

TIGERS OF TADOBA





FIELD GUIDE


TIGERS OF TADOBA

First Edition: May 2018



भारतीय वन्यजीव संस्थान
Wildlife Institute of India





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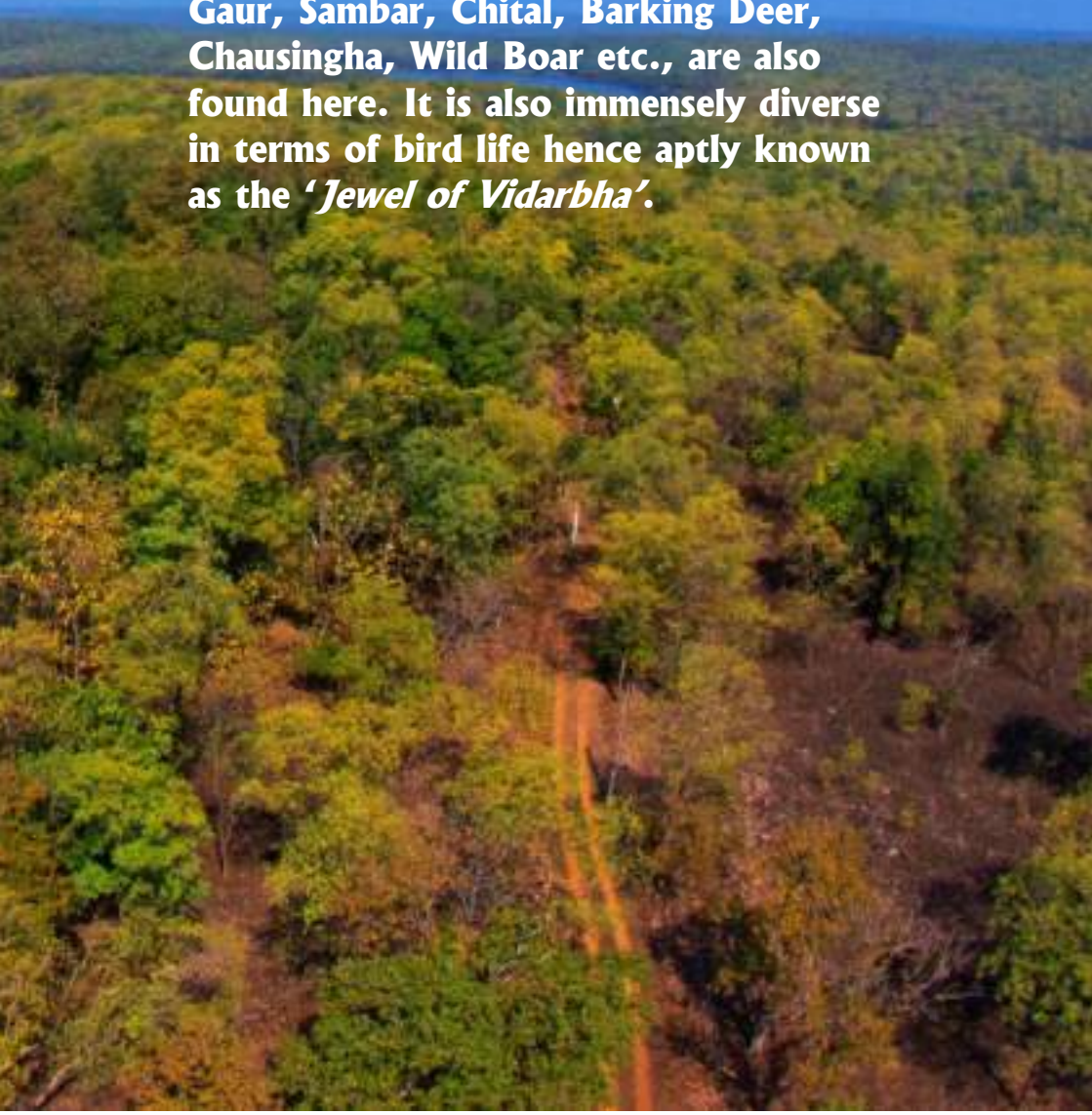
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Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve is classified under Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest, dominated by teak and bamboo. It harbours important carnivore species like Tiger, Leopard and Dhole. Various prey species like Gaur, Sambar, Chital, Barking Deer, Chausingha, Wild Boar etc., are also found here. It is also immensely diverse in terms of bird life hence aptly known as the '*Jewel of Vidarbha*'.



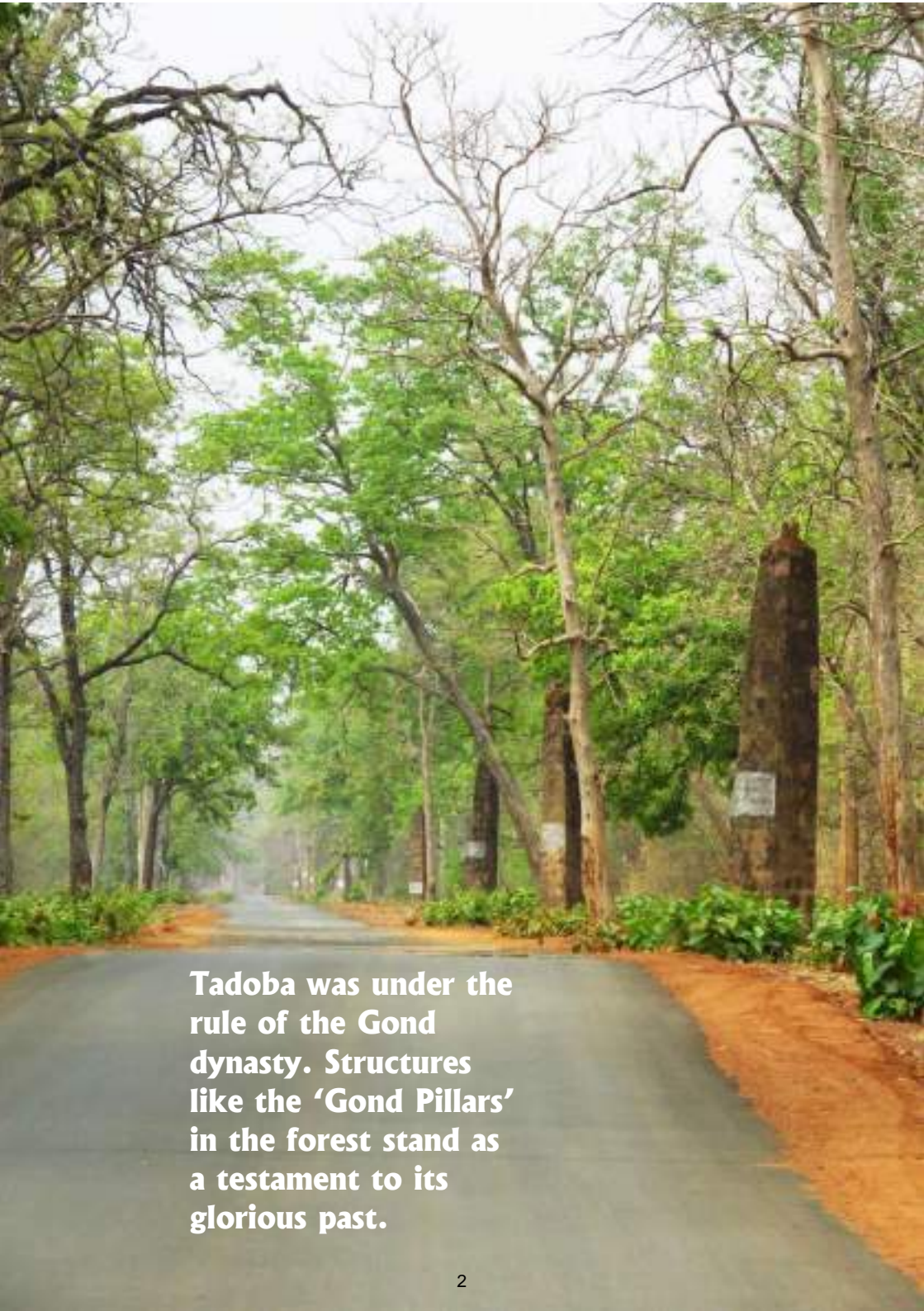


Introduction

Amongst the 13 range countries in Asia, India is home to the highest population of the tiger, *Panthera tigris*. Within India, eastern Vidarbha in the Central Indian Landscape, is one of the last strong holds of the big cat. Popularly known as the “**Jewel of Vidarbha**”, the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) is considered as one of the potential source populations of tigers in the Central Indian Tiger Landscape. TATR is situated in the Chandrapur district in the eastern part of Maharashtra state known as Vidarbha, between 20° 04' 53" to 20° 25' 51" N and 79° 13' 13" to 79° 33' 34" E.

Originally, like much of the Deccan landscape, Tadoba was under the rule of the *Gond* dynasty. Structures like the *Gond* pillars in the forest stand as a testament to its glorious past. In 1751, the *Gond* rule was overthrown by the Marathas. Like most of the forested areas in the country, after the advent of the British rule, rampant hunting ensued till the year 1931. In 1935, Tadoba was protected as a game sanctuary. Post British rule, in the year 1955, a small area of 116.55 sq. km which is currently just the one the Tadoba range of the entire Reserve, was declared as a National Park. Later on, in the 1980s, the adjoining forests of the Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary were incorporated making the Tadoba National Park a large Protected Area of 625.40 sq. km. In 1993, the entire area of 1727.17 sq. km, which includes the 1101.77 sq. km. buffer, was declared as the country's 23rd Tiger Reserve. The name “Tadoba” is said to be derived from the name of a *Gond* king “*Taru*” who was accidentally killed by a tiger. Till date, the *Gond* tribals worship the king as their deity and visit the small shrine built near the Tadoba lake.





Tadoba was under the rule of the Gond dynasty. Structures like the 'Gond Pillars' in the forest stand as a testament to its glorious past.



The TATR landscape is an interspersion of grasslands, riverine patches, water bodies and dry tropical deciduous forests along with bamboo thickets. Two main rivers drain the region- the Erai River in the west and the Andhari River in the east. The northern section of TATR is undulating in topography, with the foothills of the Chimur range gradually giving way to the plains in the south. The Uma river forms the easternmost boundary of the Reserve and acts as an ecological barrier between TATR and the Bramhapuri Forest Division. Most of the annual rainfall (1175 mm) is received between June and September, with a minimum temperature of about 3^oC in December, rising to a maximum of about 48^oC in May.

Tadoba has been a tremendous success story in terms of tiger recovery in the landscape. It is a prime example of the positive change which can be brought about when local people, managers, scientists and nature lovers work towards a common goal of conservation. By the year 2000, the tigers in Tadoba were making a terrific comeback and were observed frequenting the major water sources. In early 2013, the Maharashtra Forest Department along with the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Wildlife Institute of India envisioned a project for the long term monitoring of the tigers, co-predators and their prey. A scientific study has more relevance when carried out over a longer time span as the patterns behind the apparent processes start to reveal themselves. Since 2013, we have had a record of the population status of the tigers and leopards in TATR as well as the prey densities in the area. Over the years, the trends in population status, local densities, turnover rates, habitat status, etc. are being meticulously studied and any change in trends in the future can be detected.





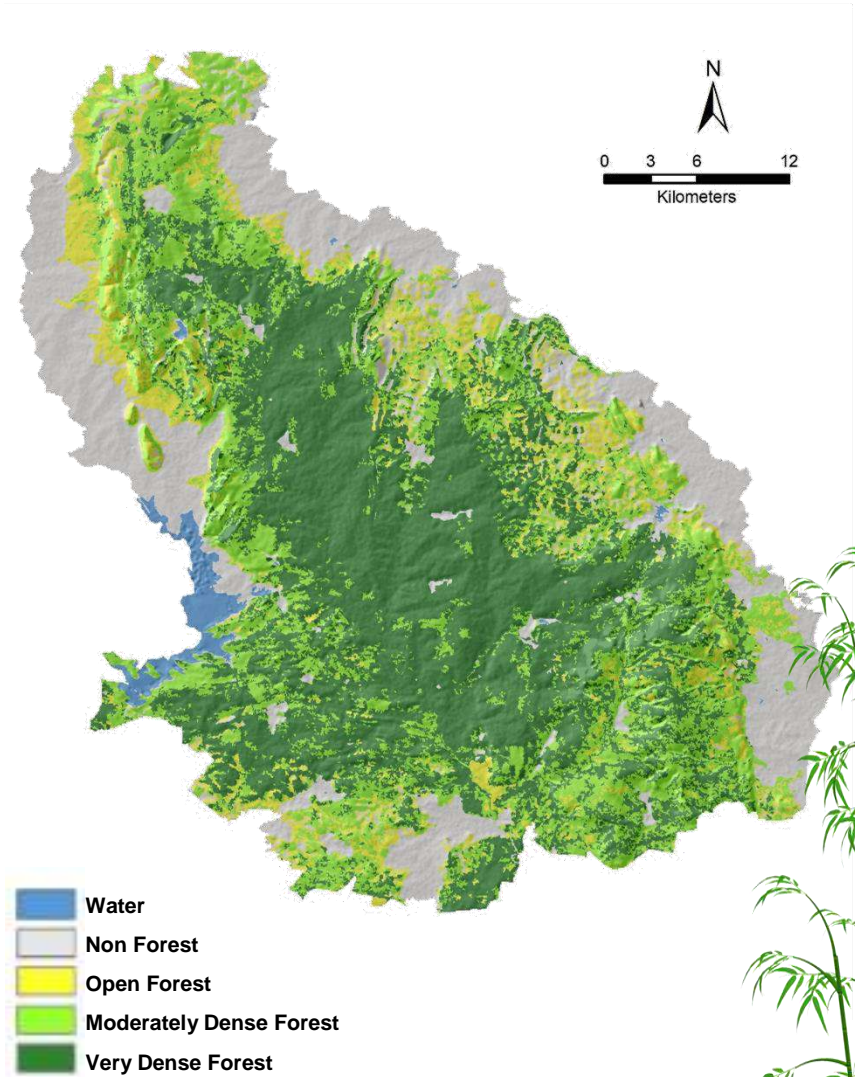
This book is an effort to provide an essence of the tiger dynamics in the reserve from 2013. We trust it would be an aid to the managers, scientists and anyone curious about tiger identification and the individual trends since 2013. Management wise, identification of individual tigers based on their territory is important for answering a range of questions in varied scenarios. This book will not only help in the identification of an individual but also give a brief account of the 'land tenureship' of the tigers. The currently occupied area of an individual is highlighted along with the areas it has previously occupied in the landscape. Since the status of a large carnivore like the tiger is dynamic and density dependent, we intend to update this information every alternate year and make it open to a larger audience.







Map Showing Forest Classification of Tadoba-Andhari – Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra, India



Source: FSI 2014

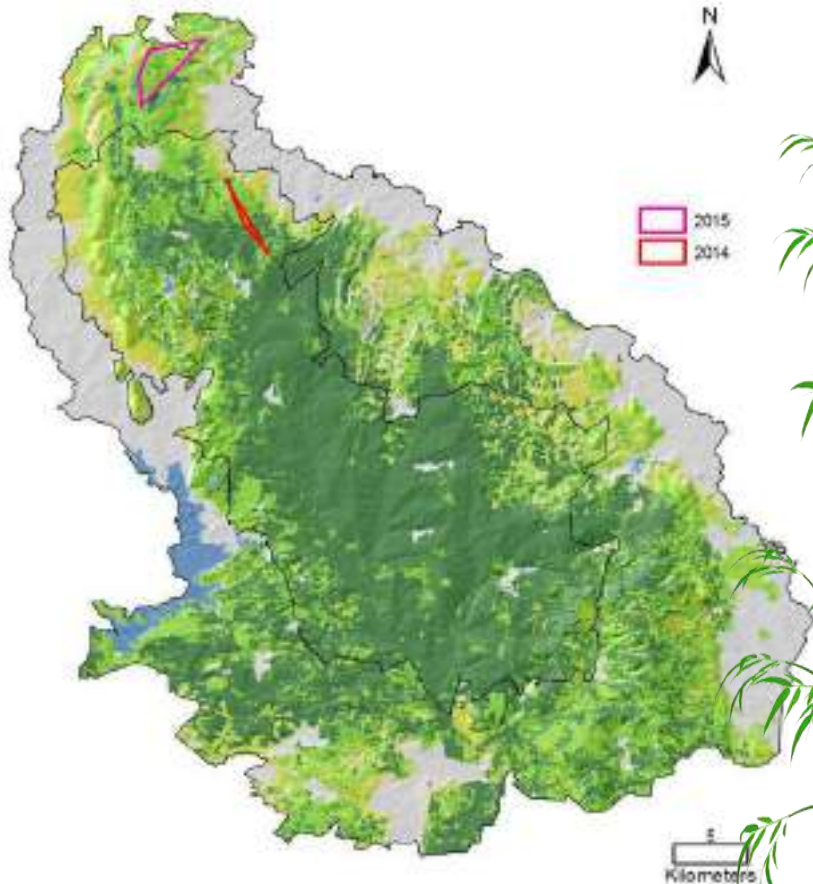


Minimum number of Tigers captured during camera-trapping exercise and population estimate from 2013-17

Year	No of individuals captured	Estimate
2013	50	51 (± 7.5)
2014	65	72 (± 5.37)
2015	71	88 (± 4.91)
2016	69	86 (± 8.7)
2017	75	86 (± 4.42)

Details of Tigers captured in core and buffer during camera-trapping exercise from 2013-17

Year	Tigers captured exclusively in core	Tigers captured exclusively in buffer	Tigers captured across core & buffer
2013	50	NA	NA
2014	51	10	04
2015	51	14	06
2016	48	17	04
2017	50	19	06




The tiger is known as “Kolara female”. In 2015 the tiger moved towards the khadsangi buffer and photo captured in Chimur buffer.



