

February 2024

Maharashtra, India
www.resqct.org

RESQ NEWSLETTER

Helping animals, people and the places we call home, *since 2007.*

Monthly Newsletter

#196 pg. 01

RESQ Charitable Trust



Bonnet macaque (*macaca radiata*) © RESQ Charitable Trust

Hope in the face of adversity!

In the eyes of this newborn bonnet macaque, are a myriad of emotions with resilience standing out. Recently orphaned and now under the care of the RESQ Wildlife TTC, this orphan's spirit embodies the strength found in the countless animals who, each month, are thrust into a similar battle for survival amidst the ever-growing human landscape and harsh realities of rapid development. Their only beacon of hope - intensive rehabilitation which paves a path that leads to freedom and to once again being wild and free.

Statistics February '24



1,504 Helpline
Calls Received



Ambulances
Travelled **26,412** Kms



PUNE
24,562 Kms



NASHIK
1,850 Kms



☒ Rescue, rehabilitate animals, reach people.

386 Wildlife currently admitted
under veterinary treatment &
rehabilitation care in Pune TTC & Nashik centre.



Awareness sessions, education programs
& training conducted for **6,172** individuals.

1,049

Community (large animals)
provided support to viz. animal feed and vaccines.



851
Wildlife
provided aid to



Wildlife

Birds

Mammals

Reptiles

Pune
Units +
TTC



Nashik
Division



812

520

141

151

39

21

9

9

[Click to view videos!](#)

Updates

RESQ team **on field**

Claws of concern: combatting wildlife crime. In a recent operation that highlights the ongoing battle against wildlife crime, our team at RESQ CT, in close collaboration with Pune Forest Department officials and our exceptional Wildlife Detection Dog squad, embarked on an urgent investigation following the distressing discovery of a young leopard's demise under tragic circumstances. This incident unfolded as we received reports of a leopard carcass found by local labourers. A detailed investigation revealed a more sinister aspect to this tragedy: the deliberate removal of the leopard's nails, presumably for creating illegal wildlife artefacts.



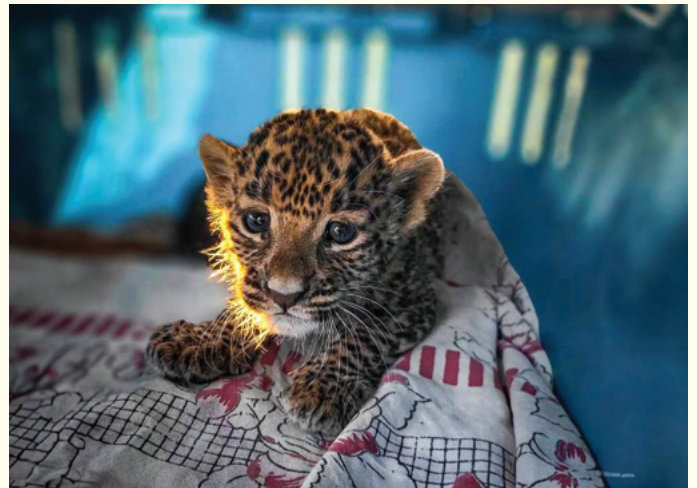
Our team, leveraging the expertise of our Wildlife Detection Dogs, swiftly gathered evidence, including wildlife parts and tools associated with the crime. Thanks to the unwavering commitment of Pune Forest Department and expertise of our team and dogs, significant progress was made in addressing this crime, leading to the recovery of vital evidence and the responsible individuals' apprehension.



Leopards related interventions this month... In February, the RESQ team worked with forest departments in western Maharashtra on over 5 leopard-related incidents, such as leopards spotted near human settlements, leopard rescues and leopard cubs separated from mothers during harvesting. Some situations needed careful handling due to conflicts, while others required assessments, employment of our detection dog squad, and intensive community awareness efforts. Proactive response to these incidents is paramount to prevent potential adverse encounters in the future.



Leopard, well-saved and well-recovering: The Nashik Forest Department successfully rescued an adult leopard reportedly fallen into an open well in Nashik District. The leopard, requiring treatment for injuries sustained from the fall, has been admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC in Pune.



