

Abundance and Diversity of Plants and Animals in the Kulik Bird Sanctuary, Raiganj, West Bengal, India

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ABSTRACT Abundance and diversity of plants and animals were studied in the Kulik bird sanctuary, Raiganj, West Bengal, India in the year 2007 to 2008. The sanctuary was declared as a wildlife sanctuary in 1985. There was a great diversity of plants and animals, such as major plants (34 species; 21 families), mammals (2 species; 2 families) birds (29 species; 20 families) reptiles (4 species; 4 families) amphibian (2 species; 2 families) fishes (18 species; 11 families) and molluscs (5 species; 5 families) species were observed and collected in the study period. In this sanctuary *Lagerstoemia speciosa*, *Barringtonia acutangula*, *Trewia nudiflora*, *Terminalia arjuna* and *Alstonia scholaris* are the major plant species. A large number of birds species such as Open billed stork (*Anastomus oscitans*), Little cormorant (*Phalacrocorax niger*), Night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*), Gray heron (*Ardea cinera*), Cattle egret (*Bulbulcus ibis*) and Little egret (*Egretta garzetta*) breeds together every year. Among the birds species maximum number of Open billed stork (*Anastomus oscitans*) was found in the breeding season. Diversity of molluscs, fishes, amphibians, reptiles and mammals are also described here.