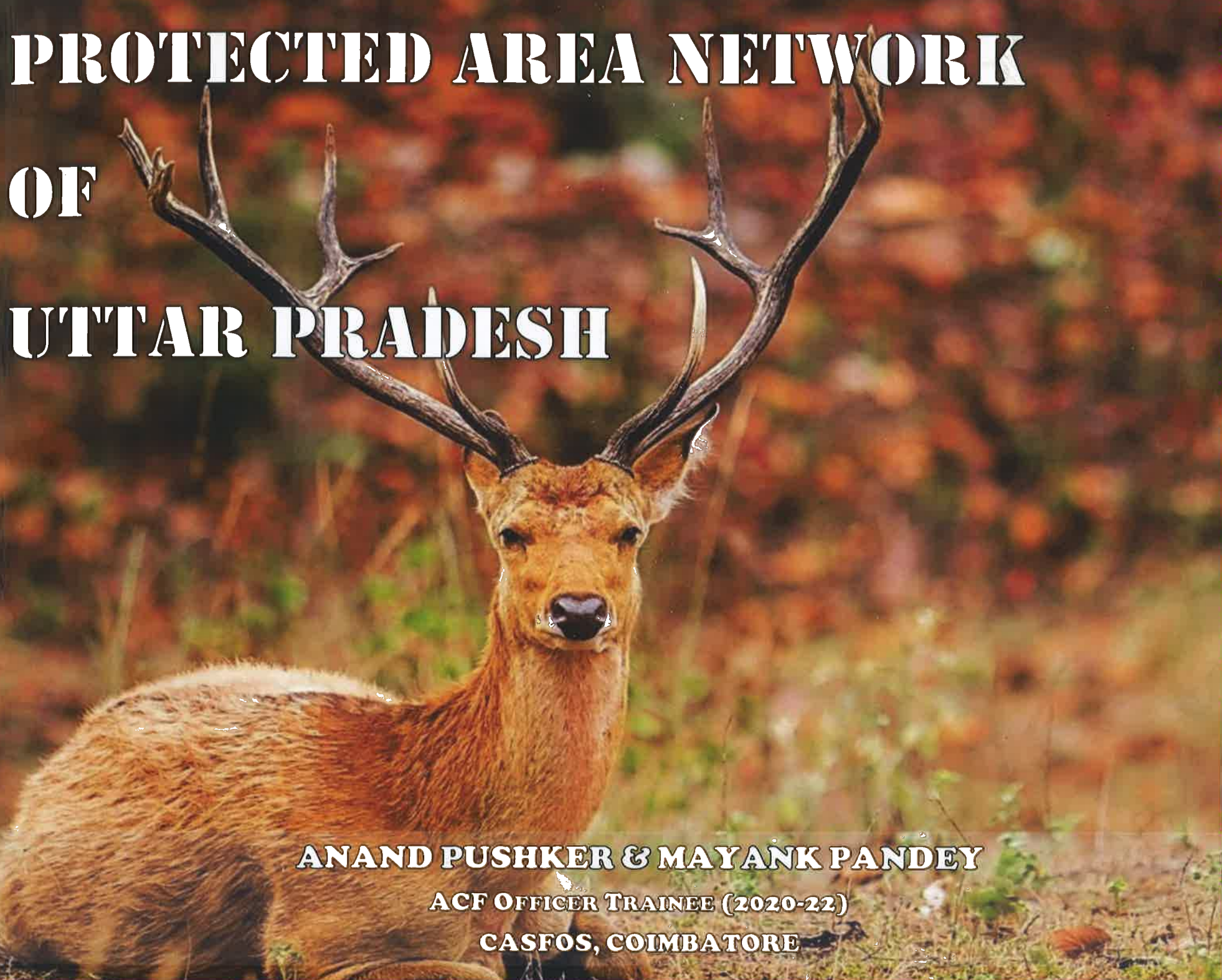


A photograph of a sambar deer with large, dark antlers, standing in a forest with autumn-colored foliage in the background. The deer is facing forward, looking directly at the camera.

PROTECTED AREA NETWORK OF UTTAR PRADESH

ANAND PUSHKER & MAYANK PANDEY

ACF OFFICER TRAINEE (2020-22)

CASFOS, COIMBATORE

प्रकृति: रक्षति रक्षिता ।

'Nature protects, if she is protected'





सत्यमेव जयते
Government Of India

Shri V. Thirunavukarasu, IFS

APPCF & PRINCIPAL
CASFOS, Coimbatore
Tamil Nadu

FOREWORD

It is heartening to note that Shri. Anand Pushker & Shri. Mayank Pandey State Forest Service officer trainees of 2020-2022 batch have brought out a booklet on “**Protected Area Network of Uttar Pradesh**”. This booklet will be a handy guide to the environmentalists, ecologists, practicing foresters and tourists. This booklet also contains the details about the biodiversity of Uttar Pradesh. The Central Academy for State Forest Service (CASFOS) always motivates the officer trainees to hone their literary skills and the academy is very happy about the outcome.

I appreciate the authors for bringing such a wonderful booklet. Their journey in the ocean of forestry and wildlife has begun now and they have tremendous opportunity to bring more treatises in the future. I advise them to record all their observations and experiences in the field during their career for the benefit of the fraternity.

Best Wishes





Shri V. Karthik, IFS
FACULTY
CASFOS, Coimbatore
Tamil Nadu

MESSAGE

(From the Course Director's Desk)

It is indeed a great pleasure to see the book on protected areas of Uttar Pradesh by Shri Anand Pushker and Shri Mayank Pandey. This book is a neat compilation of all the protected areas of Uttar Pradesh including National parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserve and Tiger Reserve. I am sure lot of efforts must have been put by the authors to bring such a nice compilation. This book will give a gist of all protected areas and ideas of important fauna in Protected areas.

I whole heartedly wish both the authors for bringing out such a majestic compilation and I also wish them best of luck for all their future endeavors.

V. Karthik



PREFACE

India is in one of the richest biodiversity zones in the world, harboring about 45,000 plant and 60,000 insects, 1,175 birds and 372 mammalian species. Perhaps, India is the only country in the world to have a vast array of habitats encompassing tropical rain forest to alpine scrub forest. A great variety of environmental conditions have bestowed a diverse variety of endemic biotypes.

The state of Uttar Pradesh is represented by 87 species of mammals, 552 of bird species of which 24 are globally threatened, 77 reptiles, 25 amphibians and 152 fishes. The State has four Tiger Reserves, two Elephant Reserves, one National Park, twenty-six Wildlife Sanctuaries and one Conservation Reserve along with thirty-one Important Bird Areas. The flora of the state is composed of a total of 3,666 species of which 2,831 are higher plants representing 17.2% and 12.8% of the nation's gymnosperm and angiosperm flora, respectively.

With ever increasing anthropogenic pressures, ***development without destruction*** has become an important issue. Increase in human and cattle population has resulted in diversion of vast tract of forest land for agriculture and grazing, in the past. This has adversely affected the wildlife and wildlife habitats in the state.

The need to protect floral and faunal biological values assumes even greater significance as the development activities either directly or indirectly threaten the biological diversity of the region.

In situ conservation of biomes in different regions of the state by establishing tiger reserves, elephant reserves, national park, wildlife sanctuaries and conservation reserve therefore becomes vital for conserving biodiversity.

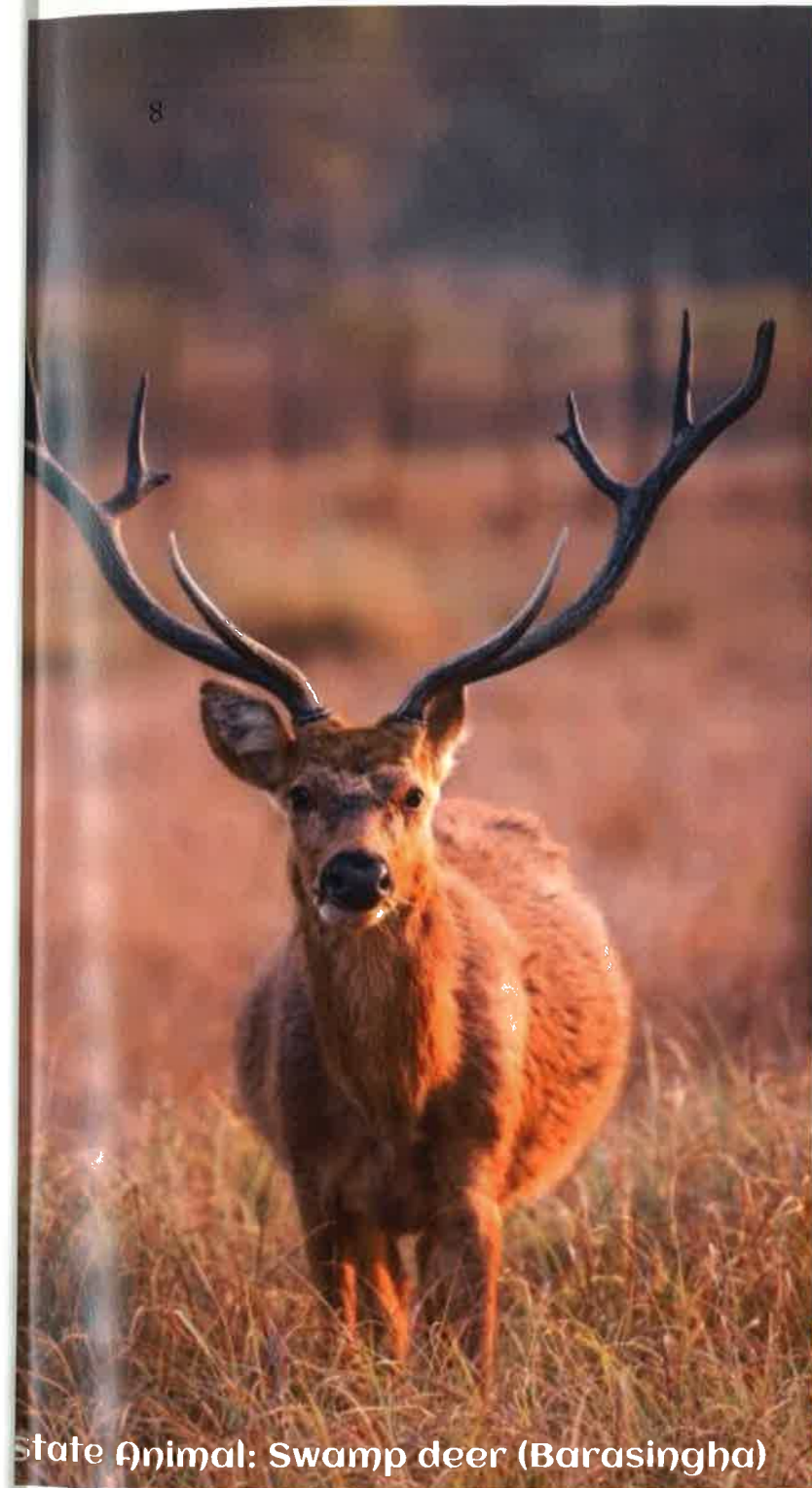
This compendium on Protected Area Network of Uttar Pradesh is an outcome to provide concise yet comprehensive exposure to the readers about the synergies being created by the Uttar Pradesh Forest Department in an effort to conserve and protect the wilderness and wildlife of the State.

