



WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972

PAGE

CHAPTER I **PRELIMINARY**

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Short title, extent and commencement | 1 |
| 2. Definitions | 1 |

CHAPTER II

AUTHORITIES TO BE APPOINTED OR CONSTITUTED UNDER THE ACT

- | | |
|---|----|
| 3. Appointment of Director and other officers | 7 |
| 4. Appointment of Chief Wild Life Warden and other officers | 7 |
| 5. Power to delegate | 8 |
| 5A. Constitution of the National Board for Wild Life | 8 |
| 5B. Standing Committee of the National Board | 9 |
| 5C. Functions of the National Board | 9 |
| 6. Constitution of State Board for Wild Life | 10 |
| 6A. Standing Committee of Board | 11 |
| 7. Procedure to be followed by the Board | 11 |
| 8. Duties of State Board for Wild Life | 11 |

CHAPTER III **HUNTING OF WILD ANIMALS**

- | | |
|---------------------------|----|
| 9. Prohibition of hunting | 12 |
|---------------------------|----|

	PAGE
10. <i>[Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]</i>	12
11. Hunting of wild animals to be permitted in certain cases	13
12. Grant of permit for special purposes	13
13. <i>[Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]</i>	14
14. <i>[Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]</i>	14
15. <i>[Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]</i>	14
16. <i>[Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]</i>	14
17. <i>[Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]</i>	14

CHAPTER IIIA

PROTECTION OF SPECIFIED PLANTS

17A. Prohibition of picking, uprooting, etc. of specified plant	15
17B. Grants of permit for special purposes	15
17C. Cultivation of specified plants without licence prohibited	15
17D. Dealing in specified plants without licence prohibited	16
17E. Declaration of stock	16
17F. Possession, etc., of plants by licensee	16
17G. Purchase, etc., of specified plants	17
17H. Plants to be Government property	17

CHAPTER IV

PROTECTED AREAS

Sanctuaries

18. Declaration of sanctuary	17
18A. Protection to sanctuaries	18
18B. Appointment of Collectors	18
19. Collector to determine rights	19
20. Bar of accrual of rights	19
21. Proclamation by Collector	19
22. Inquiry by Collector	19
23. Powers of Collector	19

	PAGE
24. Acquisition of rights	19
25. Acquisition proceedings	20
25A. Time-limit for completion of acquisition proceedings	21
26. Delegation of Collector's powers	21
26A. Declaration of area as sanctuary	21
27. Restriction on entry in sanctuary	22
28. Grant of permit	23
29. Destruction, etc., in a sanctuary prohibited without a permit	23
30. Causing fire prohibited	23
31. Prohibition of entry into sanctuary with weapon	24
32. Ban on use of injurious substances	24
33. Control of sanctuaries	24
33A. Immunisation of live-stock	25
33B. Advisory Committee	25
34. Registration of certain persons in possession of arms	25
34A. Power to remove encroachment	26
<i>National Parks</i>	
35. Declaration of National Parks	26
36. [Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 1991, w.e.f. 2-10-1991]	28
36A. Declaration and management of a conservation reserve	28
36B. Conservation reserve management committee	29
36C. Declaration and management of community reserve	29
36D. Community reserve management committee	30
<i>Closed Area</i>	
37. [Omitted by the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002, w.e.f. 1-4-2003]	30
<i>Sanctuaries or National Parks declared by Central Government</i>	
38. Power of Central Government to declare areas as sanctuaries or National Parks or conservation reserves	30

CHAPTER IVA

CENTRAL ZOO AUTHORITY AND RECOGNITION OF ZOOS

38A. Constitution of Central Zoo Authority	31
38B. Term of office and conditions of service of Chairperson and members, etc.	32

	PAGE
38C. Functions of the Authority	33
38D. Procedure to be regulated by the Authority	33
38E. Grants and loans to Authority and Constitution of Fund	33
38F. Annual report	34
38G. Annual report and audit report to be laid before Parliament	34
38H. Recognition of zoos	34
38-I. Acquisition of animals by a zoo	36
38J. Prohibition of teasing, etc., in a zoo	36