A leopard cub found in a sugarcane field reunited back with its mother in Nashik district – the best possible outcome for leopard cubs versus a lifetime in captivity!



Leopard cub goes from field to foster: a leopard cub found alone in a field in Nashik couldn't be reunited with its mother due to significant disruption in the habitat. Despite several attempts, the mother did not appear, leading to the decision to transfer the cub to RESQ Nashik Division team for orphan care and rehabilitation.

A speedy emergency response, treatment followed by a gaur-geous comeback! A sub-adult gaur near Satara was found weak and struggling to walk. The Forest Department and RESQ veterinarian intervened promptly. On-site assessment revealed urgency for treatment. Over six interventions, medication and fluids were administered, improving the gaur's vitality with each dose. By the final intervention, the gaur showed complete recovery and confidently walked away. The next day, the forest department confirmed the gaur had relocated, highlighting the effectiveness of on-site treatment, eliminating the need for transportation.



Living safely around hyenas! In a densely populated area in Pune District, the sighting of 2-3 hyenas and the discovery of their den initially sparked panic among local residents, prompting calls for their urgent capture out of fear. However, following an awareness session conducted by our team, the community's apprehensions significantly diminished. By the end of the session, they better understood the nature and behavior of the Indian striped hyena and realized that their mere existence around them did warrant their capture and removal.



Quick action for hyena's safe extraction from a well! Upon receiving a report from the forest department about a hyena that had accidentally fallen into an open well near Satara, our team promptly arrived at the location. We successfully and safely extracted the hyena from the well. A thorough examination revealed that the hyena was unharmed, allowing for its immediate release back into the wild, ensuring minimal stress and disruption to the animal.

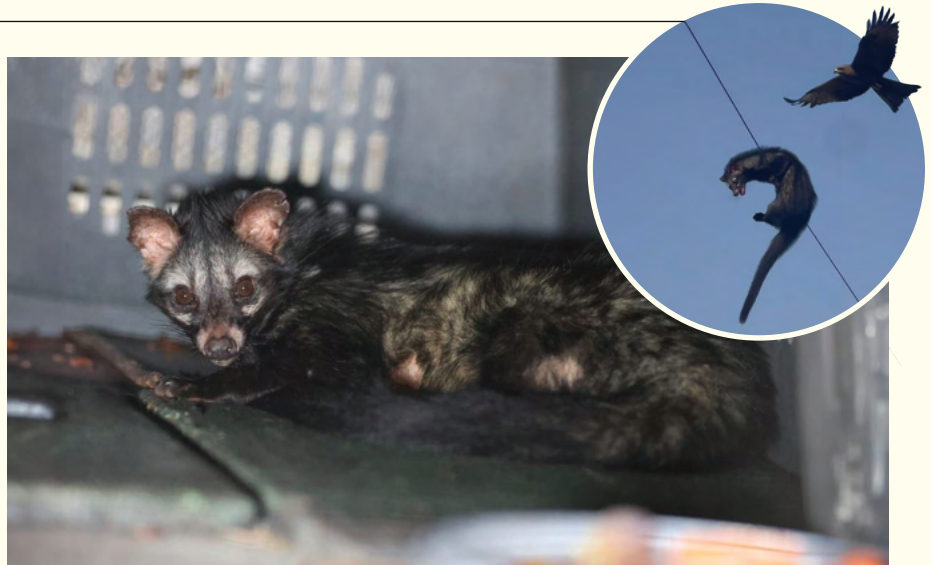




Quill thrill: 'well' executed porcupine rescue! The RESQ team responded to a report of an Indian porcupine fallen into a 60 ft. open well near Wai, Satara District. Despite efforts to lure it into a lowered cage, the frightened porcupine resisted. Eventually, a team member rappelled down and safely captured it in a net. Following extraction, the porcupine exhibited minor injuries and signs of weakness, leading to its admission to the RESQ Centre for treatment. As soon as it gets a clear chit from the vets, it will be taken to a safe habitat and released, hoping it steers clear of open wells.



High-tension rescue of an Asian palm civet! An adult Asian palm civet was reported stuck on a cable wire and was hanging onto it for its life in a busy area in Pune. It was skillfully rescued by our team members ensuring minimal handling and then admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC. The civet needed stabilization for the distress it underwent when stuck and treatment of the mild injuries it had sustained. Such incidents happen as civets commonly navigate the city's aerial networks, such as cable wires, in search of territory and resources.