Anand Pushker and Mayank Pandey
A.C.F. (Officer Trainees),
SFS Batch 2020-2022,
Central Academy for State Forest Service,
Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

S.NO	CONTENT	PAGE NO.
1	STATE SYMBOLS (WILD-LIFE) UTTAR PRADESH	01
2	FOREST MAP OF UTTAR PRADESH	02
3	FORESTS AT GLANCE: UTTAR PRADESH	04-05
5	DUDHWA TIGER RESERVE	06-07
6	PILIBHIT TIGER RESERVE	08-09
7	AMANGARH TIGER RESERVE	10-11
8	RANIPUR TIGER RESERVE	12-13
9	UTTAR PRADESH ELEPHANT RESERVES	14-17
10	DUDHWA NATIONAL PARK	18-19
11	BAKHIRA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	20-21
12	CHANDRA PRABHA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	22-23
13	Dr. BHIMRAO AMBEDKAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	24-25
14	HASTINAPUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	26-27
15	JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN (SURHATAL) BIRD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	28-29
16	KACHHUA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	30-31
17	KAIMUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	32-33
18	KATARNIAGHAT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	34-35
19	KISHANPUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	36-37
20	LAKH BAHOSI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	38-39

21	MAHAVIR SWAMI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	40-41
22	NATIONAL CHAMBAL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	42-43
23	NAWABGANJ BIRD BIRD SANCTUARY	44-45
24	OKHLA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	46-47
25	PARVATI ARANGA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	48-49
26	PATNA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	50-51
27	PILIBHIT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	52-53
28	RANIPUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	54-55
29	SAMAN BIRD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	56-57
30	SAMASPUR BIRD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	58-59
31	SANDI BIRD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	60-61
32	SHEKHA BIRD SANCTUARY	62-63
33	SOHAGI BARWA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	64-65
34	SOHELWA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY	66-67
35	SOOR SAROVAR BIRD SANCTUARY	68-69
36	VIJAI SAGAR BIRD SANCTUARY	70-71
37	CHAND KHAMARIA BLACKBUCK CONSERVATION RESERVE	72-73



State Animal: Swamp deer (Barasingha)



State Bird: Sarus Crane



State Flower: Palash

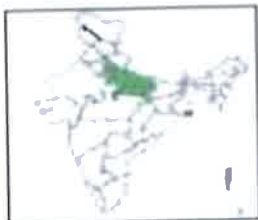
State Symbols of Uttar Pradesh



State Fish: Chitala



State Tree: Ashoka



Forest Map of Uttar Pradesh (Source: State of Forest Report 2021) FSI)

No.	FOREST TYPE	Area (in sq km)	% of the Total mapped area
1	2/E1 Cane brakes	21.75	0.14
2	3C/C2d (i) Western light alluvium plains Sal	1532.61	9.89
3	3C/C2d (iii) Eastern heavy alluvium plains Sal	638.37	4.12
4	3C/C3a West Gangetic moist deciduous forest	399.97	2.58
5	3C/C3/2S1 Northern secondary moist deciduous forest	351.41	2.27
6	4D/SS2 <i>Barringtonia</i> swamp forest	0.29	0.00
7	4D/SS3 <i>Syzygium cumini</i> swamp low forest	199.21	1.29
8	5A/C1b Dry Teak forest	133.70	0.86
9	5B/C1a Dry Siwalik Sal forest	109.09	0.70
10	5B/C1b Dry plains Sal forest	60.87	0.39
11	5B/C1c Dry Peninsular Sal forest	345.81	2.23
12	5B/C2 Northern dry mixed deciduous forest	5422.03	35.0
13	5/DS1 Dry deciduous forest	415.43	2.68
14	5/DS2 Dry Savannah forest	1.97	0.01
15	5/DS3 <i>Euphorbia</i> scrub	1.03	0.01
16	5/E1 <i>Anogeissus pendula</i> forest	430.46	2.78
17	5/E1/DS1 <i>Anogeissus pendula</i> scrub	159.90	1.03
18	5/E2 <i>Boswelvia</i> forest	113.30	0.73
19	5/E3 Babul forest	40.61	0.26
20	5/E5 <i>Butea</i> forest	7.72	0.05
21	5/E8a <i>Phoenix</i> savannah	2.11	0.01
22	5/E8b Babul savannah	14.46	0.09
23	5/E9 Dry bamboo brakes	70.63	0.46
24	5/1S1 Dry tropical riverain forest	0.26	0.00
25	5/1S2 Khair-Sissoo forest	153.25	1.00
26	6B/C2 Ravine thorn forest	799.27	5.16
	Sub Total	11,425.51	73.74
27	TOF/Plantation	3,966.66	25.61
	Total (Forest Cover & Scrub)	15,392.17	

Forest Types of Uttar Pradesh (Source: State of Forest Report 2021)

UTTAR PRADESH



Geographical Area

2,40,928 sq. km

Geographical Coordinates

Latitude 23°52' N to 31°28' N

Longitude 77°30' E to 84°39' E

Population (as per Census 2011)
199.81 million

Urban 44.50 million (22.27%)

Rural 155.31 million (77.73%)

Tribal 1.13 million (0.57%)

Average Population Density

829 per sq. km

Livestock Population

(as per 19th Live Stock Census)

68.71 million

No. of Districts

75

Land Use Types	Area (in '000 ha)	Percentage
Geographical Area	24,098	-
Reporting area for land utilization	24,170	100.00
Forests	1,671	6.91
Not available for land cultivation	3,607	14.92
Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	66	0.27
Land under misc. tree crops and groves	283	1.17
Cultivable Wasteland	389	1.61
Fallow land other than current fallows	551	2.28
Current fallows	1,061	4.39
Net area sown	16,542	68.45

National Parks & Sanctuaries of Uttar Pradesh





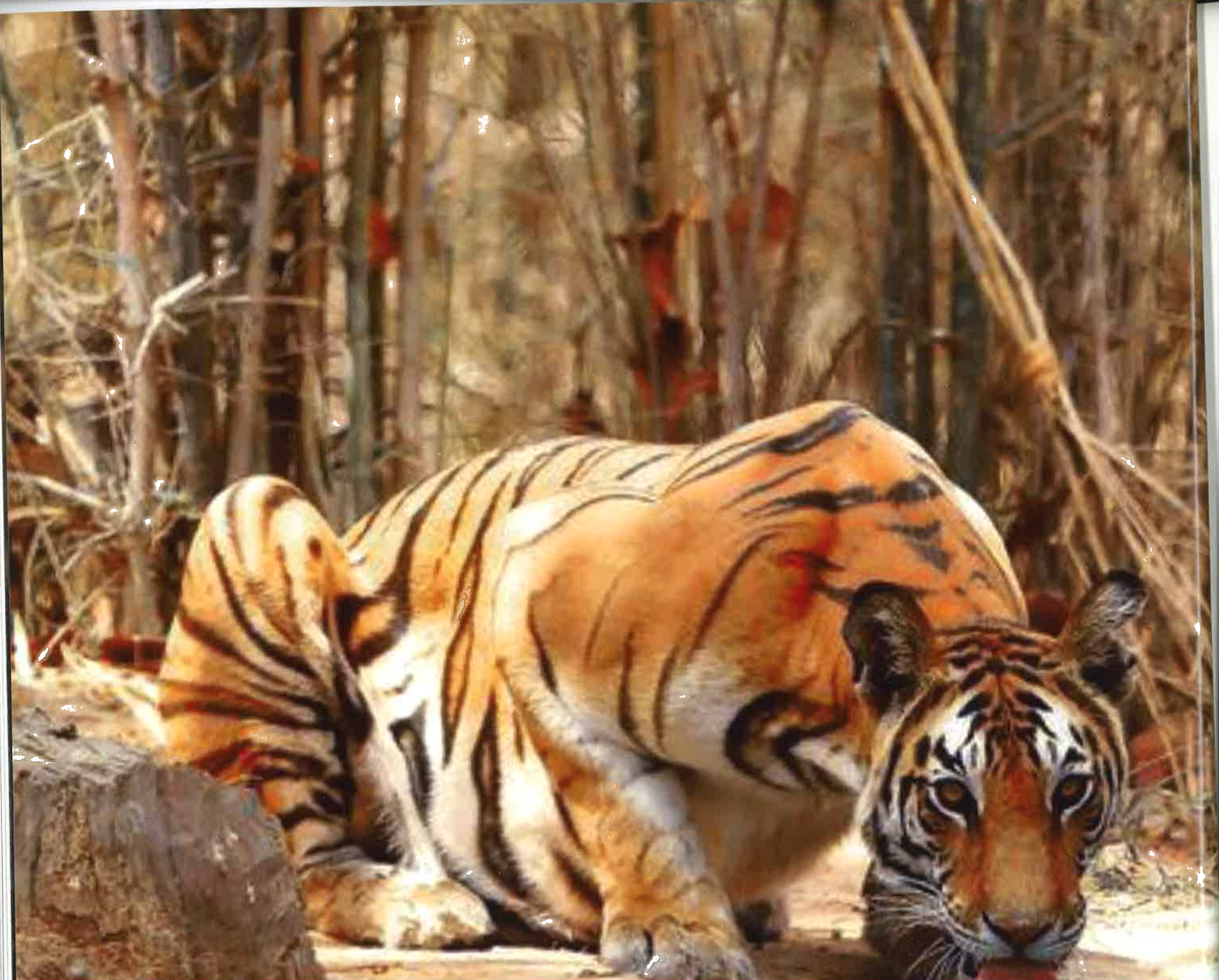
DUDHWA TIGER RESERVE 28°31'N 80°41'E

Established: 1977

Area: Core: 1093.79 sq.km, Buffer: 1107.9848 sq.km. Total: 2201.77sq.km.

The reserve stretches mainly across the Lakhimpur Kheri and Bahraich districts and includes three large forest fragments amidst the matrix dominated by agriculture, comprising the Dudhwa National Park, Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary and Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary. It shares the north-eastern boundary with Nepal, which is defined to a large extent by the Mohana River. The area is a vast alluvial floodplain traversed by numerous rivers and streams flowing in south-easterly direction, meant for tremendous counts of Swamp Deer and Tigers species. During winter the vast and varied water bodies attract a large variety and number of migratory birds making the reserve a favorite haunt of bird watchers.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Rhinoceros, Swamp deer, Elephant, Sambar, Hog deer, Cheetal, Kakar, Wild pig, Rhesus monkey, Langur, Sloth bear, Blue bull, Porcupine, Otter, Turtles, Python, Monitor lizard, Mugger, Gharial etc.
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Acacia catechu</i> , <i>Albizia lebbeck</i> , <i>Adina cordifolia</i> , <i>Toona ciliata</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Eucalyptus</i> Spp., Silvery Munj, Red Retwa, Narkul Spp., Cotton like Kans
Ecotourism	Apart from Forest Rest Houses and Service Centre, a visitor's centre is built at the Tiger Reserve that informs the tourists about Tharu heritage and sell local products.
Corridor	The connectivity of Dudhwa with Laljhari is crucial for movement of elephants and other wild animals from Nepal. The Kishanpur Sanctuary is linked with the Lagga-Bagga forest of Pilibhit and the Shuklaphanta Sanctuary of Nepal. The Khata corridor along the Girwa river connects Katarniaghat to Berdia and is often used by elephants, tigers and rhinos. The river channels in this landscape also serve as conduit for Gharial, Crocodile and Gangetic river Dolphin



PILIBHIT TIGER RESERVE 28.692°N 79.853°E

Designation: June 2014

Area: Core Zone area of 602.79 km² and Buffer Zone area of 127.45 km²

The Pilibhit Tiger Reserve is situated in the Pilibhit district and Shahjahanpur District of Uttar Pradesh, forming part of the Terai Arc Landscape, in the upper Gangetic Plain, along the India-Nepal border. The protected area used to be a timber yielding reserve forest, until it was declared as the 46th tiger reserve in June 2014. The habitat is characterized by Sal (*Shorea robusta*) forests, tall grasslands and swamp maintained by periodic flooding from rivers. The Sharda Sagar Dam extending up to a length of 22 km is on the boundary of the reserve. The habitat has rich faunal diversity, having 5 out of 7 deer species found in the country. Besides, there are some critically endangered species such as the Bengal florican and 13 species of mammals, 9 species of birds and 11 species of reptiles/amphibians found in the reserve are endangered and listed in the Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Bengal tiger, leopard, fishing cat, leopard cat, swamp deer, spotted deer, hog deer, barking deer, blackbuck, sambar, sloth bear, fox, short-nosed fruit bat, Indian common yellow bat, painted bat, rhesus macaque, common langur, porcupine, small Indian civet, jackal, Indian fox, hyena, rattle
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Saccharum</i> , <i>Sclerostachya</i> , <i>Imperata</i> , <i>Themeda</i> , <i>Bothriochloa</i> , <i>Vetiveria</i> , <i>Apluda</i> , <i>Dichanthium</i> , <i>Digitaria</i> and <i>Cyperus</i>
Ecotourism	The reserve management has developed a Chuka Ecotourism site on the bank of Sharda Sagar dam which is located inside the park to encouraged low impact ecotourism.
Corridors	Pilibhit tiger reserve is an important habitat for tiger owing to its connection with several tiger habitats within the State and outside. The important linkages are: - Surahi range- Terai East Division Uttarkhand - Lagga-Bagga - Shuklaphanta National Park (Nepal) - Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary – Dudhwa The corridor linkages are used by the tiger and other wild animals and require monitoring and restoration by fostering a co-occurrence agenda with local people.



