

Conservation reserve

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Telangana State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) approved the Forest Department's proposal to designate the corridor area between **Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve** and **Kawal Tiger Reserve** as a conservation reserve.



[ref- thrillophilia]

What is a conservation reserve?

- Conservation reserves and community reserves in India are terms denoting **protected areas of India** which typically **act as buffer zones to or connectors and migration corridors** between established national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and reserved and protected forests of India.
- Designations include **conservation areas** if **uninhabited** and solely **owned by the Government** of India, and **community areas** if **some lands are privately owned**.
- The **categories of conservation reserves and community reserves** in India were introduced in the **Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act of 2002** as an amendment to the **Wildlife Protection Act of 1972**.
- These categories addressed the challenges of reduced protection in and around existing or proposed protected areas due to private land ownership and land use issues.

Declaration of a conservation reserve:

- The State Government, in **consultation with local communities**, can declare government-owned areas, particularly those adjacent to National Parks and sanctuaries, as conservation reserves to protect landscapes, seascapes, flora, fauna, and their habitats.
- The prior **concurrence of the Central Government** is required for declaring a conservation reserve if it includes **land owned by the Central Government**.

State Board for Wildlife:

- **State Board for Wildlife** is constituted under Section 6(1) of the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.
- The State Wildlife Board has the primary task to **manage the conservation and protection of wildlife** at the State Level.
- It is **empowered to exercise powers** bestowed upon it under the **Wildlife Act, 1972**.

About Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve:

- Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve is a wildlife sanctuary in the **Chandrapur district of Maharashtra**.
- The reserve includes **Tadoba National Park and the Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- **Tadoba National Park** is Maharashtra's **oldest and largest national park**, established in **1955**.
- **Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary** was formed in the **year 1986** and was amalgamated with the park in **1995** to establish the present Tiger Reserve.

About Kawal Tiger Reserve:

- Kawal Tiger Reserve is a nature preserve in the Jannaram mandal of Mancherial District, **Telangana**.
- It's located along the **Godavari river**, part of the **Deccan peninsula-central highlands**.
- The reserve is located in the **Sahyadri Mountain Ranges** and encompasses diverse habitats such as dense forests, grasslands, open areas, rivers, streams, and water bodies.
- It was **established in 1999** and **declared a tiger reserve** by the **Indian government in 2012**.