

SURVEY REPORT

ISLAMABAD BIRD SIGHTINGS



BY SERENE ANEEQ



OBJECTIVES

The survey was conducted to gain an understanding of:

- The level of interest and knowledge that the residents of Islamabad currently have regarding migratory birds and their ecological roles.
- Hunting guidelines and strategies followed by hunting enthusiasts.
- Residents' knowledge and participation in conservation activities for migratory birds.

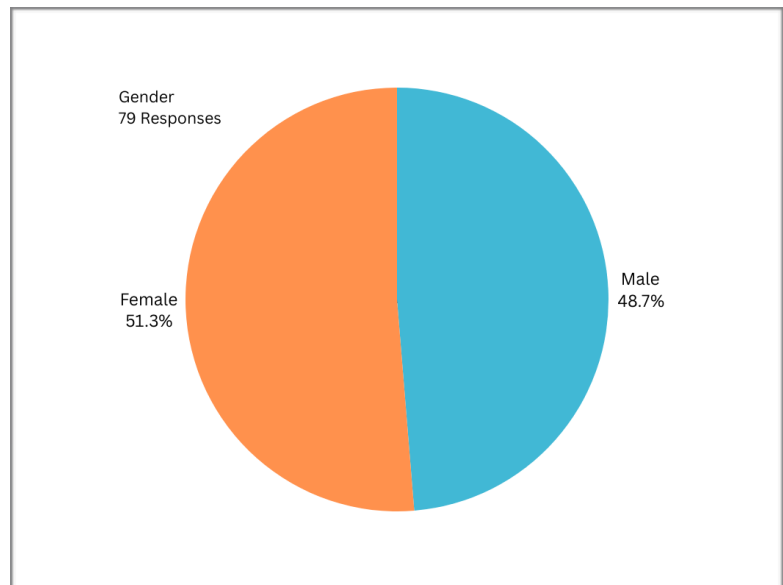
OVERVIEW

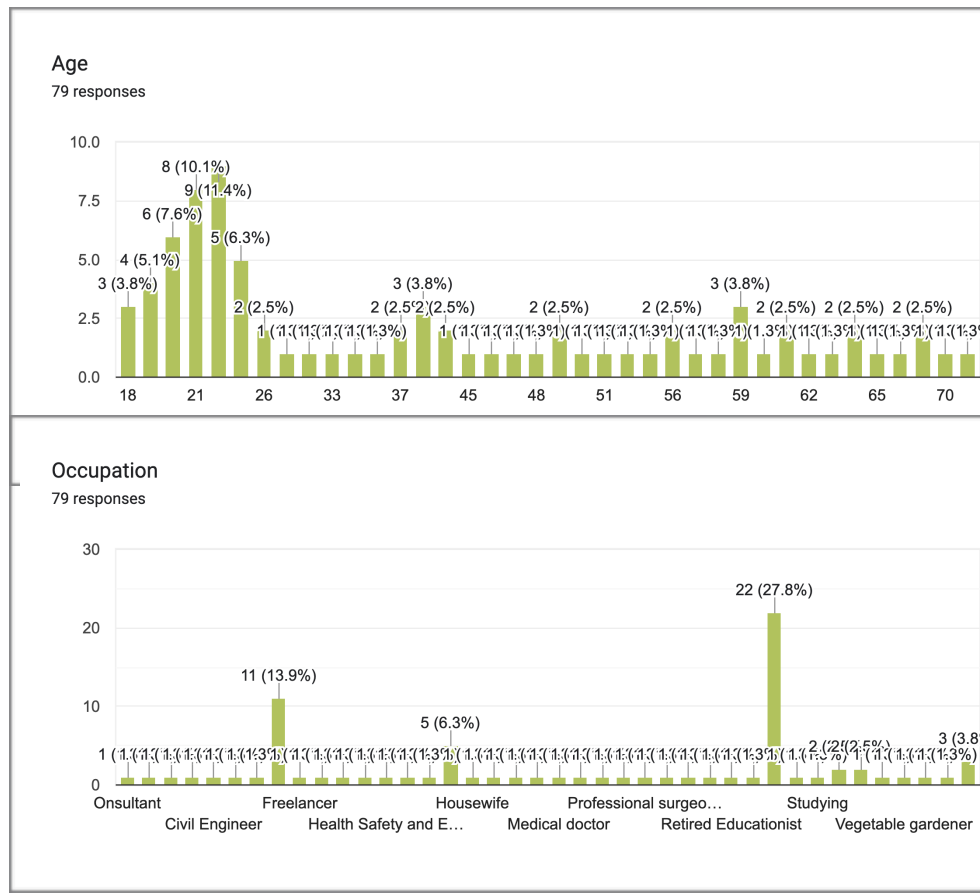
Survey duration	25th July to 12th August 2024
Number of responses	79
Target audience	Residents of Islamabad