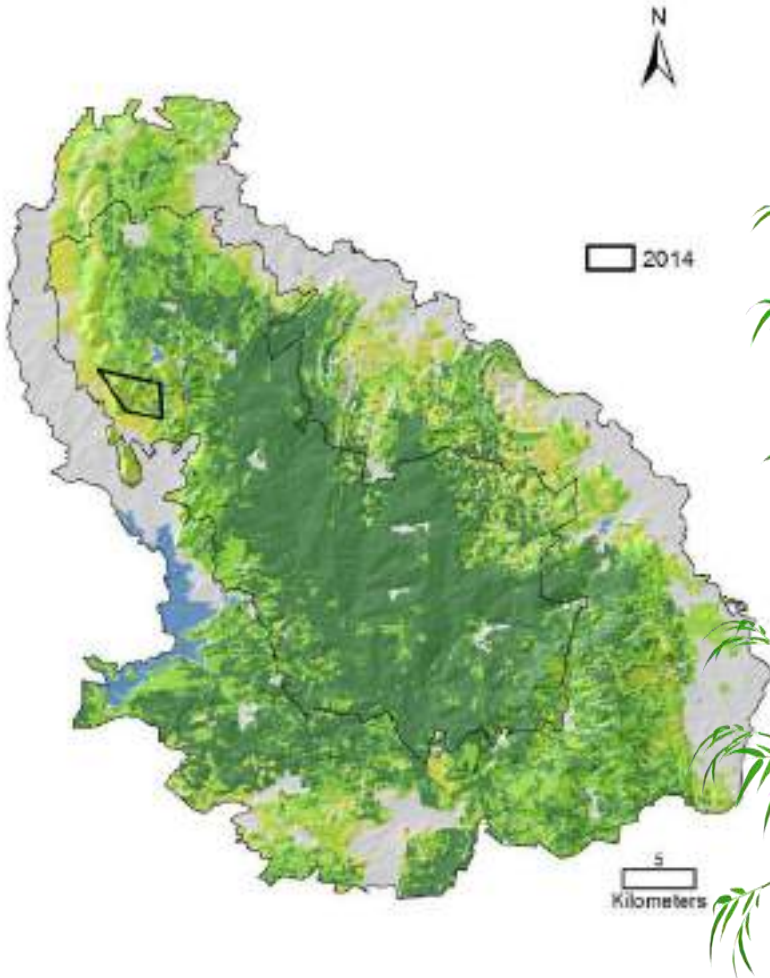


Litter of T1 in 2014



It had a litter of three in 2014. The exact number of male and female in the litter is not known.





The tiger was known as Katejhari female. It had a litter from the year 2013. It died on 1st January, 2015.



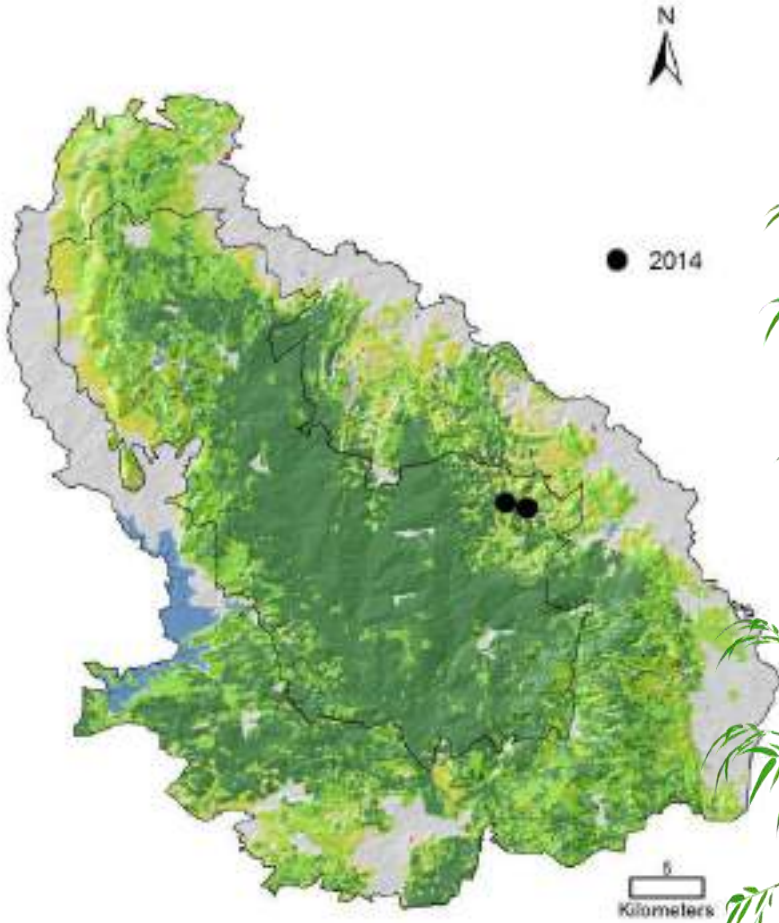
Litter of T2 in 2014



There are three cubs in the 2013 litter, Two females (T36, T57) and one male (T37).

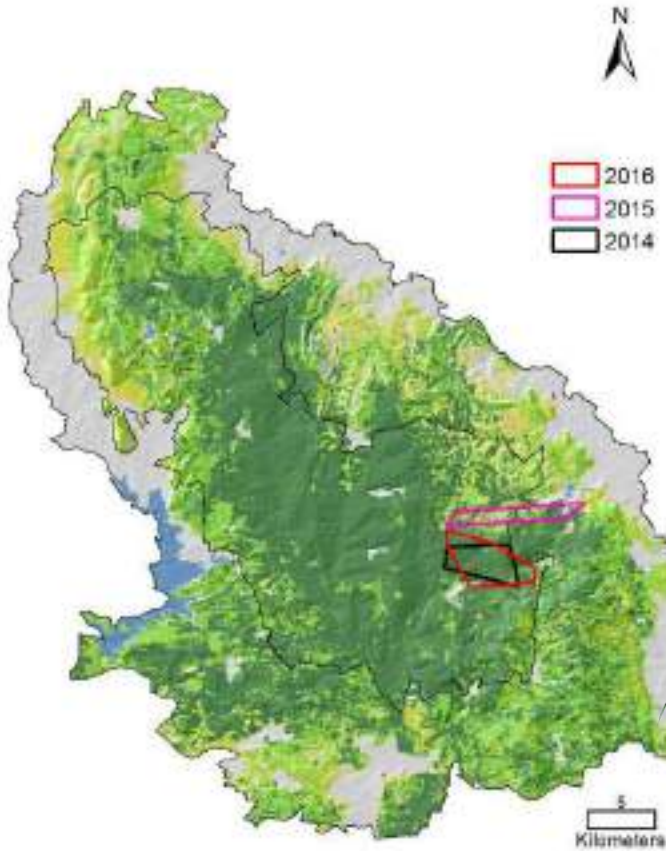


T3



The female tiger was captured in 2014 in core range of kolsa. It died after falling in a well in December 2014.

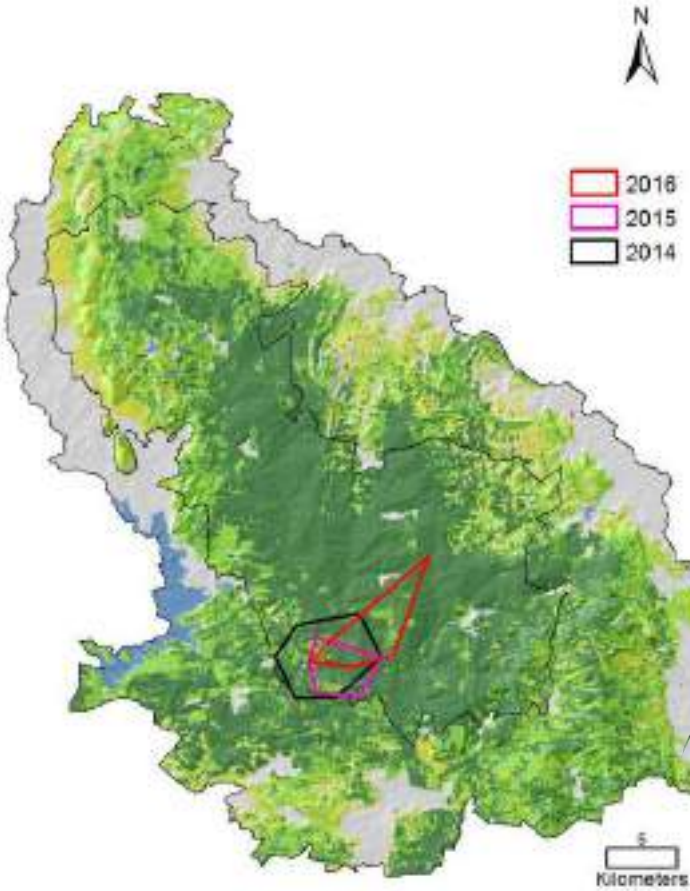




The female tiger has been captured around the Sukdibodi area in the Kolsa range since 2014.



T5



This female has been captured since 2014 in the Kolsa range. It had a litter of one in 2015.

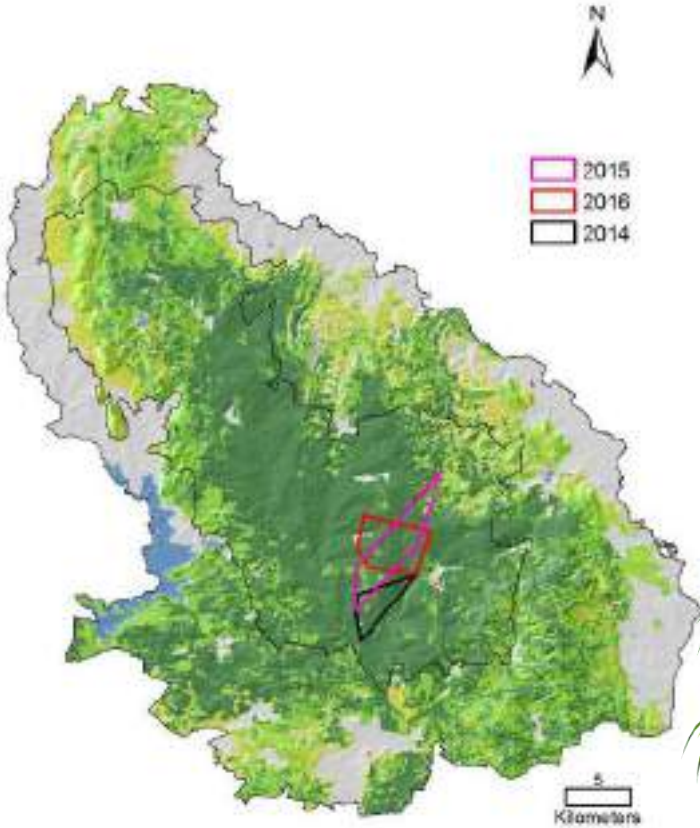




Litter of T5 in 2015







The female tiger was captured around Panghat area in 2014 but later she shifted her territory. It had a litter in 2016 of four cubs. There are three males and one female in the litter.

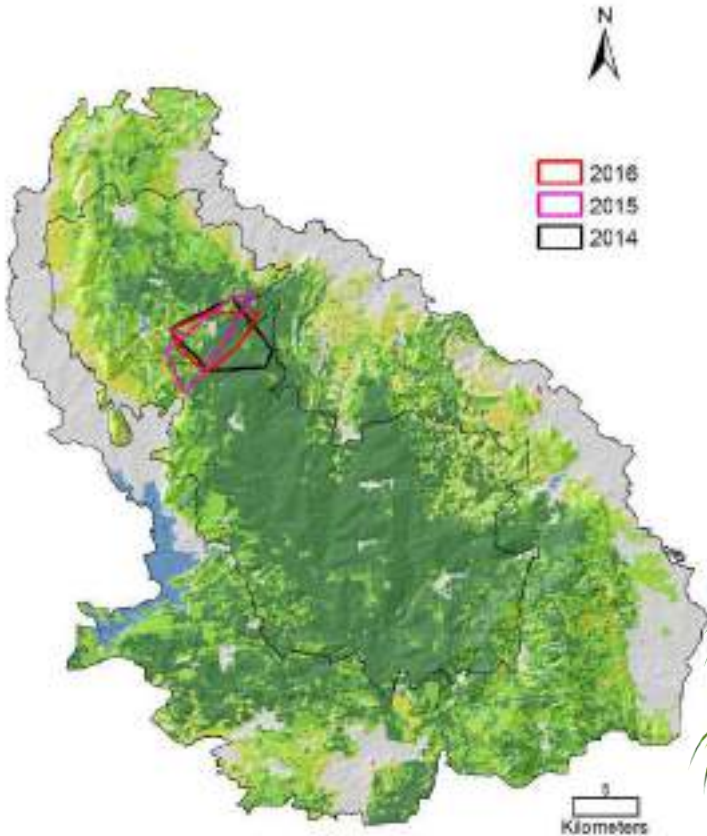




Litter of T6 in 2016







The female tiger is born in TATR. It established a territory around Jamni village and known as "choti tara" to tourists. It was collared in October, 2014. It had a litter of two in 2014 (one female and one male) and 2016 (two males).





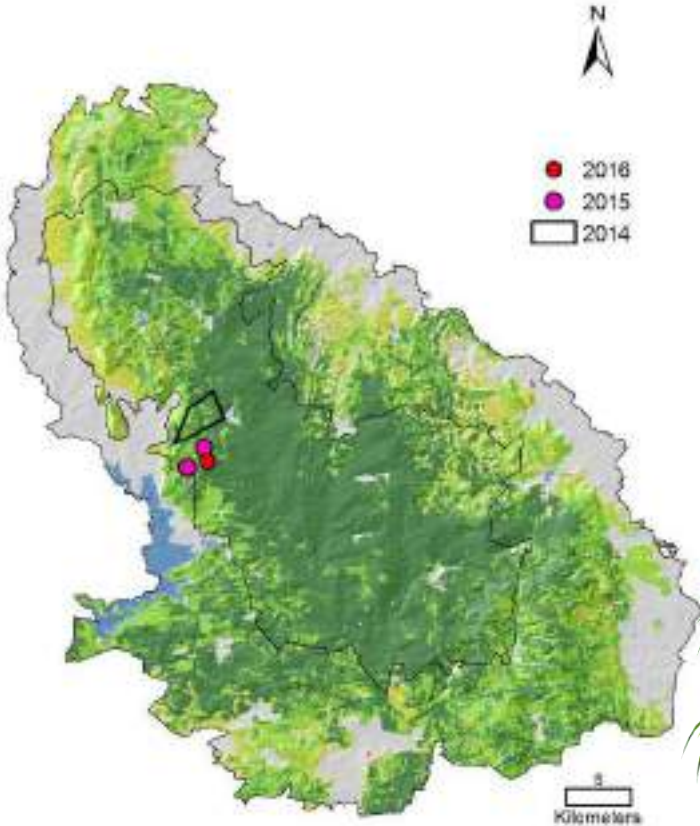
Litter of T7 in 2014 & 2016



The male of 2014 litter died in June 2015.



T8



The tiger is popularly known as “Devdoh female”. It had a litter of four cubs in 2014.



