
LAST
WILDERNESS
FOUNDATION



ANNUAL
REPORT
2020-2021

www.thelastwilderness.org







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From the Founder



Nikhil Nagle

The signs of ailing nature and biodiversity loss are everywhere. Forest fires, heat waves, habitat degradation, and rising sea levels, are all telling us that story. And if they weren't loud enough, the ever extending Covid-19 pandemic has taught us to pay attention. The pandemic is a direct response to our disregard for nature and wilderness.

The resulting losses have been staggering and the economic devastation to come will be crippling for many who didn't even do anything to contribute to the problem.

If there's one lesson I learned as a banker-turned conservation-non-profit founder, it is that we need to advocate for nature and give back to it from what we have. We must constantly remind ourselves of the simple but profound fact, that we are part of nature, and not separate from it, but infact come from it.

When we decided to set up Last Wilderness Foundation, we didn't know that in a decade's time, we would be working alongside so many diverse communities and landscapes across Central India. We knew we had to take their stories, stitch them together and tell them to people all over India. Today, we're not only helping to harness the potential of these communities, but we're also boosting the protected area framework in the region. A collateral benefit of these community initiatives has turned out to be biodiversity expansion, leading us to the realization that conservation cannot subtract people from its equation.

Our political and economic systems and financial markets have not done enough to properly account for the services nature provides. Whatever the approximations are, they aren't enough, because nature is priceless. We'll never be able to calculate its value.

We're very proud to be producing Last Wilderness Foundation's very first formal report at a time that has never been stranger, and has never been so full of opportunity through adversity, where a little goes a long way.

From the Director



Vidya Venkatesh

Zoonosis. COVID-19. Social Distancing. Lockdown. Quarantine.

At the start of 2020 we were blissfully unaware of what these words meant and what impact they would have on the world. And those of us who survived 2020 and pulled through it, will never forget it.

At Last Wilderness Foundation, we had to adapt our operations to the new normal and were able to not only survive but thrive! We hunkered down and did what we do best: we innovated, and cranked out some serious outreach for the benefit of communities and therefore biodiversity.

As illustrated in this inaugural report, we have made great strides towards our mission while working from home this year, building upon our accomplishments since first setting up 10+ years ago. Not only did we continue to build the capacity of the Pardhi community youth, we also put together educational frameworks for Pardhi children that faced hindrances due to the lockdowns.

The power of the masses really came together. Through the pandemic, many have realised that investing in nature based solutions is the only scheme that will pay back over the long term. It has been nothing short a miraculous surprise that this helped us to move from having internally financed projects to externally financed projects.

Fuelled by our digital outreach, we crowdsourced 100% of our Covid relief and educational interventions.

We know there is more work to be done. Next year we look forward to building new bridges with more forest communities and bringing you updates on our additional progress and a new strategic direction that will allow us to be even more effective at conserving biodiversity while enhancing community lives and livelihoods.

On behalf of everyone at Last Wilderness Foundation I want to thank you for supporting our work and for safeguarding the future of our planet.



A Brief History of the Last Wilderness Foundation

To us at Last Wilderness Foundation (LWF), the conservation of wildlife is a continuous endeavour. Here's looking back at the past decade of working with urban and rural communities, children, the Forest Department and You.

- 2009 ● Our Founder, Nikhil Nagle, former Head of India Equities at Citigroup Global Markets, quit his corporate line of work and decided to devote his resources to what he realised the country needed: a conservation intervention. LWF is registered as a Section 25 company
- 2010 ● Villages around the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve territory are surveyed and work commences
- April 2012 ● LWF kicks off its Village Kids Awareness Program giving children the opportunity and a platform to learn about, appreciate and understand the forest better. Having learnt about the tiger and its importance in the ecosystem, they grasped the need to protect it
- March 2013 ● LWF's Capacity Building Training Program is set up to equip Panna Tiger Reserve's frontline forest staff with necessary skills to safeguard the forest
- 2015 ● LWF initiates project Unnati, a vocational training program for the children of the Pardhi community, along with Panna Tiger Reserve
- November 2015 ● LWF's pilot program in Kanha Tiger Reserve is initiated
- 2017 ● The Panna Education Program is launched as the next step in continuation with Project Unnati
- September 2018 ● LWF's Walk with the Pardhis program is initiated to utilise the Pardhi community's traditional knowledge to create a sense of wonder and appreciation among tourists, while ensuring a sound livelihood for members of the Pardhi community
- January 2019 ● LWF, along with the Forest Department, initiates the Baiga Livelihood Project as an alternative source of income for Baiga community members living in the buffer zone of Kanha Tiger Reserve. The Baiga women make and sell jewellery that they have traditionally adorned. This has helped reduce the dependence of the community on the forest, and mitigates Human – Wildlife conflict
- 2020 ● With support from individual as well as institutional donors, LWF makes the transition from being 100% internally funded to being 100% external funding



Vision

An India with a vibrant and eternal natural heritage, which is respected and protected by its people.