Black kite travels from Pune Metro tracks to treatment! The station master at the Pune Metro station near Pune Junction alerted our helpline about a black kite who had collided with the metro and fallen onto the tracks. While our team promptly rescued the bird and took it to the RESQ Centre for treatment, we are grateful for the sensitivity shown by the staff of the Pune Metro in not just informing us about the bird but in stopping the movement of the Metro briefly to ensure we were safely able to access the bird on the tracks!



At the RESQ Centre

Rusty-spotted cat fights for a second chance! A rusty-spotted cat, injured in a vehicle collision, was found in a field near Baramati and brought to the RESQ Centre. It had not eaten for days and appeared weak. The cat is currently receiving care, with hopes for its full recovery and eventual release back into the wild. Rapid response and timely treatment can significantly brighten the chances of survival



and recovery for animals involved in accidents. Wound care, pain management, and supportive therapy addresses not only the visible injuries but also prevents secondary complications that may arise from untreated trauma thus helping injured animals regain their health offering a second chance at life in their natural habitat.



Harvest of hope: rusty-spotted kittens' journey to safety! During sugarcane harvesting near Sangli, locals discovered two rusty-spotted kittens and alerted the forest department, who then took the cubs into their care. Despite efforts to reunite

them with their mother over four days, the mother did not return. The kittens had begun losing health on field without their mother and were consequently admitted to RESQ Centre in Pune, for stabilization, orphan care and rehabilitation. They're being raised to be wild - and will eventually go back to their natural habitat once they clear all their rehabilitation milestones for independent survival!



From mistake to mission: jackal pups get a second chance! Found in a sugarcane field, a farmer mistook the four jackal pups as dog puppies and took them home. Upon realizing his mistake eight days later, he returned them to the field to unite them with their mother who was nowhere to be found.



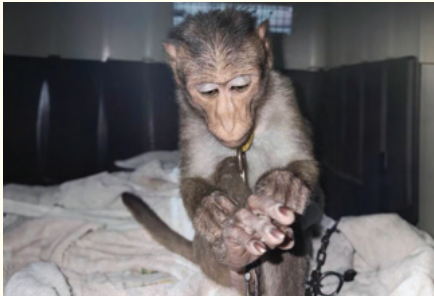
Consequently, the Forest Department took the cubs into custody and admitted them to the RESQ Centre. They are now under rehabilitation for future reintroduction back to their natural habitat.



Orphan bonnet macaque in safe hands! An orphaned bonnet macaque from Chiplun, left clinging to its deceased mother who passed away due to an attack from free-ranging dogs. Currently in the nursery at the RESQ Centre, she is receiving orphan care - the young macaque will be hand-raised with the aim of intensive rehabilitation and to be released back into the wild with a troop.



Bonnet macaque goes from chained to change! A sub-adult bonnet macaque was rescued from illegal captivity by a vigilant individual and admitted to the RESQ Centre by the Pune Forest Department. Primates from captivity undergo quarantine followed by a rehabilitation process to reduce their affinity to humans by introducing them to



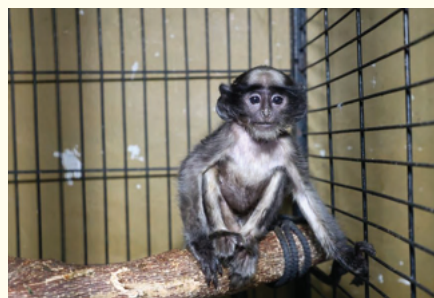
their wild counterparts who teach them about what it means to be a member of their own kind! Once the monkey is well accepted in a social group and clears its rehabilitation goals, they get released with their troop.



The surviving trio of grey langurs! Three langurs are currently under treatment at the RESQ Centre, after being rescued from distinct circumstances: one from a road accident and the other two post-electrocution from



different areas in and around Pune city. They are all being treated at the RESQ Centre, with the aim to rehabilitate and return them to their natural habitats.