AMANGARH TIGER RESERVE 29°34'00"N 78°37'00"E

Established: 2012

Area: 95 km²

Amangarh Tiger Reserve was originally part of the famed Jim Corbett National Park, and after the state of Uttarakhand was carved out of Uttar Pradesh, Jim Corbett went to Uttarakhand and Amangarh remained in Bijnor district of Uttar Pradesh. Amangarh Tiger reserve forms an extension of and buffer to Jim Corbett National Park. It was notified in 2012 as a Tiger Reserve. There was no human settlement inside this zone, hence the notification was easier. The robust Asiatic Elephant and the roaring Tiger among the wild animals are the star attractions of this area. During winter the vast and varied water bodies attract a large variety of migratory birds making the reserve a favourite haunt of bird watchers.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Elephant, Swamp deer, Sambar, Cheetal, Hog deer, Kakar, Langur, Sloth bear, Porcupine, Otter, Monitor lizard, Turtles, Python, Gangetic Dolphin, Mugger, Gharial etc. Birds include Hornbill, Red Jungle Fowl, Pea fowl, Bengal Florican, Fishing eagle, Serpent eagle, Osprey, Woodpeckers, Shama, Indian Pitta, Paradise flycatcher, Orioles, Emerald dove etc.
Plants	<i>Maduca indica.</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Cassia fistula.</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon.</i> , <i>Koraiya Spp.</i> , <i>Ber Spp.</i> , <i>Vetiveria</i> , <i>Apluda</i> , <i>Dichanthium</i> , <i>Digitaria</i> and <i>Cyperus</i>



RANIPUR TIGER RESERVE 24° 58' 4.8" N, 81° 3' 50.4" E

Established: September 2022

Area: Core: 230 sq.km, Buffer: 299.58 sq.km. Total: 529.89sq.km.

Recently, Government of Uttar Pradesh approved the notification of the state's fourth tiger reserve in the Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary (RWS) in Chitrakoot district. This will be the 53rd Tiger Reserve in India and first in the Bundelkhand region of the state. It has no tigers of its own. But pugmarks of the animals are frequently seen there as tigers from nearby Panna frequent it. The two protected areas are just 150 km from each other. It is an important corridor for the movement of tigers, according to the Status of tigers, co-predators and prey in India report by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). Camera trapping had been conducted by the forest department in RWS during the last estimation of tigers by the NTCA in 2018. The 12 tiger photo-captures showed that there were three tigers — one male and two females — in Ranipur.

A Ranipur Tiger Conservation Foundation will also be established for the protection and conservation of tigers in the region.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Blackduck, Chinkara, Sambar, Cheetal, Sloth Bear, Leopard, Wolf, Wild dog, Blue bull, Peafowl, Spur fowl, Jungle fowl, Painted Partridges, Fishing cats etc.
Plants	<i>Bamboo</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> , <i>Bombax ceiba.</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica.</i> , <i>Phoenix Spp.</i> , <i>Zizyphus Spp.</i> , <i>Bamboo Spp.</i> , <i>Shorea robusta.</i> , <i>Madhuca indica.</i> , <i>Butea monosperma</i>



Elephas maximus indicus (Indian Elephant)

UTTAR PRADESH ELEPHANT RESERVE 29.4898°N, 78.7669°E

Established: September 2009

Area: 744 sq.km.

The Elephant Reserve stretches across the Shivalik in Saharanpur and Bijnor districts. It is a management entity that includes protected areas, forest areas as well as corridors for conservation of wild elephants. The reserve aims to ensure the long-term survival of the population of elephants in their natural habitats by protecting them, their habitats and migration corridors. The Elephant Reserve also supports the research of the ecology and management of elephants, creating awareness of conservation among local people, providing improved veterinary care for captive elephants.

The robust Asiatic Elephant and the roaring Tiger among the wild animals are the star attractions of this area. During winter the vast and varied water bodies attract a large variety of migratory birds making the reserve a favourite haunt of bird watchers.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Elephant, Swamp deer, Sambar, Cheetal, Hog deer, Kakar, Langur, Sloth bear, Porcupine, Otter, Monitor lizard, Turtles, Python, Gangetic Dolphin, Mugger, Gharial etc. Birds include Hornbill, Red Jungle Fowl, Pea fowl, Bengal Florican, Fishing eagle, Serpent eagle, Osprey, Woodpeckers, Shama, Indian Pitta, Paradise flycatcher, Orioles, Emerald dove etc.
Plants	<i>Madhuca indica</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> , <i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> , <i>Vetiveria spp.</i> , <i>Apluda spp.</i> , <i>Dichanthium spp.</i> , <i>Digitaria spp.</i> and <i>Cyperus spp.</i>



Elephas maximus indicus (Indian Elephant)

TERAI ELEPHANT RESERVE 28.692°N 79.853°E

Designation: October 2022

Area: 3049 km²

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India has approved the establishment of The Terai Elephant Reserve encompassing Dudhwa Tiger Reserve and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve located in Lakhimpur Kheri and Pilibhit districts as part of 'Project Elephant'. Apart from Dudhwa and Pilibhit Tiger Reserves, the elephant reserve will include Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary, Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary, Dudhwa buffer zone and parts of South Kheri forest division. The establishment of the Terai Elephant Sanctuary is a milestone in terms of wildlife conservation, especially for Asian elephants, as it is located on the Indo-Nepal border, where cross-border movement of elephants is a routine.

The Dudhwa Tiger Reserve has attracted wild elephants through various domestic and cross-border corridors for decades, including Basanta-Dudhwa, Laljhari (Nepal)-Sathiyana and Shuklaphanta (Nepal)-Dhaka-Pilibhit-Dudhwa buffer zone corridors. The Terai Elephant Reserve will help revive or restore these corridors, which have been defunct.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Bengal tiger, leopard, fishing cat, leopard cat, swamp deer, spotted deer, hog deer, barking deer, blackbuck, sambar, sloth bear, fox, short-nosed fruit bat, Indian common yellow bat, painted bat, rhesus macaque, common langur, porcupine, small Indian civet, jackal, Indian fox, hyena, rattle
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Saccharum</i> spp., <i>Sclerostachya</i> spp., <i>Imperata</i> spp., <i>Themeda</i> spp., <i>Bothriochloa</i> spp., <i>Vetiveria</i> spp., <i>Apluda</i> spp., <i>Dichanthium</i> spp., <i>Digitaria</i> spp. and <i>Cyperus</i> spp.



Rhinoceros unicornis (Great Indian Rhinoceros)

DUDHWA NATIONAL PARK 28°30.5' N 80°40.8' E

Year of Notification: 1977

Area: 490 Km²

Dudhwa National Park, located in the Uttar Pradesh districts of Lakhimpur and Kheri and adjacent to the Indo-Nepal border, brings together two of the area's most incredible sanctuaries, Kishanpur and Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuaries, to reflect the Terai region's excellent natural forests and greenery. A vast alluvial plain runs along the tributaries of the Mohana and Suheli rivers, interspersed with numerous rivulets, lakes, and pools. The rich and fertile Indo-Gangetic plains sustain a riot of forest growth and fauna diversity. The park is a virtually unexplored paradise for nature lovers, wildlife enthusiasts, and bird watchers, with some of the best forests of 'Sal' trees in the world, among other flora.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
----------------	---------------------------------

Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
---------------------------	----------------

Animals	Tiger, Indian One-horned Rhinoceros, Swamp Deer, Asian Elephant, Hog Deer, Spotted Deer, Wild Boar, Rhesus Macaque, Grey Langur, Sloth Bear, Blue-bull, Porcupine, Sambar, Jackal, Barking Deer, Leopard Cat, Fishing Cat; Hornbill, Red Jungle-fowl, Peafowl, Black-necked Stork, White-necked Stork, Black Stork, White Stork, Bengal Florican, Crested Serpent Eagle, Osprey, Great Horned Owl, Forest Eagle Owl, Brown Fish Owl, Tawny Fish Owl, Dusky Horned Owl, Paradise Flycatcher, Shama, Indian Pitta, Emerald Dove; Python, Monitor Lizard, Mugger, Gharial
----------------	--

Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Senegalia catechu</i> , <i>Albizia lebbeck</i> , <i>Adina cordifolia</i> , <i>Toona ciliata</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Eucalyptus</i> species, Silvery Munj, Red Retwa, Narkul Spp., Cotton like Kans
---------------	---



Neophron percnopterus (Egyptian Vulture)

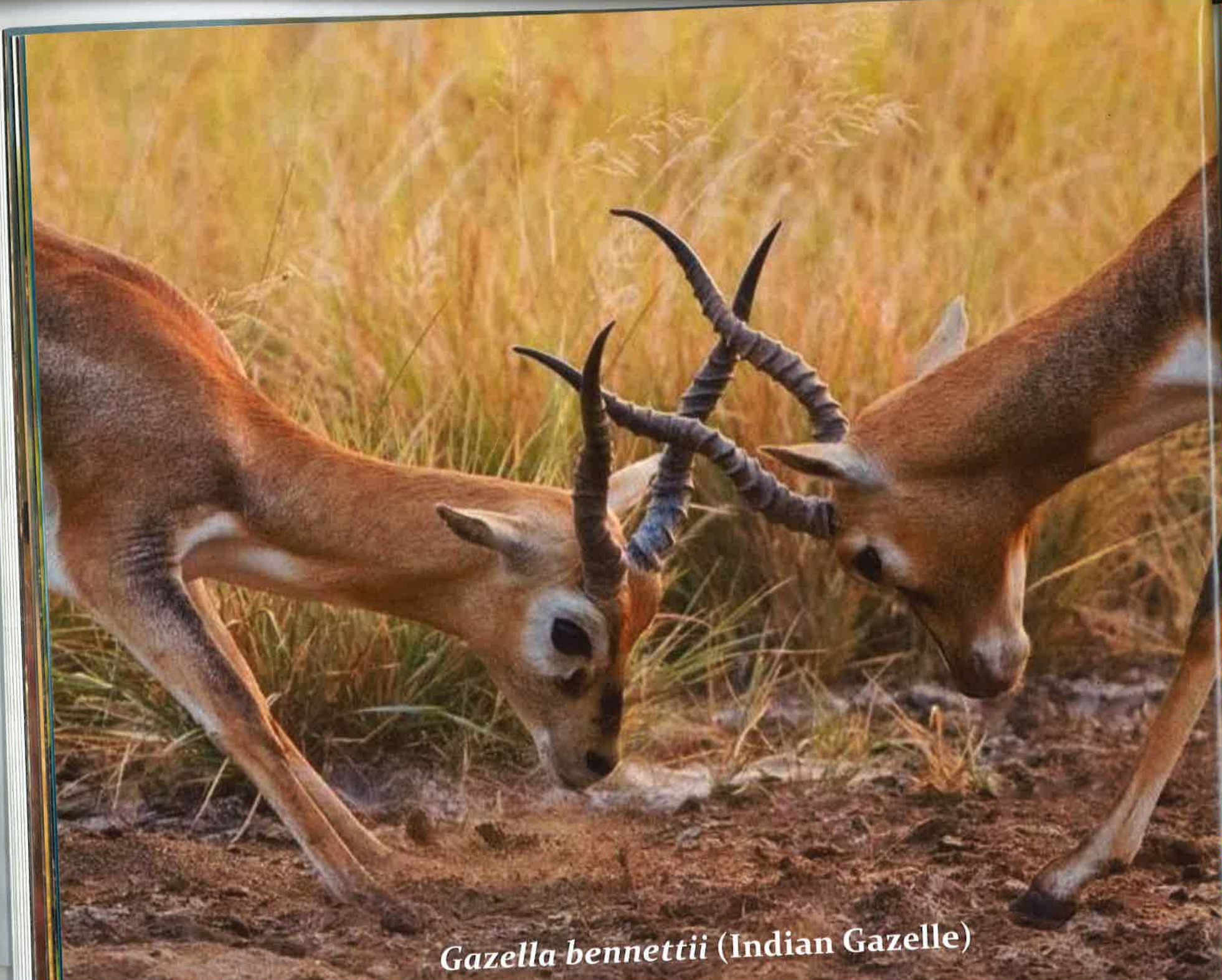
BAKHIRA BIRD SANCTUARY 25.7° N, 83.27 °E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 29 Km²

