WASI
Wildlife Association of South India

Department of Fisheries

ATRIA UNIVERSITY

Matsyadhama Yatra

Karnataka's Fish Sanctuaries

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಮೀನು ಅಭಯಾರಣ್ಯಗಳು

Anirban Roy, Naren Sreenivasan, Stan Renoldo

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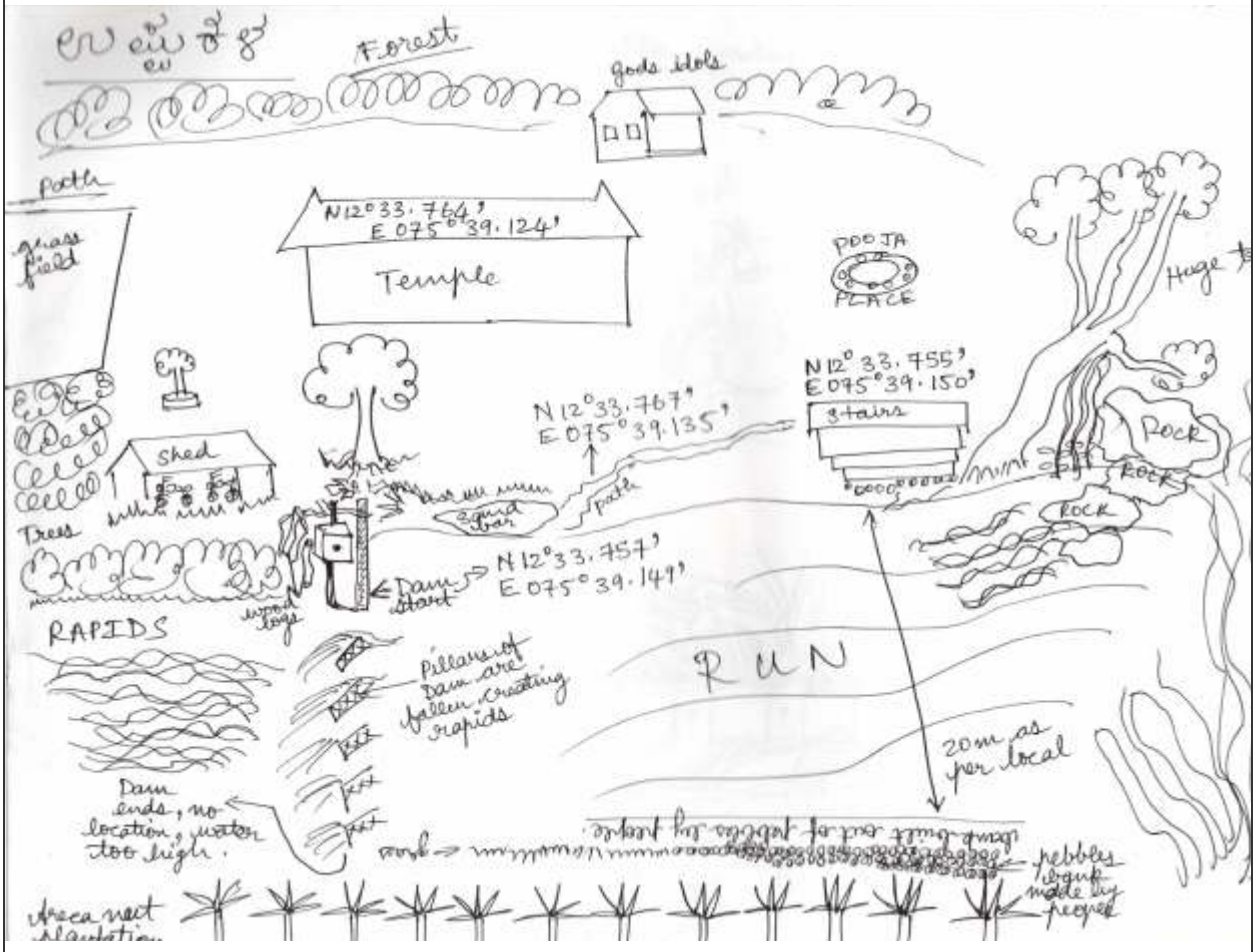
Freshwater bodies cover less than 1% of the Earth's surface yet support half of the world's fish species. Despite being essential for sustaining life, these ecosystems remain underrepresented and overexploited. The "out of sight, out of mind" mentality has often led to neglect in wetland management, with almost 85% of freshwater species worldwide facing extinction risks. In India, freshwater bodies within Protected Areas (e.g., Wildlife Sanctuaries, National Parks, Tiger Reserves) are safeguarded. However, outside these areas, rivers and lakes support thousands of livelihoods, especially through inland fisheries, putting significant pressure on native fish species that urgently need protection.

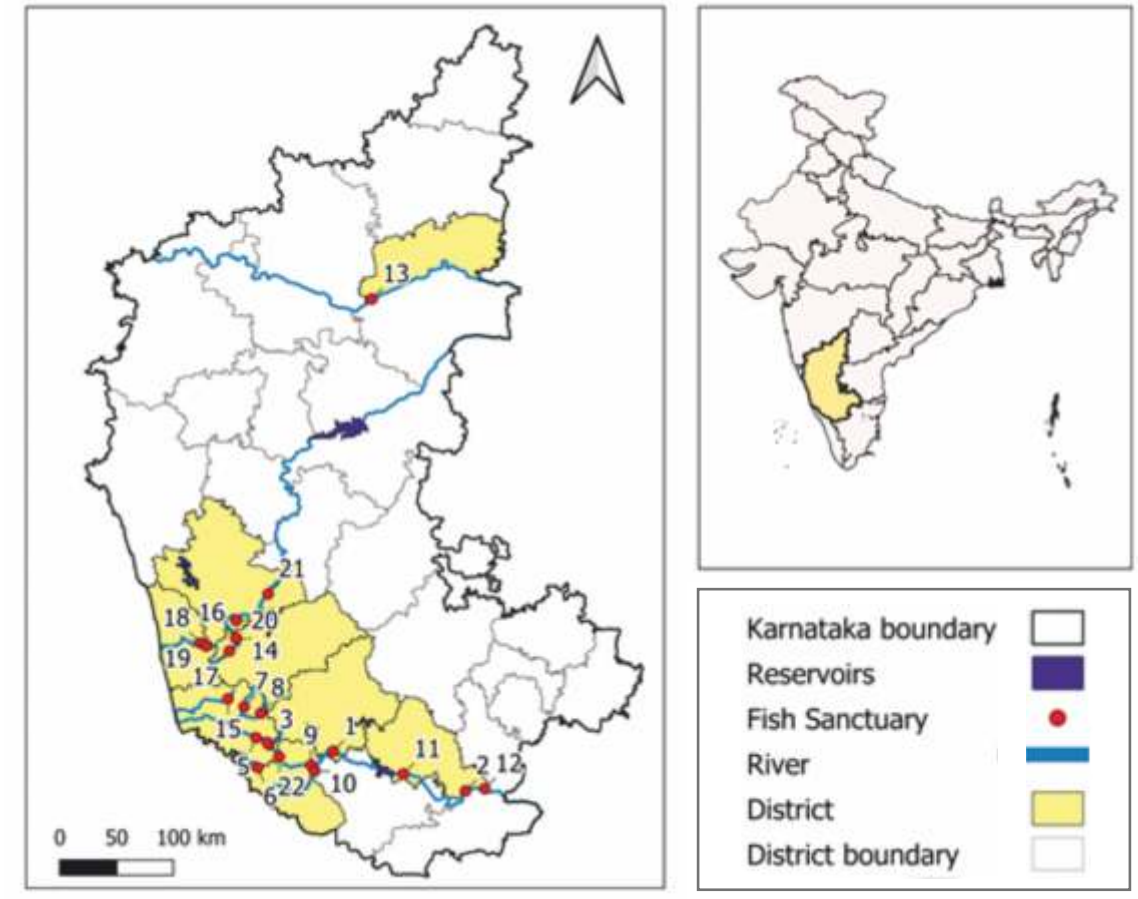
India's Fish Sanctuaries, under various management models (community-managed, privately owned), provide critical refuges for indigenous fish. In Karnataka, 22 such sanctuaries have been identified; 11 are formally recognized under the Karnataka Inland Fisheries Act of 1996, with the remainder proposed for future declaration. These sanctuaries not only conserve species but enhance local fishery diversity, benefiting nearby fishing communities.

