

## MEE Team-wise Report

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1.	3.	Shri V.K. Uniyal	Northern	Himachal Pradesh	1. Churdhar WLS	2017-18	3-14
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# **HIMACHAL PRADESH**

# **1. CHURDHAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH MEE Year (2017-18)**

## **Management Strengths**

1. Churdhar Wildlife Sanctuary is unique in the sense that it has high-altitude habitats that are isolated. Therefore the sanctuary has the potential for carrying out long-term monitoring (as a control site), particularly with reference to climate change.
2. During the last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from the Kol Dam outlay, CAMPA and CSS.
3. Camping kits, GPS and cameras are provided to all staff members for use in group patrolling in coordination with the enforcement/line agencies. Mobile allowances are provided to all officers and frontline staff members for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.
4. During the last 3 years, the PA has had no record of human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife offences.
5. There is no village or permanent settlement inside the PA.

## **Management Weaknesses**

1. There is no zonation (core/buffer/tourist) of the PA.
2. There is heavy pilgrim pressure inside the PA.
3. No wildlife monitoring or research is being carried out in the PA.
4. There are no corridors or network/security/landscape plans.
5. No support is received from local communities or temple committees, and no contributions are received from NGOs (funds/in kind) for the management of the PA.

## **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. Preparation of the zonation Plan of the PA must be expedited, and approval of the eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) proposal must be sought.
2. Systematic baseline data on the flora and fauna of the PA should be generated as quickly as possible, and monitoring must be carried out regularly, specifically on the rare, endemic and threatened (RET) species and on the IUCN Red List and IWPA Schedule species.
3. EDCs should be constituted to involve local communities and the temple committee in the conservation plans and programmes of the PA.
4. Detailed plans have to be drawn up for climate change-resilient PA management in collaboration with the HP SCC.
5. The manager of the PA must conduct self-evaluation (MEE), and the records must be maintained for reference in the future.
6. Upgrading/revamping/correction/establishment of signage is needed in various aspects (warning, education, information, etc.).

# CHURDHAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		Annexure 1 Management Plan (2018-19 to 2027-2028) Annexure 1-a Final notification	
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair			
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good	✓		
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Annexure 1 Management Plan (2018-19 to 2027-2028)	Livestock grazing (resident & nomadic), and anthropogenic pressure (increasing pilgrimage), soil erosion, diseases (HFRI report).
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair			
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good	✓		
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Annexure 1	No village inside PA yet anthropogenic pressures in the form of grazing and pilgrimage
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments, etc. resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		Annexure 2	No Core / buffer/ tourism zonation and draft ESZ submitted to Gol.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair	√		
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good			
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor		Annexure 1 Management Plan (2018-19 to 2027-2028)	
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good	√		
Site has a comprehensive, science-based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor			Previous Management Plan expired in 2009-10.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair	√		
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

## 2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		Annexure 1 Management Plan (2018-19 to 2027-2028)	Threats identified and actions proposed in management plan.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good	✓		
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work.

## 2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor	✓		MEE Committee proposed formation of EDCs to enable community participation in the planning and management of PA.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Annexure 1 Management Plan (2018-19 to 2027-2028)	Plantation activities carried out during the last three years.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair			
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

**2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor			Group patrolling in all five beats & coordination with enforcement / line agencies
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good	✓		
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

**2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor			This PA does not have any connectivity with other PAs in the region
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

**3. Inputs**

**3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure 3	Existing strength is 75% (6 filled out)

Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	√	List of sanctioned posts and vacant positions	of the 8 sanctioned posts).
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range, Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis-a-vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		Annexure 3	Forest guards have undergone induction training  PA manager trained in WII
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair			
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good	√		
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure 4 List of infrastructure (office buildings, Rest houses, accommodation for staff, vehicles, etc.)	Range infrastructure is poor and needs improvement.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	√		
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Annexure 5  (Details of funds received from CSS, CAMPA, Kol Dam outlay during the last three years)	For last 3 years, the park has received adequate funds from Kol dam outlay, state scheme, CAMPA and CSS.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally, funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	√		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	√		No NGOs' contribution in park management.  Local villagers do not provide support to PA Management.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor			Financial support & human resource are adequate.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair			
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good	√		
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

#### 4. Process

##### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor	✓		Awards for best performing field staff to be initiated.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

##### 4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		Annexure 6	Wildlife week celebrations.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair	✓		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

##### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor			No complaints received.  Gujjar permits to be issued by District Administration after consultation with DFO.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair	✓		
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good			
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor			None in the last 3 years.  Efforts to be made to reduce anthropogenic pressure inside the PA.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	√		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

**5. Output**

**5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor			No Brochures/ Pamphlets printed and provided to users.  HPFD website & Division website.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair	√		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor	√		No tourist visits till date.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			

All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			
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\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feedback on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists (both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor	✓		Field surveys to assess baseline status of wildlife in PA to be initiated.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair			
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all sites attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Annexure 5	
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

**6. Outcomes**

**6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor			Initiate systematic population monitoring exercises for endangered species such as musk deer
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	✓		
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

**6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor			Monitor threats and initiate actions to reduce anthropogenic pressures particularly increasing pilgrimage.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair	✓		
Most threats to the Site have been abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

**6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor			There are no cases of HWC reported from WS during the last 3 years.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

#### 6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor			Expectations of pilgrims met.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good	✓		
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

#### 6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Local communities are hostile.	Poor			Nomadic grazers are not supportive.  MEE Committee suggested formation of EDC including temple committee.
Some are supportive.	Fair	✓		
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good			
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Like-wise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

#### MEE Score Card

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	20.0	<b>55%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	47.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	35.0	
4.	Process	04	10	40	17.5	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	15.0	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	30.0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>165.0</b>	

## **2. DHARANGATI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH MEE YEAR (2017-18)**

### **Management Strengths**

1. Dharangati Wildlife Sanctuary has potential for long-term conservation of key Himalayan species. There are no settlements/encroachment inside the protected area (PA) after the rationalization of boundaries.
2. During the last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from the Kol Dam outlay, CAMPA and CSS.
3. Camping kits, GPS and cameras are provided to all staff members for use in group patrolling in coordination with the enforcement/line agencies. Mobile allowances are provided to all the officers and frontline staff members for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.
4. For last 3 years, the PA does not have any record of human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife offences.
5. The PA staff members participate in temple committee and Gram Sabha meetings.

### **Management Weaknesses**

1. A new Management Plan (2018–2028) is being prepared. The old plan expired in 2001.
2. There is no zonation (core/buffer/tourist), and there is no eco-sensitive zone (ESZ).
3. There are no corridors or network/security/landscape plans.
4. There is no support from local communities, and there are no contributions from NGOs (funds/in kind) for the management of the PA.

### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. The Wildlife Management Plan should be prepared expeditiously in accordance with the WII guidelines and should include an ESZ proposal.
2. Systematic baseline data on the flora and fauna should be generated for the entire PA as quickly as possible, specifically on the rare, endemic and threatened (RET) species and the IUCN Red List and IWPA Schedule species.
3. EDCs should be constituted to involve local communities in the conservation plans and programmes of the PA.
4. The situations before and after the reduction of anthropogenic pressures on the PA with regard to schemes such as distribution of LPG connections and solar lights must be monitored.
5. Permissions given to tourists by the manager of the PA would enhance the number of visits. The manager of the PA should be authorized by the PCCF and CWLW to give permissions for tourist entry.
6. Detailed plans have to be drawn up to adopt climate change-resilient PA management in collaboration with the HP SCC.
7. The manager of the PA must conduct self-evaluation (MEE), and the records must be maintained for reference in the future.
8. Upgrading/revamping/correction/establishment of signage is needed in various aspects (warning, education, information, etc.).

# DHARANGATI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		Annexure 1	Mgmt Plan (1990-2001) has expired.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair	✓	Draft Management Plan (2018-19 to 2027-2028) in preparation.	New Management Plan (2018-2028) in preparation.
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good		Annexure 1-a Final notification	

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Draft Management Plan under preparation	Livestock grazing (resident & nomadic), and anthropogenic pressure, some poaching (gun license renewals).
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair			
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good	✓		
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Annexure 1	No settlements / encroachment inside PA after rationalization. Only occasional grazing.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		Annexure 1 & 1-a Notification and ESZ notification	PA boundary well defined. Core / buffer/ tourism zonation under way in draft management plan
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good	✓		
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor	✓		The draft Mgmt. Plan, under preparation as per WII's guidelines.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive, science-based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor	✓		Mgmt. Plan under preparation as per WII Guidelines.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

**2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		Annexure 2 (pheasant survey & bird checklist) Biodiversity Survey Reports (Pl see Annexure 13A)	Baseline data on wildlife generated through a field survey recently.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair	✓		
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good			
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

**2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor		Annexure 2 (resolutions sent to PA by Gram Sabha), Village youth trained (Annexure 9)	Memorandum from fringe Gram Sabhas incorporated in APO. PA staff participate in temple committees and Gram Sabha meetings.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair	✓		
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

**2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Annexure 2	Plantations (fruit bearing trees) & Soil and Moisture conservation activities (water, check dams).
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair			
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		Annexure 3	Mobiles, GPS & cameras, camping kit provided to all staff for use.  Group patrolling (2-3 days in a beat) & coordination with enforcement / line agencies.  Anti-poachers from village communities.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good	✓		
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

## 2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		Annexure 4  Meetings of Line departments	This PA does not have any connectivity with other PAs in the region.  Line department meetings.
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

## 3. Inputs

### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure 4	Existing strength is 95% (21 filled)

Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair		List of sanctioned posts and vacant positions	out of the 22 sanctioned posts).
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good	√		

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range, Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis-a-vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		Annexure 5	50% Forest guards have undergone induction training.  Also trained in wildlife law, WL restraint.
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair			
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good	√		
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure 6 List of infrastructure (office buildings, Rest houses, accommodation for staff, vehicles, etc.)	Mobile allowances provided to all officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.  No vehicle for PA.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	√		
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Annexure 7  (Details of funds received from CSS, CAMPA, Kol Dam outlay during the last three years)	For last 3 years, the park has received adequate funds from Kol dam outlay, state scheme, CAMPA and CSS.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally, funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	√		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF&CC and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	√		No NGOs' contribution in park management.  Local villagers do not provide support to PA Management.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		Annexure 7	Financial support & human resource are adequate.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair			
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good	√		
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

#### 4. Process

##### Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor		Annexure 8  Letters of Recommendation for awards	ACR & reward scheme for good work done by field staff.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair	√		
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

##### Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		Annexure 8	Memorandum from Gram Sabha taken into consideration in the planning of ESZ of the PA.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair	√		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

#### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		Annexure 1 & 9	RTIs replied regularly.  Complaints on State-run eSamadhan portal checked and sorted regularly.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair	√		
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good			
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Annexure 15 (list of items distributed to village communities)	Kol Dam outlay till 2022 include significant expenditure on community livelihood generation.  Monitoring of Pre and Post scenario on reduction of anthropogenic pressures on PA with regard to schemes such as provision of LPG & solar lights.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	√		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

**5. Output**

**5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		Annexure 11 & 16  (Brochure, pamphlet, web link and outreach details etc.)	Brochures/ Pamphlets printed and provided to users.  HPFD website and Division website.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair			
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good	√		
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor	✓	Annexure 12	No tourist visits till date. There is potential for enhancing tourism.  Authorize PA manager for tourist entry.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feedback on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists (both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Annexure 13  Wildlife survey reports	Recent field survey to assess baseline status of wildlife in WS is underway.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all sites attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Annexure 6 & 7	Kol dam outlay till 2022 and CAMPA.  2 FRH in Gopalpur, Dofda.  Inspection hut at Sharnal.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

**6. Outcomes**

**6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		Annexure 2	Updation of checklist of wildlife species.  population monitoring of pheasants.  Systematic population monitoring for endangered species.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	✓		
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

**6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Annexure 3	Group patrolling.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair			
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good	✓		
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

**6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		Annexure 14	There are no cases of HWC reported from WS during the last 3 years.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair	√		
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good			
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

**6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor	√	Annexure 10	Scope of ecotourism is there.  Signages are there.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

**6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor			Nomadic graziers are not supportive.  MEE Committee suggested formation of EDC and interaction with WL staff.
Some are supportive.	Fair	√		
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good			
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Like-wise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

**MEE Score Card**

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	17.5	<b>56.67%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	42.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	42.5	
4.	Process	04	10	40	20.0	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	22.5	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	25.0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>170</b>	

### **3. DHAULADHAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH MEE YEAR (2017-18)**

#### **Management Strengths**

1. Dhauladhar Wildlife Sanctuary is the second largest protected area (PA) of Himachal Pradesh. It is contiguous with the PAs of Kugti, Tundah, Manali and Nargu, which form a unique, large geomorphological conservation unit. There is potential for long-term conservation of species such as the snow leopard, brown bear, musk deer, birds and medicinal plants in this PA.
2. During the last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.
3. Mobile allowances are provided to all the officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.
4. During the last 3 years, the PA has had no record of human-wildlife conflicts and wildlife offences.

#### **Management Weaknesses**

1. A new Management Plan is being prepared. The old plan expired in 2014.
2. There is no zonation (core/buffer/tourist) plan. The proposed eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) should be included in the zonation.
3. There are no corridors and also no network/security/landscape plans.
4. There is no administrative infrastructure, and the staff strength is poor.
5. No contributions are received from NGOs (funds/in kind) for the management of the PA.
6. No appreciation/incentives are given for good work done by the field staff.

#### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. Preparation of the Wildlife Management Plan following the WII guidelines should be expedited, and the plan should include the ESZ proposal.
2. Systematic baseline data on the flora and fauna should be generated for the entire PA as quickly as possible, specifically on rare, endemic and threatened (RET) and on IUCN Red List and IWPA Schedule species.
3. Systematic monitoring of the glaciers, rivers, flora and fauna is to be established.
4. A committee should be constituted to involve local communities in the conservation plans and programmes of the PA.
5. Infrastructure development is to be taken up on a priority basis. Communication equipment such as wireless sets must be procured and used for effective patrolling and coordination with enforcement/line agencies.
6. An integrated landscape management plan should be developed.
7. Vacant posts must be filled up, and personnel at various levels must be deployed better for effective protection.
8. The post of ACF must be created, with the headquarters, along with the administrative and logistic setup, near the PA.
9. The officers and frontline staff should be trained in wildlife management.
10. The manager of the PA must ensure that there is effective public participation in the management of the PA.
11. The situations before and after the reduction of anthropogenic pressures on the PA with regard to schemes such as distribution of LPG connections must be monitored.

12. There is potential for ecotourism. Signages to assist tourists and rules and regulations for entry and monitoring of tourists/trekkers are needed.
13. The MEE committee has suggested that an EDC be formed at Barabangal for engagement in conservation.
14. Detailed plans have to be drawn up to adapt the management to climate change through coordination with the HPCCC (Himachal Pradesh State Centre on Climate Change).
15. The state government should provide support in the form of helicopter services for the manager of the PA and for the field staff for patrolling/monitoring during periods of inaccessibility.
16. The manager of the PA must conduct self-evaluation (MEE), and the records of the evaluation must be maintained for reference in the future.
17. Upgrading/revamping/correction/establishment of signage is needed for various aspects (warning, education, information, etc.).

# DHAULADHAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor	✓	Management Plan (2004-05 to 2013-14) Annexure A1	Management Plan has expired.  The next Management Plan is under preparation.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair			
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Annexure A1	Livestock grazing (nomadic), and anthropogenic pressure.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good			
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Annexure A1	1 summer village Barabangal is located within the PA.  Summer grazing by nomadic herders.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor	√	Annexure A1	No core / buffer/ tourism zonation.  Draft ESZ submitted to the Central Govt.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good			
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor	√		The draft Management Plan, under preparation and should be as per WII's guidelines.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive, science-based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor	√		Management Plan should be prepared as per WII guidelines.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

## 2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor	✓	Annexure A2 Biodiversity Survey Report	Baseline data on wildlife of a small portion of the WS generated through a field survey recently.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good			
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

## 2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor	✓		No initiative till date.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor	✓		Nil
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair			
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good			
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor	√		No Communication equipment such as wireless etc.  No systematic effective patrolling & coordination with enforcement / line agencies.  No camps.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

## 2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor	√	Annexure A3 Map	This PA has connectivity with Kugti and Manali areas. This needs to be highlighted in Management plan.
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair			
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

## 3. Inputs

### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor	√	Annexure A4	Only 4 staff and 3 posts are vacant.

Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range, Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis- a- vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor	√		Two Forest guard had undergone induction training.
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair			
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building, etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor	√		Mobile allowances provided to all officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.  No vehicle for PA.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

**3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Annexure A5	For last 3 years, the park has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.  No Timely release of CAMPA funds.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally, funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	√		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF&CC and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

**3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	√		No NGOs' contribution in park management.  Local villagers do not provide support to PA management.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

**3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor			Financial support is adequate.  Human resource grossly inadequate.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair	√		
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good			
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

#### 4. Process

##### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor	√		No appreciation / incentives for good work done by field staff.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

##### 4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor	√		PA manager to ensure effective public participation in PA management.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair			
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control, etc.

##### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor			No complaints received.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair	√		
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good			
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Under process	Monitoring of Pre and Post scenario on reduction of anthropogenic pressures on PA with regard to schemes such as provision of LPG & sewing machines.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	√		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

**5. Output**

**5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		Annexure 6	Brochures/ Pamphlets printed and provided to users.  Also to be printed in Hindi.  PA website under development.  Link PA website with State FD website.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair	√		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor	√		There is potential for enhancing tourism
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			

All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feedback on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists (both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Annexure A2	Recent field survey to assess baseline status of wildlife in a small part of the WS.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all sites attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor			1 FRH in Barabangal, 1 in Rajgunda  Administrative infrastructure is lacking.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

## 6. Outcomes

### 6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor	✓		Update of checklist of wildlife species suggested.  No population estimation in progress.  Systematic population monitoring for endangered species
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair			
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

### 6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor	✓		No systematic data available.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence.	Fair			
Most threats to the Site have been abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed.	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation.	Very good			

### 6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor			There are no cases of HWC reported from WS during the last 3 years.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair	✓		
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good			
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

#### 6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor	√		Scope of ecotourism is there.  Signages to be put up.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

#### 6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor	√		MEE Committee suggested formation of EDC and interaction with WL staff.
Some are supportive.	Fair			
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good			
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Like-wise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

#### MEE Score Card

<b>Framework Element Number</b>	<b>Framework Element Name</b>	<b>Number of Questions (a)</b>	<b>Maximum Mark per question (b)</b>	<b>Total (a x b)</b>	<b>Marks obtained for the Element</b>	<b>Overall Score</b>
1.	Context	03	10	30	12.5	<b>34.17%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	20.0	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	22.5	
4.	Process	04	10	40	15.0	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	17.5	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	15.0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>102.5</b>	

## **4. GAMGUL-SIYABEHI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH, MEE YEAR (2017-18)**

### **Management Strengths**

1. The Sanctuary is located in Dhauladhar Range Mountains with snow clad peaks, with extensive alpine forest rich in biodiversity; the inaccessible hilly terrain is well protected. It also served as the hunting preserve of the former Maharaja.
2. The remoteness of its location, its inaccessibility along with low tourism pressure has kept it relatively free from biotic pressures.
3. The protection posts of the police along the sanctuary borders with the state of Jammu and Kashmir strengthens the protection efforts.
4. The undisturbed habitat of the sanctuary supports a small population of the endangered hangul which is otherwise under threat in the wilderness.

### **Management Weaknesses**

1. The staff are ill-equipped for patrolling the mountainous terrain of the sanctuary as they lack field gear and equipment for high-altitude climbing and trekking.
2. Most of the staff live at the headquarters of the sanctuary as the facilities for camping in different parts of the sanctuary is not very good. Protection staff need to be posted at guard huts/posts in vulnerable areas, especially during winter. Such huts/posts may, therefore, be established in different parts of the sanctuary.
3. There is no four-wheel drive vehicle exclusively for protection in the sanctuary. This impedes the movement of the staff. The DFO is stationed in Chamba and also manages Kalatop-Khajjiyar Wildlife Sanctuary and has logistic issues to manage the sanctuary.

### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. The Management Plan for the sanctuary for the period from 2013–2014 to 2023–2024 should be submitted to the Chief Wildlife Warden for early approval.
2. The department may consider providing a vehicle for the ACF, considering his job requirement, and one for Gamgul-Siyabehe Wildlife sanctuary for better management.
3. The sanctuary require additional forest guards for enhancing protection, taking into account the large area, remoteness and difficult terrain of the sanctuary. This may be suitably considered by the State Government.
4. A conservation breeding centre for the hangul may be established as it was well distributed in the area in the past. The project could be taken up in collaboration with the Central Zoo Authority, Jammu and Kashmir Forest Department, Wildlife Institute of India and Bombay Natural History Society.
5. The Capacity building of the staff in wildlife management should be accorded priority, short training courses on wildlife management should be organised in-house and in the Forest training School.

# GAMGUL-SIYABEHI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		1. Management Plan under preparation for 2013-14 to 2023-24 to be sent to CWLW for approval 2. Notification of Government of Himachal Pradesh on reorganization of sanctuary in 2013. 3. Discussions with the DFO and ACF	The area has historical importance for wildlife. The area was a hunting preserve of erstwhile Maharaja for Hangul deer. It was declared a game reserve in 1949 and a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1974/1999. Some areas were worked upon according to working plan. The draft plan provides the checklist of flora and fauna.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair	✓		
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		1. Management Plan under preparation for 2013-14 to 2023-24 and to be sent to CWLW for approval 2. Report on Estimation of Wildlife Population by Wildlife Department	1. Poaching, cattle grazing and forest fire were identified as the major threat to the Sanctuary in the draft management plan but threats were not regularly monitored and assessed 2. Population trend of important wildlife is generally stable
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good			
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		1.Notification of Government of Himachal Pradesh on reorganization of sanctuary in 2013 2.Draft management plan under preparation 3.Discussion with some villagers and staff	32 villages were excluded from the Sanctuary area. The total area remained with the Sanctuary was 108.40 sq. km.after reorganization in 2013 however, the dependence of local community and some biotic pressure still remains on the Sanctuary resources
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		1. The map of the sanctuary along with the proposed Eco-sensitive zone for the sanctuary	The Sanctuary was established during 1974. Site identification appears to be alright. Currently the sanctuary extending over 108.4 sq. km.is categorised as only one zone surrounded by an proposed eco-sensitive zone.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good	✓		
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

## 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category +</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor		1. Management plan for the period 2011-12 to 2020-21 (not approved) 2. The Management plan for the period 2013-14 to 2023-24 being prepared by DFO (Wildlife) 3. Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1. The draft management plan is under preparation. The last management plan 2011-12 to 2020-21 (not approved) also included the 32 villages which were excluded from the sanctuary in 2013. The revised plan would be only for the existing 108.4 sq. km area. The DFO and ACF informed the committee that it would be submitted to the Chief Wildlife Warden soon. 2. The WII guidelines are being followed for the plan under preparation. 3. It was informed that stakeholder consultation will be made.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair	✓		
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive; science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

## 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor		1. Draft management plan under preparation 2. Approved work plan for 2016-17	The Sanctuary underwent a massive reorganisation which delayed the finalization of the management plan. There were annual plans approved by the Competent Authority for all the years including 2017-18
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good	✓		
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

## 2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		1. Draft management plan under preparation 2. Discussion with the DFO and ACF	The draft management plan has protection strategy for safeguarding threatened biodiversity values of the area. There is proposal to establish check posts at
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good	✓		

The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			the state boundary with J and K. In addition to the protection measures, habitat improvement programmes are to be under taken to further safe guard the biodiversity.
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\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

## 2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor		1. Discussion with the ACF 2. Interaction with some local people	The draft management Plan is under Preparation and the meeting with the various Stake holders has been planned soon as was informed by the Assistant Conservator of Forest. Efforts would also be made to put the Management Plan on the website of the department.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair	✓		
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Approved annual plan for 2016-17	Planned Soil and moisture conservation, native tree species plantations including wild fruit bearing species are being done based on the approved annual plan.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair			
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

Assessment criteria*				
Condition	Category	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		1, Plan under preparation and the existing old plan 2.Approved Annual Work Plan for 2016-17 3.Discussions with DFO, ACF and staff 4. Field visit	1. Routine Beat Level Patrol, Special joint patrol being taken up. 6PatrollingHuts, watch tower, 2 field staff transit huts add to the protection efforts by the field teams. 2. Patrolling report format is there, however, it need to be filled in more systematically. 3. Mobile allowance is given to all the staff for communication. 4. However, since the area is large and in our considered opinion the staff strength is limited and there is need to have some more forest/wildlife guards. 5. Some funds are also provided for hiring of vehicles during emergent situation,engaging anti-poaching watchers, anti-grazers and conducting antipoaching camps 6. High altitude areas need more focus specially in inter state boundary areas and field gears and equipment for such patrol is to be considered by the management
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good	✓		
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

**2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		1.The plan under preparation for the sanctuary after reorganization 2.Discussionswith the DFO and the ACF	1. Limited ecosystem approach currently. 32 villages and their adjoining forests have been excluded from the sanctuary and now under the control of Territorial DFO. There will be need to integrate the management of fringe forest and village areas in the Working Plan for enhanced conservation outcomes.
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

**3. Inputs**

**3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Report on staff sanctioned and in place report given by the department	1. Sanctioned staff are in place and there is no vacancy. 2. Since the area of the sanctuary is large, in our considered opinion some more guards for the area will be helpful in future. 3. The DFO and ACF informed that they will be proposing some more posts of forest/wildlife guards in the revised plan under preparation
Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range , Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis- a- vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		1. Discussions with the DFO and ACF. 2. Interaction with staff during field visits.	1. The staff has completed the basic training in forestry as appropriate to their cadre. The course did have wildlife subjects. 2. There are In- house training programme for front line staff like census, wildlife conflict issues etc. 4. However, currently there is no formally trained wildlife staff
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair	✓		
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		1. List of vehicles and buildings as provided by DFO (Wildlife) 2. Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1. Building and staff quarters were reported to be adequate. 2. There is one jeep for DFO (Wildlife) and one motorcycle for RO. 3. No jeep for ACF and RO. 4. Other equipment's were reported to be adequate. More GPS units to be procured. 5. Proper gears and equipment for high altitude patrolling may be needed for effective protection of these areas.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		1. discussions with the ACF	1. It was informed that funds allotment was adequate

Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair		2.Statement of funds allotted and utilized for the last three years	2. Release of Funds specially from state was timely 3. Full utilization of Funds allotted
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good			
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good	✓		

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor		Discussions with the DFO and ACF	No NGO was reported to be involved in any activity in the sanctuary area and no funding support (in cash or kind) was provided. <b>The question was not evaluated</b>
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		1.Discussions with the DFO and ACF 2.Statements on funds allotted and utilized 3.Details of staff sanctioned and vacancy position	1.The funds released by the state and Central Government were adequate and timely released 2. Sanctioned staff is in place. Considering the large and difficult terrain of the sanctuary, there is need to post some additional forest/wildlife guards. The DFO and the ACF were in agreement on this.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair			
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good	✓		
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

#### 4. Process

##### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor			1. The key objective of the Sanctuary management is to conserve biodiversity and its management. The task is being undertaken by the field staff to the best of their capacities. No serious protection related problem was highlighted. 2. Therefore, it can be concluded that the performance of all the staff is related to management objectives.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good	✓		
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

##### 4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		1. Discussion with DFO and ACF 2. Interaction with some local community members	1. The local communities are involved in fire protection, wildlife census. 2. This was also revealed during brief interaction with the local community members. 3. The LPG connection, honey bee rearing boxes and compost making skills were offered to the locals by the department to garner their goodwill.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair			
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good	✓		
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

##### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		1. Complaint register 2. Discussions with the DFO and ACF	The complaints either in writing or verbal. The written complaints are
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			

Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good	✓		enquired and the action taken report was sent to senior officers.
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

#### 4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		1. Registers of beneficiaries maintained by the Range Officer, Bhandal Range  3. Discussions with the DFO and ACF 4. Interaction with some local community members and beneficiaries	1. The forest department provided LPG and honey bill rearing boxes. 2. Training in preparation of compost and honey bee rearing. 3. The vaccination of cattle in the surrounding villages around the sanctuary for foot and mouth disease was done. 4. The wildlife awareness campaign was carried out from Bhandal range office. 5.All the departmental works were undertaken by engaging local people.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair			
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good	✓		
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

### 5. Output

#### 5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor	✓	Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1. It was informed that the Website is under preparation. 2. The Interpretation Centre would be developed in future.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair			
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor		Discussionwith the DFO and ACF	Due to the remoteness of the sanctuary from Chamba it by and large did not attract tourists currently. The highway from Chamba to the interstate boundary with J&K state is under widening and on completion may attract tourists to otherwise this beautiful sanctuary in future. No data on tourists and revenues realized etc.were provided. This question <b>was not evaluated by us.</b>
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feedback on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists ( both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		1.wildlife census details for 2015-16 and 2016-17 provided by the management	1.Annual monitoring (survey/census) of wildlife population is being done. However, there is a need to follow robust scientifically methods 2.Research activity by the department, other institutions and individuals is lacking
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		1.List of assets 2.Discussions with ACF	1.Inventory of assets both movable and immovable maintained. 2.The discussion with ACF revealed that fund allotment is adequate for maintenance and repairs.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

**6. Outcomes**

**6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		Data on estimation of important wildlife population conducted by the department for 2015-16 and 2016-17	The last two years data provided by the department indicates a fairly stable population for important wildlifespecies of the sanctuary.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	✓		
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

**6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		1.data provided by the management 2.Discussion with the DFO and ACF 3.Field visit	1. As per the information provided there were 8 offence cases involving illegal felling, grazing and lopping in 2015-16. No offence cases were reported for 2014-15 and 2016-17. 2. No poaching was reported. 3.20 ha. of ground fire was recorded in 2016-17.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair			
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good	✓		
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

**6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		1.details provided by the ACF 2.Discussions with the DFO and ACF	There were no reports of any injury, human death and property damaged in last three years. No human-animal conflict reported and no compensation paid.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

**6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor			Tourism not significant hence not evaluated
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

**6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		1.Discussion with the DFO and ACF 2.Interaction with some local community members	During our interaction with the local, the people felt satisfied with efforts of forest department
Some are supportive.	Fair			
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good	✓		
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

**MEE Score Card**

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	15	<b>66.29 Or 66 %</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	52.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	80	37.5 *	
4.	Process	04	10	40	30	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	15*	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	27.5*	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>177.5 or 179</b>	

\*Question number 3.5, 5.2 and 6.4 were not evaluated

## **5. KAIS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH**

### **MEE Year (2017-18)**

#### **Management Strengths**

1. Kais Wildlife Sanctuary is now free from any permanent settlements/villages, after the rationalization of the boundary of the protected area (PA) in June 2013.
2. Mobile allowances are provided to all the officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.
3. During the last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.
4. During the last 3 years, no human-wildlife conflict cases have been recorded in the PA.

