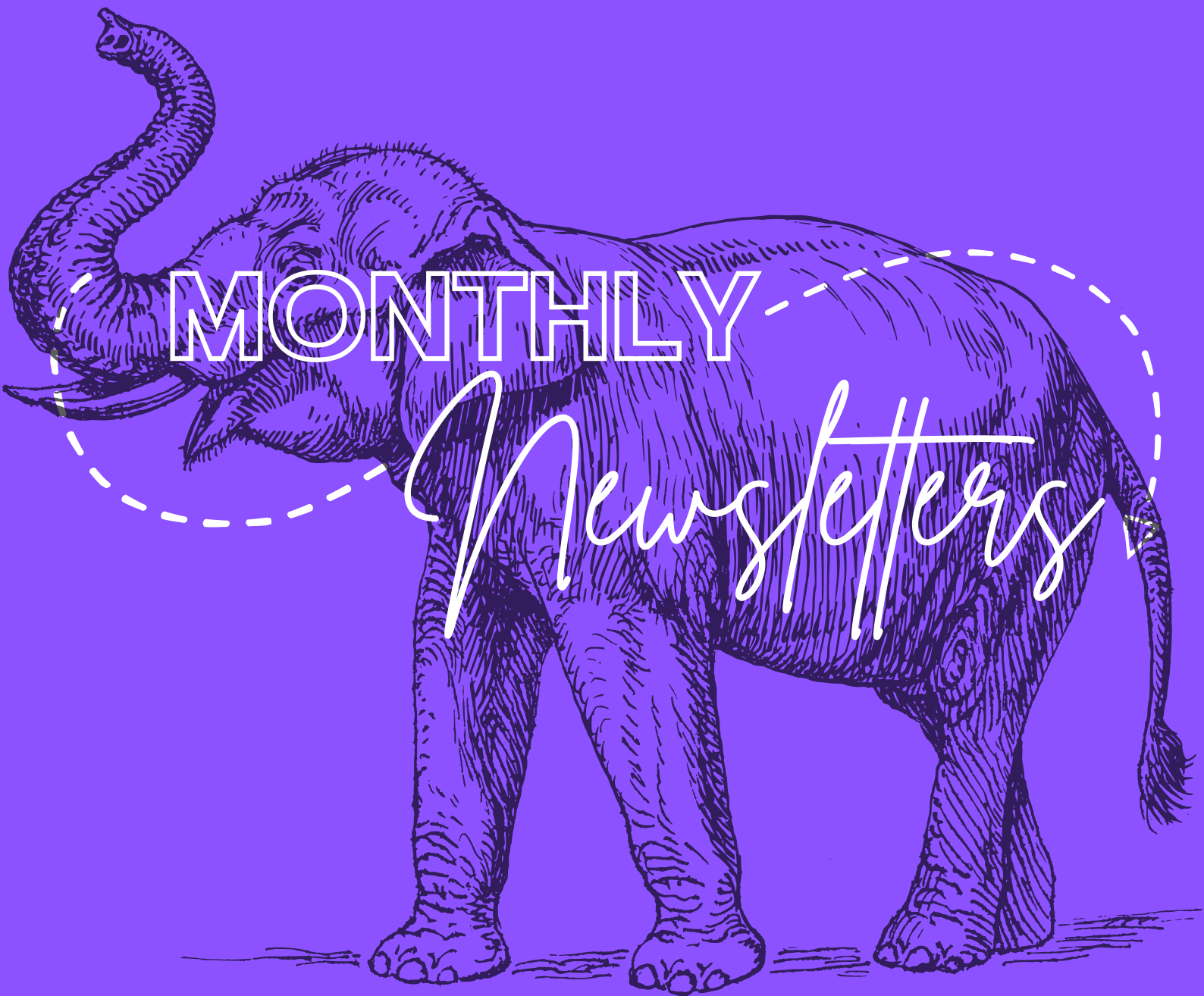


NOVEMBER 2025



A Rocha Field Study Centre  
#13, Kaserguppe Village, Bilwardahalli (Dakle),  
Bannerghatta (Post), Jigani (Hobli), Anekal (Taluk),  
Bangalore South-560083 Karnataka – IN