Through 'The Matsyadhamma Yatra'—a crowdfunded journey—we documented the locations, ecology, social buy-in, and hydrology of Karnataka's Fish Sanctuaries. This document aims to raise awareness and support stronger legislation and actionable management plans for Karnataka's vital freshwater ecosystems.

The team extends heartfelt gratitude to the Karnataka Department of Fisheries for their unwavering support. Thanks are also due to Mr. Aroon Raman, who backed efforts to develop a management plan for the Shivanasamudram Fish Sanctuary, and to Atria University for its essential logistical support. Special appreciation goes to Mr. Stan Renoldo, whose dedication led him through extreme conditions to survey all 22 locations, setting a solid foundation for future work. Lastly, sincere thanks to all volunteers and WASI staff for their invaluable contributions, whose efforts continue to fuel the program's progress.


Forest
Gods idols
Path
grass field
N12°33.764'
E075°39.124'
Temple
POOJA PLACE
Huge
N12°33.755'
E075°39.150'
stairs
Rock
ROCK
ROCK
N12°33.767'
E075°39.135'
Shed
Trees
Dam start
N12°33.757'
E075°39.149'
RAPIDS
RUN
Pillars of Dam are fallen creating rapids
20m as per local
Dam ends, no location, water too high.
pebbles
Areca nut plantation

Fish Sanctuaries of Karnataka (WASI, 2024)



1. Ramnathpura
2. Shivanasamudram
3. Marakatha
4. Bachanakanagudi
5. Nakurgaya
6. Thodikana
7. Dharmasthala
8. Shishila
9. Harangi
10. Nisarghadama
11. Ranganathittu
12. Muttathi
13. Bhagavathi Chaya
14. Jammatagi
15. Kelkaru
16. Abhirama
17. Sringeri
18. Seethanadhi
19. Thingale
20. Chippalagudda
21. Mattur-Hosahalli
22. Uppukalu

01

Abhirama Fish Sanctuary

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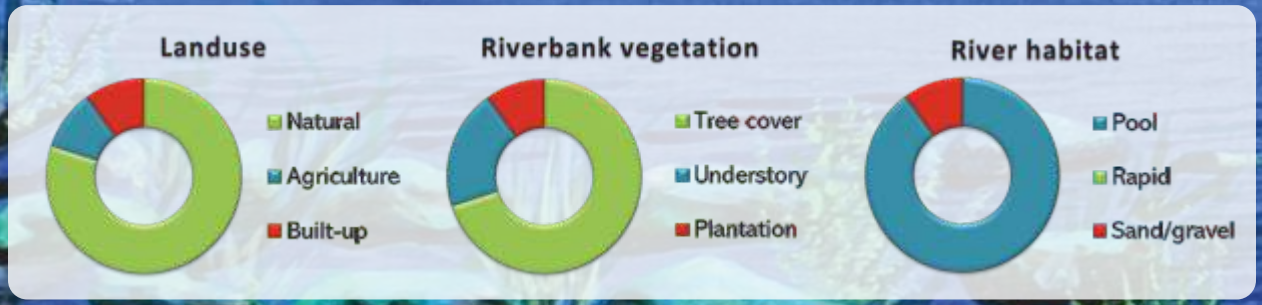

“The Lakshminarashima Saligrama, a sacred fossilized-stone symbolizing Lord Vishnu, holds deep religious significance here. Adi Shankaracharya, the revered philosopher, is also believed to have visited. Behind the temple, the river forms a deep pool, bridged for easy access by devotees. A prominent Peepal tree marks the river's temple-side bank. Conservation efforts protect this ecosystem, with fishing bans preserving key species like the mahseer, while nearby forests and sandbars enhance biodiversity.”

Type – Temple based (Adi Shankaracharya Sharada Lakshminarasimha Peta)
Status – Declared (2006)
Location – Hariharapura, Chikkamagalur Dist.
River – Tunga River
Footfall – Fair (~15,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Areca-coconut plantation, riparian
Unique fauna – Common Indian birds.
Challenges – lack of awareness, detergents

02

Jammatagi Fish Sanctuary

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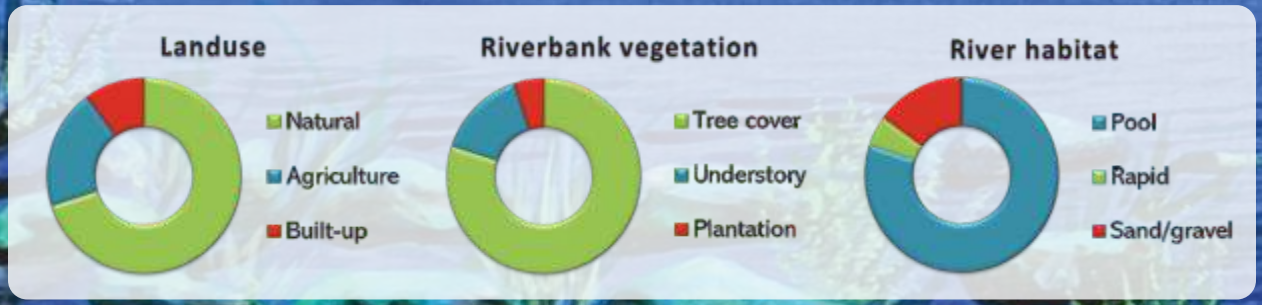

"The local community living near the temple plays a vital role in its maintenance and preservation, demonstrating significant knowledge about its history and cultural significance. These residents are enthusiastic about sharing their insights and stories related to the temple, enhancing the visitor experience. Among the notable features of the area is a very old mango tree, which bears small fruits that range in colour from red to orange, adding to the biodiversity of the region. The temple here is set to celebrate its 300th year. Biodiversity conservation efforts at this sanctuary are notable deficient."

