October 2026

Maharashtra · Goa, India
www.resqct.org

RESQ NEWSLETTER

Where people and wildlife share ground: rescue, rehabilitation, coexistence. ***Since 2007.***



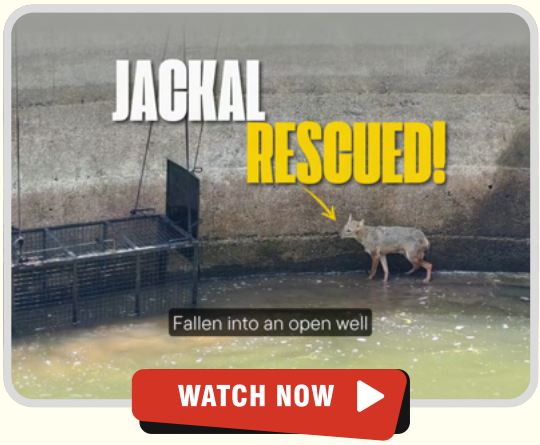
Greater spotted eagle (*Clanga clanga*) ©RESQ Charitable Trust

The map is older than the city.

A greater spotted eagle inherits its route. Each autumn it leaves breeding grounds far to the north for the wetlands of India along the same rivers, lakes and reed beds its species has followed for longer than any of them have had names. Fewer than ten thousand adults remain, and the losses come at both ends of the journey for the same reason: wetlands drained for farms and cities. The bird on this cover still carries the spotted plumage of a juvenile, so this was probably its first time south. It arrived in Pune in October, as its kind does, and was found on the ground in the middle of the city, weak and dehydrated. It is flying again. The eagle kept an appointment made before the city existed. The city has yet to keep its wetlands.

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Statistics

OCTOBER 2026

Efforts in numbers...

15,898 LIVES IMPACTED!

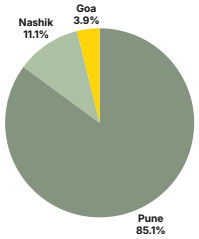
IMPACT at SCALE

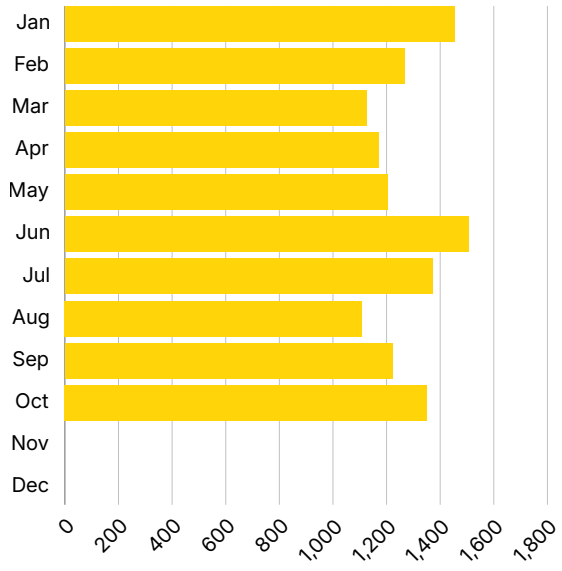
OCTOBER 2026

1,351

TOTAL WILDLIFE PROVIDED AID TO

TOTAL 2026: 8,863

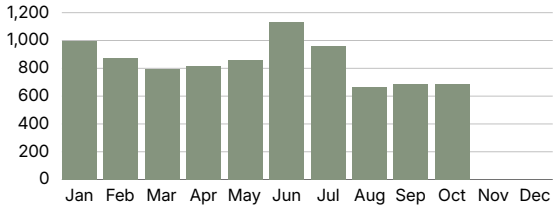




687

BIRDS

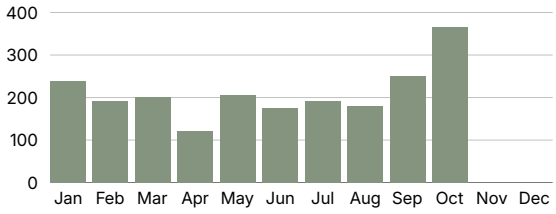
TOTAL 2026: 6,423



365

MAMMALS

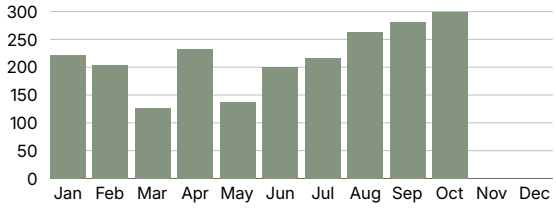
TOTAL 2026: 1,354



299

REPTILES

TOTAL 2026: 1,086



Mapping our efforts.



