




Policy

University: Sri Sri University
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MONITORING IUCN AND OTHER CONSERVATION SPECIES POLICY

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Introduction:

There has been a growing concern about the increasing number of species that are globally threatened. Developmental projects, and increased dependence on forests both for sustenance and livelihood have rendered many species threatened. In the Indian context, more than 150 plant and animal species are critically endangered and nearly 500 species of plants and animals species are listed as endangered. They require immediate intervention to sustain their populations. A number of plant species are destructively extracted solely from the forests. Apart from anthropogenic threats, several species are threatened due to invasive species and climate change. In the light of increasing and continued threats, SSU focuses on species recovery for restoring many of them from extinction.

Approaches to the species recovery programme

A variety of methods are used to recover critically endangered species, such as;

- protective measures to prevent extinction or further decline,
- consultation to avoid adverse impacts,
- habitat acquisition and restoration,
- on-the-ground activities for managing and monitoring endangered and threatened species.

Recovery of the critically endangered species could be done at the landscape level, species level or at the population level.

Landscape/habitat/community level



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Considering that habitat loss and over-harvesting have been the primary causes of species endangerment, a central component of species recovery has been to establish a network of conservation areas and reserves that represent all the pertinent terrestrial and riparian natural communities. The existing national parks, biosphere reserves, and wildlife sanctuaries address these issues. Protected areas seem to provide the last refugia for many species threatened with extinction and have been effective in conserving forest habitats

Species Level:

The community-level approach facilitates recovery, but does not negate the need to consider the requirements of each species. However, SSU will focus on individual recovery plans with greater emphasis on species which are at the brink of extinction. The individual recovery criteria for the critically endangered species need plans to track their progress towards recovery. Species restoration plans need to be established to a point where they no longer require protection and their population is stabilized. At the species level, recovery can be by individual species, reintroduction of the species, carrying out genetic enrichment, or by rehabilitating species into newer habitats. This process of recovery involves arresting the decline of the species by removing all the external threats, so that they can bounce back to their original status.


Executive Registrar

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