SWAMI VIVEKANAND SUBHARTI UNIVERSITY®

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POLICY ON MONITORING IUCN AND OTHER CONSERVATION SPECIES

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Registrar
MEERUT

S. No.	Particulars	Description
1	Policy Number	Ref-U-07/SVSU/2025/1401 Date-14.01.2025
2	Policy Statement	Swami Vivekanand Subharti University is committed to protecting biodiversity and conserving species of ecological and conservation importance. This policy provides a framework to identify, monitor, document, and protect IUCN Red Listed species and species included in relevant national conservation lists whose habitats may occur within or around areas affected by the operations of the University.
3	Scope of the Policy	The policy applies to all University campus areas including gardens, agricultural and horticultural fields, green belts, plantations, water bodies, open spaces, biodiversity areas, and other habitats within or around areas affected by University operations.
4	Policy Status	Original
5	Originated By	Department of Life Science and Department of Agriculture, Faculty of Science and University Environment Committee
6	Reviewed By	Registrar
7	Effective Date of Policy	14.01.2025
8	Approving Authority	Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
9	Policy Review Date	

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1. Preamble

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University is committed to promoting sustainable development, environmental conservation, and protection of biodiversity through responsible institutional practices.

The University recognizes that campus landscapes, agricultural areas, plantations, gardens, water bodies, and other green spaces can provide habitats and ecological resources for a variety of plant and animal species. Some of these species may have conservation significance and may be included in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species or relevant national conservation lists.

The University acknowledges the importance of identifying and monitoring species of conservation concern and protecting their habitats from activities that may adversely affect their survival, abundance, or ecological functions.

This policy establishes a framework for the identification, monitoring, documentation, habitat protection, and conservation of IUCN Red Listed species and other nationally protected or conservation-priority species occurring within or around areas affected by University operations.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

2.1. Establish a systematic approach for identifying species of conservation importance occurring on or around the University campus.

2.2. Identify and monitor species listed under the IUCN Red List and relevant national conservation lists.

2.3. Protect habitats supporting IUCN Red Listed and other conservation-priority species.

2.4. Monitor changes in the occurrence, distribution, and habitat conditions of identified conservation species.

2.5. Minimize adverse impacts of University activities on species and habitats of conservation importance.

2.6. Promote biodiversity-friendly management of campus gardens, agricultural fields, plantations, green belts, and water bodies.

2.7. Encourage students, faculty, and staff to participate in biodiversity monitoring and conservation awareness activities.

2.8. Maintain appropriate records and documentation of species monitoring and conservation activities.

2.9. Align the University's biodiversity conservation practices with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly UN SDG 15.3.2 – Monitoring IUCN and Other Conservation Species.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all University activities and campus areas that may support or influence habitats of species of conservation importance, including:

3.1. University gardens and landscaped areas.

3.2. Agricultural and horticultural fields.

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3.3. Campus plantations and green belts.
3.4. Water bodies, ponds, drainage areas, and associated habitats.
3.5. Biodiversity and ecological conservation areas.
3.6. Roadsides, open spaces, boundary areas, and vacant land.
3.7. Areas surrounding institutional buildings and other University facilities.
3.8. Any other habitat areas potentially affected by University operations.

The policy applies to all administrative units, academic departments, gardening and maintenance staff, contractors, researchers, students, and other personnel involved in activities that may affect campus biodiversity.

4. Species Conservation and Monitoring Principles

4.1. Identification of Conservation Species

The University will encourage systematic identification of species of conservation importance occurring within or around areas affected by University operations.
This may include:

4.1.1. Identification of plant and animal species listed in the IUCN Red List.
4.1.2. Identification of species included in relevant national conservation and protection lists.
4.1.3. Consultation of recognized biodiversity databases, government conservation resources, and appropriate scientific literature.
4.1.4. Recording the location and habitat characteristics of identified conservation-priority species.
4.1.5. Seeking appropriate technical assistance from qualified experts, researchers, or relevant academic departments where required.

4.2. Monitoring and Documentation

The University will encourage periodic monitoring of identified conservation-priority species and their habitats.
Monitoring may include:

4.2.1. Recording the presence and occurrence of identified species.
4.2.2. Monitoring changes in species distribution and abundance, wherever feasible.
4.2.3. Recording important habitat characteristics and potential threats.
4.2.4. Maintaining photographic, field survey, and other appropriate documentation.
4.2.5. Periodic reassessment of areas supporting species of conservation importance.

