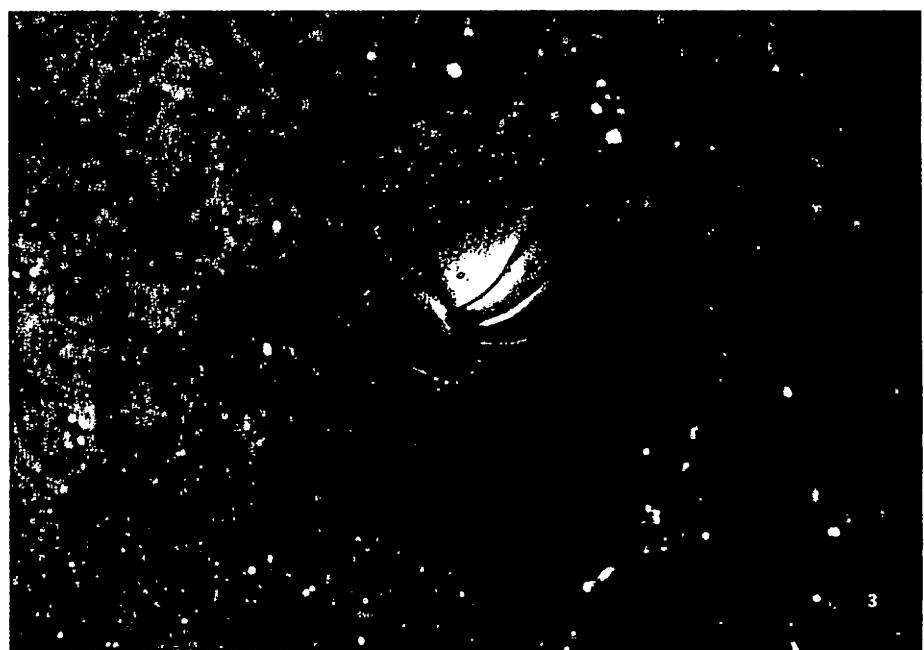
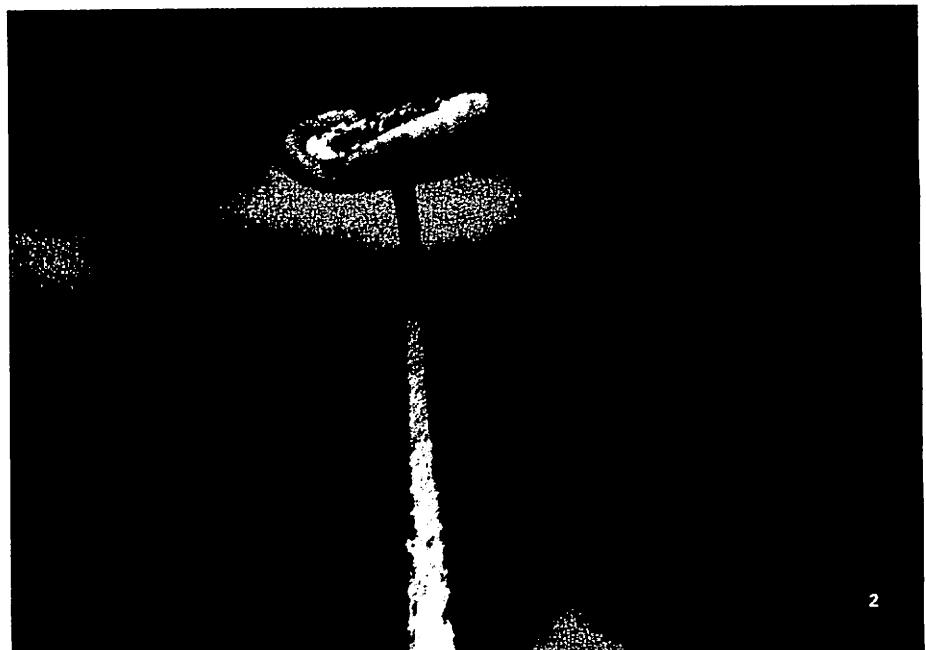
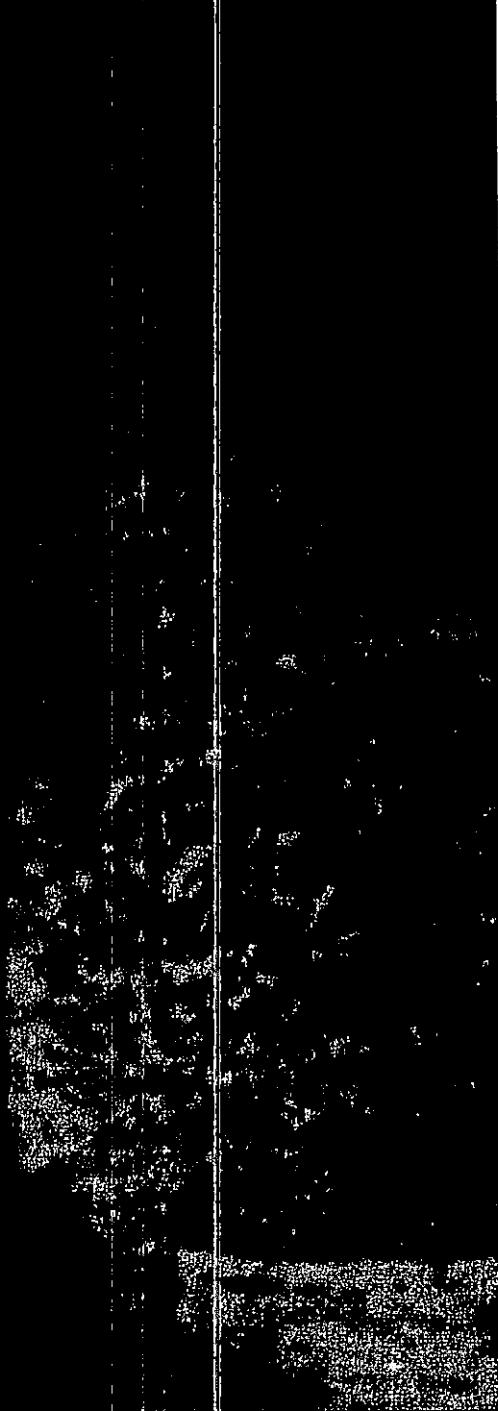