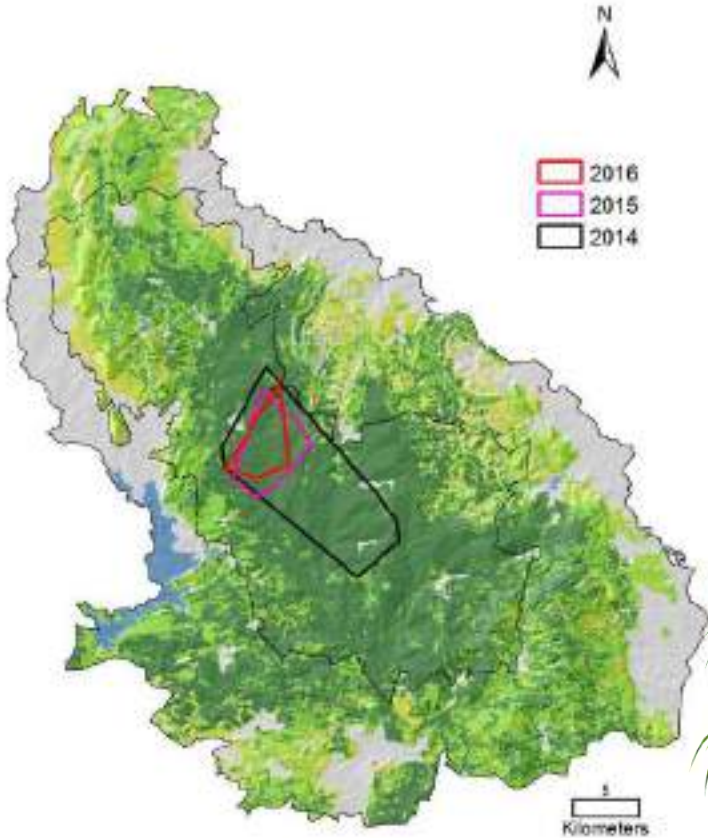


Litter of T8 in 2014



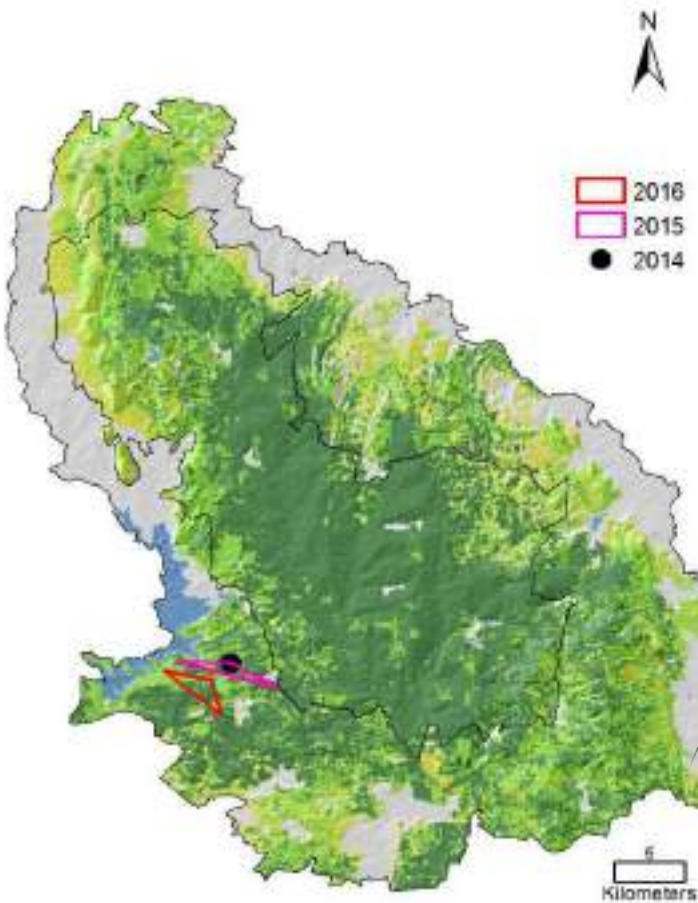
One male from this litter died in 2014





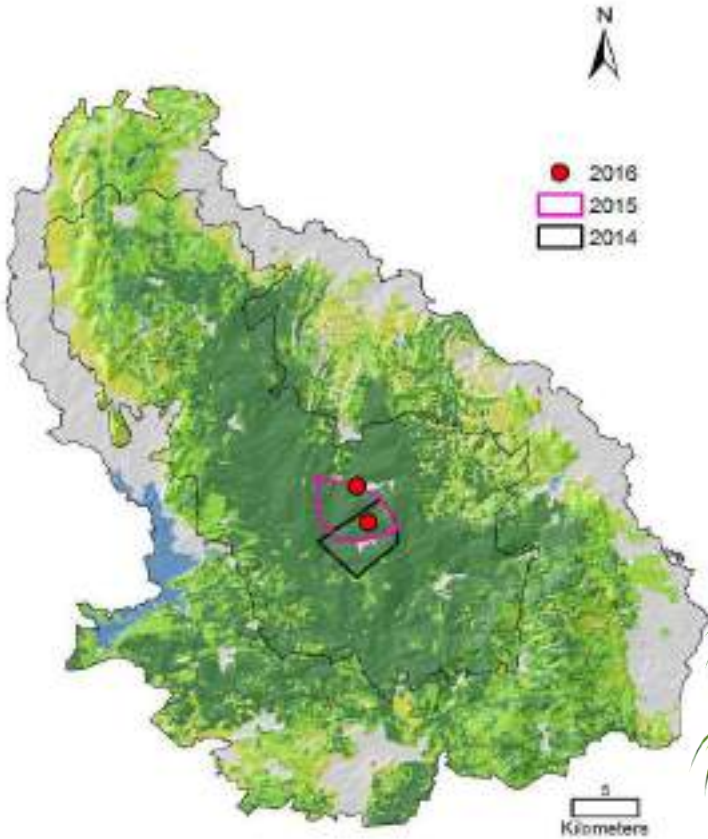
The female tiger has been captured from Tadoba and Moharli core since 2014. It settled in a territory from 2015.





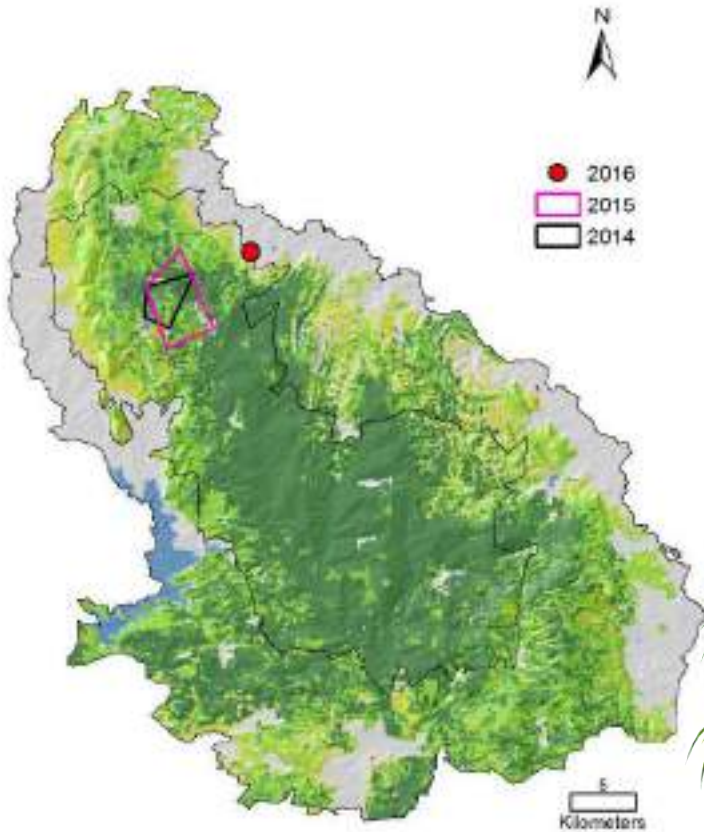
The tigress is popularly known as “Madhuri”. It had a litter in 2012 (4 females) and one in 2014. It shifted to Moharli buffer area from the core area in 2014.





The female tiger has been captured from Moharli and Kolsa are since 2014.





The tigress is born in Tadoba range. It is popularly known as "Maya". It is regularly seen in the Tadoba lake and Pandharpauni area.





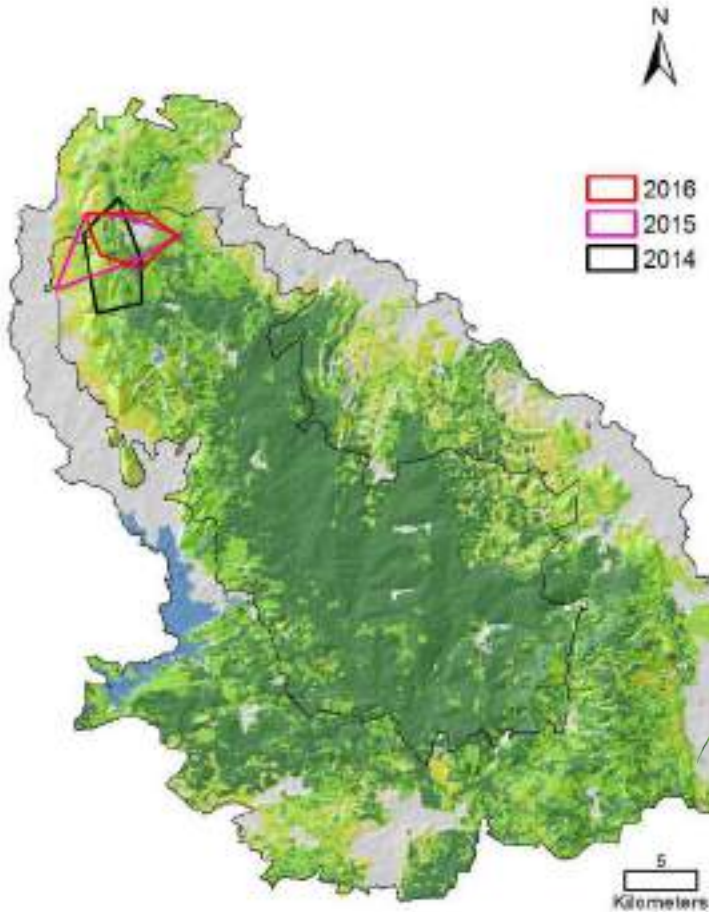
Litter of T12 in 2016



There are three cubs (two males and one female) in the 2016 litter.



T13



The female tiger was known as “Ambepat female”. It had a litter of two cubs in the year 2015.

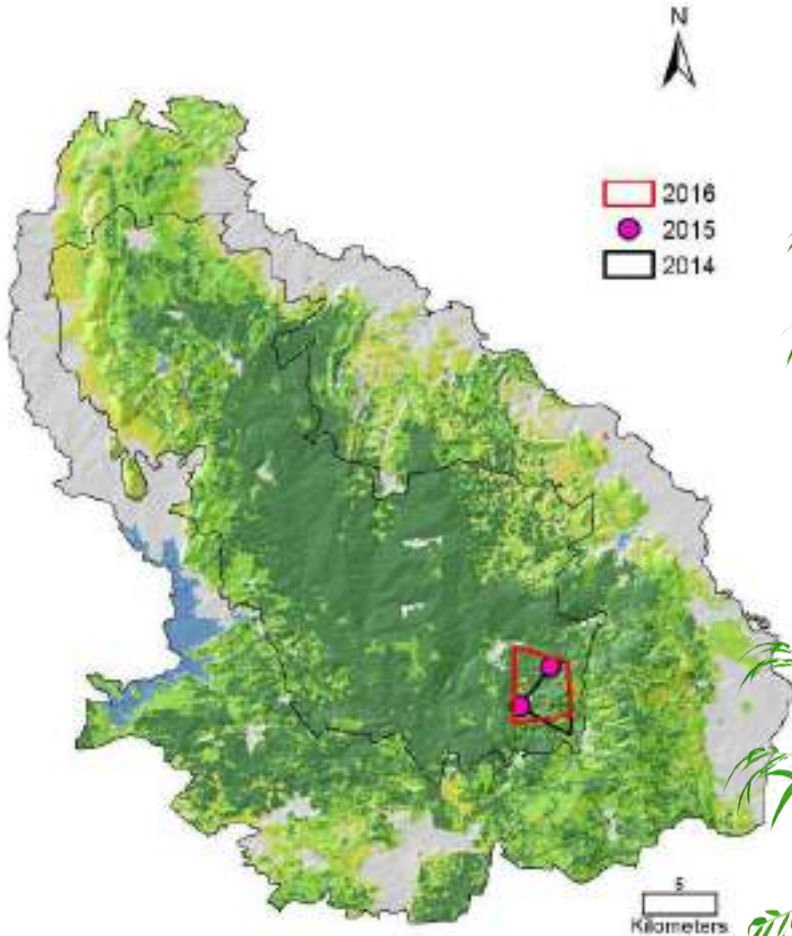




Litter of T13 in 2015







The tiger is known as "Doni female". She was born in kolsa range. It had a litter of four tigers in 2015.



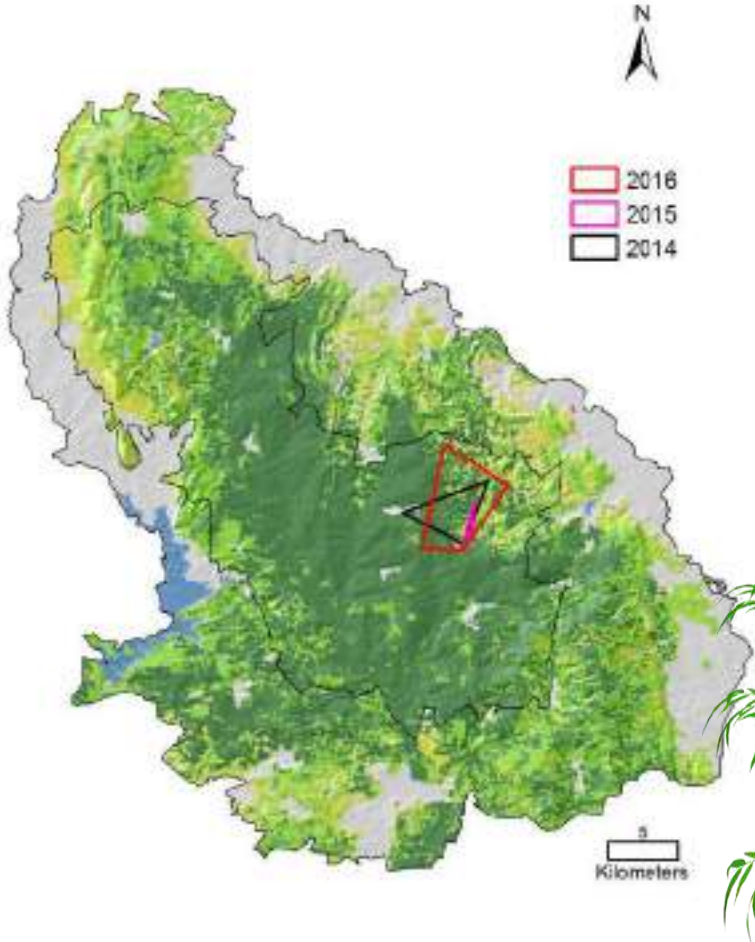


Litter of T14 in 2015



One male from her litter died in 2016.

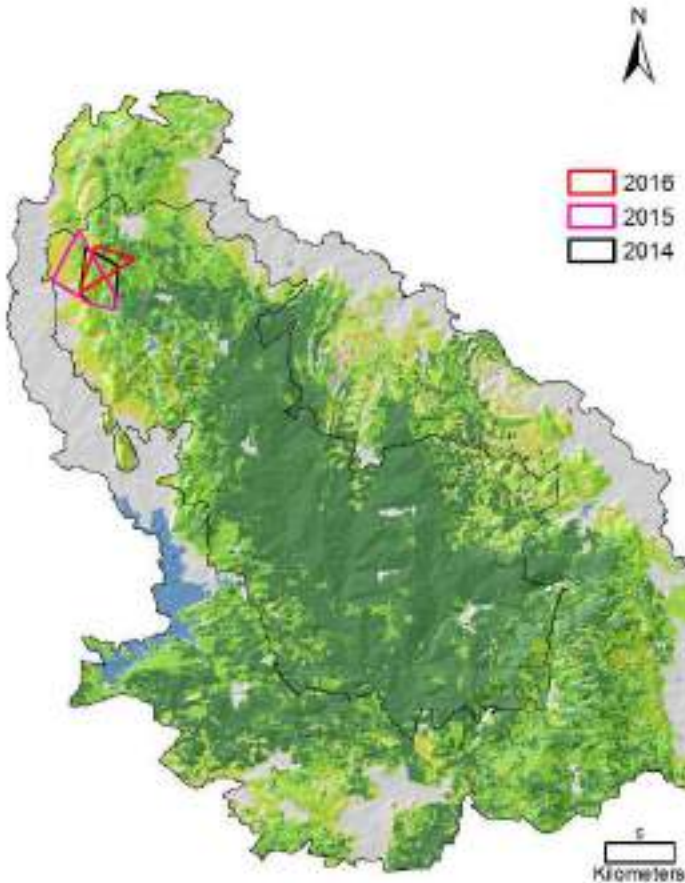




The female tiger has been captured from Kolsa range since 2014.



