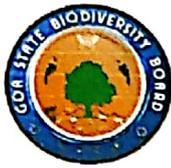


Date: 03rd November 2020

Second Quarterly Report on Wetland Identification and Notification of Wetlands in the State of Goa.



Submitted by: Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA)

Submitted to: National Green Tribunal (NGT)



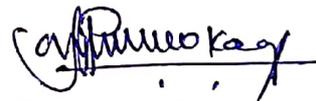
As directed by The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal w.r.t AO 141/2017 WZ, Goa State Wetland Authority (GSA) hereby submits this third quarterly progress report.

1. The Second Quarterly Report on Wetland Identification and Notification of Wetlands in the state of Goa was submitted on 8th August 2020.
2. CSIR-NIO field expeditions and other field related activities have been resumed since the first week of August. As on 31.10.2020 the field surveys of 35 water bodies has been completed. In all the 26 of the 35 water bodies, brief documents have been completed. Brief document of remaining nine (9) out of 35 water bodies is under progress.
3. Out of the 26 Brief Documents prepared, one (1) wetland "Bondvol Lake" has been Draft Notified. GSWA observed that the Draft Notification of Bondvol (GSWA/2019-20/Bondvol Notification/026/085) has survey numbers inadvertently missing and hence Corrigendum to the draft notification (GSWA/2019-20/Bondvol Notification/026/085/568) was placed in public domain for a further period of 60 days. (Copy enclosed as **Annexure 1**). Accordingly, 09.11.2020 is the last date for receiving grievances for Notifying Bondvol Lake as Wetland under Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017. The grievances received will be heard by the Grievance committee latest by the third week of November 2020.
4. Ten Briefs documents of water bodies namely Saulem Lake, Pilerne; Tollear Lake, Chimbel; Sarzora Lake, Sarzora; Durga Lake, Chinchinim; Nanda Lake, Quepem; Xeldem Lake, Quepem; Batim Lake, Batim; Karmali Tollem, Carambolim; Cottambi Lake, Cottambi; and Dhashi Lake, Revora, which were to be identified as Wetlands in the State of Goa under Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 which were approved by technical committee, hence were placed before the Goa State



Wetland Authority (GSWA) in the 7th Authority meeting and approved for Draft Notification with few revisions (Copy of MOM id enclosed as **Annexure 2**). The same have been revised and further the exact mapping of the area of the wetland is being done through Directorate of Settlement and Land Records, Goa. Within a period of three weeks i.e. by 20.11.2020, the notification to invite suggestion and objection on the proposed identified wetland are expected to be draft notified in Official Gazette.

5. Further expeditions were carried out by CSIR-NIO to identify more water bodies that could be potential wetlands under Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017. The ground truthing of Ten (10) water bodies were carried out, for which brief documents will be prepared.
6. Considering the time lost due to covid10 and the time taken for draft notification as well as approvals for the identified wetlands, GSWA will require at least another Four (4) months in addition to the time line that was initially provided by Hon'ble NGT for the same, subject to any further delays that may be caused due to unavoidable circumstances beyond our control.



Member Secretary,
Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB),
Head of Nodal agency GSWA.



OFFICIAL GAZETTE — GOVT. OF GOA

SERIES I No. 24

10TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

Department of Environment & Climate Change

Corrigendum to Draft Notification of Bondol Lake

Notification

GSWA/2019-20/Bondvol notification/026/085/568

Ref.: GSWA/2019-20/Bondvol notification/026/085

Whereas there exists a water body known as Bondval Lake admeasuring total area of 1,71,038 sq. mts., situated in the village of Calapor in Tiswadi Taluka, North-Goa District, State of Goa, more particularly described in the schedule hereunder which is considered to be critically significant for its ecosystem services and biodiversity values for the local communities and society at large (hereinafter referred to as the "said Bondvol Lake");

SCHEDULE

(Location and extend of wetland and its zone of influence)

1	2	3	4
Taluka Village	Survey No./ /Sub-Division	Approximate Area in Sq. Mts.	Boundaries
TISWADI	143/0	54544.00	North: S. No. 192/0, 145/2, Nala, 85/1 & 2 and 84/0
CALAPOR	144/0	21350.00	
	192/0 (Part)	1861.00	South: S. No. 131/0, Dry Nalla, 199/0 and 198/0 East: S. No. 86/1-A, & 1, 87/0, 129/0 & Dry Nalla West: S. No. 197/0 & 193/0
	145/2 (Part)	1436.00	
	Wet Nalla (Part)	197.00	
	85/2 (Part)	511.00	
	85/1 (Part)	4361.00	
	84/0 (Part)	29.00	
	86/1-A (Part)	108.00	
	86/1 (Part)	3604.00	
	87/0 (Part)	15881.00	
	129/0 (Part)	13149.00	
	Dry Nalla (Part)	278.00	
	131/0 (Part)	13951.00	
	199/0 (Part)	12378.00	
	Dry Nalla (Part)	218.00	
	198/0 (Part)	1153.00	
	197/0 (Part)	5839.00	
	193/0 (Part)	20190.00	
Total Area		171038.00	

