

January 2024

Maharashtra, India
www.resqct.org

RESQ NEWSLETTER

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

Monthly Newsletter

#195 pg. 01

RESQ Charitable Trust



Indian rock python (*python molurus*) © RESQ Charitable Trust

Trapped in trash: wildlife entangled in human waste!

Irresponsible waste disposal, particularly "ghost gear" like discarded fishing nets, poses a significant threat to wildlife. These nets can entangle and severely harm animals, leading to injuries and often fatal outcomes. For instance, the Indian rock python, with its specific scales and movement patterns, struggles to escape once caught. At the RESQ Centre, we've recently admitted six pythons ensnared by such nets. This particular one in the image is recuperating well, basking in the sun, and is on the path to being released back into the wild, where we hope it doesn't encounter this again.

Statistics January '24



1,846 Helpline
Calls Received



☒ Rescue, rehabilitate animals, reach people.

Ambulances
Travelled **35,093** Kms



PUNE
34,579 Kms



NASHIK
514 Kms



433

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



Awareness sessions, education programs
& training conducted for **2,389** individuals.

1,040

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



927

Wildlife
provided aid to



Wildlife

Birds

Mammals

Reptiles

Pune
Units +
TTC



Nashik
Division



868

551

158

159

59

32

4

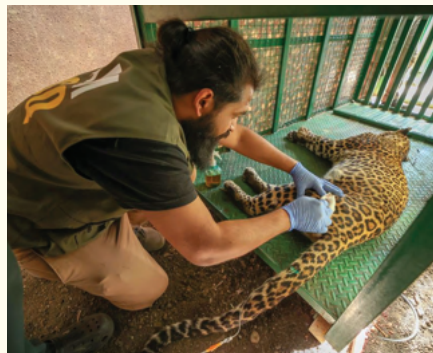
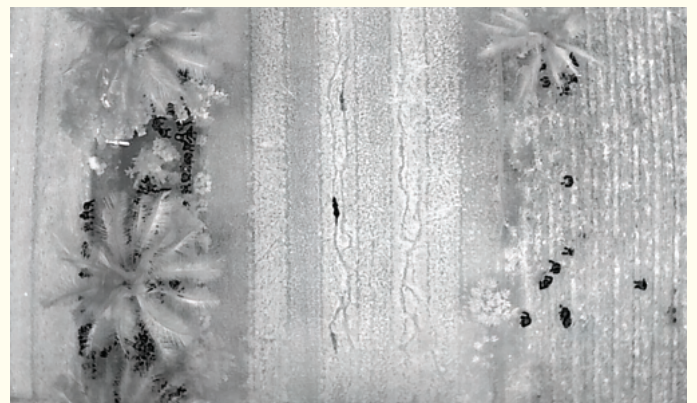
23

[Click to view videos!](#)

Updates

RESQ team **on field**

Teamwork triumph: joint effort saves leopard from emu pen! A 15-member team from RESQ, the Forest Department, and local police swiftly rescued an adult female leopard trapped in an emu pen near Pune. Initiated at 10.00 pm on January 13, 2024, the operation was completed in less than three hours amidst a tense and chaotic scene. The Police skillfully managed the gathering crowds, ensuring safety and allowing the RESQ team to prioritize the leopard's wellbeing. The use of a UAV and the expertise of RESQ vets, Dr. Sushrut Shirbhate and Dr. Kalyani Thakur, facilitated the successful tranquilisation and subsequent capture of the leopard. This operation highlighted the effectiveness of rapid response, strategic planning, and inter-agency collaboration in managing human-wildlife conflicts, emphasizing the importance of coexistence strategies amidst urban expansion.



January tracks ...a busy month for leopard encounters! In the month of January, the RESQ team along with respective forest departments in different regions of western Maharashtra, dealt with over 15 leopard-related incidents involving human-leopard conflict, accidents and reunions.

