NAWEGAON-NAGZIRA TIGER RESERVE

Nawegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve is situated in Gondia and Shandara Districts of Maharashtra. The reserve is rich in bio-diversity and has linkages with Kanha, Pench and Tadoba Tiger Reserves. The topography is undulating, and the highest point viz. 'Zenda Pahad' is around 702 m above MSL.

Area of the tiger reserve

Core / Critical Tiger Habitat : 653.67 sq.km.

Buffer Area : Yet to be constituted.

The area details of the core / critical tiger habitats are as below:

Sr. No.	Name of Wildlife Sanctuary/National Park	Area of Tiger Reserve in Sq.Km.
1	Nawegaon National Park	129.55
2	Nagzira Wildlife sanctuary	152.41
3	Nawegaon Wildlife Sanctuary	122.76
4	New Nagzira Wilidlife Sanctuary	151.33
5	Koka Wildlife Sanctuary	97.62
	Total Area	653.67

Location

Name of W.L.S./ N.P.	Longitude	Latitude
1.Nawegaon National Park	80° 5' to 80° 15' E	20° 45' to 21 ^u 2' N
2.Nawegaon Wildlife Sanctuary	80 ⁰ 09' to 80 ^u 21' E	20 ^u 54' to 21 ⁰ OS' N
3.Nagzira Wildlife Sanctuary	79 ⁰ 58' to 80 ⁰ 11' E	21 o 1 2' to 21 0 21' N
4.New Nagzira W.L.S.	79° 49' to 80 ^u 11' E	21° 09' to 21° 20' N
5.Koka Wildlife Sanctuary	79° 43' to 79° 54' E	21° 06' to 21° 12' N

Habitat Attributes

Biogeographically the reserve falls in the biotic province 6B:

Biogeographic Kingdom : Paleotropical Sub - kingdom : Indomalayan

Biogeographic zone : 6 -Deccan peninsula Biotic province : 6 - B - Central Deccan

Flora

The forests are "Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous" (Champion and Seth, 1968). There are 364 species of plants and the major trees are: *Terminalia tomentosa, Lagerstroemia parviflora, Anogeisus lotifolia, Pterocarpus marsupium, Diospyrus melanoxylon, Ougeinia oogenesis, Tectona grandis, Bombax ceiba, Lannea grandis, Boswellia serrata, Adina cordifolia, Xylia xylocarpa, Terminalia arjuna, Syzygium cuminii, Schleichera oleosa, Terminalia chebula and Sterculia urens.* The prominent shrubs are: *Holarrhena antidysenterica, Wrightia tinctoria, Woodfordia fruticosa* and *Helicteres isora*. The climber species include: *Butea and Bauhinia,* while the grass species are: *Themeda, Iseilema, Apluda, Eragrostis, Cynodon, Imperata, Vetiveria* and *Heteropogon*.

Fauna

The faunal species include: mammals (34), reptiles and amphibia (36), birds (202) and butterflies (49). The major wild animals are: Tiger, Panther, Small Indian Civet, Palm Civet, Wolf, Jackal, Wild Dog, Sloth Bear, Ratel, Common Giant Flying Squirrel, Gaur, Sambar, Chital, Four Horned Antelope, Mouse Deer and Pangolin.

Tiger Status

The reserve has a low occupancy of tiger but is crucial owing to its linkage with other tiger rich areas.

Core

The core/critical tiger habitat of this new reserve requires consolidation, protection basic infrastructure for antipoaching operations including wireless communication and vehicles.

The peripheral areas (including the enclaved villages) need to be brought under the buffer zone for actively addressing the people oriented agenda (human-wildlife conflicts, ecodevelopment - livelihood options), to benefit local people and wild animals, besides fine tuning the ongoing forestry practices. Day to day monitoring of tiger and wild animals is important in the core as well as in the peripheral areas with stepped up protection.

Corridor

The forests of Gondia, Bhandara forest divisions (including those under Forest Corporation) adjoining the reserve have important corridor value owing to their linkages with other tiger reserves in the region. Hence, a restorative management on the lines of the buffer is required in such areas.