T16



The tiger is known as “Bhanuskhindi female” or “Laxmi”. It had a litter of two cubs in the year 2015.

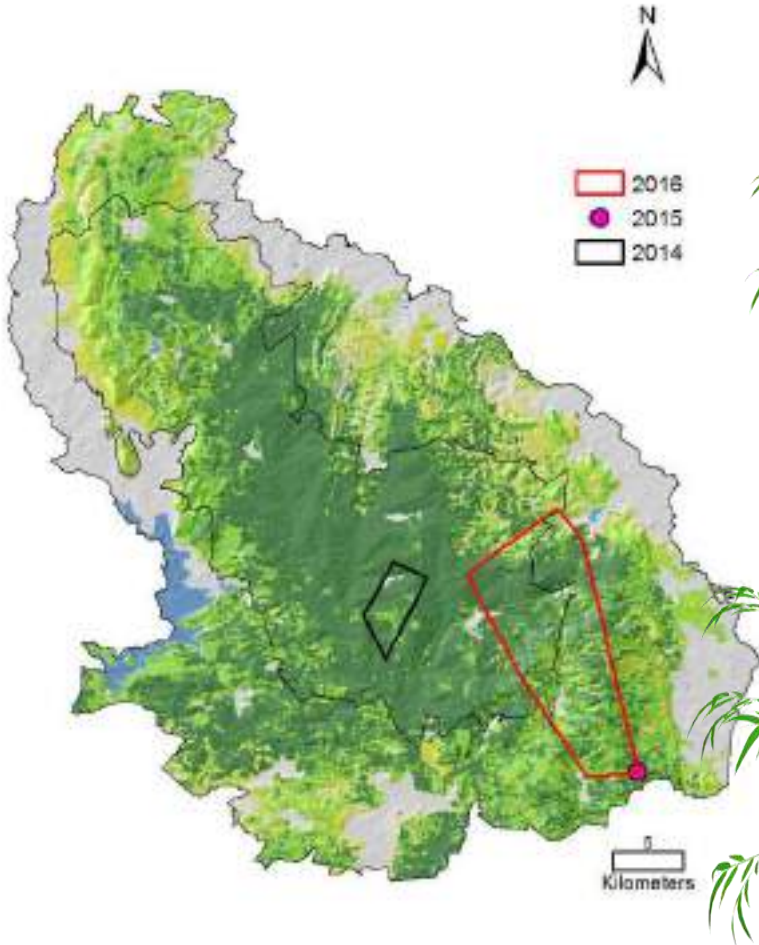




Litter of T16 in 2015



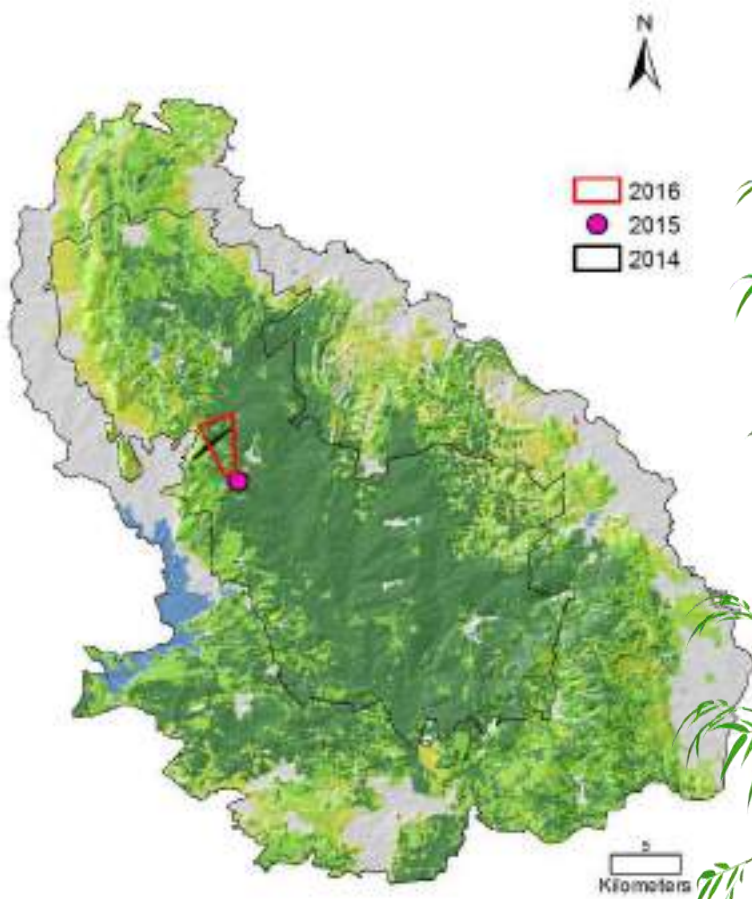




The female tiger has been captured in Kolsa and adjoining buffer areas since 2014.

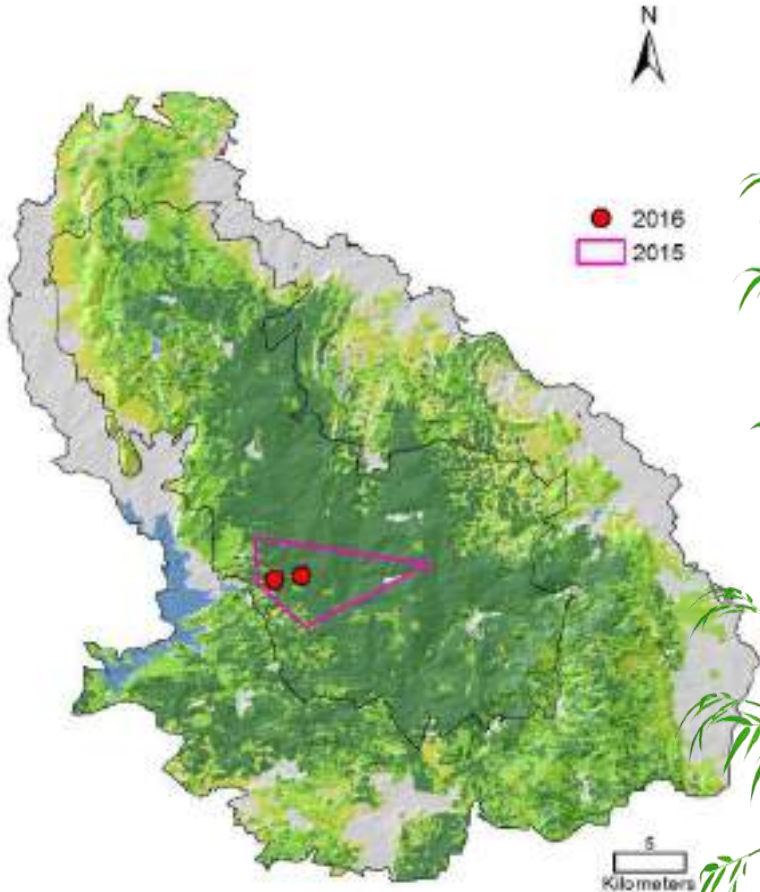


T18



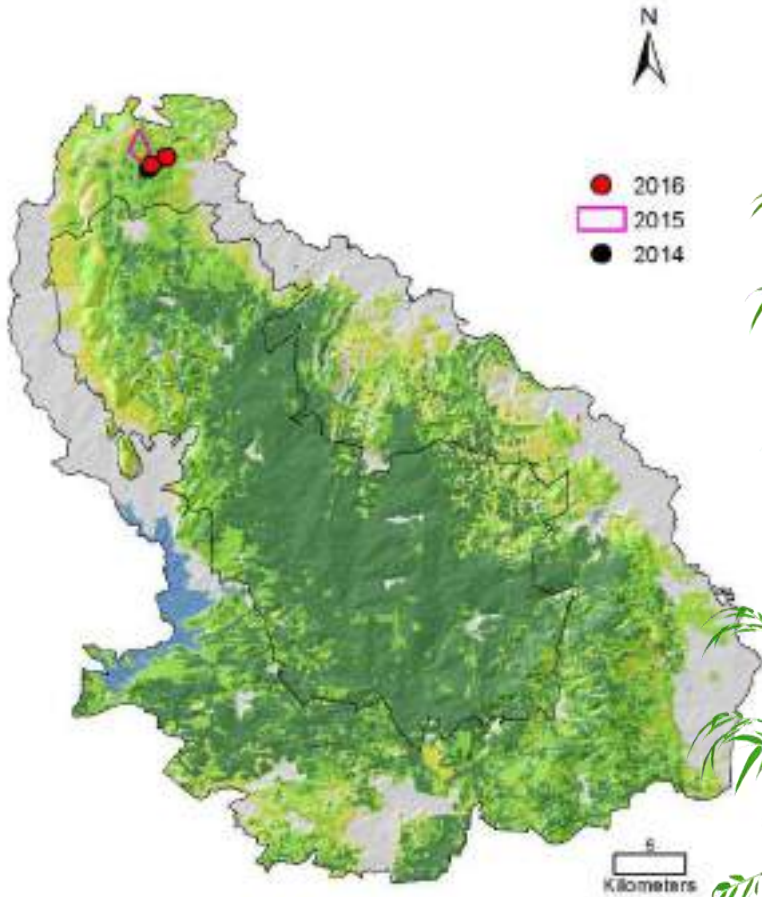
The female tiger has been captured from the boundary of Tadoba and Moharli core range since 2014.





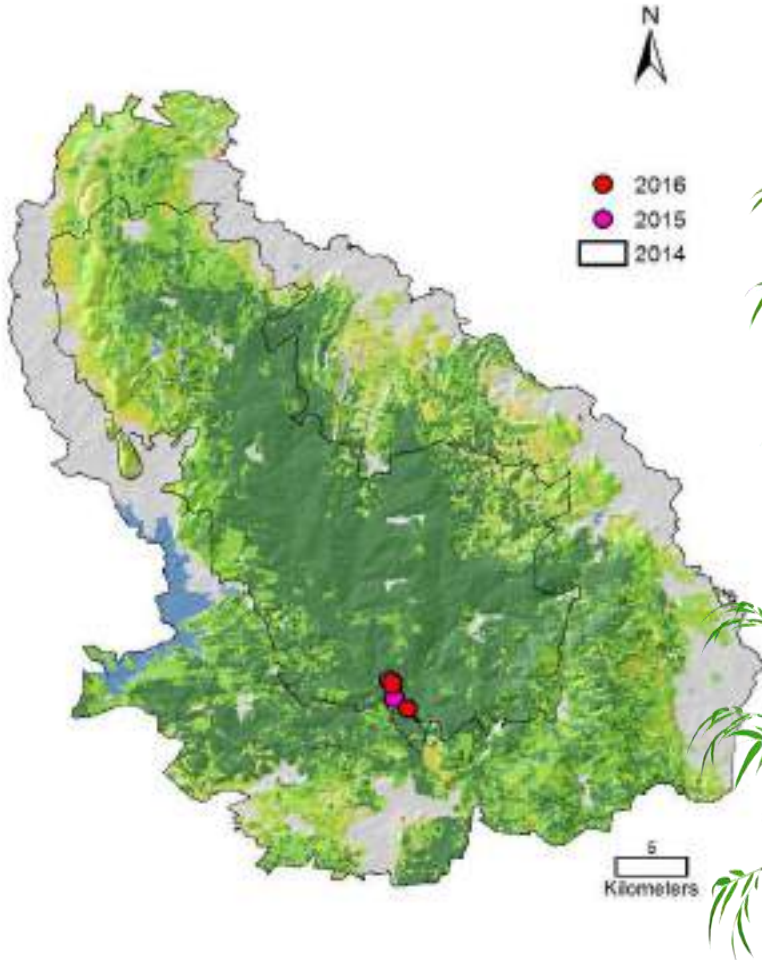
The female tiger has been captured from Moharli range since 2015.





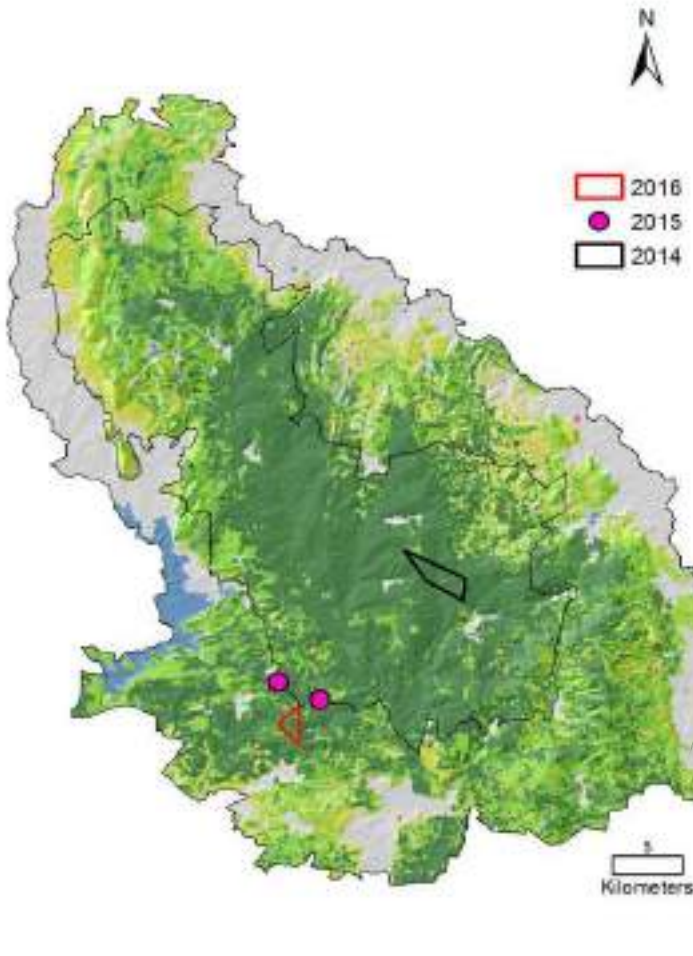
The female tiger has been captured from the Khadsangi range in the buffer area since 2014.





The female tiger has been captured from Doni area near the boundary of Kolsa range since 2014.





The female tiger was captured in core area in 2014, later it shifted to Moharli buffer and established territory there. It had litter of three in 2016.



