



Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary

Why in News?

Recently, Rejecting the proposal of the Haryana government to delineate an area of 1,000 metres around the **Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary** on the Haryana side as an [Eco-Sensitive Zone \(ESZ\)](#), the **Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** has issued a draft notification, demarcating an area of 1 km up to 2.035 km around the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary on the Haryana side as an ESZ.

Key Points

- The Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary, spread over 25.98 square km (about 6420 acres), is under the administrative control of the Union territory of Chandigarh and shares its boundaries with Haryana and Punjab.
- The sanctuary is located in the [Shivalik foothills](#), which are considered ecologically sensitive and geologically unstable.
- It is home to at least **seven Schedule 1 animal species of the [Wildlife Act, 1972](#)**, including [leopard](#), [Indian pangolin](#), **sambar**, **golden jackal**, [king cobra](#), [python](#), and **monitor lizard**.
 - The **Schedule 1** species are considered endangered and in need of immediate protection.
- Besides, there are **Schedule 2** animal species like reptiles, butterflies, trees, shrubs, climbers, herbs, and 250 bird species that inhabit the sanctuary.

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