In the Sant Kabir Nagar district of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, the Bakhira Bird Sanctuary is India's largest natural flood plain wetland. The sanctuary first opened its doors in 1980. It is located 44 kilometres west of Gorakhpur. This is a significant lake in the eastern UP that serves as a wintering and staging area for migratory waterfowl as well as a breeding ground for resident birds. The sanctuary is named after the village of Bakhira, which is situated next to the lake and is one of the hundred and eight villages that surround the lake within a five-kilometer radius. The wetland provides a source of income for the villagers in the surrounding villages through fishing, agricultural activities, and fuel wood collection. The Siberian birds fly 5000 kilometers to get here during winters.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Jackal, Jungle Cat, Small Indian Mongoose; Red-crested Pochard, Pintail, Shoveller, Purple Moorhen; Bamanan, Goh, Cobra, Krait, Rat Snake, Mugger
Plants	<i>Typha angustifolia</i> , <i>Phragmites karka</i> , <i>Vallisneria crassipes</i> , <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>



Gazella bennettii (Indian Gazelle)

CHANDRAPRABHA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 25.7° N, 83.27 °E

Year of Notification: 1957

Area: 78 Km²

The Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Uttar Pradesh's eastern area. Beautiful picnic spots, thick woods, and scenic waterfalls like Rajdari and Devdari draw tourists to the area every year. The Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary is about 70 kilometres from Varanasi, the Pilgrimage Capital. Black Duck, Spotted Deer, Sambar, Bluebull, Wild Boar, Porcupine, Indian Gazelle, and other wild animals can be seen in Chandraprabha WLS. Gharial and python are two reptilian animals. The Chandraprabha Wild Life Sanctuary is part of the Kashi Wild Life Division and is located in the Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh. In 1957, a total area of 9600 hectares was earmarked as a forest area and established as the Chandraprabha Wild Life Sanctuary to combat organic and man-made pressure on wild life in the form of human encroachment and industrial expansion, combined with an increase in the population.

Habitat	Alluvial savanna forest, southern dry mixed deciduous forest, dry deciduous scrub and savanna, dry tropical riverine forest, desert thorn forest and scrub.
----------------	---

Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
---------------------------	----------------

Animals	Leopard, Striped Hyaena, Wolf, Wild Boar, Bluebull, Blackbuck, Sambar, Chinkara, Spotted Deer; Red Junglefowl, Peafowl, Black-necked Stork, White-necked Stork, Black Stork, White Stork, Fishing Eagle, Bengal Florican, Crested Serpent Eagle, Osprey, Great Horned Owl, Forest Eagle Owl, Brown Fish Owl, Tawny Fish Owl; Indian Rock Python, Gharial
----------------	--

Plants	<i>Madhuca indica</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> , <i>Koraiya</i> Spp., <i>Zizyphus</i> Spp.
---------------	---



Anser anser (Greylag goose)

Dr. BHIMRAO AMBEDKAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

25° 44' 40.272" N, 81° 31' 14.988" E

Year of Notification: 2003

Area: 4.27 Km²

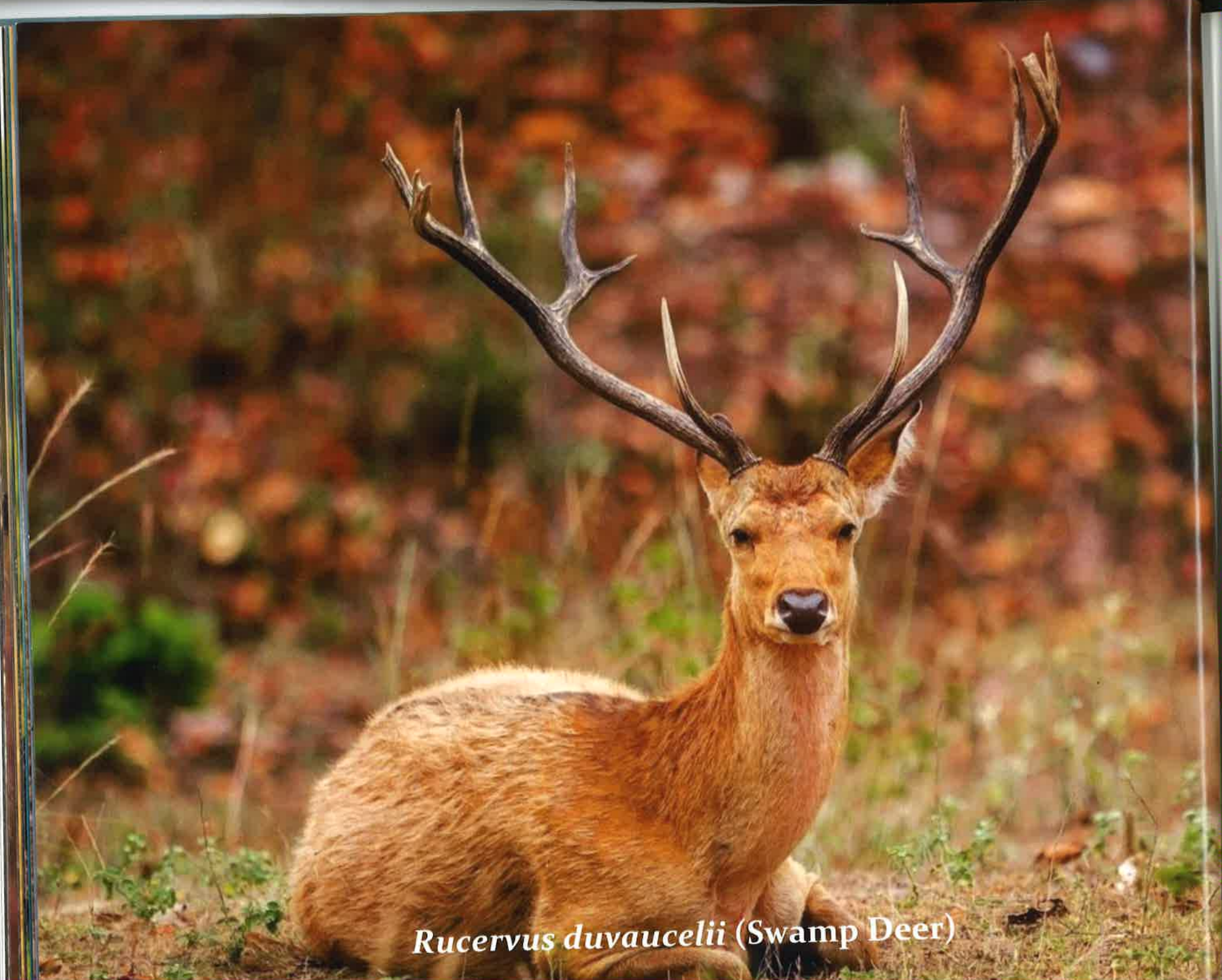
The Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Wildlife Sanctuary, also known as Benti Lake, is located in the Pratapgarh District's Kunda region. The River Ganga, to the south of Kunda, is a kind of gene bank that reflects aquatic vegetation and animal life. The area is home to a wide variety of mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians, and invertebrates. Similarly, the sanctuary contains a diverse range of aquatic and soil-based plants. The Kumari Mayawati government declared the lake, which covers more than 1,000 acres (400 ha), as a bird sanctuary in 2003. Benti's assessment is approximately 110 metres (360 feet) above sea level. It is located on the Ganges River's east bank, with Bihar to the east, Kara tehsil to the west, and Babaganj to the north. Pratapgarh, the district headquarters, is 54 kilometres to the west, while Lucknow, the state capital, is 160 kilometres away.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
----------------	-------------------------------

Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
---------------------------	----------------

Animals	Jungle Cat, Wolf, Fox, Jackal, Bluebull; Rosy Pelican, Sarus Crane, Open-billed Stork, Painted Stork, White-necked Stork, Graylag Goose, Pintail, Common Teal, Garganey Teal, Red-crested Pochard, Common Pochard, Wigeon, Gadwall, Shoveller, Scaup Duck, Coot, Great Crested Grebe, Marsh Sandpiper, White Stork; Python, Cobra, Krait
----------------	--

Plants	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Phoenix</i> Spp., <i>Zizyphus</i> spp., Bamboo Spp, <i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Madhuca</i> Spp. and <i>Butea monosperma</i>
---------------	--



Rucervus duvaucelii (Swamp Deer)

HASTINAPUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 29°10'N 78°06'E

Year of Notification: 1986

Area: 2073 Km²

The Hastinapur Wild Life Sanctuary is located along the northern bank of the River Ganga, which flows through Muzzafarnagar and Bijnore districts. The sanctuary stretches all the way to Hapur and Amroha districts. The Khaadar, Khola, and Bangar regions are also included in the sanctuary's total territory. The inhabitation of the "Baara Singha" is well known along the old Ganga highway, which is now just a swampy region. The now-defunct Ganga route / region is also known as the "Boodhi Ganga" region [Old Lady Ganga Region]. The Khola Region of the sanctuary is heavily forested, while the Khaadar Region is largely grassland with a sprinkling of forests. The state animal, the Swamp Deer, as well as Hog Deer, Spotted Deer, and Sambar, can be found in the area. The sanctuary is also home to the state bird, the Saras [Crane].

Habitat	Dry mixed deciduous forest and scrub, dry tropical (Khair-Sissoo) riverine forest, dry grassland
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Jungle Cat, Wolf, Wild Boar, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Bluebull, Leopard, Striped Hyaena,; Short-toed Snake Eagle, Egyptian Vulture White-eyed Buzzard, Black-shouldered Kite, Black Kite, Shikra, Western Marsh Harrier, Spotted Owlet, Indian Grey Hornbill, Painted Stork, Open-billed Stork, White-necked Stork, Black, Ibis, Indian Peafowl, Sarus Crane, Demoiselle Crane, Eurasian Spoonbill, Purple Heron, Pond Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Cattle Egret, Large Egret, Median Egret, Little Egret, Dabchick, Bar-headed Goose, Lesser Whistling Duck, Comb Duck, Cotton Teal, Gadwall, Mallard, Spotbill, Shoveller, Ruddy Shelduck, Pintail, Garganey, Common Pochard, Grey Francolin, Purple Moorhen, Green Bee-eater, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Coppersmith, Hoopoe, Rufous-backed Shrike, Red-vented Bulbul, Small Pratincole; Gharial
Plants	Babool, Euphorbias, <i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Phoenix</i> spp., <i>Zizyphus</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>



Alcedo atthis (Common Kingfisher)

JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN (SURHATAL) WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

27030'1" N 82048'33" E

Year of Notification: 1991

Area: 34.32 Km²

The Jai Prakash Narayan (Surhatal) Bird Wildlife Sanctuary is a natural rain-fed lake north of Ballia town, near the village of Rajpur in Ballia district. Surha Taal is surrounded on all sides by farmland. Inside and along the lake's margins, *Eichhornia crassipes* is the most common herb. This wetland, which is home to a number of migratory and resident bird species, has been identified as a high priority wetland of Level V, which refers to wetlands with high ecological and socioeconomic potential but restricted data availability, in a prioritization of biological conservation sites in Indian wetlands.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Bluebull, Jackal, Indian Hare; Ratel, Fishing Cat, Grey Mongoose, Bengal Fox, Porcupine; Sarus Crane, Yellow-legged Green Pigeon, Jungle Myna, Common Myna, Bank Myna, Jungle Myna, Red-Crested Pochard, Open-billed Stork, Woolly-Necked Stork, Crowned River Turtle, Three-Striped Roofed Turtle, Indian Eyed Turtle, Red-crowned Roofed Turtle, Brown Roofed Turtle, Indian Roofed Turtle; Pangshura Tentoria Tentoria, Indian Tent Turtle; Pangshura Tentoria Circumdata, Indian Tent Turtle, Spotted Pond Turtle, Three-Keeled Land Tortoise, Indian Black Turtle, Southern Indian Flapshell Turtle, Indian Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle, Indian Softshell Turtle, Peafowl Soft-Shelled Turtle; Rock Python, Cobra, Bengal Monitor
Plants	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Phoenix species</i> , <i>Zizyphus species</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Bamboo</i> , <i>Madhuca indica</i> , <i>Butamrosperma</i> , <i>Acacia catechu</i>



