

# Sariska Tiger Reserve

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**In news**—A massive fire has erupted in Sariska Tiger Reserve recently.

## **Sariska Tiger Reserve(STR) -**

- Sariska Tiger Reserve is a tiger reserve which falls under **Rajasthan's Alwar area**.
- It stretches over an **area of 881 km<sup>2</sup> (340 sq mi) comprising scrub-thorn arid forests, dry deciduous forests, grasslands, and rocky hills**.
- This area **was a hunting preserve of the Alwar state and was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1958 and declared a national park in 1982**.
- It was given the **status of a tiger reserve making it a part of India's Project Tiger in 1978**.
- **It is the first reserve in the world with successfully relocated tigers**.
- It is an important biodiversity area in the Northern Aravalli leopard and wildlife corridor.
- **It is a part of the Aravalli Range and the Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forests ecoregion**.
- **Apart from the Bengal tiger, the reserve harbors many wildlife species including** Indian leopard, jungle cat, caracal, striped hyena, golden jackal, chital, sambar deer, nilgai, wild boar, small Indian civet, Javan mongoose etc
- In 2005, the Government of Rajasthan, in cooperation with the Government of India and Wildlife Institute of India, planned the reintroduction of tigers (imported from Ranthambore National Park) to Sariska and also the relocation of villages.
- **As of 2020, the tiger population in the reserve has**

**risen to 20.**

- It is rich in mineral resources, such as copper and the marble mines near the reserve are a big threat.

**Note:** According to the Forest Survey of India, in all 211 major forest fires have been reported from across India with, most reported from Madhya Pradesh, followed by Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. In Rajasthan, 7 major fires are underway.