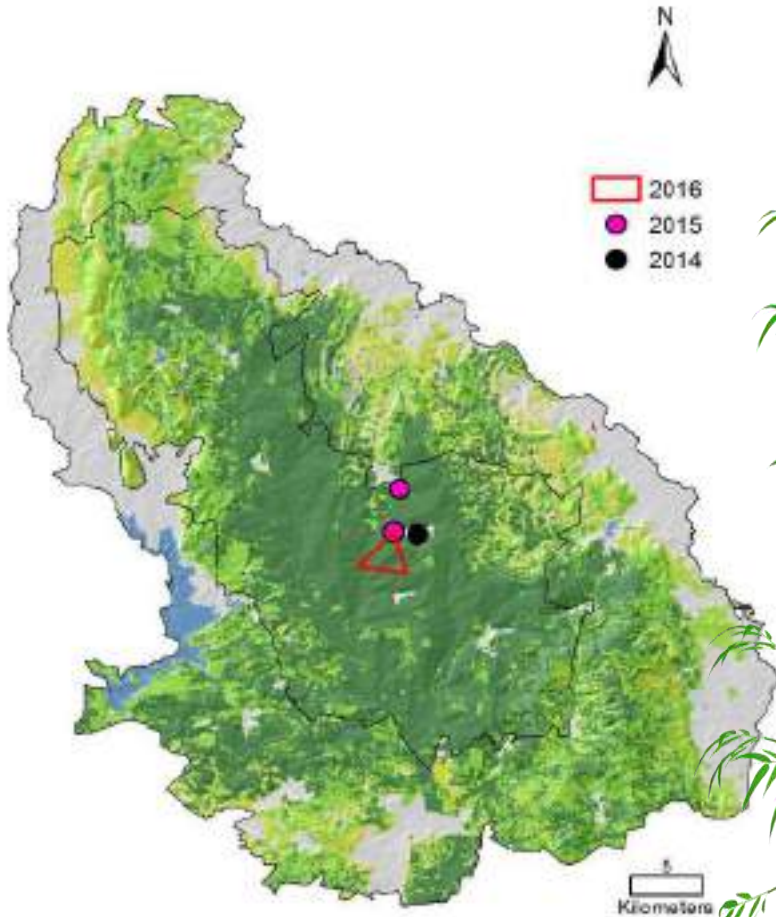


Litter of T22 in 2016





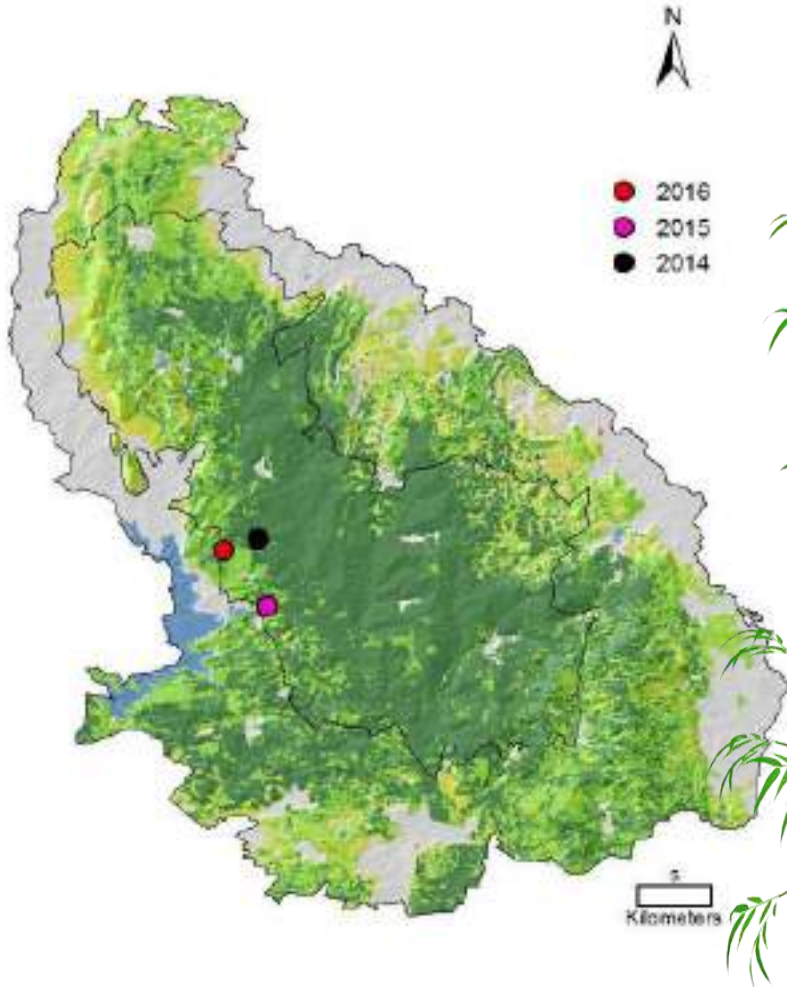
T23



The female tiger has been captured from the boundary area of Moharli and Kolsa since 2014.

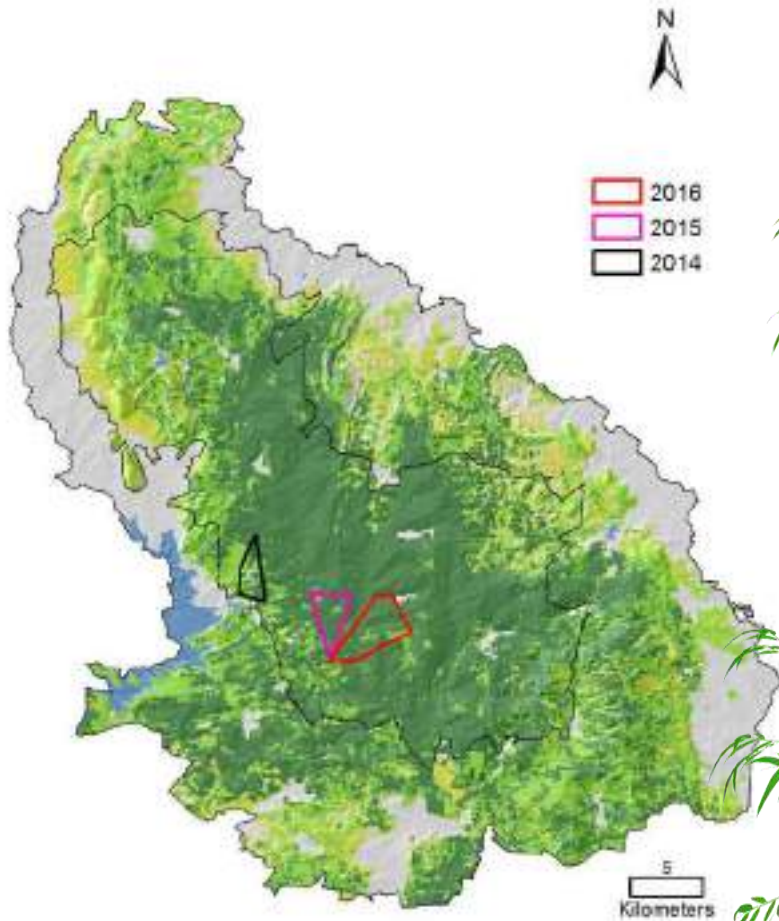


T24



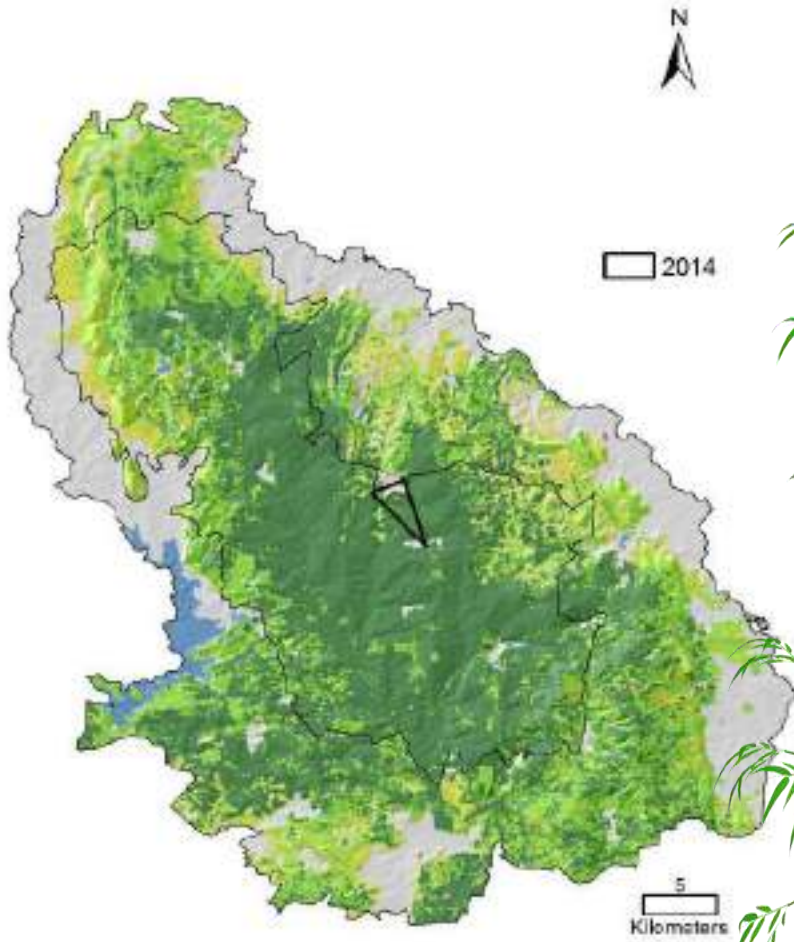
This tigress has been captured from the boundary area of Moharli core area since 2014.





The female tiger has been captured in Moharli core range since 2014.

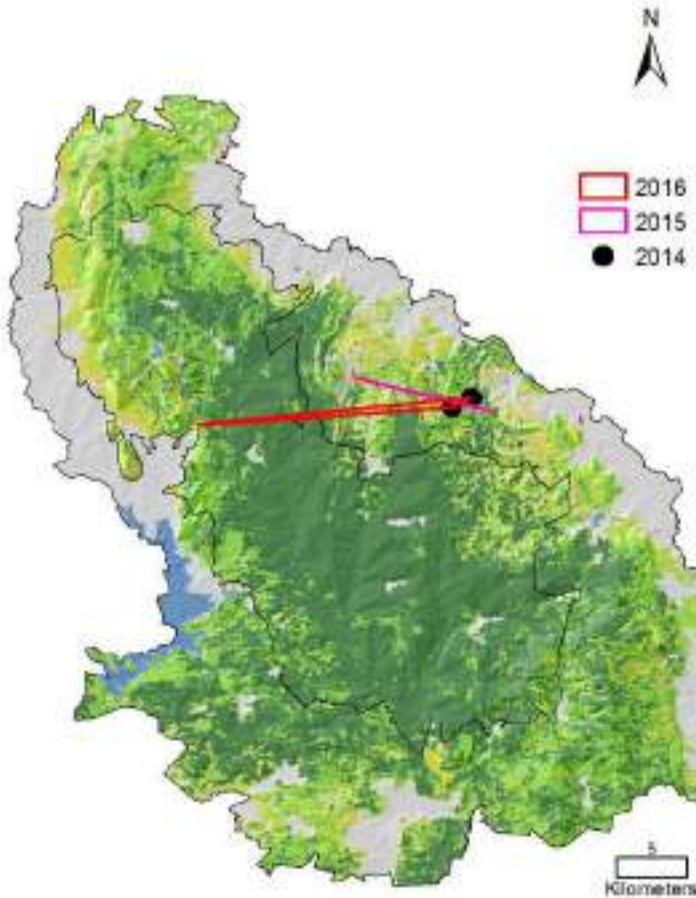




This tigress was captured only in 2014 from the boundary of Kolsa core range.

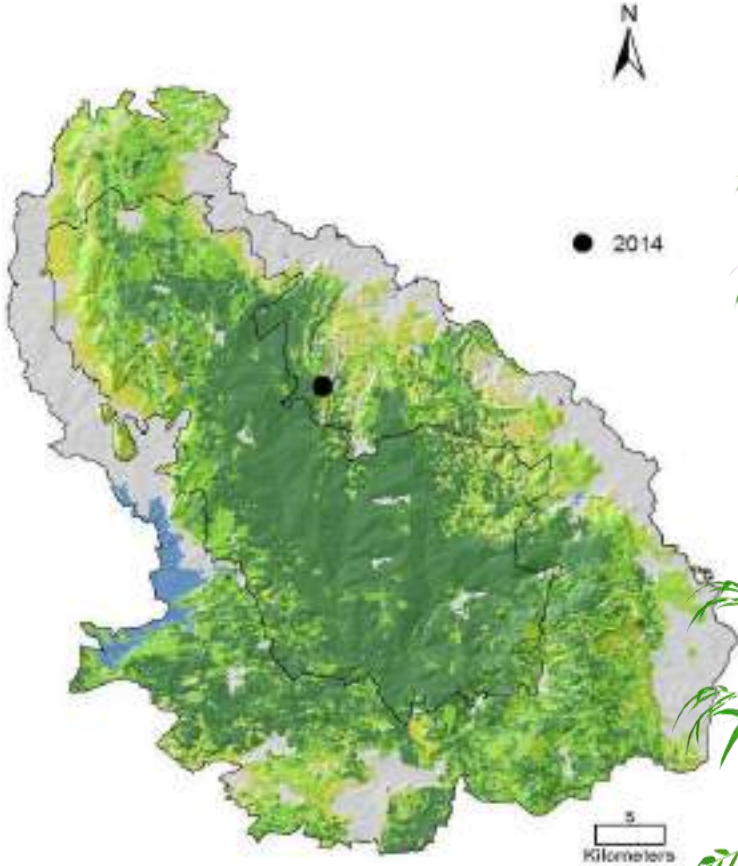


T27



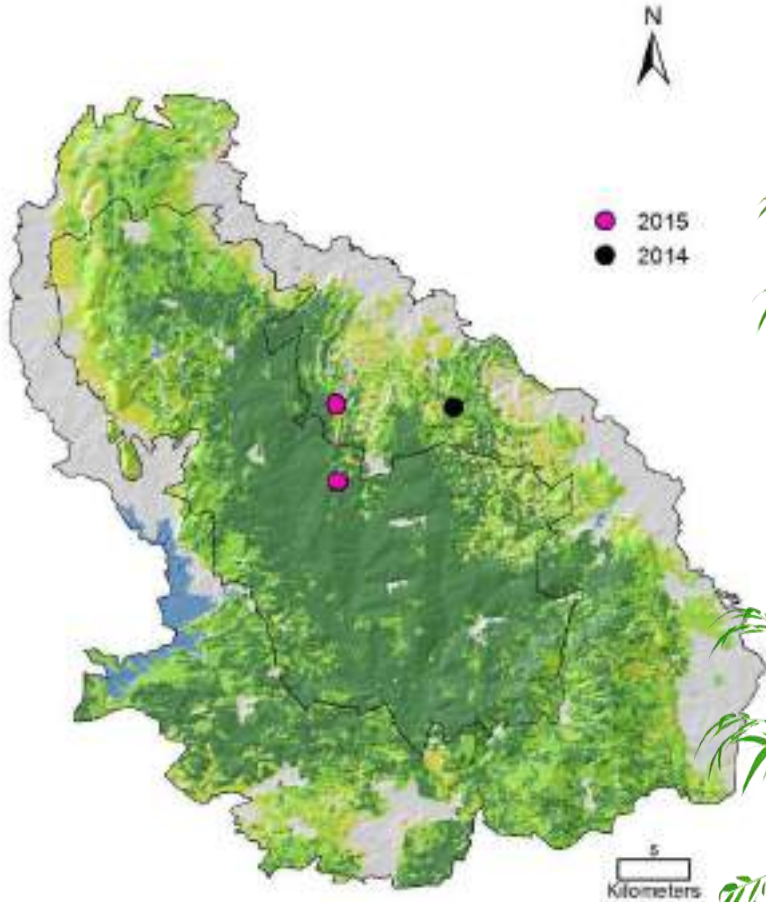
This tigress has been captured from the Padasgaon buffer since 2014.





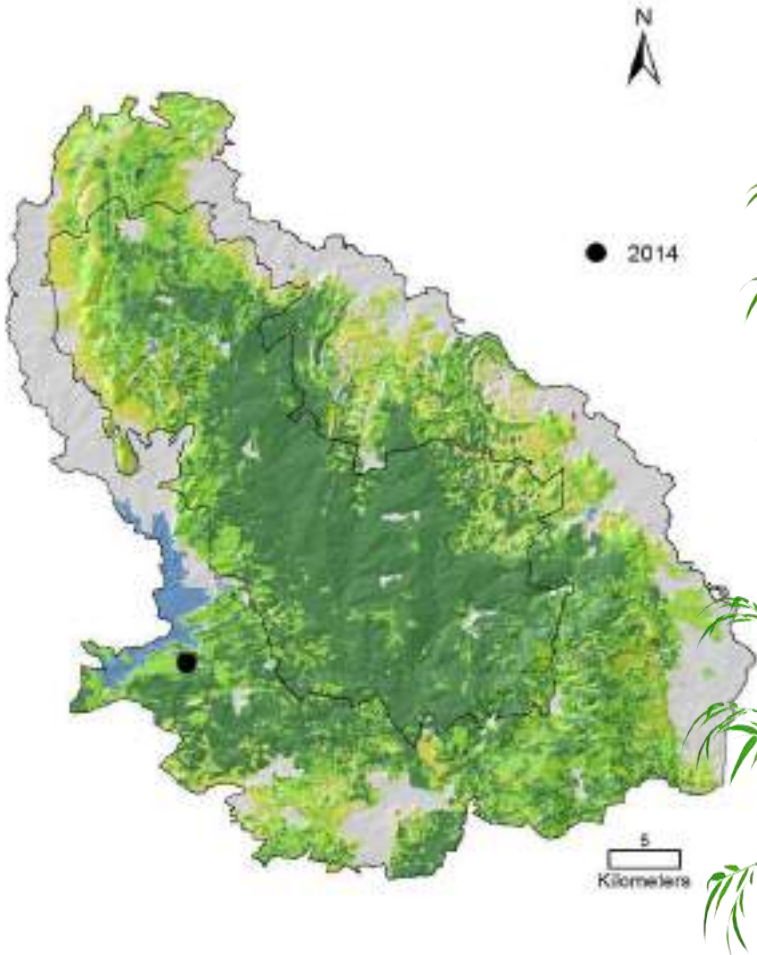
The female tiger was captured from Padasgaon buffer in the year 2014.





