



SACRED GROVES OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

Funded by: H.P State Biodiversity Board

PROGRESS REPORT

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SACRED GROVES

- The existence of sacred groves in India dates back to an ancient preagrarian hunter gathering era and their presence has been documented since the early 1800s.
- Believing trees to be the abode of gods ,and ancestral spirits, many communities set aside areas of forest and established rules and customs to endure their protection, These rules varied from grove to grove but often prohibited the felling of trees, collection of any material from the forest floor, and killing of animals.
- Presiding deities administered punishment, often death to individuals who violated the rules and sometimes to the entire community in the form of disease or crop failure. As a result of these protective restrictions ,groves were protected over the years.
- Sacred groves possess a great heritage of diverse gene pool of many forest species having socio religious attachment ,they are ecologically and genetically very important, besides this they play an important role in water conservation.
- Sacred groves are therefore, today important reservoirs of biodiversity

- Sacred groves can be considered as a part of forest left untouched by the local inhabitants ,and protected by the village folk deities ,Sacred groves play a major role in the environmental protection. They control air pollution, cool the atmosphere, increase soil fertility, harbor various organisms and are also an integral part of social, religious, ecological and environmental traditions(Amirthalingam)
- Sacred groves are community based monuments of biological and cultural diversity .Sacred groves are recognized as a system that informally forces traditional communities to protect natural resources in sustainable manner(Purthi and Burch,2009)



SACRED GROVES IN HIMACHAL

- Sacred groves in Himachal Pradesh are called (dev-van) or (Devta ka Jungle) are dedicated to a particular deity.
- Most of the groves are managed by the temple committee. The temple committee comprises of ***Kardar, Pujari, Bhandari and Gur***. The *kardar* manages affairs, *Pujari* performs Puja and other rituals, *Gur* is the spokes person of the Deity and *bhandari* looks after the store.
- Temples are usually located inside the sacred grove and are surrounded by thick forests, in some cases temples are either in the village or outside the sacred grove. However the control of the Sacred groves lies with the Temple committee.
- Local myths and legends associated with the grove go a long way in preserving the forests, as the legends are associated with the establishment of the deity but no records are available as to when the sacred grove was established.
- No one is allowed to cut the trees or even extract dry leaves from the area, there are many groves in which human entry is also restricted. Orders given by the *Gur* are strictly followed by the community. The wood from the sacred grove is mainly used for maintenance of the temple or as fuel for cooking community feast.