Type – Temple based (Neelkanteshwara temple)
Status – Declared (2007)
Location – Hariharapura, Chikamagalur Dist.
River – Tunga River
Footfall – Fair (~28,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agriculture, urban exotics
Unique fauna – common Indian birds
Challenges – lack of awareness

03

Sringeri Fish Sanctuary

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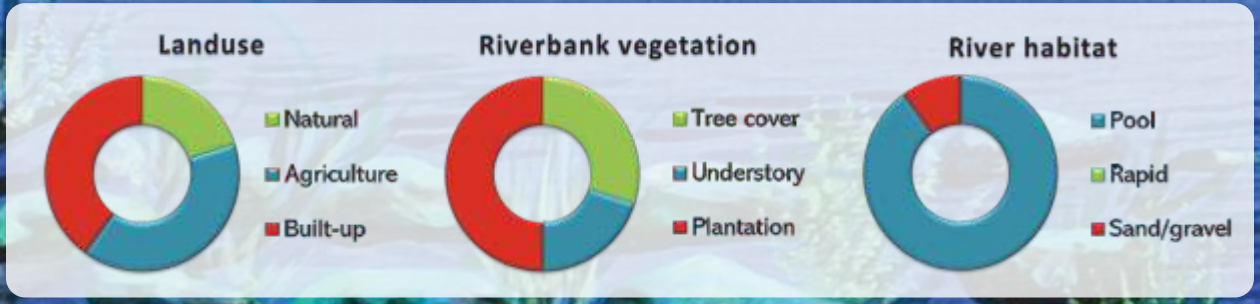

“The Sringeri region's Tunga River, home to the majestic mahseer, offers a captivating glimpse into its vibrant ecosystem. Visitors crossing the bridge can watch these large fish gather near the surface as tourists feed them rusk and puffed rice, creating a unique human-animal interaction. Other fish, like the Garra, engage in “cleaning” by gently exfoliating visitors' feet as they wade. This culturally rich area beautifully intertwines spirituality, ecology, and community, drawing pilgrims and tourists from across India.”

Type – Temple based (Vidyashankara temple)
Status – Declared (2006)
Location – Sringeri, Chikkmagalur Dist.
River – Tunga River
Footfall – High (~1,30,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Arecanut, Coconut plantations, bamboo
Unique fauna – Common Indian birds, mahseer, garras
Challenges – Minimal

04

Bachanayakanagudi Fish Sanctuary

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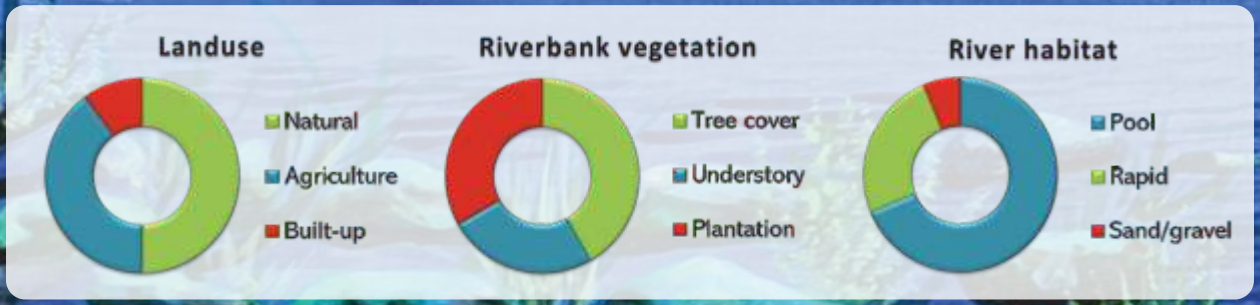

"The area around the temple and sanctuary is carefully maintained. A cement dam, reinforced with wooden logs, effectively sustains high water levels to support agriculture and protect fish habitats. A small sign marks the area's significance; however, visitors are largely unaware of the fish sanctuary status. The riverbed features large rocks and thriving riparian vegetation, indicating strong bank stability and a healthy ecosystem."

Type – Temple based (Ullakula Bacchanya temple)
Status – Declared (2009)
Location – Yenekkal, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Kalleja River
Footfall – Low (~8,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Plantation, riparian
Unique fauna – Common water birds, common wolf snake.
Challenges – Lack of awareness

05

Dharmasthala Fish Sanctuary

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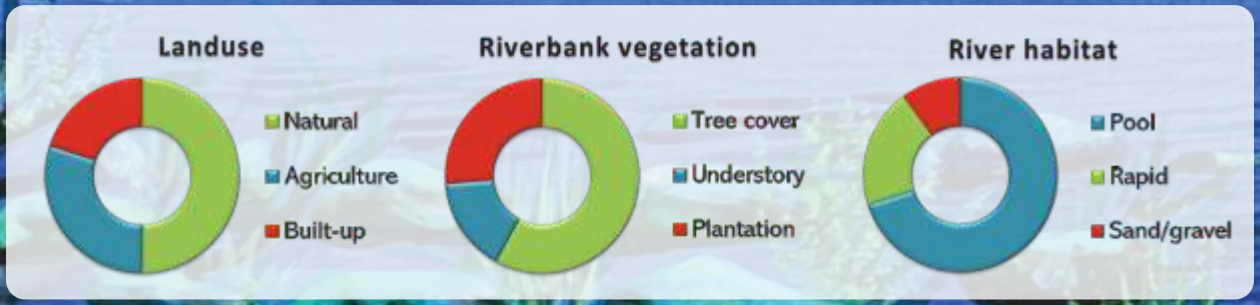

"The Dharmasthala ghats are a sacred site for pilgrims. A small dam creates rapids where Mahseer fish reside, and temple authorities employ a clean-up crew and provide bins for disposing of waste. Despite this, plastic waste often accumulates at the ghat's. To protect the ecosystem, it is essential to extend conservation efforts upriver where aquatic life can be better preserved."

Type – Temple based (Rama Kshetra temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Belthangadi, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Nethravathi River
Footfall – High (~5,28,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Plantation, bamboo
Unique fauna – Smooth coated otter, common langur, common Indian birds.
Challenges – Detergents, littering.

06

Kelkaru Fish Sanctuary

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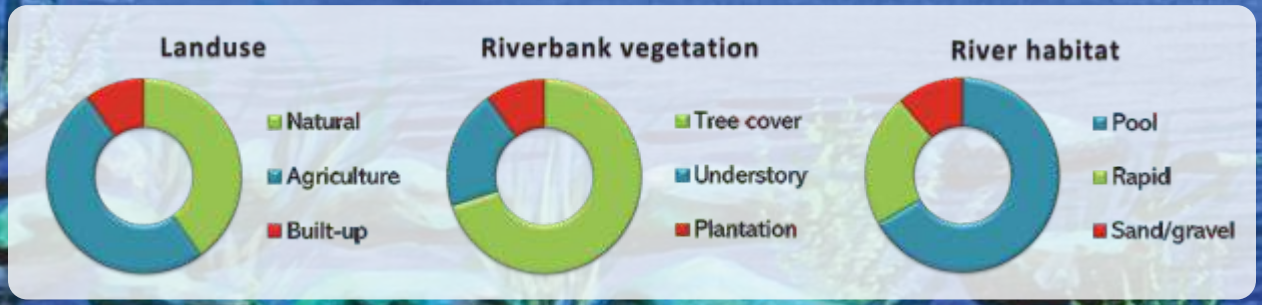

“This thousand-year-old temple stands by a clean river with an island rich in vegetation, home to diverse fish species. Locals recall a more scenic landscape before a bridge construction disrupted the area, killing fish and disturbing rock formations. Across the river, rubber plantations likely contribute fertilizers that wash into the water. Conservation efforts include educational signage and guidance from knowledgeable priests to foster environmental awareness and preserve this natural habitat.”

Type – Temple based (Mahalingeshwara temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Belthangadi, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Palguni River
Footfall – Fair (~23,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agro-forest, riparian
Unique fauna – Crustaceans, filamentous barbs, mahseer, gobies
Challenges – Chemical fertilizers from neighboring plantations.