Our teams were actively involved in addressing multiple instances of leopards entering densely populated human settlements in Ahmednagar, Nashik and Pune districts. Some situations involved negative interactions between humans and leopards that required delicate handling, while in others, our

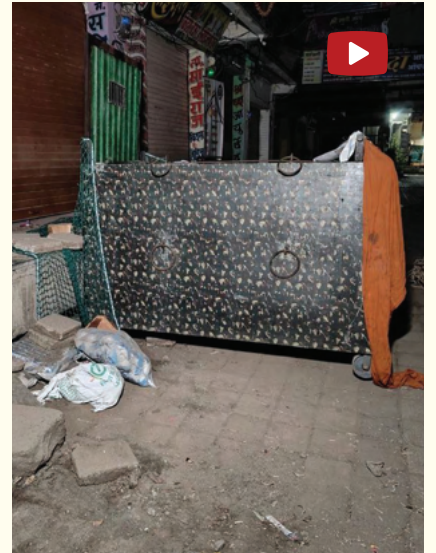


response involved camera trapping, detailed assessment, and mass community awareness initiatives. Based on the need, we engaged our thermal UAV teams and Wildlife Detection Dog Squad to act as force multipliers. Proactively responding to these situations is crucial in order to prevent any possible adverse interactions in the future.



Stranded leopard's safe rescue in Akole!

An adult leopard was reported stuck in a chamber of the basement of a bustling residential area in Akole, Ahmednagar District. To ensure the safety of both the leopard and the local residents, the Forest Department secured the exit points with nets. Upon arrival at the scene, our team quickly evaluated the situation and swiftly darted the leopard, which appeared to be dehydrated and weak. Following its safe capture, the leopard was transported to a nearby secure facility where it received medical treatment. Once the leopard's condition stabilized, it was transferred back to the Forest Department for further actions.



Aftermath of a leopards brawl.

The Nashik Forest Department was alerted to a leopard's presence near a densely populated zone in Harsul, Nashik District, prompting a call to our team for assistance. The leopard, injured from a clash with another over territory, was unusually close to human habitation, making our intervention imperative to prevent potential conflicts. After a careful operation, the leopard was captured and is now under rehabilitation at the RESQ Nashik Centre, with a focus on its recovery and safe reintegration into its natural habitat.



Eight (o8) leopard cubs reunited back this month with their mothers in Pune and Nashik districts – the best possible outcome for leopard cubs versus a lifetime in captivity!



Peaceful coexistence: living safely around leopards at Sahyadri School (KFI)

This school, deeply embedded in its natural surroundings and conscious of the wildlife cohabiting the area, sought our founders (an ex-student of the school) expertise on its recent leopard movements around the campus. It was a heartening experience to see the school's commitment to wildlife conservation and safety, mirroring the values that we hold dear.



Our team along with our trained wildlife detection dogs, undertook the crucial task of assessing and enhancing safety measures for a harmonious coexistence of wildlife and the school community. The detection dogs played a crucial role, using their keen sense of smell to scour the area and successfully discovering scat, which confirmed the presence of leopards. After a full day of meticulous surveillance, our team gathered enough evidence to assess the situation accurately.

Additionally, as part of our commitment to fostering safe cohabitation, we are conducting awareness sessions for the school's staff and students. Sessions focus on understanding how to live peacefully alongside leopards in regions where human habitats overlap with those of wildlife. Our approach combines immediate safety measures with long-term educational initiatives to promote harmony between humans and wildlife in this shared environment.





A painful ordeal for this leopard on the fence post a hunt – our sincerest efforts proved unsuccessful to save it from the perils of living in human-dominated landscapes.



Tragic encounter – another leopard bites the dust post a vehicle collision on a highway near Nashik.



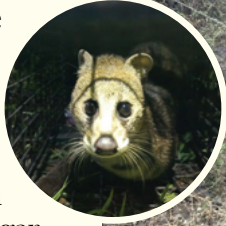
A prickly rescue but a porcupine liberated! From captivity to freedom, an Indian porcupine seized in Nashik finds new life after rehabilitation at RESQ Wildlife TTC. Now back in the wild, it's a sharp turnaround for nature's own.

Midnight wanderer: a Pangolin's night out in Pune! A nocturnal surprise in Pune as a pangolin ventures into a residential area – getting chased by dogs, but thankfully unharmed! Swiftly rescued and assessed by our team, this elusive night traveller has been safely returned to the wild, close to its unexpected urban detour.



