

Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary

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The **Tamil Nadu government** has recently declared **80,114.80 hectares** of reserve forests in **Bargur Hills** as the **Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary**.



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About the Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary:

- It is the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state, located in the Eastern Ghats region.
- This sanctuary serves as a part of the **corridor** that links the **Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve** (STR), Male Mahadeshwara Hills Tiger Reserve, and Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary.
- It bridges the **Karnataka's Kollegal forests** with **Tamil Nadu's Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve** and **Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- It is positioned where the Eastern Ghats merge with the Western Ghats at the Nilgiris.
- It is identified by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** as one of the tiger corridors and is also incorporated within the **Nilgiris Elephant Reserve**.
- It is drained by the Palar River, that contributes to the Cauvery River ecosystem.
- It is home to a diverse range of species, including more than 21 species of **mammals**, 136 species of **birds**, and 118 species of **butterflies**.
- Notable fauna within the sanctuary includes tigers, Indian gaur, elephants, leopards, wild boars, and deer.