

Western Tragopan

By IAS Toppers | 2023-08-04 15:55:00



The **Himachal Pradesh Wildlife Wing** has recently released its report “**Western Tragopan Biannual Report 2020-2022**” on **Western Tragopan**.



[ref-great Himalayan national park]

About the Western Tragopan:

- The western tragopan is an **endemic pheasant** native to **northwest Himalayas** of north **Pakistan** and **India**.
- Tragopans are a group of the **five pheasant species** belonging to the **genus Tragopan Cuvier**.
- **Scientific name:** Tragopan-melanocephalus
- **Distribution of Western Tragopan in India:** Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, and the **western** parts of **Uttarakhand**.
- The Western Tragopan is **Himachal Pradesh's State bird**.
- Locally known as "**Jujurana**" meaning the "**King of Birds**".
- **Habitat:** moist **deciduous** forests; **coniferous** temperate forests; montane to **sub-alpine** areas with specific broadleaved dense vegetation

Conservation efforts for Western Tragopan:

- The bird was bred in **captivity** by **Himachal Pradesh** Government which has led to **increase** in its population.
- In **2019**, the plan for **reintroduction** Western Tragopan from captive breeding to the **wild** was approved by the **Himachal Pradesh Zoos and Conservation Breeding Society**.

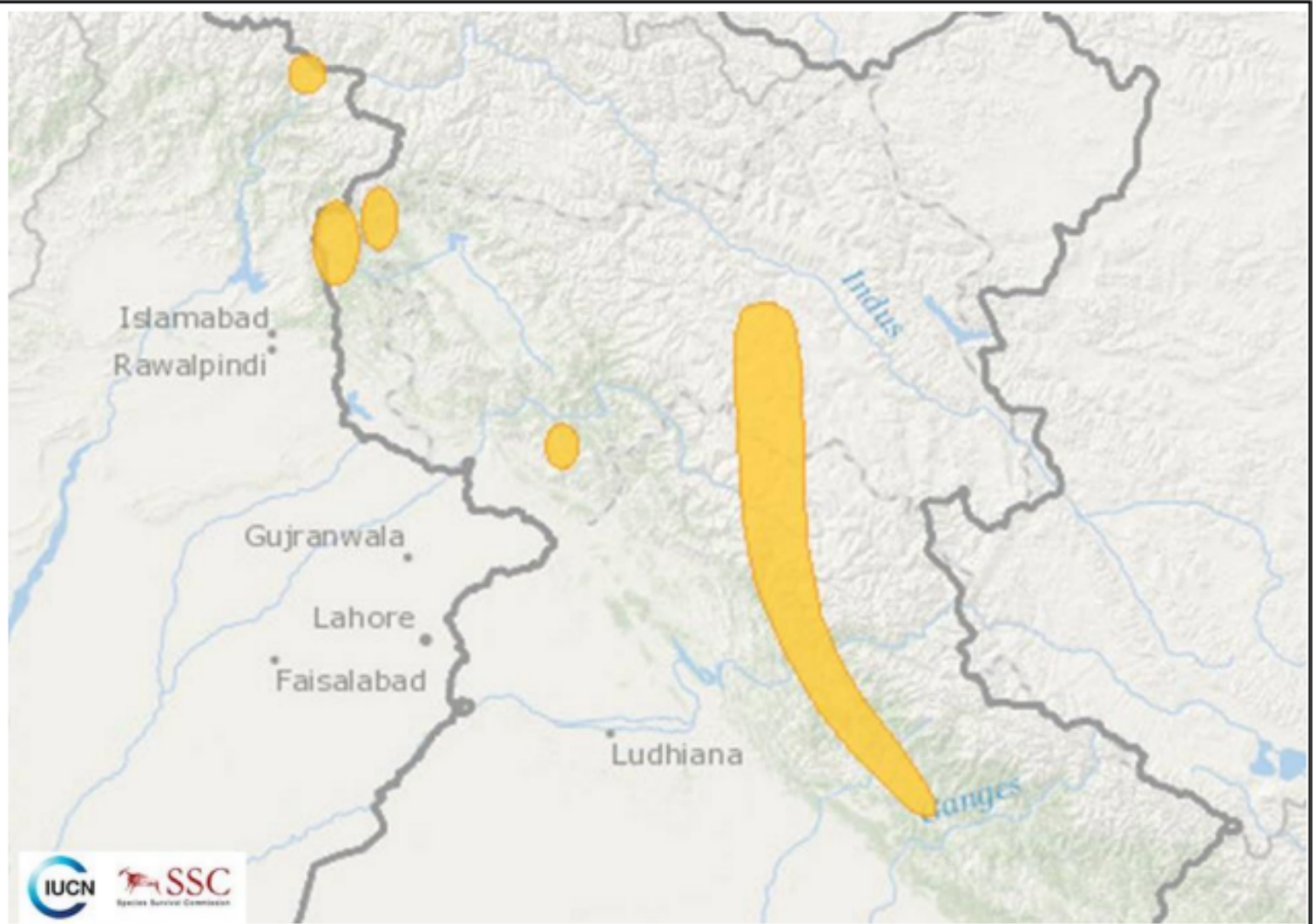


Figure 1: Distribution of Western tragopan (BirdLife International 2013)

[ref-cza]

Conservation status of Western Tragopan:

- **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):** Vulnerable
- **The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972:** Schedule I
- **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES):** Appendix I