

Site Inspection Report

NHAI has submitted the proposal for four laning of N.H.-31 Rajauli - Bakhtiyarpur section from km 47+723 to km 54+405. The total length of the National Highway 31 comprising in this proposal is 6.682 km. This portion of the road passes through Rajauli (Nawada) Wildlife Sanctuary. The sanctuary is rich in flora & fauna. Sal, Asan, Kendu, Palas, Bahera etc. are the major tree species found in the Sanctuary and its adjoining forest area. Major fauna species found are Bear, Chital, Sambhar, Kotra, Python, Peacock etc. This is adjacent to Koderma Wildlife Sanctuary which falls in Jharkhand State. The site inspection was done on 12.10.2023 , 28.12.2023 and latest on 13.01.2024.

The salient features of the site inspection are as follows:

- 1) The length of the protected forest falling was measured. The details of the area proposed for diversion are as follow –

Sr No.	Name of Road	District	Forest Division	Area (Ha)
1	National Highway – 31 Rajauli – Bakhtiyarpur section part 6.682 kms	Nawada	Nawada	10.3680

- 2) The area proposed for diversion is barest minimum and unavoidable. No alternative route is feasible for the said diversion.
- 3) The site is prone to soil erosion.
- 4) In total 1404 trees having girth more then 30 cm are going to be affected. Out of this the user agency proposed to fell 1266 trees which is unavoidable in the context of present alignment & proposed width. The user agency vowed to translocate rest 138 trees. But no proposal has been submitted for the same. To avoid cutting/translocation of trees the only option is to reduce, the width of the road in this section. Any other alignment will lead to more destruction to natural forest. Since the road connects, Bihar to other states like Jharkhand, West Bengal etc. the traffic congestion is very heavy and to ease this congestion the present proposal is given by the user agency.
- 5) The Rajauli (Nawada) Wildlife Sanctuary is in contiguous with Koderma Wildlife Sanctuary. Jharkhand. In fact prior to bifurcation of Bihar the area was part of Koderma Wildlife Sanctuary itself. The road for which widening is under consideration passes from both the Sanctuary.
- 6) Wildlife clearance has been given to the project by NBWL and necessary recommendations as proposed by NBWL shall be followed strictly by the user agency.


Divisional Forest Officer

Nawada Forest Division, Nawada
Divisional Forest Officer
Nawada Forest Dn.
Nawada