

Dibru-Saikhowa National Park

Source: TH

Dibru-Saikhowa National Park (DSNP) in Assam is witnessing **significant ecological changes** due to **native and invasive plant species.**

Major Threats:

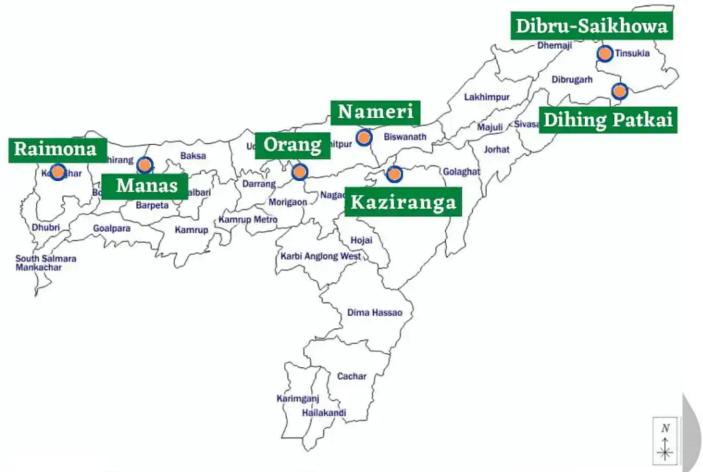
- Invasive Plants: Species like Chromolaena odorata, Ageratum conyzoides, Parthenium hysterophorus, and Mikania micrantha outcompete native flora, degrade grasslands, and threaten grassland-dependent fauna.
- Native Grassland Invaders: Bombax ceiba (Simalu) and Lagerstroemia speciosa (Ajar) alter natural vegetation, increasing shrubland and degraded forest cover.
- Flooding and Anthropogenic Pressures: Recurring Brahmaputra floods, forest villages, grazing, and resource extraction causing soil erosion, fragment habitats, and accelerating biodiversity loss.
- Land Use & Land Cover Changes
 (2000-2024): Conversion of Grasslands and semi-evergreen forests to shrubland and degraded forests reducing habitat for endemic and grassland-dependent species like Bengal florican, Hog deer, and Swamp grass babbler, and threatening endemic feral horses (around 200 individuals left).

Dibru-Saikhowa National Park (DSNP)

- Location: Located in Assam, is bounded by the Brahmaputra and Lohit Rivers(north) and Dibru River (south).
- Biosphere Reserve: In 1997, <u>UNESCO</u> designated the area as a Biosphere Reserve.
- Vegetation & Climate: Semi-evergreen, deciduous, littoral, swamp, and wet evergreen forests, including the largest Salix swamp forest in northeast India.
 - It has a tropical monsoon climate with hot, wet summers and cool, dry winters.
- Flora & Fauna: Flora: Dillenia indica, Bischofia javanica, Bombax ceiba, Lagerstroemia parviflora.
 - Fauna: tiger, elephant, leopard, jungle cat, bears, small Indian civet, squirrels,
 Gangetic dolphin, slow loris, Assamese macaque.
 - It is an **important Bird Area (IBA)** with **382+ bird species**, including **greater and lesser adjutant storks**, **greater crested grebe**.

Note:

- Assam has 7 national parks:
 - Kaziranga NP
 - Manas
 - Dibru-Saikhowa NP
 - Nameri
 - Orang
 - Dehing Patkai
 - Raimona



7 NATIONAL PARKS IN ASSAM

- 6th : Raimona National Park (Notified in 2021)
- 7th: Dihing Patkai National Park (Notified in June 2021)

Read More: Concerns Over Drilling in Dibru-Saikhowa National Park

PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/dibru-saikhowa-national-park-1