

**Office of Addl. Principal Conservator of Forest and
Chief Wildlife Warden, Rajasthan, Jaipur**

F. No. ()WCP/CWLW/2019/ **6451-6463** Dated : **24/05/19**

To,

1. Chief Conservator of Forest, Jaipur / Kota / Bharatpur/ Jodhpur / Bikaner / Udaipur / Ajmer.
2. Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) Jaipur/ Jodhpur/ Udaipur
3. Chief Conservator of Forest & Field Director, STR, Alwar/ RTR, Sawai Madhopur/ MHTR, Kota.

Subject :- Instructions for processing of wildlife conservation plan for projects.

Sir

In order to streamline the process of approval of Wildlife Conservation Plan (WCP) which have been submitted by different project proponents in Chief Wildlife Warden office, a set of instructions are being attached herewith.

It is requested that all concerned may comply with the instructions.

Encl. : Instructions with
Annexure - 1 & 2

Yours sincerely


(Arindam Tomar)

Addl Pr.Chief Conservator of Forest &
Chief Wildlife Warden,
Rajasthan, Jaipur

F. No. ()WCP/CWLW/2019/

Dated :

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action please :

1. All Deputy Conservator of Forest.
2. All Deputy Conservator of Forest (Wildlife)


Addl Pr.Chief Conservator of Forest &
Chief Wildlife Warden,
Rajasthan, Jaipur

Instructions for processing of Wildlife Conservation Plan for Projects

BACKGROUND

1. When a project proponent intends to establish any industry or development project or mining project, the project authorities are required to apply for Environmental Clearance(EC) under the Environment Protection Act, 1986. As per Ministry of Environment & Forest Notification dated 14th September, 2006, while according approval of Environmental Clearance / Forest Diversion for projects situated beyond the 10 km distance from the Protected Areas, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India(MoEF&CC), has been stipulating conditions for preparation and implementation of Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (WCP) by the project authorities in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department.
2. The following Terms of Reference (TOR) are generally prescribed in such approvals :
 - a. Location of National Parks, Sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Tiger / Elephants Reserves (existing as well as proposed), if any, within 10 km of the project area should be clearly indicated, supported by a location map duly authenticated by Chief Wildlife Warden(CWLW). Necessary clearance if any, as may be applicable to such projects due to proximity of the ecologically sensitive areas as mentioned above, should be obtained from the State Wildlife Department / Chief Wildlife Warden under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and copy furnished.
 - b. A detailed biological study for the study area [core zone and buffer zone (10 Km radius of the periphery of the mine lease)] shall be carried out. Details of flora and fauna duly authenticated, separately for core and buffer zone should be furnished based on primary field survey clearly indicating the Schedule of the fauna present. In case of any scheduled-I fauna found in the study area, the necessary plan for their conservation should be prepared in consultation with State Forest and Wildlife Department and details furnished. Necessary allocation of funds for implementing the same should be made as part of the project cost.

PROCEDURE

3. It is important to indicate a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for approving the WCP and other requirements as per the TOR to ensure uniformity of treatment of various projects. Streamline the authentication / approval process and make the process transparent. The procedure for this purpose will be as under :
 - a. The project proponent will submit all the relevant documents to the Deputy Conservator of Forest (DCF) under whose jurisdiction the project area lies.
 - b. The maps showing the location of the projects with respect to the areas mentioned in point 2a may be sent to CWLW office after authentication by the concerned DCF and recommendation of the concerned Chief Conservator of Forest(CCF). Details of the proposal may also be listed in attached format at Annexure-1. It may be noted that more than one DCF can have jurisdiction around such project areas.

- c. The list of flora and fauna may also be authenticated by the concerned DCFs and recommended by the concerned CCF before submission to CWLW office.
- d. A format for preparation of the WCP is given at Annexure -2. DCFs will examine the plans submitted by the User Agencies as per the format and recommend it for approval after visit to the area keeping in view the actual and specific requirement of the site. DCF will submit the WCP to CWLW through the concerned CCF.
- e. Once the WCP is approved by CWLW an in-principle approval will be issued from CWLW office. As per the Article of Association of Rajasthan Protected Areas Conservation Society (RPACS) Clause 12(1)(i) and the decision taken in its General Body Meeting on 14.02.2019, User Agency will then deposit in RPACS account [SB A/c. no. **61087162999** SBI, Tilak Marg, Jaipur IFSC code SBIN0031510] the amount indicated to be deposited in RPACS as per the in-principle approval of WCP. They will then submit the proof of deposit to CWLW office. CWLW office will then issue the approval / authentication of WCP, maps & list of flora & fauna.

FINANCIAL OUTLAY

4. The outlay of the WCP will be the maximum of the two figures arrived from the formula as under :

Formula 1 : 1% of project cost

OR

Formula 2 : Rs. 0.50 lacs per ha. of core area(project area) + Rs. 5 lacs (lumpsum) for the buffer area for each Schedule-1 species.