07

Marakatha Fish Sanctuary

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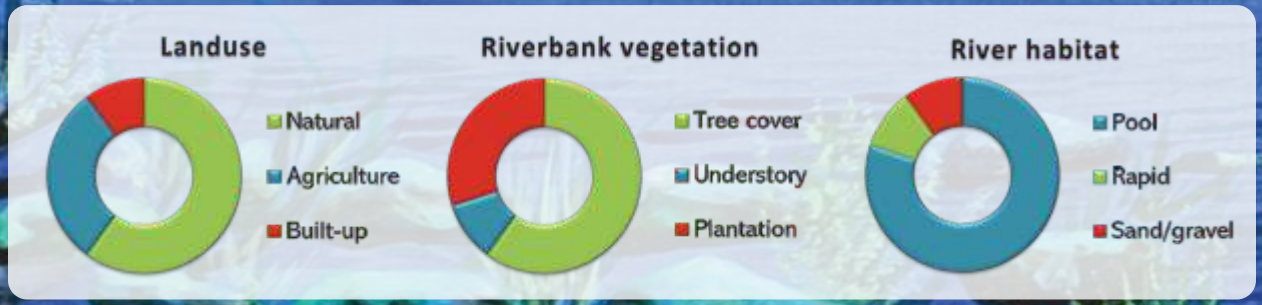

The temple and river are beautiful and clean, bordered by forests on the opposite bank. A log dam near the bridge forms rapids, and the riverbed's rocks and sand support a rich native fish population and two resident crocodiles. Here, community-driven conservation efforts employ a multifaceted approach highlighting rules, conservation goals, and the importance of preserving these natural resources. Together, these initiatives foster a healthier, sustainable environment."

Type – Temple based (Durga Parameshwari temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Sulya, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Amrithara/Kumaradhara River
Footfall – High (~29,600/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agro-forest
Unique fauna – Crocodile, Langur, Otter, mahseer, filamentous barbs.
Challenges – Detergents

08

Nakurgaya Fish Sanctuary

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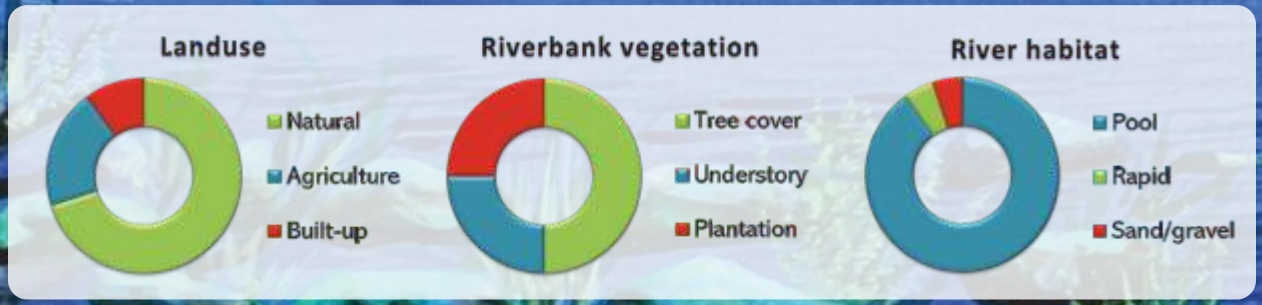

“Local legend tells of an ancient temple, unseen by anyone alive today, that lies submerged in the river. Nearby, a railway line connects the cities of Bangalore and Mangalore. The site includes a shed for lamp offerings and shelter from rain. Locals have contributed funds to build steps down to the river and smaller ones at the riverbank for bathing or rituals. Conservation efforts include river clean-up campaigns, community-protected forests and wildlife, and a fishing ban within the sanctuary.”

Type – Temple based (Gopala Krishna temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Puttur, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Kumaradhara River
Footfall – Low (~8,500/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agro-forest, riparian
Unique fauna – Common birds, crocodile, native catfishes and carps
Challenges – None identified

09

Shishila Fish Sanctuary

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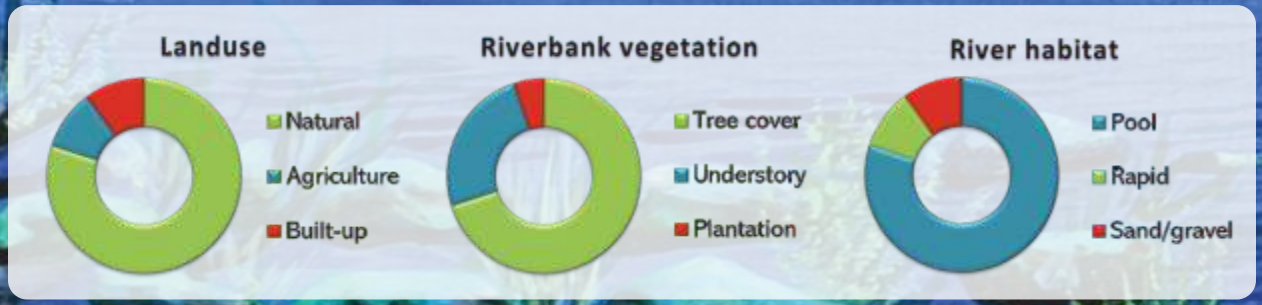

"The 8,00-year-old temple supports a vital fish sanctuary, creating a no-fishing zone spanning 4 km, though the designated protected area is just 500 meters. During low water levels, baby mahseer and other native carps are frequently visible. Several fish species were reintroduced following a mass die-off from retaliatory poisoning by miscreants. An active clean-up initiative keeps the area clean and virtually free of plastic waste, maintaining a well-preserved environment."

Type – Temple based (Shishileshwara temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Belthangadi, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Kapila River
Footfall – Fair (~23,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Plantation
Fauna – Common Indian birds, Indian vulture.
Challenges – Unregulated fish feeding, occasional fishing using nets

10

Thodikana Fish Sanctuary

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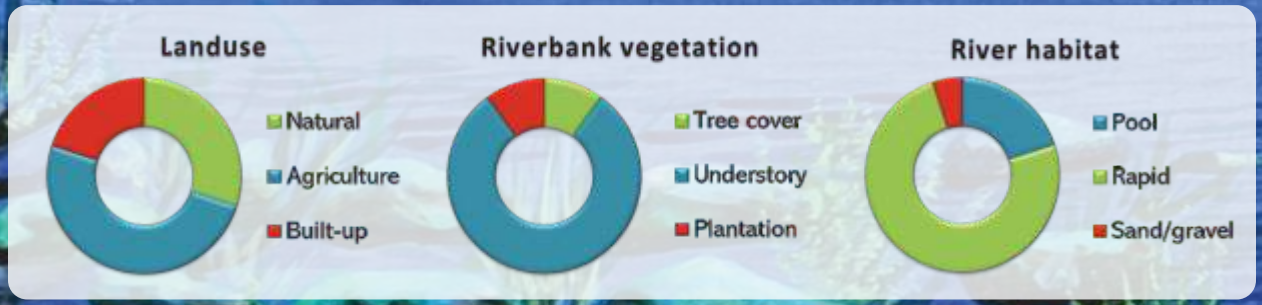

“Legend holds that 3,000 years ago, a girl named Malli discovered a Shiva Linga while cutting grass. Lord Vishnu, appearing as Matsya (the fish), is said to have ferried them across the river to sanctify the site. Temple authorities now provide fish feed pellets, recommended by the Fisheries Department, to visitors. This change from puffed rice to pellets followed a hot summer that led to fish deaths. Near the main altar, two copper fish symbols signify healing and recovery.”