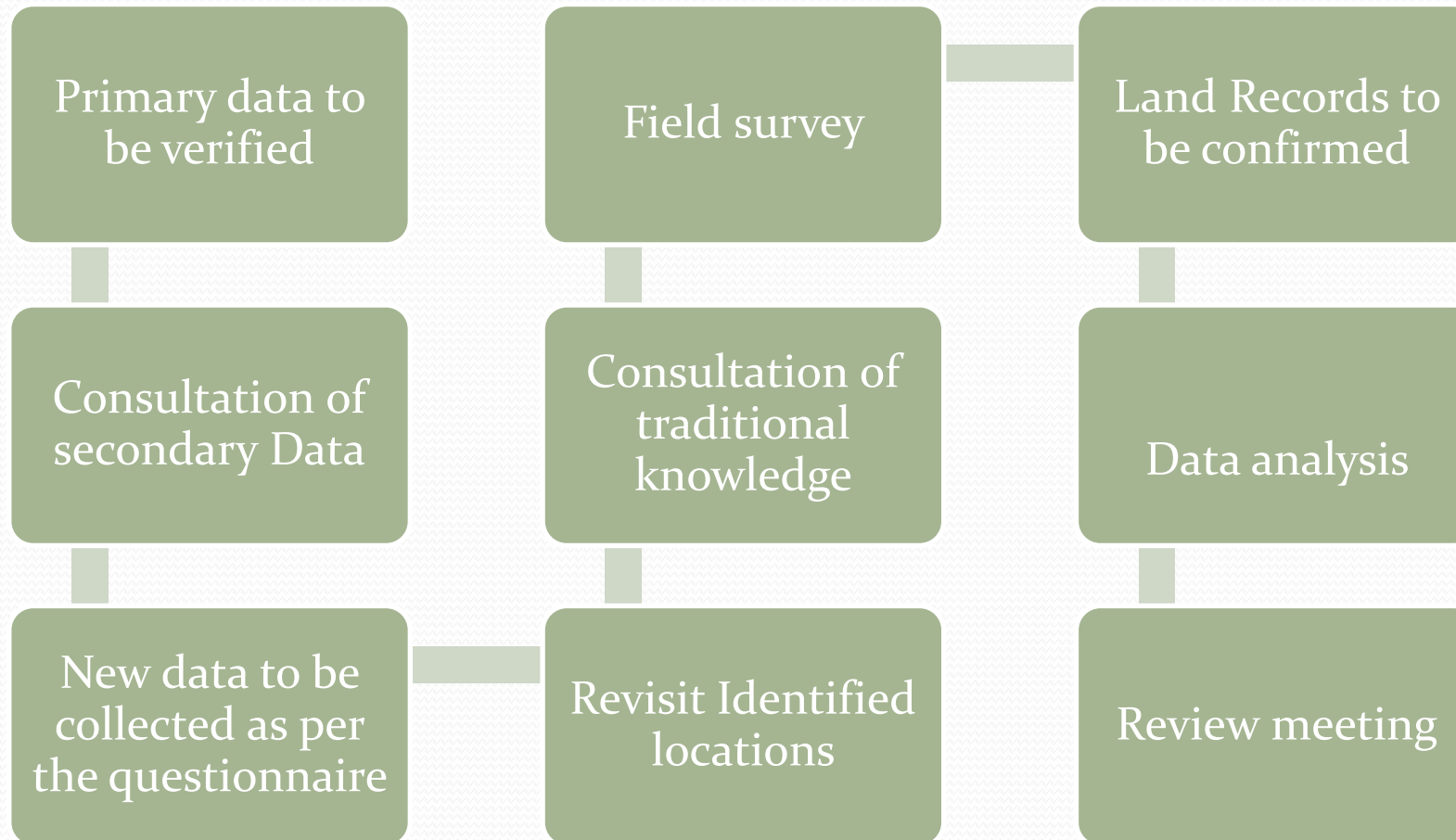
OBJECTIVES

- ❑ To find out the status of sacred groves in Himachal Pradesh.
- ❑ To document the sacred and protected groves and their biodiversity
- ❑ To understand the underlying principle behind the age old traditions of the sacred groves.
- ❑ Identification and creating an inventory of key biological resources (bio-diversity) of the sacred groves .
- ❑ Assessing dependence of local communities on this common community resource.
- ❑ To broadly look at conservation measures
- ❑ To come out with a reference document.

FOCUS

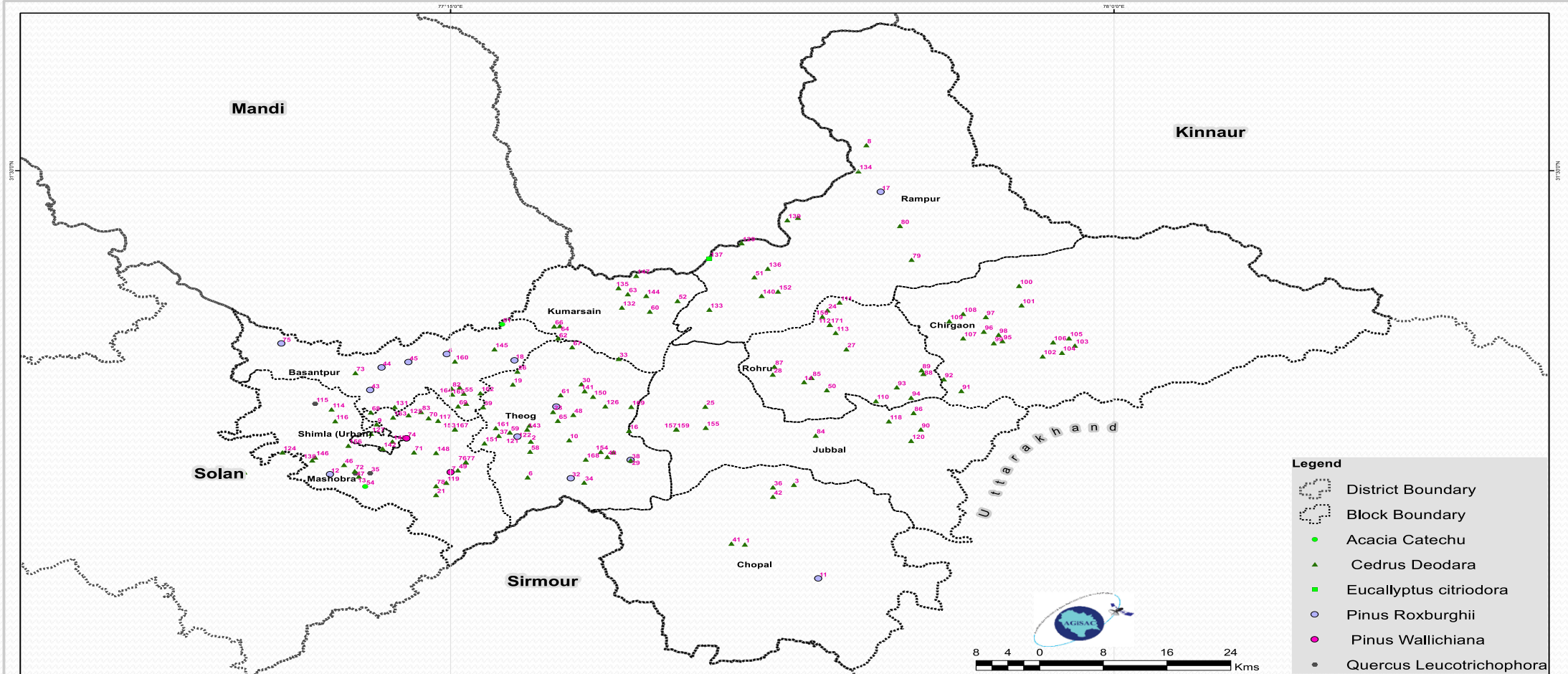
- Sacred groves are scattered all over the state, this is an effort to document the sacred groves, but also to understand the institutional framework that has helped in protecting these sacred groves.
- These sacred groves are valuable gene pools.
- Our focus here is to review this tradition in Himachal and document it in a comprehensive database of Sacred groves.
- To provide legal status to Sacred groves.