The female tiger was captured in 2014 and 2015 from the Tadoba core and Padasgaon buffer area.

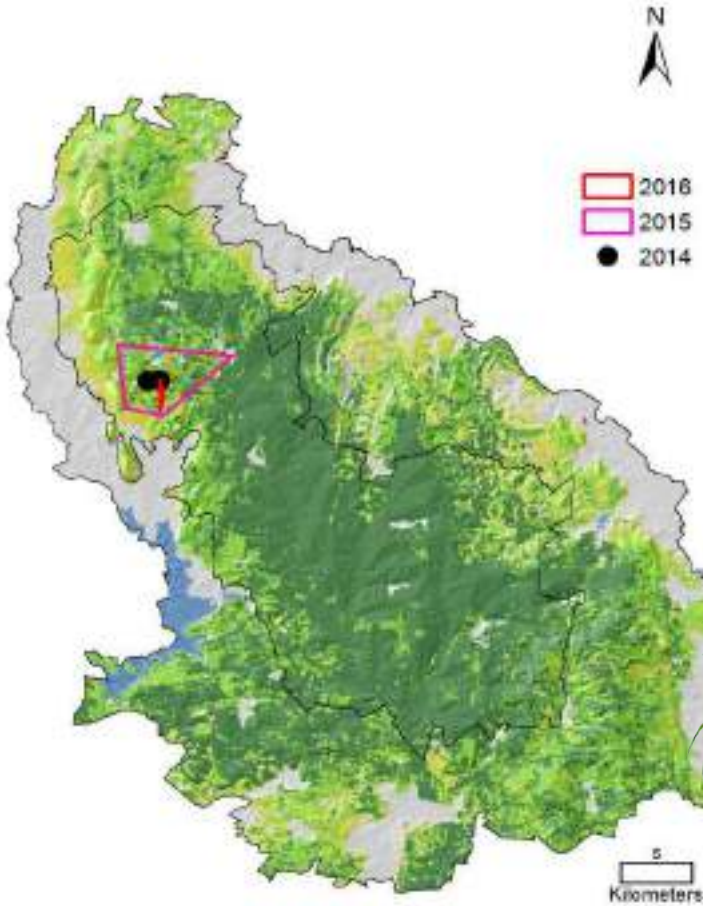




The female was captured in 2014 from the buffer area of Moharli range.



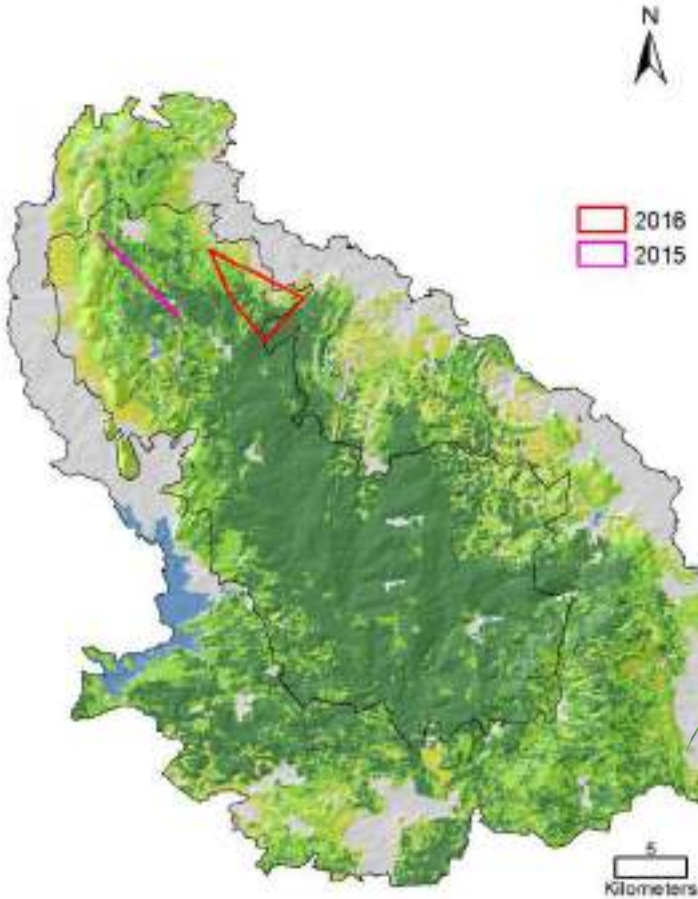
T31



The female tiger is from the 2014 litter of T2 or Katejhari female. After the death of the mother, she took over the katejhari area in Tadoba range.



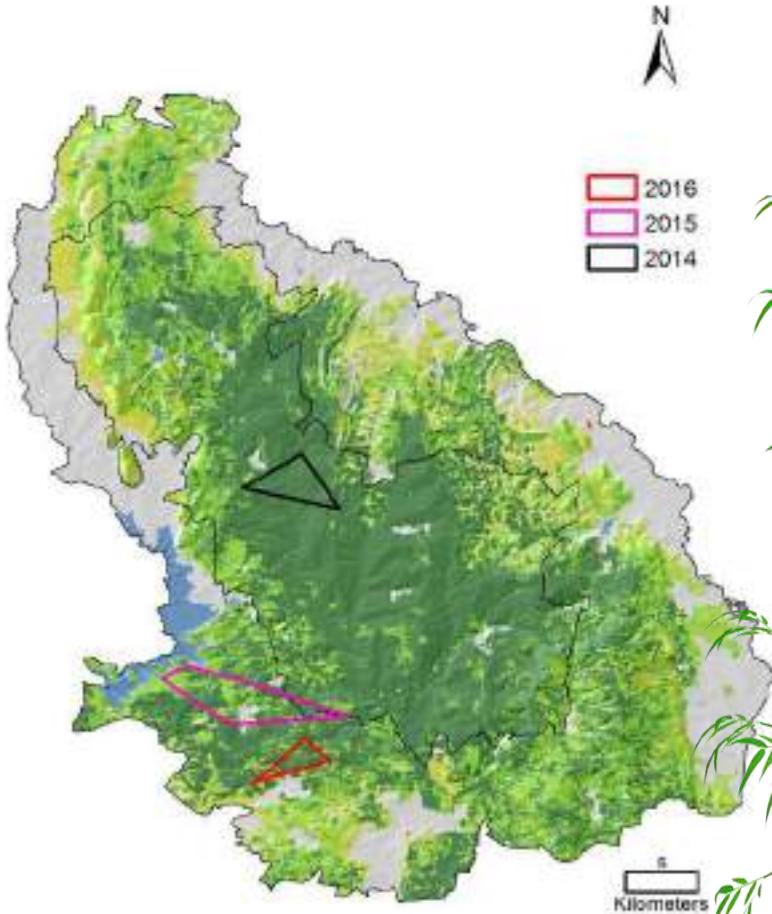
T32



The male tiger is from the 2014 litter of T2 or Katejhari female. The male moved to a different area from it's natal area.



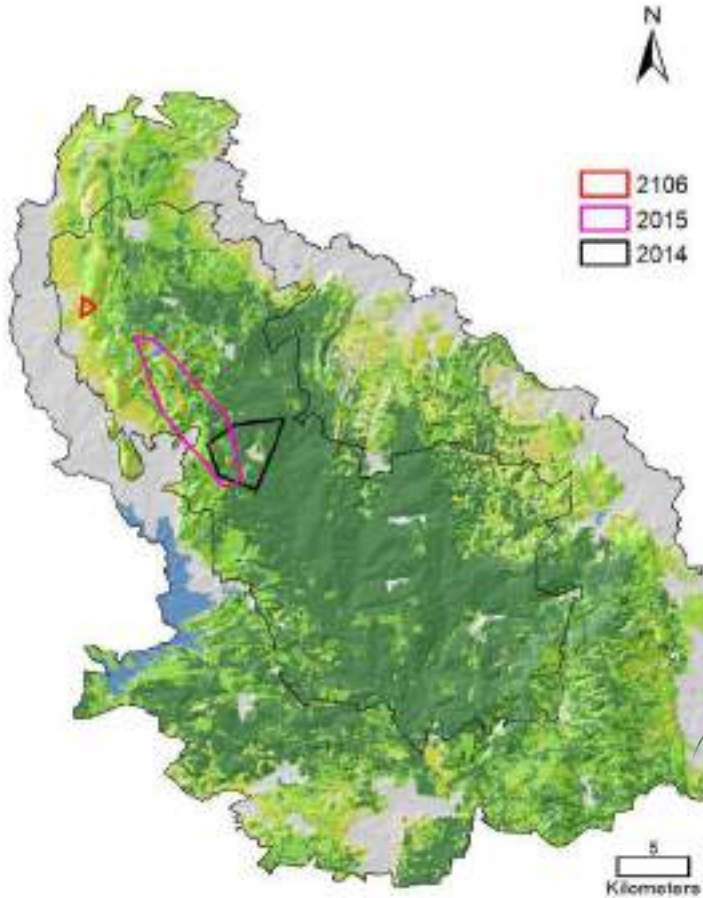
T33



The male tiger is known as “Waghdoh male”. It moved to moharli buffer area in 2015 and established its territory there.



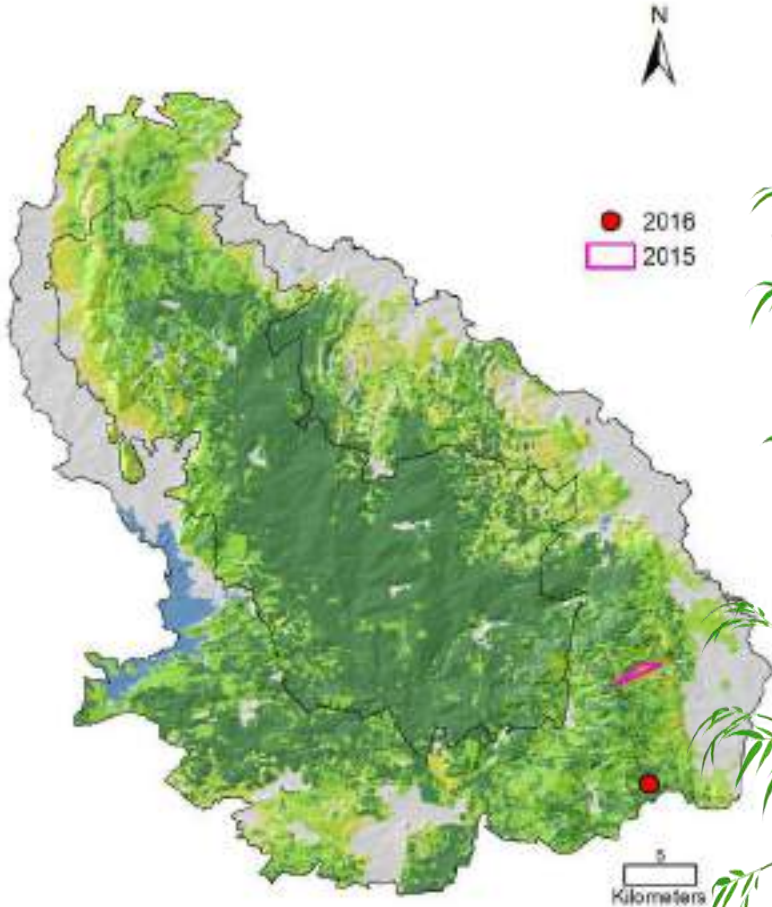
T34



The male is popularly known as “Yeda anna”. It has been captured since 2010 in the area. It shifted to fringe areas in 2016.



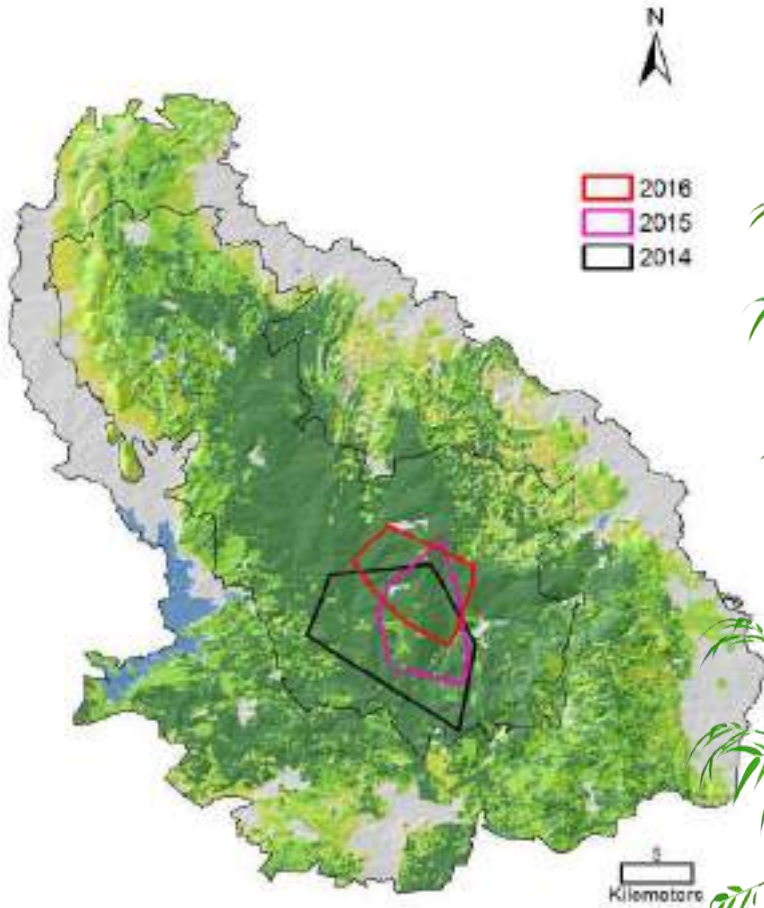
T35



The male tiger is known as Shivaji. It moved from the kolsa core range to buffer range of Mul, where it was captured from 2015 onwards.



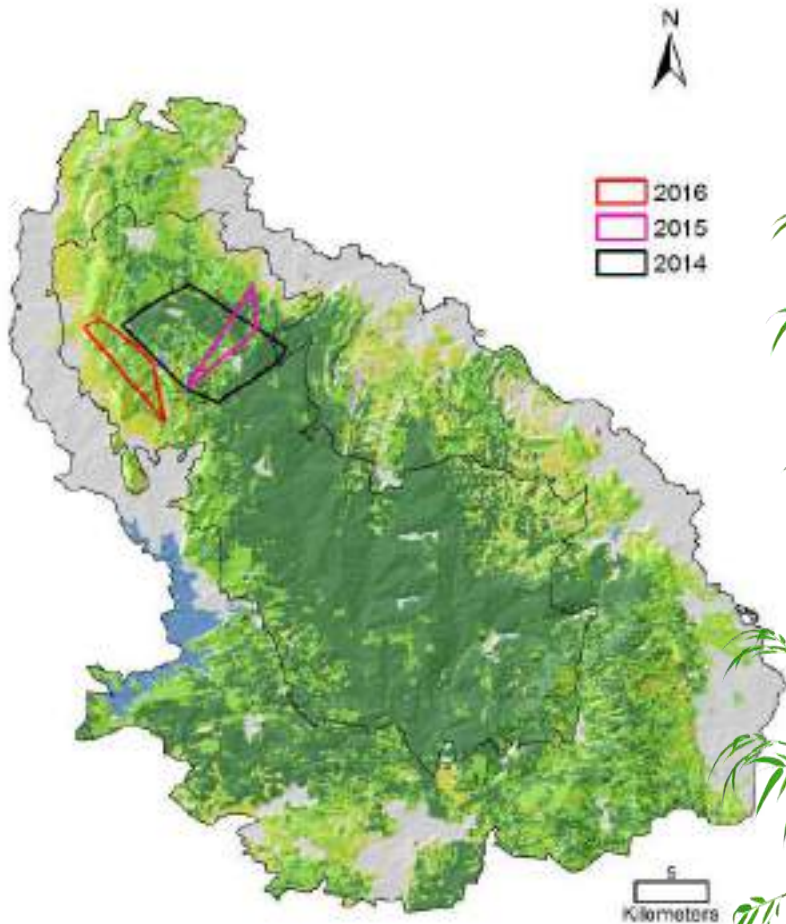
T36



The male tiger has been captured since 2014 from the core range of Moharli and Kolsa.



