

ANNUAL REPORT
of
Agra Bear Rescue Facility
2016 - 2017
Submitted to
CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY

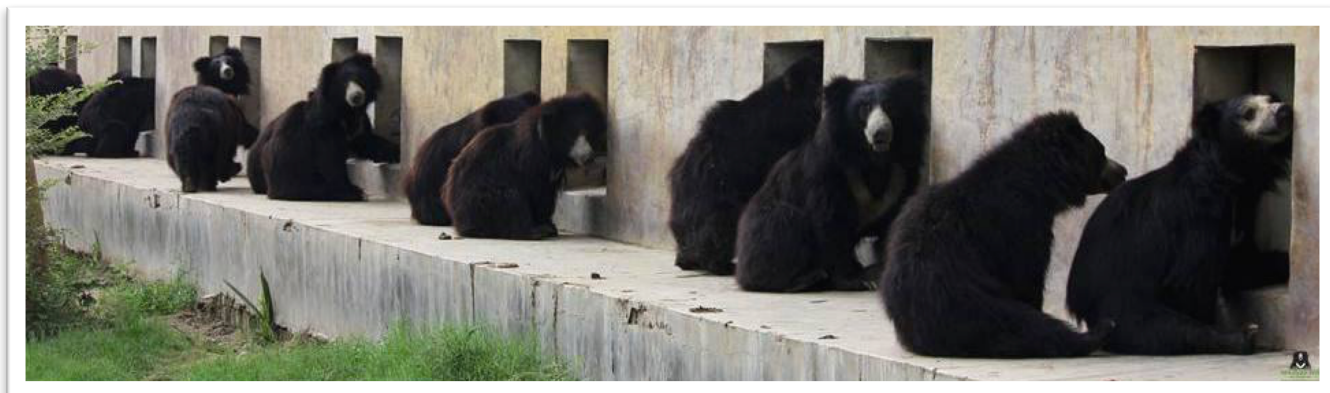


Our Mission Statement

Wildlife SOS is committed to saving India's endangered wildlife and threatened habitats by working in partnership with indigenous communities and creating sustainable solutions while inspiring passion for nature through education, animal care & conservation research.

THE AGRA BEAR RESCUE FACILITY

The Agra Bear Rescue facility was established in 1999 by Wildlife SOS in collaboration with the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department and currently houses nearly 200 rescued sloth bears.



At the Agra Bear Rescue Facility, every single bear undergoes a 90-day quarantine period upon arrival at the center. The Quarantine is carried out in two specially designed quarantine building units (marked 15 and 22) on the CZA Approved Master Layout Plans respectively.

Rescued bears are quite often susceptible to diseases like rabies, leptospirosis and infectious canine hepatitis. For the above, the bears receive vaccination at the Agra Bear Rescue Facility under the care of our eminent veterinarians.

Every bear receives a complete health checkup and is provided veterinary care and medical treatment for wounds, disease and parasites.



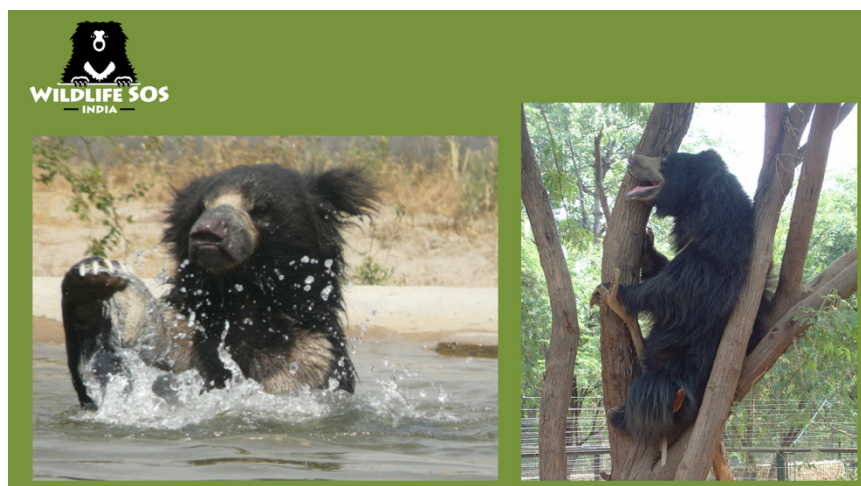
During this 90 day quarantine period, every single bear is subjected to extensive observation by our veterinarians, Para-veterinarians and animal keepers for any behavior aberrations while also watching for signs of stress or stereotypic behavior like pacing, head bobbing etc. Symptoms which indicate the trauma the bear may have suffered prior to arrival at the Agra Bear Rescue Facility are analyzed by the veterinarians to calibrate the treatment as well as planning the bear's future housing with other compatible individuals. Both during and after the quarantine period, a high degree of veterinary care is provided to every animal at ABRF.

