

About Kaziranga National Park (KNP)

Situated in the floodplains of the Brahmaputra river is Kaziranga(NP) in the Nagaon-Golaghat districts of Assam, India. It supports several endemic species of mammals and birds including 60% of the world's great one-horned rhinoceros' population, 50% of the endangered Asiatic Wild Water Buffalo and the only viable population of Eastern Swamp Deer. In 1985, it was listed as a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Sites.

Part of season cycle, annual floods in the Brahmaputra cause wild animals to naturally move towards the hills of Karbi Anglong range. This movement since has been restricted with the AH37 cutting through the area. Also, tea gardens, mining, and Jhum cultivation pose a serious threat of human-wildlife conflict, often causing fatal injuries to wild animals.



Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC)

The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)-Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) along with the Assam State Forest Department (AFD) established CWRC in August 2002 to rescue wild animals in the face of conflicts and



natural disasters and rehabilitate them back to the wild. The center attends to the displaced animal, treats and

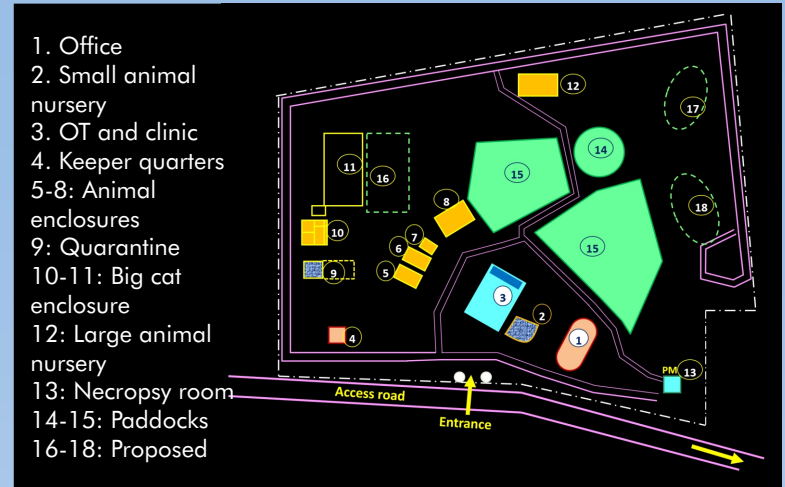
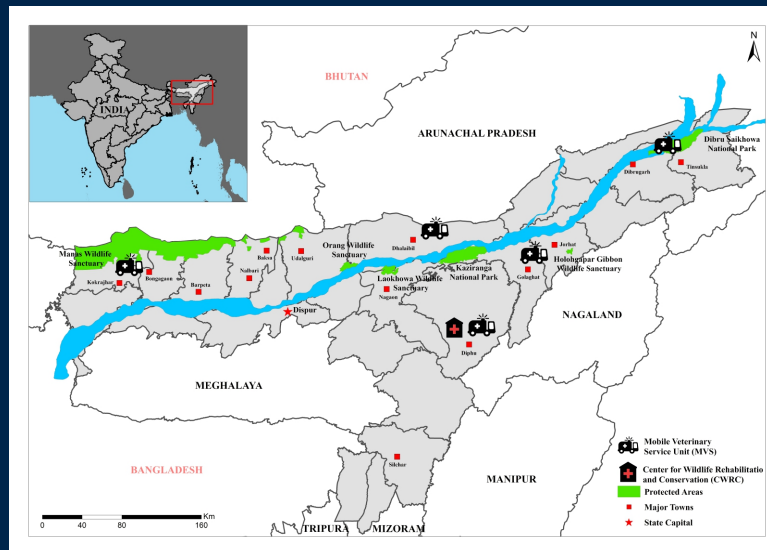
acclimatises them to be returned to the wild, thus improve conservation prospects of the landscape. In 2005, CWRC got the recognition from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA) as a Rescue Centre under provisions in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

Satellite Centres of CWRC

Extending reach of CWRC are equipped Mobile Veterinary Services (MVS) deployed in strategic areas, that ensure 24-hour quality veterinary service to wildlife in emergencies throughout Assam.: Central Assam, Eastern Assam, Western Assam, Karbi Anglong, and Northern Bank of Brahmaputra River (North Bank).