Rescued from the depths of deep open wells!

A series of fortunate saves this month as our teams expertly rescued two Indian civets, a jackal, and an Indian fox from open wells in Pune, Ahmednagar

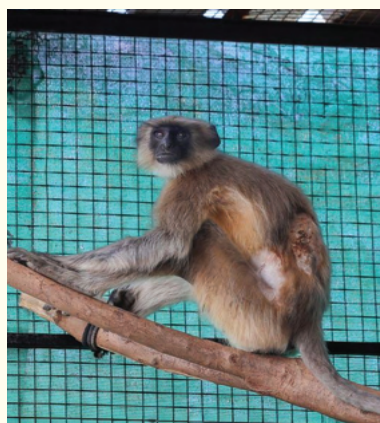


and Satara districts. Following swift health checks confirming their well-being, these resilient survivors were released into safe, nearby habitats, ready for their next adventure.

From darkness to light: an Indian wolf's spirit rekindled!

An Indian wolf, initially found in a distressed state near Dhule, was safely rescued and then admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC where it underwent intensive treatment. Despite a grim prognosis of retinal detachment and internal bleeding in both eyes, the wolf responded positively to two months of dedicated care, fully regaining its vision. A testament to its successful treatment and rehabilitation was its triumphant return to the wild, where it seamlessly merged in its own habitat.

The released wolf has been collared with a satellite enabled collar for post-release monitoring, and we're thrilled to say that it's almost been a month since his release, and he's doing incredibly well! His movement patterns are monitored online daily - and news and information from locals and local forest officers also suggest he has rejoined his pack successfully.



Against all odds, langur jumps back to where it belongs! A langur was reported to us from Baramati by the Pune Forest Department after it was observed perched on a tree with a log of wood piercing its chest, completely traversing from one side to the other. Our team safely captured it and in an urgent procedure on sight, removed the log of wood after which it was admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC where it was under observation and recovery. Miraculously the langur made a rapid and a complete recovery and was finally deemed fit to be released back into its own habitat. This particular case speaks volumes about the resilience of animals and the ability of RESQ vets who give their 100% even when there's a 1% chance of survival in that animal.

Indian rock python returns home!

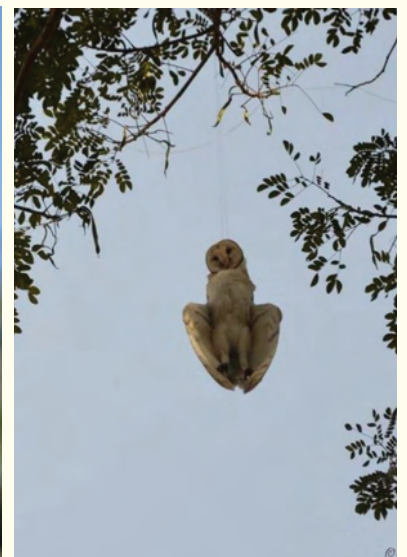
An Indian rock python was admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC after being discovered entangled in a negligently discarded fishing net in Uran. It is one of the many who come to us after getting ensnared in discarded nets. The python underwent suturing and after making a full recovery it was finally released back to where it belongs this month where it slithered back and immediately merged into its habitat.