RESEARCH METHOD

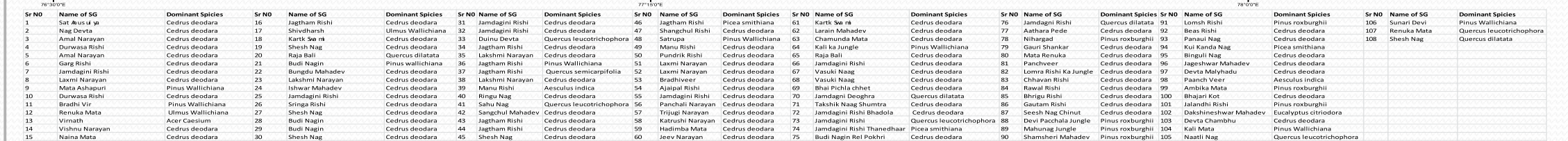




GIS map of identified Sacred Groves of Shimla



Sr NO	Name of SG	Dominant Species	Sr NO	Name of SG	Dominant Species	Sr NO	Name of SG	Dominant Species	Sr NO	Name of SG	Dominant Species	Sr NO	Name of SG	Dominant Species	Sr NO	Name of SG	Dominant Species
1	Chanjal Mata	Cedrus deodara	21	Grahadeshwar Devta Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	41	Shirgul Maharaj Ghalala	Cedrus deodara	61	Devi Dehet	Cedrus deodara	81	Pandol Devta/Mahakaleshwar	Cedrus deodara	101	Jabal Narayan Devta	Cedrus deodara
2	Chikhareshwar Devta Ka Ban	Cedrus deodara	22	Jawala Mata	Cedrus deodara	42	Shri Nagau Devta	Cedrus deodara	62	Pandol Devta	Cedrus deodara	82	Pu-52 Jalag Banee Jungle	Cedrus deodara	102	Durga Mata	Cedrus deodara
3	Dakrel Devta Jungle	Cedrus deodara	23	Jungle Pap	Cedrus deodara	43	Sunnu Devta	Pinus roxburghii	63	Kalajda	Cedrus deodara	83	Talal Van	Cedrus deodara	103	Sandar Devta	Cedrus deodara
4	Devi Bhima Kali	Pinus roxburghii	24	Juri(Mela Maidan)	Cedrus deodara	44	Ma Bhima Kali	Pinus roxburghii	64	Pandol Devta	Cedrus deodara	84	Mahau Devta	Cedrus deodara	104	Banashira Devta	Cedrus deodara
5	Devi Jagrasan Jungle	Pinus wallichiana	25	Kalaila	Cedrus deodara	45	Bhima Kali	Pinus roxburghii	65	Sarog Jungle	Cedrus deodara	85	Rudra Maharaj	Cedrus deodara	105	Jakh Devta	Cedrus deodara
6	Devi Jungle	Cedrus deodara	26	Kalu Devta Jungle	Cedrus deodara	46	Devta Junga	Cedrus deodara	66	Tha Kalai	Cedrus deodara	86	Pavsi Devta	Cedrus deodara	106	Soni Nag Devta	Cedrus deodara
7	Devi Kadaan	Pinus wallichiana	27	Kinnu(Kurfi)	Cedrus deodara	47	Ma Tara Devi Jungle	Quercus leucotrichophora	67	Wazir Devta Ka Van	Cedrus deodara	87	Devta Goli Nag	Cedrus deodara	107	Nag Devta	Cedrus deodara
8	Devta Daoker	Cedrus deodara	28	Kot Kali Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	48	Mata Devdhar	Cedrus deodara	68	Devta Nag	Cedrus deodara	88	Mahasu Devta	Cedrus deodara	108	Khantu Devta	Cedrus deodara
9	Devta Dhandi	Cedrus deodara	29	Lankra Veer Ka Jungle	Pinus roxburghii	49	Mahavir Temple	Cedrus deodara	69	Devta Nanhal Nag	Cedrus deodara	89	Devta Kilwalu	Cedrus deodara	109	Khanu Devta	Cedrus deodara
10	Devta Mahasu Jungle	Cedrus deodara	30	Ma Maheshwari Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	50	Ma Bhima Kali2	Cedrus deodara	70	Kali Mata	Cedrus deodara	90	Banar Devta	Cedrus deodara	110	Mahasu Devta	Cedrus deodara
11	Devta Mahasu Jungle2	Pinus roxburghii	31	Mahadev Chaur	Cedrus deodara	51	Devta Mahu Nag Jungle	Cedrus deodara	71	Jawala Mata Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	91	Mahasu Devta	Cedrus deodara	111	Devta Sahels Mamgraru	Cedrus deodara
12	Devta Mahavir	Pinus roxburghii	32	Mahadev Nai	Pinus roxburghii	52	Bhat Devta	Cedrus deodara	72	Devta Shiv Tarav Jungle	Cedrus deodara	92	Pavasi Devta	Cedrus deodara	112	Baan Devta	Cedrus deodara
13	Devta Nar Singh	Cedrus deodara	33	Manan Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	53	Devta Bathendru Shirgul	Cedrus deodara	73	Devta Maheshwar	Cedrus deodara	93	Devta Sahib Parahuram	Cedrus deodara	113	Devta Parsuram Ji	Cedrus deodara
14	Devta Narayan Jungle	Cedrus deodara	34	Mata Dehan Jungle	Cedrus deodara	54	Kamaksha Devi	Acacia catechu	74	Dhinga Mata	Pinus wallichiana	94	Gudara Devta	Cedrus deodara	114	Devta Ratad Jungle	Cedrus deodara
15	Devta Sandali	Cedrus deodara	35	Mata Tara Devi	Quercus leucotrichophora	55	Devi Shail Putri Aadi Mandir	Cedrus deodara	75	Mania Devi	Pinus roxburghii	95	Mahadev Devta	Cedrus deodara	115	Jijlad Devta Ka Jungle	Quercus leucotrichophora
16	Dom Devta Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	36	Nag Devta	Cedrus deodara	56	Ma Durga	Cedrus deodara	76	Devta Kalhad s Jungle	Cedrus deodara	96	Jakh Devta	Cedrus deodara	116	Ratad Devta Jungle	Cedrus deodara
17	Doom Devta	Pinus roxburghii	37	Nag Devta Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	57	Devta Doom Nalvi	Cedrus deodara	77	Devta Kalhad Jungle	Cedrus deodara	97	Shedviya Mahasu	Cedrus deodara	117	Sipur, Mashobra	Cedrus deodara
18	Doom Devta2	Pinus roxburghii	38	Nagadeshwari Mata Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	58	Devta Oham	Cedrus deodara	78	Devta Shaine	Cedrus deodara	98	Pavasi Devta	Cedrus deodara	118	Radha Krishan	Cedrus deodara
19	Dudheshwar Devta Jungle	Cedrus deodara	39	Pandol Devta	Cedrus deodara	59	Van Vihar Khachli	Cedrus deodara	79	Deo Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	99	Pavasi Devta	Cedrus deodara	119	Devta Katheshwar	Cedrus deodara
20	Dundhi Mata	Cedrus deodara	40	Shirgul Devta	Cedrus deodara	60	Devta Chatramuka	Cedrus deodara	80	Maha Mai Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	100	Pavasi Devta	Cedrus deodara	120	Palthan Devta	Cedrus deodara
121	Doom Devta Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	141	Durga Mata	Pinus roxburghii	161	Sankat Mochan	Cedrus deodara	181	Durga Mata Ka Jungle	Pinus roxburghii	201	Kamaksha Mata	Cedrus deodara	221	Kali Mata	Cedrus deodara
122	Durga Mata Ka Jungle	Pinus roxburghii	142	Sankat Mochan	Cedrus deodara	162	Kali Mata	Cedrus deodara	182	Nag Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	202	Nag Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	222	Nag Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara
123	Sandar Devta	Cedrus deodara	143	Kali Mata	Cedrus deodara	163	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	183	Kali Mata Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	203	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	223	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
124	Nag Ka Shere	Cedrus deodara	144	Kali Mata	Cedrus deodara	164	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	184	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	204	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	224	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
125	Nag Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	145	Kali Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	165	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	185	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	205	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	225	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
126	Kali Mata Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	146	Junga Devta	Cedrus deodara	166	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	186	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	206	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	226	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
127	Nag Devta	Cedrus deodara	147	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	167	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	187	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	207	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	227	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
128	Devta Jadhari	Cedrus deodara	148	Jaeala Mata	Cedrus deodara	168	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	188	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	208	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	228	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
129	Dutat raya Sae n	Cedrus deodara	149	Jakhu	Cedrus deodara	169	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	189	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	209	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	229	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
130	Jahnu Nag Devta	Cedrus deodara	150	Kameshwar Devta	Cedrus deodara	170	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	190	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	210	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	230	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
131	Doom Devta Jaithi	Cedrus deodara	151	Nag Devta	Cedrus deodara	171	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	191	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	211	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	231	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
132	Devi Shakti	Cedrus deodara	152	Devta Dhermukh	Cedrus deodara	172	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	192	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	212	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	232	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
133	Jishar Devta	Cedrus deodara	153	Narsingh Devta	Cedrus deodara	173	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	193	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	213	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	233	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
134	Laxmi Narayan	Cedrus deodara	154	Devta Nandani Jungle	Cedrus deodara	174	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	194	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	214	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	234	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
135	Koteswar Devta	Cedrus deodara	155	Nandan Devt Jungle	Cedrus deodara	175	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	195	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	215	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	235	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
136	Ganesh Devta	Cedrus deodara	156	Kamana Devi	Cedrus deodara	176	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	196	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	216	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	236	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
137	Surya Narayan	Eucalyptus citriodora	157	Krishna	Cedrus deodara	177	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	197	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	217	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	237	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
138	Radha Krishan	Cedrus deodara	158	Jaishwari Devi Jungle	Cedrus deodara	178	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	198	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	218	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	238	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
139	Devta Narsingh	Cedrus deodara	159	Devta Ka Jungle	Cedrus deodara	179	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	199	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	219	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	239	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara
140	Palthan Devta	Cedrus deodara	160	U-52 Chack Chaplani	Cedrus deodara	180	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	200	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	220	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara	240	Devta Dhaneshwar	Cedrus deodara



