



Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary

Why in News?

Recently, four Uttarakhand forest department staffers died and four others were injured **when the team was caught up in a raging forest fire in Almora district's Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary.**

Key Points

- Uttarakhand **has reported 1,213 forest fire incidents from November 1, 2023, to June 14, 2024**, compared to 663 incidents reported during the corresponding period in 2023.
 - **Of 1653 hectares of forest land damaged in forest fires this year**, 687 hectares have been damaged in Garhwal region, 833 hectares in Kumaon region and 132 hectares in wildlife administrative regions.
- The **Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the Kumaon Himalayas** of Uttarakhand.
 - In 1988, the sanctuary was established with the aim of conserving the rich biodiversity of the region.
 - It boasts a **remarkable variety of flora due to its diverse topography and altitudinal variation**. The sanctuary is primarily covered with dense forest of oak and pine.
 - The sanctuary is **also home to an impressive array of wildlife**. The sanctuary **boasts over 200 species of birds**.
 - They **include species such as** the Eurasian jay, koklass pheasant, monal pheasant, and Himalayan woodpecker.

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