Mission

- To increase awareness about India's wildlife, forests & people
- To provide assistance to various individuals and organisations (governmental or otherwise) in their endeavours to conserve the country's natural heritage
- To be actively involved in the sustainable development of villages and tribal settlements along the peripheries of India's forests.

The Team



Vidya Venkatesh, Director

Vidya, a Commerce graduate, went on to pursue her true calling after a 13 year corporate career. She has been deeply interested in wildlife, with a special interest in butterflies. She has also travelled various parts of India, shares a deep concern for conservation issues and contributes her services for the cause on every given opportunity.



Bhavna Menon, Program Manager

A Psychology Graduate with a postgraduate degree in Journalism, Bhavna's love for nature and the wilderness started with a visit to Kanha Tiger Reserve, which had her smitten with the wild and gave birth to her desire to be deeply involved in forested landscapes. For the last 12 years she has been Last Wilderness Foundation's hands on Program Manager. Her sense of wonder and enthusiasm for nature is infectious and inspiring and strengthens her resolve to constantly expand her conservation vision and endeavours.





Indrabhan Singh Bundela, Co-ordinator (Panna)

Indrabhan is a Post graduate in History. He carries a strong, 10 years of work experience in the field of conservation, especially with the Pardhi Community in Panna. He has also conducted several awareness and education programs during this tenure. Prior to joining LWF, he was working with WWF-India.



Pushpendranath Dwivedi, Co-ordinator (Bandhavgarh)

Passionate about documenting wildlife through videos and a keen environmental journalist, Pushpendra has been working in the field of wildlife since 2004. A Field co-ordinator with LWF since 2011, his on-ground work includes implementation of village awareness programs, addressing conflict situations in villages and reporting wildlife news in a timely manner.



Rishika Dubla, Content Writer

Rishika always knew she wanted to study wild animals. She completed her studies in Biological Sciences from the University of Oxford before moving back to India, first volunteering with LWF and WII, and then working in UP on freshwater turtle, crocodile and river dolphin conservation. Passionate about science communication and research, she now splits her time as a content writer for LWF and a freelance consultant in Mumbai.

Where we work



Protected Areas
Covered



Projects &
Initiatives



Villages
Covered



Lives
Touched

Program Areas

Last Wilderness Foundation believes in a vibrant and eternal natural heritage that is respected and protected by its people. As the main stakeholders of conservation it is imperative to understand the social structure of the community, along with their standing in society to gain their support. Often, apart from facing challenges with regards to income, education, and animal conflict, the most pressing and pertinent issue faced by community members is that of social stigma. In a rapidly modernizing world, community members have been chronically denied opportunities to adapt and integrate into society. This has often led to community members having to rely on using skills and knowledge that were traditionally a part of their culture and tribal lifestyles towards unsustainable and sometimes illegal occupations. This not only established long-standing prejudices, but also created a negative feedback loop that further prevented these communities to assimilate into mainstream society and contribute towards safeguarding wild spaces.

Thus, to reduce this stigma, create acceptance and eventually utilize their traditional knowledge to develop more targeted and effective conservation strategies, LWF, via its projects, addresses existing ideologies, and aims to dispel it by creating large-scale awareness about these communities (their lifestyle, culture and traditions), highlighting transition/success stories and helping strengthen relationships. Once a relationship has been established, community members are engaged with via various projects, categorized under six main areas as given below:



Alternative Livelihoods

We believe that helping people helps wildlife. LWF works in a concentrated geography of villages around protected area territories (Kanha, Panna, Bandhavgarh), and targets areas and communities (Baiga and Pardhi specifically) of high need and low income to devise alternative livelihoods that decrease the community's dependence on the forest while ensuring steady incomes.



Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation

LWF works in conjunction with state forest departments to mitigate conflict and minimise losses caused between humans and wildlife.



Capacity Building

LWF routinely develops activities such as workshops, education initiatives, training programs and materials such as guidebooks and other literature that support the acquisition of specific knowledge and skills to better understand and implement the provisions of national parks and nature reserves. This cuts across various age groups and employment profiles, benefiting students in school and college age brackets and tribal communities to frontline forest officials and staff.