Vignettes of Kaziranga

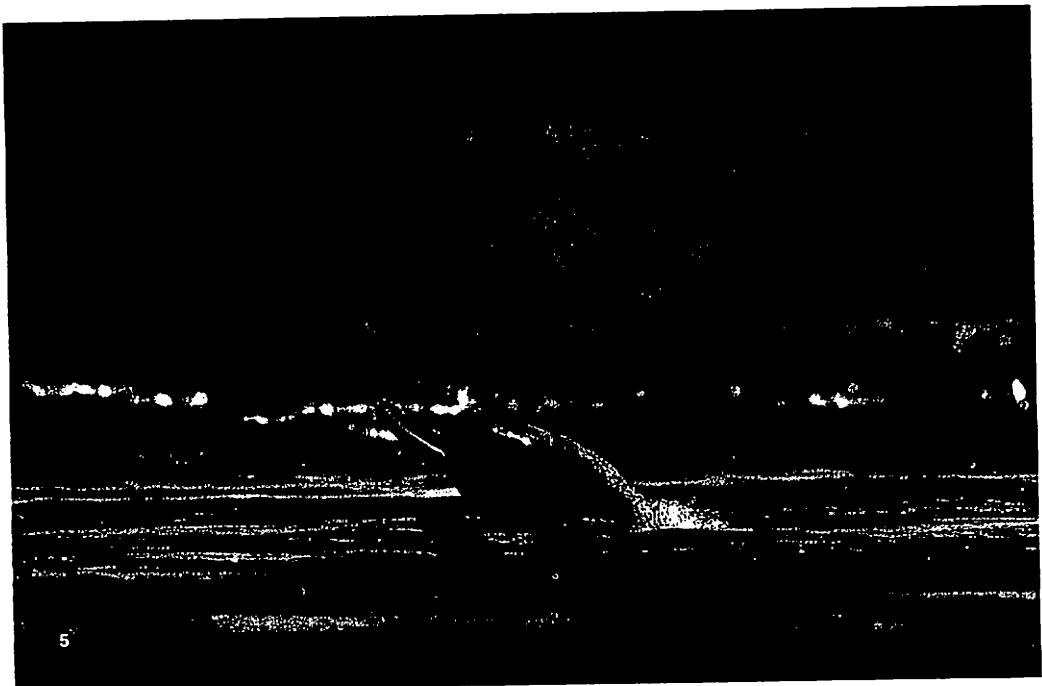
These images, from Sanctuary's forthcoming large format tribute to the Kaziranga National Park, provide a flavour of the incredible biodiversity of this World Heritage Site. The book is dedicated to the people of Assam and the defenders of Kaziranga who continue to protect its many endangered species including one-horned rhinos, tigers, dolphins, hoolock gibbons and Bengal Floricans.