#### **Management Weaknesses**

1. There is no approved Management Plan.
2. The draft Wildlife Management Plan does not have zonation (core/buffer/tourist). The proposed eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) should be included in the plan.
3. There are no corridors or network/security/landscape plans.
4. No contributions have been received from NGOs in cash or kind for management of the PA.
5. No appreciation/incentives are given for good work done by the field staff.

#### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. Systematic monitoring of threats such as fire, illicit felling, lopping, felling and encroachment should be carried out regularly.
2. A Wildlife Management Plan should be drawn up following the WII guidelines, and the plan should include a proposal for an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ). Early approval of the Plan should be pursued.
3. Systematic baseline data on the flora and fauna should be generated as early as possible, specifically on rare, endemic and threatened (RET) species and IUCN Red List and IWPA Schedule species.
4. A committee should be constituted to involve local communities in the conservation plans and programmes of the PA.
5. Weed eradication plans must be developed to make the PA invasive species-free.
6. Communication equipment such as wireless sets should be procured quickly and used for effective patrolling. The coordination with the enforcement/line agencies must be enhanced.
7. Better coordination with line departments is needed to tap state/district funds.
8. An integrated landscape management plan should be developed.
9. A risk plan and protection plans should be developed.
10. Vacant posts must be filled up, and better deployment of personnel at various levels should be ensured for effective protection.
11. The officers and frontline staff should be trained in wildlife management.
12. Efforts should be made to secure the release of CSS funds in a timely manner from the state.
13. The manager of the PA should ensure that there is effective public participation in the management of the PA.
14. The situations before and after reduction of anthropogenic pressures on the PA with regard to schemes such as distribution of induction heaters must be monitored to assess the impacts of these schemes.

15. The development of the website of the PA must be expedited, and the website must be linked with the website of the state forest department.
16. A visitors' feedback register must be maintained.
17. Detailed plans have to be drawn up for climate change-resilient PA management. At least one permanent long-term monitoring plot must be identified in the PA through WII's ongoing NMSHE project in the Beas Basin (Great Himalayan National Park landscape).

# KAIS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		Draft Management Plan (2014-15 to 2023-24) (Annex. A1-A6)	The draft Mgmt. Plan prepared and submitted to CWLW for approval.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair	✓		
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Annexure B1	No. of cases recorded & livestock grazing permitted as per settlement of rights of local communities (Annex. 2)  Fire – as informed by the DFO, there has been no reports of forest fires in the last 4 years.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good			
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor			The Kais WS is now free from
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		

The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good		Map / Notification of Pre and Post notifications Annexure B1,C1-C2	permanent settlements / villages after the rationalization of PA boundary in June 2013.
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category+	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor	√	Annexure D1-D2	No core / buffer/ tourism zonation.  Draft ESZ plan submitted to the Central Govt.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good			
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category+	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor		Annexure A5-A6	The draft Mgmt. Plan prepared and submitted to CWLW for approval. It is not as per WII guidelines.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair	√		
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive, science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

**2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor		Old and present (draft) Mgmt Plan Annexure A5-A6	
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair	✓		
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

**2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		Annexure A4	Bird count and ungulate population estimation exercises are underway.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair	✓		
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good			
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

**2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor	✓	Annexure F1	The DFO has initiated some efforts in this regard.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Annexure G1-G2, J2	Measures such as SMC, check dams, weed eradication and water ponds have been undertaken.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good			
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is their a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		Annexure E1-E2, H1-H2	Communication equipment such as wireless to be procured and used for effective patrolling. Coordination with enforcement / line agencies to be enhanced.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair	✓		
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

**2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor	✓	Nil	No corridors and network/ security/ landscape plans.  No funds received from District administration and other line departments.
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair			
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

**3. Inputs**

**3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure I1	One Forest Guard Post Vacant.
Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	✓		
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range , Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis- a- vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

**3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		Annexure I2	Officers and frontline staff should be trained
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair	✓		

A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			in Wildlife management.
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure J1, H1, E1-E2	Mobile allowances provided to all officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	✓		
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Annexure I1, I3	For last 3 years, the park has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.  CAMPA funds are timely released.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	✓		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	√	Nil	No NGOs' contribution in PA management.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		Annexure I1, I3	One post of forest guard is vacant. One post of chowkidar has been proposed.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair	√		
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good			
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

## 4. Process

### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor	√	Nil Annexure K1	No appreciation / incentives for good work done by field staff. Books provided to field staff as a mark of appreciation.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

**4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		Annexure L1, J2	PA manager to ensure effective public participation in PA management.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair	√		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

**4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		Annexure M1	No complaints received.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good	√		
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Annexure N1	Monitoring of pre and post-scenario on reduction of anthropogenic pressures on PA with regard to such schemes.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	√		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

5. Output

5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		Annexure O1	Brochures/ pamphlets printed and provided to users. Also to be printed in Hindi  PA website under development. Link PA website with State FD website.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair	√		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor		Annexure P1	Joint Interpretation Centre, souvenir shop along with Manali WS  Wildlife Film shows are organized for visitors.  Records of revenue earned and visitors statistics should be maintained.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair	√		
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feed back on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists( both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Annexure A4, Q1	
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Annexure I3	As per APOs.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

**6. Outcomes**

**6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor	✓	Annexure A4, Q1	In progress.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair			

Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

### 6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Annexure D1	No poaching reported in the last three years.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair	✓		
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

### 6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		Annexure R1	There are no cases of HWC in the PA during the last 3 years. Only one case reported in 2014-2015. Such cases are confined to the Territorial Division.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor		Annexure R2	
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair	✓		
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

### 6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		Annexure H2, L1, J2	
Some are supportive.	Fair			
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good	✓		
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

### MEE Score Card

<b>Framework Element Number</b>	<b>Framework Element Name</b>	<b>Number of Questions (a)</b>	<b>Maximum Mark per question (b)</b>	<b>Total (a x b)</b>	<b>Marks obtained for the Element</b>	<b>Overall Score</b>
1.	Context	03	10	30	15.0	<b>49.17%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	32.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	30.0	
4.	Process	04	10	40	20.0	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	22.5	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	27.5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>147.5</b>	

## **6. KALATOP-KHAJJAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH**

### **MEE YEAR (2017-18)**

#### **Management Strengths**

1. The Sanctuary is located in the high altitude Dhauladhar range and has very low biotic pressure.
2. The protection is adequate with regular patrolling carried out by the staff.
3. There is no staff vacancy.
4. The forest department maintains good relationship with the local communities, and there is strong support for conservation amongst the communities.
5. There is only one village within the sanctuary, cattle grazing or poaching are not a major problem.
6. The sanctuary receives adequate funds in a timely manner, and the funds are utilised fully.

#### **Management Weaknesses**

1. There is very high pressure of tourism at Khajjar, and the grassland does not appear to support any wildlife. Though the area is small, mechanisms to bring about some control and regulation will be helpful for the long-term sustainability of the area.
2. Human resources of the sanctuary are primarily utilized for management of ecotourism in Khajjar and other management works are secondary.
3. There are 261 villages which have been excluded from the sanctuary after rationalization of its boundary. These peripheral villages are vulnerable to human wildlife conflicts especially during winters. There are incidences of depredation of crops, lifting of cattle and human injury by wild animals. The timely resolution and mitigation of such conflicts by the territorial division should be accorded priority.
4. Research studies needs to be done on the foraging and ranging pattern of the wild animals especially during the winter.
5. Annual population estimation of wildlife has to be done based on robust scientific methodologies for management of the population.

#### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. The Management Plan for the sanctuary for the period 2013–2014 to 2023–2024 should be submitted to the Chief Wildlife Warden for early approval.
2. The sanctuary has an area of only 17.17 km<sup>2</sup> whereas the earlier extent was 69 km<sup>2</sup>. There are 261 villages which have been excluded during the reorganisation of the sanctuary. The villages are now on the fringes of the sanctuary. The management should initiate eco-development works in consonance with principles for integrated management where wildlife and people can coexist without much conflict.
3. The department may consider providing a vehicle for the ACF, for better management.
4. The Capacity building of the staff in wildlife management should be accorded priority, short training courses on wildlife management should be organised in-house and in the Forest training School.

# KALATOP-KHAJJIAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		1.Management plan of Kalatop-Khajjiar Wildlife Sanctuary, 1995-96 to 2004-05. 2.Management Plan under preparation for 2013-14 to 2023-24 to be sent to CWLW for approval 3.Notification of Government of Himachal Pradesh on reorganization of sanctuary Notification No, FFE-B-F(6) 11/2005 dated June 7,2013	1.Biodiversity profile, socio-cultural and tourism values identified. 2.The current status of Sanctuary after reorganization in 2013 was considered.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair	✓		
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		1.Management plan of Kalatop-Khajjiar Wildlife Sanctuary, 1995-96 to 2004-05. 2.Management Plan under preparation for 2013-14 to 2023-24 to be sent to CWLW for approval	1.The plan under preparation is focusing on this aspect in a better way 2. The estimation of wildlife population for 2015-16 and 2016-17 provided by the department does not indicate negative trend.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good			
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		1. Notification of Government of Himachal Pradesh on reorganization of sanctuary in 2013. 2. Discussion with some villagers	After the reorganization of the sanctuary, 261 villages were excluded from the sanctuary area in 2013 and only one village is now remaining within the sanctuary area. In ideal terms there is hardly any biotic pressure. However, there was livestock grazing, large scale (Eco)tourism in the glade area of 18 hectare in Khajjia which did not seem to impact the other parts of the Sanctuary. The tourism is however helping in the income generation for the local communities which was channelled through the Eco Tourism Society established in 2002.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair			
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good	✓		
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		1. The map of the sanctuary along with the proposed Eco-sensitive zone for the sanctuary	1. The Sanctuary was initially established during 1961. 2. In 1999 the final notification under Sec. 26 of WLP, Act was issued. 3. Site identification appeared to be alright. 4. Currently the Sanctuary extends over 17.17 sq. km. and is managed as only one zone surrounded by an eco-sensitive zone. 5. During discussion it was revealed that the revision of the plan after the reorganisation is being done and areas
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good	✓		
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

				specifically impacting tourism would be demarcated as a separate zone.
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\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

## 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor		1. Management plan of 1995-96 to 2004-05 2. The draft management plan 2013-14 to 2023-24 being prepared by DFO (Wildlife) 2. Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1. The draft management plan is being prepared and in the final stage. 2. The last management plan 1995-96 to 2004-05 included the 261 villages which were excluded from the sanctuary in 2013. 3. Therefore, the new plan will be only for the existing 17.17 sq. Km. area. 4. The WII guidelines are being followed for the plan under preparation. It was informed that stakeholder consultation will be made.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair	✓		
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive, science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

## 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor		1. Draft management plan under preparation 2. Approved work plan for 2016-17	The Sanctuary underwent a massive reorganisation which delayed the finalization of the management plan. The revised plan is in final stage of preparation. In the absence of an approved management plan, the annual plans for works were approved by competent authority for all the years including 2017-18.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good	✓		
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

**2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor			The plan under revision has strategies for protection and habitat improvement. Except some identified sites for eco-tourism, the sanctuary areas are rugged mountainous and fairly undisturbed. No poaching has been reported.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good	✓		
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

**2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor		1. Minutes of eco development meeting 2. Comprehensive Management plan for Khajjjar wetland 3. Interaction with some local people	1. Khajjjar Eco-tourism Society which have members from many villages generally participate in various planning processes of Sanctuary 2. It was informed by the DFO and ACF that a formal meeting will be arranged for stakeholders and the plan under preparation will be discussed with them and their aspirations will be taken care of. 3. People are positive about the sanctuary
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good	✓		
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

**2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		1. Approved annual plan for 2016-17 2. Field visits	Planned Soil and moisture conservation works at some critical locations, undertaking plantations of native tree species including wild fruit bearing species and improvement of water sources in the sanctuary area by improvised means were impressive.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair			
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

				Works are being undertaken based on the approved annual plan.
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\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations).Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is their a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		1, Plan under preparation and the existing old plan. 2.Discussions with DFO, ACF and staff 3. Field visit	1.Regular Beat level Patrol, Special joint patrol 2.Two patrolling huts, two trekkers huts for protection efforts by the field teams. 3.They had a patrolling format however it needed to be filled in more systematically. 4.Mobile phone allowance was given to all the staff for communication. 5.Some funds are also provided for hiring of vehicles during emergent situation and to conduct antipoaching camps which includes ration charges 6.The sanctuary areas are rugged mountainous and fairly undisturbed. No poaching has been reported. During our field visit to interior area in Kalatop revealed about no grazing, cutting signs etc.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good	✓		

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

## 2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		1.The plan under preparation for sanctuary is being written for the sanctuary after reorganization i.e. for 17.17 sq.km.	Limited ecosystem approach currently. The area of the sanctuary has been reduced from 51.83 sq.km, to now 17.17 sq.km. and 261 villages and their adjoining forests have been now
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			

The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good		2.Discussions with the DFO and the ACF	under the control of Territorial DFO. There will be need to integrate the management of fringe forest and village areas in the Working Plan for enhanced conservation outcomes.
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\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

### 3. Inputs

#### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Report on staff sanctioned and in place report given by the department	1. Number of staff for protection and patrolling are adequate. 2. There was no staff vacancy. 3. Since the area of the sanctuary is very small, the staff in place are enough as informed by the DFO and ACF
Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good	✓		

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range, Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis- a- vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

#### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		1.Discussions with the DFO and ACF. 2.Interaction with staff during field visits.	1.The staff have completed the basic training in forestry as appropriate to their cadre. The course did have wildlife subjects. 2.Many of the staff who accompanied us in field visit were found fairly knowledgeable in wildlife behaviour, census, ecology and management
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair	✓		
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

				3. In house training programme are organized for front line staff like census, wildlife conflict issues etc. 4. However there was no formally trained wildlife staff
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\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		1. List of vehicles and buildings as provided by DFO (Wildlife) 2. Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1. Building and staff quarters were reported to be adequate. 2. There is one jeep for DFO (Wildlife) and two motorcycles for staff. 3. No vehicle for ACF and ROs. 4. Other equipment's were reported to be adequate. More GPS units to be procured.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		1. discussions with the ACF 2. Statement of funds allotted and utilized for the last three years	1. It was informed that funds allotment was adequate 2. Release of Funds specially from state was timely 3. Full utilization of Funds allotted
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good			
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good	✓		

\* Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor		Discussions with the DFO and ACF	No NGO was reported to be involved in any activity in the sanctuary area and no funding support (in cash or kind) was provided. <b>The question was not evaluated</b>
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		1.Discussions with the DFO and ACF 2.Statements on funds allotted and utilized 3.Details of staff sanctioned and vacancy position	1.The funds released by the state and Central Government were adequate and timely released 2.Staff strength was also reported to be adequate
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair			
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good			
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good	✓		