Education

LWF's educational interventions in the villages surrounding tiger reserves of Madhya Pradesh, is helping to build the future custodians of ecologically and culturally significant regions such as Panna, Kanha and Bandhavgarh. We can only protect what we love, but how does one fall in love with what they don't know? Environmental education is the key we employ.



Outreach & Awareness

Outreach and awareness-raising are critical to the successful implementation and impact of the programmatic areas of LWF and are pursued through a number of activities that range from informational as well as training sessions for the community members and forest staff to fundraising drives, and live and virtual panel discussions as well as knowledge resource content development.





Alternative Livelihoods: Building Resilient, Thriving Communities

No amount of effort can actually make natural resource management possible unless communities are engaged in the endeavour. At LWF, we wholly acknowledge the criticality of addressing the community's livelihood needs, and so as a primary goal, we aim to respond to people's strengths and constraints, a collateral benefit of which is biodiversity conservation. We work alongside local communities, and governmental organisations in helping to integrate conservation with social development and livelihood security for the benefit of people and biodiversity.

We work with our many partners in Kanha, Bandhavgarh and Panna, to develop innovative approaches and interventions in conservation as well as income generation for the communities. This is an effort and approach that is beyond conventional practices.

One of our initiatives that we have been most proud of has been a nature guide training program, where Last Wilderness Foundation, in association with Panna Tiger Reserve and Taj Safaris, conducted a 10-day Guide Training program for Pardhi community members in June 2020 in Panna, Madhya Pradesh.

This was an advanced training program imparted to four of the most promising and experienced guides from the Pardhi community. This has been particularly successful, where today, our 'Walk with The Pardhis' program is a tourism favourite.

Training Pardhis in Poultry Rearing

March 2020 | Panna Tiger Reserve



This model focuses on alternative sustainable livelihood as well as long term protection of the vulnerable and fragile ecosystem through active involvement of the community groups. The poultry industry is a fastest growing sector within the Indian agricultural sector. Rural poultry produce fetches a much higher price compared to those produced in factory farms. Easily marketable, cost effective and nutritious, this training workshop will be a gift that will keep on giving to the community. The initiative will be furthered by partnerships with companies in cities nearby that will provide chicks and then buy back once reared and ready to sell.

This initiative was in partnership with Abercrombie & Kent India Private Limited.

E-Rickshaws for Pardhis

November 2020 | Panna Tiger Reserve



Generous supporters who place their faith in Last Wilderness Foundation as a catalyst for growth and progress in the Pardhi community helped us obtain an E-Rickshaw which will be a low impact-low emissions commuting option for locals as well as tourists.

The e-rickshaw will double as a 'city tour' vehicle in a soon to be announced initiative called the Panna Darshan. To add to the hopeful strings of sustainability and crowdfunding, the e-rickshaw will make its debut into this community! We hope many more will follow suit and take up this occupation in the coming years.

This initiative was supported through crowdfunding.



The **Walk with The Pardhis** program is designed to enable alternate livelihood opportunities for the Pardhi community. They possess impeccable tracking skills in addition to their indigenous knowledge of the forest and its beings. The walk makes for an unforgettable tourism experience.

Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation

Human settlements today are reaching the fringes of constantly dwindling forests. As a result, interactions between humans and wild animals are bound to happen. So how do they interact with one another?

Where we work in Madhya Pradesh i.e. the Kanha, Bandhavgarh and Panna Tiger Reserve, landscapes are synonymous with assured tiger sightings.

Yet the thousands of kilometres of distance that lies between these territories is not just home to tigers. A myriad of wildlife and equally vibrant tribal communities depend upon a mosaic of diverse habitats including dry forests, open grasslands, scrublands, and agricultural lands.

How do they interact with one another? Where they previously lived harmoniously with each other, human settlements today are reaching the fringes of constantly dwindling forests. As a result, wild animals cross over into community settlement areas more often than not, where interactions are bound to happen.



Conflict Mitigation

January 2021 onwards | Sanjay Dubri & Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve



Last Wilderness Foundation's project, in association with the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve Management and initiated since January 2021, is one that tackles Human-Wildlife conflict in Beohari, a corridor that links two crucial tiger reserves, Bandhavgarh and Sanjay. Frequent cases of Human-Wildlife interactions occur amongst community members living in this area.

The crux of the initiative is to sprout helpful dialogue between the community in the affected region and the Forest Department in order to gauge the gravity of the challenges they face.

These interactions have been instrumental in understanding the relationship dynamics of the villagers and the Forest Department, which is one of the key factors in tackling Human-Wildlife conflict situations.

With the help of the Forest Department staff, these meetings have sensitised the community members towards precautionary measures to be taken while living in close proximity to large mammals like tigers, leopards and elephants.