Over millennia, the rich silt deposited by the powerful Brahmaputra river, has gifted on Kaziranga rich alluvial grasslands, wetlands and wet semi-evergreen forests that seem to burst with life. The grasslands are intricately linked to the survival of Kaziranga's herbivores, which in turn determine the density of their arch predator, the tiger. Asiatic water buffaloes, hog deer, swamp deer, just under 500 species of birds and an insect list that grows as more studies are conducted, make this one of India's richest biodiversity hotspots.

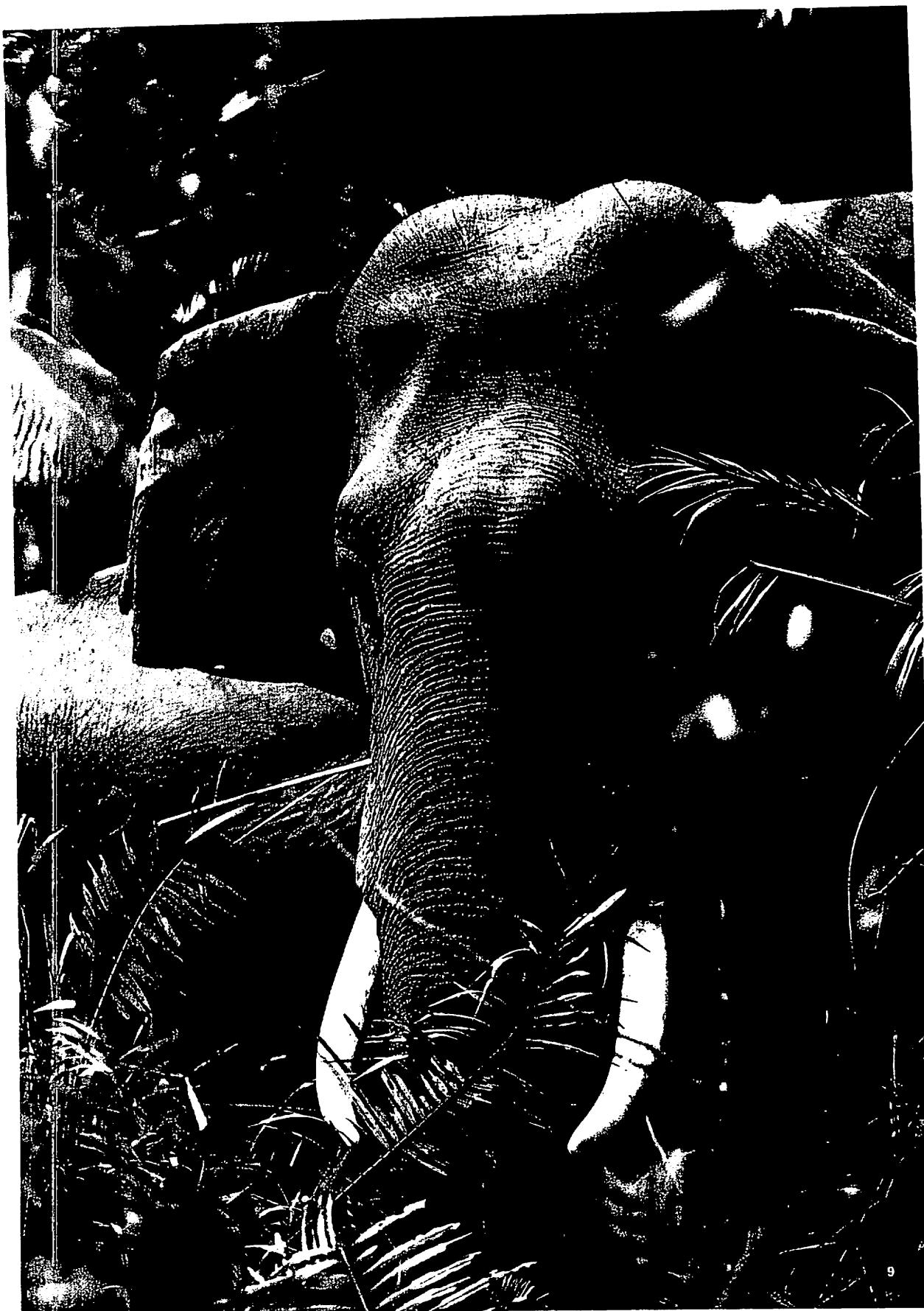


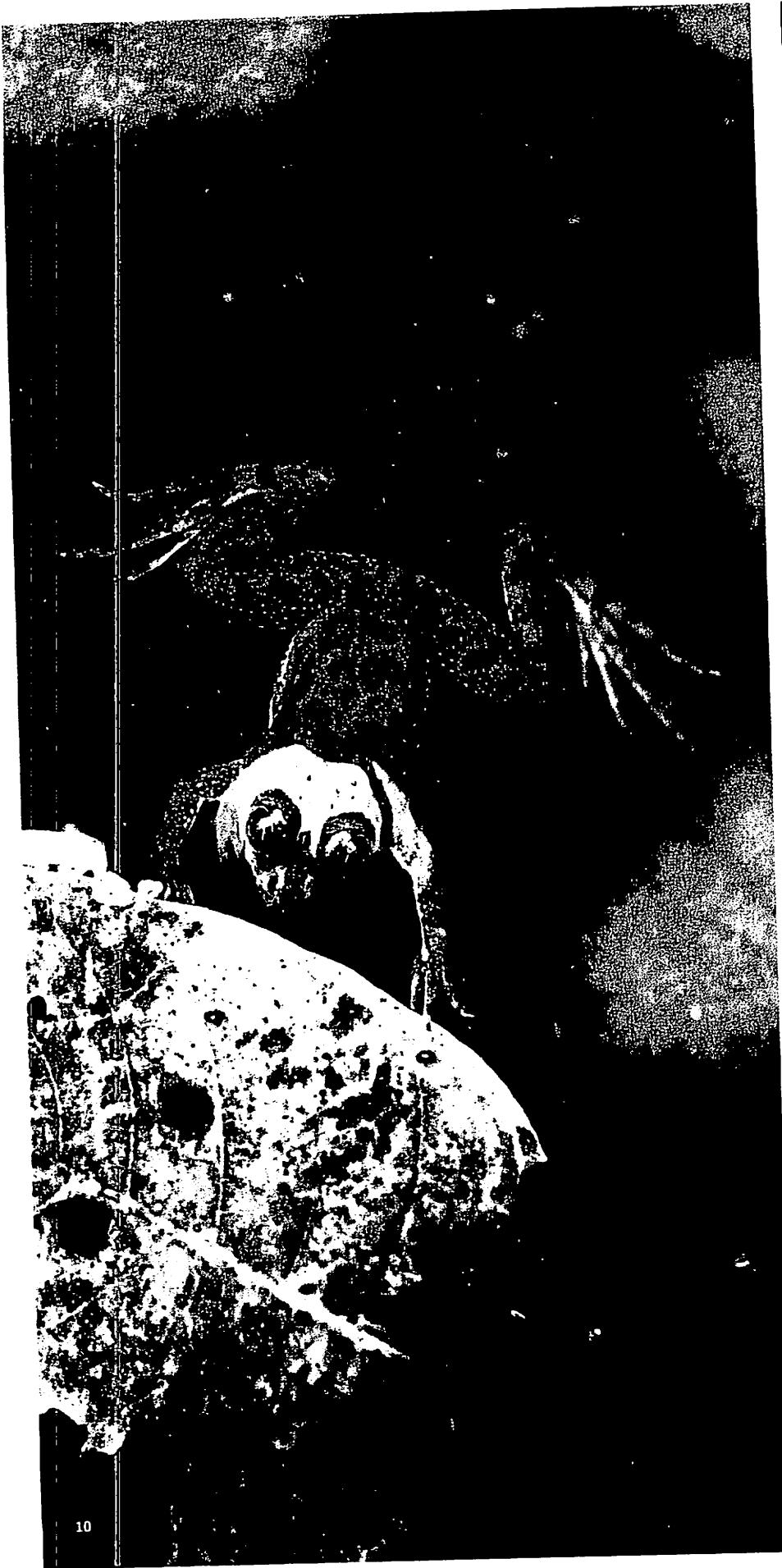
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4. *Pyrrhopygia* *pyrrhopygia* *pyrrhopygia*