CHAPTER IVB

NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

38K. Definitions	36
38L. Constitution of National Tiger Conservation Authority	36
38M. Term of office and conditions of service of members	37
38N. Officers and employees of Tiger Conservation Authority	38
38-O. Powers and functions of Tiger Conservation Authority	38
38P. Procedure to be regulated by Tiger Conservation Authority	39
38Q. Grants and loans to Tiger Conservation Authority and Constitution of Fund	40
38R. Accounts and audit of Tiger Conservation Authority	40
38S. Annual report of Tiger Conservation Authority	40
38T. Annual report and audit report to be laid before Parliament	41
38U. Constitution of Steering Committee	41
38V. Tiger Conservation Plan	41
38W. Alteration and de-notification of tiger reserves	43
38X. Establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation	43
38XA. Provisions of Chapter to be in addition to provisions relating to sanctuaries and National Park	43

CHAPTER IVC

WILD LIFE CRIME CONTROL BUREAU

38Y. Constitution of Wild Life Crime Control Bureau	44
38Z. Powers and functions of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau	44

CHAPTER V**TRADE OR COMMERCE IN WILD ANIMALS,
ANIMAL ARTICLES AND TROPHIES**

39.	Wild animals, etc., to be Government property	45
40.	Declarations	47
40A.	Immunity in certain cases	48
41.	Inquiry and preparation of inventories	48
42.	Certificate of ownership	49
42A.	Surrender of captive animals, animal article, etc.	49
43.	Regulation of transfer of animal, etc.	49
44.	Dealings in trophy and animal articles without licence prohibited	50
45.	Suspension or cancellation of licences	52
46.	Appeal	52
47.	Maintenance of records	52
48.	Purchase of animals, etc., by licensee	53
48A.	Restriction on transportation of wild life	53
49.	Purchase of captive animal, etc., by a person other than a licensee	53

CHAPTER VA**PROHIBITION OF TRADE OR COMMERCE IN TROPHIES, ANIMAL
ARTICLES, ETC., DERIVED FROM CERTAIN ANIMALS**

49A.	Definitions	54
49B.	Prohibition of dealings in trophies, animal articles, etc., derived from scheduled animals	54
49C.	Declaration by dealers	55

CHAPTER VB**REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA AS PER CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL
TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA 49D**

49D.	Definitions	57
49E.	Designation of Management Authority	58
49F.	Designation of Scientific Authority	58
49G.	Directions of Central Government	59

	PAGE
49H. International trade in Scheduled specimen and restriction in respect thereof	59
49-I. Conditions for scheduled specimens	59
49J. Conditions for import of scheduled specimens	60
49K. Conditions for re-export of scheduled specimens	60
49L. Conditions for introduction from sea of scheduled specimens	60
49M. Possession, transfer and breeding of living scheduled animal species	61
49N. Application for Licence by breeders of Appendix I species	62
49-O. Licence of breeders of Appendix I species	62
49P. Prohibition on alteration, etc.	62
49Q. Species and scheduled specimens to be Government property	62
49R. Application of provisions of Act in respect of species listed in Schedule I or II and Schedule IV	63

CHAPTER VI

PREVENTION AND DETECTION OF OFFENCES

50. Power of entry, search, arrest and detention	63
51. Penalties	69
51A. Certain conditions to apply while granting bail	73
52. Attempts and abetment	74
53. Punishment for wrongful seizure	74
54. Power to compound offences	75
55. Cognizance of offences	75
56. Operation of other laws not barred	77
57. Presumption to be made in certain cases	77
58. Offences by Companies	78

CHAPTER VIA

FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY DERIVED FROM ILLEGAL HUNTING AND TRADE

58A. Application	79
58B. Definitions	80
58C. Prohibition of holding illegally acquired property	81
58D. Competent authority	82

