

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
CIVIL SECRETARIAT FOREST DEPARTMENT  
(WILDLIFE PROTECTION)

NOTIFICATION

JAMMU, THE 19/3, 1987

SRO 150 :- Whereas, it appears to the Government that the area specified in Annexure "A" to this Notification, has adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological significance for purposes of protecting, propagating and developing wildlife of its environment.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the Powers conferred by section 17 of the Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1978, the Government hereby declare the said area as a sanctuary.

By Order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

sd/-  
(N. R. Gupta)

Secretary to Government.

*Lachyora*  
NO: 74/W4/San/150/87 Dated: 19.3.1987

Copy for information and necessary action: to the:-

1. Secretary to Government, Law Department.
2. Secretary to Government, Revenue Department
3. Chief Wildlife Warden, Srinagar
4. Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District
5. Manager Government presses for favour of Publication in Government Gazette.
6. Stock File.

(Handid-Allah) 19/3

Deputy Secretary to Government  
Forest Department

\*Handari\* 19/3

**STATUS SURVEY REPORT OF PROPOSED LACHIPORA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

Uri for the Markhor.

**(Capra Falconeri).**

**Nomenclature:-**

Katha Nilgaj is a big catchment with eleven villages therein & Lachipora being the big and popular village, so it has been named after the said village.

**Situation:-** It is situated at about 83 Kms. from Srinagar city, in the West. The proposed area occupies the right bank of the river Jhelum. It drains in the said river near the village of Chanawari lying on the opposite bank of the river.

**Boundaries:-**

- North ..... Kaku Forest of Langet Forest Division.
- South ..... Maidan Forest.
- South-east..... River Jhelum, Baramulla-Uri road & village Chanawari.
- West ..... Pass-Garaja gali and Maidan Forest and Catch-fire line.
- East..... Dagi pahar peak, Bagna and limber forests.

**Area:-**

The total area of the proposed Wildlife Sanctuary is about 80 Sq. Kms. and includes the whole water catchment zone of the said nalla. It is represented on the G. T. Sheet No: 43J/3 & 43/4

**Climate:-**

All the four seasons are well marked. The low-lying western area of the Jhelum valley experiences the same intensity of heat as that of the Punjab plains in the months of July, August and part of September, where as the high elevated areas above 3,300 m. (11,000 Ft.) have an alpine temperature and the climate varies from place to place between these two extremes. Thus the altitudinal variations bear a great influence on the climate conditions from place to place in the division.

From Baniyar downwards to Uri the precipitation occurs more or less in the shape of monsoon rains.

**Configuration:-**

The topography is conspicuously sloopy mountainous and broken by the big rocky cliffs. The fields are thrown into number of unaccessible undulations enclosing narrow gulleys (Nars) along the Upper reaches.

**Approach:-**

The area is very easily accessible, being well connected to Baramulla-Uri National Highway at Chanawari by a foot bridge in south east,

Moreover, a metalled road has been proposed to be constructed upto Lachipora village and will be connected with the main road (Baramulla-Uri) road via bridge near Ginel.

Rights:-

Eleven villages fall in the catchment zone of the proposed area. The inhabitants have their fields and orchards in the catchment of the nalla. Moreover, they indulge in the collection of fire wood, Deodar (grass and twigs of the horse chestnut trees). The locals enjoy the concession of taking their live stock to the proposed area for grazing, besides this the bakewals from Rajouri and Poonch do take their live stock to the upper reaches (i.e. Demarcated Game Reserve) of the area for grazing.

The population of 6,905 and the permanent live stock of 5,167 present in the entire catchment of the proposed area as per the census figures of 1980-81 of the Revenue Department has been estimated.

Vegetations:-

Gen. Vegetation:- The area exhibits varied floral types manifested by habitat, form and density of dominant species and controlled by a number of factors including habitat conditions exposure, altitude, and above all the biotic interference. About sixty percent of the forest area constitutes of Isodon spp cover and the rest of the woody vegetation comprises about 90% of the coniferous species like Deodar (Deodrus deodara), Kail (Pinus griffithii), Fir (Abies pindrow) with sprinkling of spruce (Picea smithiana) and Yew (Taxus wallichiana).

The vegetational complex could be resolved into a number of distinct types.