## 4. Process

### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor			1.The key objective of the Sanctuary management is to conserve biodiversity and its management. The task is being undertaken by the field staff. 2.The protection and other allied works related to management were by and large noticed to be appreciable 3.It indicated that the performance of all the staff was related to performance objectives
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good	✓		
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

#### 4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		1.Discussion with DFO and ACF 2.Interaction with some local community members	1.it was informed that the local communities are being involved in fire protection, wildlife census and ecotourism. 2.This could be significantly confirmed during interaction with the local community members.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair			
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good	✓		
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

#### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		1.Complaint register 2.Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1.A complaint register was available. 2.The complaints were in writing or sometimes also oral. 3.The written complaints were followed up and the action taken report is being sent to senior officers.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good	✓		
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

#### 4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		1.Note on Khajjiar Eco-Tourism Society, 2002 2. Revenue earned details of Khajjiar Ecotourism Society for last three years	1.Livelihood issue were quite well managed by the Sanctuary management. 2.The Khajjiar Ecotourism Society was formed in 2002. 3.This society is of immense help in securing local people participation and support for conservation in the area as well as providing a variety of livelihood option to local community members not only in
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair			
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good	✓		

			3.Discussions with the DFO and ACF 4.Interaction with local community members and beneficiaries	Kahijjer and Kalatop but also to other villages which are now excluded from the sanctuary 4.All the department works were undertaken by engaging local people. 5. Number of people were working as tourist guides, in sovereign shop, as eco sanitation workers, protection helpers, photography, horse riding, paragliding, Somersaulting etc. Women folks were also represented in some activities.
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## 5. Output

### 5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor	✓	Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1.It was informed that the Website is under preparation. 2.The CWLW has approved Interpretation Centres one each at Kalatop and Khajjjar recently and the same would be developed.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair			
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

### 5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor		1.Tourism data for last three years 2.Discussions with the DFO and ACF	1.The ecotourism society is managing canteen, rest rooms, drinking water, garbage disposal and guide facilities. 2. The CWLW had recently approved construction of Interpretation Centre at Kalatop and Khajjjar, 3. About 4-5 Lakh visitors visit the area annually.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good	✓		
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

				3. Revenue earned is being utilized both for conservation and local livelihoods mandates.
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\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feed back on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists( both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

### 5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		1.wildlife census details for 2015-16 and 2016-17 provided by the management 2. Management plan for Khajjir Wetland approved by Gol 3.Budget provided to undertake estimation/survey of herbivores, carnivores, pheasants and other birds in the APO for 2016-17	1.Annual monitoring of wildlife population is being done. However, there is a need to follow robust scientifically methods 2.Research activity by the department, other institutions and individuals is lacking
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

### 5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		1.List of assets 2.Discussions with ACF	1.Inventory of assets both movable and immovable maintained. 2.The discussion with ACF revealed that fund allotment is adequate for maintenance and repairs.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good	✓		

## 6. Outcomes

### 6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		Data set provided by the management on estimation of important wildlife population conducted by the department for 2015-16 and 2016-17	The last two years data provided by the department indicates a fairly stable population for important wildlife species of the sanctuary.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	✓		
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

### 6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		1.data provided by the management 2.Discussion with the DFO and ACF 3.Field visits	As per the information provided there were no reports of poaching, fire, hardly any loping, no cattle grazing.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair			
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good	✓		
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

### 6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		1.details provided by the ACF 2.Discussions with the DFO and ACF	There were no reports of any injury, human death and property damaged in last three years. No human-animal conflict reported and no compensation paid.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

#### 6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor		Visitors Feedback Register	1.Visitor feedback register is maintained by the sanctuary administration. 2.Expectations of most of visitors are generally met. The Feedback on the facilities for the tourists and the beauty of the forests was very good.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good	✓		
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

#### 6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		1.Note on the Ecotourism Society, 2002 and its revenues for last three years 2.Discussion with the DFO and ACF 3.Interaction with some local community members	1.Since the establishment of Ecotourism Society in 2002 the department had succeeded in garnering the support of the people. The benefits from the revenue generated are also provided to the local community for various livelihoods and social issues. 2.During our interaction with the local, the people felt satisfied with efforts of forest department
Some are supportive.	Fair			
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good	✓		
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

#### MEE Score Card

<b>Framework Element Number</b>	<b>Framework Element Name</b>	<b>Number of Questions (a)</b>	<b>Maximum Mark per question (b)</b>	<b>Total (a x b)</b>	<b>Marks obtained for the Element</b>	<b>Overall Score</b>
1.	Context	03	10	30	17.5	<b>72.41%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	57.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	42.5 *	
4.	Process	04	10	40	32.5	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	25	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	35	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>210</b>	

\*Question number 3.5 was not evaluated

## **7. KANAWAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH**

### **MEE YEAR (2017-18)**

#### **Management Strengths**

1. Kanawar Wildlife Sanctuary is now free of permanent settlements/villages, after the rationalization of the boundary of the protected area (PA) in June 2013.
2. Kanawar Wildlife Sanctuary and the proposed Khir Ganga National Park together with Great Himalayan National Park form a contiguous landscape, and hence a landscape management plan could be developed and implemented.
3. Mobile allowances are provided to all the officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes though the connectivity is poor.
4. For the last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.
5. For last 3 years, the PA has had no record of human-wildlife conflict cases.

#### **Management Weaknesses**

1. The old Management Plan expired 3 years ago.
2. There is no zonation (core/buffer/tourist). The proposed eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) should be included.
3. No contributions (funds/in kind) are received from NGOs for the management of the PA.
4. Appreciation/incentives for good work done by the field staff are lacking.

#### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. Systematic monitoring of threats such as fire, illicit felling, lopping, felling and encroachment should be carried out regularly.
2. The work on the new Wildlife Management Plan should be initiated forthwith as per the WII guidelines and should include an ESZ proposal. Finalization of the ESZ should be pursued.
3. The new six beats added to Kanawar that are presently under the administrative control of the territorial division should be transferred to the Wildlife Wing at the earliest.
4. Systematic baseline data on the flora and fauna should be generated as early as possible, specifically on the rare, endemic and threatened (RET), IUCN Red List and IWPA Schedule species.
5. A committee should be constituted to involve local communities in the conservation plans and programmes of the PA.
6. Communication equipment such as wireless sets must be procured, and these must be used for effective patrolling and coordination with enforcement/line agencies.
7. There must be better coordination with line departments to tap state/district funds.
8. Six new beats are still under the control of the Territorial Division. Eight more personnel (two BOs and six FGs) must be sanctioned for these new beats.
9. An integrated landscape management plan must be developed.
10. A risk plan and protection plans must be developed.
11. Vacant posts must be filled up, and personnel must be deployed better at various levels to ensure that the protection is effective.
12. The officers and frontline staff should be trained in wildlife management.
13. Efforts must be made to secure the release of CSS funds from the state in a timely manner.

14. The PA manager should ensure that there is effective public participation in the management of the PA.
15. The situations before and after reduction of anthropogenic pressures on the PA must be monitored with regard to schemes such as distribution of induction heaters/LPG connections to assess the schemes' impacts.
16. The development of the website of the PA must be expedited, and the website must be linked with the website of the state forest department.
17. There is good potential for developing ecotourism through due publicity to attract visitors. A visitors' feedback register must be maintained.
18. Detailed plans have to be drawn up to adopt climate change-resilient management.
19. The weed *Eupatorium adenophorum* should be removed.
20. Long-term monitoring plots may be identified in the PA through WII's NMSHE project.

# KANAWAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor	✓	Annexure A1-A5 Management Plan (2004-05 to 2013-14)	Overdue for the next Mgmt. Plan.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair			
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural details and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Annexure B1	Livestock grazing, and fire.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good			
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Annexure C1-C2, B1 Map / Notification of pre and post notifications	All villages excluded from PA after the rationalization of PA boundary in June 2013.  Only some agricultural land of Grahani village is located within the PA.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments, etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor	✓	Annexure C3, D1-D2	No core / buffer/ tourism zonation.  Newly added areas after rationalization (2013) are still under the control of Territorial Division.  Draft ESZ submitted to the Central Govt.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good			
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor	✓	Annexure A5	The Mgmt. Plan has expired. Work on new plan is yet to be initiated New plant should be as per WII guidelines.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive, science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor	✓		New Mgmt Plan writing should be initiated at the earliest.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

## 2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor	✓	Annexure D1, A4, E1-E2	Bird count and Ungulate population estimation exercises are underway.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good			
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work.

## 2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor	✓	Annexure F1	Initiative to involve stakeholders participation in planning has been taken.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting in place the draft Management Plan in Public Domain ?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Annexure G1, G2	Measures such as plantations (ca. 4ha/yr), SMC, check dams, salt licks and water ponds have been carried out .
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good			
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species on the site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		Annexure E1-E2, H1-H2	Communication equipment such as wireless to be procured and used for effective patrolling. Coordination with enforcement / line agencies to be enhanced.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair	√		
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

## 2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		Annexure H3	A landscape plan connecting GHNP, PVNP, Rupi Bhaba PAs exists.  No funds received from District administration and other line departments.
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	√		
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

## 3. Inputs

### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor	√	Annexure I1	One Forest Guard post is vacant.

Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			New six beats are still under the control of Territorial Division and for that eight more personnel (2 BOs & 6 FGs) will be required to be sanctioned.
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range, Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis-a-vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs).

### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor	√	Annexure I2	Three personnel underwent induction training.
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair			
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure J1, H1, E1-E2	Mobile allowances provided to all officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes. However, mobile connectivity is a problem.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	√		
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Annexure I1, I3	For last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.  CAMPA funds were timely released.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	√		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	√	Annexure J2, H2	No NGOs' contribution in PA management.  Local community engaged for certain habitat improvement works.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		Annexure I1, I3	
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair	√		
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good			
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

#### 4. Process

##### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor	√	Annexure K1	No award/ appreciation / incentives for good work done by field staff.  Books provided to field staff as mark of appreciation.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

##### 4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		Annexure L1	PA manager to ensure effective public participation in PA management
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair	√		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

##### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		Annexure M1	No complaints received.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good	√		
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Annexure N1	Monitoring of Pre and Post scenario on reduction of anthropogenic pressures on PA with regard to such schemes. Distribution of Induction heater / LPG to local communities.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	√		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

**5. Output**

**5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		Annexure O1	Brochures/ pamphlets printed and provided to users. Also should printed in Hindi  PA website under development. Link PA website with State FD website.  Adequate signages to be placed along the motor road from Kullu to Manikaran and proposed Kheer Ganga NP.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair	√		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor		Annexure P1	There is potential for enhancing tourism by creating some facilities inside the PA and in coordination with Tourism and Territorial Division.  Visitor Feedback register to be maintained.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair	✓		
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feed back on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists( both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Annexure A4, Q1	
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Annexure I3	
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair	√		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

**6. Outcomes**

**6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		Annexure A4, Q1	
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	√		
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

**6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Annexure B1	
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair	√		
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

**6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		Annexure R1	There are no cases of HWC in the PA during the last 3 years.  AS HWC are mostly confined areas outside PA, there is a need to report and record such HWC data from all Territorial Divisions by concerned PA manager.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

**6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor	✓		The PA has high ecotourism potential as Manikaran is an important tourist site attracting around 4 lakh tourists.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

**6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		Annexure L1	MEE Committee suggested formation of EDC for interaction with WL staff.
Some are supportive.	Fair	✓		
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good			
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

**MEE Score Card**

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	12.5	<b>43.33%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	27.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	25.0	
4.	Process	04	10	40	20.0	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	20.0	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	25.0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>130.0</b>	

## **8. KHOKHAN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH**

### **MEE Year (2017-18)**

#### **Management Strengths**

1. Mobile allowances provided to all officers and frontline staff members for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes
2. For last 3 years, the protected area (PA) has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.
3. For the last 3 years, the PA has no record of human-wildlife conflict cases.

#### **Management Weaknesses**

1. The old plan expired 3 years ago. There is no plan (new plan under preparation)
2. No zonation (core/buffer/tourist) carried out. The proposed ESZ should be included.
3. No corridors or network/security/landscape plans
4. No contribution received from NGOs in cash or kind for management of the PA
5. No appreciation/incentives received for good work done by members of the field staff.

#### **Immediate Actionable Points**

1. Systematic monitoring of threats such as fire, illicit felling, lopping and encroachment should be carried out regularly.
2. The Wildlife Management Plan should be made as specified in the WII guidelines and should include a proposal for an eco-sensitive zone (ESZ). Early finalization of the ESZ should be pursued.
3. Systematic baseline data on the flora and fauna should be generated as early as possible, specifically on the rare, endemic and threatened (RET) species and the IUCN Red List and IWPA Schedule species.
4. A committee should be constituted to involve local communities in the conservation plans and programmes of the PA.
5. Communication equipment such as wireless sets should be procured quickly and used for effective patrolling. The coordination with the enforcement/line agencies is to be enhanced.
6. Better coordination with line departments is needed to tap state/district funds.
7. An integrated landscape management plan should be developed.
8. Risk and protection plans need to be developed.
9. Vacant posts should be filled up, and there should be better deployment of personnel at various levels for effective protection.
10. The officers and frontline staff should be trained in wildlife management.
11. Efforts should be made to secure timely release of CSS funds from the state.
12. The PA manager must ensure that there is effective public participation in the management of the PA.
13. The situation should be monitored before and after reduction of anthropogenic pressures on the PA with regard to schemes such as distribution of induction heaters/LPG cylinders to assess the impact of the schemes.
14. The development of the website of the PA must be expedited, and the website must be linked with the website of the state forest department.

15. There is potential for developing ecotourism by renovating the century-old FRHs at Nagini and Dorah Nullahs with due publicity to attract visitors. A visitors' feedback register must be maintained.
16. The MEE Committee held informal discussions with the local community and the Uppradhan during the visit to the site and found that they were willing to participate in the conservation activities of the PA.
17. Detailed plans should be drawn up to adopt climate change-resilient management in coordination with the HPCCC (Himachal Pradesh State Centre on Climate Change).

# KHOKHAN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, HIMACHAL PRADESH

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor	✓	Management Plan (2004-05 to 2013-14) Annexure A1-A5	Mgmt Plan has expired.  Next Mgmt. Plan is under preparation.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair			
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good			
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural details and faunal and floral species.

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Annexure B1	Livestock grazing, felling, lopping, encroachment and fire recorded.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good			
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Annexure B1, C1-C2,	18 villages excluded from PA after the rationalization of PA boundary on June 2013.  Only 1 village lot is located within the PA.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments, etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor	√	Annexure D1-D2	No core / buffer/ tourism zonation.  Draft ESZ submitted to the Central Govt.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good			
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

\*Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category+</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor	√		The draft Mgmt. Plan, under preparation and should be as per WII guidelines.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive, science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

\*Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor	√		Mgmt. Plan should be prepared as per WII Guidelines.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

## 2.4 Does the management plan elaborate on safeguarding the threatened biodiversity values?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor	✓	Annexure D1, A4, E1-E2	Bird count and ungulate population estimation exercises are underway.
The plan safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
The plan safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good			
The plan safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work.

