



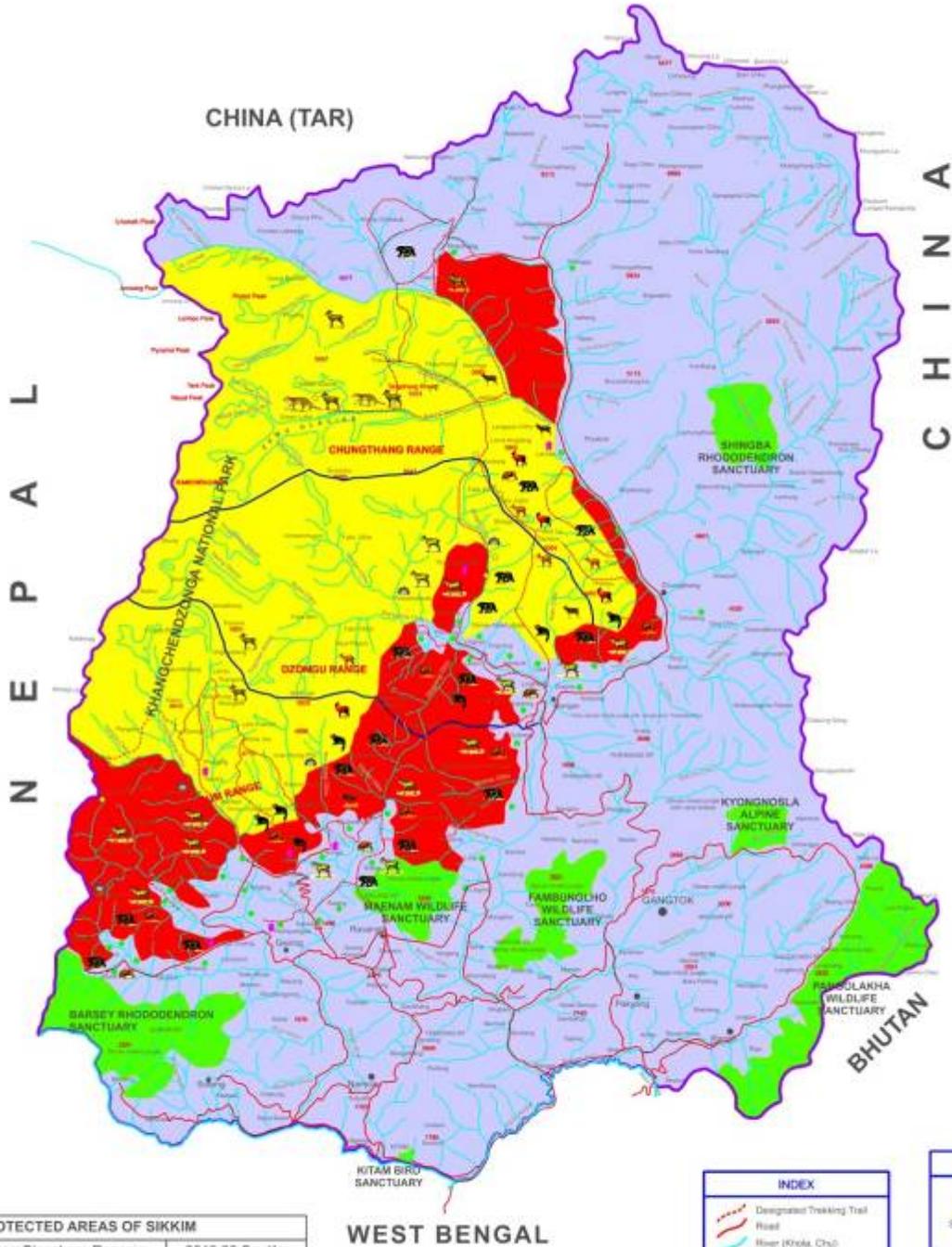
Wildlife Conservation

Wildlife conservation has become a worldwide significance. In the field of wildlife conservation, Sikkim State has progressed a great deal with the establishment of one huge National Park i.e. Khangchendzonga National Park, one Biosphere Reserve known as Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve and eight Wildlife Sanctuaries including one Faireanum Orchid Conservation Reserve, all occupying as much as 42.54% of State's total geographical area under the wildlife protected area network including Biosphere Reserve is remarkably the highest coverage amongst other States in the country. The State has been able to set aside 51.68 % of the State's forest land area under the wildlife protected area network including Biosphere Reserve for the protection and conservation of State's rich wildlife and biodiversity resources. Protection, preservation and conservation is achieved through the people's participation represented by Eco-Development Committees (EDCs) formed around the protected areas. The EDCs are the local village bodies and partners with the wildlife managers for the protection, preservation and propagation of wildlife in the National Park and Wildlife Sanctuaries. 57 EDCs around the protected areas are implementing Wildlife Forest Development Agency schemes since the year 2004. Wildlife Protected Areas commissioned and declared since the year 1995-96 are as below:

Sl. No	Name of Wildlife Protected Area	Location District	Area	Date of Initial Declaration/ Notification	Date of final Notification of the WPA after determining rights & privileges.
1	Khangchendzonga National Park	North & West	1784 Sq. Kms (expanded from 850 sq.km)	Not. No. 43(9)-Home/77 dated 26-08-1977.	Not. No. 1/KNP(WL) /F/27 dated 19-05-1997
2	Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve	North, South & West	2931.12 Sq. Kms (expanded due to addition of Transition Zone)	MoEF, GOI, Letter No. J-22016/76/91-BR dated 07-02-2000	Not. No. 204/KNP-KBR/WL/Forest/2009 dated 24-05-2010
3	Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary	North	43 Sq.kms	Not. No. 46/WL/F/92/1585/FMWL dated 05-12-1992	Not. No. 45/WL/F/83 dated 25-01-1999
4	Pangolakha WLS	East	128 Sq.kms	Not. No. 26/WL/F/89 dated 07-11-2000	Not. No. 10/9/WCL/02/127 dated 05-09-2002
5	Kyongnosla Alpine sanctuary	East	31 Sq.kms	Not. No. 45/WL/F/92/1585/FMWL dated 05-12-1992	Not. No. 45/WL/F/83/05 dated 25-01-1999
6	Fambonglho WLS	East	51.76 Sq.kms	Not. No. 34/WL/82 dated 02-04-1984	-
7	Kitam Bird Sanctuary	South	6 Sq.kms	Not. No. 39/FEWL/2005 dated 03-02-2005	Not. No. 37/FEWL dated 17-06-2006
8.	Maenam WLS	South	35.34 Sq.kms	Not. No. 63/WL/F/86 dated 19-03-1987	Not. No. 45/WL/F/83/04 dated 25-01-1999
9	Sling Dong Faireanum Orchid Conservation Reserve	South	0.06 sq.kms	-	Not. No. 24/CWLW/GOS/FEWMD/308/WLC/08 dated 05-11-2008
10	Barsey WLS	West	104 Sq. kms	-	Not. No. 50/WL/F/95/269 dated 08-07-1996



PROTECTED AREAS IN SIKKIM



PROTECTED AREAS OF SIKKIM		
1.	Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve	2619.92 Sq. Km.
2.	Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary	104.00 Sq. Km.
3.	Kitam Bird Sanctuary	6.00 Sq. Km.
4.	Maenam Wildlife Sanctuary	35.34 Sq. Km.
5.	Fambunglho Wildlife Sanctuary	51.76 Sq. Km.
6.	Pangolakaha Wildlife Sanctuary	128.00 Sq. Km.
7.	Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary	31.00 Sq. Km.
8.	Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary	43.00 Sq. Km.

Note: 1784 Sq. Km of Khangchendzonga National Park includes in the KBR.

WEST BENGAL

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WILD ANIMALS OF KBR



Year: 1996

- Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, West Sikkim covering an area of 104 Sq.kms was commissioned and declared for the purpose of protection of flora & fauna especially the flora (Rhododendron species) and other bio-diversity resources of the area during the year 1996 vide Notification No. 50/WL/F/95/269 dated 08-07-1996 With this addition of wildlife reserve, the state's wildlife protected area network coverage increased to 14.57 % of the State's total geographical area till the end of year 1996 which is the highest amongst other States in the country. Since then, the management and development of this Sanctuary was brought under the 100% CSS grant under the scheme of " Development of National Park & Sanctuaries" from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India.



Year: 1997

- Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay established in an area of 230 Ha was formally opened to the tourists during May, 1997 vide Notification no. 51/WL/Forest dated 28-05-1997. There were few captive wild animals such as the Barking Deer, the Spotted Deer and the Himalayan Black Bear kept on display. A pair of Red Panda was also brought from Rotterdam Zoo (Holland) for initiating captive breeding program.
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- Khangchendzonga National Park (High Altitude), North & West Sikkim was extended and expanded from 850 sq.kms. to 1784 sq.kms. for the purpose of protection of Khangchendzonga Mountain Eco-system, in-situ conservation of flora & fauna and other bio-diversity resources of the Khangchendzonga Mountain Range during the year 1997 vide Notification No.1/KNP(WL)/F/27 dated 19-05-1997. With this addition of major wildlife reserve, the State's Wildlife Protected Area network coverage increased to 27.33% of the State's total geographical area till the end of year 1997 which is remarkably highest amongst other States in the country.

Year: 1999

- Maenam Wildlife Sanctuary, South Sikkim covering an area of 35.34 Sq.km. notified during the year 1987, Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary, East Sikkim covering an area of 31 Sq.kms notified during the year 1992 and Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary, North Sikkim covering an area of 43 Sq.kms. also notified during the year 1992 have been finally declared and notified vide Notification No. 45/WK/F/83/04 dated 25-01-1999, Notification No. 45/WL/F/83/05 dated 25-01-1999 and Notification No. 45/WL/F/83/ dated 25-01-1999 receptively for the purpose of protection, preservation and propagation of wildlife and other bio-diversity resources of the areas. With these addition of wildlife reserves, the State's wildlife protected area network coverage increased to 28.87% of the State's total
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geographical area till the end of year 1999, again highest coverage amongst other States in the country.