DEMOGRAPHIC

Summary and Analysis:

Survey respondents were residents of a wide range of areas across Islamabad; from Sectors D, E, F, G, Bahria Enclave, Bahria Town, DHA 1 and 2 etc. The sample size consisted of nearly an even number of men and women, as well as a wide range of ages from 18-70 years. Respondents were predominantly students (27), followed by healthcare professionals (19) and a few house-managers, teachers, freelancers, businessmen etc. The demographic largely consisted of educated adults from middle and upper middle class sector.





INTEREST/KNOWLEDGE OF BIRDS

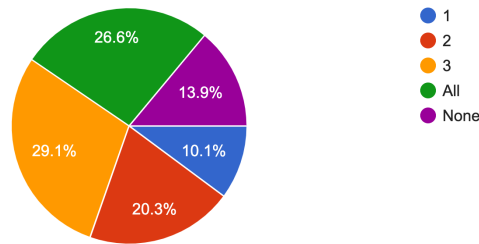
Summary and Analysis

86.1% of respondents reported sighting species of migratory birds (Pallas' Fish Eagle, Demoiselle Crane, Marbled Duck, White-Headed Duck). Some allowance for individual bias was made for our research as it is possible that respondents may have identified the species incorrectly. However, the response indicates their interest in sighting various birds. This is demonstrated further by 72.2% respondents stating that they are likely to observe and take pictures/videos of migratory birds in flight.

While respondents largely showed an interest in birds, 18 people stated that they are likely to carry on with their daily tasks despite coming across a flock of migratory birds. This indicates that 22.8% of the respondents are not curious about, or interested in observing migratory birds.

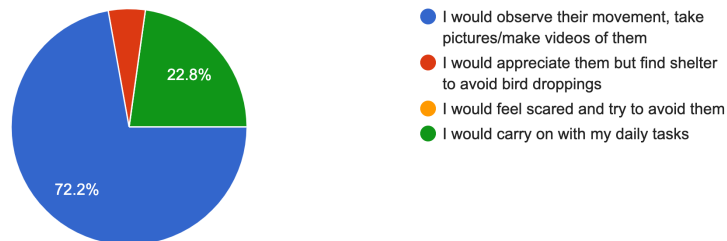
How many of these migratory birds have you seen in real life?

79 responses



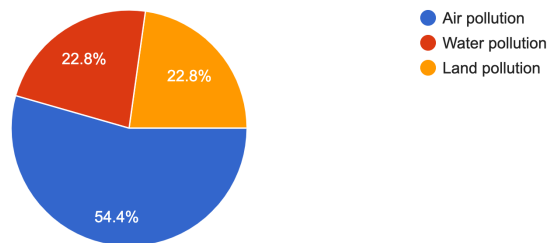
If you see a flock of migratory birds flying above you, how would you respond?

