

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

NOTIFICATION

JAMMU, THE 1<sup>st</sup> CIR<sup>Y</sup>, 1987

WHEREAS, it appears to the Government that the area specified in Schedule AII to this Notification, has adequate ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological significance for purposes of protecting, propagating and developing wildlife & its environment,

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 17 of the Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1976, the Government hereby declare the said area as a safaiyat.

By Order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-  
( H. R. Gupta)

Secretary to Government.

No: FSC/14/SAN/1987 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.

(Hamid-Ullah)  
Deputy Secretary to Government  
Forest Department  
Jammu 19/3

Annexure to S.R.O 156

Date 19.3.1987

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STATUS SURVEY REPORT OF PROPOSED  
BALTAL (THAJWA)  
(WILDLIFE SANCTUARY)

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE  
JAMMU & KASHMIR GOVERNMENT  
SH. MEHMOOD

(100)

Status Survey Report of Proposed Matal (Thajwari)  
Wildlife Sanctuary.

Nomenclature:-

The area is named after an important place located on Srinagar-Leh route which falls in the jurisdiction of the proposed Wildlife Sanctuary.

Situation:-

The tract is situated at about 92 Kms. east of Srinagar City. The nearest airport and rail head stand 140 Kms. & 91 Kms. away respectively.

Boundaries:-

North	Sindh River
South	Lidder Forest Division
East	Zojila Pass
West	Forest Division

Area:-

The tract encompasses an area of about 203 sq Kms., out of which only 1,677 hectares are covered by forests. The proposed Wildlife Sanctuary is roughly rectangular in shape approximately 29 Kms. long and 7 Kms. wide.

The area is enclosed by mountains constituting a part of the great Himalayan mountain range with peaks between 3,213 to 6,425 mtrs. above main sea level.

Geology, Rock and Soil:-

The mountain enclosing the proposed sanctuary consists of massive hard panjals tract, with little vegetation. The soil is alluvial containing gravel deposits.

Climate:-

It experiences an irregular climate. Moderate temperatures during summer and very low temperature during winter. The higher altitudes experiences frost towards the end of November. Up in the higher reaches there is an early snowfall and the cold weather even continues till end of May. The major part of precipitation in winter is mainly in the form of snow.

Legal position:-

The proposed area is presently owned and administered by the Forest Department of the Jammu and Kashmir State.

Flora:-

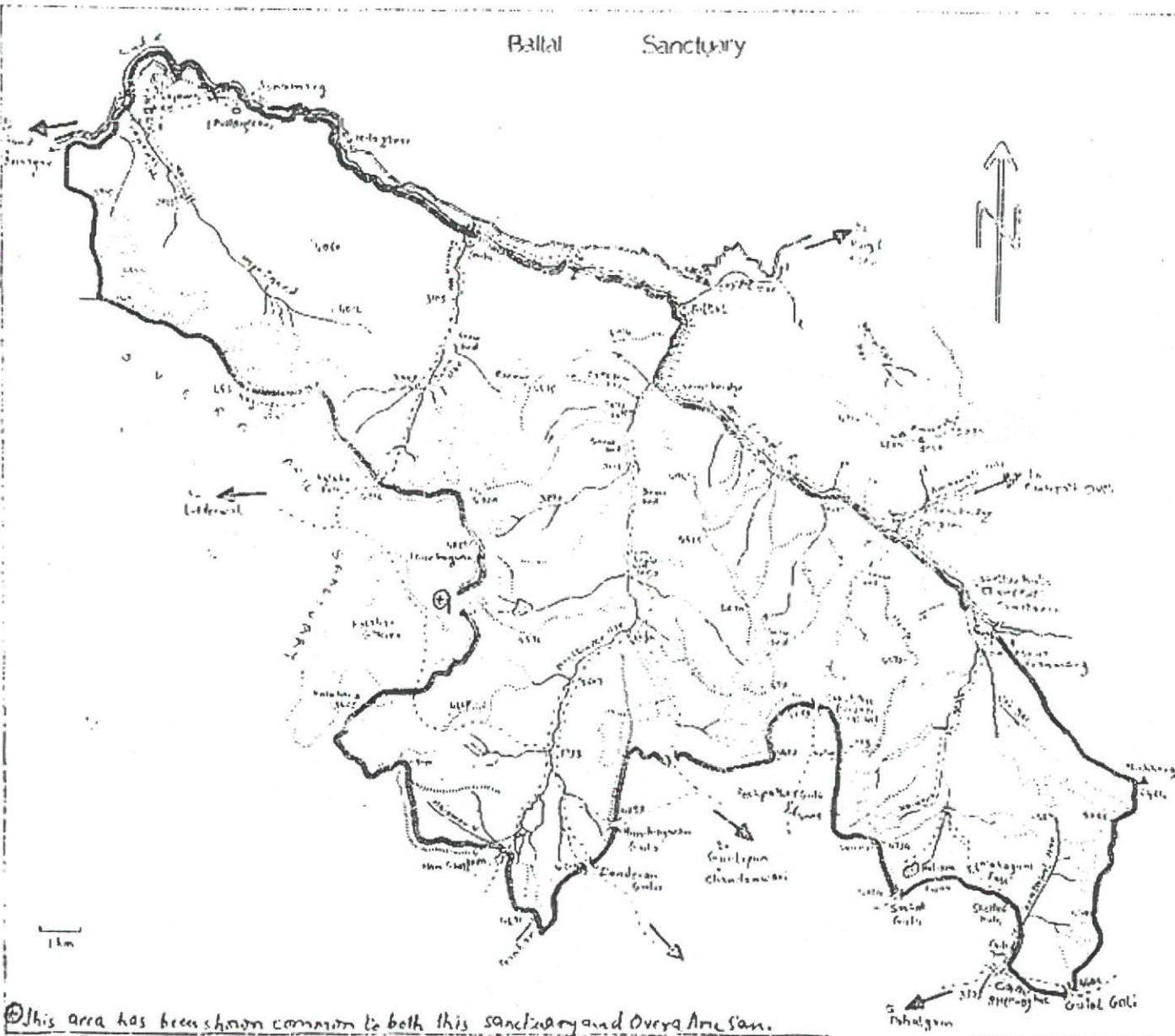
The major portion of vegetal matter possesses as usual a stunted crop of pine, fir with deficient regeneration. The broad leaf species are birch stands. Above the tree cover the area ranges into grand and vast alpine pastures which render unique beauty to entire sonamarg and these are covered with glaciels.

Following four biotopes have been distinguished.

1) Kashmir Subalpine Forest:-

It is characterised by irregular fir forest, spotted with tall, supice and broad-leaved species of Aesculus indica, Juglans regia, Acer capadocicum, Padus cernuta etc.

The under story of Sambucus nigra, Grimmia spp., Parmeliopsis jacquemontiana and rich ground cover. It is confined to an altitudinal zone ranging from 2,400 to 3,200 mts.



This area has been shown common to both this sanctuary and Overa Amesan.

Source: Topo Sheet 43 N 18. Surveyed in 1962. Second edition. Pub. 1980  
13 N 17. Surveyed in 1915-16. Third edition. Pub. 1982.

Map Made by :

Survey of National Parks and Sanctuaries  
Indian Institute of Public Administration  
*1980*