1. Blue Pine Zone:-

(1,630 to 2,500 Mts.) It is formed of a pure cover of kail stands (Pinus griffithii) and is usually mixed at a few places e.g. at the mouth of Malangan nalla with scattered stands of Deodar (Deodrus deodara) and at higher reaches with the individuals of Fir (Abies pindrow) AND spruce (Picea smithiana).

The main broad-leaved associates are Acer spp, Asculus indica, Juglans regia, F. zinus spp etc.

The under growth consists of Indigofera heterantha, Viburnum spp, and sprinkling of Isodon spp, Rosa spp, and Lonicera spp. The herbaceous ground cover is very rich and consists mainly of Erigeron vesicaria, Sambucus spp, Polygonum spp, Rumex spp, Pteridium spp, Alantum spp, etc.

It dominates the gorges, sheltered pockets and easier steeped southern slopes.

2. Deodar Zone:-

The deodar forms almost a pure crop in the camp. 9 of the catchment. It is mixed with the isolated individuals of the Kail stands. The ~~xxxxxx~~ under story is mainly composed of Viburnum spp, Isodon spp, Crataegus spp, Rubus spp, and regenerating of deodar.

3. Silver Fir forests:-

This zone is chiefly composed of the Himalyan Silver Fir (Abies pindrow) and spruce and kail fairly mix with Fir at higher reaches. The main broad-leaved associates are Juglans regia, Acer spp, Asculus indica at low altitudes and Betula utilis at higher altitudes.

The under growth includes Salix laurolepis, Viburnum spp, and sparsely Rosa webbiana.

The Biotope is vertically distributed along the steep and dry slopes upto 11,000 feet.

4. Birds Eye:-

Forest community dominated by Betula utilis stands but at some places generally at low altitudes isolated stands of Acer spp, Alnus pinifolia do mix with it. Sparse shrub cover comes into competition with it includes patches of Juniperus spp, Lonicera spp, Rhododendron spp, and Viburnum spp. This cover is distributed in gulleys (nars).

5. Hare Chest Nut:-

This cover abounds chiefly Aesculus indica mixed with the scattered individuals of Juglans regia and Acer spp. It is richly supported by scrubby layer of Sorbaria tomentosa, Viburnum spp, Rosa webbiana and Aesculus indica. It supports a rich herbaceous cover of Adiantum spp, Rumex patientia.

This biotope occupies the gentle shady slopes and gulleys.

6. Isodon Scrub:-

The pure crop of Isodon spp, is distributed along the exposed and low lying ridges. It is mixed at places with the scattered stands of Kail trees. Its other associates are Viburnum (along the shady drains), Saiea spp, Rubus spp, and Centonaster spp. The ground cover mainly constitutes of Arenaria spp, Dryopteris spp etc.

7. Savana scrub:-

A pure tall un-identified coarse grass cover mixed with isolated individuals of kail trees (Pinus affinis). It is luxuriantly accompanied with under story e.g. Indigofera heterantha and sparse cover of Rosa webbiana and Rubus spp.

This association is vertically restricted in the forest clearings and exposed slopes.

8. Alpine pastures:-

This zone appears from the uppermost limit of the fir zone in the form of vast pasture lands viz "margs". The vegetation comprises stunted trees of birch (Betula utilis), Juniperus spp, patches and individuals of Rhododendron spp.

The ground flora includes Chrysanthemum leucanthemum, Inula spp, Caltha palustris, Primula spp, Potentilla spp, Corydalis spp, Gentiana spp, Anemone spp, Mysotis spp, Polygonum spp etc.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Animals</u>	<u>Population</u>
<u>S. No.</u>	<u>Name of the animal.</u>	
1.	<u>Prionolysis entellus (Dufrenoy)</u> Himalayan Langoor,	Common,
2.	<u>Macaca Mulata</u> <u>Rhesus Macaque,</u>	-do-
3.	<u>Selemartes tibetanus</u> Himalayan Black Bear,	Occasional,
4.	<u>Urus arctos Linnaeus</u> Himalayan Brown Bear.	Rare,
5.	<u>Panthera arjus (Linnaeus)</u> Leopard or Panther,	-do-
6.	<u>Felis bengalensis Ker</u> Leopard Cat,	-do-
7.	<u>Vulpus vulpus (Linnaeus)</u> Red Fox,	Occasional,
8.	<u>Martes flavivula (Boddaert)</u> Himalayan Yellow-throated Martin,	-do-
9.	<u>Ochotona roylei (Ogilby)</u> Himalayan Mouse Hare,	-do-
	<u>Sciurus eipacrus Thomas,</u>	
10.	Kashmir Flying Squirrel,	Common,
11.	rel.	Occasional,
12.	<u>Prasina grisea</u> arkhar,	Common,
13.	<u>Moschus moschiferus (Linnaeus)</u> Himalayan Musk Deer,	Rare,