Type – Temple based (Mallikarjuna Swamy temple)
Status – Declared (2007)
Location – Sulya, Dakshina Kannasa Dist.
River – Payaswini River
Footfall – Low (~8,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agro-forest, Tropical wet evergreen, bamboo
Unique fauna – Common Indian birds, mahseer
Challenges – Unregulated fish feeding

11

Uppukala Fish Sanctuary

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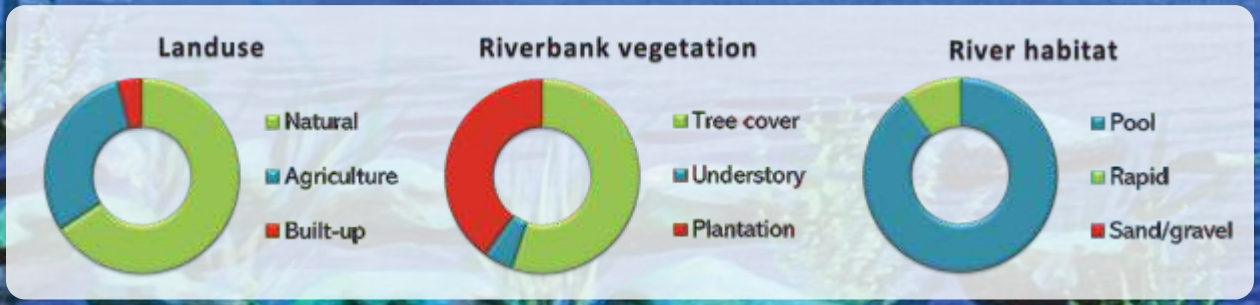

“The path to the temple stretches about four kilometers along a rugged road, the temple is the final stop before entering the forest. A dam, built in 2014, has since collapsed, creating rapids in the river. Remote and imbued with a distinct energy, the site also hosts a research station (managed by the Pondicherry University). Including this station in the sanctuary's management could enhance conservation efforts in the future.”

Source: Nilgiri Marten Token

Type – Temple based (Aiyappa Swamy temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Sulya, Dakshina Kannada Dist.
River – Kumaradhara River
Footfall – Low (~8,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agro-forest, tropical wet evergreen, riparian
Unique fauna – Malabar giant squirrel, spotted deer, Nilgiri Marten, Dhole.
Challenges – Occasional fishing with nets

12

Ramanathapura Fish Sanctuary

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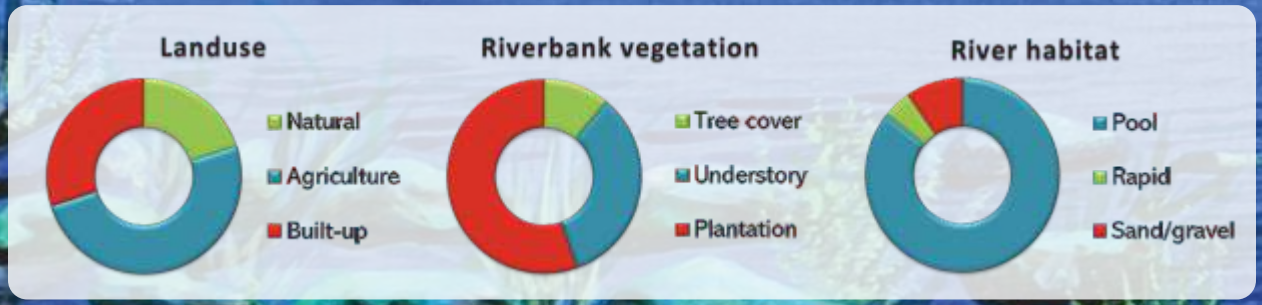

"The temple, built by the Hoysala Dynasty, holds historical importance. On the riverbank steps, a small shrine stands, where a rare Humpback mahseer (*Tor remadevii*) is often sighted. Revered as a sacred site for the worship of Lord Shiva, this area has been preserved through community-driven efforts."

Type – Temple based (Rameshwara temple)
Status – Declared (2007)
Location – Arakalgud, Hassan Dist.
River – Cauvery River
Footfall – High (~48,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Coconut plantation, agriculture
Unique fauna – Otter, flapshell turtle, Humpback mahseer
Challenges – Detergents, littering, unregulated fish feeding.

13

Harangi Fish Sanctuary

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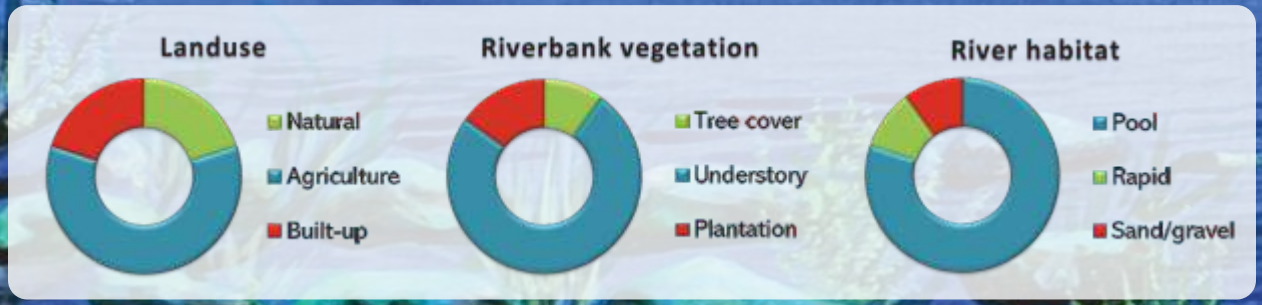
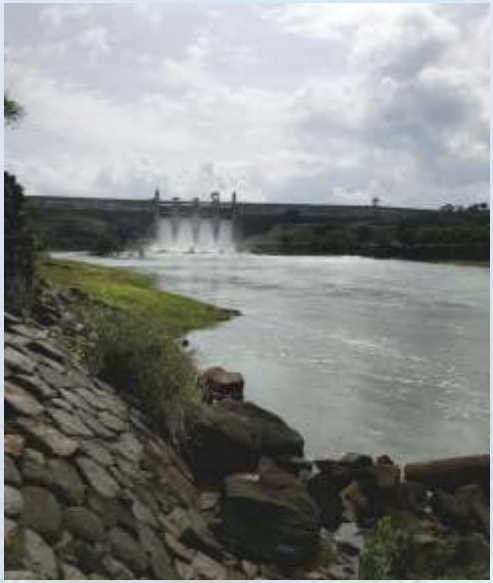


"The Harangi Fish Sanctuary stretches five kilometers below the Harangi Dam. The hatchery here is essential for conserving and breeding various fish species, including the iconic mahseer, and is crucial to a state-wide effort to rehabilitate the endemic and critically endangered humpback mahseer in the Cauvery River basin. Adjacent to the hatchery, a park with Indian elephants offers visitors a naturalistic view, fostering awareness of elephant conservation."



