



DIVERSITY OF WETLAND BIRDS FROM WATER RESERVOIR OF WELTURI PROJECT TAH. ASHTI, DIST. BEED (M.S) INDIA.

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Abstract:

The wasteland, and wetland areas create a problems to managements, because of increasing commercial usages of this palaces due to human interference Wetland destruction and degradation in the region are reducing the diversity of wetlands and population numbers of many birds species. Deforestation has also affected in habitats of some wetland birds. While many of the regions natural wetlands have disappeared, new wetlands have been created which are lakes, and marshes of dams and barrages on some rivers now provides good habitat for wetland birds. The present description of the Avifauna recorded 32 species of Wetland birds belonging to 6 orders and 15 families were recorded between Oct, 2014 and Jan, 2015. The complete list of species recorded from study area is given along with their respective abundance record during study period.

Keywords: Avian Diversity, At, Welturi water reservoir, wetland habitat enrichment, affecting factors.

Introduction: -

The ecosystem have different habitat with various ecological niches. Adaptations in birds to life around water are related to feeding style (Storer 1971) traditionally such morphologically distinct groups have been given taxonomic and evolutionary status (Cracraft 1981, 1988 Feduccia 1996), although flamingos have most often been placed with other long-legged waders (Cracraft 1981, 1988 Sibley and Ahlquist 1990). Some characters have suggested an affinity with ducks (Sibley and Ahlquist 1990, Feduccia 1996) or with shore birds (Olson and Feduccia 1980). Furthermore, the five living species of flamingo show many unique characters related to their unusual filter-feeding life style in tropical saline waters (Olson and Feduccia 1980 Zweers *et al* 1994).

Total rainfall created a pick point of flora and fauna of the same. The Peninsular India are part of the hill ranges that connect the eastern Ghats and western Ghats (Ganeshain and Umashaank 1998). Balaghats hill ranges are a part of peninsular India with various wetlands, areas with a variety of emergent herbaceous hydrophytes. The interference of human have raised birds habitats problems in several ways. Declining birds populations is because of less rain rainfall affects existing habitats also increase or maintains the birds species numbers. It receives rain fall from both the south-western and the returning monsoon (North –eastern) with an average of 536 mm.

Study area: -

The present study carried out water bodies presents Welturi from Ashti tehsil at Balaghat ranges locally called Garbhgri ranges (Gazette of India 1884, 1976) where near famous God temple Machindranath is of the famous one located western part of Ashti (19.066N, 75.042 E). The water reservoir was constructed during the year of 1976. It is the only ultimate source of water in and near by villagers for drinking as well as domestic uses although drought conditions.

Methodology:

The study area was surveyed regularly between June -2011 to May -2012. The watching sights all over the forest area and near and around forest area near water source, observe were recorded. The small birds sighting with 8x50 binocular. During transect walks, at each observation, species, folk, size were documented. Identification of birds was done with the help of "The book of Indian Birds (2002)", Salim Ali, "Birds of Indian subcontinent (2007)" Richard G., Carol, I. Tim. I, "The illustrated encyclopedia of birds of the world (2006)" by David Alderton. Observations were made by using binocular photographic document action was done with the Nikon FE camera.

Observations and Results: - The present observations we observed and surveyed the birds, at various sites particularly the low water depth where sufficient amount of food is available to the birds (Table 1).

The total number of birds recorded in this area is 32 includes 6 different orders and fourteen Families, Ciconiiformes is the dominating with fifteen wetland birds. Kurhade (1996) reported forty four families of bird from Ahmednagar and around the city. Majority among is the Resident migrant they are winter visitor.

The aquatic bird observed in the present investigations were grouped into Ducks, Kingfishers, Moorhen, Coot, Sandpipers, Stint, Egret, Heron, Flamingo, Ibis, Spoon Bill, Stork. (Table -1). The most dominated group was that Duck is followed by Ibis, Egrets. The least

dominated group .The decline in population of Aquatic birds should be hunting extensive utilization of water for irrigation, unlimited fishing, and utilization of marshy vegetation for grazing of livestock and decrease in rainfall Austey (1989), Scoot (1993), Green (1993), Shirazi (1993), Prakash (1999), Man Mohan Prakash (2005), Abdar M.R. (2007).

There is wide spread declines in the birds population due to losses and deterioration of habitats, about 11 percent of worlds avifauna threatened with extinction, including seventy – eight species which regularly occur in the Indian subcontinent (Collar et.al. 1996).

Table:1 A Checklist of birds.

Sr.No	Order	Family	Species	Status
1	Ciconiiformes	Phalacrocoracidae	Little cormorant - <i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	RM
		Ardeidae	Grey Heron – <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	RM
			Purple Heron – <i>Ardea purpurea</i>	RM
			Pond Heron – <i>Ardeola grayii</i>	R
			Night Heron - <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	R
			Cattle Egret - <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	RM
			Little Egret – <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	R
			Large Egret – <i>Casmerodius albus</i>	RM
		Ciconiidae	Open bill Stork – <i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	R
			Painted Stork – <i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	RM
			White Necked Stork – <i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	R
			Spoon bill Stork – <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	RM
		Threskiornithidae	White Ibis – <i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	R
			Black Ibis - <i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	R
		Charadriidae	Glossy Ibis - <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	RM
			Kentish Plover – <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	RM
		Scolopacidae	Ringed Plover - <i>Charadrius dubius</i>	RM
			Common Sand Piper - <i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	RM
			Marsh Sand Piper - <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	M
		Charadriidae	Wood Sand Piper - <i>Tringa glareola</i>	M
Kentish Plover – <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	RM			
2	Anseriformes	Anatidae	Brahminy Sheld duck - <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	RM
			Spot Billed Duck - <i>Anas Poecilorhyncha</i>	RM
			Pintail - <i>Anas acuta</i>	M
			Common Teal – <i>Anas crecca</i>	M
3	Gruiformes	Rallidae	Coot - <i>Filica atra</i>	RM
			Moorhen – <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	R
4	Charadriiformes	Recurvirostridae	Black Winged Stilt – <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	R
5	Passeriformes	Motacillidae	Large Pied Wagtail – <i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>	R
			Yellow Wagtail – <i>Motacilla flava</i>	RM
6	Coraciiformes	Dacelonidae	White breasted Kingfisher – <i>Halcyon smymesis</i>	R
		Alcedinidae	Small blue King fisher – <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	RM
		Cerylidae	Lesse pied kingfisher – <i>Ceryle rudis</i>	R

Abbreviations - R = Resident, M = Migrant, RM = Resident Migrant.

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