

KEOLADEO NATIONAL PARK

Location: Bharatpur (27°13' N; 77°31' E) **Area:** 2873 ha **Depth:** 1-2m

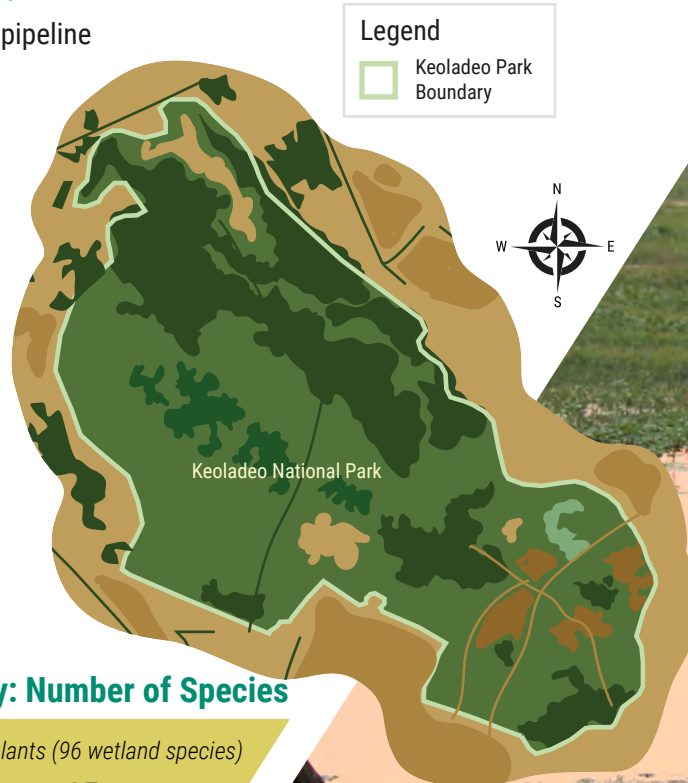
Source of Water: Ghambiri river, Gowardhan drain and Chambal pipeline

Values and Benefits:

- **A UNESCO World Heritage Site**
- Unique mosaic of habitats that include wetlands, woodlands, scrub forests, grasslands that supports the highest congregation of waterbirds in the region.
- Serves as an important **groundwater recharge** site and critical to hydrology of the region
- The park supports employment of local community members including nature guides, rickshaw pullers and hoteliers thereby supporting the economy of Bharatpur town.
- Noteworthy species include *rosy and dalmatian pelican, siberian crane, black-necked stork, painted stork greylag goose, bar-headed goose, sarus crane, hog deer, sambhar deer, spotted deer, jackal and hyena.*

Threats:

- **Unavailability of water:** Changes in hydrology and water allocations impacting inflows and unreliable and insufficient release of water from the main source i.e. Pachna Dam on Gambhiri River.
- **Invasive species:** Water hyacinth (*Eichornia crassipes*), *Paspalum distichum*, *Prosopis juliflora* and African catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) are a threat to the natural species
- **Land use changes in the catchment**



Biodiversity: Number of Species

379 flowering plants (96 wetland species)
50 fishes **376** birds **25** reptiles
27 mammals **7** amphibians