



## NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY / PROJECT TIGER

Statutory Body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change  
(Government of India)

### BANDIPUR TIGER RESERVE

The Bandipur Tiger Reserve is situated in the Mysore and Chamarajanagar revenue districts of southern Karnataka. Geographically, it is an “ecological confluence” as the western and Eastern Ghats meet and constitute this area as distinctive and extraordinary from the point of its fauna and flora. The adjoining notified and non-notified forests including the community land areas of all the border villages have become an integral part of the buffer of this tiger reserve.

#### Area of the tiger reserve

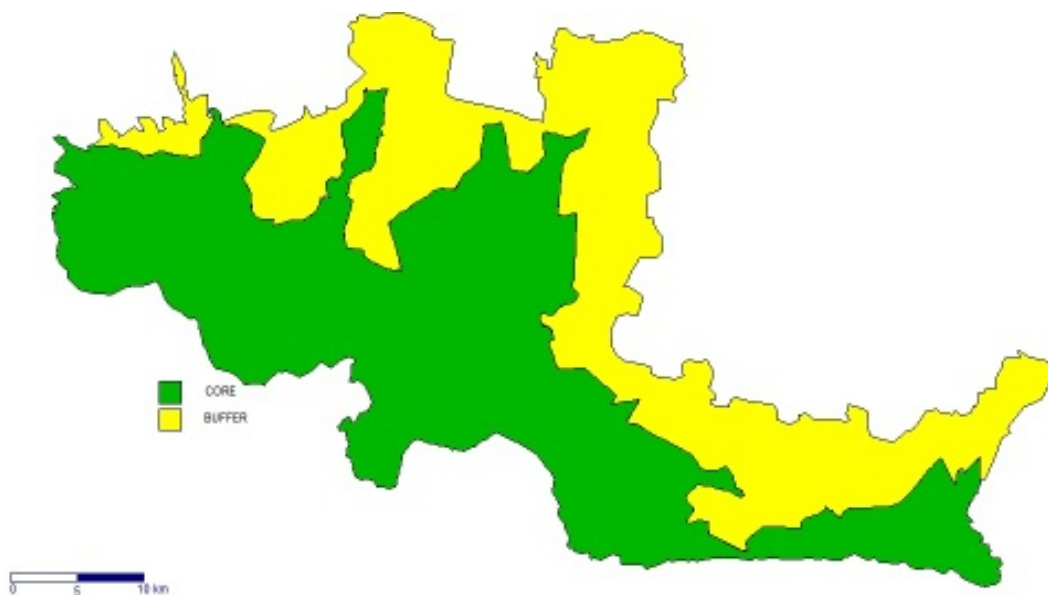
Core/critical tiger habitat:	872.24 sq km
Buffer/peripheral	: 118.279 sq.km.
Forest Area	: 465.79 sq.km.
Non Forest Area	: (Total 584.069 sq.km.)
<b>Total</b>	<b>: 1456.309 sq. kms.</b>

#### Location:

Latitudes  $11^{\circ} 35' 34''$  to  $11^{\circ} 55' 02''$

Longitudes  $76^{\circ} 12' 17''$  and  $76^{\circ} 51' 32''$

#### Map



## **Habitat attributes**

### **Flora and Fauna**

The scrub jungle towards the eastern limits of the Park consists of stunted trees, interspersed with bushes and open grassy patches. Towards its northwestern fringes, there is a gradual shift in the vegetation from open dry deciduous forest to tropical mixed deciduous forests. These diverse habitats, in turn support an enormous diversity of flora and fauna. With the onset of the pre-monsoon showers, Bandipur begins to unfold in all its glory. The resident birds commence their breeding activities and sprouting grass in the meadows attract elephants and the majestic gaur in large numbers. For the tourists who come to watch the larger mammals in their natural surroundings, Bandipur is a paradise from April to October. Even during the summer, when dryness prevails over most parts of Bandipur, the backwaters of the Kabini Reservoir in the northwestern portion of the Park host huge congregations of large mammals, especially the elephant and the gaur. This unique feature makes a breathtaking spectacle, and is almost the only one of its kind in Asia.

### **Tiger Status**

The Bandipur tiger reserve has a high density of tiger in the Western ghats landscape, bounded by other important tiger habitats, namely Mudumalai, Waynad, Nagarahole and BRT. As per the 2010 tiger assessment, the tiger density is 11 per 100 sq.km.

### **Core**

The core has an area of 872.24 sq.km. and is devoid of settlements. The management largely focuses on protection to maintain the inviolate nature of this area.

### **Buffer**

The buffer area amounts to 584.069 sq.km. and includes peripheral forest and non-forest areas. The managerial interventions focus on addressing the co-occurrence agenda to benefit local people and wild animals. Protection of habitat linkages addressing human-wildlife interface issues and providing ecologically unsustainable livelihood options to local people for reducing their resource dependency on forests are important thrust areas.

### **Corridor**

The reserve has contiguous corridor linkages within the State with Nagarahole and BRT. Besides, it is also contiguous with tiger habitats of Kerala (Wayanad) and Tamil Nadu (Sathyamangalam, buffer areas of Mudumalai). These areas require monitoring and protection, besides fostering ecologically sustainable land uses.

### **Managerial Issues**

Tiger monitoring using Phase-IV protocol in Bandipur and adjoining areas, periodic comparison of camera trap data with adjoining States, intelligence based enforcement, stepped up protection and addressing the co-occurrence agenda in buffer are important thrust areas.

## **Good Practices**

Deployment of Special Tiger Protection Force and Phase-IV monitoring.