



# Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary

## Why in News?

The Forest Department has begun revising the boundaries of [Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary](#) to address existing legal complications. This initiative originated during a meeting held in Jaipur led by **Rajasthan's Principal Chief Conservator of Forests** and **Chief Wildlife Warden**.

## Key Points

- **Discussion in the meeting:**
  - The meeting focused on resolving disparities between:
    - The **sanctuary's original notification** issued on **September 22, 1980**.
    - The **eco-sensitive zone (ESZ)** notification issued on **March 8, 2019**.
  - The Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Jaipur Zoo, presented the sanctuary's original boundary details.
    - The 1980 notification defined the sanctuary's boundaries using only 11 GPS coordinates.
    - The ESZ map from 2019 marked 100 reference points leading to significant boundary differences.
  - These inconsistencies have resulted in multiple legal cases and court challenges.
- **Decision on Revising Sanctuary Map:**
  - Authorities decided to create a revised **sanctuary map based on [the Revenue records and the 1980 notification](#)**.
  - The Deputy Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Jaipur Zoo, was assigned the task of drafting the new map.
  - The **draft map will be reviewed by a committee and subsequently submitted to the state government** for approval.
- **Opposition from Environmental Activists:**
  - Environmental advocates have highlighted discrepancies in the sanctuary and ESZ maps, accusing the Forest Department of preparing a false map.
  - A complaint was filed with [the Lokayukta](#), which noted the issue.
- **Response from Forest Authorities:**
  - The Office of the **Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Rajasthan**, responded to the Lokayukta stating:
    - Questioning the maps after seven years was inappropriate.
    - The sanctuary and ESZ maps were approved and accurate.

## Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary

- **About:**
  - Situated in [the Aravalli hills](#), approximately **20 kilometres from Jaipur**, Rajasthan.
  - Named after **Nahargarh Fort**, an **18<sup>th</sup>-century fort** built by [Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II](#), the founder of Jaipur.
  - Covers an **area of 720 hectares**.
  - Includes **Nahargarh Biological Park**, renowned for its **lion safaris**.
- **Flora:** Comprises [dry deciduous forests](#), **scrublands**, and [grasslands](#).
- **Fauna:**

- **Mammals:**
  - Common species include [leopards](#), [wild boars](#), [deer](#), [lions](#), [tigers](#), [sloth bears](#), and various small mammals.
- **Birds:**
  - A paradise for bird watchers, featuring species such as [peacocks](#), [owls](#), and [eagles](#).
- **Reptiles and Amphibians:**
  - Home to reptiles like [Indian rock pythons](#) and [monitor lizards](#).
  - Amphibians such as [frogs](#) and [toads](#) are also found here.

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