

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Sr. No.	Items	Observations & Remark								
1	Name of the Project & location : (Range, Round, Beat)	<div>Diversion of 0.2260 Ha forest Land for the Development of Mangrove Conservation Center and Mangrove Park at Gorai by Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit (MMCU).</div> <table><tr><td>Range</td><td>Round</td><td>Beat</td><td>Village</td></tr><tr><td>Westren Mumbai</td><td>Andheri</td><td>Kandivali</td><td>Gorai</td></tr></table>	Range	Round	Beat	Village	Westren Mumbai	Andheri	Kandivali	Gorai
Range	Round	Beat	Village							
Westren Mumbai	Andheri	Kandivali	Gorai							
2	Name of the User Agency :	Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit (MMCU)								
3	Date of site inspection :	04/01/2018								
4	Extent (ha) & legal status of forest land proposed for diversion :	<div>1.Reserved forest- 0.2260 Ha</div> <div>(Under section 4 of IFA 1927)</div> <div>Total Forest Area - 0.2260 Ha</div>								
5	a) Detailed of forest land proposed for diversion & activity-wise break-up of forest land :	As per Area Statement attached on page no.								
	b) Density & Eco-value class :	<div>Density- 0.6</div> <div>Eco-value Class II</div>								
6	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in col.2 part-1 is unavoidable & barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item wise with details of alternative examined. :	The project is an Eco-Tourism project which will create awareness amongst the people for protection and conservation of mangroves, the site is specifically selected considering eco-tourism potential hence there is no alternative as such.								
7	Whether the proposal involves any construction of building (including residential) or not? If yes, details thereof :	There will be a Nature Interpretation Centre in the project area.								

8	a) Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not	:	No
	b) Details of any rare or endangered or unique species of flora & fauna found in proposed forest land. IF so, the details thereof	:	No rare or endangered or unique species of flora & fauna found in proposed Mangroves forest land.
	c) Aerial distance from the nearest boundary of any Protected Area (km)	:	Distance From Sanjay Gandhi National Park- 4.3 And Distance From Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary- 17.9
	d) Remarks about sensitivity of the forest area likely to be affected due to project	:	NA
	e) Whether wildlife mitigation plan is required? If yes, reasons thereof	:	No.
9.	Derails of Vegetation	:	
	a) Total number of trees to be felled	:	NA
	b) Number of trees to be felled of girth below 60 cm.	:	NA
	c) Number of trees to e felled of girth above 60 cm.	:	NA
	d) Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area	:	NA
10	Background note on the proposal (Short summary)	:	<p>Mumbai Mangrove conservation Unit is a specific body of forest department which look after protection conservation of mangroves in Mumbai region of Maharashtra. Mangroves are present in all the coastal districts of Maharashtra viz. Mumbai city, Mumbai suburbs, Thane, Palghar, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg. Mangrove cell in Mumbai is successful in increasing the density of mangroves cover in state despite of increasing pressure of development, construction and infrastructural work.</p> <p>Globally as well as nationally, Forest Conservation is increasingly being viewed as a</p>

		<p>powerful instrument in sequestering carbon and thereby offset adverse climate change. Maharashtra Forest Department, being custodian of the State's rich and diverse bio-diversity, is committed to a conservation-centric management and protection strategy. Wild-life focused eco-tourism management hinges on sustainability. Production-be it timber or non-timber forest produce is managed with sustainability at its core. Joint Forest Management to secure natural resources as well as livelihood security remains the major people-centric activity. Attempts are on to hone local artisans' skill in making value-added articles out of non-timber forest produce like bamboo and cane. Augmenting green cover on non-forest areas to achieve national targets of 33% of land area under green cover remains a forefront agenda. Intensive use of Information and Communication Technology supplemented by e-governance is under effective use to monitor on-going forestry activities. Extensive use of digital platform to project a true picture of forest conservation forms the central theme.</p>
		<p>Many mangrove forests can be recognized by their dense tangle of prop roots that make the trees appear to be standing on stilts above the water. This tangle of roots allows the trees to handle the daily rise and fall of tides, which means that most mangroves get flooded at least twice per day. The roots also slow the movement of tidal waters, causing sediments to settle out of the water and build up the muddy bottom.</p>

Mangrove forests stabilize the coastline, reducing erosion from storm surges, currents, waves, and tides. The intricate root system of mangroves also makes these forests attractive to fish and other organisms seeking food and shelter from predators.

Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit is planning to develop Mangrove Conservation and Development Park at Gorai. The objective of this project is to educate the citizens of Mumbai about the value of the mangrove ecosystem to their well-being, and in turn running a drive for environmental awareness in the citizen and visitors.

Setting mangrove conservation and a mangrove interpretation center right next to three of the most well-known tourist attractions in Mumbai: Essel World, Water Kingdom and Global Vipassana Pagoda. This will bring in the population. Taking advantage of this pull of crowd MMCU wants to set up a center which will emphasize on environmental importance of mangroves and bio-diversity of the coastal areas.

11.	Whether the proposal involves any violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980? If yes, a details report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials to be attached.	:	No
12	Whether the proposal involved rehabilitation plan has been approved by the State Government?	:	The proposal doesn't involve any rehabilitation hence no rehabilitation plan required.
13	Detailed on catchment & culturable common area under the project (if	:	NA

	applicable)		
14	Utility of the project	:	<p>Mangrove forests stabilize the coastline, reducing erosion from storm surges, currents, waves, and tides. The intricate root system of mangroves also makes these forests attractive to fish and other organisms seeking food and shelter from predators.</p> <p>Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit is planning to develop Mangrove Conservation and Development Park at Gorai. The objective of this project is to educate the citizens of Mumbai about the value of the mangrove ecosystem to their well-being, and in turn running a drive for environmental awareness in the citizen and visitors.</p> <p>Setting mangrove conservation and a mangrove interpretation center right next to three of the most well-known tourist attractions in Mumbai: Essel World, Water Kingdom and Global Vipassana Pagoda. This will bring in the population. Taking advantage of this pull of crowd MMCU wants to set up a center which will emphasize on environmental importance of mangroves and bio-diversity of the coastal areas.</p>
15	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious values? Whether any scared grove or very old growth trees/forest exist in the areas proposed for diversion?	:	No
16	Any other important information related to the project (Separate note may be attached, if req.)	:	No
17	Details of documents & photographs enclosed.		Documents enclosed on page no.

18	Recommendations of the Inspecting Officer (CCF/DCF/CF)	The project is recommended as it is an Eco-Tourism project and will play vital role in protection and conservation of mangroves and creating awareness among people. Therefore people will know the importance of the mangroves and they will come forward for protecting mangroves which will be useful for maintaining the balance of costal ecosystem.
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Date: 05/01/2018

Place: Mumbai

Office Seal:



(V.R. Jagtap)

Divisional Forest Officer
Mumbai Mangrove Conservation Unit