As of now, almost 900 community members have been met and interacted with, from the villages of Kona, Nagadol, Dala, Chuhira, Bocharo, Tatiyajhar, Naudiya and Tikuri situated in the buffer zone of Sanjay Tiger Reserve.

This initiative is being supported by Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society and KCT group.

Forest Fire Prevention Program

January 2021 | Panna Tiger Reserve



Last Wilderness Foundation in association with the Panna Tiger Reserve management undertook a forest fire prevention program for 600 village community members from 20 villages namely: Jhinna, Saliya, Ghurho, Banhari, Patha, Hanumathpur, Pathapur, Patauri, Pandvan, Koni, Ranguva, Kabar, Saleya, Imliya, Dhodhan, Lalaar, Jardobha, Jarupur, Bgauha and Harsa between 7th January – 11th March 2020.

The program was planned in the Jan-Mar time period with foresight, so as to motivate the community to work towards a 'zero fire incidence' summer in Panna.

Our aim was to ensure that custodianship of the forest was assumed by every participant attending the training. Some of the ways we implemented this were:

- Joint patrolling by village community members in conjunction with forest staff.
- Formation of information networks to stay vigilant of any illegal activity such as wildlife trade and trafficking, manhandling of any wild animal or bird, and poaching.
- Drafting out a standard operating procedure in order to avoid any Human-Wildlife interactions from happening.
- Hosting regular open house sessions in each of the 20 villages so each problem, roadblock, query and concern can be tackled with equal attention - arriving upon solutions, approaches and interventions.

This initiative was conducted in partnership with Panna Tiger Reserve.



A look at merchandise and trinkets made as part of the Baiga and Pardhi Livelihoods Project. Providing alternate livelihood to forest adjacent communities goes a long way in supporting wildlife conservation. Income generated by creating wildlife inspired souvenirs and products reduces their dependence on the forests thus reducing conflicts.

A woman in a green shirt and glasses is standing and holding up a small white card, addressing a group of men in khaki uniforms who are seated at a long table. The room has a clock on the wall and a window with curtains.

Capacity Building

Any meaningful, long-term conservation success depends on developing a network of committed individuals and institutions that are strong enough and effective enough to address the threats to our natural world.

Last Wilderness Foundation, for the past decade, has worked on the premise that solutions to conservation problems ultimately lie in local hands. Sustainable solutions to conservation challenges must be locally driven. We actively promote the idea of harnessing the knowledge, eagerness and potential of conservation champions on the ground by working with them to increase their effectiveness and preparing them for a changing social and natural world.

The ability to address these challenges – particularly in some of the world’s most biologically rich areas such as Kanha, Panna and Bandhavgarh tiger reserves – is often constrained by a lack of experience or limited access to the necessary resources, financial or otherwise. With this in mind, one of our priorities is to ensure that as many local community members are equipped with resources and skills that not only provide them a steady income but also maximise their conservation impact.

The foundation’s interventions take the form of anything from one to one mentoring and coaching, to extended workshops and group training sessions, information sharing and exchanges.

Gram Rakshak Initiative

November 2020 onwards | Panna Tiger Reserve



Developed in tandem with the Panna Tiger Reserve management, LWF initiated this intervention to rope in community members from frequent fire incidence villages situated in the buffer zone of the reserve to act as '*rakshaks*' or guardians to protect people as well as the wilderness in the forests.

The major roles of selected *rakshaks* are:

- Information sharing and circulation of any conflict or fire instances in the respective villages
- Communicating standard operating procedures and precautions for people living in and around the buffer zones
- Working to be a support system to the forest department

Rakshaks from 15 sensitive villages have been chosen.

This initiative is being supported by Astral Foundation.

Education

At Last Wilderness Foundation we believe in education not as a step in the learning of an individual but as a conservation strategy. One that creates responsible communities. It is the kind of education facilitating opportunities for conservation, decision-makers, community members, and other stakeholders to converge.

The outcomes we focus on manifest themselves on not only an individual level i.e. attitudes and behaviour towards the environment (the forest) but also on a societal and ecosystem level.

26 children and youth with the help of support from individuals have gone on to join and finish school and pursue undergraduate studies over the last year.

We incorporate principles from the natural and social sciences, health education and envision effective practices in the field. These practices are highly place-based, tailored to the Kanha/Panna/Bandhavgarh tiger reserve landscapes. This intervention has resulted in the development of prosocial environmental stewardship in the community, and a connection to the local environment.