MAHARASHTRA



GOA



Our reach this month across Maharashtra and Goa, through emergency rescues, rehabilitation, education and awareness, and training and capacity building.

7,624

CHILDREN EDUCATED

TOTAL 2026: 27,119

12,241

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

TOTAL 2026: 40,887

49

VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED

TOTAL 2026: 451

353

INDIVIDUALS TRAINED

TOTAL 2026: 1,463

SAFETY, EDUCATION & TRAINING PROGRAMS CONDUCTED FOR **12,594** INDIVIDUALS



3,213

HELPLINE CALLS ATTENDED

TOTAL 2026: 28,221 CALLS



46,595

TOTAL KMS TRAVELLED

TOTAL 2026: 4,74,202 KMS

Updates

Click to view videos!

RESQ CT team on field

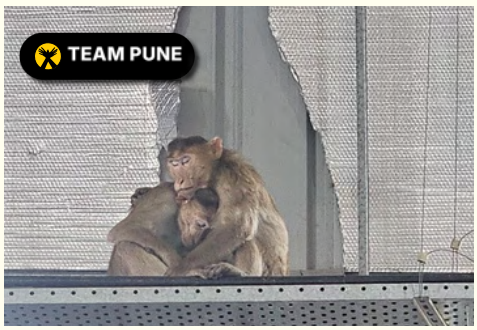








Before the next night. Leopards in farmlands live among people as a matter of course. Dogs and livestock are the prey; people are avoided, and nearly all of that proximity passes without incident. This month, two residents of one area in Nashik district lost their lives to leopard attacks within days of each other. The Nashik East Forest Department requested the assistance of the RESQ Nashik team, and investigation and response ran together. A leopard was identified and seen within hours at the site of the second attack, which in a landscape holding several leopards is what tied this animal to the deaths. Less than twelve hours later it was secured and handed over to the Department. An uninjured leopard in no distress is normally left where it is. This one was the exception, for the safety of the people around it and of the animal itself.







Whole troop, or nothing. The bonnet macaque lives in troops and moves as one, and a troop that finds a roof, stored food and no predators has no reason to leave. Thirteen moved into a Flipkart warehouse in Pune district, damaging stock and making the floor unsafe to work. The RESQ Pune team, with the Pune Forest Department, captured all thirteen unharmed and released them as a troop into habitat chosen by the Department. To a macaque, a warehouse is a forest with the hard parts removed. The job was not removing the monkeys. It was moving the troop intact.






Back to the colony. Little cormorants nest close together, so one broken branch brings down many nestlings at once. A second fall, this time in Pune, brought 28 more to the Wildlife TTC, Pune this month, on top of September's Baramati cohort. The outcome split, as it always does: several did not survive, several have cleared rehabilitation and been released onto open water, and many remain in care. A colony concentrates risk on one branch. It also gives a released bird somewhere to return to.





Tank or trail. Young marsh crocodiles travel overland between waterbodies, and the journey leaves marks. So does a life in a tank. A young mugger from North Goa, brought in by the RESQ Goa team, arrived severely dehydrated with abrasions over its hind legs, and nothing settled which of the two had caused them. It recovered appetite and mobility under treatment and was released to a waterbody on the Goa Forest Department's instruction. Where it came from is still an open question. Where it went is not.

At the RESQ Centres

Click to view videos!