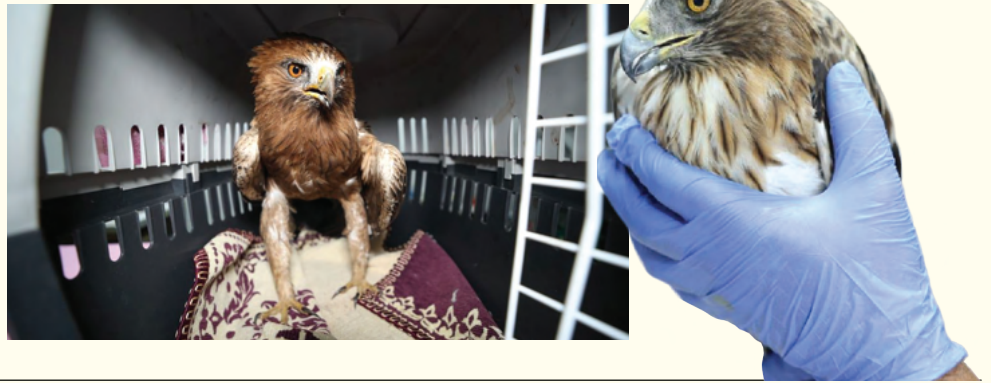
Chirp-chirp hooray: peahen chicks return to the wild! A farmer near Chiplun who had unknowingly raised orphaned peahen chicks alongside his hens, handed them over to the Forest Department. Recognizing the importance of proper wildlife rehabilitation, the chicks were admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC. After showcasing notable species-specific behavior and reaching appropriate growth milestones, including the development of nestling and head feathers, these chicks have been successfully released back into a suitable habitat this month, marking a significant step in allowing them to live the free life they deserve.

Birds hanging by a thread: manja menace sentences 50% ensnared birds to death!

Just this month, 124 birds have been reported to us after getting entangled in manja. Regrettably, despite our rescue efforts, 66 of these birds tragically lost their lives. While kite flying remains a beloved tradition during festivals such as Sankranti (also known as Utrayan) and Ugadi, the usage of nylon manja poses a significant threat to all kinds of lives. The escalation of manja-related injuries in January is undeniable; however, it is crucial to recognize that manja left entwined in trees perpetuates harm to birds throughout the year. Observe the trees around your homes – if you spot any manja thread broken and entangled, please remove it or contact our teams who will send a volunteer to help.



Booted eagles hang in their boots! Two booted eagles, typically migratory and seldom seen in cityscapes, were rescued in different locales in a completely recumbent state. While the future looks bleak for them, we are ensuring that their palliative care is pain-free and as comfortable as possible.



At the RESQ Centre

Gaur-ing ahead for a full recovery! Rescued by the Forest Department after a drain hole mishap, this Gaur calf found itself at the RESQ Wildlife TTC with a severe leg fracture. Following orthopedic surgery, it spent time in the ICU before moving to a larger enclosure, gradually regaining the use of its injured leg. However, as tendon issues persisted, further surgical intervention looked seemingly necessary.



Highly reputed surgeons in the city, Dr. Rajesh Parasnis (neurosurgeon) and Dr. Sachin Tapasvi (orthopedic specialist and surgeon), both wildlife lovers and ardent RESQ supporters, stepped in to address spinal nerve complications affecting the calf's leg. Following an assessment of sensation and mobility, surgical correction, known as Z plasty, was performed by Dr. Parasnis and Dr. Chetan Vanjari (RESQ).

The calf's post-surgery recovery has been smooth, with it using its leg and bearing weight the very next day—a significant step toward the gaur's full recovery and eventual return to its natural habitat.



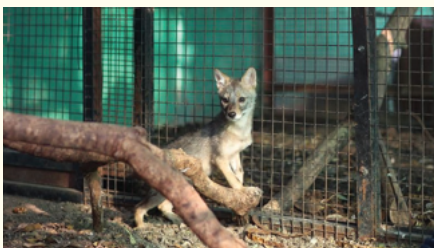
Furr-gotten identities for four jackal pups! Reported in Satara district, four jackal pups were mistakenly sold as domestic dogs and subsequently kept in inappropriate housing conditions. The Forest Department seized them, realizing the horror for these little pups. Unfortunately, one pup didn't survive, given the ordeal it went through. But the remaining three are now under orphan rehabilitation care at the RESQ Wildlife TTC, receiving the necessary attention and care for their well-being. We're quite certain they will make it back to the wild. This incident underscores the importance of proper wildlife awareness and identification.



Jackal pup survives against all odds! 3 jackal pups were reported to have fallen in a well in Indapur. By the time they were rescued, two had already died and the one that was observed to be alive is under orphan care and rehabilitation at the RESQ Wildlife TTC.