Pardhi Education Initiative

April 2020 onwards | Panna Tiger Reserve



In 2009, tigers were declared extinct from the Panna Tiger Reserve, primarily implicating the Pardhi community's activities inside Panna's forests. While a tiger reintroduction program was being implemented, the Forest Department simultaneously resettled close to 40 Pardhi families to villages outside the reserve. One of the structures established in these relocation villages was a residential hostel to aid the education of children from these families. LWF has been engaging with students at these hostels for going on five years now. While many have finished school, some of our students have gone on to pursue graduate studies and more are engaged in other higher education pursuits.

This model has proved to have made a positive impression on the community's children as well as their parents and extended families; all expressing a desire to now enroll at the centres.

This initiative is being supported by Morningstar, Inc.

Pardhi Student Sponsorship Initiative

April 2020 onwards | Panna Tiger Reserve



The first few of what will hopefully be many Pardhi students to graduate have had quite an imprint on their community. This led to a paradigm shift where a community that didn't otherwise engage in formal education, came to acknowledge the potential role education might play in the future of their community.

Being led by example, the children of the community now brand new aspirations, and thankfully those that do not revolve around hunting wild species for a living. To bolster these aspirations, the foundation in 2020, identified students interested in formal and higher educational pursuits, instituting for them an academic sponsorship initiative. The idea was well received and unwavering donor support came through sending children to school! Custodians of nature and stewards for their communities are made like this. The education initiative was funded and continued despite the pandemic. Many supporters have donated laptops.

Custodians of nature and stewards for their communities are made through concerted efforts that have a human touch like this program. The education initiative was funded, with some even donating laptops. Even more heartening was the fact that support for this initiative continued despite the pandemic.

This initiative is being supported by various individual donors.



LWF along with the Forest Department initiates the Baiga Livelihood Project as an alternative source of income for Baiga community members living in the buffer zone of Kanha Tiger Reserve. Baiga women make and sell jewellery that they have traditionally worn as part of their cultural identity for generations. This has helped reduce the dependence of the community on the forest, and mitigates Human – Wildlife conflict.

Outreach and Awareness

Biodiversity conservation awareness programs are important to ensure the protection of rare, threatened and endangered species, especially because most conservation areas border with state-gazetted protected forests as well as local communities. Stakeholder involvement and partnership has been essential in reducing the overall risk to identified conservation reserve areas.

Developing and nurturing an appreciation of nature is crucial for strengthening future conservation work. For the past several years, a major project for us has been developing opportunities and participating in activities that spark conservation awareness and education with audiences in urban areas as well.

Conservation Sessions



- Bhavna Menon discussed communities in conservation with **Paryavaran Dakshata Mandal, Thane** (March 2021)

- Bhavna conversed with **University of Mumbai** students (Garware Institute of Career Education and Development) on **conservation work in Madhya Pradesh** (March 2021)

- Bhavna was in conversation with **RARE India** on **Communities in Conservation** (February 2021)



- Vidya Venkatesh attended **ECHOES '21**, an International Seminar on Sustainability and Arts Practices for Climate and Community Resilience. She spoke on the topic of: **Poachers to Protectors** (January 31, 2021)

- LWF was one of the presenters at the **Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's initiative of AATMA NIRBHAR BHARAT**, Government of Madhya Pradesh, and presented on Travel & Tourism (August 7, 2020)



- Bhavna spoke with **Padmaja Rathore** on **Communities in Conservation** (August 2020)

- Presentation on **Role of Local Communities in Wildlife Conservation** for **WE SPARROW** (July 29, 2020)

- LWF presented on the subject **From conflict to conservation – Changing the game around Bandhavgarh NP for tigers and people** at **LIVING WITH THE WILD**, a conference by Wildlife Trust of India on Community Engagement for Conflict Management (July 16, 2020)



- Vidya Venkatesh engaged with students from the Humanities and Social Sciences Department at the Indian Institute of Technology - **IIT Gandhinagar** (July 14, 2020)


- Whispers from the Wild:** Bhavna took part in a conversation with **Aaranyachar** on **Tourism in Conservation** (July 2020)

- Bhavna in conversation with **Thicket tales** on **Stories from the Forest** (May 2020)



- Bhavna in conversation with **Teepee Culture** on **Conservation work in MP** (May 2020)

- Vidya Venkatesh interacted with the **Department of Emergency Medicine, Centre for Wilderness Medicine, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, MAHE** at **Conference on CONFLICT - COEXISTENCE** on the topic **Conflict to Coexistence for Conservation** (March 20, 2020)



Providing for Essentials during COVID

The impact of Covid-19 and the lack of funding threatened to undo decades of conservation work for many, including us. This led us to crowdsource our COVID-19 relief for the Pardhi community and for citizens within and around our program areas and we were pleasantly surprised at the outpouring of funds and support from around the country.