Note: The Draft Notification of Bondvol (GSWA/2019-20/Bondvol notification/026/085 04-03-2020) was published on 07-05-2020 and was kept for inviting grievances from public for 60 days. This Corrigendum to Draft Notification of Bondvol Lake will be open for inviting grievances if any for a period of 60 days from the date of publication.

By order and in the name of Governor of Goa.

Johnson B. Fernandes, Director (Environment & CC).

Porvorim, 7th September, 2020.

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE 7TH MEETING OF GOA STATE WETLAND
AUTHORITY (GSWA).**

TYPE OF MEETING: REGULAR MEETING.

DATE: 18TH SEPTEMBER 2020; **TIME:** 4.00 PM

VENUE: "1ST FLOOR, MINISTERIAL BLOCK, SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM,
BARDEZ, GOA

**MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI. NILESH CABRAL, HON. MINISTER
FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND CHAIRPERSON OF
GOA STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY.**

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Nilesh Cabral, Hon. Minister of Power and Environment	Chairperson
2.	Secretary (Environment) Shri. Kunal, IAS.	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member
3.	Secretary (Fisheries) Represented by Smt. Sharmila Monteiro (Director-Dept. of Fisheries)	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member
4.	Secretary (Water Resources) Represented by Shri. P.B. Badami, Chief Engineer, Water Resource Department	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member,
5.	Shri Keshav Kumar, Rep. of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Department of Forest	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member,
6.	Dr. Sharmila Monteiro, Member Secretary, Goa State Pollution Control Board-	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member,
7.	Shri Johnson Bedy Fernandes Director of Department of Environment, Member Secretary, GSWA	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member,
8.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam (Member Secretary, GSBB)	<i>Ex-Officio</i> Member,
9.	Shri. Sreepada Anantha R. Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO	Expert Member

8.	Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam (Member Secretary, GSBB)	Ex-Officio Member,
9.	Shri. Sreepada Anantha R. Principal Scientist, CSIR-NIO	Expert Member
10.	Prof. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Goa University	Expert Member
11.	Dr. Vinod Dhargalkar, Former Scientist, CSIR-NIO	Expert Member
12.	Shri. Devanand Kavlekar, CSIR-NIO	Expert Member*
13.	Dr. Mandar Nanajkar, CSIR-NIO	Special Invitee

**Shri Devanand Kavlekar attended the meeting online via Google meet while other Members were unable to attend.*

At the outset, Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, Goa State Biodiversity Board and Head of Nodal Agency (HNA, GSWA) extended a warm welcome to the Chairperson and the Members of the 7th Goa State Wetland Authority (GSWA) Meeting.

The following Agenda was transacted:

Agenda 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 6th Authority Meeting.

The Minutes of the 6th Authority Meeting of GSWA were confirmed by the Members present during the meeting, Proposed by Dr. Vinod Dhargalkar and confirmed by Prof. Pranab Mukhopadhyay.

Action Taken Report of the 6th Goa State Wetland Authority Meeting was placed before the Members by the Head of Nodal Agency (GSWA), Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam for perusal of the Members present. The same was approved.

Agenda 2: Progress of identification and notification of wetlands in the State of Goa.



The Members were provided with the copy of the Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 and Guidelines for implementation of Wetland Rules, 2017. There was a brief discussion on the Definition of Wetland and the Zone of Influence. The Head of the Nodal Agency GSWA explained the roles of the Technical and Grievance Committees which have representatives from the stakeholder Government Departments such as WRD, Fisheries, Town and Country Planning Department.