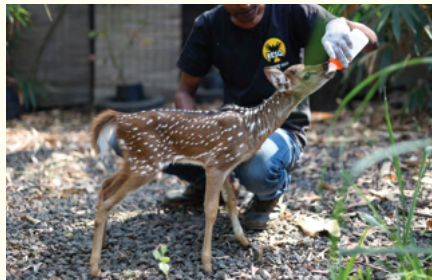


Jackal pup alone but not lonely! Another jackal pup was discovered in a farm near Sangli. Despite efforts to locate its mother, she was not found. Subsequently, the pup was transferred to the RESQ Wildlife TTC, where it is currently receiving rehabilitation and being raised to be wild.

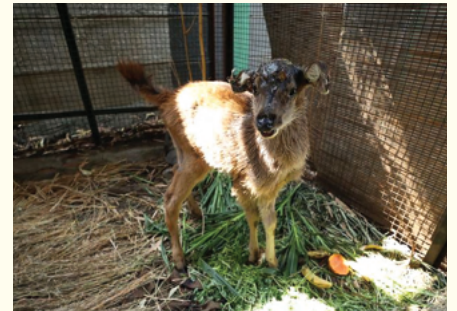


Spotted and saved: spotted deer fawns being raised to be wild! Two spotted deer fawns have been admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC for orphan rehabilitation as they were found being chased by free-ranging dogs in two different locations in

Pune district. They will both undergo comprehensive rehabilitation which will prepare them for a return to the wild as soon as they become capable of independent survival. We might even integrate them into one large enclosure for rehabilitation to foster a bond between them, strengthening their chances of survival in the wild once released.



Once bitten, twice shy sambar! Chased by free-ranging dogs, a juvenile sambar deer was safely rescued by the locals who then informed the Forest Department as the sambar needed urgent medical attention. It was admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC Pune, and is now receiving intensive care and treatment for its injuries.



Leg-endarry comeback for the sambar deer fawn! In an open farm field near Alibag, a sambar deer and her fawn were chased by dogs. While the mother escaped unharmed, the fawn was severely wounded with a fractured hind leg. A local farmer intervened to save the injured fawn, and informed the Forest Department who, recognizing the fawn's critical condition, requested our team to admit it to the RESQ Wildlife TTC. The fawn underwent a pinning surgery to fix its leg which is now in bandage, and we are optimistic about its complete recovery and eventual release.



Black-headed gull checks into the RESQ centre An injured black-headed gull with a wing fracture was admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC after tourists spotted it on the ground in Alibag. This marks the first instance of a black-headed gull being treated at the RESQ Centre. We hope this is not indicative of a growing trend where more of these birds find themselves in distress.



Painted stork's brush with danger! Local residents found a painted stork entangled badly in manja. They rescued the bird, carefully removing the manja, and then handed it over to our team. At the RESQ Wildlife TTC,



the bird was diagnosed with a notable injury to its left wing's patagium, and an additional wound on its leg. The stork is currently admitted in the ICU, where it is undergoing necessary treatment. We're hoping for a complete recovery and eventual return to its natural habitat.



Fast and the fur-ious jackal! The Forest Department rescued a jackal following a vehicle collision on the Ahmednagar highway. The jackal was taken to the RESQ Nashik TTC for medical care and monitoring. Despite receiving treatment and stabilizing initially, the jackal's condition deteriorated, and it eventually passed away. This incident highlights the ongoing issue of negative human-wildlife interactions, particularly collisions.



Avian tragedy as two golden orioles crash into glass! Two Indian golden orioles were discovered fallen to the ground in Pune city after colliding with tall glass structures, rendering them unable to fly. Regrettably, one succumbed to its injuries before reaching the RESQ Wildlife TTC for treatment. The other one received treatment and was safely reintroduced to its natural habitat immediately. We remain hopeful that it will steer clear of glass structures to avoid further collisions, particularly collisions.



Flamingos falling victims to urban perils! Two injured greater flamingos were admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC, Nashik Division. One was found in a field, likely electrocuted due to an open connection, while the other one had a severe wing breakage from nylon manja.



Community Outreach & Education

‘Living safely around leopards’: this month, our teams have worked tirelessly to respond to numerous incidents where leopards were spotted in densely populated human settlements. Such incidents always cause panic and sometimes even lead to negative interactions, which have to be sensitively mitigated as the communities tend to harbor a lot of negative feelings towards the animal. Creating awareness and interacting with the communities helps in advocating peaceful coexistence with the animal.