The pandemic has significantly impacted nature conservation, not just for us in Panna, Kanha and Bandhavgarh, but also around the globe, including job losses among forest staff, reduced anti-poaching patrols and environmental protection rollbacks. Even those still employed and attempting to continue monitoring and conservation activities faced COVID-related budget cuts, where many people in our programmatic area forests reported massive reductions and delays in salary payment.

The impact of Covid-19 and the lack of funding threatened to undo decades of conservation work for many, including us. This led us to crowdsource COVID-19 relief for the Pardhi community and citizens within and around our program areas.

We were pleasantly surprised at the outpouring of funds and support from around the country. However, this would have amounted to nothing without the Forest Department and the Gram Panchayats of the villages that ensured seamless distribution of food and health supplies and quick dispersal of support services. Between **March and June 2020, 250 families across 20 villages** were provided food and healthcare supplies. We have since run **three more rounds of crowdsourcing** for supplies and support through the second wave and have not been disappointed.

Great things happen when people support communities, because it doesn't end there; they not only help people, but also our forest.

Fuelling the movement

"If you want to go fast, go alone.

If you want to go far, go together." - An African proverb

Enduring conservation is achieved through the support and cooperation of a broad range of extraordinary partners, that include governments, local communities, corporates, small businesses and individual donors.

We leverage the strengths of these associations to achieve what we have over the past year, and could not be more thankful for the support they have extended to our endeavours.





Cuisine appreciation is an indelible aspect of the holistic experiences that travellers seek today. Travellers have the opportunity to try out ethnic cuisine, made with love by the community in the earthen comfort of a traditional mud hut, while lending an ear to folklore from the countryside. This is yet another revenue stream for the community, reducing their dependence on the forest.

The Way Forward



Bhavna Menon
Program Manager

It is no secret that Last Wilderness Foundation has advocated for environmental health as well as human well-being, for there is no conservation if you subtract people from this equation.

Over the last decade, we have not only delivered educational interventions in Central India, but also helped communities understand the role they can play in the protection of our wilder spaces. We have also supported local and national policies and taken actions to halt and reverse damage.

2020 marked a seismic shift in how we decided our future path as individuals and as a foundation, for decades to come. As is the case with any change, this had both positive and negative impacts.

Despite setbacks, the pandemic reaffirmed the efficacy of our model of working towards minimising human interface with wild animals and wild spaces and conserving natural habitats.

We can no longer ignore the fact that, at any level, our world requires a fundamental change in how we interact with nature. Global warming continued to establish itself as a prevalent threat in 2020, contributing to wildfires, droughts, floods and swarms of ravenous locusts. As if facing these issues were not challenging enough, there was also the fact that we weren't sure if we would be able to support ourselves and continue our work as an organisation.

The blood, sweat and tears of the last decade were truly put to the test and thankfully, we were able to successfully transition from being internally funded to externally funded, and that too during a pandemic!

Beautiful things happen when you invest in nature, and it has been the public trust established through our previous work that has enabled us to garner support and sustain ourselves and carry on helping hundreds of individuals and families today. I can only hope this trust continues as the foundation refocuses its work to deal with the immediate environmental impacts of COVID-19 while building on its decade long endeavours.

Transformational change will not be easy. It requires each and every one of us, everywhere and every day, to play our part. But if there is one thing that 2020 and our experiences—both old and new—have taught us, is that we are capable of overcoming even the most adverse obstacles, as long as we work together.

Until then, we'll continue to be here, facilitating, sharing, and supporting people for our planet.



Ways to give to Last Wilderness Foundation

Become a Monthly Supporter:

A regular contribution each month ensures that LWF is consistently growing its far-reaching efforts to preserve our wilderness spaces in tandem with community members

Stakeholder Liaison:

Help establish tie ups with institutions or organisations who can aid LWF in spreading awareness about community members, the on ground challenges and the work being done to combat the same. Such partnerships can also be used to showcase the skill sets possessed by community members in form of products, the proceeds of which will go back to the community members

Education Sponsor:

Support the supplementary needs of our educational projects by helping establish libraries, distribute winter uniforms, school supplies etc

Sponsor a Student:

Adopt the education of a child, covering their top-to-bottom expenses for one academic year in mainstream education

Support Our Heroes:

Equip frontline forest staff with necessary resources which will help aid protection measures

Conserve While You Travel:

For your next holiday opt for unique itineraries while visiting any of these tiger reserves, wherein you can get oriented with community members and engage in our on-ground conservation activities and projects. Can be arranged as family holiday or even corporate offsites

