



August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

To whomsoever this concerns,

My name is Dharmendra Khandal, and I am Executive Director and Conservation Biologist at Tiger Watch. Tiger Watch was founded in 1997 and is an NGO that spearheads wildlife conservation interventions in and around the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan, India. Our work has involved pro-active anti-poaching, the mitigation of human wildlife conflict, pioneering research and local community led conservation.

This is to certify that **Mr. Krishiv Malhotra**, served as an intern with our organization from **July 25<sup>th</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup> 2022**.

During his time with us, Krishiv executed all that was required of him and much more.

Krishiv's contributions to our wildlife conservation initiatives in and around the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve during his internship-

- **Tiger Tracking**

Krishiv tracked tigers for a week with our team in the brand new Ramgarh Vishdari Tiger Reserve. He got to experience how to track tigers in the field and saw just how our tiger monitoring team overcomes numerous challenges. The team consisted of 3 expert tiger trackers. They trekked for many kilometres in search of a male tiger T-115. By locating pug marks, scratch marks on trees, and by setting up camera traps, Krishiv and the team began to determine the movements of this tiger. This was a tremendous learning experience for Krishiv. Krishiv also saw the introduction of a translocated tigress, T-102 to the area. Even though she was in an enclosure at the time, ready to be released soon, he and the team conducted an experiment to determine if the male tiger T-115 was interested in the female.

- **Conservation Awareness Posters**

Krishiv also worked on Conservation Awareness posters with me. These posters in Hindi create awareness among local school students, about the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. These posters include information on a variety of issues. For example, the venomous snakes of Ranthambore, different ecosystems in Ranthambore, and mammals found in Ranthambore, etc. Tiger Watch hired four teachers to interpret these posters in 40 different village schools. Approximately 10,000 students living in villages bordering the Tiger Reserve benefit from such literature.

- **Studying Ecology**

During his internship, Krishiv conducted a lot of field work such as tiger tracking, as well as looking for canids such as wolves, foxes, and other animals. In the field, he got to experience different ecosystems and their flora and fauna like semi-arid areas, with their sloping sandy hills, patches of grass, and burrows with desert foxes. The dry deciduous dhonk forests of Ranthambore National Park provide a home for many animals such as tigers. Or the plateau tops of Kailadevi Wildlife Sanctuary where Indian wolves occur. However Krishiv was also introduced to potent threats to this landscape such as illegal sand mining in scrubland, roads where animals can get run over and the problem of feral cows in the Ramgarh Vishdari Tiger Reserve.

- **Experiencing Village Life**

On some days, when Krishiv was out in the field, he gained invaluable insights into the lives of our local communities . He imbibed their lifestyle, traditions, culture, and cuisine. Especially when it came to our tiger trackers, all of whom are local community members and face many challenges such as heat, humidity, dense vegetation, and the inherent risk of getting attacked by an animal. This made him realize that despite all the challenges , they were still passionate about the conservation of wildlife and left him visibly inspired to continue his contributions towards wildlife conservation.

Krishiv clearly demonstrated his people skills, his adaptability, creativity and investigative spirit on multiple occasions. His diligence and dedication in the field were unparalleled throughout this internship, and he was a pleasure to work with .

I have no hesitation in strongly recommending Krishiv for any future endeavour, and I am sure he will be of tremendous value to any organization he joins.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further information.

Best wishes,



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