

A Critical Study on Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972

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Abstract: *This paper critically analyses the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA) of 1972 in India, a pivotal legislation aimed at safeguarding the nation's biodiversity and wildlife heritage. It examines the historical context prompting its enactment and evaluates its key provisions, implementation, and effectiveness. Despite successes in species recovery and protected area expansion, persistent challenges such as illegal wildlife trade and human-wildlife conflicts remain. The paper also scrutinizes the socio-economic dimensions of wildlife conservation, highlighting tensions between conservation goals and the rights of marginalized communities. It advocates for a holistic approach integrating law enforcement, community empowerment, and traditional knowledge to address these challenges, aiming to inform stakeholders about the need for adaptive governance frameworks in wildlife conservation.*

Keywords: Wildlife, Compensation, Wild animals, Human Life, mitigation measures.

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