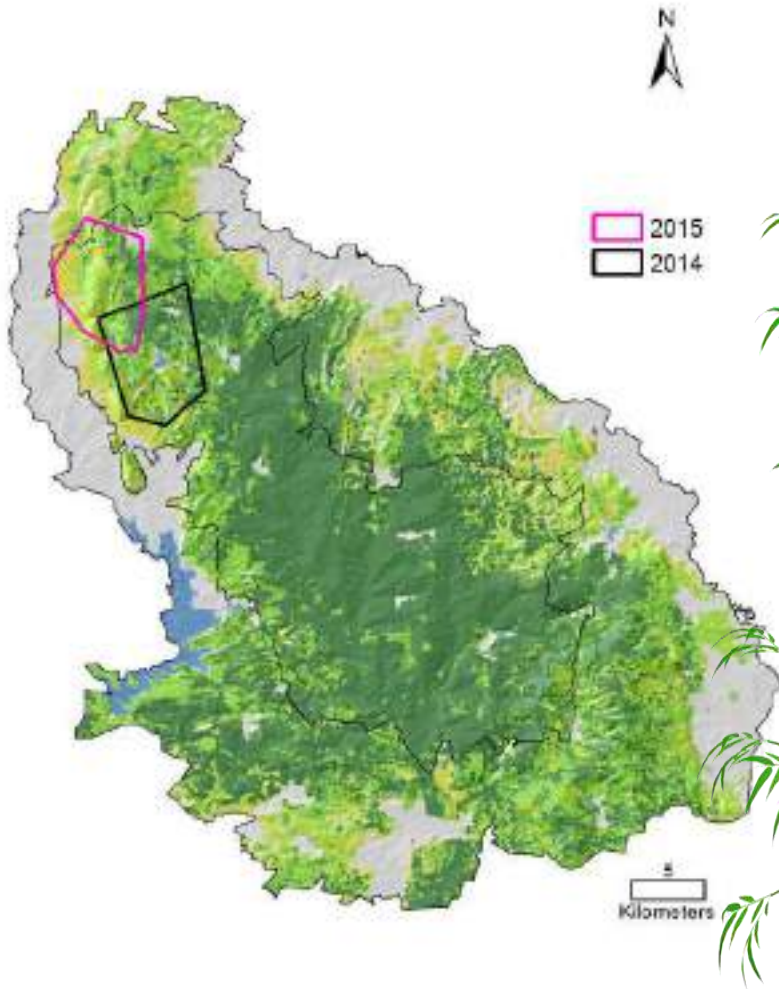
T37



The male tiger is known as "Gabbar". It was radio-collared in October of 2014. The radio-collar was removed in 2016.



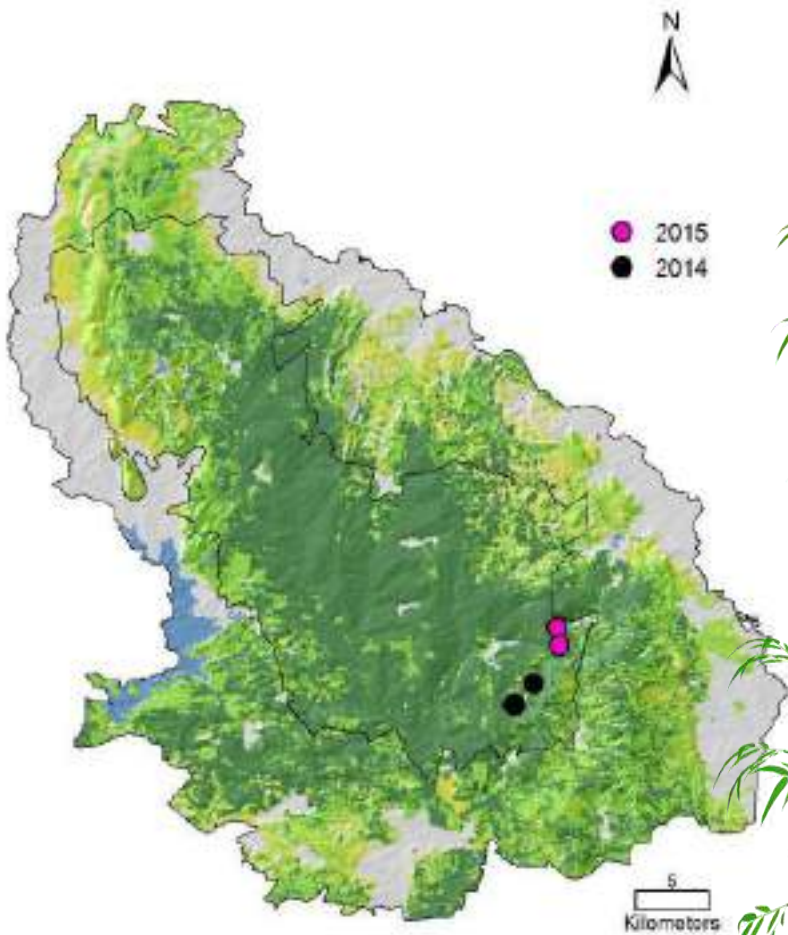
T38



The male tiger is known as “Amitabh” or “Katejhari male”. It moved to fringe areas in 2015 and was not captured in 2016.



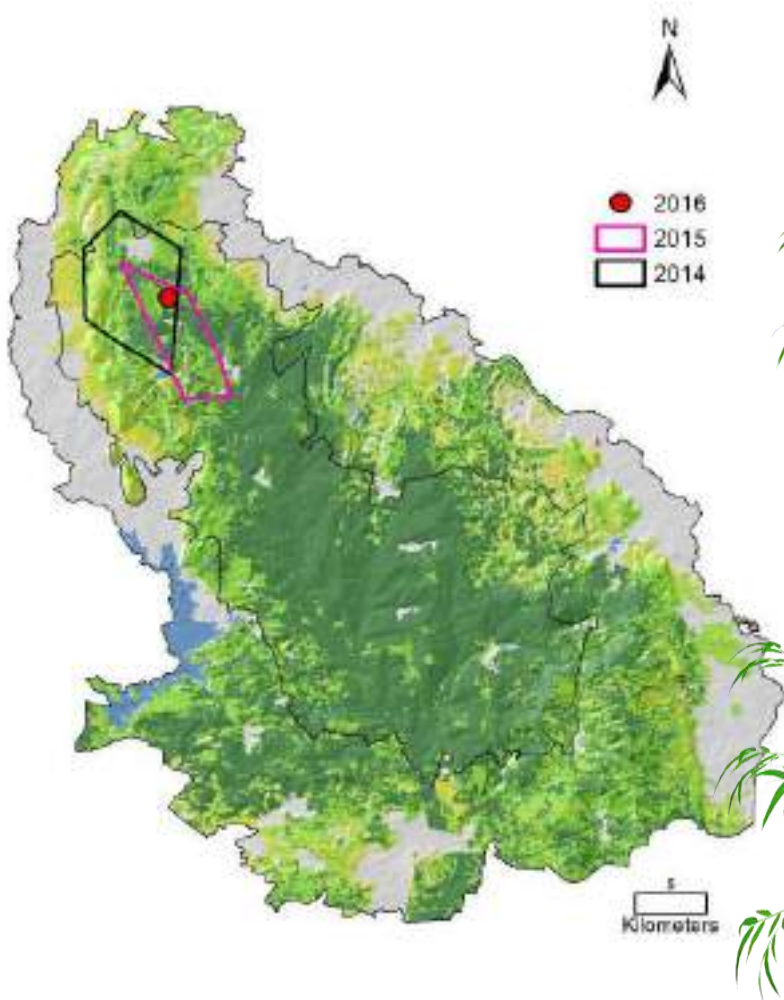
T39



The male tiger was captured till the year 2015 from the boundary area of Kolsa core range.



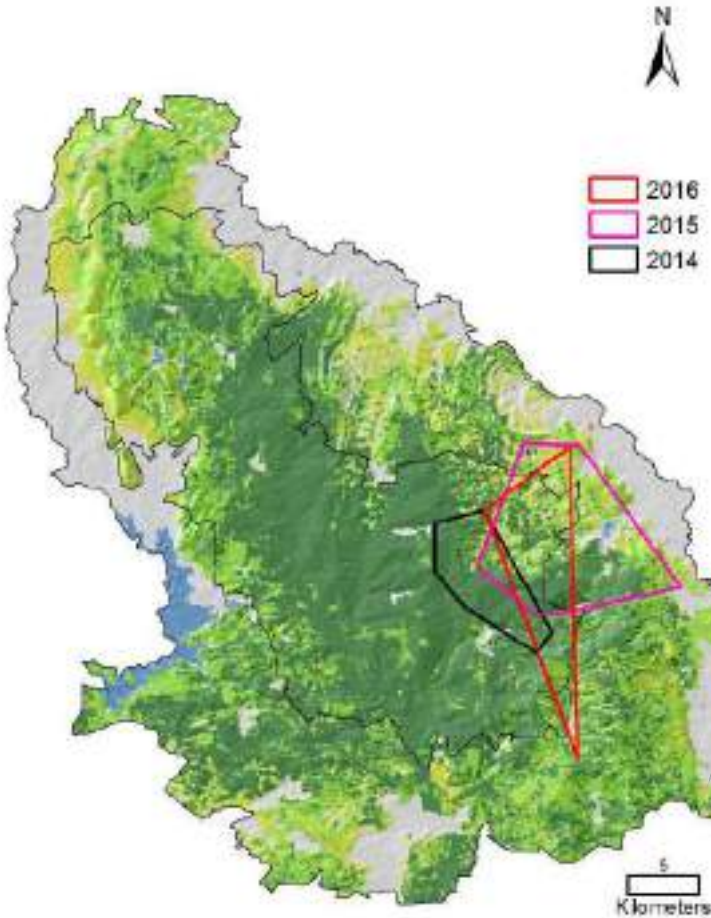
T40



The male was captured in the Navegaon area of Tadoba range. In subsequent years it ventured more into the core area of Tadoba range.



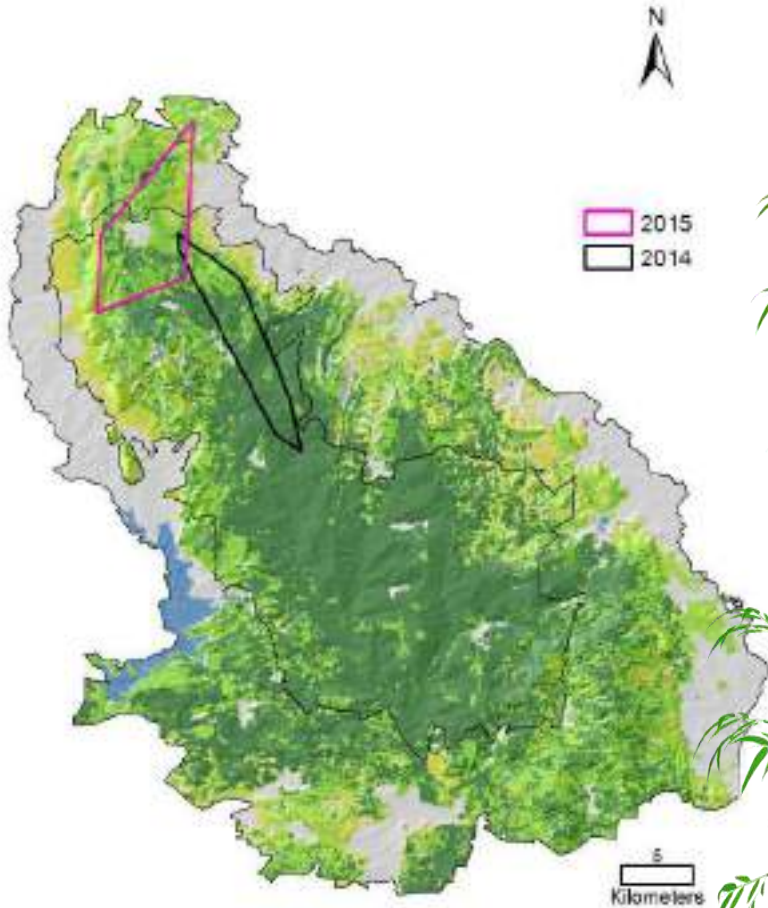
T41



The male has an extensive range in the Kolsa core and Seoni Buffer. It has been captured since 2014.

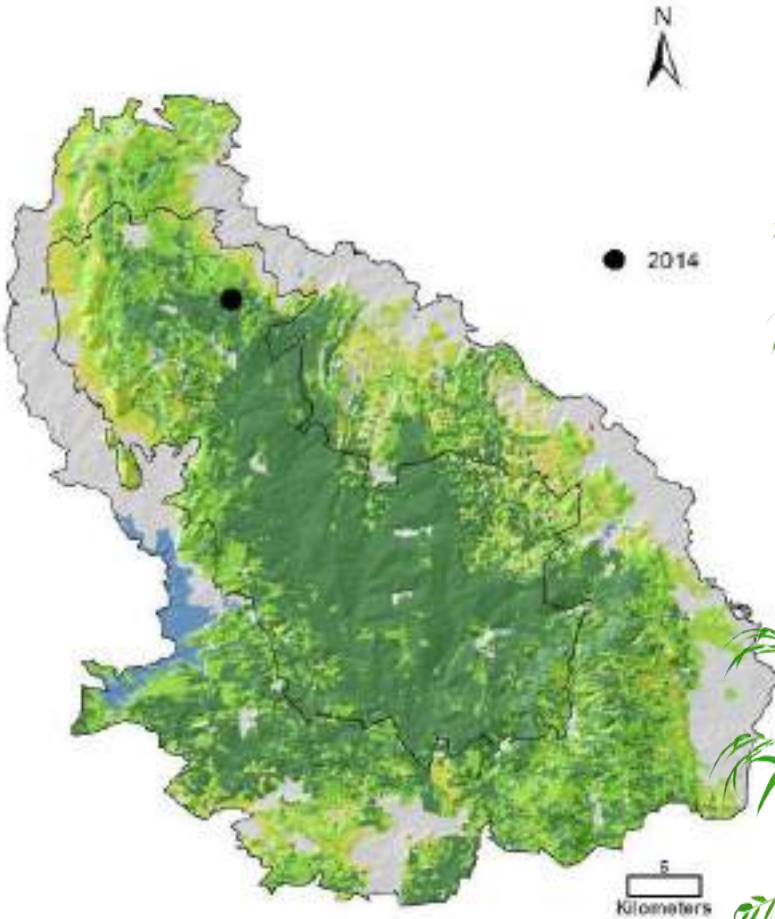


T42



The male tiger was known as "Namdev". It moved to fringe areas in 2015 and photo captured in Chimur range of Brahmपुरi forest range.

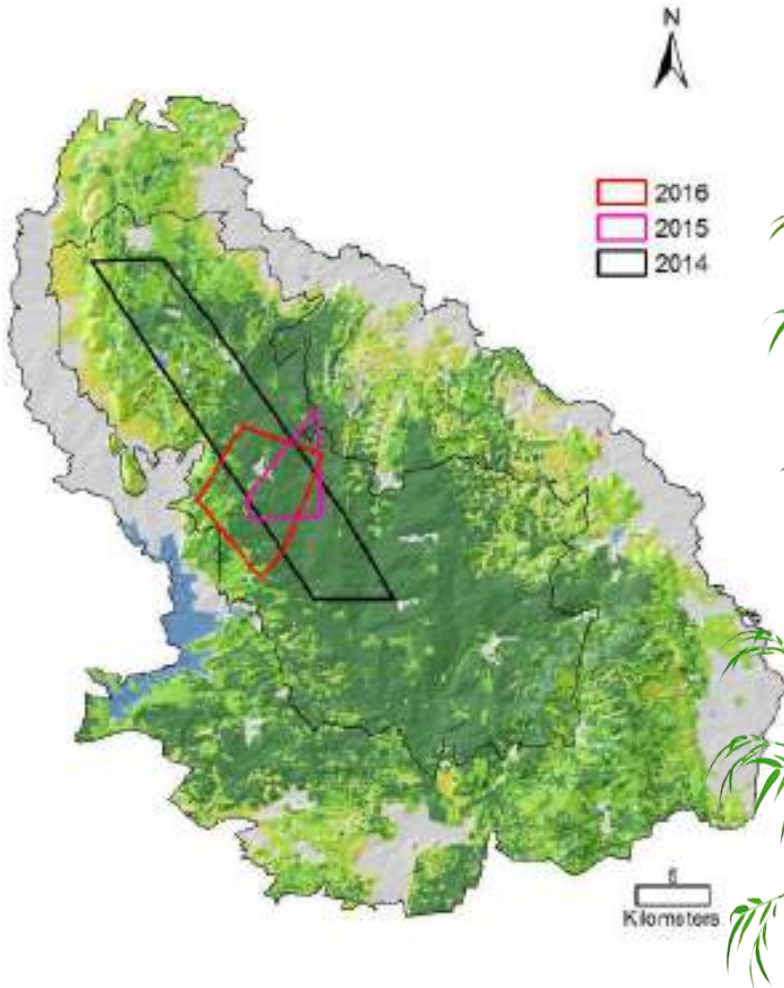




The male tiger was captured from the Tadoba core area only in the year 2014.

