

CONSERVATION VALUE OF EAGLENEST WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary spreads over an area of 217 Sq kms and is part of the Kameng Protected Area Complex and renowned for its rich biodiversity. The perennial rivers and streams here originate from the core of EWLS. The Forest comprises of Tropical Evergreen & semi-evergreen forests, Sub-tropical broad leaved hill forests in the lower elevation and the Eastern Himalayan Dry Temperate Coniferous forest in the higher elevation. Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary is rich in both faunal diversity and floral diversity. This is because of the wide altitudinal gradient from 500 MSL to 3250 MSL with the peak of avian diversity within 1800 MSL to 2000 MSL. Amongst floral diversity, apart from the endemic trees & plants, 120 spp of Orchids, 12 spp of Rhododendrons and innumerable medicinal plants are reported.

The EWLS is a success story and this has been possible because of the conservation & protection support rendered by the local Bugun & Shertukpen people and the local NGO's. EWLS is a successful model of joint government and community conservation efforts. The conservation and protection efforts have to be continued which is in the interest of all of us.

However, the location of the proposed Pinjoli bridge lies outside the Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary adjacent to the existing Balipara- Charduar- Tawang (BCT) road but inside the Eco- Sensitive Zone. The area is an open forest with density of 0.20 with forest type being Tropical Semi-Evergreen Forest.