## 2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor	✓	Annexure F1	Initiative to involve stakeholders participation in planning is under process.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\*The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting in place the draft Management Plan in Public Domain?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Annexure G1-G2	Measures such as plantations ca. (4ha/yr), SMC, check dams, salt licks and water ponds have been carried out.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good			
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species on the site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		Annexure E1-E2, H1-H2	Communication equipment such as wireless to be procured and used for effective patrolling & coordination with enforcement / line agencies to be enhanced.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair	✓		
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

## 2.8 Does the management plan integrate the site into a wider ecological network/ landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The plan does not integrate the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		Annexure H3	PA has connectivity with Nargu, Dhauladhar, Kugti and Tundah PAs.  No funds received from District administration and other line departments.
The plan makes some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
The plan integrates the site generally quite well into a network/ landscape.	Good			
The plan fully integrates the site into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

## 3. Inputs

### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure I-1	

Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	√		One Deputy Ranger post is vacant.
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range, Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis-a-vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs).

### 3.2 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		Annexure I-2	One FRO (1 week course in WLM) & one Forest guard (6 months induction training) have been trained
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair	√		
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 3.3 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Annexure J1, H1, E1-E2	Mobile allowances provided to all officers and frontline staff for using personal mobiles for protection and management purposes.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair	√		
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good			
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.4 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Annexure I1-I3	For last 3 years, the PA has received adequate funds from CAMPA and CSS.  CAMPA funds are timely released
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	√		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.5 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	√	Annexure H2, J2	No NGOs' contribution in PA management.  Local villagers provided support to PA management.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

\*Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.6 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		Annexure I1, I3	
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair	√		
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good			
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

#### 4. Process

##### 4.1 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor	✓	Annexure K1	No award/ appreciation / incentives for good work done by field staff.  Books provided to Field staff as mark of appreciation.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair			
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

##### 4.2 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		Annexure L1	PA manager to ensure effective public participation in PA management.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair	✓		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

##### 4.3 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		Annexure M1	No complaints received.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good	✓		
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.4 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Annexure N1	Monitoring of Pre- and Post scenario on reduction of anthropogenic pressures on PA with regard to such schemes.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	√		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

**5. Output**

**5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		Annexure O1	Brochures/ pamphlets printed and provided to users. Also to be printed in Hindi.  PA website under development. Link PA website with State FD website.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair	√		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor	√	Annexure P1	There is potential for enhancing tourism by renovating FRHs built un 1913 at Nagini and Dohranala.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			

All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			
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\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feed back on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists( both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Annexure A4, Q1	Ungulates population estimation in progress.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Annexure I3	
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

## 6. Outcomes

### 6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor	√	Annexure A4, Q1	Ungulates population estimation in progress.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair			
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

### 6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Annexure B1	There are no reports of poaching during last three years
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair	√		
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

### 6.3 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		Annexure R1	There are no cases of HWC in the PA during the last 3 years, but such cases are confined to the Territorial Division.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	√		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 years may be collected.

#### 6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor	√		There is scope of ecotourism.  Signages to be put up
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

#### 6.5 Are local communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
Condition	Category	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		Annexure L1	MEE Committee suggested formation of EDC for interaction with WL staff.
Some are supportive.	Fair	√		
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good			
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

#### MEE Score Card

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	12.5	<b>43.33%</b>
2.	Planning	08	10	80	27.5	
3.	Inputs	06	10	60	30.0	
4.	Process	04	10	40	20.0	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	17.5	
6.	Outcomes	05	10	50	22.5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>130.0</b>	

# **PUNJAB**

## **9. ABOHAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, PUNJAB MEE Year (2009-10)**

### **A. Management Strengths**

1. The site safeguards threatened biodiversity values such as fishes, reptiles, birds and small mammals and the blackbucks, which are found typically agricultural habitats due to the conservation ethics of the Bishnoi community.
2. Stakeholders participate in most of the planning processes.
3. The site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.
4. Human-wildlife conflicts have been mitigated.
5. NGOs' contributions are systematically sought by the management for many site-level activities.
6. There is comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of protected area (PA) management.
7. Most of the biological communities are likely to be able to sustain the native biodiversity.
8. Most threats to the site have been ended.
9. The expectations of most visitors are met.
10. Most of the neighbours/local communities are supportive of the PA management.
11. A planned approach to management is being instituted, and a deterioration of assets is being redressed.

### **B. Management Weaknesses**

1. There is no management plan in place.
2. Habitat restoration programmes are entirely ad hoc.
3. The site not integrated into the wider network/landscape.
4. The personnel are poorly organised and managed.
5. The resources available for PA management are limited.
6. Resource allocation is ad hoc, and funds are never released in time.
7. The resources insufficient for most of the tasks.
8. There are very few trained officers and frontline staff at the site for effective PA management.
9. There is no linkage between the staff performance management and management objectives.
10. There is no systematic approach to handling complaints and comments about the management of the PA.
11. Livelihood issues of resource-dependent communities, especially women, are not addressed by the PA management.
12. Little or no information on the management of the PA is publicly available.
13. There are no visitor services in place, but anybody visiting the PA gets a ready welcome, support and guidance from the community.
14. There is little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of management-related trends. No census of the major mammals, i.e. blackbuck and nilgai, has been carried out after 1998.

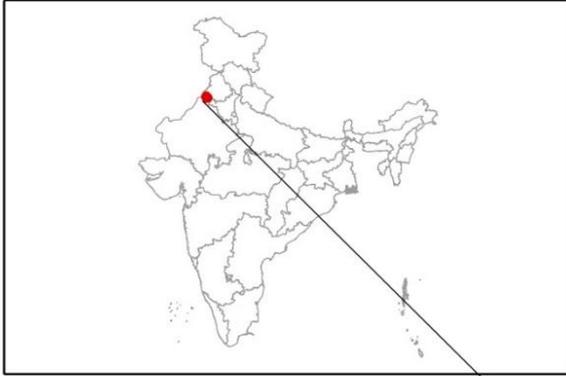
### **C. Actionable Points**

1. An effective management plan is needed.
2. Habitat restoration programmes and periodic monitoring are needed.

3. More resources need to be allocated, and funds need to be released in a timely manner.
4. The staff strength needs to be reworked realistically by rank, considering the ecosystem, protection aspects and need for multiple roles.
5. The means of mobility and equipment support need to be augmented.
6. The site needs trained manpower resources for effective PA management.
7. A responsive system is required for handling complaints and comments about the PA management.
8. Steps need to be taken to address livelihood issues of resource-dependent communities.
9. Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of biodiversity trends need to be carried out on a priority basis.

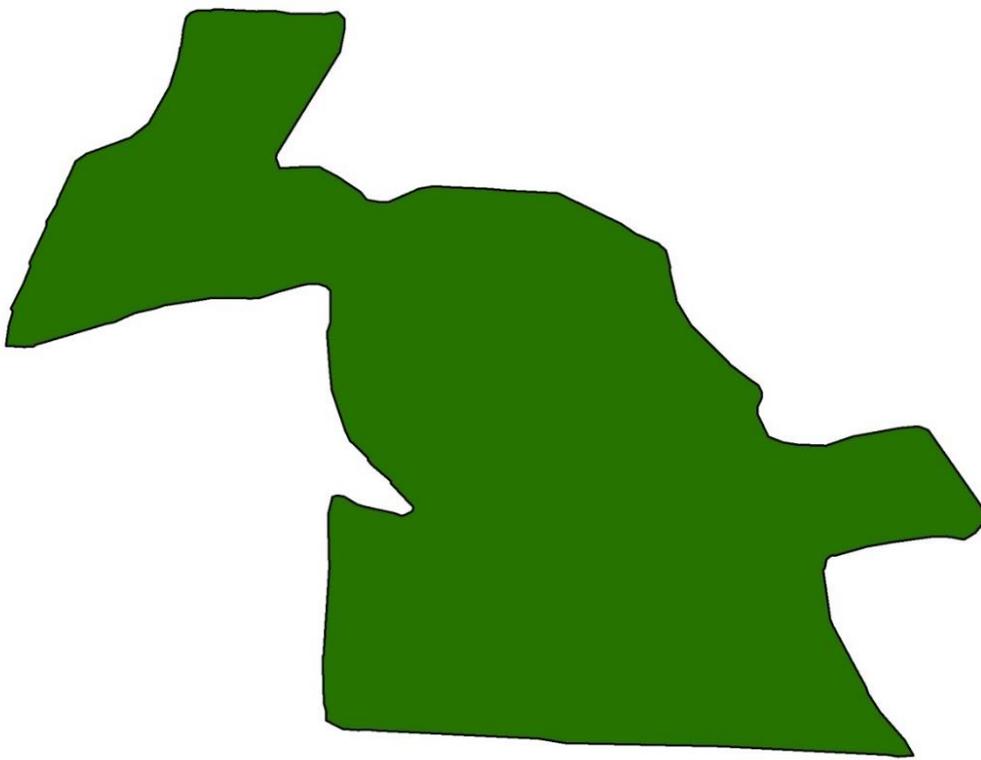
77°15'0"E

# Abohar Wildlife Sanctuary Punjab



28°30'0"N

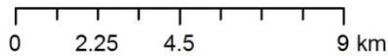
28°30'0"N



28°25'0"N

28°25'0"N

 भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान  
Wildlife Institute of India  
IT and RS & GIS Cell - 2014



**Notified Area: 186.50 Sq. km**  
**Notification Year: 1988**

77°15'0"E

## 1. Context

### 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		Creation of Abohar WLS, way back in 1975 in private/ community revenue Land of 13 Bishnoi villages comprising an area of 186.15 sqkm was done on the Initiative and pursuance of the community. Presence of Black Buck a schedule I mammal prompted the state Govt. to notify it. This Black Buck population is the Western most population getting strict protection from Bishnois. Black Buck in Pakistan had been extinct and they had to reintroduce it recently. Hence securing long term conservation from a biogeographic, species and genetic perspective becomes an extremely important management goal. Unfortunately none of this has been documented formally explicitly in any official documentation. Due to absence of Management Plan the documentation, assessment and monitoring has not been done by the department.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair	✓	
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good		
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good		

### 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		There is no documentation of threats to site values as there is no MP as yet. The local staff is aware of the threats which are mostly in the form of shrinkage of habitat, chasing by stray/ pet dogs, spread of orchards, intensification of agriculture etc.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair	✓	
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good		
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good		

### 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Due to high degree of protection provided by Bishnois as part of their culture there is less of human interference and wildlife and human beings have learnt to live in harmony with each other. During the period when crop is vulnerable to damage by wild animals, even Bishnoi farmers do drive away the animals and the mud walls and barbed wire fencings obstruct the free movement of wild animals.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good	✓	
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good		

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		The site has properly been identified as a sanctuary in Revenue Land of Bishnoi villages but it has not been systematically categorized. The buffer in immediate surrounding villages and corridor between two populations, another population being at some distance in 3 Bishnoi villages has not been demarcated. Concept of buffer in present case need to be seen differently. The villages surrounding the PA villages (i.e. 13 Bishnoi villages) may not be as conservation oriented as the 13 villages and that is of critical concern because the increasing blackbuck/ neelgai population need to disperse out and in the process venturing into dangerous territory. Thus there is a strong need of infusing conservation ethos among the youths in these villages.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair		
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good	✓	
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good		

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor	✓	Though the Sanctuary was notified in 1975 but no Management Plan has yet been prepared. Process of preparing management plan is on but without required level of consultations with Bishnoi communities.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair		
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good		
Site has a comprehensive, science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good		

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor	✓	Not Applicable.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair		
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good		
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good		

### 2.4 Does the site safeguards the threatened biodiversity values?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Sites does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		The site safe guards threatened biodiversity values such as fishes, Black Bucks, reptiles, birds, small mammals etc. found in typically agricultural habitat due to conservation ethics of Bishnoi community.
Sites safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair		
Sites safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good		
Sites safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good	✓	

### 2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor		Though no Management Plan has yet been made but the community regularly expresses the management concerns to Wildlife department. Hence the situation here is other way round as community is more concerned about the planning and Management. It is important to recognize their concerns and bring immediately a community driven management plan
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair		
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good	✓	
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good		

### 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor	✓	No habitat restoration programmes are being planned. The community land has been encroached by influential people and brought under agriculture. There is extension and intensification of agriculture and large scale formation of Citrus fruit (kinu) orchards leading to habitat shrinkage.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair		
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good		
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good		

### 2.7 Are reintroduction programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Reintroduction programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		Not Applicable
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for reintroduction programmes.	Fair		
Reintroduction programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good		
Reintroduction programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good		

## 2.8 Does the site has an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		The very creation of the WLS is on the insistence of Bishnoi community and that also becomes the protection strategy for the Sanctuary. On the part of the Wildlife department, the Guards are allotted duties outside Sanctuary also. The I/C is in dual charge of Harike Sanctuary also and out of 8 daily wage guards 4 have been removed.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair		
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good		
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good	✓	

## 2.9 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		Inspite of large number of Nilgai and Black Buck being present in the intensively cultivated agriculture and horticulture fields, conflicts is not an issue in the WLS. The community is highly tolerant towards damage by wild animals and is against any kind of compensation for damage of crops.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair		
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good	✓	

**2.10 Is the site integrated into a wider ecological network following the principles of the ecosystem approach?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not integrated into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor	✓	This is an isolated site and protection to animals is by community. It has not been possible to provide a corridor to another small population in 3 Bishnoi villages situated about 5-6 Km away nor these villages have been notified Sanctuary or community Reserve dispute repeated request by the community. Importantly, the sanctuary is bordering with Rajasthan- a major Bishnoi land and thus part of a strong cultural network. Maintenance of this network is as critical as any ecological networks.
Some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair		
Site is generally quite well integrated into a network/ landscape.	Good		
Site is fully integrated into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good		

**3. Inputs**

**3.1 Are personnel well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor	✓	The Inspector I/C is in dual charge of Abohar and Harike Sanctuaries, Guards have been allotted areas outside Sanctuary and DFO Firozpur has to look after Wildlife matters of the whole district. Out of the eight daily wagers engaged earlier in the WLS only 4 are in place.
Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair		
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good		
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good		

**3.2 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor	✓	One tractor and Motor bike are out of order since long. Weapons have been purchased by CWLW but have not been issued to the Sanctuary Staff. Wildlife health centre has no tranquillizing gun, drugs, vaccines etc. There is no cage for transporting injured animals. Community representatives had strong feelings that Forest Department is not doing enough to protect the well being of wild animals
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair		
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good		
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good		

**3.3 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc and funds are never released in time.	Poor	✓	Funds under CSS have regularly been provided by MOEF since 1999-2000 onwards but every year there has been no utilization of the earmarked funds at all. State Govt. only provides salaries hence the situation is very poor and no activities are being undertaken for last many years.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action and some funds released in time.	Fair		
Comprehensive formulae systematically applied to decide most resource allocation and generally funds released in time.	Good		
Comprehensive formulae systematically applied to decide complete allocation of resources for management and on-time release of funds.	Very good		

### 3.4 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor		Whatever protection etc has been possible here is due to local community and All India Jeev Raksha Bishnoi Committee a national level NGO with Committees in each village. They provide manpower, weapons, vehicle etc whenever situation so warrants.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair		
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good		
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good	✓	

### 3.5 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor	✓	PA management at Local level is helpless without any resources from the Govt.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair		
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good		
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good		

