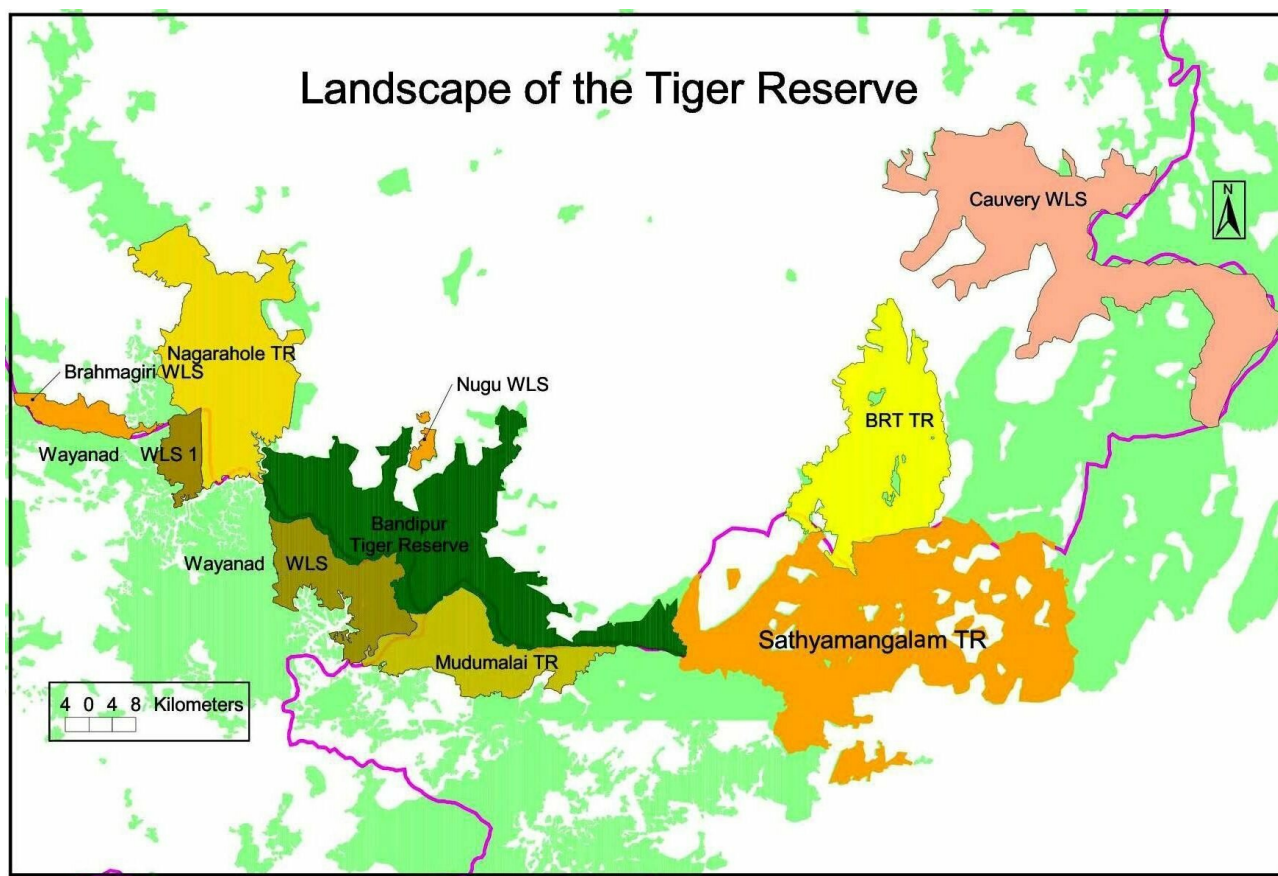




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Joint Effort to Conserve Wildlife at Bandipur

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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 **forest fire** 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**.