The units operate under international protocols and guidelines for rescue, treatment, and rehabilitation of wildlife in distress. It stabilises distressed animals and releases them back into the wild, close to the site of the rescue. The units admit orphaned young of wild elephants, rhinos, buffalo, large and small carnivores, deer, etc. IFAW-WTI through its experience at CWRC has become one of the foremost authorities in the field of Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation.



CWRC: Facilities and functions

The campus is demarcated as:

- Human Zone- administrative premises
- Stabilization Zone- animal nurseries
- Rehabilitation Zone- carnivore enclosures, paddocks for large herbivores

Transport crates for diverse animals, birds, reptiles in suitable dimensions and specifications are available. MVS unit is equipped with an all-terrain vehicle, capture equipment and basic diagnostic, medical and surgical facility.

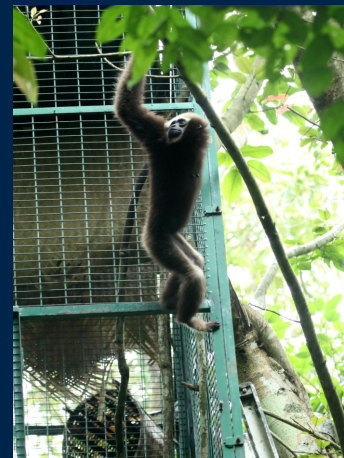


CWRC: Admission and placement of displaced wildlife

The units respond to all reported wildlife emergencies, and either release the animal at the spot (*in situ*) after necessary care or admits it at CWRC/MVS field station (*ex situ*). In cases of young ones, multiple attempts

are made to reunite the displaced animal with their mother. If it fails, the orphan is admitted at CWRC

As of 2019, the units have attended to over 5600 cases belonging to over 250 species. Of these, 45% belonged to mammals (57 species), 33% birds (142 species), and 21% reptiles (56 species). The units addressed about 25% of all the cases *in situ*. Overall, 64% of the animals attended to have been released post care. CWRC has released 40% of the admitted birds and 89% of the reptiles.



Furthermore, floods are the cause of widespread wildlife-displacement in the region. The years 2002, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2016 and 2017 saw the most destructive floods and CWRC dealt over 250 cases of displaced wildlife including 17 rhino calves.



The centre has pioneered rehabilitation of elephant and rhino calves back to the wild and translocation of rescued rhinos have marked the return of rhinos to Manas National Park, Assam, another UNESCO World Heritage Site.







Centre for Learning and exchange of ideas

CWRC is the one of the foremost Indian facility involved in veterinary care and rehabilitation of large mammals, thus, globally attracting volunteers. As a part of their study, many students come here for exposure. Since its inception, CWRC has attracted many professionals and enthusiasts who refine their rehabilitation and veterinary skills under the experts from CWRC.



CWRC project team regularly holds workshops, courses, and seminars on wildlife rehabilitation, using expertise from various disciplines. Efforts by the team have brought due attention of media to animal rescue in natural disasters. Our visitors are conservation enthusiast including celebrities, political leaders, policy makers, conservationists, photographers, and passionate individuals.

Key Achievements since inception

-  Animals saved
 - 43 elephant calves and 16 rhino calves rehabilitated
 - Veterinary care to over 2000 captive elephants in KNP
 - Threatened IUCN species handled: 22 mammals, 9 bird and 8 reptile with over 60% release
-  Forest staff support
 - Established empirical and scientific protocols for rescue, transportation, translocation & rehabilitation of displaced wildlife
 - Set up Mobile Veterinary Service units to address wildlife emergencies
-  Capacity building
 - Provided hands-on training to over 300 vets and rehabilitators
-  Education and awareness
 - Rehabilitation and veterinary skill training to over 200 volunteers

Contact Details: CWRC, Borjuri, Near Bokakhat, Kaziranga National Park, Golaghat District, Assam
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CWRC

Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation

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Assam Forest Department