Type – Formal, non-temple based
Status – Declared (2014)
Location – Kudige, Kodagu Dist.
River – Harangi River
Footfall – High (~2,00,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agriculture, tropical wet deciduous, bamboo
Unique fauna – Indian elephant, otter, deer, turtles, common Indian birds,
Challenges – Unsustainable fishing

14

Nisargadhama Fish Sanctuary

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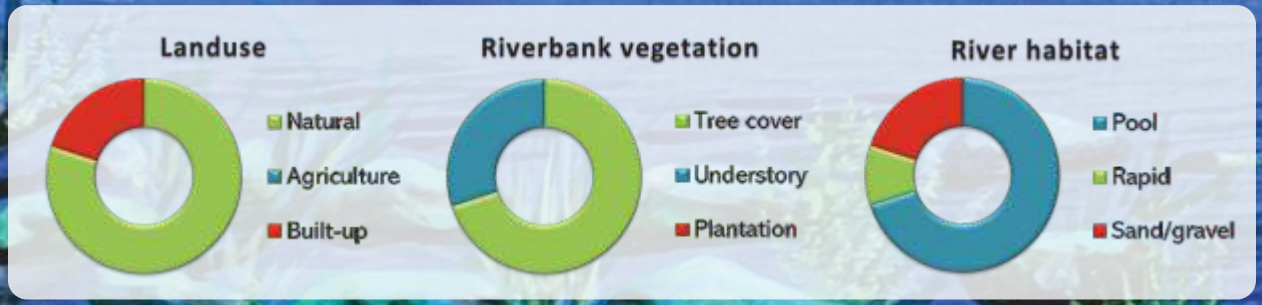

“Nisargadhama Bird Park, set on an island where the Cauvery River splits and surrounded by dense bamboo thickets, attracts numerous tourists. Fish near the bridge have grown accustomed to being fed snacks, while those inside the park remain more elusive. Clay models depicting Kodava culture and a deer enclosure add ecological and cultural value. Many tourists remain unaware of this status, although the park's proximity to the sanctuary presents opportunities for improved management and awareness.”

Type – Formal, non-temple based (local community)
Status – Proposed
Location – Kushalnagar, Kodagu Dist.
River – Cauvery River
Footfall – High (~3,00,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Bamboo, eucalyptus groves
Unique fauna – Crocodile, langur, kingfishers and parakeets.
Challenges – Lack of awareness, unsustainable fishing, overfeeding fish

15

Muttathi Fish Sanctuary

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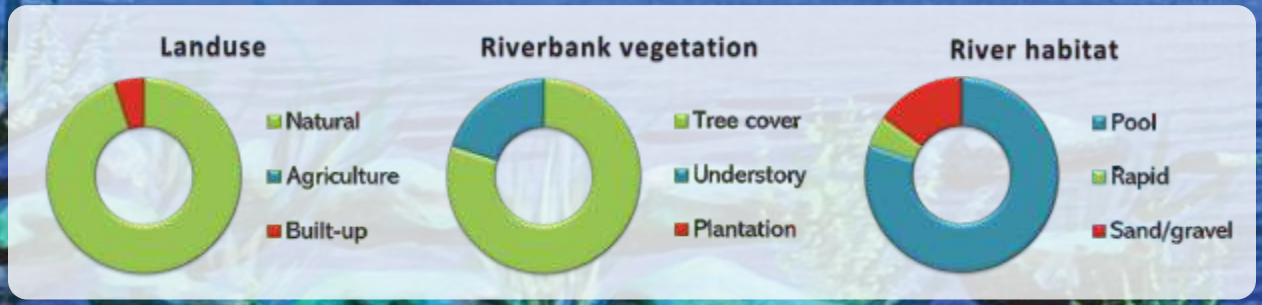

"The Muthathi area, part of the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, hosts diverse flora and fauna amid stunning landscapes shaped by the Cauvery River cutting through hills. Strictly managed under sanctuary rules, it's a no-fishing zone to conserve the mahseer, a flagship fish species. Local communities understand the ecosystem's importance, recognizing various fish, trees, and herbs. However, pollution from visitor activities underscores the need for heightened awareness to protect the area's natural beauty and biodiversity. The area is under imminent threat from the proposed Mekkedatu Dam project."

Type – Formal non-temple based
Status – Proposed
Location – Muthathi, Mandya Dist.
River – Cauvery River
Footfall – High (~58,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Dry deciduous forest, riparian
Unique fauna – very large population of mammals, birds, reptiles and fishes. Iconic species include, honey badger, elephant, grizzled giant squirrel, humpback mahseer, silund catfish, leopard, Asian king vulture.
Challenges – Unsustainable fishing, river engineering projects, littering.

16

Ranganathittu Fish Sanctuary

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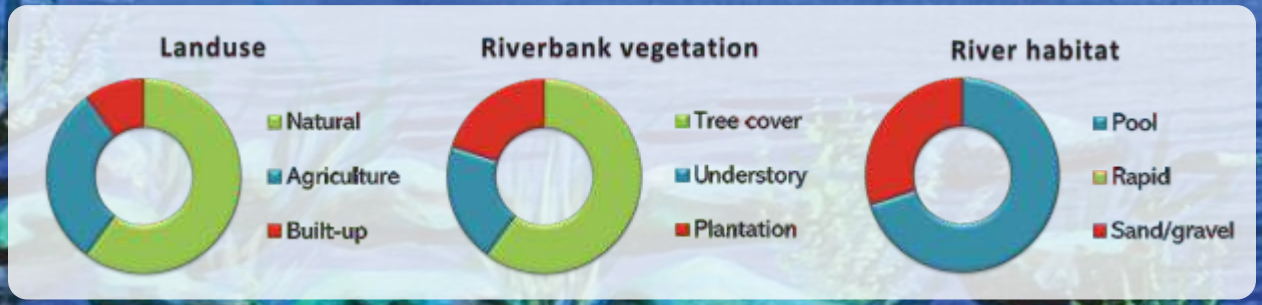

“Ranganthittu Bird Sanctuary, one of India's 85 protected wetlands (RAMSAR), was formed in the 1640s when a dam resulted in several forested islands. Now managed by the government, it emphasizes aquatic conservation alongside terrestrial ecosystems. Ranganthittu draws visitors eager to observe its variety of resident and migratory birds, as well as its large crocodile population, showcasing a thriving wetland ecosystem. Decades of protection have fostered a robust Deccan mahseer population that congregates near the boating docks.”

Type – Formal, non-temple based (Karnataka Forest Department)
Status – Proposed
Location – S.R. Patna, Mandya Dist.
River – Cauvery River
Footfall – High (~3,36,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Tropical dry deciduous, riparian, bamboo
Unique fauna – Otters, migratory birds, fruit bats, crocodiles, turtles, Langur, native fishes
Challenges – lack of awareness, overfeeding fish

17

Shivanasamudram Fish Sanctuary

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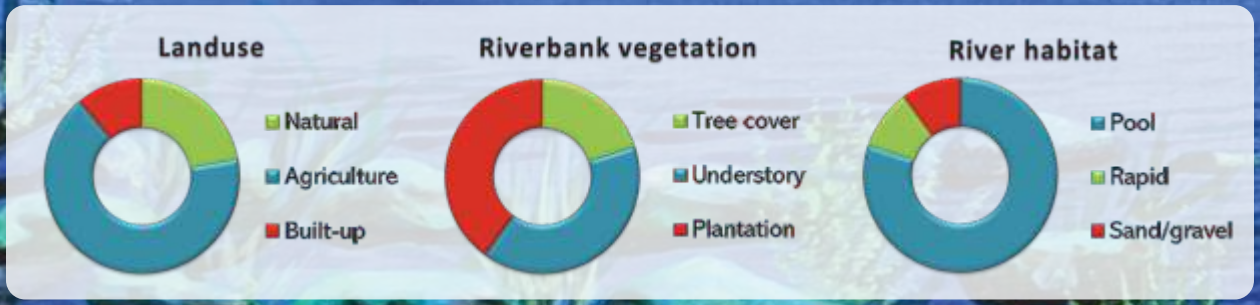

"The Shivanasamudram Fish Sanctuary, Karnataka's most actively managed fish reserve, has been jointly overseen by the Department of Fisheries and the Wildlife Association of South India (WASI) since 2007. Management includes ecotourism, fish monitoring, ecological research, and stock conservation. The local village (Bluff), transformed from dense forest, owes its development to famed engineer Sir M. Visvesvaraya, who led the construction of a dam and power station despite British skepticism, hence the name 'Bluff'."

