



सत्यमेव जयते



Department of Wildlife Protection J&K Government
OFFICE OF THE WILDLIFE WARDEN KATHUA

Tel/Fax No. 01922-234622, Email: -wildlifekathua1@gmail.com


Conservation Value of the Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary.

Brief History: The Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife was notified as Wildlife Sanctuary vide SRO 138 dated 10th April 1990 the sanctuary also includes two Lakes. The twin Surinsar & Mansar Lake is already included in the list of Ramsar site under the International Convention of Wetlands in 2005 and also included in the National Wetland Conservation Programme of Govt. of India.

Whereas, Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary is situated between river Tawi in the North, Udhampur-Samba road and Gombir Khad in the East, Bottal-Bilour road and Mansar lake in the Southeast, Surinsar-Mansar Road in the Southwest and River Tawi and Surinsar Lake in the Northwest as per the notification. The Sanctuary spreads over three districts vis-à-vis Jammu, Udhampur and Samba. The major part of the sanctuary falls in the Jammu District. The area forms one of the important catchments of river Tawi.


The Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary spreads over 97.82 sq kms and is roughly rectangular in shape. The area experiences the altitudinal range between 547 to 834 m above M.S.L. It lies between 32° 41' 29" to 32° 49' 28" North latitudes and 74° 59' 59" to 75° 09' 12" East longitude. It covers an altitudinal range of 547 mtr to 843 mtr above sea level.

- i. **Ecological Significance:** -The Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary is influence by south-West monsoon hence supporting scrub forest and sub-tropical pine forest of the Group 9 (cl-Himalayan northern dry mix deciduous forests, of the Champion and Seth classification.

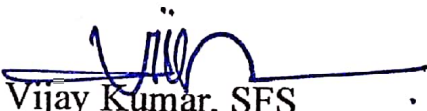

Wildlife Warden
Kathua

The wetlands also support rich growth of macrophytes in the shallow littoral. Two important species of turtles i.e Indian Flapshell turtle *Lissemys punctata* registered in the CITIES (appendix-II) and Indian soft-shall Turtle *Nilssonina gangeticus* listed in CITIES Appendix-I and vulnerable in TUCN Redlist 2016 are found in the Mansar and Surinsar lakes.

- **Waterfowl:** -These lakes host a variety of migratory as well as resident birds including waterfowl such as Mallard, Common pochard, Common teal, common coot, shoveller, Pintail, Cormorant, Darter, Dabchick, Egrets and Kingfisher etc.
- **Fishes** - *Cyprinus carpio*, *Puntius chonochonius*, *Channa gachua*, *Rasbora*, *labeo rohita*, *trichogaster fasciatus* etc.
- **Flora:** - The Sanctuary area is covered by a wide variety of Sub tropical broad-leaved trees (deciduous species) and shrubs like *acacia modesta*, *Acacia lanneagrands* *Mallotus philipenesis* *Cassia fistula*, *Zizyphu sjujube*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Embllica officinalis*. *Ficus bengalensis*, *Ficus religios*. *Bauhinia varigata*, *Adhatoda vassica*, *Dodonea vescosa*, *Carissa opac*.
- **Fauna:** - The Surinsar-Mansar Wildlife Sanctuary, is famous for harboring the 15 species of mammals, 86 species of birds, 17 species of reptiles, 8 species of fishes (Kotwal 2012).
- **Mammals:** - It includes Common Leopards (*Panthera Pardus*), Barking deer (*Muntiacus muntejak*), Nilgai (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*), Goral (*Nemorhaedus goral*), Wild Boar (*Sus scorfa*). Jackal (*Canus aureus*), Hare (*Lepus nigricollis*). Jungle cat (*Felis chaus*), Porcupine (*Hystrix indica*). Mongoose (*Herpestes edwardis*) etc.


Wildlife Warden
Kathua

- **Birds:** -The common Birds of the Sanctuary are title Cormorant, House Crow, Jungle Crow, Cuckoo, Indian ring dove, Red Turtle dove, spotted Dove, Black drongo, Cattle Egret/little Egret. fly catcher. Jungle fowl, Black crowned Night Heron, Pond heron, Hoopol. White ibis, Piled kingfisher, white-breated kite, Keal, Yellow-Wattled Lapwing, Brahming Myna, Common Myna, Jungle owlet, Black Partridge, Alexandrine Parakeet, Indian Peafowl, Kaleej Pheasant, Blue Rock pigeon, Pintail Redshank, White Copped Red start, Indian Robin, Indian Roller, Shikra, House Sparrow, Painted stork, Tit, Grey Tit, Egyptian vulture, Water hen, White-breasted large Pied wagtail etc.


Vijay Kumar, SFS
Wildlife Warden
Wildlife Warden
Kathua