The wrong kind of collar. The Indian jackal is the most adaptable of India's wild canids and the one that lives closest to people, which exposes it to everything people leave in the open. Two reached the Wildlife TTC, Pune this month. The first was seen trailing children in a village around Baramati for a day or two. Residents found a rope and a bell around its neck, reported it to the Pune Forest Department, and the RESQ Baramati team brought it in. The second, from Solapur, was admitted by the Solapur Forest Department from a roadside with a fractured femur. One needs surgery and the recovery after it. The other needs to forget that a house is a place to go. The bell says it was taken young enough to be collared and let go old enough to be noticed.





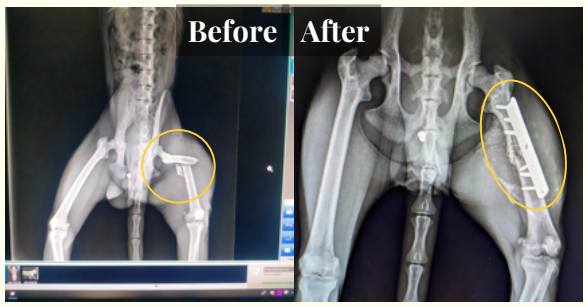
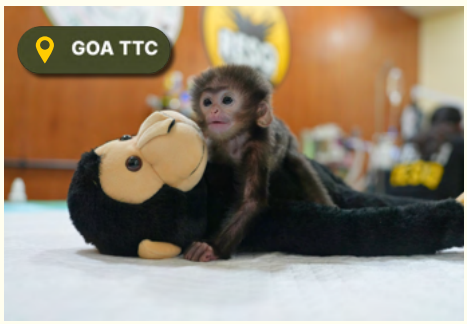





Plate and perch. A bonnet macaque spends its day between ground and canopy, and that life depends on a hind limb that can push off and land. One attacked by free-ranging dogs arrived at the Wildlife TTC, Pune with extensive wounds and a fractured femur. The fracture was plated surgically, the wounds are healing, and it is now using the leg in the rehabilitation enclosure. It shares the unit with four others admitted this month: one injured on a road, and three seized from unauthorised captivity by the Forest Department. A macaque that is bold around people is easy to keep, which is how it ends up in homes as a pet. The dogs did not know that. They only knew it was on the ground.



Nobody's turn to carry it. A grey langur infant is not raised by its mother alone. Females in a troop pass infants between them, carrying and minding young that are not their own, so a newborn is held by several females from its first days. A female struck by a vehicle in Goa was admitted in very poor condition and died on arrival, having just given birth. The infant is now in orphan care at the Wildlife TTC, Goa, raised with minimal human contact. The vehicle took one life outright, and the ordinary course of another.






Cane season, kitten season. The rusty-spotted cat is the world's smallest wild cat and goes unseen for most of the year. Its breeding season coincides with the sugarcane harvest, so as November nears, fields are cut open around dens and calls begin about displaced kittens. Most end in a reunion with the mother. Four did not this month, two from Pune and two from Satara: repeated reunion attempts failed, their condition worsened, and they were admitted to the Wildlife TTC, Pune. The harvest arrives on schedule. So does the litter. The reunions are the part that has to be arranged.



Largest antelope, status pending. The nilgai grows into the largest antelope in Asia, but it is not born one. A calf stands at roughly the height of a dog, and for its first months it is within reach of one. A young nilgai in Palghar was rescued from a dog attack by the Dahanu Forest Department and admitted to the Wildlife TTC, Pune with minor scrapes and no mother in sight. Rehabilitation now is the long part: foraging on its own, reading a threat, running at the right moment. Size will eventually settle the argument with dogs. Everything before that has to be learned.



Nobody saw it for weeks. A porcupine is nocturnal and solitary, and a hurt one does what a healthy one does: spends the day underground and the night keeping its distance. So an injury on this species is usually old by the time anyone reports it. One from South Goa reached the Wildlife TTC, Goa through the Goa Forest Department with a wound from jaw to shoulder open long enough to expose bone, the left ear gone and the left eye affected. The cause is not known. It is weak, and under treatment. A quill-covered animal is easy to see and hard to approach. A wounded one is neither.