Type – Formal non-temple based
Status – Declared (2009)
Location – Bluff, Mandya Dist.
River – Cauvery River
Footfall – High (~3,00,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agriculture, riparian, coconut plantation
Unique fauna – otters, Indian pangolin, elephant, leopard, bear, mahseer.
Challenges – unregulated and unsustainable fishing.

18

Chippalagudda Fish Sanctuary

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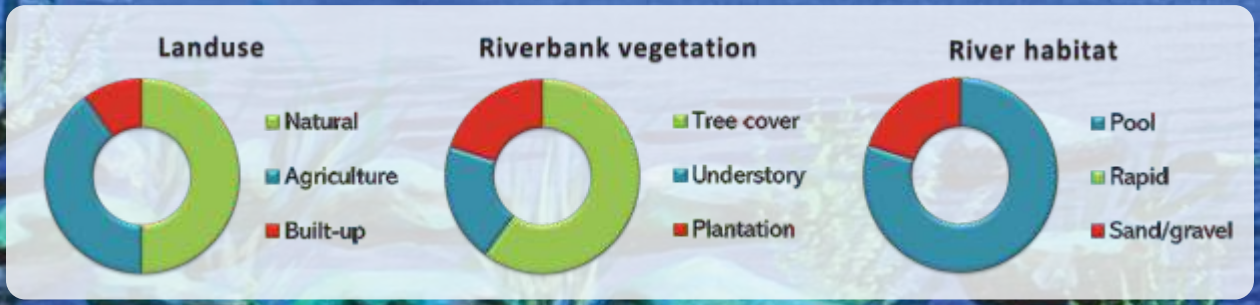

“The temple authorities actively manage the grounds to protect the ecosystem, prohibiting activities like fishing, use of detergents for washing clothes to preserve river health. However, they are concerned about nearby deforestation and water abstraction which they believe impacts river water levels and aquatic life. Illegal fishing with electrofishing devices also threatens fish populations. Despite complaints, no major actions have been taken. To support visitor engagement with the Tunga River's beauty, authorities have installed seating to encourage an appreciation for nature.”ite fishing a few kilometres upstream.”

Type – Temple based (Siddhi Vinayaka temple)
Status – Declared (2006)
Location – Thirthahalli, Shimoga Dist.
River – Tunga River
Footfall – Low (~10,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Planted exotics
Unique fauna – Mahseer, native barbs, otters, langur.
Challenges – Deforestation, unregulated fishing.

19

Mattur-Hosahalli Fish Sanctuary

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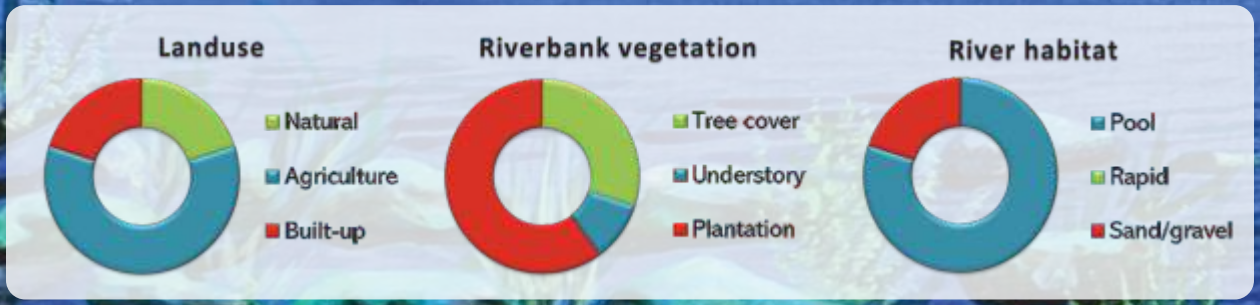


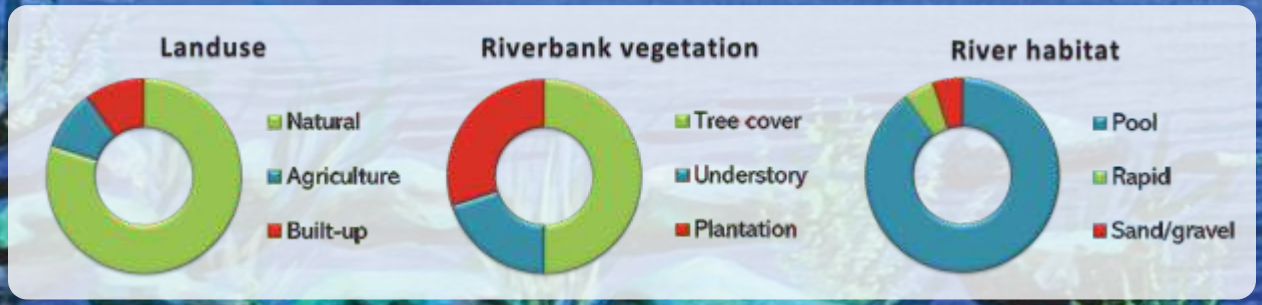
“Mattur-Hosahalli hosts a unique Sanskrit-speaking community preserving its cultural heritage and the Sankethi dialect. The village emphasizes Sanskrit and Vedic education, blending these teachings into children's curricula. Following the Gurukul system, students live closely with mentors (Gurus), fostering a holistic, experiential learning environment that instills both knowledge and values. The strong sense of community encourages a strong conservation sentiment that is directly linked to the local riverine ecosystem.”

Type – Temple based (Someshwara temple)
Status – Declared (2007)
Location – Shimoga, Shimoga Dist.
River – Tunga River
Footfall – Fair (~12,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Semi urban, bamboo, reed grasses
Unique fauna – mahseer, native barbs and catfishes
Challenges – unregulated fishing,

20

Seethanadi Fish Sanctuary

ಸೀತಾನದಿ ಮತ್ಸ್ಯಧಾಮ



"The Seethanadi Fish Sanctuary, located by the Jungle Lodges and Resorts (Seethanadi camp), protects the river stretch fronting the camp. While camp authorities may be unaware of the sanctuary's potential as a Fish Sanctuary, they are dedicated to forest and fish conservation, especially of the mahseer. The ecotourism-based camp fosters conservation awareness among guests."

