# Manoj Kumar. B.R

## **Summary**

Aspiring wildlife biologist dedicated to the study and preservation of endangered and data-deficient species, fueled by a passion for interdisciplinary research and conservation.

## **Education**

Trans-Disciplinary University | Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Royal Enclave, Bengaluru MSc in Environmental Studies and Conservation Practice 2021 - 23

Vijaya College, RV Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru **BSc in Chemistry, Botany and Zoology** 2016 - 19

#### **Certifications and Courses**

Ethnobotany Trans-Disciplinary University, Bengaluru February 2019 - May 2019

Research Education Advancement Programme (Bio-REAP) Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium | Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru August 2018 - April 2019

#### **Skills**

- Ecological Knowledge.
- Research Design, Data Collection and Analysis.
- Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methodologies.
- Adaptability, Communication and Collaboration.
- Technical Proficiency.
- Software Skills QGIS, ODK, MS Office; Basic R and Earth Engine.

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## **Work Experience**

#### Intern

Centre for Conservation for Natural Resources, Trans-Disciplinary University (TDU), Bengaluru January 2021 - Present

 Data translation, digitization and analysis of workshops and capacity-building programmes in villages of Karnataka.

#### Intern

Eco-Informatics Lab, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru September 2022 - December 2022

- Spatial data curation, processing and management.
- Digital mapping of the landscape using QGIS.

## **Research Projects**

Spatio-temporal distribution, habitat use and niche overlap of Blackbuck with livestock in Jayamangali Blackbuck Conservation Reserve, Tumkur, Karnataka February 2023 - present

Socio-ecological implications of Bamboo and Lantana in Malai Mahadeshwara Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka August 2022 - present

Preliminary study on river restoration of a socio-culturally important (Thamirabarani) river with:

- Community involvement and
- Policy intervention

December 2022 - January 2022

Biodiversity assessment of a human-dominated grassland in Tirunelveli, Tamilnadu

- Assessment of birds, mammals, herpetofauna, lepidopterans and other insects.
- Preliminary study for policy intervention on controlled grazing.

October 2022

Qualitative assessment on mitigation of human-wildlife conflict in MM hills by conducting semi-structured interviews with local (Soliga) communities.

June 2022

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## Languages known

- Fluent in Kannada (native), English and Hindi.
- Basic knowledge of Tamil and Telugu (speech).

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## **Research Projects**

Qualitative research on mitigation of human-elephant conflict | Case study of the existing early warning system of Nature Conservation Foundation in Sakleshpur range, Hassan.

- Led team in conducting open-ended interviews with local communities, plantation labourers and writers.
- Semi-structured interviews with the Project Head, Rapid Response Team and Plantation owners.
- Structured interviews with the Forest Range Officer and NCF field staff.
- Focus group discussions with affected villagers.
- Participant Observation with NCF field staff.

June 2022

Qualitative study for livelihood enhancement of communities in Mylappanhalli, Karnataka.

- Team lead
- Conducting open-ended and unstructured interviews with Individual villagers.
- Participatory rural appraisal with groups of villagers of different sexes and age groups.

May 2022

Conducting avian faunal surveys | Medicinal plant surveys and documenting the associated traditional ecological knowledge of local communities/medicinal practitioners of Gudibande, Karnataka for a PBR documentary. February 2021

All projects were associated with ATREE and/or TDU.