Two eagles, same ground. Two eagles reached the Wildlife TTC, Pune this month, and only one of them had far to come. The tawny eagle is a resident of dry open country that scavenges as readily as it hunts, so one standing on the ground is unremarkable until it cannot take off. That was the case with an adult in Pune district, handed to the Pune Forest Department and sent on to the centre. The greater spotted eagle is a winter migrant that breeds far to the north and arrives on Indian wetlands in October; one was found on the ground in the middle of the city and brought in by the RESQ Pune team. Neither had an injury. Both were treated for weakness and dehydration, and both are flying again with release to follow. A broken wing announces itself. What grounded these two had to be looked for.





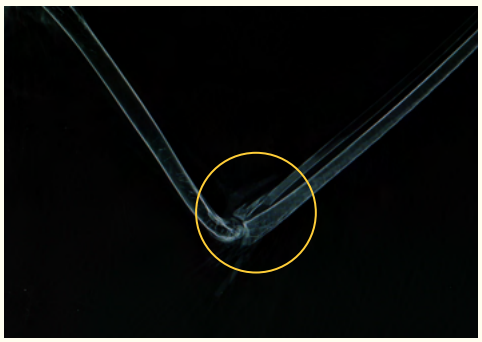

Manja plays no favourites. The Indian eagle-owl hunts at dusk and after dark, flying low and silently, and its advantages, night vision and silence, do nothing against a thread drawn tight across the dark. The RESQ Baramati team answered a call about one caught in kite string close to fifty feet up. Freed from the line, it had a swollen wing, and after treatment at the Wildlife TTC, Pune it has moved outdoors for flight practice. Kites come down in January. The string stays up all year.





A vulture of a different feather. The vulture aviary at the Wildlife TTC, Nashik has been busy all year, almost entirely with long-billed vultures grounded by monsoon, poor feathers, or a first flight that ended badly. Three went out together in September. The bird that came in this month is a white-rumped vulture, the species that fell furthest when diclofenac in livestock carcasses began killing adults, and the first of its kind at the centre this year. Residents in Nashik district reported it sitting in one spot, too weak to fly, both wings drooping. The Nashik West Forest Department brought it in, and it is being treated for dehydration and weakness. One bird of a species that has lost most of its number is not a statistic. It is a share of what is left.






Grounded, with company. Greater flamingos feed by wading and travel by flying, so a bird that cannot do the second is confined to wherever it was last standing. An adult with a wing injury was found in Solapur district with a juvenile still dependent on it. A resident took both in and informed the Solapur Forest Department, which sent them to the Wildlife TTC, Pune. Examination found a fracture in the adult's wing, now under treatment; the juvenile is uninjured and in the rehabilitation unit with it. The fracture is the adult's. The consequences are shared.






Inside out. A snake has no part it can spare. The body wall holds the organs in, and the scales along the underside are what it grips the ground with, so a wound on the belly is also a wound to the surface it travels on. A Russell's viper found in Pune arrived with its organs exposed through a tear in the underside. They were returned to the body cavity and the wound was closed. The surgery put everything back. Keeping it there is daily work now, wound care and watching every movement, until the snake shows whether it holds.






Losing its grip. A chameleon lives by its grip. Its feet clamp onto a branch, and it moves slowly because it is never supposed to let go. Residents around Baramati reported one under a tree, unable to walk, and the RESQ Baramati team brought it to the Wildlife TTC, Pune. It had lost strength in its hind legs: able to grip with its claws, unable to stand or balance on them. It is now suspended in a sling that lets it walk upright, so the limbs recover their function by using it. For an animal that holds on for a living, treatment starts with getting the hold back.






A pattern of demand. The Indian star tortoise is patterned to disappear. The radiating lines on its shell break up its outline in dry grass and scrub, which is how it goes unnoticed in country that looks empty. In the hand, the same lines make it the most conspicuous tortoise in the trade. Twenty-two seized in Palghar were admitted to the Wildlife TTC, Pune by the Dahanu Forest Department. All are stable, and the way back is long: a list of rehabilitation stages, each cleared before the next. Evolution gave it a pattern to vanish in. The trade found another use for it.