Block wise distribution of Sacred Groves done so far

Kullu District

- Kullu-41
- Banjar-24
- Naggar-16
- Ani-14
- Nirmand-7

Shimla District

- Rohru -14
- Chirgaon-16
- Rampur-12
- Kumarsain-08
- Theog -31
- Basantpur-22
- Mashobra-31
- Jubbal-9
- Chaupal-8



ABOUT THE PROJECT

Objective –To study the Sacred Groves of all districts of Himachal Kullu and Shimla district in the first year.

Rest of the 10 districts in the second year

Project Area for the first year: Kullu and Shimla

**Number of sacred Groves documented till date : Kullu-102
Shimla-151**

Blocks covered so far :

KULLU District- Ani , Nirmand , Banjar and Kullu,Naggar

SHIMLA District-Rohru, Chirgaon, Rampur, Kumarsain, Theog,
Mashobra, Basantpur, jubbal and chopal



Sacred Grove Data Collection

Name of SG: Sipur

Principal Deity: shiromani sip devta

Village: sipur

Panchayat: mashobra

P.O: mashobra

Tehsil: shimla

District: shimla

Pin code:171007

Population:183

LOCATION

LATITUDE: N 31° 07, 876 (N 31.3600)

LONGITUDE: E 77° 14,148 (E 77.2744)

ALTITUDE: 2074m

ASPECT: SE

SLOPE: moderate

RAINFALL: 76.458

SNOWFALL: 19.5

ROUTE:

By Road: shimla ---mashobra---sipur

By walk: sipur --- 100m walk to temple





DESCRIPTION OF SACRED GROVE:

Extent of area :

Ownership : deity

Villages associated : Bhagna, Jhunan, Sadhogda, Karyali, Sitapur, Shaali, Naira

DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE:

Architecture: shikhar

Area of temple: 5 biswa

Year of construction: more than of 1000 years

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The story goes that once a villager saw a cow Milking on the Pindi, in the Forest. Henceforth People constructed a Temple there and started worshipping there.

A pindi is there which was seen by a man when a cow was milking on that pindi daily. After that a temple was made and puja of that deity done.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS:

Fair occur on 14-15 may (activities Kabbadi and volleyball)

COMMUNITY COMPOSITION

a) **Demographic profile:** M-100 F-83

b) **Socio economic Data**

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

Devan: Hira Singh (9418589060)

Panjeer : Bhup Ram (9805978579)

REVENUE:

Access right

VEGETATION:

a. **Ecological profile significance :** deodar forest

b. **Threats profile:** no threat

c. **Cultural character does the community follow :** As per the norms of society , lower class people are not allowed to enter the temple premises

d. **Water Bodies:** fresh water spring



PREDOMINANT FLORA:

Trees: *Cedrus deodara*, *Pinus wallichiana*, *Abies pindrow*, *Picea smithiana*, *Quercus semicarpifolia*, *Quercus leucotrichophora*, *Pyrus pashia*,

Shrubs: *Prinsepia utilis*, *Berberis*, *Rubus macilentus*, *Rubus niveus*, *Coriaria nepalensis*