79 responses

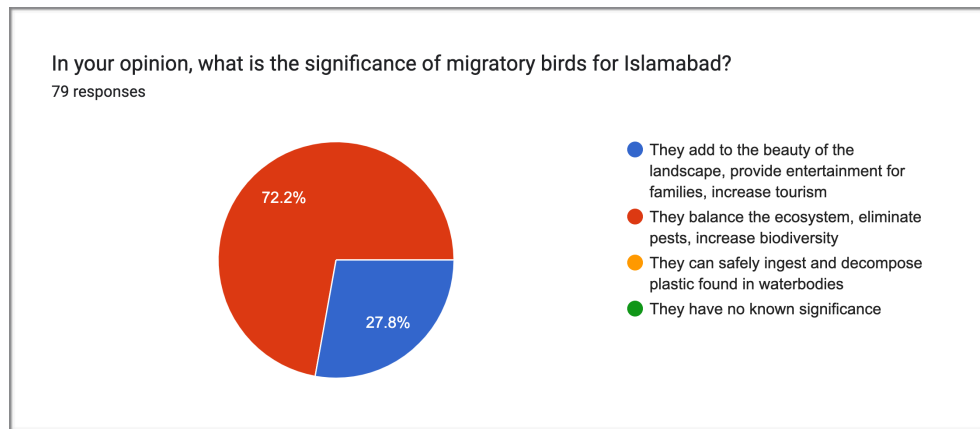


Which form of pollution do you think is the most important to address for the conservation of migratory birds?

79 responses



54.4% of respondents believe that air pollution is the most important type of pollution to address for the conservation of migratory birds. The remaining population is evenly divided between considering water and land pollution to be the most urgent issue. This indicates that migratory birds are most commonly associated with air due to their ability to fly long distances. However, majority of the respondents lack knowledge regarding the causes of endangerment of migratory birds (as loss of habitat and waterbodies is a major factor in reality).

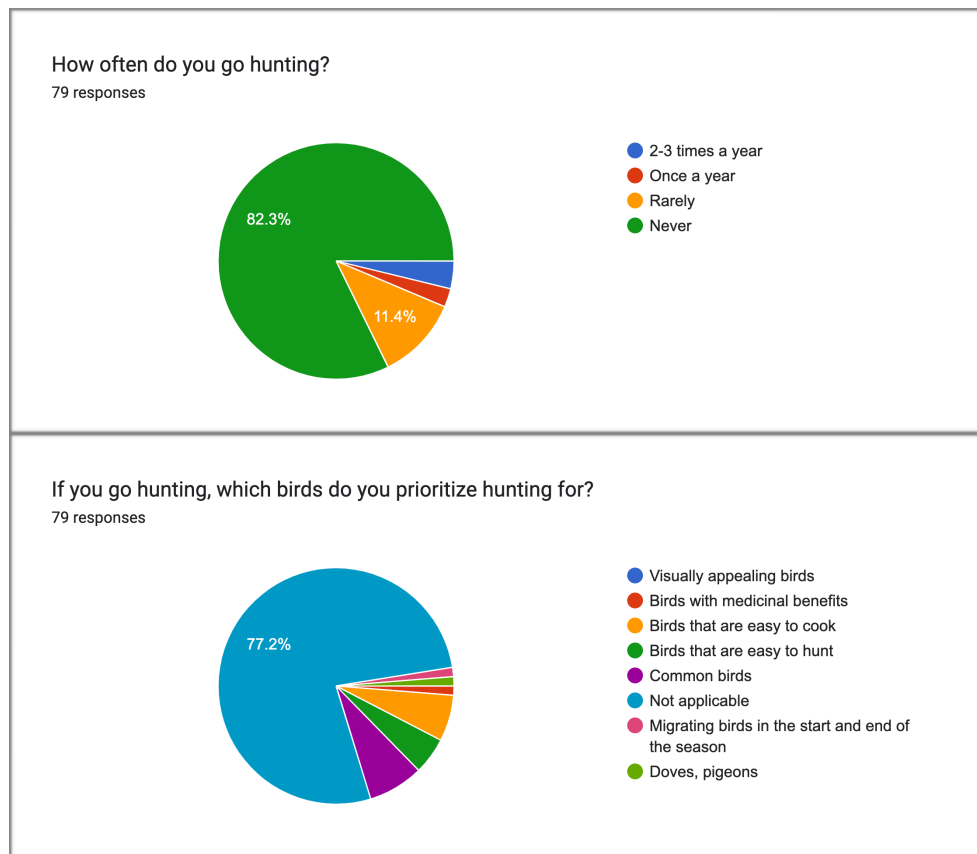


When asked regarding the significance of migratory birds, 72.2% answered correctly. Their ability to maintain balance in the ecosystem was considered their top significance. 27.8% of respondents considered the top significance of migratory birds to be related to natural beauty, entertainment and economy. While this answer is also correct, it indicates that some respondents consider the benefits of migratory birds in relation to human beings only and not in relation to other living beings.