Shrigonda, Ahmednagar District: session conducted by RESQ team members Naciket Awadhani, Shryeas Kamble, Prashant Kaulkar, Rushikesh More for 425 local residents.

Shrigonda, Ahmednagar District: session conducted by RESQ Team members Nachiket Awadhani and Rushikesh More for 50 locals.

Shrigonda, Ahmednagar District: conducted by RESQ Team members Nachiket Awadhani, Shreyas Kamble for 100 locals.

MIDC, Nashik District: conducted by RESQ team members Vaibhav Bhogale and Sahil Shinde for 45 individuals of Mahindra Sona.

Chehdi, Nashik District: session conducted by RESQ Team members Vaibhav Bhogale and Samarth Mahajan for 48 locals.



Kautha



Gawalwadi



Chehdi



Ajnui



Nashik



Nashik

‘Living safely around leopards and snakes’: two community awareness sessions about living safely around leopards and snakes!

Odha, Nashik District: session conducted by RESQ Pune team member Vaibhav Bhogale for 80 children from grades 1st to 8th of the ZP School.

Shilapur, Nashik District: session conducted by RESQ Pune team member Vaibhav Bhogale for 125 children from grades 1st to 8th of the ZP School.



Odha



Shilapur



Strategies and Challenges

Rescuing Endangered Wildlife

IN MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

by
Nachiket Utpat
Director, Wildlife Conservation



मटा अंकर

‘रेस्पेक्ट’ चॅरिटेबल ट्रस्ट ‘च्या संस्थापक नेहा पंचमिया यांचे मरण

वन्यप्राण्यांसह अस्तित्व स्वीकारावे लागणार

मृत

स्वाद

“राहा विलासत आहे. जाहदाचा नागरीकीकरणामुळे भविष्यात वन्यप्राणी बघायला मोहिमांची संख्या वाढणार आहे. यात प्रशासकीय व्यवस्थापक नागरिकांची भूमिका, त्यांचा योगदान राखण्यात आला आहे.”

‘रेस्पेक्ट’ चॅरिटेबल ट्रस्टची संस्थापक नेहा पंचमिया यांची वन्यप्राण्यांसह अस्तित्व स्वीकारावे लागणार आहे. यात प्रशासकीय व्यवस्थापक नागरिकांची भूमिका, त्यांचा योगदान राखण्यात आला आहे.”

- नेहा पंचमिया आणि नयनेल डगला



म. टा. प्रतिनिधी, पुणे

“काहीच शाहकरीपणामुळे आपण वन्यप्राण्यांच्या अस्तित्वासाठी येथे पोहोचले आहोत. आपल्या काळात वन्यप्राण्यांच्या पिराविले बिदाविले इतर वन्यप्राणी दिवसेंदिवस घटत जात आहेत. याकडे राखणूच लागणु वन्यप्राण्यांच्या आरक्षणाला वन्यप्राण्यांबरोबर सारकितल स्वीकारावे लागेल. वन्यप्राणी राखिली जाणाय, त्याच तुरिष्टा



चॅरिटेबल-नॉन-प्रॉफिट
‘मृत’ संस्था
‘रेस्पेक्ट’ चॅरिटेबल ट्रस्ट
‘रेस्पेक्ट’ चॅरिटेबल ट्रस्टची संस्थापक नेहा पंचमिया यांची वन्यप्राण्यांसह अस्तित्व स्वीकारावे लागणार आहे. यात प्रशासकीय व्यवस्थापक नागरिकांची भूमिका, त्यांचा योगदान राखण्यात आला आहे.”

भूमिका’ का विषयाने मज्झिने लिहिले. आपणही नागरी अस्तित्वात राखण्यासाठी वेळोवेळी, आरक्षण होतिले वन्यप्राण्यांच्या राखण्यासाठी आलेल्या वेळोवेळी नागरीमांचे मरण अनुभव लागतिले.

➤ जॉर्जिन मकरू...

- જવાન મળતું પાઠ્યક્રમના ટોચનાથી નીચેનું.