Nilssonia gangetica (Indian Soft-shell turtle)

KACHHUA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 25° 16' 25.57" N 82° 11' 41.33"E

Year of Notification: 2020

Area: 30 Km stretch on both sides of Ganga River

Kachhua Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in Uttar Pradesh's Bhadoi district. Turtles, Ganges dolphins, and other aquatic creatures can all be found here. The Turtle Sanctuary has its own significance in terms of water purification. *Nilssonina gangetica*, *Lissemys punctata*, *Chitra indica* (soft-shelled turtles) and hard-shelled herbivorous turtles - *Geoclemys hamiltonii*, *Pangshura tentoria*, *Batagur dhongoka* - are abundant in the Kachhua Wildlife Sanctuary. Fish such as rohu, bhakur, tengra, prawn, nain, and bam can also be found in the sanctuary. Gangetic dolphins can also be seen in this area, especially during the rainy season. Turtles and other aquatic species are conserved/ protected in this sanctuary, and attempts are being made to increase their population. Under the 1972 Act, fishing and any attempt to tamper with the habitat of the animals contained in the sanctuary have been declared criminal offences in this stretch of the Ganges.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Gangetic Dolphin, Wild Boar, Bluebull, Fox; Jungle Myna, Common Myna, Bank Myna, Jungle Myna, Red-crested Pochard, Open-Billed Stork, Woolly-necked Stork, Grey Heron; Indian Softshell Turtle, Indian Flapshell Turtle, Indian Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle, Spotted Pond Turtle, Indian Tent Turtle and Three Striped Indian Roof Turtle
Plants	<i>Ziziphus Spp.</i> , Bija, <i>Terminalia Spp.</i> , Salaia, <i>Cassia auriculata</i> , <i>Helicteres Spp.</i> , Tendu, Hiwar, <i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Shorea robusta</i> , Dhawda, <i>Acacia catechu</i> , <i>Tectona grandia</i> , Bamboo



Manis crassicaudata (Indian Pangolin)

KAIMUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 25.1337° N, 82.5644° E

Year of Notification: 1982

Area: 501 Km²

The Kaimur Wild Life Sanctuary is divided into two districts: Mirzapur and Sonebhadra. Mirzapur is the divisional headquarters. The famous Kaimur hills range is home to this Sanctuary. There are many waterfalls in the Sanctuary's valleys, the best of which are Karkat Waterfall and Telhar. This sanctuary is known for its ancient cave paintings and the world's oldest Fossil Park. It is home to over 70 different species of resident birds that remain here all year. The number of birds rises during the migratory season, which is in the winter when there is a significant influx of birds from Central Asia.

Habitat Mixed dry deciduous forest

Biogeographic zone Gangetic Plain

Animals Blackbuck, Chinkara, Four-Horned Antelope, Bluebull, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Sloth Bear, Leopard; Python, Mugger, Indian Monkey, Baboons (Langoor), Rabbits, Porcupine, Wild Dogs, Jungle Cat, Snake, Tiger, Leopard, Wolf, Mongoose, Bear, Jackal, Peafowl, Ratal. Black Buck Grey Quail, Doves, Francolin, Black Partridge, Coloured Francolin, Red Spur, Pigeon, Blue Pigeon, Fowl, Sand Ground

Plants *Shorea robusta*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Tectona grandis*, *Madhuca species*, *Eugenia jambolana*, Siddha, Salai, Koraiya, Jheengar, This area also has thick vegetation of Mahua, Dhau, Khair, Bamboo, and Palash



Platanista gangetica (Gangetic Dolphin)

KATARNIAGHAT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 28°00' N, 81°12' E

Year of Notification: 1976

Area: 400.6 Km²

The Katarniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Uttar Pradesh, India, in the Upper Gangetic plain of the Terai district of Bahraich. The Katarniaghat Forest serves as a vital link between the Indian and Nepalese tiger habitats of Dudhwa and Kishanpur. The sanctuary is home to a diverse ecosystem of Sal and Teak woodland, green grasslands, swamps, and wetlands. Gharial, tiger, rhino, Gangetic dolphin, Swamp deer, Hispid hare, Bengal florican, White-backed and Long-billed vultures are among the endangered species found there. Dudhwa Tiger Reserve Lakhimpur kheri contains Katarniaghat Wild Life Sanctuary. The Sanctuary's forest has a unique complex of sal trees, tall grasslands, and the riparian ecosystem of the Girwa and Kaudiyala streams of the Ghaghra river. The Sanctuary is very rich in biodiversity, with a mosaic of diverse ecosystems and a variety of endangered mammal, plant, and avifauna species.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Leopard, Gangetic Dolphin, Swamp Deer, Hispid Hare; White-backed Vulture, Long-billed Vulture, Peafowl, Black Partridge, House Sparrow, Indian Roller, Comb Duck; Mugger, Banded Krait, Burmese Rock Python, Yellow- speckled Wolf-snake, Paradise Flying Snake
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Ficus religiosa</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Mangifera indica</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Acacia nilotica</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i>



Panthera tigris (Bengal Tiger)

KISHANPUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 28°24'01"N, 80°22'01" E

Year of Notification: 1972

Area: 227 Km²

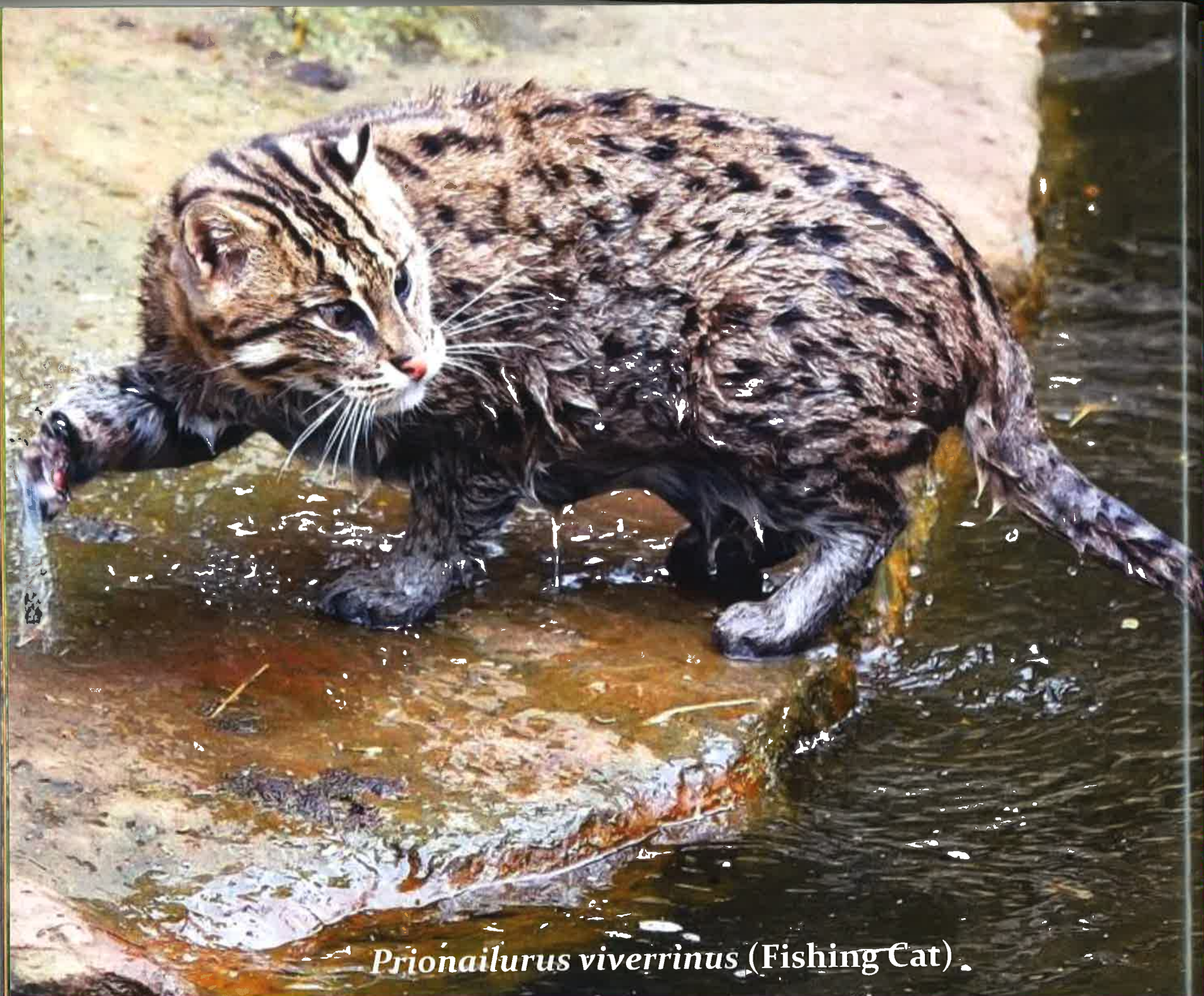
The Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary is situated near Mailani, Uttar Pradesh, and is part of the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve. Kishanpur Wild Life Sanctuary is 13 km from Bhira town in Lakhimpur Kheri District, and is a four-and-a-half-hour drive from Lucknow. It was established in 1972 and covers a compact area of 227 square kilometres of terai forest and meadows. Tigers, Leopards, Pythons, Barking Deer, Ghariyal, Wild Boar, and Swamp Deers all live there. Lies along the Sharada's banks. There is agricultural land between the forests of Dudhwa National Park and Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary. The vegetation of Kishanpur is similar to that of Dudhwa, with thick riparian forests and moist deciduous trees such as sal, teak, and jamun. The Terai's rich lands are home to a diverse range of mammals, but none are as well-known as the Terai's various species of deer. Deer, who are often confused with antelope, have distinguishing characteristics that set them apart from this other species of even-toed ungulate (hoofed animals).

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
----------------	---------------------------------

Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
---------------------------	----------------

Animals	Tiger, Leopard, Swamp Deer, Hog Deer, Barking Deer; Bengal Florican, Red-crested Pochard, Mallard, Dabchick, Common Pochard, Pintail, Shoveller, River Tern, White-eyed Pochard, Spoonbill, Darter, Black-necked Stork; Python
----------------	--

Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Ficus religiosa</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Mangifera indica</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Acacia nilotica</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i>
---------------	---



Prionailurus viverrinus (Fishing Cat).

LAKH BAHOSI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 26°54'47.50" N, 79°39'19.20" E

Year of Notification: 1988

Area: 80 Km²

The Lakh Bahosi Bird Sanctuary was established in 1988 with the goal of protecting and conserving the wetland, especially local and migratory birds, as well as their natural habitat, which includes aquatic plants and animals. The Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India, has described this wetland as part of the National Wetland Conservation Program. The Lakh Bahosi Bird Sanctuary is divided into two main lakes, Lakh and Bahosi, each named after a village. Every year, between November and March, approximately 50 thousand water fowls visit this sanctuary. For certain species, this wetlands acts as a breeding ground as well as a nesting site. As a result, for many years, this sanctuary has been a popular tourist and bird-watching destination. The Lakh Bahosi Sanctuary is a bird sanctuary spread over two Jheels (shallow lakes) between the villages of Lakh and Bahosi in Kannauj district, which are 4 km apart. Kannauj is about 40 kilometres away. Primarily a bird sanctuary with a diverse avifauna, the sanctuary includes species from 49 of the 97 genera that inhabit India.

