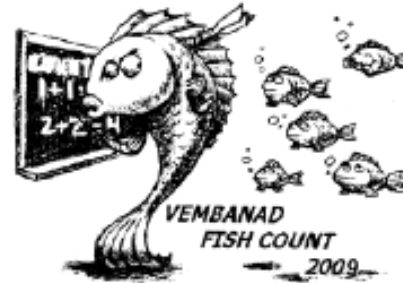


VEMBANAD FISH COUNT 2009



27th May 2009



Community Environmental Resource Centre (CERC)
Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment



Kerala State Biodiversity Board



Regional Agricultural Research Station, Kumarakom



Vembanad Nature Club

Dear All,

The Vembanad wetlands, fosters high biodiversity and substantially supports rural livelihoods. The environmental conditions of this lake are in steady decline due to various human activities have lead to a crisis in livelihoods for dependent communities. Depletion of Fishery resources has changed this 'inland fish basket' to an 'Inland waste basket', driving the fisher folks, the primary stakeholder of the lake to a livelihood crisis.

Traditionally, conservation and management of the lake resources of Vembanad were vested in the hands of the local communities, and hence, local communities were actively involved in the management of the resources they relied on. With the intention of regaining the participatory methods in lake management and to enhance cooperation between various stakeholders, Govt. departments, NGOs and academic institutions and to create awareness about the state of fishery resources of the lake Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), is organizing Vembanad Fish Count -2009, a participatory fishery resource inventory and monitoring **on 27th May 2009** (Wednesday). Kerala State Biodiversity Board, Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS) of Kerala Agriculture University Vembanad Nature Club and Kayal Samrakshna Samithys are collaborating with this event while the College of Fisheries, Panangad, School of Environmental Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, and the St. Albert's College, Ernakulam will be providing the technical support. The survey will be flagged off from Muhamma boat jetty by 6.00 AM on 27th May. The closing ceremony will be held at the VIP island pavilion at Punnamada finishing point.

Shri. P. Venugopal IAS, the honorable District Collector of Alappuzha, has kindly agreed to receive the survey teams and inaugurate the valedictory function at 3 pm at the VIP island pavilion, Punnamada finishing point.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we invite you all to participate in this event and lent your support in protecting this great natural heritage

Priyadarsanan Dharma Rajan
Principal Investigator

Latha Bhaskar
Project Coordinator

RSVP

To register your participation, please contact
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Mr. Jojo T.D - 98460 09339, email- jojo@atree.org

15.05.2009
Alappuzha

Program:

18.05.2009- 25.05.2009: Registration of volunteers

26.05.2009 3.00 pm to 8 pm - Orientation Program for the volunteers
Venu: St. George Parish Hall, Muhamma (near Muhamma boat jetty)
8.00 p.m Dinner

27.05.2009 Vembanad Fish Count-2009

06.00 am: Flag off

02.00 pm: Survey teams Reaches the finishing point

03.00 pm: Valedictory Function

PS: Those interested to volunteer are requested to register their names before **25/05/2009** and attend the orientation at the **St. George Parish Hall, Muhamma (near Muhamma boat jetty) on 26th May 2009**, Tuesday, at 3.00 PM.

Participating Institutions and Organizations

College of Fisheries, Panangad

Kayal Samrakshna Samithys around Vembanad

Kerala State Biodiversity Board

Regional Agricultural Research Station (RARS)

School of Environmental Sciences Mahatma Gandhi University

St. Albert's College, Ernakulam

Vembanad Nature Club, Muhamma



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