

DISTRIBUTION IN JSWNP.

In JSWNP, Himalayan black bear is found in all the forest types, viz., sub-tropical broadleaf forest to sub-alpine scrub forests. Sighting of bear is quite common comparing to other carnivores.

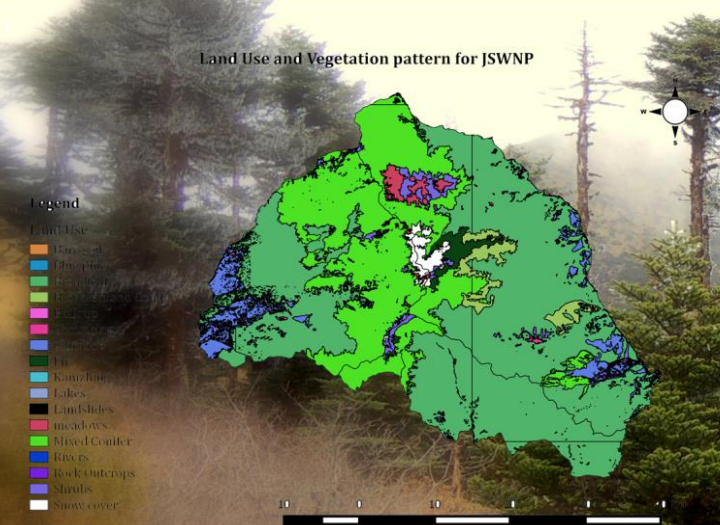
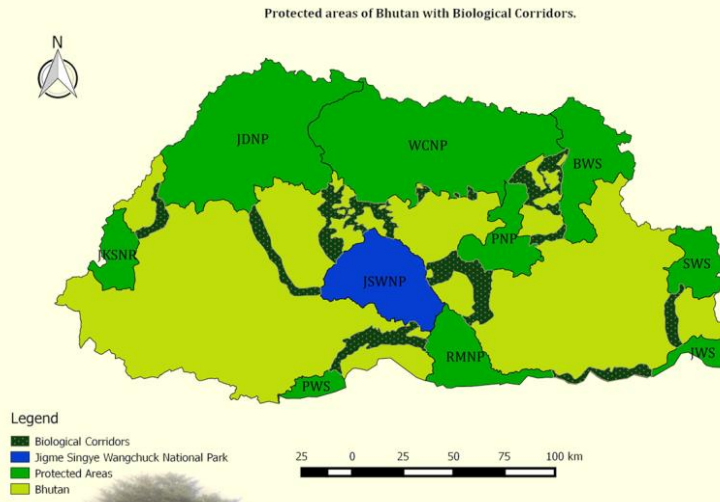
CONSERVATION THREATS IN JSWNP

- Habitat degradation caused by forest fire, installation of transmission lines, grazing
- Retaliatory killing of the animal
- Poaching

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

1. Conservation Awareness Programmes
2. Human-wildlife Conflict mitigation and prevention programmes like Live-stock insurance schemes, solar electric fencings.
3. Anti-poaching patrolling using SMART tools.

"Know about Himalayan black bear and save it from exploitation leading to extinction."



Know about the Himalayan black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*)

"Let's us join hands to conserve it."

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HIMALAYAN BLACK BEAR FACTS

Name: Himalayan Black Bear
Scientific Name: *Ursus thibetanus*
Family: Ursidae
Order: Carnivora
Class: Mammalia
Phylum: Chordata
Kingdom: Animalia

STATUS

The Himalayan black bear is listed as vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. Under CITES, it is listed under Appendix I. The Forests and Nature Conservation Act of Bhutan 1995 (FNCA) totally protects the Himalayan black bear under Schedule I species.

HABITAT

Himalayan black bears are scattered across the Himalayas from Bhutan to Pakistan. They are most populous in mountainous areas and jungles. Himalayan black bears can be found in warmer areas in Nepal, China, Russia, and Tibet at altitudes of 1500masl to up near the timberline depending on the season and weather.

CHARACTERISTICS

Himalayan black bears have a black coat with a light brown muzzle and a pale yellow crescent on their chest. On average, they measure from 56 to 65 inches from nose to tail and weigh from 200 to 265 pounds, though they may weigh as much as 400 pounds in the fall when they are fattening up for hibernation. They are diurnal by nature, though the majority of them have become nocturnal in order to avoid humans. They often spend the day in caves or hollowed out trees.

DIET

They are omnivorous creatures and will eat just about anything. Their diet consists of acorns, nuts, fruit, honey, roots, and various insects such as termites and beetle larvae. If food is scarce, they may turn to eating livestock such as sheep, goats, and cattle. They also attack cereals and fruits in the field.

BREEDING

Sexual maturity is reached at approximately three years. Mating is believed to occur in October with usually two cubs born in February while the mother is still hibernating. The offspring usually stay with their mother into the second year.

THREATS

Encroachment of human population, forest fires and the timber industries, have all reduced the bears' habitat. There is also a high mortality rate among the new-borns. Poaching is another threat that the bear are facing.