# Project Highlights

## ELEPHANT DISTRIBUTION STUDY - TIRUPATI DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH

As part of our ongoing Elephant Distribution Study (EDS), A Rocha India has surveyed over 300 grids across southern Andhra Pradesh and adjoining landscapes, completing coverage in Chittoor and Krishnagiri districts, including the tri-state junction of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh. This work documents elephant movement across fragmented forests, agricultural mosaics, and human-dominated areas, helping map their expanding range.

The study has now expanded into Tirupati district, where our field teams are engaging closely with local communities. To date, the survey has involved interviews with over 3,000 people, capturing both ecological data and community perspectives to inform long-term coexistence strategies that balance elephant conservation with local livelihoods.



## TIWT - ANTI SNARE DRIVE

Another important step toward a snare-free wilderness. A Rocha India, in collaboration with the Karnataka Forest Department, conducted an Anti-Snare Drive at the Anekal Wildlife Range as part of our Tackling Illegal Wildlife Trade (TIWT) project. The initiative brought together 25 committed volunteers and forest personnel, united in their efforts to protect wildlife and critical habitats.

Teams systematically covered sections of the forest to identify and remove snares and other illegal traps that pose serious threats to wild species. We extend our sincere gratitude to the Anekal Forest Division and all volunteers whose time and dedication reflect the collective action needed to curb illegal wildlife trade and safeguard our forests—moving us closer to landscapes that are safe, resilient, and free from snares.



## SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### A ROCHA INDIA AT NATURE INFOCUS FESTIVAL 2025

A Rocha India was represented at the Nature inFocus Festival 2025, one of Asia's leading platforms for nature and wildlife storytelling. Our Research and Liaison Officer, Dr. Sagarika Phalke, moderated the panel "Emerging Technologies and Conservation: A Fraught Promise?", bringing together experts Seema Lokhande, Ganesh Raghunathan, and Dr. Tarsh Thekaekara for a thought-provoking discussion.

The session examined how emerging technologies such as AI, bioacoustics, and remote sensing are reshaping conservation practice, while also raising critical questions around ethics, access, data ownership, and community inclusion. The discussion underscored that while technology can strengthen conservation outcomes, its true value lies in how equitably and thoughtfully it is applied, alongside traditional knowledge and local perspectives.



### A ROCHA INDIA AT TEDXCLARETCOLLEGE | AVINASH KRISHNAN ON COEXISTENCE & COURAGE

Our National Director, Avinash Krishnan, took the TEDxClaretCollege stage to share a personal journey that traces childhood curiosity to a life in conservation. Grounded in the forests of Bannerghatta, his talk reflected on what it truly means for humans and elephants to share space in an increasingly crowded world.

Drawing inspiration from mentors both elephant and human. Avinash highlighted that coexistence is not an abstract idea, but a lived practice shaped by memory, science, restraint, and resilience. His talk reminded audiences that as elephants navigate our farms, roads, and cities, they also invite us to reimagine a more compassionate and respectful future.



# AFSC Events

## Plog with the Plog Raja | In Collaboration with Waste Impact Trust

A Rocha India joined hands with 30 enthusiastic students from Christ University (Bangalore and Yeshwanthpur campuses), Waste Impact Trust, the Bannerghatta Panchayat, and the Sakkath Waste Fellows popularly known as the Ploggers Army for a cleanup drive in the Bannerghatta forest area. Led by the Plog Raja, the collective effort resulted in the removal of approximately 35 sacks of waste, nearly half a truckload of garbage, helping restore this vital green space.

Beyond the waste collected, the initiative reinforced the importance of civic responsibility and environmental stewardship among young volunteers. The collaboration highlighted how community-led action, supported by local institutions and partners, can create meaningful impact toward a cleaner, healthier Bengaluru.