B. Avi-fauna:- The birds of this prepared are are:-  
 Black eared Kite (Milvus Migrans), Black Eagle (Aquila verreauxi),  
 Bearded Eagle, Himalayan Griffon Vulture (Gyps Himalayensis),  
 Egyptian Vulture, Kestrel (Falco tinnunculus), Shikara  
 (A-Star badius), Monal pheasant (Lophophorus impejanus),  
 Chakur (Alcedo chakur) Koklass (Pucrasia macrolopha),  
 Scaly-billed green wood pecker (Picus squamatus squamatus Gould),  
 Kashmir Bird Wood pecker (Dryocetes Himalayensis), Indian Mya  
 (Amphispiza tristis), Himalayan Jungle Crow (Corvus macrorhynchos)  
 Eastern Jay, Western Yellow billed blue Magpie (Urocissa  
fl. tristis), Large spotted Nutcracker (Nucifraga multipunctata)  
 White Cheeked Bulbul (Psychentus leucogenys) Western spotted  
 Park-tail (Amphispiza maculata), Himalayan Whistling Thrush  
 (Myiophobus emillacku), White-capped Red-Start (Chinnamora  
leucocephala), Streaked Laughing Thrush (Troglodytes leucostriatus)  
 Kashmir Wren (Troglodytes troglodytes), Indian Brown Dipper  
 (Minckleyia pallasi), Grey Tit (Parus major), Crested Black Tit  
 (Parus melanocephalus), Hodgson's Tree-creeper (Certhia  
emillaris), Kashmir Sky lark (Alauda gulqula), Kashmir House  
 sparrow (Passer domesticus), Black and yellow Gros-beak  
 (Corvus corax), Orange Bulfinch (Pyrrhula aurantiaca),  
 Eastern Meadow Lark (Emberiza stracheyi) Pine Bunting  
 (Emberiza leucocephala) etc.

Site to Developable Site Plans-

The proposed area offers food promise as a rich potential with its rich honey trees. It offers a vast area richly endowed with abundant food in the form of Isodon cover (A. ... forest area), Pinus crop (A. ...), A. ... (Dominant under story) and the ... (A. ...), thus the dominance of these species ... ensures the better food and ... the Vilarnia ...

... there are only 20 to 25 Beehives in the ... 2000 Kgs of honey was ... year 1980-81, which includes ... local produce.

... in view of the vast habitat and favourable ... the site ...

... the ... of the ... the ... of the ...

... late ... of land (approx ...)

... the ... of the ... the ... of the ...

Recommendations:-

The area is harbouring the rare and threatened animals like Markhor, Musk Deer and Leopard and Pheasants, like Monal, Koklass, Chakore, and reportedly Rufous Chakore and ... Markhor the majestic wild goat is distributed in a few corners of Uri and Shopian areas in Kashmir valley. The number of the Markhor and colorful pheasants is dwindling, going down, moreover, these pheasants are dwindling in number in the Himalaya belt. Many measure have been taken by the World Pheasant Association to protect the Himalayan Pheasants.

