



NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY / PROJECT TIGER

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

Anamalai Tiger Reserve

Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) is located on the southern side of the South Western Ghat landscape. It is surrounded by Parambikulam Tiger Reserve on the East, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary and Eravikulam National Park on the South Western side. The reserve is also surrounded by Nenmara, Vazhachal, Malayattur and Marayur reserved forests of Kerala. The Kariyan shola, Grass hills and Manjampatti of Anamalai Tiger Reserve has been identified as a world heritage site by the UNESCO.

Anamalai Tiger Reserve was declared as a Tiger reserve in the year 2007. There are two Divisions and six ranges in this Reserve. The ranges found in this reserve include Amaravathi and Udumalpet falling in Thiruppur Division and Pollachi, Ulandy, Valparai and Manamboli in Pollachi Division.

Area of the Tiger Reserve

Core/critical tiger Habitat	: 958.59 sq km
Buffer/Peripheral Area	: 521.28 sq km
Total	: 1479.87 sq km

Location

Latitudes	: 10 ⁰ 13.2' N to 10 ⁰ 33.3' N
Longitudes	: 76 ⁰ 49.3' E to 77 ⁰ 21.4' E

Habitat Attributes

Flora

Around 2500 species of angiosperms are found in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve, with several species of Balsam, *Crotalaria*, Orchids and Kurinchi. The reserve is rich in wild relatives of cultivated species like mango, jackfruit, wild plantain (*Musa* species), ginger (*Zingiber officinale*), turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), pepper (*Piper longum*), cardamom, solaipuli, nutmeg, cinnamom, amla (*Phyllanthus emblicus*), jasmine (*Jasminum* species), drumstick, yams, rice, strawberries and wild guava.

Fauna

The reserve supports several species of endangered wild animals. There are 70 species of fishes, more than 70 species of amphibians, 120 species of reptiles, 300 species of birds and 80 species of mammals. The important mammals include: Asiatic elephant (*Elephas maximus*), Sambar (*Rusa unicolor*), Spotted deer (*Axis axis*) Barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjac*), Mouse deer (*Tragulus nigricans*), Gaur (*Bos garus*), Nilgiri tahr (*Hemitragus hylocrius*), Lion Tailed Macaque (*Macaca silenus*), Nilgiri langur (*Trachypithecus johnii*) and Common langur (*Semnopithecus entellus*). Other common wild animals include: Wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) and Sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*).

In general, the wild animals of the reserve include: Jackal (*Canis aureus*), Wild dog (*Cuon alpinus*), Indian fox (*Vulpes bengalensis*), Tiger (*Panthera tigris*), Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Jungle cat (*Felis chaus*), Leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), Smooth coated otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*), Small clawed otter (*Aonyx cinerea*), Nilgiri marten (*Martes gwatkinsii*), Small Indian civet (*Viverricula indica*), common Palm civet (*Paradoxurus hermaphrodites*), Brown palm civet (*Paradoxurus jerdoni*), Grey mongoose (*Herpestes edwardsii*), Ruddy mongoose (*Herpestes smithii*), Indian Brown mongoose (*Herpestes fuscus*), Stripe-necked mongoose (*Herpestes vitticollis*), Indian pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*), Black naped hare (*Lepus nigricollis*), several species of rodents and bats.

Tiger Status

The reserve has a good presence of tigers and co-predators.

Core

Camera trapping in 698 sq.km. of the tiger reserve have shown the presence of a minimum of 15 tigers in the sampled area.

Buffer

The Buffer area of Anamalai Tiger Reserve is a 10 kilometer belt of revenue villages and hamlets, along the Northern boundary, adjoining the plains of Pollachi and Udumalpet taluks. In the East, it shares a common boundary, including a 5 kilometer belt falling in two adjoining divisions, viz. Kodaikanal and Dindigul.

The interstate boundaries from West, South and East are shared with the Nemmara Forest Division, Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, Vazhachal Forest Division, Malayattoor Forest Division, Munnar Forest Division, Eravikulam National Park and Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary. The Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is within a radius of 10 kilometers of the reserve and is contiguous.

Wildlife Corridors

There are several wildlife corridors which include: Navamalai near monkey falls, Punachi in Valparai range, Waterfall, Siluvaimedu, Nadu Ar, Sethumadai–Nenmara and 9/6–Chinnar check post. Wild animals like elephant, gaur, tiger, leopard and wild dog use these corridors for their seasonal movement within the reserve, and also between the reserve and adjoining forest divisions

like Nenmara, Parambikulam, Malayatur, Vazhachal, Marayur and Chinnar wildlife sanctuary in Kerala, and Dindigul and Kodaikanal forest divisions within the State.

Managerial Issues

The managerial thrust areas include: reducing the resource dependency of people living within the reserve through ecologically viable options, voluntary relocation, addressing human-wildlife interface, Phase-IV monitoring and stepped up protection.

Best Practices

Innovative alert system for addressing human-wildlife conflict, fire protection, antipoaching strategy, immunization of nearby livestock, control over illegal ganja cultivation and smart patrolling using M-STrIPES protocol.