The project authorities are free to spend more amount than the amount arrived from the above criterion on the WCP.

The outlay of the WCP will be broadly divided for activities as below :

Sr. No.	Item	Percentage of total outlay of Wildlife Conservation Plan
1	Habitat improvement & mitigative measures (Food, Water, Shelter, Movement etc) and measures to reduce/ minimize the human-animal conflicts	50%
2	Awareness and Extension (Forest staff will also be invited for various activities to ensure participation)	10%
3	Support to Forest Department for monitoring, rescue & rehabilitation of wildlife (Veterinary care, animal health, rescue, tools and equipments etc.)	10%
4	Contribution towards conservation of wildlife in PAs (to be deposited in RPACS)	10%
5	Administrative Cost for processing inspections etc. (To be deposited in RPACS)	10%
6	Miscellaneous including Eco-development.	10%
	Total	100%

OTHER INSTRUCTIONS

5. As per the TOR of EC, the WCP is required to be only approved by the CWLW and there is no mention of implementation of the project and fund management therein. Therefore, Environment Department would be responsible for monitoring WCP implementation and verification.
6. These project sites are well spread over the state and are far flung from the PAs. Keeping in view the responsibilities of the DCFs towards wildlife management and territorial duties, WCP implementation works may be undertaken by DCFs, only if both parties agree and sign a Memorandum of Understanding after due approval from CWLW on recommendation of concerned CCF. Normally WCPs above Rs. 50 lacs may be taken up for implementation by DCFs.



Annexure - 1

1.	Name of Project proponent.	:	
2.	Name of Project.	:	
3.	Activities to be undertaken in project (in brief)	:	
4.	Cost of project.	:	
5.	Location of project(district, tehsil, revenue village etc. with geo-coordinates)	:	
6.	Area of project (in ha) & 10 km buffer area(in ha)	:	
7.	Names of ecologically sensitive areas near the project location (see point 2a of instruction)	:	
8.	Name of Schedule I species for which Wildlife Conservation Plan(WCP) is made	:	
9.	Financial Outlay of WCP as per (see point no. 4 of instructions)	:	
	a) Formula 1		
	b) Formula 2		
	c) Final outlay (Maximum of Formula 1 & 2)		
10.	Names of neighboring concerned forest divisions (from where recommendation/ authentication may be required for this project)	:	
11.	Request, if any, for seeking reduction in outlay of WCP with grounds.	:	
12.	Name of Implementing Agency for the WCP.	:	
13.	Date of inspection of site & name of forest officer who has inspected it.	:	
14.	Checklist of attachments	:	
	Map authenticated by DCF		Yes / No
	List of flora & fauna authenticated by DCF		Yes / No
	Wildlife Conservation Plan as per format authenticated by DCF		Yes / No

Annexure - 2

Format of Wildlife Conservation Plan

- I. The aim /objective of this plan shall be to assess present status of flora/ fauna and habitat of major wildlife species in the project area as well as in its impact area of 10 km buffer area (henceforth called WCP area), probable impacts of project on the flora and fauna in the study area and to formulate appropriate mitigative measures to prevent the degradation of habitat in and around the project area as consequence of the project.
- II. There must be a detailed survey of the WCP area for the major floral and faunal status, water regime, drainage pattern, wildlife usage of the area and interface conflict in order to develop an appropriate management strategy in conserving the ecology while effectively utilizing the available natural resources.
- III. The WCP area should be properly surveyed for the existing mining / other projects in this area and probable projects coming up in this zone. Convergence of the interventions should be chalked out for avoiding any overlapping of field based activities.
- IV. The experts and consultant should assess the WCP area for probable degradation of the forest and habitats due to project implementation and chalk out mitigative strategies through discussion with the local villagers, other stakeholders in the locality and forest staff. The existing land use pattern and rural economic structure should be analyzed against the probable changes due to project implementation.
- V. The field based physical activities proposed in the plan should be shown with geo-coordinates as far as practical and suitable.
- VI. Provisions of all relevant Acts and regulations including important Court orders in respect of Wildlife Conservation and Environmental Protection should be strictly adhered to while preparing the plan.
- VII. The format of the plan should be as under :

Chapter-I

1. Brief note about the project and its utility.
2. Provisions of all relevant Acts and Regulations applicable to the WCP area.
3. Villages and habitations within the WCP area; demographic and occupational profile; existing cropping pattern; impact on the WCP area and especially on the forest growth; information about the cattle population and dependency on the forest for grazing, other forest dependencies; etc.
4. Description of topography, geology, climate, natural disasters, natural drainage lines, water bodies and whether the particular landscape is the source or origin of any stream/ river.
5. Details of linear infrastructure such as roads, rail lines, water ways and canals; other developmental structures in the WCP area adversely

