

SANDBAR-NESTING WATERBIRDS OF VIKRAMSHILA GANGETIC DOLPHIN SANCTUARY (VGDS), BIHAR

During summer, when the water level drops down in the River Ganga, number of islands / sandbars emerge. Those islands / sandbars are used as a breeding site by eleven species of riverine sandbar nesting birds. Some of the species are moving locally and others are migrating to other areas after breeding.



Breeding Birds as Indicator

Breeding birds are loyal to their breeding sites and act as the indicators of habitat quality. Therefore, long-term monitoring of these sandbars and the nesting birds is crucial for the conservation and management of the breeding birds. Any kind of activity leading to the loss or degradation of these habitats will not only directly impact their breeding success but also affect the overall population of the species.

Threats

 Fluctuation in Water level

 Nest trampling by domestic cattle



Sand mining



Stray Dogs



Domestic Cattle



Sewage Discharge

Greater Painted-snipe - online source
Indian Skimmer by Arpit Bansal; Kentish Plover & Indian Thick-knee - ebird