Type – Informal, non-temple based
Status – Proposed
Location – Karkala, Udupi Dist.
River – Seethanadi River
Footfall – Data deficient
Vegetation – Tropical wet evergreen, areca-pepper plantations
Unique fauna – Malabar hornbills, otter, lion tailed macaque, Malabar giant squirrel.
Challenges – lack of awareness, poor declaration status

21

Thingale Fish Sanctuary

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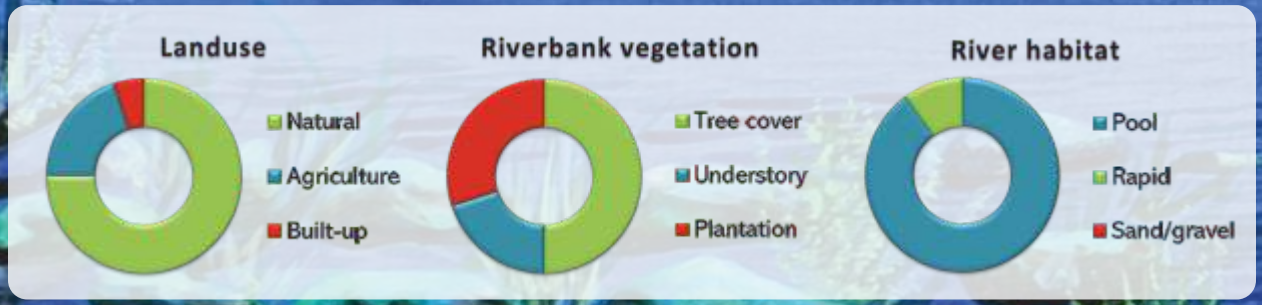

“One of Karnataka's best-researched Fish Sanctuary's, Thingale lies near a scenic temple nestled among misty hills, with plantations on one side of the river and dense forest on the other. The pristine, plastic-free waters support diverse plants and fish, including Apsara barbs, Malabar baril, and mahseer. The temple, usually closed, opens for festivals where visitors don traditional Kundapura attire. Fishing is prohibited near the temple, though older studies reported dynamite fishing a few kilometres upstream.”

Source: Rajv Gandhi Zoological park

Type – Temple based (Mahakala Shivaraya temple)
Status – Declared (2007)
Location – Garagundi, Udupi Dist.
River – Seethanadi River
Footfall – Low (~600/Yr.)
Vegetation – Rubber plantation, riparian.
Unique fauna – Hornbills, fishes eagle, Malabar giant squirrel.
Challenges – unregulated and unsustainable fishing.

22

Bhagavathi Chaya Kolla Fish Sanctuary

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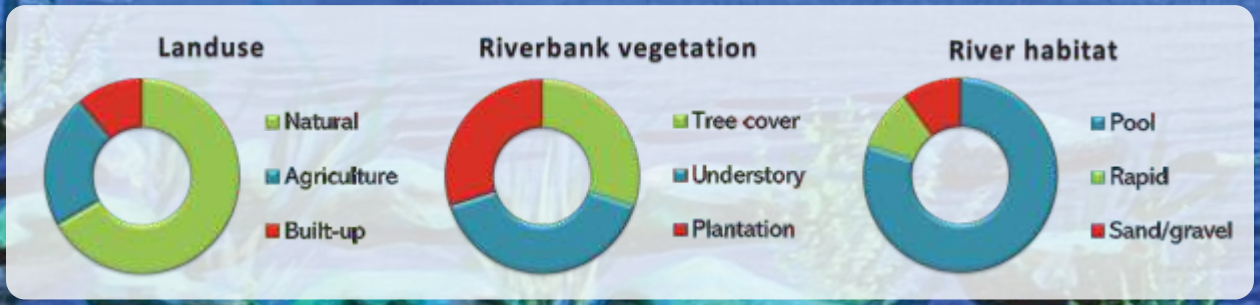

“This area is notable for its fishing activities. Indian major carps are regularly ranched into the river. When the nearby dam gates are opened, the river's water level rises significantly, often resulting in the temple being partially or fully submerged. Fishermen in the area have expressed concerns about declining fish populations and have requested that the fisheries department release more fish into the river. Nearby, the hatchery plays a crucial role in fish conservation. As a conservation measure people are not allowed to wash clothes in the river and regular river clean ups are conducted by the local temple staff and volunteers.”

Type – Temple based (Chaya Bhagavathi temple)
Status – Proposed
Location – Surpura, Gulbarga Dist.
River – Krishna River
Footfall – High (~1,95,000/Yr.)
Vegetation – Agro-plantation
Unique fauna – Chital, langur, common Indian birds
Threats – lack of awareness, unregulated fishing

Name of Fish Sanctuary	Status	District	Type	Management	River	River Basin	Location	Extent (m)
Abhirama Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Chikkamagalur	Temple based	Adi Shankaracharya Sharada Peta	Tunga	Krishna	Hariharapura	500
Jammatagi Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Chikkamagalur	Temple based	Nellakanteshwara Temple	Tunga	Krishna	Hariharapura	na
Sringeri Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Chikkamagalur	Temple based	Vindyashankara Temple	Tunga	Krishna	Sringeri	1000
Bachanayakanagudi Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Ullakula Bacchanya Temple	Kalleja	Netravathi	Yennekal	2000
Dharmasthala Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Rama Kshetra Temple	Netravathi	Netravathi	Belthangadi	1000
Kelkaru Fish Sanctaury	Proposed	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Majalingeshwari Temple	Palguni	Gurupura	Belthangadi	na
Marakatha Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Durga Parameshwari Temple	Kalleja	Netravathi	Sulya	na
Nakurgaya Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Gopalakrishna Temple	Kumaradhara	Netravathi	Puttur	na
Shishila Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Shishileshwara Temple	Kapila	Netravathi	Belthangadi	500
Thodikana Fish Sanctaury	Declared	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple	Payaswini (Tributary)	Payaswini	Sulya	500
Uppukala Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Dakshina Kannada	Temple based	Aiyappa Swamy Temple	Uppukalla	Netravathi	Sulya	na
Ramanathapur Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Hassan	Temple based	Rameshwara Temple	Cauvery	Cauvery	Arakalgud	1000
Harangi Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Kodagu	Formal, non-temple based	Harangi Fish Hatchery	Harangi	Cauvery	Kudege	5000
Nisargadhama Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Kodagu	Formal, non-temple based	Local community	Cauvery	Cauvery	Kushalnagar	na
Muttathi Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Mandya	Within Protected areas	Karnataka Forest Department	Cauvery	Cauvery	Muthathi	na
Ranganathittu Fish Sacntuary	Proposed	Mandya	Within Protected areas	Karnataka Forest Department	Cauvery	Cauvery	S.R. Patna	5000
Shivanasamudra Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Mandya	Formal, non-temple based	Wildlife Association of South India	Cauvery	Cauvery	Bluff	1400
Chippalagudda Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Shimoga	Temple based	Siddhi Vinayaka Temple	Tunga	Krishna	Thirthahalli	500
Mattur-Hosahalli Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Shimoga	Temple based	Someshwara Temple	Tunga	Krishna	Shimoga	1500
Seethanadi Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Udupi	Informal, non-temple based	Jungle Lodges and Resorts	Seethinadi	Seethanadi	Karkala	na
Thingale Fish Sanctuary	Declared	Udupi	Temple based	Mahakala Sivaraya Temple	Seethinadi	Seethanadi	Garadigundi	500
Bhagavathi Chaya Kolla Fish Sanctuary	Proposed	Yadgir	Temple based	Chaya Bhagavathi Temple	Krishna	Krishna	Surpura	na

WASI
Wildlife Association of South India

"The Wildlife Association of South India (WASI), founded in 1972, is dedicated to protecting natural habitats, with a primary focus on the riverine ecosystems of the Cauvery. Following guidelines in the Indian Wildlife Protection Act, our early work focused on field research to identify and address key conservation challenges along the river. Over time, our approach has expanded to include community-centered programs and market-driven incentives to preserve the Cauvery's unique biodiversity. Working closely with state departments, we base our conservation strategies on rigorous ecological research, highlighting freshwater ecosystems and advocating for the Mahseer as a symbol of the Cauvery's ecological health."

Stay connected to learn more about
the remarkable biodiversity of Namma Cauvery!

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reach us at: office@wasiindia.com