Herbs: *Achyranthes bidentata*, *Ajuga* spp., *Arisaema tortuosum*, *Artemesia*, *Asplenium dalhausiae*, *Bouninghausinia albiflora*, *Clematis* spp., *Clinopodium vulgare*, *Duchesnea indica*, *Fragaria nubicola*, *Galium aparine*, *Geranium nepalensis*, *Geranium wallichianum*, *Hedera nepalensis*, *Impatiens bicolor*, *Jasminum humile*, *Lecanthus peduncularis*, *Leucanthemum vulgare*, *Leycesteria Formosa*, *Lonicera angustifolia*, *Myriactis nepalensis*, *Parthenocissus semicordata*, *Persicaria amplexicaulis*, *Ranunculus diffuses*, *Rosularia rosulata*, *Rubia cordifolia*, *Rumex hastatus*, *Sarcococca saligna*, *Scrophularia polyantha*, *Selaginella*, *Solanum nigrum*, *Sorbaria*, *Thalictrum foliolosum*, *Valeriana jatamansi*, *Viburnum grandiflorum*,
Ferns : *Polystichum* spp., *Pteris* spp.

PREDOMINANT FAUNA:

Mammals:

Birds:

Reptiles: snakes and lizards

Prospect of becoming a biodiversity site: yes, mature deodar trees are there near the temple

Suggestions from the local community: nothing

Remarks



Sacred Grove Data Collection

Name of SG: Talai van
Principal Deity: Bhadrakali mata
Village: Talai
Panchayat: Mashobra
P.O: Mashobra
Tehsil: shimla
District: shimla
Pin code: 171007
Population:

LOCATION

LATITUDE: N 31° 08,691 (N 31.3252)
LONGITUDE: E 77° 13,042 (E 77.2283)
ALTITUDE: 2318 m
ASPECT: SW
SLOPE: moderate
RAINFALL: 76.458
SNOWFALL: 19.5
ROUTE:
By Road: Shimla---mashobra---talai
By walk: talai--- 100 m temple





DESCRIPTION OF SACRED GROVE:

Extent of area : 4 bigha

Ownership : deity/ committee

Villages associated : Tarapur, Shari, Shaila, Matain, Braila, Dagogi, Patangri, Shildu, Kregnano

DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE:

Architecture: new construction

Area of temple: 4 biswa

Year of construction: 400-500 years

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

This temple was constructed under the rule of Raja Raghuvir chand of kotiriyasat. It is believed that Ma Bhadrakali originated near a deodar tree and killed the rakshash who use to slaughter the people of the village .

FAIRS & FESTIVALS:

Pujan of Mata (September, sayar sakranti), sipur mela in April(2 days), in ashad (sharadu pujan)people from nearby villages visit the Temple to pray for good crop and no distruction from hailstorm or rains.

COMMUNITY COMPOSITION

a) Demographic profile:

b) Socio economic Data

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

President : hari krishan

Vice president: mohan singh

Member : balak ram , jeet singh mohan (9416860554)

Pujari: puran sharma(9418611065)



REVENUE:
Access right

VEGETATION:

- a. **Ecological profile significance** : mixed forest
- b. **Threats profile**: no threat
- c. **Cultural character does the community follow** : As per the norms of society , lower class people are not allowed to enter the temple premises
- d. **Water Bodies**: fresh water spring

PREDOMINANT FLORA:

Trees: *Cedrus deodara, Pinus wallichiana, Quercus leucotrichophora, Pyrus pashia, Aesculus indica, Populus spp., Rhododendron spp.*

Shrubs: *Rhamnus spp, Rosa spp, Spiraea canescens, Desmodum elegans*

Herbs: *Artemesia spp., Geranium wallichianum, Hedera nepalensis, Persicaria amplexicaulis, Bupleurum falcatum, Carpesium cernuum, Commelina spp. , Elsholtzia fruticosa, Euonymous spp., Fagopyrum dipotrys, Galinsoga parviflora, Phytolaca acinosa, Potentilla nepalensis, Rubus nubicola, Sonchus, , Trifolium pratense*

Ferns :

PREDOMINANT FAUNA:

Mammals:

Birds:

Reptiles:

Prospect of becoming a biodiversity site: no

Suggestions from the local community:

Remarks



Sacred Grove Data Collection

Name of SG: Devi ka jungle Tiya
Principal Deity: Jayashwari Mata
Village: Delhya
Panchayat: Tiya
P.O: Tiya
Tehsil: Theog
District: Shimla
Pin code: 171209
Population:

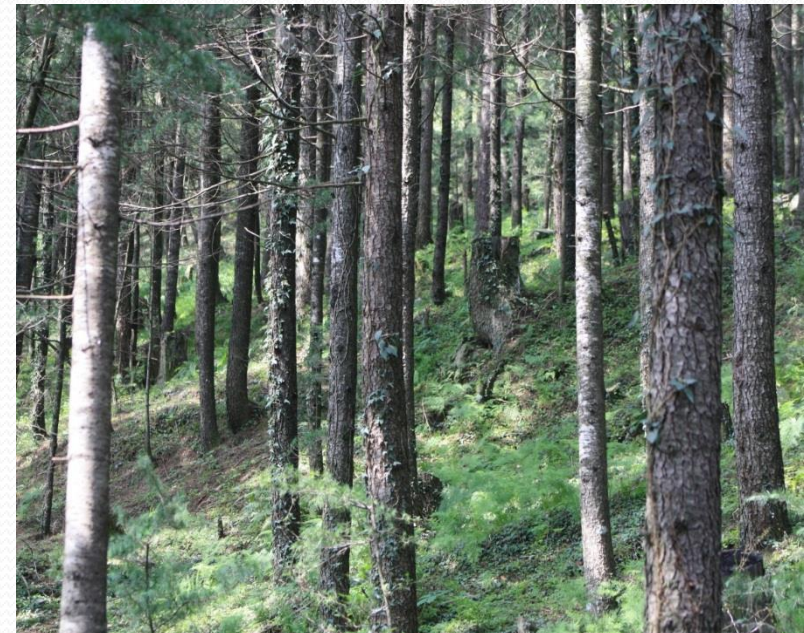
LOCATION

LATITUDE: N 31° 02,757 (N 31.1930)
LONGITUDE: E 77° 20,474 (E 77.4650)
ALTITUDE: 2061 m
ASPECT: NW
SLOPE: gentle
RAINFALL: 40.833
SNOWFALL: 33
ROUTE:

By Road: Shimla to Fagu 21 km , to Tiya 15 km
By walk: Tiya--- 200m to temple

DESCRIPTION OF SACRED GROVE:

Extent of area : 150 bigha
Ownership : deity
Villages associated : Shalayan, Galena, Balyan, Damer, Bagayal, Tiya





DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE:

Architecture: shikhar

Area of temple: 15 biswa

Year of construction: more than 600 yr

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

FAIRS & FESTIVALS:

Dusshehra, ashtami, shant(12 to 20 year)

COMMUNITY COMPOSITION

a) Demographic profile:

b) Socio economic Data

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

chairman: laik ram(98105735013)

vice chairman : laik ram sharma(9418004232)

bhandari: inder singh

REVENUE:

Access right

VEGETATION:

a. **Ecological profile significance** : deodar forest

b. **Threats profile**: no threat

c. **Cultural character does the community follow** : As per the norms of society , lower class people are not allowed to enter the temple premises.

d. **Water Bodies**: fresh water spring



PREDOMINANT FLORA:

Trees: *Cedrus deodara*, *Pinus wallichiana*, *Abies pindrow*, *Quercus semicarpifolia*, *Pyrus pashia*, *Juglans regia*, *Rhododendron spp.*

Shrubs: *Berberis aristata*, *Prinsepia utilis*, *Rubus spp.*

Herbs: *Achyranthes bidentata*, *Arisaema tortuosum*, *Artemesia*, *Clematis*, *Cotoneaster*, *Geranium wallichianum*, *Myriactis nepalensis*, *Sarcococca saligna*, *Carpesium cernuum*, *Androsace lanuginosa*, *Arisaema sauromatum*, *Asplenium trichomanes*, *Cheilanthes*, *Daphne papyracea*, *Dicliptera chinensis*, *Erigeron annuus*, *Galinsoga parviflora*, *Gerbera gossypina*, *Himalrandia tetrasperma*, *Onychium*, *Persicaria nepalensis*, *Taraxacum officinale*

Ferns : *Polystichum squarrosum*, *Pteris*

PREDOMINANT FAUNA:

Mammals:

Birds:

Reptiles: snake and lizards

Prospect of becoming a biodiversity site: yes

Suggestions from the local community: nothing

Remarks



Rubia cordifolia



Achyranthes bidentata



Geranium wallichianum



Duchesnea indica



Thalictrum foliolosum



Ajuga spp.



Clinopodium vulgare



Sarcococca saligna



Persicaria amplexicaulis



Potentilla nepalensis



Rubus nubicola



Trifolium pratense



Fagopyrum dipotrys



Desmodium elegans



Spiraea canescens



Phytolacca acinosa



Erigeron annuus



Himalrandia tetrasperma



Dicliptera chinensis



Polystichum squarrosum



Glinzoga parviflora



Gerbera gossypina



Androsace lanuginose



Carpesium cernuum



Identified species so far

Trees

Cedrus deodara
Pinus wallichiana
Pinus roxburghii
Quercus leucotrichophora
Pyrus pashia
Juglans regia
Populus spp.
Picea smithiana
Quercus semicarpifolia
Aesculus indica
Rhododendron spp.
Abies pindrow
Taxus wallichiana
Celtis australis
Grewia optiva
Eucalyptus spp.