The Secretary of Environment, Shri. Kunal, IAS inquired on the current status of Wetland Identification with Dr. Mandar Nanajkar (CSIR-NIO). Dr. Nanajkar specified that 250 Wetlands were identified out of which 85 waterbodies have been selected for ground truthing due to their fulfillment of prerequisites and a time period of 6 months will be required for completion of the same. Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA further explained the criteria used for the selection of identification of Wetlands. Presently, the most significant and those with larger area waterbodies are selected on priority for ground truthing and preparation of Brief Documents as per the Criteria specified by the MoEFCC. The Secretary also asked Dr. Nanajkar to submit regular monthly progress Reports so that Authority is updated of the status off wetland identification. Dr. Monteiro (MS, GSPCB, Director of Fisheries Department) suggested that fish seeds could be stocked into the identified waterbodies which would provide livelihood opportunity to the local, and generate income thus ensuring conservation and protection of waterbodies.

Agenda 3: Presentation and approval for Draft Notification of 10 waterbodies identified as Wetlands by CSIR-NIO and further approved by GSWA- Technical Committee in the Second Joint Meeting of Technical and Grievance Committee.

The Brief Documents of 10 waterbodies identified as Wetlands were placed before the GSWA Members present. Subsequently, the Secretary (Environment) stated that the demarcation of the zone of influence should be done systematically to minimize the inconvenience to the local population/stakeholders and harmonize developmental activities



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of property as well as conservation of wetland. Expert Member, Dr. Mukhopadhyay submitted that Goa is a freshwater deficit state and as State Wetland Authority we are duty-bound to conserve it considering the future water security. Senior Engineer, Shri Badami (representative of Secretary, Water Resource Department) added that there is recent trend of constructing at the edge of waterbodies is posing a serious threat to the conservation of waterbodies and as an Authority, GSWA has to take this suggestion into consideration while demarcating the Zone of influence. Hence buffer zone of 50m should be crucially protected and demarcated in the identified wetlands.

After a detailed deliberation on this topic, it was unanimously decided that in the interest of public, the existing residential houses and buildings to be excluded while demarcating Zone of Influence and a maximum 5m setback maybe left towards wetland side based on availability of space by keeping maximum buffer of at least 50m as far as possible. This will enable GSWA to protect the wetlands with minimal grievances from owners of the property. In such cases there shall be relaxation of rules w.r.t. the existing residential houses and building situated within the Zone of Influence.

GSWA directed CSIR-NIO to revise the wetland maps according to the decision made by the Authority before being considered for Draft Notification. It was to be noted by CSIR-NIO that the Zone of Influence based on contour is to be marked which will not be extended beyond the point of inversion of contours. Additionally a buffer zone of 50 m surrounding the identified wetland was also to be demarcated on the maps.

Agenda 4: Corrigendum to the draft notification of Bondvol Lake.

Copy of the Corrigendum to the Draft Notification of Bondvol Lake as Wetland, published in the Official Gazette was circulated among the Authority members. Head of the Nodal Agency informed that a revision in Draft Notification was needed as some survey nos. were inadvertently left out from the Notification. Hence a Corrigendum had to be published to rectify the same, which has been further kept for public consultation for a period of 60 days. The proposal was accepted by GSWA members.



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Agenda 5: Legal matter OA 141/2017(WZ) Kashinath Shetye & Ors. Vs. State of Goa & Ors.

Head of the Nodal Agency informed the Members of GSWA that in the Legal matter Original Application 141/2017(WZ) filed by Kashinath Shetye & Ors. Vs. State of Goa & Ors., the GSWA had undertaken initiative to Notify 35 wetlands within 6 months as draft notification but the same has been delayed as the work of CSIR-NIO was suspended and Ground truthing by way of Public consultation could not be carried out due to Covid-19 Pandemic situation for at least 4 months. The Head of the Nodal Agency, GSWA also informed about erroneous order which has been requested for amendment by GSWA.

Agenda 6: Applying Pay Scales to the existing staff of GSWA.

HNA, GSWA, informed that 3 Staff (Scientific Officer, Project Assistant and Legal Assistant) were hired for regular working of the Office of the GSWA. The same was approved to be paid by consolidated pay. Hence he requested that the staff may be given a pay scale based on Office Memorandum No. 10/1/77-PER(Part) dated 21/08/2018. The Secretary for Environment submitted that since the appointment has been done with consolidated remuneration, it is advised that an enhanced consolidated remuneration may be applied instead of applying Pay Scales to the staff of GSWA. The same was agreed by the members present.

Agenda 7: Any other matter with the permission of Chair.

The Uniqueness of Goan Wetland was explained by Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA and recommended that GSWA should write a letter to the Central Government regarding



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the unique characteristic of the wetland and waterbodies in the state of Goa. The restoration project *Shram Shakti se Jal Shakti* was discussed and approved.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Head of Nodal Agency, GSWA.



Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam
Head of Nodal Agency, Goa
State Wetland Authority