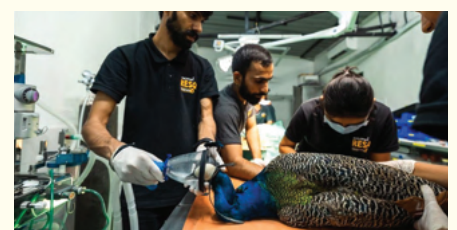
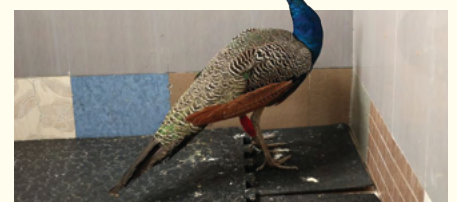
Brahminy kite winging it to freedom! A brahminy kite is under treatment and rehabilitation at the RESQ Centre after it was discovered in a dull and dehydrated state, unable to fly. Responding well to the treatment, it is already displaying promising signs of recovery and we're hoping for its return to the skies real soon.



Wooly-necked shows stork resilience! A wooly-necked stork found near a water body in Vadgaon, Pune, was rescued and diagnosed with a severe wing injury. After undergoing a wing pinning procedure and subsequent treatment at the RESQ Wildlife TTC, the bird is showing remarkable progress.

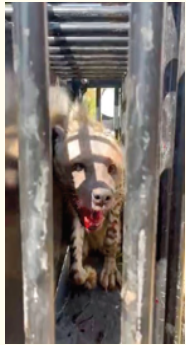
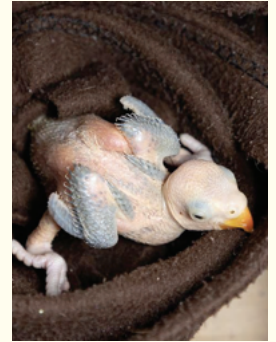


(Pea)fowl play! A sub-adult peafowl was reported to us injured and dull after being rescued by a local from a net in Pune city. It is receiving treatment for the cuts and lacerations it has suffered trying to escape. While we're hoping for a full recovery followed by release, we also hope it steers clear of irresponsibly discarded nets in the future.



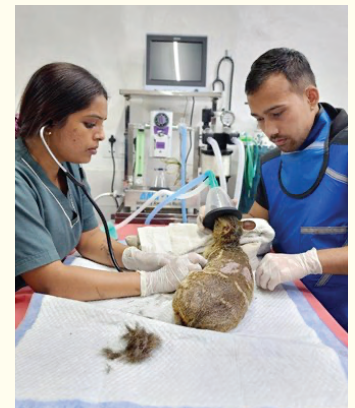
Duct tales: orphan parakeets retrieved!

Three orphan rose-ringed parakeets were discovered in an AC duct in a Pune building, with one unfortunately succumbing and no sign of the mother for a prolonged period. The surviving two are now under orphan care. They will undergo intensive rehabilitation with the goal of eventually releasing them back into the wild.



Indian striped hyena loses life to rabies! While this hyena was discovered limping and bleeding near a field close to railway tracks and rescued by the Nashik Forest Department for his injuries, our vets suspected this was more than a collision or accident. The hyena tested positive for Rabies – sadly viruses like Rabies that attack the nervous system often lead to disorientation as they progress. The hyena didn't survive the virus – however, incidents like this highlight the rampant disease transfer between wildlife and domestic animals which is a growing concern due to shared food sources or infections that enter their system in territorial fights.

R.I.P. dear mouse deer! The Pune Forest Department promptly admitted this sensitive and tiny ungulate after locals brought them this injured animal. She passed away due to the severe injuries from free-ranging dogs who she couldn't put up a fight with. We were deeply saddened as the post-mortem revealed she was early pregnant and neither mother or baby survived the ordeal.



Community Outreach & Education

'Coexist - Urban wildlife': five community awareness sessions about living safely around urban wildlife conducted this month!

Pune:

A session conducted at the Rotary Club Pune, Westend by RESQ's Nachiket Utpat for 25 individuals.

A session conducted at the JITO, Pune Chapter by RESQ's Nachiket Utpat and Sonia Gandhi Limaye for 30 children and adults.