## 4. Process

### 4.1 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor	✓	None of the Staff responsible for PA management is trained.
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair		
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good		
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good		

### 4.2 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor	✓	There is no clarity of objectives of management in the absence of any management Plan. Staff has to look after duties other than PA management.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair		
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good		
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good		

### 4.3 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		The management of the PA has been possible since its notification mainly due to emotional involvement of the community whose conservation ethics are deep rooted.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good		
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good	✓	

#### 4.4 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor	✓	There is hardly any system in place. The community has to resort to Right to Information Act to seek information from CWLW level.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair		
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good		
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good		

#### 4.5 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor	✓	No major livelihood issue is involved.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good		
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good		

## 5. Output

#### 5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor	✓	There is hardly any information available.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good		
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good		

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor	✓	There are no visitor services in place. Anybody visiting the PA gets ready welcome, support and guidance from community.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair		
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good		
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good		

**5.3 Are management related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of management related trends.	Poor	✓	No Census of major mammals i.e. Black Buck and Nilgai has been carried out after 1998.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good		
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Very good		

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor	✓	No funds are available.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good		

## 6. Outcomes

### 6.1 Are threatened/ endangered species populations stable or increasing?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		No systematic trend is available as no Census has been done since 1998. Based on perception of Local Staff and communities the population of Black Buck and Nilgai is stable. However few also believe that in last few years the population has declined and dispersed away.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	✓	
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good		
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good		

### 6.2 Are biological communities at a mix of ages and spacings that will support native biodiversity?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Biological communities unlikely to be able to sustain native biodiversity.	Poor		No data is available. The indigenous biodiversity of crops and Livestock may have declined due to intensification of agriculture and extension of <i>Kino</i> orchards. Due to strong conservation ethos of Bishnois there seem to be no threat to animals and plants as such except due to factors mentioned above.
Some biological communities likely to be able to sustain native biodiversity.	Fair		
Most biological communities likely to be able to sustain native biodiversity.	Good	✓	
All biological communities likely to be able to sustain native biodiversity.	Very good		

### 6.3 Have the threats to the site being abated/ minimized?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Due to commitment of the community the threat level to the site has remained stable except due to shrinkage of habitat due to above causes.
Some threats to the site have been abated.	Fair		
Most threats to the site have been abated.	Good	✓	
All threats to the site have been abated.	Very good		

#### 6.4 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor		There are few visitors to the site but those visiting it to see Bisnoi culture and Black Buck are generally satisfied. There is no visible effort by the management.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair		
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good	✓	
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good		

#### 6.5 Are neighbours and adjacent communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Neighbours/adjacent communities are hostile.	Poor		Bisnoi immunity within the Sanctuary is not only supportive but main factor responsible for protection. Communities immediately outside the Sanctuary are strictly watched by Bisnois and are compelled to support the protection.
Key neighbours/communities are supportive.	Fair		
Most neighbours/communities are supportive of PA management.	Good	✓	
All neighbours and communities supportive of PA management.	Very good		

#### 6.6 Are cultural heritage assets protected?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>			
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no management undertaken, or despite management efforts, deterioration of cultural heritage assets continues, or values are unknown.	Poor		The heritage asset of the Site is the strong Bisnoi culture which is protected by their age old conservation ethos and constant motivation from the teaching of their revered master.
Some management activity, but deterioration continues.	Fair		
Planned approach to management underway and deterioration of assets is being redressed.	Good	✓	
Planned approach to management underway and deterioration of assets is being significantly redressed.	Very good		

## MEE Score Card

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	17.5	<b>51.56%</b>
2.	Planning	10	10	100	55	
3.	Inputs	05	10	50	20	
4.	Process	05	10	50	20	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	10	
6.	Outcomes	06	10	60	42.5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>33</b>		<b>330*</b>	<b>165</b>	

\* The six Framework Elements were subsequently assigned equal weightage of 100 each. The total MEE score is 600 out of which this site has score -----%

## 10. HARIKE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, PUNJAB

### MEE Year (2015-16)

#### Management Strengths

1. Harike WLS was declared a Ramsar Site in 1990 because of its rich biodiversity value.
2. The area is very compact and easily accessible, which is helpful in management.
3. There is no shortage of water in the wetland as the WLS receives an assured supply of water from two rivers, the Sutlej and Beas.
4. The avifauna of the WLS is very rich (>80 bird species have been recorded). During winter counts of the birds, the numbers cross 1,00,000.
5. Seven or eight Indus river dolphins live in the WLS according to WWF reports.
6. There is no shortage of funds, and funds are released in a timely manner from the state as well as the centre.
7. The strength of the field-level staff is adequate as all eight posts of guards have been filled up.
8. An ecotourism plan is in place, with support from the Tourism Department and the ADB. Infrastructure such as a boardwalk at the confluence of the two rivers, trails and an interpretation centre will be created soon.
9. The infrastructure appears to be adequate (except for a need for boats):
10. There are six check posts and two tented protection huts in the PA.
11. There are six vehicles (one Gypsy, two Bolero Campers, one Tatamobile, one Swaraj Mazda, one Swaraj tractor).
12. There are two boats (only one is operational).

#### Management Weaknesses

1. The WLS has a long boundary (c. 54 km) that is porous and does not have any fencing at present.
2. Large patches inside the WLS have been encroached. There are also some fields and tubewell huts in it. Roughly 850 acres of land has been encroached by over 30 encroachers. Most of these encroachments have taken place very long ago.
3. A few groups of domestic cattle graze in the area.
4. The water from the Sutlej is much polluted. It has a bluish colour and a stench. Thus it may be affecting birds.
5. There is silt deposition near the Harike barrage. This may cause a loss of habitat for water birds in a few years.
6. The shortage of boats is affecting patrolling and management adversely.
7. Water hyacinth covers possibly 5% of the water body, restricting the area available for birds and the aquatic fauna.
8. Two more foresters (posts sanctioned but not filled) are needed for the management of the WLS. A Deputy Ranger is working on the post of Forest Ranger.
9. There is almost no participation of the local villagers in the management of the PA.

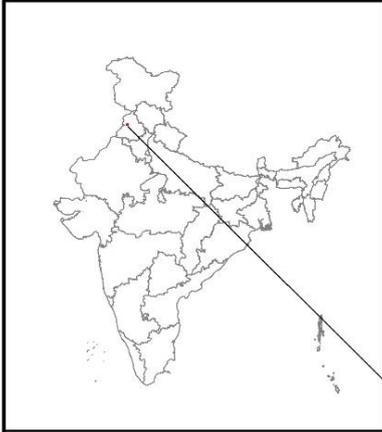
#### Actionable Points

1. The vacancies in the staff (Forester and Forest Ranger) need to be filled up immediately.
2. The management plan prepared by Mr. Gurmit Singh (2004–2014), the term of which has expired, needs to be revised and updated in consultation with the various stakeholders at the earliest as per the WII guidelines. A provision should be made for a mid-term review and modification of the management plan (adaptive management). If possible, help may also be sought from WII in preparing the plan.
3. There are only two boats, of which only one is functional. Two additional new boats need to be procured, and the one that is out of order should be repaired at the earliest.
4. EDCs should be constituted in the peripheral villages to seek the villagers' cooperation with various management activities.
5. A benchmark study should be carried out to establish the pollution level and the water quality. This should be followed by monitoring at monthly intervals.
6. Updating of checklists, monitoring and organizing awareness camps must be carried out in coordination with organizations such as WII, WWF and local universities.
7. Two or three new check posts should be established soon at vulnerable points.

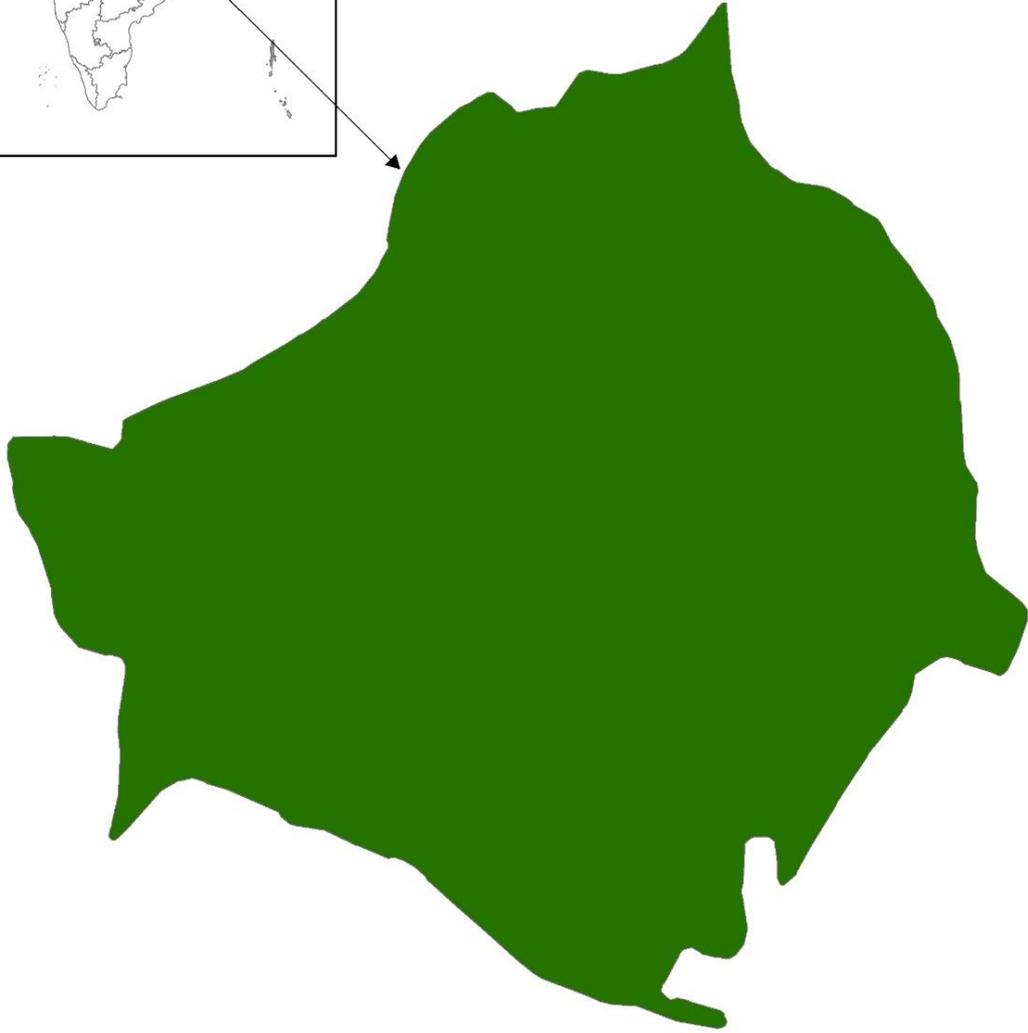
8. The DFO's headquarters are located at Ferozepur, which is c. 60 km from Harike WLS. There is another WLS (Abohar Blackbuck Sanctuary) under the control of the DFO. It is desirable to have two posts of ACFs sanctioned, one each for Harike and Abohar, with their headquarters at the respective places.
9. At present there is no system of charging tourists entry fees (only a permit is issued). The CWLW may, if it is found to be administratively feasible, start charging entry fees at Harike and the other sanctuaries.
10. Water hyacinth should be removed from time to time.
11. De-siltation may be carried out in consultation with the Irrigation Department.
12. It should be made mandatory for water treatment plants to be set up at all nearby polluting industries upstream of the WLS (at Ludhiana in particular).
13. Modern equipment such as spotting scopes and digital cameras should be made available to the staff for monitoring.
14. The staff need to be trained for wildlife monitoring.
15. With increasing tourism, it is important to train the staff and local youth as nature guides and to carry out rescues from water when necessary.
16. All encroachments need to be removed from the PA and illegal grazing stopped at the earliest. Help may be obtained from the district administration and the police.
17. The feral cattle in the PA should be removed.
18. A comprehensive plan should be drawn up for constructing a boundary wall/fencing around the PA. All resources such as state, central and NREGA funds must be tapped.
19. The period of the management plan drawn up by Basanta Raj Kumar (2008–2009 to 2017–2018) is also coming to an end, and it is desirable for it to be reviewed and modified or a new one prepared in consultation with WII.

# Harike Wildlife Sanctuary

75°0'0"E

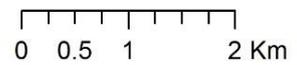


31°10'0"N



31°10'0"N

**Notified Area : 86.00 Sq. km**  
**Notification Year: 1982**



75°0'0"E



# 1. Context

## 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		Section 1.2 and 4.2 of Management Plan (2004-2014) prepared by Mr. Gurmit Singh (MP).	Ecological, economic, aesthetic and recreational values have been given in the MP.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair			
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good	✓		
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

## 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		Section 3.4 and 3.10 of the MP.	Various threats like water pollution, fishing, invasion of aquatic weed like Water hyacinth, encroachment etc have been identified and given in the MP.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair			
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good	✓		
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

## 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Section 3.4; Annexure 25 (pg 114) of the MP and discussions with the DFO.	Site has considerable encroachment but exact extent not clear.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair	✓		
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good			
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the

overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<i>Assessment criteria*</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		Section 5 of MP	The core, buffer and tourism zones have been identified but the Zonation Plans are not yet prepared.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good	✓		
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good			

Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?

<i>Assessment criteria</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor	✓	Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	The MP itself has expired over a year ago and there is no section for constant updation. The next plan (2008-9 to 17-18) was prepared in the middle of the previous one but the manager is not using it. The covering letter by the CWLW did state the need for updating the document periodically.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair			
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

**2.4 Does the site safeguards the threatened biodiversity values?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Sites does not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		Chapter 8 & 9. Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Regular patrolling by the staff by vehicle as well as by boats is being done to safeguard the threatened biodiversity values. Two tents have also been erected on strategic location in which the staff lives to keep a constant watch.
Sites safeguards a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair	✓		
Sites safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good			
Sites safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

**2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor	✓	Section 9.8.3. Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	The expired plan doesn't seem to have incorporated inputs from stakeholder consultations.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair			
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

## 2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely ad hoc.	Poor		Chapter 4 of the MP and discussion with DFO.	Plans for threat reduction are there but implementation has been limited. For example, the water hyacinth should have been eradicated between 2004-14 but this is not so.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good			
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations). Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site have an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		Section 3.10 of MP. Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Threats such as fishing have been effectively controlled but the other threats such as encroachment and cattle grazing haven't been tackled. For example, guards man tents to control fishing at Kot Kaimkhan and Sangam. Further 7 manned checkpoints are there and regular protection duties are being undertaken on a daily basis.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good	✓		
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good			

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties,

practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

**2.8 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	No conflicts reported so far.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human-wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Judgment needs to consider staff training, capabilities, equipment, logistics, local attitude and politics (negatively aided and/or abetted), assistance of relevant agencies (e.g. police. Local administration, Local people themselves) PR, follow-up actions and monitoring. Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 year may be collected.

**2.9 Is the site integrated into a wider ecological network landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not integrated into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	It is an isolated wetland but contiguous along both Sutlej and Beas Rivers.
Some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
Site is generally quite well integrated into a network/ landscape.	Good			
Site is fully integrated into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned/implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

### 3. Inputs

#### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organized and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Guards are adequate but there is an urgent need for a Forester and a Range Officer.
Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range , Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis- a- vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not now account for the current needs)

#### 3.2 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Vehicles are adequate as far as number is concerned but need for new boats for patrolling and monitoring is there. Other vehicles need maintenance.
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment.

