

# Jyotish Ranjan Deka (*he/him/his*)

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## Research Interest

Conservation Biogeography  
Camera traps

Climate Change  
Corridor Ecology

Ecology  
Remote Sensing & GIS

Large mammal  
Soundscape

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## Educations

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

PhD, Department of Forest & Wildlife Ecology

Madison, US

Sep. 2023- Present

### Sikkim University

Masters in Geography, Department of Geography

Sikkim, IN

June, 2016- July, 2018

**Specialization:** Biogeography, Animal Geography, and RS& GIS

**Dissertation title:** Human-Leopard Conflict in the Urban Forest Area of Kamrup Metropolitan District, Assam

### Gauhati University

Bachelors in Geography, Department of Geography

Assam, IN

Aug. 2013- June 2016

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## Professional Experiences

### Wildlife Institute of India

*Project Fellow*

Dehradun, IN

Nov. 2019-Aug. 2023

Line transects, Habitat survey, Socio-economic survey, Camera trapping, Large carnivores and herbivores, Report writing, Publications

### Aaranyak

*GIS Assistant*

Assam, IN

Oct. 2018-Nov. 2019

Gibbon population survey, Land-use modelling, Species habitat evaluation

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## Research Experiences

### Wildlife Institute of India,

*Project Fellow*

Dehradun, IN

Nov. 2019-Aug.2023

- Habitat evaluation of Herbivores and Carnivores in Kaziranga National Park & Tiger Reserve, Assam
- Examine the functionality of the corridors in terms of their suitability for maintaining tiger dispersal
- Identify critical points along the corridors with high probability of negative human-wildlife Interface

### Aaranyak

*GIS Assistant*

Assam, IN

Oct. 2018-Nov. 2019

- Habitat evolution of Western Hoolock Gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*) in Doomdoma Forest Divisions, Assam
- Road ecology: Assessments of Road kill on NH-37, Kaziranga National Park, India

### Sikkim University

*Graduate student*

Sikkim, IN

June 2016- July 2018

- Human-leopard conflict in urban forest areas of Kamrup Metropolitan district, Assam

### Gauhati University

*Undergraduate student*

Assam, IN

Aug. 2013- June 2016

- Historical ponds of Darrang district: Identification and mapping, their socio-ecological relevance for management planning
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## Leadership Experiences

### Prayaas Ela

*Founder*

Assam, IN

Feb. 2014-Present

- Initiated to work in the mean for biodiversity conservation in Northeast India

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<b>Grant/Award</b>	<b>in USD</b>
Thomas O'Brien Award, UW-Madison. 2025	<b>1000</b>
SCB Graduate Student Research Fellowship Awards, 2024	<b>1000</b>
Fondation Segré Conservation Action Fund, IUCN. 2024	<b>7560</b>
Howard Lewis Award, UW-Madison. 2024	<b>1000</b>
Documenting degraded rivers of Assam, Aaranyak. 2022	<b>150</b>
Merit-cum Mean Scholarship, Sikkim University. 2017-2018	<b>1010</b>

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**Publications** ([Google Scholar](#), [Researchgate.net](#), [orcid ID](#))

*Selected Published Peer-Reviewed*

**Deka, J. R.**, Ali, S. Z., Ahamad, M., Borah, P., Gopi, G. V., Badola, R., Sharma, R., & Hussain, S. A. (2023). Can Bengal Tiger (*Panthera tigris tigris*) endure the future climate and land use change scenario in the East Himalayan Region? Perspective from a multiple model framework. *Ecology and Evolution*, 13, e10340. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.10340>

Borah, P., **Deka, J.R.**, Ahmad, S.M, Sarma, R., Badola, R., Hussain, S.A., **2022**. First photographic evidence of Asiatic Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*) in Kaziranga Tiger Reserve, North-east India. *Journal of threatened taxa*, 14, 2, pp. 20677–20679. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.7660>

**Deka, J.R.**, Bordoloi, M.K., & Sarma, P.K., **2021**. Historical Ponds of Darrang District: Identification and Mapping, their Ecological Relevance for Management Planning. *International Journal of Geoheritage and Parks*. 9, 4, pp. 496-508 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijgeop.2021.11.008>

Chetry, D., Phukan, M., Chetry, S., Baruah, B., **Deka, J.R.**, Das, A.K., Chetry, R., & Bhattacharjee, P. C., **2021**. The Eastern Hoolock Gibbon *Hoolock leuconedys* Population in Assam, India, is on the Verge of Extinction, *Primate Conservation*, 35.

**Deka, J.R.**, Lal, U., & Sarmah, P.K., (**in press**) Between growth and survival; Indian leopards (*Panthera pardus fusca*) facing space struggles in Metropolitan cities of Assam, *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*.

*Poster-presentation*

**Deka, J.R.**, Lal, U., **2020**. Indian leopard: adaptation and conservation issues around Guwahati city in Assam, *Student Conference on Conservation Science-New York*. USA.

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**Skills and Interest**

**Technical Skills:** Proficient in R, ArcGIS, ERDAS, MaxEnt, Google Earth Engine, and QGIS

**Languages:** English (Full professional proficiency), Hindi (Full professional proficiency) and Assamese (Native)

**Field Skills:** Vegetation sampling, habitat data collection, camera trapping, line transects, social survey

**Organizations: Member:** IUCN Species Survival Commission, IUCN Connectivity Conservation, Society for Conservation Biology

**Interest:** Wildlife Photography, Hiking & Trekking, Exploring Nature.

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**Field Course**

**University of Washington and Gibbon Conservation Centre in Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary** **2019**  
9th Annual Field Course in Conservation Biology & Global Health

**Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China** **2021**  
13th Advanced Field course in Ecology and Conservation

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