



LAWACHARA INTERPRETATION PLAN

Task no.:
USAID Contract no.: 388-C-00-03-00050-00



LAWACHARA INTERPRETATION PLAN

Prepared for
Nishorgo Support Project

Prepared by:
Bitapi C Sinha
(Consultant)

Mahbub Alam
(Intern)

July 2008



With Partners : CODEC, NACOM & RDRS



Lawachara Interpretation Plan

Themes identified

1. Pas of Bangladesh
2. Significance of Lawachara
3. About Lawachara
4. Diversity of Lawachara
5. Primates (- Picture of the primate, its write up, food, Facts about behaviour and distribution(World/Bangladesh)
6. Tipra and the Khasias
7. Butterflies
8. Color of Lawachara
9. Birds of Lawarachara

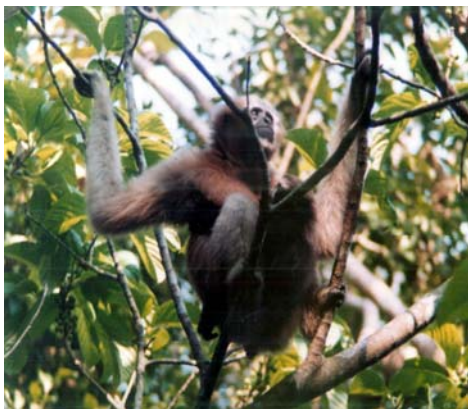
References

1. (2006) Management Plan of Lawachara National Park .Forest Department. Ministry of Environment and Forests, Dhaka
2. (2007) The vanishing Ape. The endangered Hoolocks of Lawachara. Sirajul Hossain & Petra Osterberg. Nishorgo
3. Site Information Brochure , Lawachara National Park. Nishorgo
4. (2006)Applied Research and Conservation of the Herpetofauna in Bangladesh AHM Ali Reza Dept of Natural Resources Management Texas Tech University

Panel 1
Protected areas of Bangladesh

Panel 2
Significance of Lawachara

1. Plantation forest raised in 1920's for timber production by converting natural forest
2. Important habitat for Hoolock Gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*)
3. Serves as watershed forming important catchments of several rivers and water bodies (hoars, beels & ponds)
- 4.



Panel
Butterflies





Panel



Hoolock Gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*)

Hoolocks in Bangladesh are critically endangered. Less than 200 animals, scattered in 22 small populations, are left in the country. Lawachara national Park is the last stronghold for these animals in the country.

- Hoolocks live on high tree tops and rarely come to the ground.
- Their whole lives they live with a single partner and all their dependent offspring's.
- The baby gibbon is born light-coloured and will gradually turn black in the first years. Female offspring will turn blonde upon reaching maturity whereas the male hoolocks are black with white eyebrows.
- Gibbons live for more than 30 years in the wild.

Food

Gibbons have stomach like us. They eat fruits. Their main diet consists of ripe fruits but they also eat young leaves and buds, flowers and some insects. In the forest the major source of food is figs (*Ficus species*) which are available throughout the year. One of the major threats to Gibbons is that in Bangladesh forests are planted with commercial value trees. Many of these trees fruit in the same season. The Gibbons are left with little choice of food for other seasons and thus have to starve.



Panel 7 (6.5x5)
Animal Footprints

From ancient times humans have relied upon foot prints to know the habits of animals. Many times direct sighting of animals is not easy and indirect evidences like foot prints, droppings, calls, nests tell us a lot about animals. Only one need to look around carefully while taking a walk in a forest or along the banks of a stream. The shapes of the foot prints are different for each animal depending on their locomotion.