Habitat Tropical dry deciduous forest

Biogeographic zone Gangetic Plain

Animals Jackal, Blue-bull, Fishing Cat; Open-billed Stork, White-breasted Kingfisher, White Ibis, Sarus Crane; Cobra, Krait, Rat Snake, Mugger, Common mongoose, Jackal, Ground Shrew, Fruit Bats, Squirrels, Indian Hat, Blue Bull

Plants *Cassia fistula*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Ficus species*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Mangifera indica*, *Eugenia jambolana*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Tamarindus indica*



Rusa unicolor (Sambar Deer)

MAHAVIR SWAMI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 24.687860 N, 78.412018 E

Year of Notification: 1977

Area: 5.4 Km²

Mahavir Swami Sanctuary is one of Uttar Pradesh's many wildlife sanctuaries. Jhansi is 125 kilometres away. The sanctuary covers 5.4 square kilometres. Jhansi is a wonderful gateway to the Bundelkhand region, and the legendary Rani Laxmi Bai has made it famous. Leopard, Blue-bull, Wild Boar, Sambar, black buck, Bluebull, deer, jackals, langur, and monkeys are among the residents, in addition to a number of birds. This is a thick and majestic forest of Saijan, Goonj, Stick, and other plants. The Mahaveer Swami Wild Life Sanctuary is situated in Devgar, 33 kilometres from the district headquarters in Lalitpur and the divisional headquarters in Mirzapur.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Leopard, Blue-bull, Wild Boar, Sambar, Blackbuck, Jackal, Grey Langur; Red-crested Pochard, Gadwall, Shoveller, Coot, Mallard, Sarus Crane, Painted Stork, Peafowl, White Ibis, Dabchick, Open-billed Stork, White-necked Stork, Pheasant-tailed Jacana; Cobra, Krait, Rat Snake, Magar, Gharial, Python,
Plants	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> , Goonj, Bamboo, <i>Madhuca indica</i> , <i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Mangifera indica</i>



Gavialis gangeticus (Gharial)

NATIONAL CHAMBAL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 26°46'06" N, 78°38'40" E

Year of Notification: 1979

Area: 6.35 Km²

The National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary, also known as the National Chambal Sanctuary, is a 5,400-square-kilometer tri-state protected area in northern India that is home to critically endangered gharial, red-crowned roof turtles, and endangered Gangetic river dolphins. Near the tri-point of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh, on the Chambal River, it was designated as a protected area in Madhya Pradesh in 1978, and it now serves as a long, narrow eco-reserve shared by the three states. The pristine Chambal River runs through the sanctuary, cutting through mazes of ravines and hills with many sandy beaches along its banks. Chambal is a land known for its rugged terrains and breathtaking beauty. At the Chambal National Sanctuary, you can now discover the many secrets of the fabled land.

Habitat Dry deciduous forest

Biogeographic zone Gangetic Plain

Animals Rhesus Macaque, Grey Langur, Jackal, Bengal Fox, Palm Civet, Small Indian Mongoose, Grey Mongoose, Jungle Cat, Wild Boar, Sambar, Bluebull, Blackbuck, Chinkara, Five-striped Palm Squirrel, Porcupine, Indian Hare, Flying Fox; Indian Skimmer, Sarus Crane, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Indian Courser, Pallid Harrier, Lesser Flamingo, Black-bellied Tern, Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Pochard, Bar-headed Goose, Great Thick-knee, Greater Flamingo, Darter, Brown Hawk Owl, Gharial, Indian Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle, Three-striped Roof Turtle, Mugger, Red-crowned Roof Turtle, Indian Flapshell Turtle, Softshell Turtle, Indian Roofed Turtle, Indian Tent Turtle, Monitor Lizard

Plants *Acacia catechu*, *Butea monosperma*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Zizyphus* species



Grus antigone (Crane/ Saras)

NAWABGANJ BIRD SANCTUARY 26°37' 09" N, 80°39'11" E

Year of Notification: 1984

Area: 2.25 Km²

Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary, renamed Shahid Chandra Shekhar Azad Bird Sanctuary in 2015, is a bird sanctuary consisting of a lake and the surrounding ecosystem situated in Unnao district on the Kanpur-Lucknow highway in Uttar Pradesh. With over 25,000 waterbirds recorded, including both resident and migratory species, it is a birder's paradise. Globally endangered species including the Egyptian vulture and Pallas's fish eagle, as well as the vulnerable lesser adjutant and woolly-necked stork, are among them. A deer park, watchtowers, and vessels are also situated within the sanctuary. The Sanctuary promotes local biodiversity as well as leisure and tourism. Efforts have been made to increase the total diversity of biodiversity through conservation and afforestation. The Sanctuary is jointly managed by state forest officers and the Office of the Conservator of Forests (Wildlife).

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Spotted Deer, Barking Deer; Greylag Goose, Pintail, Cotton Teal, Red-crested Pochard, Gadwall, Shoveller, Coot, Mallard, Sarus Crane, Painted Stork, Peafowl, White Ibis, Dabchick, Open-billed Stork, White-necked Stork, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Bronze-winged Jacana; Cobra, Krait, Rat Snake
Plants	<i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Madhuca indica</i> , Salai, Chironji and <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i>



Phoenicopeterus roseus (Greater Flamingo)

OKHLA BIRD SANCTUARY 28.565° N, 77.303° E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 04 Km²

The Okhla Bird Sanctuary (OBS) is situated in the National Capital Area of Delhi (NCR), on the river Yamuna and the Okhla Barrage at the entrance of Noida in the Gautam Budha Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh, and on the eastern and western borders of Noida and the National Capital Territory of Delhi. It's one of India's 466 IBAs (Important Bird Areas). Thousands of migratory birds, including Shoveller Duck, Northern Pintail, Common Teal, Gadwall Duck, and Blue Winged Teal, visit the Okhla Bird Sanctuary from October to March. It's the perfect location for bird watchers and nature lovers. The Okhla Bird Sanctuary is located near the entrance of Noida, in the Gautam Budh Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh, where the Yamuna River enters the state of Uttar Pradesh after leaving Delhi's territory.

Habitat	Thorny scrub, grassland
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Bluebull, Black-naped Hare, Jackal; more than 320 bird species, Shoveller Duck, Northern Pintail, Common Teal, Gadwall Duck, and Blue Winged Teal
Plants	<i>Ficus Spp.</i> , Babool, Sheesham, Semal, Subabool, Keekar, <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> , <i>Vallisnaria spiralis</i> , <i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i> , <i>Potamogeton crispus</i>



Netta rufina (Crested Pochard)

PARVATI ARANGA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 27° 8' 2.4" N, 81° 57' 42.84" E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 10.84 Km²

On the Mankapur Nawab Ganj road, Parvati Aranga Sanctuary is located in Gonda District, 22 kilometres from Ajodhya in District Faizabad and 45 kilometres from Gonda area. The Sanctuary is divided into two lakes, Parwati and Arga, which are about 1.5 kilometres apart. Throughout the year, the lake supports resident birds, as well as migratory birds throughout the winter. They are rain-fed lakes located in a deep natural depression in the Terai region's Gangetic plains. The sanctuary is administered by the Sohelwa Wildlife Division, which has its headquarters in Balrampur. The sanctuary's key appeal is the variety of various species of birds. In the Parwati Aranga wetland, at least 153 species of avifauna belonging to 33 families have been recorded.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Wild Boar, Bluebull; Sarus Crane, Pintail, Bar-headed goose, Dabchick, Wigeon, Mallard, Red-crested Pochard, Tufted Duck, Comb Duck, Ruddy Shelduck, Cotton Teal, Little Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Common Moorhen, Cattle Egret, Intermediate Egret, Open-billed Stork, Purple Moorhen; Indian Python, Monitor Lizard
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Ficus religiosa</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Mangifera indica</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Acacia nilotica</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i>



Pavo cristatus (Indian Peacock)

PATNA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 27°31'5" N, 78°16'50" E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 1.09 Km²

Patna Vihar Bird Sanctuary is a protected sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh's Etah district's Jalesar sub division. With a wetland area of just 1 square kilometer, it is Uttar Pradesh's tiniest bird sanctuary. The sanctuary is home to nearly 200,000 birds representing 300 different species. Pied mynas, herons, cormorants, and a number of ducks and geese visit the sanctuary. The best time to visit Patna Sanctuary is during the winter months, as most of the birds leave in March.

More than 106 species of migratory and resident birds have been recorded as using Lake as a resting place. Over the summer, the whole lake region is surrounded by a dense growth of water hyacinth and *Potamogeton* sp. macrophytic vegetation. The water hyacinth is a common invasive species of aquatic ecosystems in India. Lesser Whistling-Duck, Graylag Goose, Comb Duck, Ruddy Shelduck, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, Indian Spot-billed Duck, Northern Shoveler, and Northern Pintail are some of the lake's most common aquatic birds.

Habitat	Profuse growth of Water Hyacinth and <i>Potamogeton</i> sp.
Biographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Wild Boar, Bluebull; Indian Peafowl, Common Quail, Black Francolin, Grey Francolin, Dabchick, Open-billed Stork, Woolly-necked Stork, Black-necked Stork, Little Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Purple Heron, Cattle Egret, Pond Heron, White Ibis; Indian Python
Plants	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> , <i>Potamogeton</i> species



Panthera tigris (Bengal Tiger)

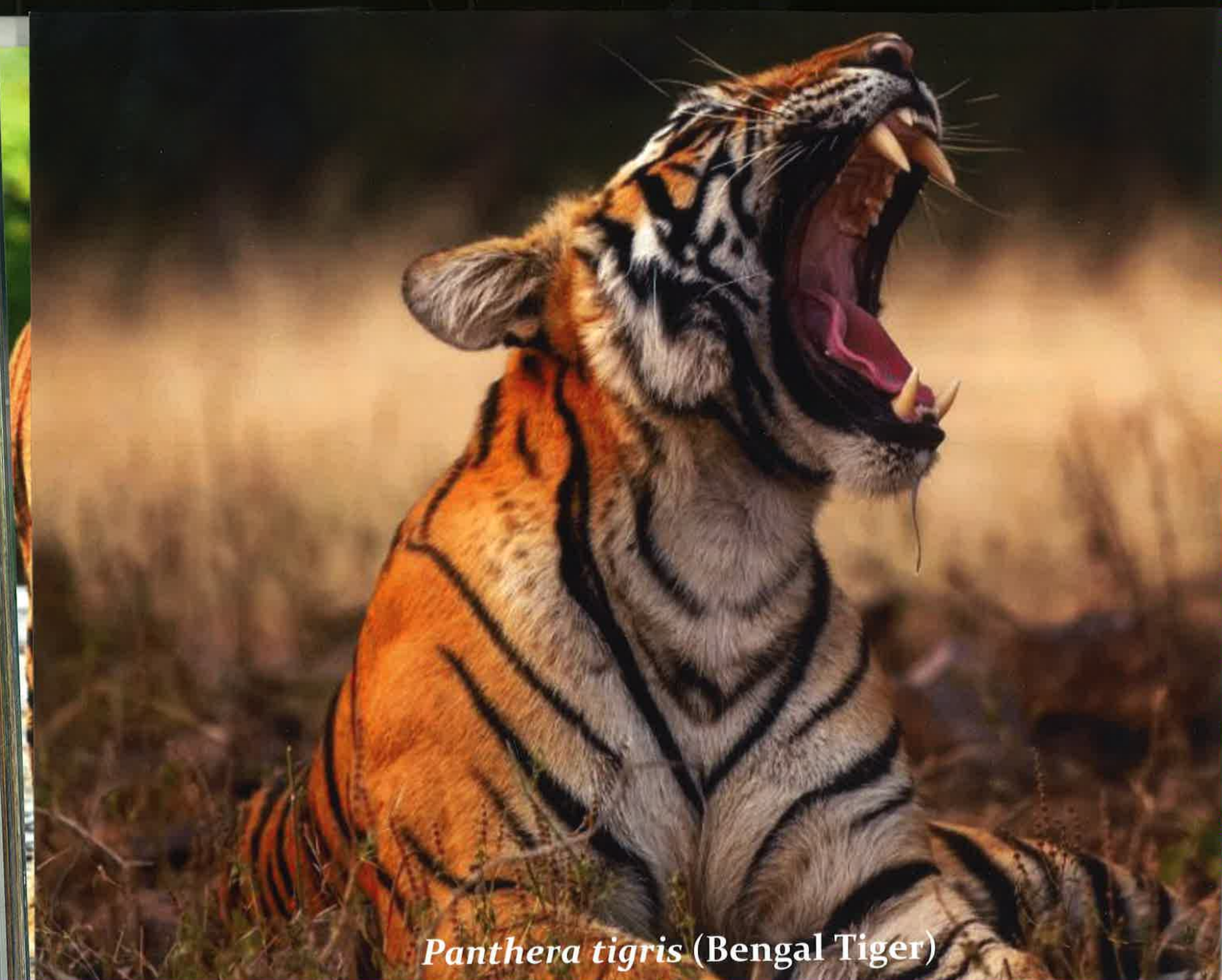
PILIBHIT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 28.692° N, 79.853° E

