific habitats and ecosystems, Monitoring and evaluating conservation programs, Integrating sustainable development with conservation goals

Practical: All the items included in theory.

Unit	Topics	Assigned hours
I	Introduction to Man-Wildlife Conflict and Conservation Ecology	6 hrs
II	Different reasons of Human-Wildlife Conflict	6 hrs
III	Ethical and Legal Aspects of Conservation	6 hrs
IV	Conservation Technologies	6 hrs
V	Conservation Planning and Management	6 hrs

Course Outcome

- Students can understand different causes of Man-wildlife conflict.
- Students learned the knowledge and skills to address real-world conservation issues.
- They are aware about the tools needed to contribute to the conservation of habitats and ecosystems.
- Understood the challenges due to man-animal encounters.
- Students act as a valuable contributor to the field of conservation ecology.

Suggested Readings:

1. Caughley, G., and Sinclair, A.R.E. (1994). Wildlife Ecology and Management. Blackwell Science.
2. Woodroffe R., Thirgood, S. and Rabinowitz, A. (2005). People and Wildlife, Conflict or Co-existence? Cambridge University.
3. Bookhout, T.A. (1996). Research and Management Techniques for Wildlife and Habitats, 5th edition. The Wildlife Society, Allen Press.
4. Sutherland, W.J. (2000). The Conservation Handbook: Research, Management and Policy. Blackwell Sciences
5. Hunter M.L., Gibbs, J.B. and Sterling, E.J. (2008). Problem-Solving in Conservation Biology and Wildlife Management: Exercises for Class, Field, and Laboratory. Blackwell Publishing.