The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.3 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Funds are adequate and released timely.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good	✓		
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.4 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	NGOs do not provide any resources, only WWF helps in census operation and monitoring.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair	✓		
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

Details of contributions(cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

**3.5 Does PA manager considers resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?**

<i>Assessment criteria</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Yes to a large extent.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair			
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good	✓		
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

**4. Process**

**4.1 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?**

<i>Assessment criteria*</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor	✓	Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	The staff is trained in Forestry but not in wildlife related issues.
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair			
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

#### 4.2 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<i>Assessment criteria*</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	The performance is evaluated through a system of ACRs.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

#### 4.3 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<i>Assessment criteria*</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor	✓	Section 9.8 of MP and discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Provisions are there in the MP but no initiatives have been taken up so far.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair			
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

**4.4 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?**

<i>Assessment criteria*</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor	✓	Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	None so far, but DFO is planning to evolve a system for the PA soon.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good			
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.5 Does PA management addresses the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<i>Assessment criteria</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	In the nearby villages, some products are made with Water Hyacinth. The programme is run by WWF and the department provides all possible support.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair	✓		
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

## 5. Output

### 5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Brochures are available on birds, etc. but not on management as such.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair	✓		
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good			
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site has a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

### 5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Some facilities (Observation deck (1), watchtowers (3), check posts (2), car parking (1), canteen (1), interpretation centre (1) etc) are being created by the Tourism dept. in consultation with the PA authorities (ADB funded).
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good	✓		
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centers, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feed back on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists( both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<i>Assessment criteria</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	WWF and Punjab Technical Univ., BNHS researchers are studying wildlife, however trends and any analysis are not available.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<i>Assessment criteria</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Inventory is ad hoc but the funds for maintenance are adequate.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

## 6. Outcomes

### 6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?

<i>Assessment criteria*</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur; reports by WWF but not available for perusal.	Overall bird counts appear to be increasing, however specific trends for threatened bird species are not available. The Indus River Dolphin population appears to be stable.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair	✓		
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good			
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

### 6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?

<i>Assessment criteria</i>				
Condition	Category*	(Tick ✓)	Reference document(s)	Remarks
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Hunting and fishing have reduced but the age old issue of encroachments remains. It is a challenging issue to address but the management is making serious efforts to contain the threat. Some court cases are ongoing against the encroachers.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair	✓		
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

**6.3 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	No complaints have been received and the visitors appear to be satisfied by the experience. The DFO feels that with ongoing ecotourism efforts the experience will improve.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good	✓		
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

**6.4 Are local communities supportive of PA management?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		Discussion with DFO, Wildlife, Ferozepur	Some people are supportive of the PA.
Some are supportive.	Fair	✓		
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good			
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

## MEE Score Card

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	20	<b>165 (55%)</b>
2.	Planning	09	10	90	47.5	
3.	Inputs	05	10	50	35	
4.	Process	05	10	50	17.5	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	22.5	
6.	Outcomes	04	10	40	22.5	
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>300</b>	<b>165</b>	

## 11. BIR BHADSON WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, PUNJAB

### MEE Year (2016-17)

#### Management Strengths

1. The final notification of the WLS has been issued.
2. The WLS has been fenced all around with 8-foot-high chain link fencing and to an additional height of 4 feet with barbed wire (total height 12 feet).
3. Adequate water is available (seven water holes are being replenished by three tube wells, and the Amlah Minor canal passes through the WLS).
4. There is no encroachment or human habitation inside the WLS.
5. The WLS is approachable from all sides through motorable roads, which also serve as fire lines.
6. The strength of the staff is sufficient for the size of the WLS (one Range Officer, one Forester, two Forest Guards, 20 daily wagers on work charge basis and one Multipurpose Worker).
7. The area is compact and connected with the Bhorey Aghoul Reserve Forest on the western side.
8. A Bolero Camper and a tractor are available for the use of the WLS.
9. Mobile bills are being reimbursed up to Rs 500 per month for A and B level officers and Rs 250 for C and D level staff members.
10. Infrastructure is available in the form of a Range Office and a watchtower.
11. Fire lines with a total length of 48 km within the sanctuary and 17 km along the periphery are being maintained.
12. There have been no instances of fire in the last 4 years.
13. There are almost no poaching cases in the WLS.
14. The dependence of the local population on the WLS is negligible.
15. The Government of Punjab formed an advisory committee for the WLS on 10 April 2015.
16. The Eco-sensitive Zone, with a width of 100 m, along the 17 km periphery, was notified on 21 January 2016.
17. Village Development Committees (VDCs) have been formed in the villages around the WLS.
18. A tranquilizing kit with a rescue-and-trap cage is available with the WLS staff.

#### Management Weaknesses

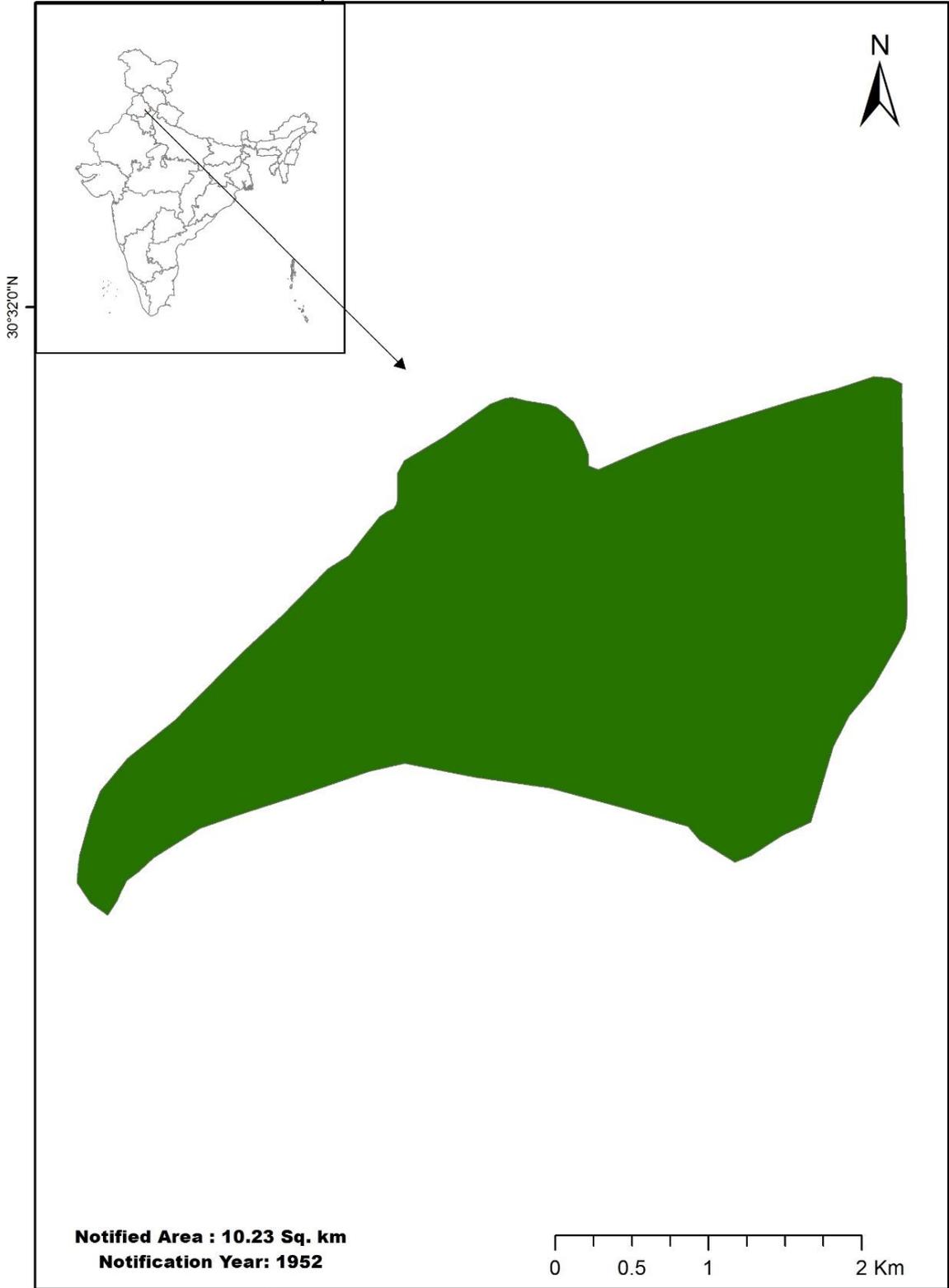
1. The entire WLS is infested with *Prosopis juliflora* and Eucalyptus.
2. Around 1000 feral cattle are living in the WLS.
3. There is a dearth of food plant species for Macaques and Sambar in the WLS.
4. Polythene litter is found along public access roads within the WLS.
5. The budget of the WLS is not released on time.
6. The DFO and staff are not trained in wildlife management.
7. Modern equipment such as camera traps; night vision binoculars and GPS are not available for the staff.
8. The soil is saline in places in the WLS.

#### Actionable Points

1. The advisory committee should meet regularly.
2. Phased removal of invasive species and replanting with indigenous plants and grasses is required.
3. The feral cattle need to be restricted to a smaller area within the WLS, and if no areas are available, they need to be moved out of the WLS.
4. Signage should be put up at appropriate vantage points in the WLS on the do's and don'ts.
5. The polythene bags, plastic, etc. scattered inside the WLS need to be removed as soon as possible.
6. Adequate food plant species should be made available for macaques within the WLS so that they are not attracted to other sources of food, resulting in human-wildlife conflicts.
7. The new management plan has to be drawn up as soon as possible (considering the guidelines of WII, in consultation with local stakeholders, with a provision for a mid-term review, and considering the adverse impacts of climate change).
8. Providing collars on the top of the chain link fence is desirable for increasing its longevity.
9. Area-specific and need-based research should be taken up in collaboration with local universities and colleges for management-related issues.
10. CSS funds were delayed and have not been released for the last 4 years. Efforts should be made to obtain CSS funds.
11. Brochures need to be made and placed at strategic locations to attract visitors to the WLS.

# Bir Bhadson Wildlife Sanctuary

76°12'0"E



 भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान  
Wildlife Institute of India

# 1. Context

## 1.1 Are the values of the site well documented, assessed and monitored?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Values not systematically documented, assessed or monitored.	Poor		MP 2007-08 to 2017-18 by Mr Charchil Kumar and Ms Nidhi Srivastava Sec 1.3	Values including wildlife, geomorphological and historical are mentioned in the MP.
Values generally identified but not systematically assessed and monitored.	Fair			
Most values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Good	✓		
All values systematically identified and assessed and monitored.	Very good			

\*Values would also include geo-morphological, historico-cultural and faunal and floral species.

## 1.2 Are the threats to site values well documented and assessed?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats not systematically documented or assessed.	Poor		MP Sec 3.12	Threats which are mainly in form of habitat degradation, stray cattle, invasive species and an over population of rhesus monkeys are documented and addressed in Management Plan.
Threats generally identified but not systematically assessed.	Fair			
Most threats systematically identified and assessed.	Good	✓		
All threats systematically identified and assessed.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be based on number, nature and extent of threats. Threats within and outside PA should both be considered. Impacts, if any on the population abundance of key species may be indicated in the remarks.

## 1.3 Is the site free from human and biotic interference?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
The site has extensive human and biotic interference.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Due to well defined boundary in shape of chain-linked fencing the human and biotic interference is very less.
The site has some human and biotic interference.	Fair			
The site has little human and biotic interference.	Good	✓		
The site has no human and biotic interference.	Very good			

\*This assessment should be based on existence of human settlements/ villages; livestock grazing, cultivation, encroachments etc, resource extraction/ livelihood dependence of local communities and should reflect the overall interference due to all the above factors. Number and size of human settlements/ enclaved villages and their impacts on the site may be indicated in the Remarks.

\*Score: Poor: 2.5; Fair: 5; Good: 7.5; Very Good: 10

## 2. Planning

### 2.1 Is the site properly identified (NP/WLS) and categorized (in terms of zonation) to achieve the objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not identified correctly or categorized.	Poor		MP Sec 6.2	The management plan provides a detailed and comprehensive zonation plan like biodiversity conservation zone, Eco-tourism zone and Eco-development zone as well as theme plans.
Site identified correctly but not categorized.	Fair			
Site identified correctly but not systematically categorized.	Good			
Site identified correctly and systematically categorized with proper zonation plans.	Very good	✓		

Management prescriptions for various zones (Core, Buffer, Tourism etc) may be carefully assessed.

### 2.2 Does the site have a comprehensive Management Plan?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No relevant Management Plan in place.	Poor		MP and discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	The WLS has a detailed and comprehensive management plan written for a period from 2007-08 to 2016-17. The Management Plan has been prepared according to WII guidelines.
Management Plan exist but not comprehensive.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive Management Plan.	Good	✓		
Site has a comprehensive, science based Management Plan prepared through a participatory process.	Very good			

Is the Management Plan consistent with WII Guidelines or not? The extent to which the concerns of the stakeholders, if any have been incorporated in the Management Plan may be commented upon.

**2.3 Is the Management Plan routinely and systematically updated?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No process in place for systematic review and update of Management Plan.	Poor		MP Sec 12.2 and discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Though there is no provision for systematic review and updation in the MP the CWLW in his approval letter dated 31/3/2009 has instructed the MP should be reviewed and updated.
Management Plan sometimes updated in adhoc manner.	Fair	✓		
Management Plan routinely and systematically updated.	Good			
Management Plan routinely, systematically and scientifically updated through a participatory process.	Very good			

**2.4 Does the site safeguards the threatened biodiversity values?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Sites do not safeguard the threatened biodiversity values.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	The sanctuary is well fenced so biodiversity values are well preserved and safeguarded. Moreover the area being comparatively small and compact in shape, it is easy to manage and conserve.
Sites safeguard a few threatened biodiversity values.	Fair			
Sites safeguards a large number of threatened biodiversity values.	Good	✓		
Sites safeguards all threatened biodiversity values.	Very good			

\* Remarks need to elaborate on the kind of safeguards and how they work or are intended to work

**2.5 Are stakeholders given an opportunity to participate in planning?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little, if any opportunity for stakeholder participation in planning.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	An advisory committee for the sanctuary is constituted which includes, MLA, Sarpanch, NGO, Vet. Officer and personnel from Police Dept.
Stakeholders participate in some planning.	Fair	✓		
Stakeholders participate in most planning processes.	Good			
Stakeholders routinely and systematically participate in all planning processes.	Very good			

\* The result of participation must show in the field and not merely reported as a routine exercise. Further, is there a system/scope of putting the draft Management Plan in Public Domain in place?

