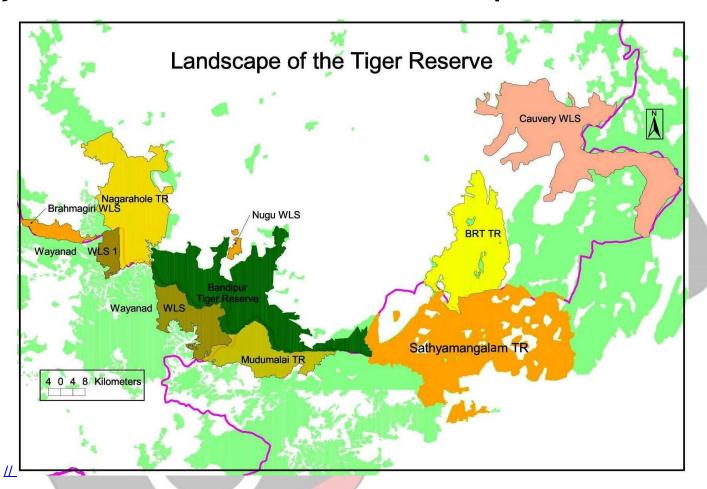


Joint Effort to Conserve Wildlife at Bandipur



National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has convened an inter-state meeting of senior forest personnel from **Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala** at Bandipur in Karnataka.

- It has decided to make a concerted effort to conserve wildlife in the region. The joint effort would primarily focus:
 - To eradicate invasive plants such as Senna Spectabilis which caused a major threat to the wildlife habitat in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
 - To ensure inter-state coordination in conserving the endangered **vulture population** in the region.
 - To mitigate increasing human-wildlife conflict on the forest fringes of the region. As part of it, information regarding radio-collared animals and their movements would be exchanged among the department staff.
 - To stop <u>forest fire</u> and information on such incidents would be handed over to the officials in the adjacent sanctuaries and tiger reserves.
 - Information on accused in forest cases would also be exchanged each other to avert wildlife-related crimes.

Bandipur Tiger Reserve

- Bandipur Tiger Reserve came into being in 2007. The name is derived from a village called Bandipur where the administrative unit of the Tiger Reserve is located.
- It the largest protected area in southern India and the largest habitat of wild elephants in South Asia, together with the adjoining Nagarhole National Park, Mudumalai National Park and Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. It is part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- The **Moyar River** originating from the Nilgiri Mountain Range near Pykara, meandering through the Reserve over a length of more than 20 Km. It is the major water source for the wildlife and people living in and around the Reserve.
- The Tiger Reserve is situated is a distinctive landmass located at the tri-junction area of the States of **Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.**