Shrubs and herbs

- *Achyranthes bidentata*
- *Adiantum spp.*
- *Ajuga spp.*
- *Arisaema tortuosum*
- *Artemisia spp.*
- *Asplenium dalhousiae*
- *Berberis spp.*
- *Boenninghausenia albiflora*
- *Clematis buchananiana*
- *Clinopodium vulgare*
- *Coriaria nepalensis*
- *Cotoneaster*
- *Duchesnea indica*
- *Fragaria nubicola*
- *Galium aparine*
- *Geranium nepalensis*
- *Geranium wallichianum*
- *Hedera nepalensis*
- *Impatiens bicolor*
- *Jasminum humile*
- *Myriactis nepalensis*
- *Lecanthus peduncularis*
- *Leucanthemum vulgare*
- *Leycesteria formosa*



- *Myriactis nepalensis*
- *Parthenocissus semicordata*
- *Persicaria amplexicaulis*
- *Polystichum* spp.
- *Prinsepia utilis*
- *Prunella vulgaris*
- *Pteris* spp.
- *Ranunculus diffusus*
- *Rosularia rosulata*
- *Rubia cordifolia*
- *Lonicera angustifolia*
- *Rubus macilentus*
- *Rubus niveus*
- *Rumex hastatus*
- *Sarcococca saligna*
- *Scrophularia polyantha*
- *Selaginella* spp.
- *Solanum nigrum*
- *Sorbaria*
- *Thalictrum foliolosum*
- *Valeriana jatamansi*
- *Viburnum grandiflorum*
- *Bupleurum falcatum*
- *Carpesium cernuum*
- *Commelina* spp.
- *Desmodium elegans*
- *Elsholtzia fruticosa*
- *Euonymus* spp.
- *Fagopyrum dipotrys*

- *Phytolacca acinosa*
- *Potentilla nepalensis*
- *Rhamus* spp.
- *Rosa* spp.
- *Rubus nubicola*
- *Sonchus*
- *Spiraea canescens*
- *Trifolium pratense*
- *Androsace lanuginose*
- *Arisaema sauromatum*
- *Asplenium trichomanes*
- *Cheilanthes* spp.
- *Daphne papyracea*
- *Dicliptera chinensis*
- *Erigeron annuus*
- *Galinsoga parviflora*
- *Gerbera gossypina*
- *Himalrandia tetrasperma*
- *Onychium* spp.
- *Persicaria nepalensis*
- *Polystichum squarrosum*
- *Taraxacum officinale*
- *Ipomoea purpurea*
- *Plantago asiatica*
- *Solanum viarum*
- *Plantago himalaica* *Galinsoga parviflora*
- *Physalis* spp.

- *Cassia tora*
- *Persicaria* spp.
- *Anemone vitifolia*
- *Lantana camara*
- *Pergularia* spp.
- *Cyathula tomentosa*
- *Xanthium strumarium*
- *Agrimonia pilosa*
- *Viburnum cotinifolium*
- *Dodonea viscosa*
- *Calotropis procera*
- *Hedychium spicatum*
- *Oxalis corniculata*
- *Datura stramonium*
- *Oxalis latifolia*
- *Girardinia diversifolia*
- *Viburnum cotinifolium*
- *Indigofera* spp.
- *Lantana camara*
- *Berginia* spp.
- *Datura* spp.
- *Zanthoxylum armatum*



THREATS TO SACRED GROVES

- ❑ Diminishing traditional beliefs due to modernization.
- ❑ Untouchability is also leading towards a dwindling of sacred groves ,as the participation of lower castes is negligible.
- ❑ Tourist influx at some places deteriorates the values and the virginity of nature.

Causes of degradation of Sacred Groves

- Changes in peoples attitudes and socio cultural practices
- Erosion of religious beliefs and traditional values/dissapearing of traditional belief system
- Rituals are now considered mere superstition
- Rapid urbanization
- Families owning sacred groves are shifting their intrest towards other priorities
- Human impact on Sacred groves
- Developmental activities
- Increase in population pressures
- Habitat degradation
- Forest fragmentation
- Encroachment
- Exploitation of resources

Plan of action

- Complete documenting Sacred Groves of Kullu and Shimla in next four Months
- Data analysis
- Compilation of Data Collected in consultation with the (HPSBB)
- One Expert level consultation meeting to be organized (January-February)

S.N o	Activities	Timeframe(months)					
		1-4	4-8	8-12	12-16	16-20	20-24
1.	Conceptualization and recruitment of staff						
2.	Collection of primary secondary data about the sacred Groves of Himachal Pradesh						
3.	Field surveys community interactions and PRA's						
4.	Expert level consultation and compilation of the data base						

THANK YOU