Community Outreach & Education

National Wildlife Week 2026

IMPACT at SCALE

OCTOBER 2026

11,800+

INDIVIDUALS EMPOWERED WITH WILDLIFE AWARENESS PROGRAMS

1 to 8 October 2026: **51 sessions, 8,800+ people reached**

Seven days, five teams. National Wildlife Week is seven days, and the RESQ teams in Pune, Baramati, Nashik, Goa and Mumbai used all of them: 51 sessions in eight days, many in collaboration with the Forest Department. The venues were the ones where wildlife is a daily question rather than a subject: zilla parishad primary schools and ashram shalas in the leopard belts of Pune and Nashik districts, village schools and a sugar factory around Baramati and Solapur, engineering and zoology colleges in Goa, and school halls across Mumbai. The subjects followed the audience. For the villages, living safely around leopards and snakes. For the city schools, when to call for a rescue and when not to, and what native wildlife looks like. Two in three of the people reached were children under fourteen, and the sessions were sized for them: a classroom of thirty one morning, an assembly of four hundred the next. The week ended on 8 October. The sessions did not. Another 14 ran through the rest of the month, taking October past 11,000 people. A week is a reason to start. The rest of the year is the work.




























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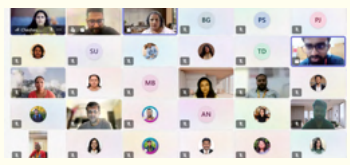
TEAM
RESQ



COEXIST







Capacity Building & Training






Responding to Wildlife Emergencies and Safe Wildlife Transport for Mewasi Forest Division. The Mewasi Forest Division sits in the far north of Maharashtra, where the Satpura forests run up to the Gujarat border, and a wildlife emergency there reaches the Mewasi Forest Division before it reaches anyone else. Two sessions this month, for about 50 of the Division's staff, covered a response in the order it happens. With Abhijeet Mahale: assessing a situation, the basic and advanced equipment a rescue calls for, monitoring, and managing conflict before it escalates. With Dr. Hemraj Sukhwal: what chemical immobilisation involves, what the Department's role in it is, and how a sedated animal is moved safely afterwards. The dart is one minute of a rescue. The training was for everything on either side of it.








Responding to Wildlife Emergencies and Safe Wildlife Transport for Nashik West Forest Division. The Nashik West Forest Division works a landscape where leopards and people share farmland year-round, and its staff are the responders the RESQ Nashik team works alongside most. Three sessions this month reached 63 of them. Division staff took the same two modules as Mewasi: emergency response with Abhijeet Mahale, from assessment and equipment to monitoring and conflict mitigation, and chemical immobilisation and safe transport with Dr. Hemraj Sukhwal. A third session, for range staff of the Nanashi range, went narrower: rapid response and managing human-wildlife interactions in the range's own villages. A division sets the protocol. A range is where it gets its first test.







Wildlife Emergencies and Snakebite Protocol for Goa Forest, Police and Fire Departments. In Goa a wildlife call does not always reach the Forest Department first. A snake in a kitchen goes to the police, a monitor lizard in a drain to the fire brigade, and whoever arrives sets the tone for everything after. As part of the Goa Forest Department's Wildlife Week, Benhail Antao ran two sessions for Forest, Police and Fire department staff together, 140 people in all. The first, at the Wildlife TTC, Goa, took a wildlife emergency apart by stakeholder: who responds to what, and where one department's role ends and the next begins. The second, at the Dr. Francisco Luis Gomes District Library, was about snakes alone: managing an encounter so that neither side is hurt, and the protocol for a snakebite. A response is only as coordinated as its weakest handover.

Features & Articles

Click to read!











Dedicated volunteers lending a hand at RESQ CT this month!








Dedicated corporate volunteers lending a helping hand in enrichment-building at the Wildlife TTC, Pune this month.















ATHARVA KALE
RESQ Team Member



JEEYA SIDDHARTHA BISWAS
RESQ Volunteer

Performing at their maximum potential, lauded for their dedication, innovation and hard work, here's our

RESQ stars for the month!

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 every day.



"We are happy to share our **Annual Report 2025-2026** 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 endeavours 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), Section 12 (A), 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 Charitable Trust works in collaboration with the Maharashtra and Goa Forest Department and operates Wildlife Transit Treatment Centres at Pune, Nashik (MH) and Ponda (Goa) under formal agreements with the respective State Forest Departments.