Conserve While You Visit:

While visiting the tiger reserves, engage in our various alternate livelihood projects like village walk, lunch/dinner with community members, the proceeds of which are given 100% to community members

Honour a Loved One:

Sponsoring a project of your choice on ground as a celebration of a friend or loved one

To know more about how you can contribute, please write to us at - conservation@thelastwilderness.org



Financials



LAST WILDERNESS FOUNDATION
(CIN : U93000MH2009NPL196854)
Balance Sheet as on 31st March, 2021

Particulars		Note No.	As at 31 March, 2021	As at 31 March, 2020
			Rs.	Rs.
A	EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
I	Shareholders' funds			
	(a) Share capital	1	12,35,465	6,07,785
	(b) Reserves and surplus		-	-
	(c) Money received against share warrants		-	-
			12,35,465	6,07,785
II	Share application money pending allotment		-	-
III	Non-current liabilities			
	(a) Long-term borrowings		-	-
	(b) Deferred tax liabilities		-	-
	(b) Other long-term liabilities		-	-
	(c) Long-term provisions	2	15,000	10000
			15,000	10,000
IV	Current liabilities			
	(a) Short-term borrowings		-	-
	(b) Trade payables		-	-
	(c) Other current liabilities	3	14,53,141	31,911
	(d) Short-term provisions	2	4,41,587	5,000
			18,94,728	36,911
	TOTAL		31,45,193	6,54,696
B	ASSETS			
I	Non-current assets			
	(a) Fixed assets			
	(i) Tangible assets		-	-
	(ii) Intangible assets		-	-
	(iii) Capital work-in-progress		-	-
	(iv) Intangible assets under development		-	-
	(v) Fixed assets held for sale		-	-
			-	-
	(b) Non-current investments		-	-
	(c) Long-term loans and advances		-	-
	(d) Other non-current assets		-	-
			-	-
II	Current assets			
	(a) Current investments		-	-
	(b) Inventories		-	-
	(c) Trade receivables		-	-
	(d) Cash and cash equivalents	5	31,30,193	6,54,696
	(e) Short-term loans and advances	4	15,000	-
	(f) Other current assets		-	-
			31,45,193	6,54,696
	TOTAL		31,45,193	6,54,696
	See accompanying notes 1-10 forming part of the financial statements			

In terms of our report of even date attached.

For M/S A.B.B & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 116615W

For and On Behalf of

LAST WILDERNESS FOUNDATION

(CIN : U93000MH2009NPL196854)

Sd/-

CA. Atal Bihari Bhanja

Partner

Membership No.: 057691

UDIN:

Place: **Mumbai**

Date:

Sd/-

Nikhil Nagle

Director

(DIN: 02667236)

Sd/-

Vidya Venkatesh

Director

(DIN: 05168000)



LAST WILDERNESS FOUNDATION
(CIN : U93000MH2009NPL196854)
Statement of Profit and Loss for the year ended 31 March, 2021

Particulars		Note No.	For the year ended 31 March, 2021	For the year ended 31 March, 2020
			Rs.	Rs.
I	Revenue from operations (net)		0	0
II	Other income	6	42,38,320	50,73,472
III	Total revenue (I+II)		42,38,320	50,73,472
IV	Expenses			
	(a) Cost of materials consumed		0	0
	(b) Purchases of stock-in-trade		0	0
	(c) Changes in inventories of finished goods, work-in-progress and stock-in-trade		0	0
	(d) Employee benefits expense	7	24,85,800	24,35,000
	(e) Finance costs		0	0
	(f) Depreciation and amortisation expense		0	0
	(g) Other expenses	8	11,24,838	21,05,494
	Total expenses		36,10,638	45,40,494
V	Profit / (Loss) before exceptional and extraordinary items and tax (III - IV)		6,27,682	5,32,978
VI	Exceptional items		0	0
VII	Profit / (Loss) before extraordinary items and tax (V + VI)		6,27,682	5,32,978
VIII	Extraordinary items		0	0
IX	Profit / (Loss) before tax (VII + VIII)		6,27,682	5,32,978
X	Tax expense:			
	(a) Current tax		0	0
	(b) Deferred tax		0	0
			0	0
XI	Profit / (Loss) from continuing operations (IX - X)		6,27,682	5,32,978
XII	Profit / (Loss) from discontinuing operations		0	0
XIII	Profit / (Loss) for the year (XI + XII)		6,27,682	5,32,978
See accompanying notes 1-10 forming part of the financial statements				

In terms of our report of even date attached.