Rotary Club, Pune



JITO, Pune

Two sessions conducted by RESQ's Nachiket Utpat and Sonia Gandhi Limaye for the 40 students of Shamrao Kalmadi High School who visited the RESQ Centre.

Nashik: A session conducted by RESQ's Vaibhav Bhogale for 95 local residents of Niphad.



Nashik



Shamrao Kalmadi High School, Pune

'Coexist' is a holistic community awareness session about living safely around animals. This month it was conducted in Daund, Pune Nachiket Awadhani and Shreyas Kamble from RESQ Daund and Baramati for 1300 SPRFs of Nanvij Police Training Academy.



Viholi



Ambebahula

'Coexist - Leopard and snakes': seven community awareness sessions about living safely around leopards and snakes were conducted this month by RESQ's Vaibhav Bhogale and Samarth Mahajan at the ZP Schools in Nashik District for a total of 1807 children!



Girnare



Gangamhalungi



Ozarkhed



Gangavhare



Vasali

'Leopard Awareness': four community awareness sessions about living safely around leopards were conducted this month!



Loni, Ahmednagar District: two sessions were conducted by RESQ's Abhijeet Mahale at the Pravara Trust's college of Agriculture & Biotechnology and Shri Swami Samarth Prabodhan Kendra for a total of 302 students.

Pedgaon, Ahmednagar District: a session conducted by RESQ's Nachiket Awadhani, Prashant Kaulkar for 50 locals.

Sangamner, Nashik District: A sessions conducted by RESQ's Abhijeet Mahale and Darshan Bankar for 93 students of Parvara Agricultural College

'SAFE SNAKES': one community awareness session about living safely around snakes was conducted in Pune District this month.

Paud: conducted by RESQ's Shreenth Chavan, Sonesh Ingole for 65 individuals of TATA Chemicals Ltd.



'AWARE India': this month 13 AWARE India sessions were conducted at various schools. AWARE India is RESQ's educational program for school going children that empowers them to make better decisions as individuals and understand the true meaning of peaceful coexistence with animals.

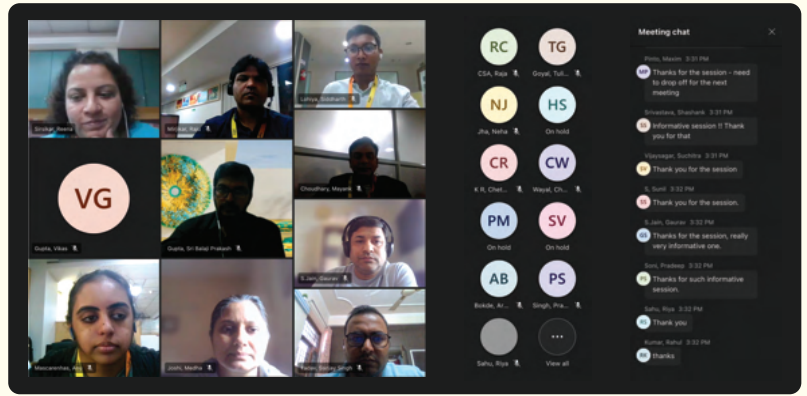
Satara: Three sessions of the module, 'What a waste' and two sessions of 'Go Native' were conducted by RESQ Team members, Sonia Gandhi Limaye, Siddhi Panchariya and Manasi Warde for 550 students of DES Datar School in Satara.

Nashik: six sessions of the AWARE India module, 'Being Street Smart', were conducted by RESQ Team members, Nachiket Utpat, Sonia Gandhi Limaye and Manasi Warde for 130 students of a Priceless Pearl Scholars Academy, and 1102 students of the St. Francis schools in Ranenagar and Tidke Colony.

Pune: one session each of the AWARE India modules, 'I am Responsible' and 'To Rescue or Not' were conducted by RESQ's Sonia Gandhi Limaye and Siddhi Panchariya for the 40 students and 5 teachers of the Unplggd Early Learning.



‘Coexist- Reptiles’: an online session on this topic was conducted by RESQ’s Nachiket Utpat for the 80 employees of Fujitsu Consulting.