**2.6 Are habitat restoration programmes systematically planned and monitored?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Habitat restoration programmes are entirely adhoc.	Poor		MP Sec 6.4.2 Annexures Pg 33, 34, 35	Weed and invasive species mesquite (prosopis) is regularly removed. The habitat restoration as part of the recently started State scheme should be taken up in Bir Bhadson WLS. The habitat restoration should also aim at increasing the ecosystem services emanating from the WLS.
Limited planning and monitoring programmes are in place for habitat restoration.	Fair			
Habitat restoration programmes are generally well planned and monitored.	Good	✓		
Habitat restoration programmes are thoroughly planned and monitored.	Very good			

\* This assessment should be primarily based on habitat management programmes in relation to habitats for species that are threatened (IUCN categories), are habitat specialists, subjected to seasonal movements, wide ranging with emphasis on the breeding and rearing habitat and may include factors such as food, water, shelter (all connotations).Habitat structure, composition, unique patches of vegetation and sensitive sites, sources of water and their distribution are integral. Corridors within buffer zone are critically important. For example, all riparian habitats. Have these been addressed? Is there a planning process in place? What is the extent of 'invasive species in the Site? Are there any measures to reduce/ remove them? Have these been successful?

## 2.7 Does the site have an effective protection strategy?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site has no protection strategy.	Poor		MP Sec 6.4.1	As the WLS is fenced on all sides with restricted entry points the site is well protected.
Site has an adhoc protection strategy.	Fair			
Site has a comprehensive protection strategy but is not very effective.	Good			
Site has a comprehensive and very effective protection strategy.	Very good	✓		

\* This assessment takes *inter-alia* into account the nature of threats, the number and location of patrolling camps and foot and mobile patrolling, needs that relate to available manpower, terrain difficulties, practicability of area coverage, readiness to contain specific threats with necessary support and facilities. Is there any coordination with other wings of the Forest Department/ Police/ Customs etc? Are these effective?

## 2.8 Has the site been effective in the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Human-wildlife conflicts are rampant.	Poor		MP Sec 4.2.3 and discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	The incidents of crop property damage is negligible due to fencing of PA.
Site has been able to mitigate few human-wildlife conflicts.	Fair			
Site has been able to mitigate many human-wildlife conflicts.	Good	✓		
Site has been able effective in mitigating all human wildlife conflicts.	Very good			

\* Judgment needs to consider staff training, capabilities, equipment, logistics, local attitude and politics (negatively aided and/or abetted), assistance of relevant agencies (e.g. police. Local administration, Local people themselves) PR, follow-up actions and monitoring. Details of compensation paid for human injury/ death and property damage in the last 3 year may be collected.

## 2.9 Is the site integrated into a wider ecological network landscape following the principles of the ecosystem approach?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Site not integrated into a wider network/ landscape.	Poor		Sec 1.3 and discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Bir Bhadson WLS is the largest WLS of the district. It connects with Bir Bhorey Agol Reserve Forest and Bir Dosanjh WLS and forms a contiguous patch of around 2500 Ha.
Some limited attempts to integrate the site into a network/ landscape.	Fair	✓		
Site is generally quite well integrated into a network/ landscape.	Good			
Site is fully integrated into a wider network/ landscape.	Very good			

\* Assessment needs to consider the scope of opportunities on the landscape scale that exist. Consider whether any attempts have been made and what are these? Have all the important corridors been identified? What actions are planned /implemented for their security? Have the Forest Working Plans and Forest Development Corporation Plans within the identified landscapes taken cognizance of such new requirement? What kind of relationship exists with the District Administration and other Line Departments? Does the Site get any funds from these agencies?

### 3. Inputs

#### 3.1 Are personnel adequate, well organised and deployed with access to adequate resources in the site?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, personnel explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	There is DFO (wild life) who looks after the all the PAs & wildlife of whole district of Patiala including Bhadson WLS. He is assisted by 1 range officer I/C of the site, 1 Block Officer, 6 Forest Guards, 20 watch and ward persons and 5 multipurpose workers.
Some personnel explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate personnel explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* This assessment should *inter-alia* be based on number of personnel allocated for attainment of PA objectives at the Range , Round, Beat and Patrolling camps levels or as relevant to the needs (sanctioned posts *vis- a- vis* existing personnel and needs beyond the sanctioned strengths. It is possible that posts have last been sanctioned several years back that do not account for the *current needs*)

#### 3.2 Are resources (vehicle, equipment, building etc.) adequate, well organised and managed with access to adequate resources?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick )</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Few, if any, resources explicitly allocated for PA management.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Proper range office building, one tractor, one bolero jeep,two water bores with electricity connection, presence of a Forest rest House at the site are available to obtain management objectives. An irrigation canal Amloh Minor running through the WLS provides adequate help in term of water availability. However the WLS is lacking modern equipment such as gps and camera traps)
Some resources explicitly allocated for PA management but not systematically linked to management objectives.	Fair			
Some resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Good	✓		
Adequate resources explicitly allocated towards achievement of specific management objectives.	Very good			

\* These form a variety of resources. These may be segregated into immovable (structures) and movable categories and each further may be considered under the essential and desirable categories. It is best to start with what are the minimum needs to attain each objective, what is available and manner of use/deployment. The proportions of the 'essentials' and 'desirables' along the importance gradient of objectives would serve as pointers for score categories. Specific remarks would be vitally important.

### 3.3 Are resources (human and financial) linked to priority actions and are funds released timely?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resource allocation is adhoc, funds are inadequate and seldom released in time and not utilized.	Poor	✓	Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	CAMPA, Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) funds for fencing were made available but that apart funds released are inadequate to meet management objectives.
Some specific allocation for management of priority action. Funds are inadequate and there is some delay in release, partially utilized.	Fair			
Comprehensive planning and allocation that meets the most important objectives. Generally funds released with not much delay and mostly utilized.	Good			
Comprehensive planning and allocation of resources for attainment of most objectives. Funds generally released on-time and are fully utilized.	Very good			

\*Obtain details of funds released by MoEF and their utilization by site in the last 3 years and indicate them under 'Remarks'. Also comment on the problems associated with funds and their mitigation.

### 3.4 What level of resources is provided by NGOs?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition*</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
NGOs contribute nothing for the management of the site.	Poor	✓	Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	There are no wildlife conservation efforts being partnered by NGOs in the WLS.
NGOs make some contribution to management of the site but opportunities for collaboration are not systematically explored.	Fair			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of some site level activities.	Good			
NGOs contributions are systematically sought and negotiated for the management of many site level activities.	Very good			

Details of contributions (cash/kind) made by the NGOs in the last 3 years may be collected.

### 3.5 Does PA manager consider resources (human and financial) to be sufficient?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Resources insufficient for most tasks.	Poor	✓	Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	While human resources may be adequate financial resources are insufficient to meet management objectives.
Resources sufficient for some tasks.	Fair			
Resources sufficient for most tasks.	Good			
Resources are in excess for most tasks.	Very good			

## 4. Process

### 4.1 Does the site have trained manpower resources for effective PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Very few trained officers and frontline staff in the site.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	DFO has sufficient experience but staff is not specifically trained in wildlife management.
Few trained officers and frontline staff, who are posted in the site.	Fair	✓		
A large number of trained officers and frontline staff are posted in the site.	Good			
All trained managers and frontline staff posted in the site.	Very good			

\* Indicate % of trained staff in various categories. i.e. Higher Management: ACF/ DCF/ CF/ CCF; Frontline Staff: Range Officer; Beat Officer; Forest Guard; Casual Daily Labour (CDL); Others.

### 4.2 Is PA staff performance management linked to achievement of management objectives?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No linkage between staff performance management and management objectives.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	APR System is in place but may not be directly linked to attainment of specific management objectives.
Some linkage between staff performance management and management objectives, but not consistently or systematically assessed.	Fair	✓		
Performance management for most staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Good			
Performance management of all staff is directly linked to achievement of relevant management objectives.	Very good			

\*Has the PA staff received award/ appreciation from any agency in the last 3 years?

#### 4.3 Is there effective public participation in PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no public participation in PA management.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Local representative & village heads are involved as member of Advisory Committee of the WLS. The villagers also help in Forest fire control, intelligence gathering and census operation.
Opportunistic public participation in some aspects of PA management.	Fair	✓		
Systematic public participation in most aspects of PA management.	Good			
Comprehensive and systematic public participation in all important aspects of PA management.	Very good			

\* Participation would include Conservation & awareness programmes, Census operations, Intelligence gathering, Forest fire control etc.

#### 4.4 Is there a responsive system for handling complaints and comments about PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic approach to handling complaints.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Complaints can be registered on website ( <a href="http://publicgrievancepb.gov.in">http://publicgrievancepb.gov.in</a> ). The complaints can also be made to PCCF, CWLW, CF, DFO and Range Officer level which are systematically handled at each level. The public can also make complaints during Sangat Darshan programme.
Complaints handling system operational but not responsive to individual issues and limited follow up provided.	Fair			
Coordinated system logs and responds effectively to most complaints.	Good	✓		
All complaints systematically logged in coordinated system and timely response provided with minimal repeat complaints.	Very good			

\* Number of queries made and response thereof under the Right to Information (RTI), Act in the last 3 years may be compiled.

**4.5 Does PA management address the livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially of women?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	<b>NA</b> As there are no forest rights existing in the WLS and the economic condition of the surrounding villagers is good, so there are no livelihood issues at stake.
Few livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Fair			
Substantial livelihood issues are addressed by PA management.	Good			
Livelihood issues of resource dependent communities especially women are addressed effectively by PA managers.	Very good			

**5. Output**

**5.1 Is adequate information on PA management publicly available?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no information on PA management publicly available.	Poor		<a href="http://www.pbforest.gov.in">www.pbforest.gov.in</a>	The Department of Forest and Wildlife Preservation, Punjab has its own website <a href="http://www.pbforest.gov.in">www.pbforest.gov.in</a> which is comprehensive and information is updated periodically. The forest department has also set up its Call centre to provide necessary information and up to date information regarding forest and wildlife.
Publicly available information is general and has limited relevance to management accountability and the condition of public assets.	Fair			
Publicly available information provides detailed insight into major management issues for most PAs or groups of PAs.	Good	✓		
Comprehensive reports are routinely provided on management and condition of public assets in all PAs or groups of PAs.	Very good			

\* Does the Site have a website? If yes, is it comprehensive, well-managed and periodically updated?

**5.2 Are visitor services (tourism and interpretation) and facilities appropriate for the relevant protected area category?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Visitor services and facilities are at odds with relevant PA category and/or threaten PA values.	Poor	✓	MP Ch 7	MP mentions facilities, but very few visitors are coming to the WLS.
Visitor services and facilities generally accord with relevant PA category and don't threaten PA values.	Fair			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and most enhance PA values.	Good			
All visitor services and facilities accord with relevant PA category and enhance PA values.	Very good			

\* Include the existence and quality of visitor and interpretation centres, including skills and capabilities of personnel manning these, site related publications, films, videos; arrangements of stay (including places serving refreshments and food owned and managed by site), watch towers and hides including safety factors, vehicles assigned for visitors including riding elephants, if any and their deployment, drinking water, rest rooms, garbage disposal, attended and self guided services in the field, visitor feedback on the quality of wilderness experience. Details of numbers of visitors/ tourists (both domestic and overseas) coming in the last 3 years and the revenue earned may be compiled.

**5.3 Are research/ monitoring related trends systematically evaluated and routinely reported and used to improve management?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Little or no systematic evaluation or routine reporting of trends.	Poor		Census 2009 and 2014	Collaboration with Punjab University on several areas of research from management point of view should be encouraged.
Some evaluation and reporting undertaken but neither systematic nor routine.	Fair	✓		
Systematic evaluation and routine reporting of management related trends undertaken.	Good			
Systematic evaluation and comprehensive reporting of trends undertaken and attempts made at course corrections as relevant.	Very good			

\* Not all site attract projects and researchers and with exceptions, little research takes place on the site own steam because of systemic limitations. However, monitoring of some critical issues is expected e.g. population of tiger, co-predators and prey with insights into their demography and distribution (some opportunistic sampling by sightings, signs and spatial distribution during assessment would be extremely useful in terms of expert impression and as a pulse), monitoring incidence of livestock grazing, fires, weeds, sources of water, a variety of illegal activities typically associated with the reserve, wildlife health (e.g. epidemics, immunization of livestock) regeneration and change in vegetation, visitors and their activities, offence cases, ex-gratia payments etc. Details of number of research projects in the last 3 years, institutions involved, and salient outcomes may be collected and used in awarding scores.

**5.4 Is there a systematic maintenance schedule and funds in place for management of infrastructure/assets?**

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
No systematic inventory or maintenance schedule.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	The assets and infrastructure created under various projects/schemes are maintained as per availability of funds.
Inventory maintenance is adhoc and so is the maintenance schedule.	Fair	✓		
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule but funds are inadequately made available.	Good			
Systematic inventory provides the basis for maintenance schedule and adequate funds are made available.	Very good			

## **6. Outcomes**

**6.1 Are populations of threatened species especially key faunal species declining, stable or increasing?**

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threatened/ endangered species populations declining.	Poor		Census 2009 and 2014	Census carried out in 2009 and 2014, shows that population of most of the species are showing increasing trend.
Some threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Fair			
Most threatened/ endangered species populations increasing, most others stable.	Good	✓		
All threatened/ endangered species populations either increasing or stable.	Very good			

\* This needs to practically relate to the natural ecosystem potential rather than being driven merely by numbers and visibility. The assessment score may be elaborated under remarks. Comments on the population trends may be made under Remarks.

### 6.2 Have the threats to the site being reduced/ minimized or is there an increase?

<b>Assessment criteria</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Threats to the Site have not abated but have enhanced.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	Due to physical demarcation and fencing of boundary, outside interference is minimal.
Some threats to the Site have abated, others continue their presence	Fair	✓		
Most threats to the Site have abated. The few remaining are vigorously being addressed	Good			
All threats to the Site have been effectively contained and an efficient system is in place to deal with any emerging situation	Very good			

### 6.3 Are the expectations of visitors generally met or exceeded?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category*</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Expectations of visitors generally not met.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	NA There are very few visitors to the site.
Expectations of many visitors are met.	Fair			
Expectations of most visitors are met.	Good			
Good expectations of most visitors are met.	Very good			

\* Is there any system of receiving/ analyzing visitor feedback?

### 6.4 Are local communities supportive of PA management?

<b>Assessment criteria*</b>				
<b>Condition</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>(Tick ✓)</b>	<b>Reference document(s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Local communities are hostile.	Poor		Discussion with CF (WL) Ms Nidhi Srivastava and RO Shri Chamkaur Singh	The local villagers have little dependence on resources of WLS on account of relatively better economic status and support conservation efforts of the FD.
Some are supportive.	Fair			
Most locals are supportive of PA management.	Good	✓		
All local communities supportive of PA management.	Very good			

\* There could be many reasons for disenchantment. It could be real because of managerial neglect or the managerial efforts could be appropriate but there could be local elements/organizations who would like to keep the dis-affectation simmering for their own ulterior motives. Likewise success could be entirely because of the efforts of managers or they might be fortunate in striking partnerships with credible NGOs. Assessment may take the prevailing causes into account.

## MEE Score Card

Framework Element Number	Framework Element Name	Number of Questions (a)	Maximum Mark per question (b)	Total (a x b)	Marks obtained for the Element	Overall Score
1.	Context	03	10	30	22.5	<b>61.60%</b>
2.	Planning	09	10	90	65	
3.	Inputs	05	10	50	22.5	
4.	Process	04	10	40	22.5	
5.	Outputs	04	10	40	20	
6.	Outcomes	03	10	30	20	
<b>Total</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>280</b>	<b>172.5</b>	