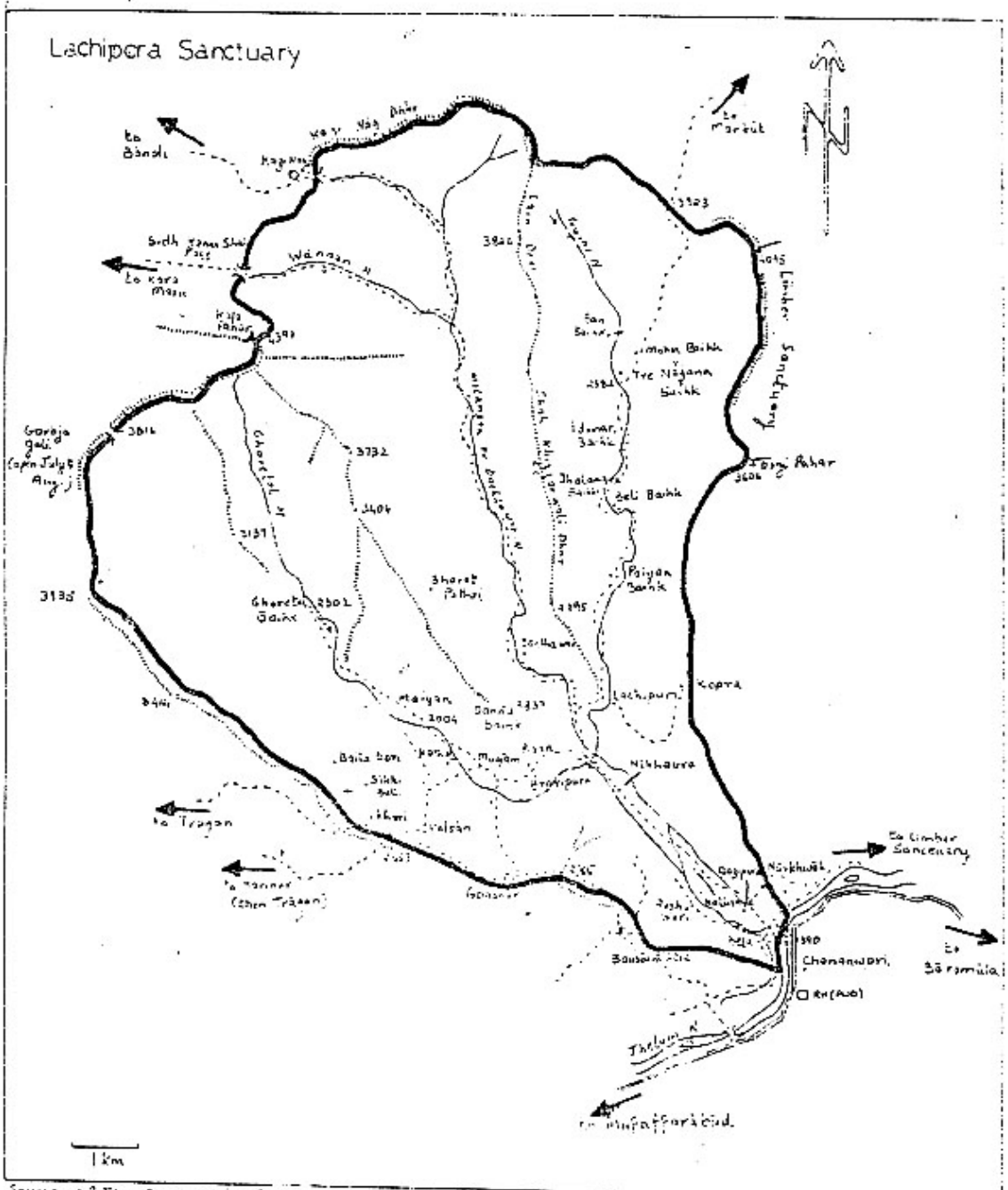
To the precious potential of the rare and endangered animals and Pheasants it has added considerably to the importance of development of the area into a sanctuary to cater the long term interest of the Wild animals and Pheasants otherwise are threatened by the indiscriminate grazing and destruction, heavy incidences of illicit poaching and ... the security of food and shelter.

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Keeping the above facts and figures into consideration the proposed area is recommended to be notified as wild life Sanctuary under Section 17 of Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1978.

Map:-

A detailed map of the catchment is enclosed for ready reference.



Source : 43 J/4, Surveyed in 1911/12. (1st Edition. (P. 20/12/1911))  
 43 J/5, Surveyed in 1962. (2nd Edition. (T. 10/12/1962))  
 43 F/16.  
 Latitude : 30° 15' 15" to 30° 15' 49" N  
 Longitude : 75° 51' 00" to 76° 37' 06" E.

Map Made by :

Survey of National Parks and Sanctuaries  
 Indian Institute of Public Administration  
 New Delhi Dec., 1968