Capacity Building & Training

Role of LDOs in HWC and Infections Disease Management: two training sessions were conducted on this topic by RESQ Team members Nachiket Utpat and Dr. Kalyani Thakur for 40 individuals at the SLTC in Pune.



Conservation in Action: Veterinary Approaches to Wildlife Emergencies and Human-Wildlife Coexistence: one training session was conducted on this topic by RESQ Team members Nachiket Utpat and Dr. Chetan Vanjari for 28 individuals at the SLTC in Pune.

Wildlife Rescue, HWC Management and Technical Rescue Workshop: 26th-27th Feb 2024

Conducted for: 60 Forest Guards, Foresters and RFOs of Kolhapur and Sawantwadi Forest Divisions, specifically from the Chandgad and Patane ranges in Kolhapur, and the Dodamarg, Amboli, and Sawantwadi ranges in Sawantwadi Division.

Training focus: targeting the regions of the newly established Tillari and Amboli-Dodamarg Conservation Reserves, focused on managing wildlife emergencies, particularly involving species such as Gaur, Leopard, and Ungulates. The programme was a mix of classroom sessions and practical demonstrations, covering handling scenarios involving sick or injured wildlife and rescues from confined spaces, supplemented by case studies and



audio-visual materials. Additionally, it included an introduction to basic capture equipment and a demonstration of well rescue techniques, including rappelling/descending techniques.

Training was conducted by Mr. Nachiket Utpat, Mr. Naresh Chandak and Ms. Sayli Pilane from RESQ CT

Initiative organized by DCF Guruprasad of Kolhapur Division and DCF Navakishore Reddy of Sawantwadi Division, Girish Punjabi - Wildlife Conservation Trust and Milind Ghate - Sahyadri Wildlife Foundation.



Wildlife Rescue & Introduction to Rescue Equipment: On 29th February 2024, a specialized training for 25 Forest Guards and Foresters from the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve (STR) and surrounding divisions was held, focusing on wildlife emergency management and big cat tracking. Conducted at RESQ TTC Pune by Nachiket Utpat, Naresh Chandak, and Sayli Pilane, the session included both theory and practical demonstrations on rescue techniques and equipment use.

The training, part of the Tiger translocation project, was organized by Deputy Director Smt. Snehalata Patil and coordinated by Mr. Ajit Patil, RFO Koyana.



Features & Articles

Click [🔗](#) to read!



Performing at their maximum potential, lauded for their dedication, innovation and hardwork, Ankush Dankinwad is our star RESQ employee of the month. Ankush is a strong, dedicated member of the team, blending Hulk-like power with the silent grace of a pastor. He approaches every task with perseverance and peace, never shying away from any assignment. Additionally, he is incredibly punctual, embodying dedication and reliability.

Thank you for being a RESQ Supporter!

If we share the same vision, there's so much we can do together. The RESQ team continues its work for animals with purpose and passion only because of your generous contributions and support - today, and everyday.

"We are happy to share our **Annual Report 2022-2023** [🔗](#) which captures the work and activities done by the RESQ team during the last financial year. On behalf of all the team members of RESQ and its board of trustees, I express our deepest gratitude to our donors, supporters, partners and well-wishers for supporting our mission to rescue and rehabilitate animals, and to reach people in our endeavors to protect animals and their habitats. **You can become a RESQ supporter** [📺](#) and join us in working towards a shared vision of conservation and coexistence between wildlife, communities, and their animals. Becoming a member is easy, click on this link. [🔗](#) Your annual contribution and belief in our vision helps us to provide medical treatment and care to thousands of animals every single year. Thank you!"

- Neha Panchamiya (Founder & President, RESQ CT)



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RESQ Charitable Trust is a registered NGO under the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950 (E-5002). We are registered under Section 12 (A) and 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961, Ministry of Corporate Affairs as an Implementing Agency of CSR Activities and Foreign Contributions Regulations Act (FCRA), 2010. RESQ CT works in collaboration with the Maharashtra Forest Department, and is authorized to conduct statewide viz. agreement with the Governor of the State of Maharashtra exercising executive powers of the Government of Maharashtra through the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) dt. 1st September 2022 and operates a Transit Treatment Centre at Bavdhan viz. agreement with the Dy. Conservator of Forests (Pune) dt. 21st February 2019.