M/S A.B.B. & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

FRN:116615W

Sd/-

CA. Atal Bihari Bhanja

Partner

Membership No.: 057691

UDIN:

Place: Mumbai

Date:

For and On Behalf of

LAST WILDERNESS FOUNDATION

(CIN : U93000MH2009NPL196854)

Sd/-

Nikhil Nagle

Director

(DIN: 02667236)

Sd/-

Vidya Venkatesh

Director

(DIN: 05168000)

*Thanking all our partners, donors, volunteers and followers
for trusting & supporting us generously.*

*We look forward to interacting with each one of you
through our programmes every year.*



With best regards,

Last Wilderness Foundation family

www.thelastwilderness.org

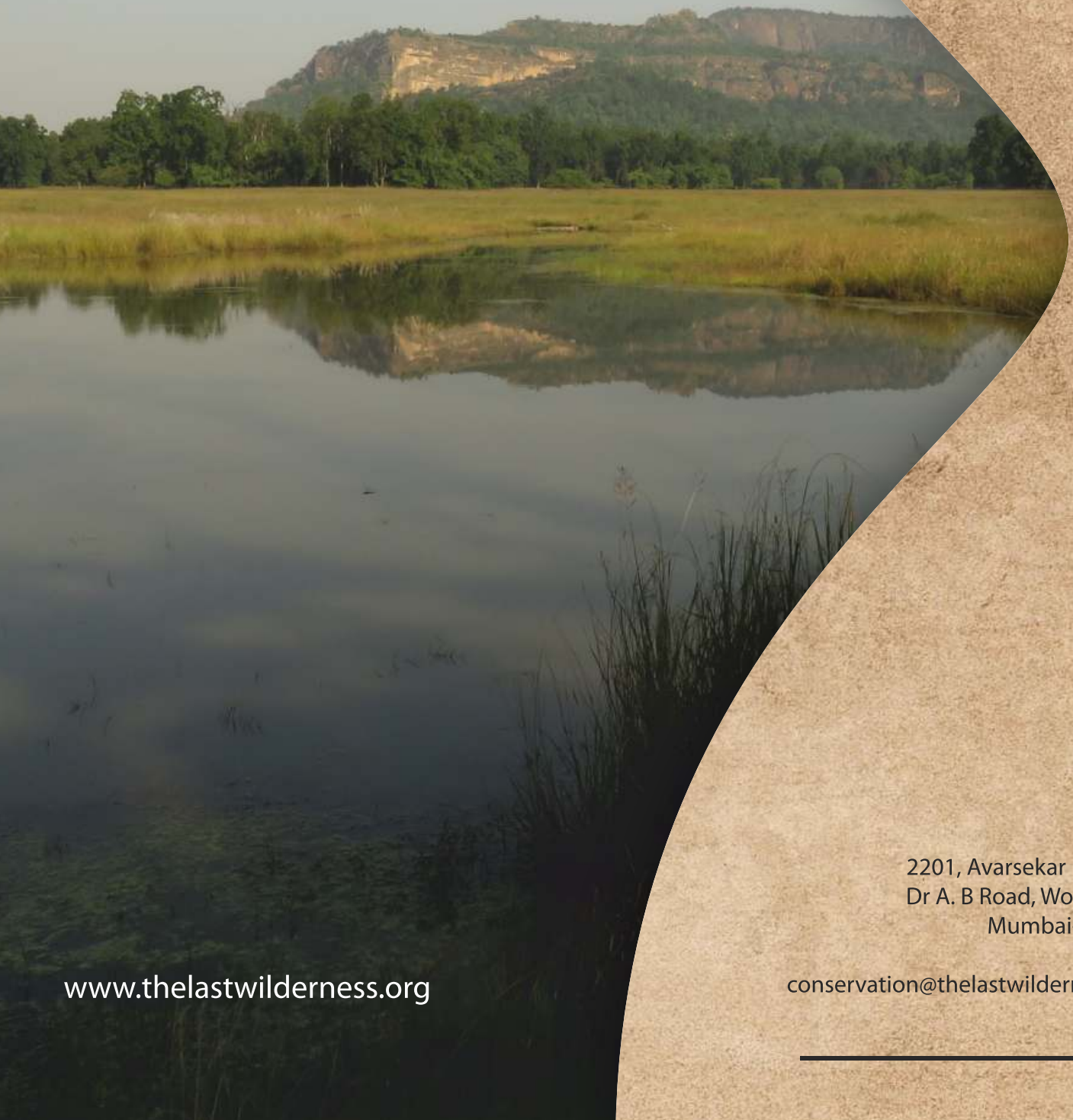
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LAST WILDERNESS FOUNDATION



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