



Management of Livestock in Fringe Areas: Surrounding the Breeding Areas

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INTRODUCTION

Effective management of livestock in fringe areas around breeding habitats is crucial for maintaining ecological balance and enhancing agricultural productivity. This involves strategic grazing practices, habitat preservation, and the implementation of sustainable feeding regimes to mitigate environmental impact. Integrating livestock management with conservation efforts ensures the protection of native species and the preservation of biodiversity. Advanced monitoring techniques and community engagement are key to optimizing these practices, promoting coexistence, and fostering long-term ecological resilience.

FRINGE AREA

- Refers to the transitional zone between two distinct habitats or ecosystems.
- Displays characteristics of both adjacent habitats and serves as a buffer or interface between them.
- Fringe areas can be found along the edges of forests, wetlands, grasslands, or any other ecosystem.



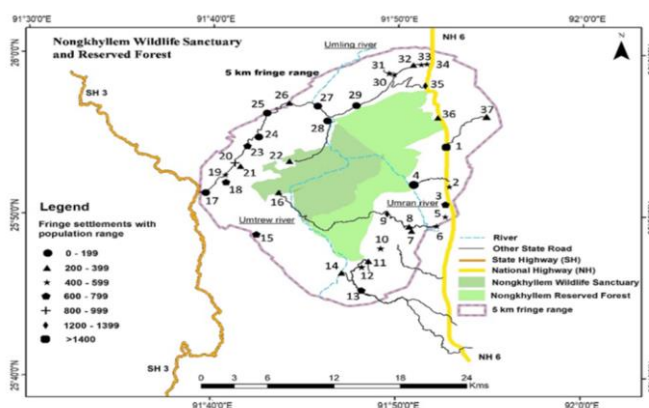
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OBJECTIVES

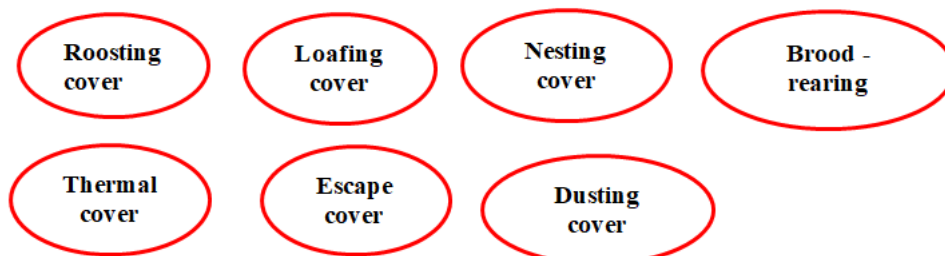
- Providing ecological viable livelihood option to local stakeholders.
- Conserving the forest area through restoration by involving local people.

Management of livestock in fringe areas

“Wildlife need hide, rest, move, and breed.”

Cover: - Cover is any part of an animal's environment that offers protection and enhances survival or reproduction.

Animal also need cover for *nesting, escaping predators, breeding, rearing young.*



- Preventing deforestation, wetland drainage, and grassland conversion helps prevent livestock loss.
- Enforce zoning to keep people and livestock out of critical tiger habitats, while relocating humans as needed, to minimize conflicts.
- Introduce a incentive system for local farmers to mitigate losses from wild predator attacks, and enhance animal husbandry methods.
- Conserve and store fodder for lean seasons to minimize animal exposure to predators during those times.
- Switch to better breeds of livestock that produce more milk and can be raised in enclosures instead of letting them roam freely.
- Predator-proof shelters fully protect livestock from wildlife like snow leopards.
- Installing solar street lights in villages bordering forests serves a dual purpose: it keeps wild animals like tigers away from the villages and also gives people useful lighting at night.
- Electric fence and solar fencing systems around fringe area may help in protecting the humans and livestock.
- Elephant-proof trenches keep elephants away from people living on the outskirts.
- In Sonitpur, Assam, a local recipe of cow dung, rice husk, chili, and tobacco molded into dried bricks helps keep elephants away from crops.
- Forming an Anti-Depredation Squad (ADS) comprised of students, forest guards, villagers, and locals armed with flashlights and firecrackers effectively and harmlessly drive wild animals away from villages, safeguarding both crops and wildlife.

CONCLUSION

The strategic management of livestock in fringe areas surrounding breeding habitats is essential for sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation. By adopting best practices in grazing, habitat preservation, and community involvement, we can achieve a harmonious balance between livestock production and ecological health. Continued research and adaptive management are necessary to address emerging challenges and optimize outcomes. This integrated approach will ensure the resilience and sustainability of both agricultural and natural ecosystems.