- affecting the movement of mega fauna in the area and possible ameliorative measures. Details of the water reservoirs, vertical mining pits and unguarded dug wells in the WCP area should also be mentioned with possible safeguards available and proposed.
6. Description of flora and fauna of the WCP area showing the details or endemic, threatened and scheduled species.
 7. Description of forest and habitat condition, wildlife scenario of the WCP area (population estimation results if any).
 8. Movement of wildlife in the WCP area for the last 3 completed financial years and for the current year.
 9. Man-animal conflict and depredation caused by the wild animal in the WCP area (Data on animal kill/ injury, cattle kill and crop damage in WCP area and also the date on animal kill due to various reasons will also be analysed and mentioned). Also the extent of human-wild animal conflict and the trend of change due to the project implementation should be assessed and recorded.
 10. Indicative Plan showing location of other projects utilising forestlands or otherwise in the WCP area of the present project. The mitigative measures proposed in the Conservation Plans of such projects (within WCP area), prepared if any, are to be summarised and compared with the proposals in the present plan.
 11. The list of experts involved in the study and their visit in the area and the methodology and sampling procedure adopted in arriving at the facts and findings.
 12. WCP should have a brief note about literature survey of Research on
 - i) Impact of project activities on flora and fauna and,
 - ii) Relevant research on WCP area.
 13. All geographical information should be indicated on maps.

Chapter-2:

It should include:

- a) Study report on impact of the project on the environment in general and on the soil, vegetation, water regime, biodiversity etc. of the landscape and air over the WCP area in specific.
- b) Quantum of pollutants that may be produced by the project and effect on soil, water, air and vegetation and animals.
- c) Degradation anticipated on account of the project implementation in quantified terms on appropriate models to be explained. Qualitative changes in the Wildlife habitat pattern in the WCP area due to project implementation should also be detailed in the plan.
- d) Nature of threats to the flora and fauna on account of the project implementation and increased human presence.
- e) Probable increase in the vehicular traffic and its impact.
- f) Noise pollution, Water, Air and underground pollutions etc. and its probable impact on flora and fauna.
- g) Impact due to extensive clearing or modification of vegetation.
- h) Impact on displacement / movement of fauna- territorial aquatic or aerial (such as creation of barriers, etc.)
- i) Any other direct or indirect impacts on the flora and fauna of WCP area.

- j) Study techniques adopted and observations of the experts in the field giving details of visits, areas visited, observations, records referred to, sampling methods adopted and justification in extrapolation.

Chapter-3:

It should cover the following aspect in general about the entire plan and to address the issue over project area as well as the buffer area:

- a) Objectives of management to address the issues of wildlife conservation (both flora and fauna) arising out of project implementation.
- b) Strategies to mitigate and minimize adverse impacts as indicated in Chapter-2.

Chapter-4:

It should describe proposed management strategies within the project site (core area) to be implemented by the project proponent and include following points:

- a) Interventions to be implemented by the project authorities inside the project area (core area) with suitable justifications.
- b) Locations (preferably with GPS coordinates) of the proposed interventions and maps overlaid in the proposed land use plan map.
- c) Relevant provisions of Environment Management Plan for the project and the interventions overlapping in nature are to be specified.
- d) Plan period preferably for initial 10 years with suitable provisions for interim reviews and suitable modifications.
- e) Supporting activities required from State Government.

Chapter-5:

It should describe proposed management strategies within the buffer area of 10 km identified around the project area (core area) and include following points:

- a) Interventions to be implemented by the project authorities inside the project area (buffer area) with suitable justifications.
- b) Locations (preferably with GPS coordinates) of the proposed interventions and maps overlaid in the proposed land use plan map.
- c) Relevant provisions of Environment Management Plan for the project and the interventions overlapping in nature are to be specified.
- d) Plan period preferably for initial 10 years with suitable provisions for interim reviews and suitable modifications.
- e) Supporting activities required from State Government.

Chapter-6:

The financial forecast statement should detail the financial outlay for the interventions to be implemented by the project authorities within the WCP area (core & buffer separately). The annual work programme and annual outlay for each component should be clearly given in a table. It should also include monitoring and evaluation arrangement for the activities undertaken.

The outlay and indicative activities are indicated in point no. 4 of the Instructions.

Chapter-7:

It should include the maps/ appendices/ plans and cost schedules/ relevant orders enclosed to the plan. On the request of the project proponent, DCF may supply the authenticated maps of the area for the purpose of integrating the details about the project and other details by them:

Maps (in 1:50,000 scale) to be appended are:

- a) Land use plan maps of the project (existing and proposed during present diversion)
- b) Location map with respect to protected areas, wildlife corridors
- c) Map showing infrastructures developed in the study area including road, rail lines, canals, water reservoirs etc. causing obstructions in the movement wildlife.
- d) Map showing location of interventions proposed in project area(core area) and impact area(buffer area).
- e) Other maps as required in the WCP.

Besides above, one Executive Summary touching all the points (in brief) of the plan should be given at the beginning pages of the Plan.