	PAGE
58E. Identifying illegally acquired property	82
58F. Seizure or freezing of illegally acquired property	83
58G. Management of properties seized or forfeited under this Chapter	85
58H. Notice of forfeiture of property	85
58-I. Forfeiture of property in certain cases	85
58J. Burden of proof	87
58K. Fine in lieu of forfeiture	87
58L. Procedure in relation to certain trust properties	88
58M. Certain transfer to be <i>null</i> and <i>void</i>	88
58N. Constitution of Appellate Tribunal	89
58-O. Appeals	89
58P. Notice or order not to be invalid for error in description	89
58Q. Bar of Jurisdiction	89
58R. Competent Authority and Appellate Tribunal to have powers of civil court	90
58S. Information to competent authority	90
58T. Certain officers to assist Administrator, competent authority and Appellate Tribunal	90
59U. Power to take possession	90
58V. Rectification of mistakes	91
58W. Findings under other laws not conclusive for proceedings under this Chapter	91
58X. Service of notices and orders	91
58Y. Punishment for acquiring property in relation to which proceedings have been taken under this Chapter	91

CHAPTER VII

MISCELLANEOUS

59. Officers to be public servants	92
60. Protection of action taken in good faith	92
60A. Reward to persons	93
60B. Reward by State Government	93
61. Power to alter entries in Schedules	93
62. Declaration of certain wild animals to be vermin	94
62A. Regulation or prohibition of import, etc., of invasive alien species	94
62B. Power to issue directions	94

	PAGE
63. Power of Central Government to make rules	94
64. Power of State Government to make rules	96
65. Rights of Scheduled Tribes to be protected	97
66. Repeal and savings	97
SCHEDULE I	99
SCHEDULE II	119
SCHEDULE III	165
SCHEDULE IV	166
APPENDIX I	168
APPENDIX II	196
APPENDIX III	223
SUBJECT INDEX	239

WILD LIFE (STOCK DECLARATION) CENTRAL RULES, 1973

1. Short title and commencement	249
2. Declaration by manufacturer of, dealer or taxidermist in animal article etc.	249

WILD LIFE (TRANSACTIONS AND TAXIDERMY) RULES, 2024

1. Short title and commencement	251
2. Definition	251
3. Acquiring, receiving or keeping specified animal, in control, custody or possession or put under process of taxidermy or make article, etc.	251
4. Submission of report of stocks	252
5. Sale of specified animal, etc.	252
6. Taxidermy or making animal article	253
7. Maintenance of voucher	253
8. Transport of specified animal, etc.	253
9. Appeal	254
FORM I: Application for permission to acquire, receive, keep specified animal, animal article etc. or put under process of taxidermy or make animal article	254

	PAGE
FORM II: Permission to acquire, receive, keep in control, custody or possession specified animal or animal article etc. or put under process of taxidermy or make animal article	255
FORM III: Report of stocks	256
FORM IV: Application for permission to purchase specified animal etc.	257
FORM V: Permission to purchase specified animal, etc.	257
FORM VI: Application for permission to transport specified animal, etc.	258
FORM VII: Permission to transport specified animal, etc.	258

WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) LICENCING (ADDITIONAL MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION) RULES, 2024

1. Short title and commencement	260
2. Additional matters for consideration for grant of licence	260

WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) RULES, 1995

1. Short title and Commencement	261
2. Definitions	261
3. The manner of the notice under clause (c) of section 55	261
FORM "A"	261

WILD LIFE (SPECIFIED PLANTS — CONDITIONS FOR POSSESSION BY LICENSEE) RULES, 1995

1. Short title, Extent and Commencement	263
2. Definition	263
3. Conditions and other matters subject to which the licensee may keep any specified plants in his custody or possession	263

WILD LIFE (SPECIFIED PLANT STOCK DECLARATION) CENTRAL RULES, 1995

1. Short title and commencement	264
2. Declaration, of stocks by a cultivator or dealer in specified plants, parts and derivatives thereof	264

NATIONAL ZOO POLICY, 1998

1. Preamble	265
2. Objectives	266
3. Strategy for Achieving the Objectives	266
3.1 General Policy About Zoos	266
3.2 Acquisition of Animals	267
3.3 Animal Housing	267
3.4 Upkeep of Animal Collections	267
3.5 Health Care	267
3.6 Research and Training	268
3.7 Breeding Programme for Species	268
3.8 Education and Outreach Activity	269
3.9 Extension Activities	269
3.10 Amenities to Visitors	269