CATS

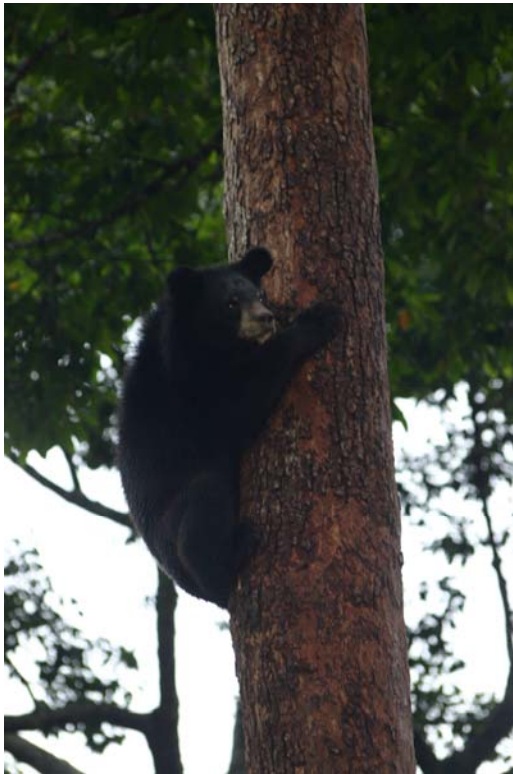
All cats walk on their toes. Their foreleg has five toes each but the thumb is shortened and does not touch the ground. There are four toes on each hind foot. The large cushioned sole pads distribute body weight equally on the balls of the feet, giving all cats their graceful walking motion and also help in their stealthy noiseless walk. The sickle shaped claws are usually retracted in a sheath as the cat walks and are extended only when the cat attacks.



BEARS

Bears walk flat footed. Their foot prints are much like human's and often mistaken for human tracks. The five toed paws are short and broad and have long curving non retractable claws. Powerful limbs, padded feet and strong long claws are designed to

climb trees. The long curved claws are good digging tools which are used for breaking down termite mounds. Black bears and Sloth bears have naked soles



OTTERS

Otters are aquatic animals and are excellent swimmers. Their feet are webbed and function like paddles that help in swimming. Paws are also sensitive and are used as sensors for searching fishes and other prey hidden under stones or buried in the mud.



Panel 8 (6.5x5)

Panel 9 (6.5x5)



Why do snakes flick out their tongues?

The snake begins to extend its tongue



Fully extended, the tongue gathers odour



All animals leave traces of themselves as they move. In tracking an animal, a snake probes for gases by darting its tongue in the air and gathers particles by touching its tongue to the ground. The snake pulls back its tongue, taking the odours to the Jacobson's organ.

Do Porcupines shoot quills?

The porcupine's body is covered by long quills that look like needles. The quills are very strong and the tips are extremely sharp.

When the porcupine first sees an enemy it makes a rustling sound with its quills to frighten the enemy. If the enemy does not run away, the porcupine backs into it and sticks the quills. The enemy quickly gives up.



Timber Value

Timber is a wood used for various purposes such as houses, bridges, boats and ships. They are also used for making furniture, packing boxes, match sticks, boxes and railway sleepers.

Best timber yielding trees are teak (*Tectona grandis*), Chikrasi(*Chickrasia tabularis*), Chapalish(*Artocarpus chapalasha*), Gamar(*Gmelina arborea*)





Minor Forest Produce

Minor forest produce ranges from food products, fibre, medicines etc. Minor forest produce are used by common people for their livelihood, social and cultural needs as well as by the traders.



Medicinal Value

Some common species	Plant Parts	Uses
Amlaki(<i>Embllica officinalis</i>)	Fruit	Preparation of trifla, ayurvedic medicines and also for pickles
Bahera(<i>Terminalia bellerica</i>)	Fruit	Constituent of trifla
Bel(<i>Aegle marmelos</i>)	Fruit	Stomach related ailments
Sonalu(<i>Cassia fistula</i>)	Fruit	Pulp used as purgative

Food Value

Honey is extracted from March to May and from September to December. Apart from consuming directly they are used as tonics, medicines and as cough mixers

Bamboo shoots are in great demand as food. It is good source of nutrition.

Commercial Value

Species	Plant Parts	Uses
Khair (<i>Accacia catechu</i>)	Heart wood	Brew of heart wood is used in pan called <i>katha</i>
Jalpai (<i>Elaeocarpus robustus</i>)	Fruit	For pickle industry
Chaitan (<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>)	Timber	For match boxes and packing cases
Kadam (<i>Anthocephalus chinensis</i>)	Timber	For match sticks
Pitraj (<i>Aphanamixis polystachya</i>)	Timber	Source of oil, wood for boats and furniture
Simul (<i>Bombax ceiba</i>)	Fruit and Timber	Source of cotton, match stick and boxes
Telsur (<i>Hopea odorata</i>)	Timber	Wood for boats, railway sleepers, flooring
Civit (<i>Swintonia floribunda</i>)	Timber	Used for plywood and flush doors
Garjan (<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>)	Timber	Timber used for boat building and railway sleepers Garjan oil is used to treat ulcers, ringworm and other skin infections