The sloth bears are confiscated by Forest Department and enforcement agencies under sections of Wildlife Protection Act 1972 and handed over for long term medical treatment and lifetime care to Wildlife SOS Agra Bear Rescue Facility. This was to eradicate the illegal practice of Bear Dancing which was causing poaching of bear cubs from the forests across India and killing of female bears thus impacting the wild sloth bear population.

The Agra Bear Rescue Facility thus plays a very critical role in the conservation and protection of sloth bears in the wild.

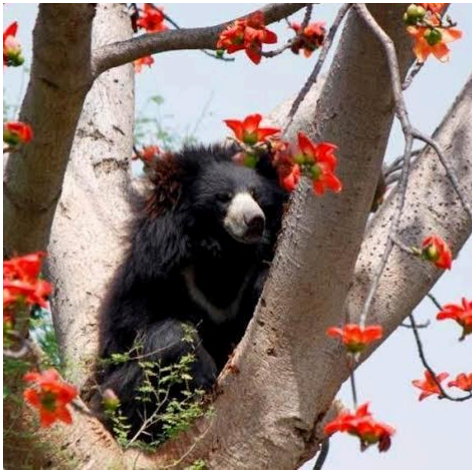


History of Dancing Bears : The bears were used by nomadic kalandar community for street entertainment after capturing them from the wild by subjecting them to brutal methods of training including breaking of teeth and claws and inserting a rope through their delicate muzzle. This systematic trauma and exploitation of these wild bears rendering the animals unfit for release in the wild due to extensive and systematic malnourishment that results in various physical and psychological disabilities. Since these bears are unfit to be released in the wild following rescue, it is imperative to rehabilitate them so that they can receive lifetime care and treatment.



Following the successful completion of the 90 day quarantine period, the bears are shifted to large forested socialization enclosures where they have access to large free ranging areas with extensive enrichment opportunities such as ponds, climbing structures, termite

mounds, fallen logs, leaf litters, and wood piles etc which help them engage in natural bear behavior as in the wild.

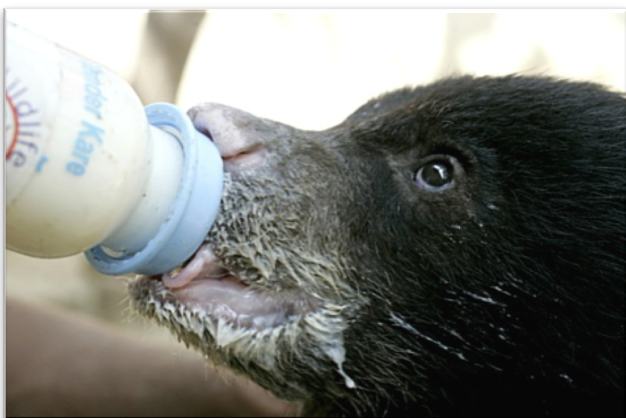


Every bear is also provided extensive enclosure enrichment to combat boredom and stereotypical behavior. Based on each bear's personality, he/she is matched to other individuals. The socialization enclosures allow sloth bears to be housed together in compatible groups thus enabling them to interact with each other.

