



NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY / PROJECT TIGER

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

MELGHAT TIGER RESERVE

Melghat Tiger Reserve is located in the foot hills of the Satpuda range, spread over three districts, viz. , and Buldhana. The habitat is composed of vast tracts of inviolate natural forests, with deep valleys, high hills and rivers. The area is drained by Khandu, Khapra, Sipna, Gadga and Dolar rivers which are tributaries of Tapti. Geologically the area is classified as trap with underlying basalt.

Area of the Tiger Reserve

Core/ Critical Tiger habitat : 1500.49 Sq.km.

Buffer/ Peripheral area : 1268.03 Sq.km.

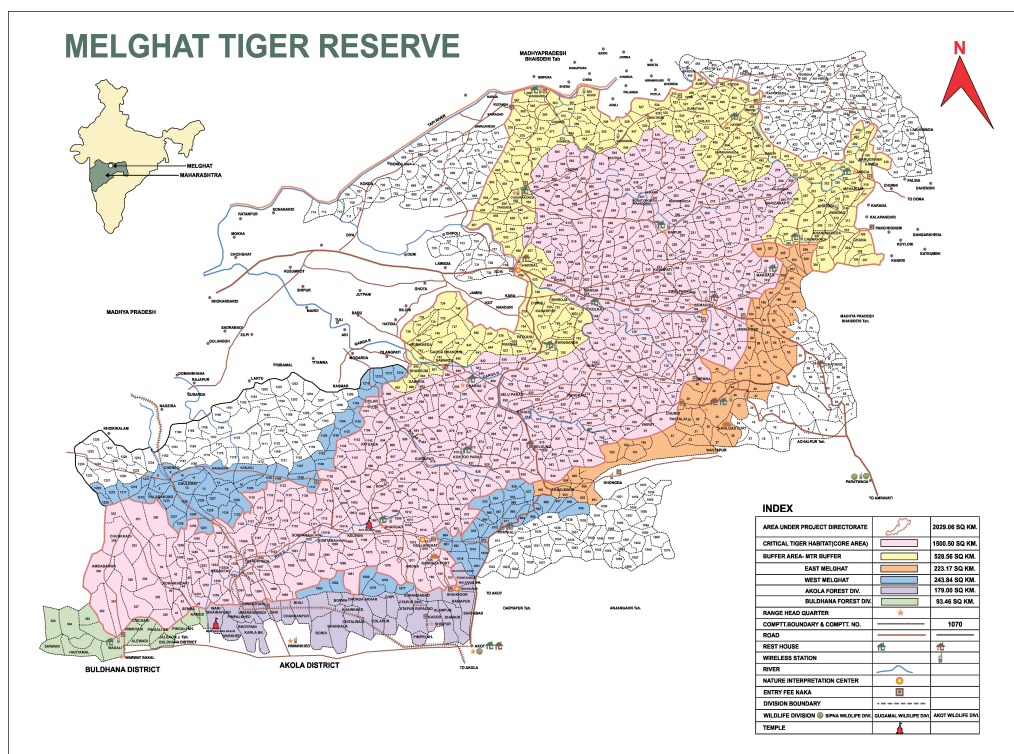
Total : 2768.52 Sq.km.

Location

Latitude : Between 21⁰ 44' N and 21⁰ 08'N

Longitude : Between 76⁰ 39' E and 77⁰ 31'E

Map



Habitat Attributes

Flora

The habitat is a typical representative of the Central Indian Highland, forming a part of the 6E-Deccan Peninsula- Central Indian Highland biogeographically. The floral composition is varied and representative of the Southern Tropical dry deciduous forest, under the sub group 5A (Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest) of Champion and Seth's (1968). Teak is the dominant species. Others include: Tiwas, Bija, Haldu, Saja, Dhawda, Ain, Moha, Tendu, Achar, Amla, Behada, Bhilwa, Bor, Mango, Khair, Jamun, Apta, Bel and Kulu. As many as 769 species of plants have been recorded in the reserve.

Fauna

There is a considerable faunal diversity and the important wild animals include: Tiger, Panther, Jungle Cat, Hyaena, Jackal, Fox, Wild dog, Sloth bear, Ratel, Wild pig, Hare, Porcupine, Mongoose, Otter, Sambar, Chital, Gaur Barking deer, Blue bull, Four horned antelope, Common Langur and Rhesus macaque.

Tiger Status

As per the 2010 country level assessment of tiger, the estimate for the Melghat landscape is 30-39 tigers. The forest divisions surrounding the reserve like West Melghat, East Melghat, and Buldhana also support resident tigers. These divisions now form part of the buffer.

Core

Protection, tiger monitoring and securing inviolate space for tiger through voluntary relocation of villages are important thrust areas.

Buffer

The buffer has a large number of villages. Hence, addressing human-tiger interface, providing ecologically viable livelihood options to local people, protection / surveillance, tiger monitoring and safeguards for wildlife in areas with road/railways are important.

Corridor

The reserve is a connecting habitat between the forest areas of Madhya Pradesh and . Tiger occupancy in forests of Betul, Hoshangabad, district of Madhya Pradesh suggest the viability of corridor with Melghat. However, owing to varied land uses and human activity, the linkages are weak requiring restoration and monitoring as in buffer areas.

Good Practices

- Phase-IV monitoring and creation of camera trap photo ID data base of tigers.
- Establishment of Tiger Cell for continuous monitoring over the interstate poachers with advance technique.