

An Assessment of Avifauna Diversity of Hidkal Reservoir and its Vicinity in Belagavi District, Karnataka, India

N. C. Hiragond

Department of Zoology, Yashwantrao Chavan College, Halkarni, Chandgad, Maharashtra-416552, India

**Corresponding Author's E-mail: hiragond@gmail.com*

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ABSTRACT

We regularly visited Hidkal Reservoir and nearby places in Hukkeri taluk of Belagavi district for bird watching along with students. Survey was made for the period of 24 months from April 2015 to March 2017. During the said survey we have recorded a total of 162 bird species representing 18 orders, 62 families and 125 genera. Among the families Ardeidae represent maximum number (9) of birds followed by Muscicapinae (7), Motacillidae (6) and Columbidae (6). Passeriformes dominating the study area by representing maximum number (80) of bird species followed by Ciconiiformes (15), Charadriiformes (11), Falconiformes (7) and Columbiformes (6). Among the birds recorded Black-headed Ibis and River Tern are the 2 (1.23 %) species belongs to Near Threatened category and 156 (96.29%) bird species belongs to least concerned category of IUCN. Since, the River Tern eggs are predated by Fox and other animal. Some preventive measures / conservation programs are needed to protect the breeding activity of River Tern in the study area.

Key words: Avifauna, Checklist, Hidkal dam, Belagavi, Black-headed Ibis, River Tern