Year of Notification: 2014

Area: 602.80 Km²

The Pilibhit Wildlife Sanctuary is in Uttar Pradesh's Pilibhit district, Lakhimpur Kheri district, and Bahraich district. The Pilibhit Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the best indicators of the Terai ecosystems' intense diversity and productivity. It's a patchwork of high sal trees, plantations, and grasslands, with a few water bodies thrown in for good measure. The endangered tiger, swamp deer, Bengal florican, hog deer, leopard, and other wild animals call the jungles home. Spotted Deer, sambar, Wild Boar, hog deer, swamp deer, Bluebull, and other large carnivores are provided by a large prey base that includes Spotted Deer, sambar, Wild Boar, hog deer, swamp deer, Bluebull, and other animals. The bird life is plentiful and varied, with hundreds of species visible all over. The Chuka Interpretation Zones, with their nature interpretation centre, cottages, and location on the edge of a large body of water, are quite unique and popular among visitors.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Swamp Deer, Bengal Florican, Hog Deer, Leopard, Spotted Deer, Sambar, Wild Boar, Hog Deer, Swamp Deer, Bluebull; Woolly-necked Stork, Black-necked Stork, Little Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Purple Heron, Cattle Egret, Pond Heron, White Ibis; Indian Python
Plants	Bamboo, <i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Saccharum spp.</i> , <i>Sclerostachya spp.</i> , <i>Imperata Spp.</i> , <i>Themeda Spp.</i> , <i>Bothriochloa Spp.</i> , <i>Vetiveria Spp.</i> , <i>Apluda Spp.</i> , <i>Dichanthium Spp.</i> , <i>Digitaria Spp.</i> and <i>Cyperus Spp.</i>



Panthera tigris (Bengal Tiger)

RANIPUR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 25°12'49" N, 80°54'55" E

Year of Notification: 1977

Area: 230.31 Km²

The Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Chitrakoot Divisional Headquarters at Mirzapur, and it is well connected by road and rail. The nearest railway station is Manikpur, which is on the Bombay Hawrah train line. We can see Black Duck, Chinkara, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Bear, Leopard, Wolf, Wild Dog, and Bluebull in the Sanctuary Area. Bamboo, Palas, Khair, Mahua, Dhau, Salai, Tendu, and other plants can be found in the region. The Vindhyan Range is home to the Ranipur Wildlife Sanctuary. Summer temperatures range from 27°C to 48°C. Winter temperatures range from 6°C to 26°C. During the monsoon season, rainfall is quite frequent here.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear, Sambar, Blackbuck, Fishing Cat, Chinkara; Peafowl, Painted Partridge, Woolly-necked Stork, Black-necked Stork, Little Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Purple Heron, Cattle Egret, Pond Heron, Black-headed Ibis; Indian Python
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Ficus</i> spp., <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Ficus religiosa</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Mangifera indica</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Acacia nilotica</i> , <i>Tamarindus indica</i>



Accipiter nisus (Sparrow Hawk)

SAMAN BIRD SANCTUARY 27°10' N, 79°00' E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 5.26 Km²

The Saman Bird Sanctuary is a seasonal oxbow lake on the Ganges flood plain in Uttar Pradesh's Mainpuri district. The arrival of the south-westerly monsoon in July and August, which provides the vast majority of annual rainfall, is extremely significant. Over 50,000 waterbirds are regularly housed at the Sanctuary, which is particularly valuable as a wintering site for many migrants, including the greylag goose (*Anser anser*), which accounts for over 1% of the South Asian population. The Sarus crane (*Grus antigone*) and the greater spotted eagle are two other birds (*Aquila clanga*). Fresh water for agriculture, as well as leisure and nature-related tourism based on the vast diversity of birds, are among the ecosystem services offered. Threats include settlement encroachment and salinization.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
----------------	-------------------------------

Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
---------------------------	----------------

Animals	Jackal, Indian Hare; Large Cormorant, Purple Heron, Cattle Egret, Pond Heron, White Ibis, Sarus Cranes, Black Necked Stork, Egyptian Vulture, Sparrow Hawk, Black Shouldered Kite, Crested Serpent Eagle and Black Kite. Some Small species of birds are also residing in nearby areas of the Sanctuary like Magpie Robin, Rufous Fronted Prinia, Little Green Bee-eater, Tailor Bird and Ashy Prinia. Indian Grey Hornbill, Lineated Barbet, Yellow Footed Green Pigeon and Asian Openbill
----------------	---

Plants	<i>Shorea robusta.</i> , <i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Tectona grandia</i> , <i>Madhuca indica.</i> , <i>Salai Spp.</i> , <i>Chironji Spp.</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon.</i>
---------------	---



Tadorna ferruginea (Ruddy Shelduck)

SAMASPUR BIRD SANCTUARY 26.2145° N, 81.2528° E

Year of Notification: 1987

Area: 7.99 Km²

The Samaspur bird sanctuary, which is situated in the Samaspur area near Salon town in Uttar Pradesh's Rai Bareilly district, is restricted for the protection of bird species, including migratory birds. There are over 250 different bird species that call this place home. Over the summer, a number of migratory birds can be seen in this sanctuary. Though the general climate of this region is still hot and harsh, birds find some relief in this area as compared to other hot areas. This sanctuary is one of the best and most popular birding destinations, with a fleet of over 250 species. The sanctuary is home to vultures, kingfishers, Spot Bill Teal common, and Teal Whistling, among others. Surkhab, a native and domestic bird, is also found in large numbers in this sanctuary. Aside from birds, the lake at Samaspur is home to over 11 different fish species.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Bluebull, Jackal, Indian Hare, Wild Boar, Sambar; Greylag Goose, Pintail, Common Teal, Wigeon, Shoveller, Ruddy Shelduck, Comb Duck, Lesser Whistling Duck, Spotbill, Spoonbill; Indian Python, Cobra, Krait
Plants	<i>Mangifera indica.</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Madhuca indica</i> , <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> , Sarpat Spp., <i>Butea monosperma</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Salai Spp.</i> , <i>Chironji Spp.</i> , <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i>



Dedrocygna javanica (Lesser Whistling Duck)

SANDI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 27°18'05" N, 79°58'13" E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 3.09 Km²

Sandi Wildlife Sanctuary has been developed on the Sandi wetlands. It covers 309 hectares and is located on the Hardoi-Sandi route, about 20 kilometres from Hardoi Tower. In general use, it is referred to as “Deher Jheel.” The ‘Garra’ river (formerly known as the ‘Garunganga’ river) flows near to the Sandi Bird Sanctuary. Migratory birds are said to pause for a while in this river before their final arrival at the sanctuary. The Sanctuary’s mission is to preserve and restore the wetland, with a focus on local and migratory birds, as well as their natural environment, which includes aquatic plants and animals. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, has identified this wetland as part of the National Wetland Conservation Program.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Fox, Jackal, Bluebull, Porcupine; Common Teal, Wigeon, Shoveller, Ruddy Shelduck, Comb Duck, Lesser Whistling Duck, Spotbill, Spoonbill, Egyptian Vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>), Vulnerable Sarus Crane (<i>Grus antigone</i>)
Plants	<i>Acacia nilotica</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Madhuca indica</i> , <i>Phoenix</i> species



Ficedula parva (Red Breasted Fly-Catcher)

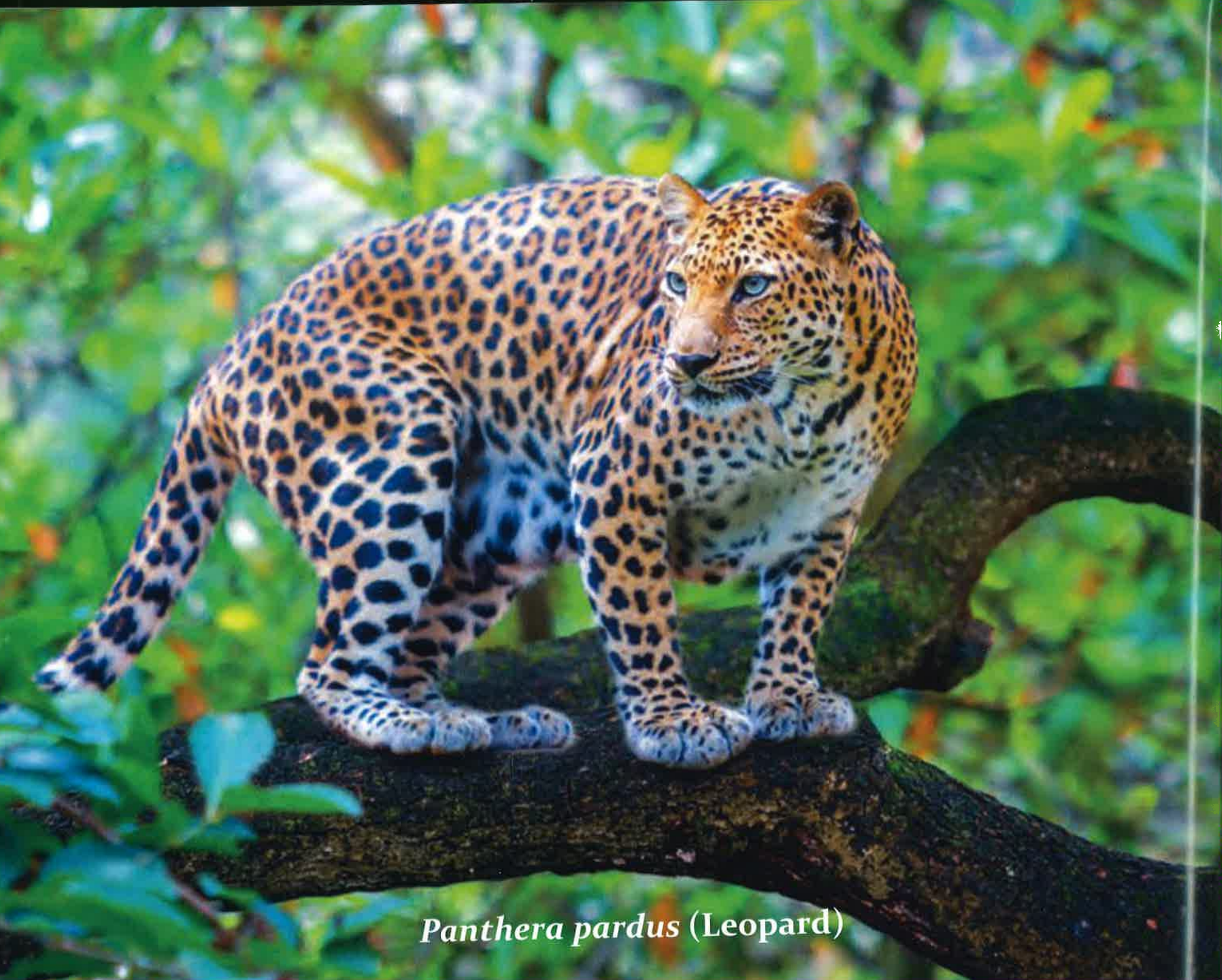
SHEKHA BIRD SANCTUARY 27°51'21"N 78°13'06"E

Year of Notification: 2016

Area: 0.40 Km²

Shekha Bird Sanctuary is a bird sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh, India, situated near the village of Shekha, 17 kilometres east of Aligarh and 5 kilometers from the Grand Trunk Road (GT Road). Many birds overwinter there, making it a popular spot for bird watching. It is a freshwater perennial water body that arose in 1852 as a result of the construction of the Upper Ganges Canal, which runs alongside the lake. The lake is split in two by the Upper Ganga Canal. Rainfall is moderate in the city, with a maximum of 644 mm. The lake and its environs sustain a number of ecosystems, including wetland, grassland, forests, and others. During the winter months, the wetland offers an ideal habitat for waterfowl and other water birds. This is a lovely freshwater wetland that is a haven for both local and migratory birds, as well as bird watchers and nature enthusiasts.