4.3. Habitat Protection

The University will take reasonable measures to protect habitats supporting IUCN Red Listed and other conservation-priority species.
Such measures may include:

4.3.1. Avoiding unnecessary disturbance of identified habitats.
4.3.2. Maintaining suitable vegetation and natural habitat features.
4.3.3. Protecting trees, shrubs, water bodies, and other ecological features supporting biodiversity.
4.3.4. Minimizing unnecessary clearing, land disturbance, and vegetation removal in sensitive areas.
4.3.5. Promoting native and biodiversity-supportive vegetation in suitable campus areas.

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4.3.6. Considering biodiversity impacts during campus development, landscaping, and infrastructure activities.

4.4. Protection from Operational Impacts

The University will encourage environmentally responsible practices to minimize potential impacts of campus operations on conservation-priority species.

These may include:

4.4.1. Responsible management of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other agricultural inputs.

4.4.2. Prevention of unnecessary pollution of soil and water resources.

4.4.3. Appropriate management of waste generated on campus.

4.4.4. Minimization of excessive noise, light, or other disturbances in ecologically sensitive areas, wherever feasible.

4.4.5. Incorporation of biodiversity considerations into campus planning and maintenance activities.

5. Conservation Species Monitoring Strategy

The University shall adopt a multi-dimensional strategy for identifying, monitoring, and protecting IUCN Red Listed and other conservation-priority species, consisting of the following components:

5.1. Baseline Biodiversity Assessment

The University will encourage periodic biodiversity surveys to establish information regarding plant and animal species occurring on campus and in relevant surrounding habitats.

5.2. IUCN Red List and National Conservation List Screening

Species identified through campus biodiversity surveys may be screened against the **IUCN Red List** and relevant national conservation lists to determine their conservation status.

5.3. Regular Monitoring

Identified conservation-priority species and their habitats will be monitored periodically to identify changes in occurrence, habitat condition, or potential threats.

5.4. Habitat Conservation

The University will promote conservation of habitats supporting species of conservation importance through appropriate campus landscaping, plantation, agricultural, horticultural, and environmental management practices.

5.5. Threat Identification and Mitigation

Potential threats to identified conservation species may be recorded, and appropriate mitigation measures may be considered, including habitat disturbance, pollution, invasive species, excessive vegetation removal, and other relevant operational pressures.

5.6. Awareness and Education

The University will promote awareness among students, faculty, gardeners, maintenance personnel, and other stakeholders regarding:

- IUCN Red Listed species and their conservation status.
- Nationally protected and conservation-priority species.

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- Importance of biodiversity and habitat conservation.
- Identification and monitoring of local species.
- Responsible campus practices for biodiversity protection.

5.7. Research and Academic Participation

The University may encourage academic and research activities related to biodiversity surveys, species identification, habitat monitoring, conservation biology, and ecological assessment through relevant departments and academic programmes.

6. Implementation

The concerned Departments, in coordination with relevant academic and administrative departments, shall be responsible for implementing this policy, which may include:

6.1. Conducting periodic biodiversity surveys of campus areas.

6.2. Identifying species of conservation importance occurring within or around areas affected by University operations.

6.3. Checking identified species against the IUCN Red List and relevant national conservation lists.

6.4. Documenting the location, habitat, and conservation status of identified species.

6.5. Monitoring identified species and their habitats periodically.

6.6. Coordinating appropriate measures for protection and conservation of sensitive habitats.

6.7. Considering biodiversity impacts during campus development, landscaping, agricultural, and horticultural activities.

6.8. Encouraging student and faculty participation in biodiversity monitoring and conservation programmes.

6.9. Maintaining records of species monitoring, habitat protection, and conservation activities.

7. Monitoring and Reporting

The concerned Departments shall maintain records and reports related to the monitoring and protection of IUCN Red Listed and other conservation-priority species.

Periodic reports may include:

7.1. Biodiversity surveys and monitoring activities conducted on campus.

7.2. Species identified as IUCN Red Listed or included in relevant national conservation lists.

7.3. Location and habitat information for identified conservation-priority species.

7.4. Changes observed in species occurrence, distribution, or habitat condition.

7.5. Conservation and habitat protection measures undertaken.

7.6. Potential threats identified and mitigation measures implemented.

7.7. Awareness, training, and educational programmes conducted.

7.8. Progress toward campus biodiversity conservation objectives.

Such reporting will support transparency, institutional accountability, evidence-based biodiversity management, and continuous improvement.

8. Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed as and when required.

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