DECLARATION OF WILD LIFE STOCK RULES, 2003

1. Short title and commencement	270
2. Definitions	270
3. Publicity of intent of notification and Assistance in making application	270
4. Procedure for filing applications	270
5. Presentation and scrutiny of applications	271
6. Place of filing application	271
7. Date and place of hearing to be notified	271
8. Decision on applications	271
9. Hearing on application <i>ex parte</i>	271
10. Inquiry by the Chief Wild Life Warden or authorised officer	271
11. Certificate of ownership	272
12. Dealing with declared objects	272
13. Order to be signed and dated	272
14. Communication of order to parties	272

FORM: Application under section 40A of Wild Life Protection Act, 1972 for certificate of ownership	272
---	-----

— NATIONAL BOARD FOR WILD LIFE RULES, 2003 —

1. Short title and commencement	274
2. Definitions	274
3. National Board for Wild Life	274
4. Meetings	275
5. Removal from the National Board	275
6. Disclosure of interest by members	275
7. Presiding over the meetings of the National Board	275
8. Quorum	275
9. Invitees to the National Board meetings	275
10. Record of business	275
11. Appointment of Committees	276
12. Travelling and other allowances to members of the National Board and its committees	276
13. Interpretation of rules	276

— NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER CONDITION OF APPOINTMENT) RULES, 2006 —

1. Short title and commencement	277
2. Definitions	277
3. Travelling and other allowances to the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and members	278
4. Appointment of Member-Secretary on re-constitution of the Tiger Conservation Authority	278
5. Terms and other conditions of service of Member-Secretary	278

— NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF EXPERTS OR PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS) RULES, 2006 —

1. Short title and commencement	279
2. Definitions	279
3. Qualifications and experience for expert or professional members	279

	PAGE
4. Conditions for serving as an expert or professional (non-official members)	280
5. Tenure of expert or professional member	281
6. Declaration of financial or other interest	281
7. Debarring a member temporarily or his removal from Authority	281
FORM I: Declaration against acquisition of any adverse financial or other interest	281

RECOGNITION OF ZOO RULES, 2009

1. Short title and commencement	282
2. Definitions	282
3. Application for Recognition	283
4. Fee for Application	283
5. Documents to be filled along with the application and particulars it should contain	283
6. Power to make inquiries and call for information	284
7. Form of recognition	284
8. Renewal of recognition	284
9. Classification of zoos	284
10. Standards and norms for recognition	285
11. Maintenance of Records and submission of Inventory	285
SCHEDULE	286
FORM I: Application for getting recognition from the central zoo authority under section 38H (sub-section (2))	292
FORM II: Proforma for Quarterly/Annual Inventory Report	294

BREEDERS OF SPECIES LICENCE RULES, 2023

1. Short title and commencement	297
2. Definition	297
3. Procedures for filing of applications for Licence	297
4. Fees for Licence	298
5. Registration of applications	298
6. Verification of application	298
7. Grant of Licence	298
8. Cancellation of Licence	299

	PAGE
9. Order to be signed and dated	299
10. Appeal	299
11. Maintenance of stock	299
FORM I: Application for Licence	299
FORM II: Application for Licence/Renewal of Licence	300
FORM III: Inquiry Report and Recommendation	302
FORM IV: Licence for breeders	303
FORM V: Proforma for an Appeal	303

CAPTIVE ELEPHANT (TRANSFER
OR TRANSPORT) RULES, 2024

1. Short title and commencement	305
2. Definition	305
3. Application for Transfer of Elephant	306
4. Inquiry by the Deputy Conservator of Forests	306
5. Transfer within the State	306
6. Transfer outside State	306
7. Terms and Conditions for transfer	307
8. Application for Transport of elephant	307
9. Conditions for transport	307
10. Validity	308
11. Appeal	308
FORM I: Application for transfer of Elephants	308
FORM II: Certificate by the Veterinary practitioner	309
FORM III: Report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests	310
FORM IV: Recommendations of the Chief Wild Life Warden of the recipient State	311
FORM V: Application for transport of Elephant(s)	311
FORM VI: Transport Permit for Elephant issued by the Chief Wild Life Warden	313