The Agra Bear Rescue facility has several full time well wildlife veterinarians and a dedicated team of bear keepers to care for rescued bears. Two laboratories for blood diagnostics and microbiology monitoring have been established in the Agra Bear Rescue Facility.

The objective of Agra Bear Rescue Facility is to provide long term medical treatment and rehabilitation as well as lifetime care for sloth bears that have been rescued from situations that make them unfit for release in the wild.

The ABRF hospital is equipped with Digital X-Ray, Ultrasound, Dental Suite, Endoscope, Blood Analyzer and dedicated Operation Theatre.



A specialized bear cub weaning and foster care center is also established inside the ABRF for critical natal care of orphan bear cubs, who are susceptible to diseases and mortality and require extensive care, particularly during the early months.

Bear keepers are trained for natal care.

The Agra Bear Rescue Facility is run by Wildlife SOS with the cooperation of the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department under guidance of the Central Zoo Authority with the support of Wildlife SOS donors, volunteers and supporters.

IMPORTANT EVENTS CONDUCTED BY ABRF FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Conducted by The Agra Bear Rescue Facility

S.No	Date of Event	Details of Event conducted by Wildlife SOS Agra Bear Rescue Facility	No. of Attendees / Beneficiaries
1.	22.04.2016	Celebration of World Earth Day with Uttar Pradesh Forest Department & Local Schools	122
2.	22.05.2016	Celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity with UPFD & schools	112
3.	05.06.2016	Celebration of World Environment Day with Forest Department	150
4.	23.07.2016	Tree Plantation in ABRF with RFO in collaboration with Lion's Club of Agra	31
5.	23.08. 2016	Interactive awareness session FOR FOREST RANGER TRAINEES with DFO - A.K Patel	44
6.	28.08.2016	Karnataka Forest Department officers visit	16
7.	02.09.2016	Conservation Education Lectures & Workshop for Students from Delhi Schools	120
8.	03.09.2017	Interactive awareness session with officers from Forest Training Centre, Baipur, Uttar Pradesh	45
9.	01.10.2016	Celebration of World Wildlife Week	300
10.	24.10.2016	Wildlife Awareness Education Program for for Delhi Public School students	350
11.	25.10.2016	Interactive awareness session on wildlife conservation with Uttar Pradesh Forest Dept	40
12.	10.02.2017	Interactive Conservation Awareness workshop in collaboration with U.P.Forest Dept	90
13.	18.02.2017	Training of IFS probationers from Dehradun	46
14.	09.03.2017	Official visit of probation officers of the Indian Forest Service from various states	38
15.	20.03.2017	Celebration of World Sparrow Day in collaboration with Uttar Pradesh Forest Dept	72



IMPORTANT DIGNITARIES VISITING THE AGRA BEAR RESCUE FACILITY FOR INTERACTION AND DISCUSSION WITH WILDLIFE SOS OFFICERS & VETERINARIANS

S.NO	NAME OF DIGNITARY	DESIGNATION OF DIGNITARY
1	R.K Srivastava, IFS	IGF - Project Elephant, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi
2	Sh S.S Bist, IFS	Member MBWL & Emirates scientist, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
3	S.P Yadav	IFS (APCCF) Asst. Secretary General, Global Tiger Forum, New Delhi
4	Mudit kumar Singh, IFS	Addl. PCCF, Chattisgarh Forest Department,
5	Justice Krishna Murari	Justice - Allahabad High Court,
6	Sh Umesh Chandra	Secretary, Department of Environment, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
7	Dr. Atul Srivatsava, IFS Vijay Kumar	Director, Van Vihar National Park, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Forest Department
8	C.S Tiwari, IFS	Deputy Director, Elephant Reserve Surguja, Ambikapur, Chattisgarh Forest Department
9	B.K Singh, IFS	PCCF (Retd) & Head of forest force, Karnataka Forest Department
10	R.K Singh, IFS	Additional MD. U.P forest corporation, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department
11	Dr. B.S Corrie, IFS	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head Of Forest Force, Kerala Forest Department
12	S.P Singh, IFS	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Assam Forest Department, Government of Assam
13	R.K Srivastava, IFS	IGF - Project Elephant, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi
14	B.J Hosmath, IFS	Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Karnataka Forest Dept.
15	S.K Singh, IFS	Addl. PCCF (WL), Aranya Bhavan, Raipur, Chattisgarh Forest Department
16	A.K Jain, IFS	Addl. PCCF, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
17	C.S Yalakki, IFS	Chief Conservator (Social forestry) Kerala Forest Department, Govt. of Kerala
18	Biswajit Banerjee, IFS	Chief Conservator of Forests, Bareilly Uttar Pradesh Forest Department