Habitat	Tropical moist deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Bluebull, Blackbuck, Five Stripped Squirrel, Indian Mongoose, Black-napped Hare, Macaque And Jackal; Great Crested Grebe, Painted Stork, Purple Heron, Black-necked Stork, White Ibis, Spoonbill, Greylag Goose, Bar-headed Goose, Lesser Whistling Teal, Ruddy Shelduck, Northern Pintail Common Teal, Indian Spot-billed Duck, Sarus Crane, Asian Openbill Stork And Red-Breasted Flycatcher
Plants	Bamboo, <i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>



Panthera pardus (Leopard)

SOHAGI BARWA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 27° 58' to 27° 25' N and 83° 23' to 84°10' E

Year of Notification: 1987

Area: 428.20 Km²

In 1987, the Old Gorakhpur Forest Division was carved out of the Maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh to create the Sohagibarwa Wild Life Sanctuary. The sanctuary is located on the state's frontier, with the bilateral Indo-Nepal border to the north and the interstate U.P.- Bihar border to the east. Sohagi Barwa Wildlife Sanctuary is home to tigers, leopards, cheetahs, bears, wild cats, Wild Boars, and pythons, among other animals. The sanctuary's topography is nearly flat, with an average elevation of 100 metres above sea level. There are many ponds, lakes, swamps and grasslands in the sanctuary, which is drained by the great Gandak, the little Gandak, the Pyas, and the Rohin rivers. The climate in the region is nice all year, with mildly cold winters in December and January. A variety of ponds/lakes in the Nagwa and Sonari blocks, as well as significant grasslands in the Madhulia and Lakhmipur ranges, are among the sanctuary's most beautiful features. The sanctuary's pride is Singrahnā Tal, the most famous of all the tals.

Habitat	North Indian moist deciduous type. This habitat has some of the finest Sal forests in the country.
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Leopard, Spotted Deer, Wild Boar; Wolf, Hyena, Jackal, Sambhar, Spotted Deer, Neelgai, Barking Deer Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Large-tailed Nightjar; Mugger
Plants	<i>Terminalia alata</i> , <i>Syzygium cumini</i> , <i>Lagerstroemia parviflora</i> , <i>Semecarpus anacardium</i> , <i>Mallotus philipensis</i> , <i>Trivea nudiflora</i> , <i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Adina cardifolia</i> , <i>Barringtonia acutangula</i> , <i>Mitragyna parviflora</i> , <i>Schliechera oleosa</i> , <i>Mallotus philipensis</i> , <i>Sterospermum suaveotens</i> , <i>Aegle marmelos</i> , <i>Streblus asper</i>



Melursus ursinus (Sloth- Bear)

SOHELWA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY 27030'1" N to 27055'42" N and 81055'36" E to 82048'33" E

Year of Notification: 1988

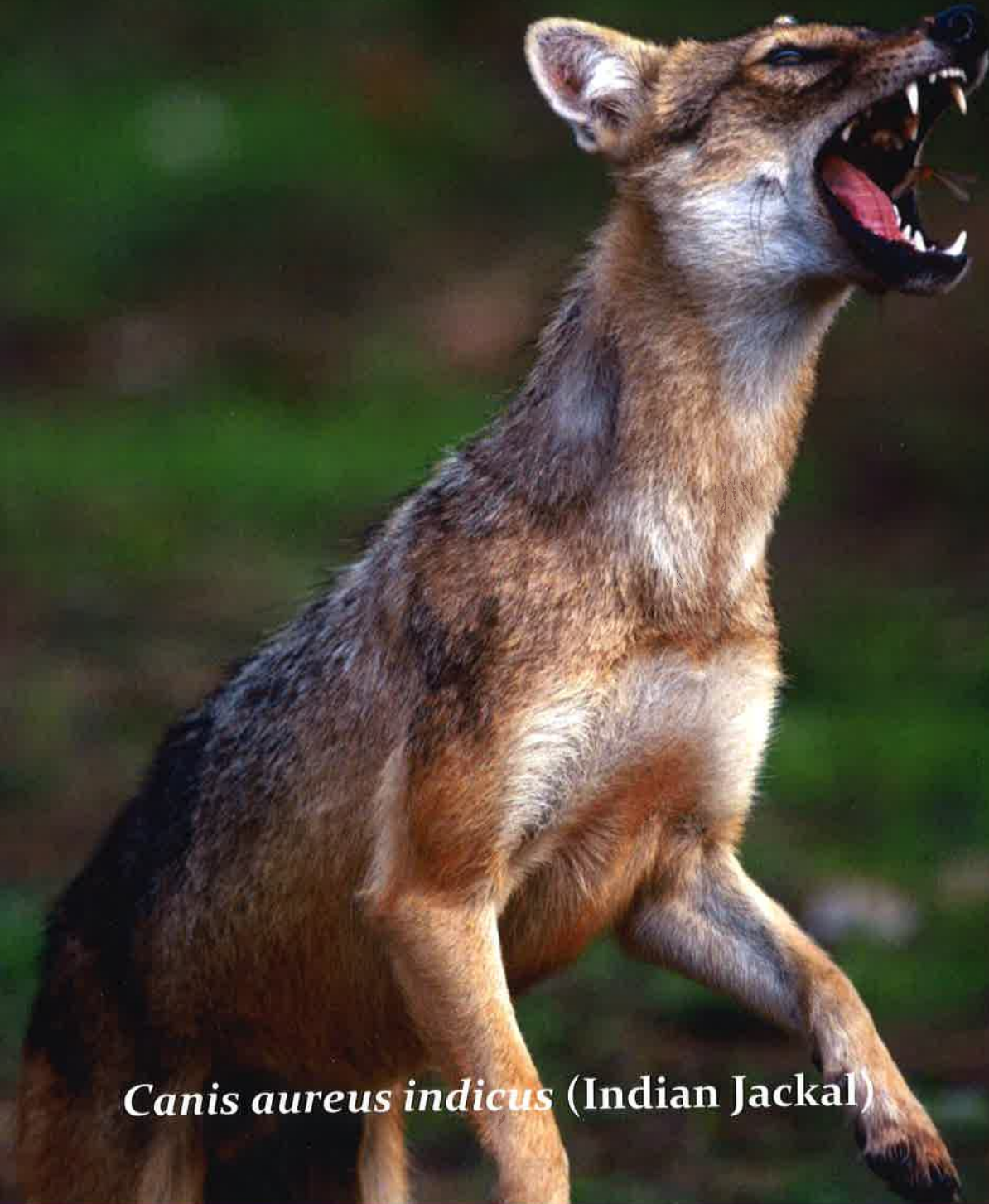
Area: 452.47 Km²

On the Indo-Nepal International Border, the Sohелwa Wild Life Sanctuary is located amidst dense forests that are brimming with abundant wildlife. King Sohелdeo is commemorated at the Sanctuary. The Shivalik Himalayan Ranges are located adjacent to the Sanctuary town. Above that, there is dense woodland, pastures in forest areas, and various water sources that are all linked. The forest's topography is uneven. The importance of this area's nalas cannot be overstated. The natural trail with Nalas adds to the charm of the sanctuary's scenery. It is one of Uttar Pradesh's most beautiful forests. This is something that can only be understood after visiting this place. The natural peace and beauty of this sanctuary has the power to re-energize city dwellers who are exhausted and overworked. Keeping the potential of ecotourism in mind, this area is extremely important.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Tiger, Leopard, Spotted Deer, Wolf, Indian Hare, Jackal, Wild Boar, Sambar; Black Partridge, Peafowl; Indian Python, Grebe, Indian Cormorant, Little Cormorant, Darter, Indian Pond Heron, Cattle-egret, Great-egret, Little-egret, Common Teal, Spot-Billed Duck, Black-Shouldered Kite, Black Kite, Long-Billed Vulture, White Rumped Vulture, Grey Francolin, Sarus Crane, Water Cock, Common Moorhen, Purple Moorhen, Pheasant-Tailed Jacana, Bronze-Winged Jacana. In migratory birds Painted Star, Asian Open bill, Black-headed Ibis, Eurasian Spoonbill, Grey leg goose, Bar-Headed Goose etc
Plants	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Senegalia catechua</i> , <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , <i>Jigna</i> , <i>Adina Cordifolia</i> , <i>Shorea Robusta</i> , <i>Terminalia alata</i> , <i>Haldina cordifolia</i> , <i>Cassia fistula</i> , <i>Bauhinia vahlii</i>



Anser indicus (Bar-headed Goose)



Canis aureus indicus (Indian Jackal)

VIJAI SAGAR BIRD SANCTUARY 25.4041° N, 79.8297° E

Year of Notification: 1990

Area: 03 Km²

In Mahoba, the Vijai Sagar Bird Sanctuary is situated, with its Divisional Head Quarter in Mirzapur. Birds such as Black necked cranes, Harnibills, Coots, Darters, Painted Stark, Brahmi ducks, Lesser whistling ducks, and Flora such as Bamboo, Palas, and Khair can be found in the Sanctuary area. Vijay Sagar is a writer who lives in India. Pakshi Vihar is a bird sanctuary in Uttar Pradesh's Mahoba district. It was constructed on the shores of Vijay Sagar, a lovely lake built in the 11th century by Vijay Pal Chandela. Water sports are ideal at Vijay Sagar. In the winter, migratory birds flock here.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biogeographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Jackal; Common Myna, Bank Myna, Jungle Myna, Red- crested Pochard, Open-billed Stork, Woolly-necked Stork, Grey Heron, Purple Heron, Pond Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron; Red Sand Boa, Wolf Snake, Rat Snake, Common Krait, Russell's Viper
Plants	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> , <i>Azadirachta indica</i> , <i>Phoenix spp.</i> , <i>Zizyphus spp.</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , Bamboo,, <i>Eichhornia Spp.</i> , <i>Salvinia Spp.</i> , <i>Spirodela Spp.</i>



Antelope cervicapra (Blackbuck)

CHAND KHAMARIA BLACKBUCK CONSERVATION RESERVE 25° 2' 33.82"N 81° 54' 7.74"E

Established: 2017

Area: 1.26 km²

A wildlife conservation reserve dedicated exclusively to the Blackbuck is established in the trans-Yamuna region of Prayagraj district in Meja tehsil that is known for its rocky, undulating and arid terrain. At present, the area is home to around 565 blackbucks, including around 250 females and 130 fawns. The conservation reserve is meant to generate awareness about biodiversity conservation and provide opportunities for people's participation. In a big push to Eco-tourism, this conservation reserve has been selected under the **One District, One Destination** policy of the State Government. The local people will get better prospects for livelihood and income generation.

Habitat	Tropical dry deciduous forest
Biographic zone	Gangetic Plain
Animals	Blackbuck, Indian Monkey, Baboons (Langoor), Rabbits, Bluebull, Porcupine, Honey badger, Lizard, Mongoose, Python, mottled wood owl, Grey Quail, Doves, Francolin, Black Partridge, Coloured Francolin, Red Spur, Pigeon, wild Fowl etc.
Plants	<i>Shorea robusta</i> , <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> , <i>Tectona grandis</i> , <i>Madhuca</i> spp., <i>Acacia</i> spp., <i>Eugenia jambolana</i> , Bamboo, <i>Butea monosperma</i> etc.



ABOUT THE AUTHORS



ANAND PUSHKER

Earned his Post Graduation Degree in Botany from University of Delhi and holds an academic & research experience of more than a decade in the field of Plant Molecular Biology, Bioinformatics & Biotechnology.

Along with a flair for painting his innate areas of interest are nature and environment. Currently he is posted as Assistant Conservator of Forest (ACF) at Uttar Pradesh Forest Department.



MAYANK PANDEY

An Assistant Conservator of Forest (Officer Trainee) from Uttar Pradesh, he has done his Post Graduation in Environmental Studies from University of Delhi.

His areas of interest include nature, environment and wildlife. He is an avid reader and wildlife photography enthusiast.

**CENTRAL ACADEMY FOR STATE FOREST SERVICE,
COIMBATORE, TAMIL NADU**