



NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY / PROJECT TIGER

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

MUKANDRA HILLS TIGER RESERVE

Mukandra Hills Tiger Reserve is named after two continuous flat topped, almost parallel hills with narrow central ridges, forming part of the Vindhyan range and extending from river Chambal to Kalisindh, with a length of almost 80 km. and the width ranging from 2 to 5 km.

The tiger reserve was constituted in the year 2013 which encompasses the area of Mukandra National Park, Dara Sanctuary, Jawahar Sagar Sanctuary and part of Chambal Sanctuary (from Garadia Mahadev to Jawahar Sagar Dam), forming its core / critical tiger habitat. The forests of Kota, Chittorgarh and Jhalawar are included in the buffer.

Area of the tiger reserve

Core	:	417.17188 sq. km.
Buffer	:	342.82274 sq. km.
Total	:	759.99462 sq. km.

Location

Latitudes	:	24° 38' to 25° 7' N
Longitudes	:	75°26' to 76°12' E

Habitat Attributes

Flora

The forests fall under the category “II Dry Deciduous Forest”, as per the Champion and Seth’s classification (1968). *Anogeissus pendula* (Kala Dhok or Kaladhi) is the predominant species alongwith Khair (*Acacia catechu*), Ber (*Zizyphus mauratiana*), Kakan (*Flacourtia indica*), Raunj (*Acacia lecofolia*), Tendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Gurjan (*Lannea coromandelica*), Karaya (*Sterculia urens*), Jhinjha (*Bauhinia racemosa*), Kalam (*Mitragyna parviflora*) and Gutha bor (*Zizyphus glaberrima*). On higher slopes, *Anogeissus pendula* is replaced by *Anogeissus latifolia*, alongwith Bel (*Aegle marmelos*), Salar (*Boswellia sarata*) Uum (*Meliusa tomentosa*) and Shisham (*Dalbergia latifolia*). Small patches of only *Anogeissus pendula* occur at several places alongwith

Chhola (*Butea monosperma*) and Ber (*Zizyphus mauritiana*).

Fauna

The important fauna include: Leopard, Sloth bear, Nilgai, Chinkara, Spotted Deer, Small Indian Civet, Toddy Cat, Jackal, Hyena, Jungle Cat, Common Langur, common Mongoose, Ruddy Mongoose, Pale Hedgehog hare, Five Striped Palm Squirrel, Indian Pangolin, Porcupine, Bush Rat, Painted Partridge, Grey hornbill, Blackbird, Alexandrine Parakeet, Spotted Dove, Yellow legged Green Pigeon, White-browed Fantail Flycatcher, White-throated Fantail Flycatcher, Crested Tree Swift, Little Egret, Cattle Egret, Little cormorant, Small Kingfisher, Lesser Pied Kingfisher, and Peafowl. The common reptiles and amphibians are Python, Rat Snake, Buff-striped keelback, Green keelback, Red Sandboa, Russell's Sandboa, Trinket snake, Blind snake, crocodile, Gharial, Otter and Turtles.

Tiger Status

The habitat is reviving after the stoppage of mining activities and tiger movement from Ranthambhore has been reported. The area has immense potential (satellite core) for tigers from Ranthambhore.

Core

Restoration of the habitat through intense field protection, securing inviolate space for tiger, monitoring of tiger moving from Ranthambhore to Mukandra, providing basic ameliorative interventions in the habitat and ecodevelopment of peripheral buffer area are important thrust areas.

Buffer

Ensuring day to day protection, addressing human-wildlife interface, prophylactic immunization of livestock and ecodevelopment to reduce dependency of people on forests are important.

Corridor

The tiger reserve has linkages with protected areas within the State, viz. Ranthambhore, Ramgarh Vishdhari and Bhainsarogarh. Further, it is also linked to the Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh. These linkages are fragmented with varied land uses and human presence, which calls for their restoration with a strategy as adopted for the buffer area.