- First breeding record of Red Panda (State Animal of Sikkim) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay during June, 1999. A cub was born during the year and the breeding was successful since the year, 1999.



Year: 2000

- Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve, Sikkim covering an area of 2619.92 Sq.kms. with the Khangchendzonga (High Altitude) National Park, North & West Sikkim as the Core Zone was commissioned and declared for the purpose of protection of Khangchendzonga Mountain eco-system, in-situ conservation of biodiversity resources of the Khangchendzonga Mountain Range vis-à-vis development of buffer villages during February 2000 vide Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India Letter No. J-22016/76/91-BR dated 07-02-2000.
- Second breeding record of Red Panda (State Animal) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay. A cub was born to the same parents during the year 2000 and also during the year 2001.

Year: 2002

- Pangolakha Wildlife Sanctuary, East Sikkim covering an area of 128 Sq.kms commissioned and declared for the purpose of protection and conservation of flora & fauna and other biodiversity resources of the area during the year 2000 was finally declared and notified vide Notification No. 10/9/WCL/02/127 dated 05-09-2002. With this addition of wildlife reserve, the State's Wildlife Protected Area network coverage increased to 30.68 % of the State's total geographical year till the end of year 2002, again remarkably highest coverage amongst other States in the country.
 - Fourth breeding record of Red Panda (State Animal) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay. A cub was born to the same parents during the year 2002.
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Year: 2004

- State Board for wildlife was constituted in the State during July, 2004 with the Hon'ble Chief Minister as the Chairperson and the Minister in-charge of Forest, Environment & Wildlife Management Department as the Vice-Chairperson amongst other nominated members of different stakeholders as the constitution as such was required under Section 6 of the Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002. The duties of the State Board for Wildlife (SBWL) are to advise the State Government on policy matters for the cause of effective wildlife conservation in the State. The SBWL has met thrice since the constitution of the Board and has thrashed out much wildlife critical issues.

Year: 2006

- Kitam Bird Sanctuary, South Sikkim covering an area of 6 Sq.kms commissioned and declared for the purpose of protection and conservation of flora & fauna especially the avifauna and other bio-diversity resources of the area during the year 2005 was finally declared and notified vide Notification No. 37/FEWL dated 17-06-2006. With this addition of wildlife reserve, the State's wildlife protected area network coverage increased to 30.76% till the end of the year 2005 which is remarkably the highest amongst other States in the country.



Year: 2007

- The Wildlife Sector has already prepared documents for the nomination of the Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR), Sikkim in the world network of UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) program and forwarded to the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Government of India for onward submission to the UNESCO for consideration.
- Fifth breeding of Red Panda (State Animal) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay. A cub was born to the wild rescued pair during the year 2007.

Year: 2008.

- Ladies Slipper Faireanum Orchid being endemic to Tinkitam forest in South Sikkim and the need for its protection, preservation and propagation of this endemic and important orchid plant being arisen, the State Government commissioned and declared Sling-Dong Faireanum Conservation Reserve covering an area of 6 Ha during the year 2008 vide Notification No. 24/CWLW/GOS/FEWMD/308/WLC/08 dated 05-11-2008. With this addition of Wildlife Reserve, the wildlife protected area network coverage increased to 30.77 % of the States' total geographical area till the end of the year 2008 which is again remarkably the highest coverage amongst other States in the country.
 - Sixth breeding record of Red Panda (State Animal) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay. A cub was born to the same parents during the year 2008.
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Year: 2009.

- Outstanding birth record of Red Panda (State Animal) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay. It was seventh breeding record of Red Panda that two cubs were born to two different females during the year 2009. Panda population had risen up to 8 numbers.
- Foundation stone laid by HCM for the Project Sidkyong Tulku Bird Park at Rabdentse, West Sikkim costing about rupees 7 crores during the launching of Forest Centenary (1909-2009) celebration.
- Management Plans of all the Wildlife Protected Areas, National Park & Sanctuaries have been completed as per the direction of the Central Government. Annual Centrally Sponsored Scheme grants from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India for the management and development of the Wildlife Protected Areas are based on the management plans. The central grant-in-aids for Wildlife Protected Areas are continuing.
- Master (Lay-out) Plan and a long term Management Plan of the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay for the years 2009-10 to 2018-19 has also been completed and forwarded to the Central Zoo Authority, Government of India for approval.

Year: 2010

- The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (KBR), Sikkim has been extended and expanded from 2619.92 to 2931.12 Sq.kms duly declaring Transition Zone comprising of 44 villages with a population of 35,757 in a total of 8,353 households vide Notification No. 204/KNP-KBR/WL/Forests/2009 dated 24-05-2010. The KBR has been again proposed for inclusion in the world network of UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) program. The MAB program will provide benefits to the local communities in the Transition Zone through livelihood sustenance schemes under the program.
- During the year 2010, there was an outstanding birth record of three cubs of Red Panda (State Animal) under captivity in the Himalayan Zoological Park, Bulbulay. The cubs were born to the two different females and the Panda population shas been raised up to 11 numbers.