एकहस्तिका तथा प्रणाल्याभ्यां
विकटपत्र, ताम्र, लोहपत्र, लोहकट,
पिम्बोरी इत्यादि, मोहर, पाण्डरी
मोहर, राजको मोहर, अक्षरपत्रादयः
विविध प्रकाराभ्यां सन्ति, विविध
सिक्काणि यस्मै, पाण्डुराजपञ्चन,
सन्तरी पञ्चनिका प्रमाणेन सन्ति

Capacity Building & Training

‘Handling Wildlife Emergencies and Human-Snake Conflict Management’: a training session was conducted on this topic by RESQ Team member by Nachiket Utpat for 22 foresters at the Kundal Forest Academy.



Renowned reptile expert and Ireland zoo pioneer James Hennessy visits the RESQ Centre in Pune.

James Hennessy, the founder and director of the National Reptile Zoo in Gowran, Co Kilkenny, Ireland, visited us at the RESQ center this month. Their zoo houses 200 animals and 50 different

species, including alligators, six-foot-long monitor lizards, crocodiles, rattlesnakes, cobras, and poison dart frogs. James's visit exemplified the exchange of information, providing us with valuable insights. Our team was overjoyed with the opportunity to learn some valuable tricks and techniques from him. A big thanks to Gerry Martin (The Liana Trust) for facilitating the interaction as in the field of wildlife rehabilitation, firsthand information is often scarce, and the most effective way to learn and advance is through the exchange of knowledge. A great visit and a promise to do much more together in collaboration in the future!

‘Role of LDOs in HWC and Infections Disease Management’: three training sessions were conducted on this topic by RESQ Team members Dr. Chetan Vanjari, Dr. Kalyani Thakur, Nachiket Utpat and Abhijeet Mahale for 54 individuals at the SLTC in Pune.



‘Role of ALDOs and LSS in Wildlife first-aid and stabilization’: training sessions were conducted on this topic by RESQ Team members Nachiket Utpat and Dr. Chetan Vanjari for 18 individuals at the SLTC in Pune.

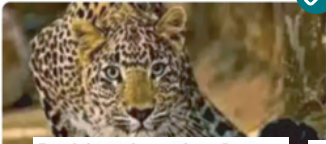


Features & Articles

Click  to read!

Leopard enters residential area in Pune, rescued five hours later

TOT City Desk / TIMESOFINDIA.COM / Dec 28, 2023, 15:34 IST



Female leopard rescued near Pune

By RESQ Charitable Trust



The swift response and on-site control measures by the local police department were crucial in creating a safe and controlled environment for the rescue operation. (SOURCES: RESQ)

Hyena in city? Panic not, say experts



'Manja' thread continues to hurt feathered friends

By RESQ Charitable Trust

Jan 21, 2024 04:45 AM IST

The fire department also received at least 20 calls from across the city of birds injured due to kite threads made out of nylon, plastic, synthetic or glass coated Chinese 'manja'.



The RESQ Charitable Trust has received 20 calls from across the city of birds injured due to kite threads made out of nylon, plastic, synthetic or glass coated Chinese 'manja'. (SOURCES: RESQ)

अन्य वर्षभरात ५ हजार ७३४ वन्यजीवांना मिळाले जीवदान !

तेव्हा टोपेली कार्यालय : विविध मंडळात २२ गावठी कुत्रे उचली

विविध मंडळात २२ गावठी कुत्रे उचली

विविध मंडळात २२ गावठी कुत्रे उचली

विविध मंडळात २२ गावठी कुत्रे उचली






VILAS AGIRKAR

Performing at their maximum potential, lauded for their dedication, innovation and hardwork, Vilas Agirkar is our star RESQ employee for the month. An enthusiastic part of the RESQ team, wholeheartedly dedicates himself to looking after large animals, having conquered his initial apprehension through direct involvement. Leveraging his skills as a gardener, he crafts thoughtful animal enclosures. His vibrant personality is evident in his engaging interactions, making him a valued and beloved member of the team and the animals he cares for.

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)



BECOME A RESQ SUPPORTER TODAY



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.