SCHEDULED SPECIMEN (CONDITIONS AND
PROCEDURE FOR EXEMPTION), RULES, 2024

1. Short title and commencement	314
2. Definitions	314

	PAGE
3. Exemptions for specimens under transit or transhipments	315
4. Application for pre-convention certificate	315
5. Exemptions for personal or household effects	316
6. Specimen of Appendix I bred in captivity to be treated as that of Appendix II	316
7. Acceptance of certificate in lieu of permits or certificates	317
8. Non-commercial loan, donation or exchange between scientist, scientific institution	317
9. Standards for registration of scientific institutions	318
10. Registration of specimens in a travelling zoo, circus, menagerie, plant exhibition or other travelling exhibition	319
11. Verification with country of import	319
FORM I: Form for Application for Pre-Convention Certificate	320
FORM II: Legal Procurement Certificate	321
FORM III: Pre-Convention Certificate	322
FORM IV: Form for Application for personal or Household effects	325
FORM V: Certificate for household effects	327
FORM VI: Application for treating Appendix I species bred in captivity as Appendix II	328
FORM VII: Application for registration of Scientist or Scientific institution who intends, for a non-commercial loan, donation or exchange of herbarium specimens, other preserved, dried or embedded museum specimens, and live plant materials	329
FORM VIII: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora Management Authority Certificate and Label for Scientific Institution	329
FORM IX: Application for Registration of specimens in a travelling zoo, circus, menagerie, plant exhibition or other travelling exhibition	331
FORM X: Registration Certificate of specimens in a travelling zoo, circus, menagerie, plant exhibition or other travelling exhibition	332

LIVING ANIMAL SPECIES (REPORTING AND REGISTRATION) RULES, 2024

1. Short title and commencement	334
2. Definitions	334
3. Application for registration of possession	334

	PAGE
4. Application for reporting and registration of birth	335
5. Application for reporting and registration of transfer	335
6. Manner for reporting death of animal species	336
7. Maintenance of stock	336
8. Rejection or cancellation of Registration Certificate	336
9. Order to be signed and dated	337
10. Appeal	337
11. Dealing with scheduled specimen	337
FORM I: Application for reporting and registration	337
FORM II: Report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests	339
FORM III: Registration certificate	340
FORM IV: Veterinary Health Certificate	341

— NATIONAL TIGER CONSERVATION AUTHORITY — — (NORMATIVE STANDARDS FOR TOURISM ACTIVITIES — AND PROJECT TIGER) GUIDELINES, 2012 —

1. Short title	342
----------------	-----

PART A

GUIDELINES UNDER SECTION 38-O (C) OF THE WILD LIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972 FOR PROJECT TIGER

CHAPTER I

2. Tiger conservation	343
3. Background	343
4. Present status of tiger, co-predators, prey and habitat	344
5. Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Tiger Reserves	346
6. General reasons for tiger decline in areas outside tiger reserves	350
7. Present approach to tiger conservation	350
8. Milestone Initiatives taken for strengthening tiger conservation	353
9. Thrust areas for the XII Plan period	357
10. Field strategies with sub-activities	358
11. Local livelihood under Project Tiger	363
12. Details of funding allocation under Project Tiger since inception over various Plan periods	363

	PAGE
APPENDIX A: List of core and critical Tiger Habitats of Tiger Reserves in India, notified under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (as on 24-9-2012)	364
APPENDIX B: List of buffer and peripheral areas in india, notified under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (24-9-2012)	365

PART A

CHAPTER II

DETAILED GUIDELINES OF PROJECT TIGER

13. Introduction	366
14. Past funding pattern and major activities supported under the Scheme	368
15. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)	368
16. Ongoing activities and additionalities to be supported under the revised Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger	370
17. State to enter into Memorandum of Understanding	381
18.	381
19.	381
APPENDIX C: Tripartite memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Environment and Forests (National Tiger Conservation Authority) Bikaner House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi Government of, and field director tiger reserve	381

PART B

GUIDELINES FOR TOURISM IN AND AROUND TIGER RESERVES

PREAMBLE

1. The Need for Guidelines	387
2. Guidelines for Developing State Tourism Strategy for Tiger Reserves	388
ANNEXURE I: Estimation of carrying capacity	396
ANNEXURE II: Brief note on limits of acceptable change	398