HUNTING STRATEGIES

Summary and analysis

82.3% of respondents stated that they have never gone hunting. 9 people reported that they have rarely gone hunting, 3 people go hunting 2-3 times a year, while 2 people reported going hunting annually. When asked which birds they prioritize hunting, 7 people answered 'common birds'. Hence, for the majority of hunters in our audience, avoiding endangered species was a priority. The remaining hunters reported prioritizing based on other factors such as medicinal benefits, level of ease in cooking birds. One person admitted to specifically hunting migratory birds.



CONSERVATION PARTICIPATION/INTEREST

Summary and Analysis

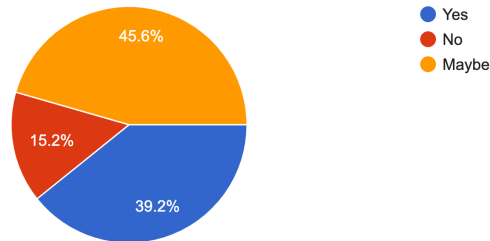
39.2% of participants expressed an interest in attending workshops and activities related to migratory birds conservation. However, 45.6% remained indecisive and answered 'maybe'. 15.2% decidedly stated they are not interested in participating in conservational activities. The vast majority consisting of 69 people reported that they have never participated in migratory birds conservation activities. In addition, 63 respondents stated that they are not aware of any local initiatives working on the conservation of migratory birds.

These statistics are decidedly alarming as they indicate a disconnect between wildlife experts and the broader public in Islamabad. While many of the participants are curious and interested in learning more and contributing to conservation, a significant percentage of respondents are hesitant to contribute to their local wildlife community. Furthermore,

the survey respondents lack awareness regarding the work done by local conservation organizations on migratory birds.

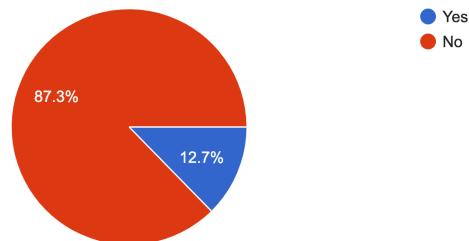
Would you be interested in participating in educational workshops or community activities related to migratory bird conservation?

79 responses



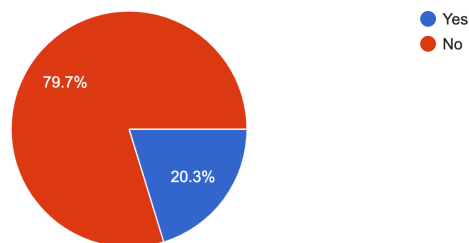
Have you ever participated in any activities related to migratory bird conservation?

79 responses



Are you aware of any local initiatives or organizations working on migratory bird conservation in Islamabad?

79 responses



CONCLUSION

Survey participants largely expressed enthusiasm and interest in migratory birds. While they demonstrated a general understanding of the significance of migratory birds, their knowledge of priority conservation measures is lacking. The majority of respondents are mindful of hunting guidelines. However, a significant portion of the participants are unaware of local migratory birds conservation related organizations and are also indecisive regarding whether they would like to contribute to such initiatives.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of these findings, the following factors were targeted by Wings of Awareness:

- A social media campaign to raise awareness amongst residents of Islamabad regarding the conservation of migratory birds.
- A workshop to introduce young students to migratory birds and actions they can take for their conservation.
- An animated story for young students, highlighting the importance of addressing water pollution for the conservation of migratory birds.
- A clean-up drive in Margalla hills to address land pollution.