19	Mr. Kamlesh Kumar, IFS	Chief Conservator of Forests, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department,
20	P.P Singh, IFS	Conservator of Forests - Agra, Uttar Pradesh Forest Department
21	Dr. Gopinath. IFS	Dy Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Delhi Delhi Forests Department, New Delhi
22	Mr. R.B Utham	ACF (Retd), Biologist, Etawah Lion Safari Park Uttar Pradesh Forest Department
23	Dr. Virendra Aparnathi	Junagadh Forest Div, Gujarat Forest Department.
24	Mr. Akilesh Jaiswal	SDO, Kashi wildlife division, Kashi
25	Manish Mittal, IFS	Dy Conservator of Forests - Mathura Uttar Pradesh Forest Department
27	Dr K.P Ouseph, IFS	(Retd) CWW Kerala Forest Department,
28	D.P Singh	(Retd) ACF, Agra Uttar Pradesh Forest Deptt.
29	Ram Krishna Singh, IFS	Uttar Pradesh Forest Dept
30	K.K Singh, IAS	Lucknow, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
31	Pankaj Kumar, IAS	District Magistrate - Dehradun, Govt. of Uttarakhand
32	Dinesh Kumar Sharma	Addl District and Sessions Judge, Agra, Uttar Pradesh
33	Ajay kumar, IPS	Superintendent of Police, Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh Police
34	Dr M.K Bhawari, IAS	Secretary, Health and Med Education Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir
34	S. Kumar, IAS	District Magistrate, Allahabad Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
35	Sunil kumar Verma IAS	SDM, Etmadpur, Agra
36	Ramesh	ADM, Mathura
37	Ravindra Kumar	ADM, Mathura
38	Vijay Kumar	City Magistrate, Agra, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh

GALLERY OF EVENTS CONDUCTED BY ABRF IN 2016 - 2017

1. Plantation in ABRF extension in collaboration with UPFD & Lions Club of Agra



2. Forest Range Officers Training at ABRF



3. Conservation Education Workshop for schools students



4. PCCF (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden – Shri Umendra Sharma visit to ABRF



5. Celebration of World Wildlife Week 1-10.2016- 07.10.2016



6. Visit by PCCF B.J Hosmath (PCCF - Karnataka)



7. Conservation Education Workshop for school children



8. IFS probationers Training at ABRF



COMMUNITY SUPPORT BY AGRA BEAR RESCUE FACILITY :

The Agra Bear Rescue facility supports alternative livelihoods and rehabilitation of communities that have exploited wildlife in the past by providing education opportunities for the tribal children in the community. Wildlife SOS provides support for over 1500 children's education across India. Additionally, we have helped to eradicate social evils like child marriage in kalandar community and empowered women through skill training.



WILDLIFE CRIME ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT by Wildlife SOS AGRA BEAR RESCUE FACILITY :

Wildlife SOS works in collaboration with State Forest Departments, State Police, WCCB and other enforcement agencies across India to assist with law enforcement by providing intelligence and also providing care of live animals confiscated by the Forest Department & other Govt agencies. The Agra Bear Rescue Facility also functions as a model center and a training platform.



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