1. Indian one-horned rhinoceros

This 'armour-plated' living fossil is one of the world's most endangered creatures. Kaziranga has the world's largest population of the great Indian one-horned rhinoceros.

(Photographer: Hira Punjabi)

2. Mushroom

Without decomposers such as mushrooms, Kaziranga's (for that matter almost any land ecosystem's) productivity would plummet. These efficient recycling agents ensure that nutrients are restored to the soil.

(Photographer: Anish Andheria)

3. Pill millipede

This shiny black/brown to buff-coloured arthropod is found in damp areas and leaf litter. The pill millipede *Glomeris* that rolls into a tight ball when disturbed helps break down plant matter. (Photographer: Anish Andheria)

4. Red and black bugs

A tree provides shelter to innumerable big and small life-forms such as these brightly coloured insects.

(Photographer: Anish Andheria)

5. Gangetic river dolphin

The Brahmaputra supports the Gangetic river dolphin, which navigates using sonar and feeds largely on crustaceans and catfish.

(Photographer: Bernard Castelein)

6. Asiatic water buffalo

Kaziranga is one of the most significant habitats for the Asiatic water buffalo, which is being edged out from most of its former range.

(Photographer: Niranjan Sant)

7. Tiny waterfall (stream)

A perennial stream at the Panbari Reserved Forest, home of the hoolock gibbon in Kaziranga.

(Photographer: Anish Andheria)

8. Hoolock gibbon

The only ape species found in India, the hoolock is a dense forest primate. Its unique "whoku-whoku" call is audible for upto a kilometre.

(Photographer: Bernard Castelein)

9. Asian elephant

Bull elephants live largely solitary lives but may join family groups for short periods to mate with receptive females in oestrus.

(Photographer: Niranjan Sant)

10. Skittering frog

The skittering frog *Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis* is usually found in stagnant or slow-flowing water bodies and is preyed upon by a variety of predators, including reptiles, eagles, otters, mongoose and fishing cats.

(Photographer: Anish Andheria)