



NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY / PROJECT TIGER

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

DANDELI-ANSHI TIGER RESERVE

Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve comprises of two important protected areas of the region viz., Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary and Anshi National Park, which are contiguous to each other in the Western Ghats.

Area of the tiger reserve

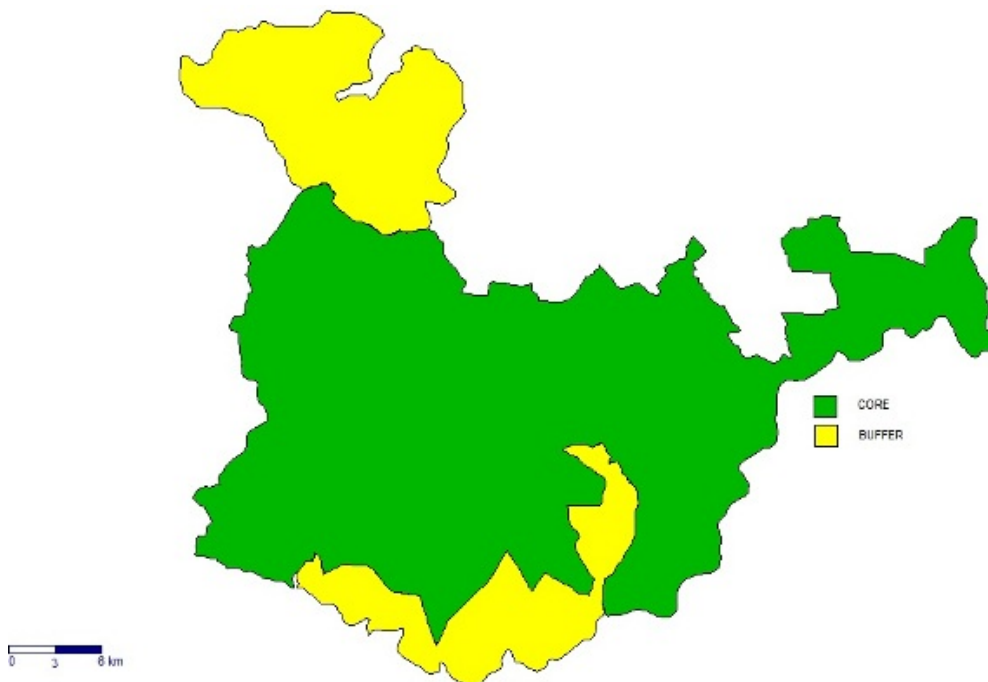
Core/critical tiger habitat	:	814.884 Sq. Kms.
Buffer/peripheral area	:	530.8327 Sq. Kms.
Total	:	1345.7167 Sq. Kms.

Location

Latitudes : 14° 57' 23.04" N to 15° 9' 56.16" N

Longitudes : 74° 15' 7.56" E to 74° 43' 10.56" E

Map



Habitat Attributes

Flora

The vegetation types are as under (Champion and Seth, 1968):

- a. South Indian Moist Deciduous Teak Forests (3B/C1)
- b. Southern Moist Mixed Deciduous Forests (3B/C2)
- c. West Coast Semi-evergreen Forests (2A/C2)
- d. Moist Bamboo Brakes (2B/E3)
- e. Cane Brakes (2B/E1)

Fauna

- Tiger
- Leopard
- Dhole (Wild Dog)
- Gaur
- Deer
- Arboreal Mammals
- Bird
- Reptile
- Butterfly
- Insect

Tiger Status

The Anshi-Dandeli-Sharavathi valley has a good tiger occupancy, with the population ranging between 36 and 42 in the 2010 country level assessment.

Core

The core / critical tiger habitat needs to be managed as an inviolate area for tiger and co-predators. The biodiversity of the habitat requires protection with minimal interventions. The thrust areas include: voluntary relocation of villages, stepped up protection, regulated tourism and tiger monitoring.

Buffer

The buffer area has varied land uses apart from human presence. The co-occurrence agenda to benefit local people and wild animals is important here apart from retrofitting safeguards for heavily used infrastructure, tiger monitoring, protection and ecotourism.

Corridor

The corridor connectivity with Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary in the North is important owing to contiguity of its habitat with Radhanagri Wildlife Sanctuary and Sahyadri Tiger Reserve of Maharashtra. The landscape is also linked to the protected areas of Goa. The tiger reserve is also linked to several protected areas within the State, viz., Sharavathi, Shettihalli, Bhadra and Kudremukh, which facilitate tiger movement.

Managerial Issues

Following are few of the problems that need to be addressed in order to achieve the objectives of management of the reserve:

- Large number of licensed as well as unlicensed guns with the people living in and around the reserve.
- Long history of traditional hunting and trapping to protect the crops and lives.
- Around 64 revenue enclosures inside the reserve.
- Encroachment.
- Pilgrim centres like Kavala cave and Ulvi temple where thousands of people visit.
- Kadra and Kodasalli reservoirs acting as easy access points in inaccessible areas.
- Disregard for the rules and regulations and poor concern for the tiger reserve when it comes to development by the people, by the peoples representatives and by the development departments.
- Large number of cattle having free and easy access to the reserve. They are like live bombs. Diseases such as FMD (Foot and Mouth Disease) had nearly wiped out once abundant Gaur population from these forests in the past.
- Road network like State Highway and District Major Roads take their own toll of animals and cause disturbance for the easy movement as well as dispersal of the animals.
- Mushrooming of resorts and hotels around the reserve without any regard to the carrying capacity of the area is a matter of concern.
- Long inter-state border with Goa (33 kms).
- Location of Ambikanagar township inside the core attracting lot of floating population posing threat to the management of the reserve.
- Presence of extensive monoculture teak plantations in the reserve. They pose threat of forest fires and also degrade habitat. Presence of *Acacia auriculiformis* and *Eucalyptus citriodora* plantations inside the reserve.
- Non-rationalization of boundaries of the reserve.
- Large number of frontline staff vacancies.

Good Practices

Protection, tiger monitoring, initiatives for eliciting public support.