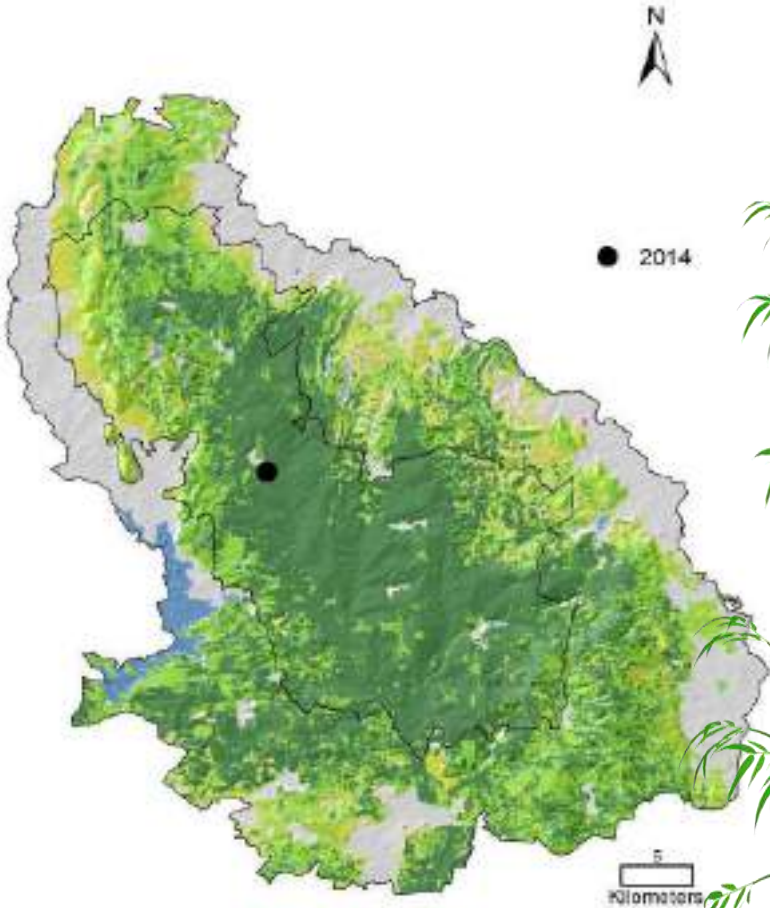


T44



The male tiger is popularly known as “Bajrang”. It was first photo captured in 2014 and after that it established as a dominant male in the Moharli range in core area.

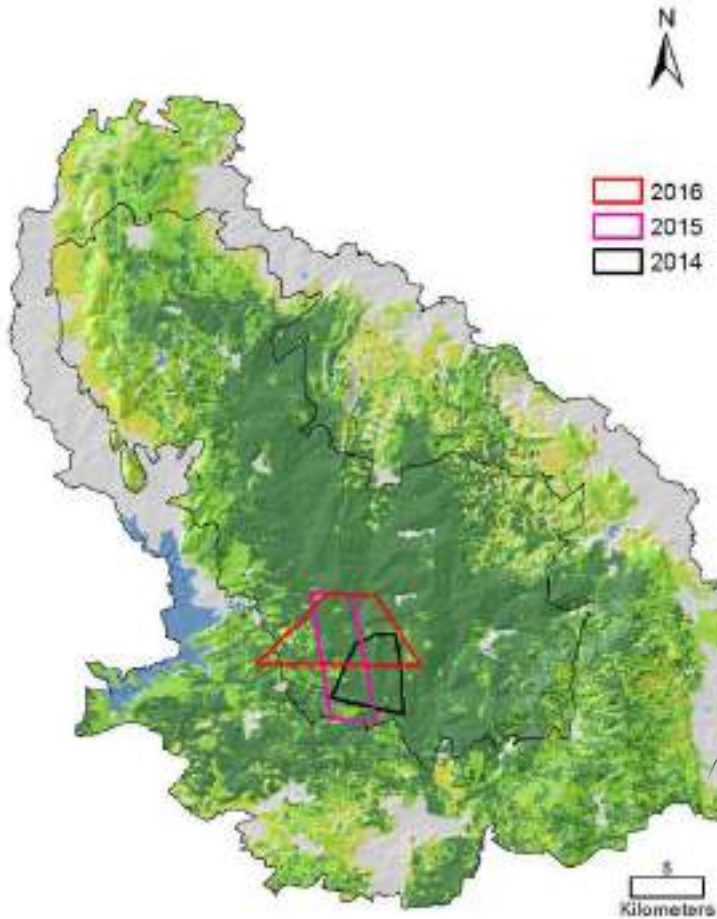




The tiger was captured from the Moharli core area in the year 2014.



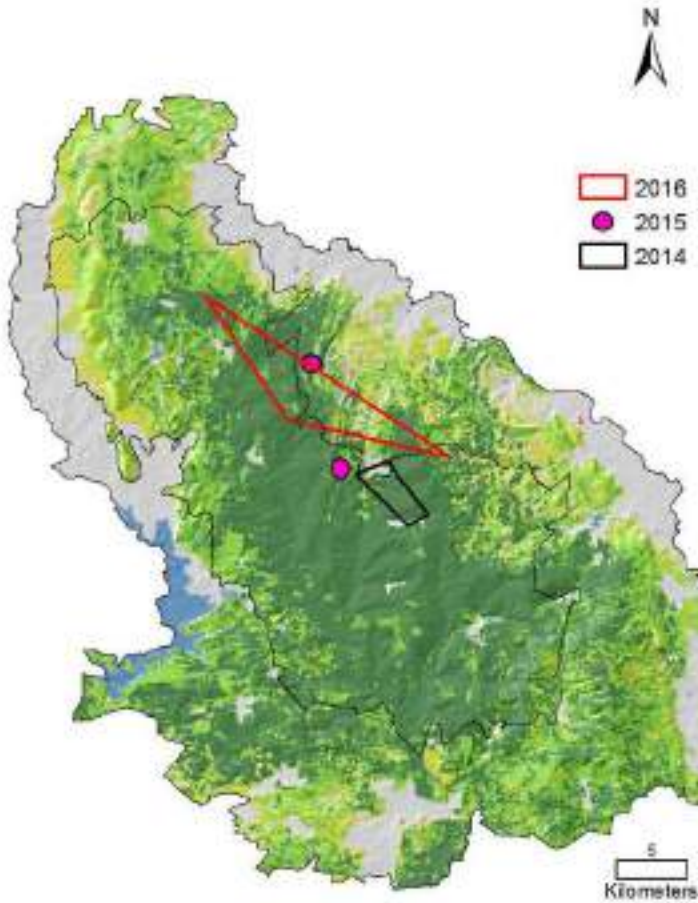
T46



The male tiger was captured from the boundary area of Moharli and Kolsa core area since the year 2014.



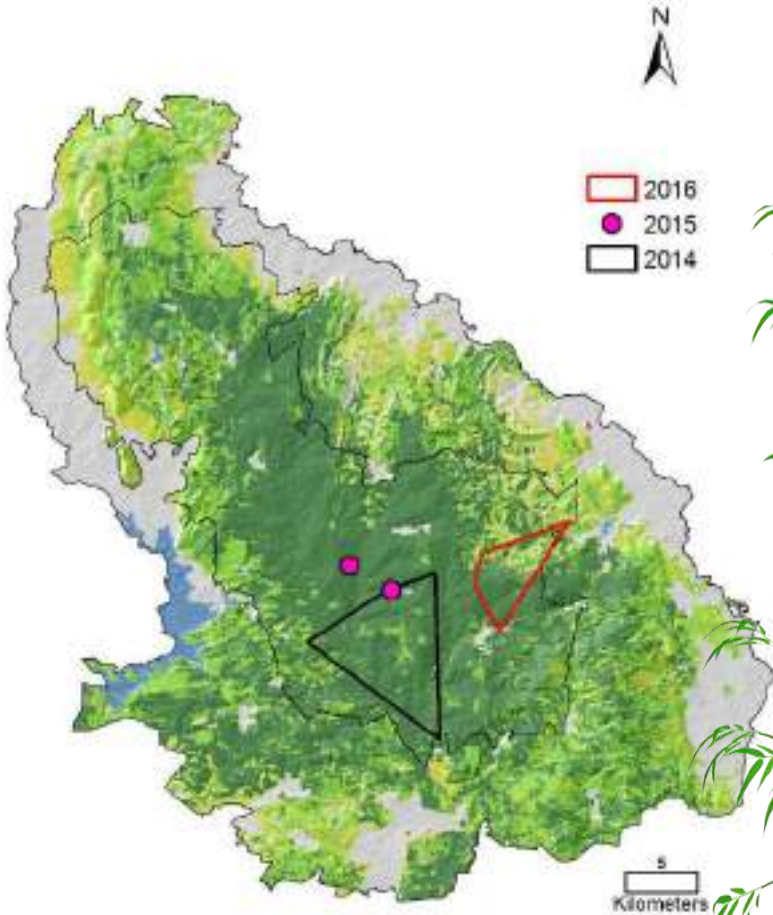
T47



The male tiger has been captured from Moharli and Tadoba core range since 2014.



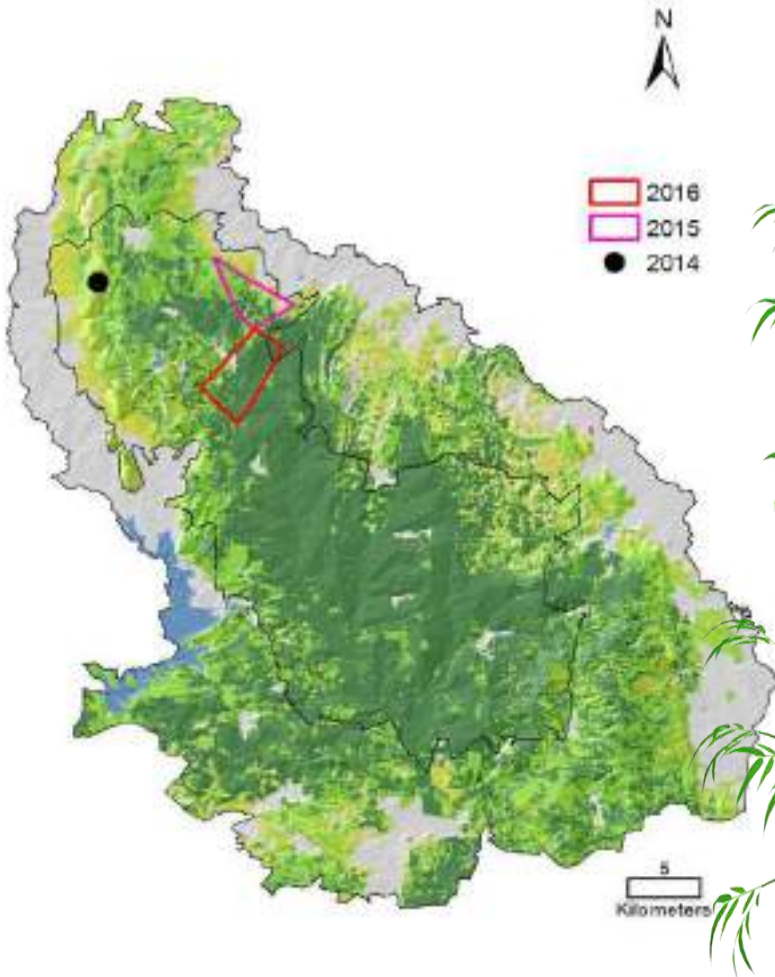
T48



The male tiger was captured from the kolsa range but later it shifted to the boundary areas. It was captured since 2014.

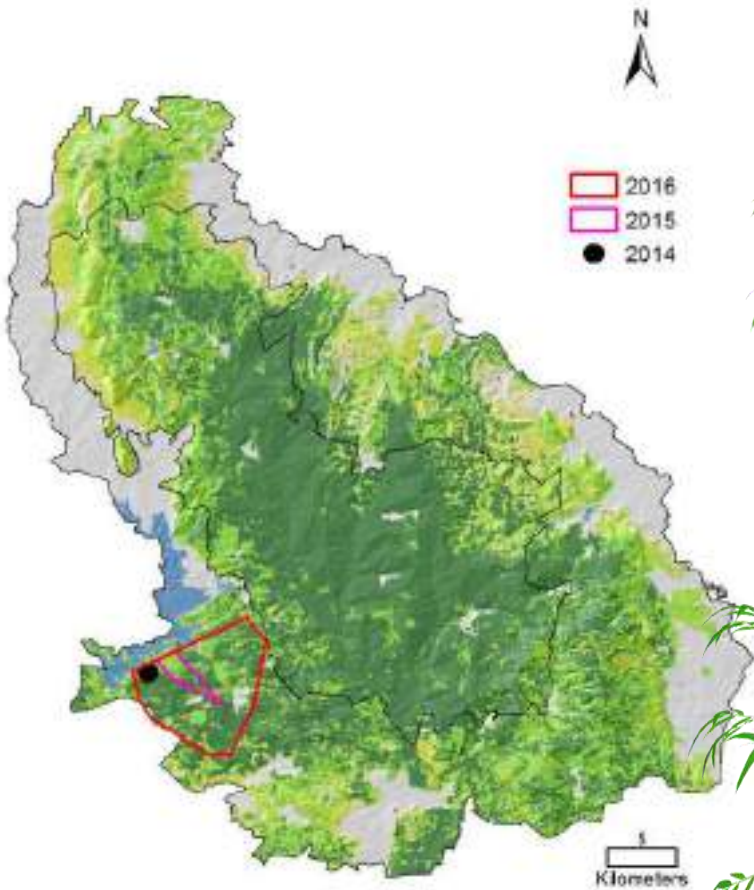


T49



The male tiger was captured first time in 2014, in subsequent year it established a territory in the core area of Tadoba range. It is popularly known as "Pandu"

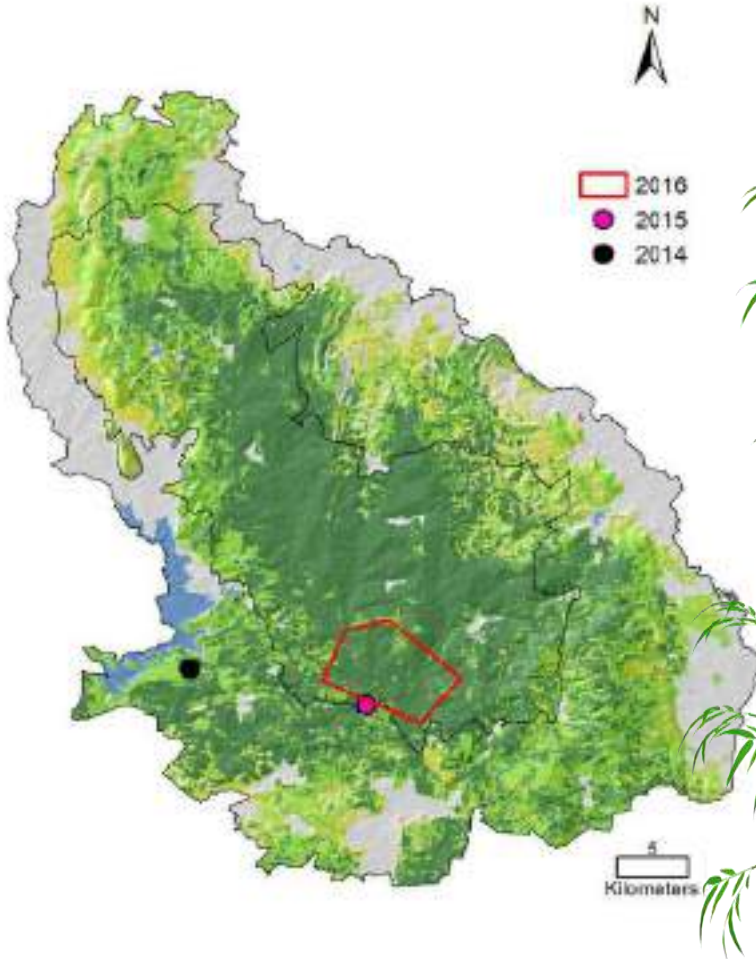




The dominant male tiger has been captured from the Buffer range from Moharli since 2014.

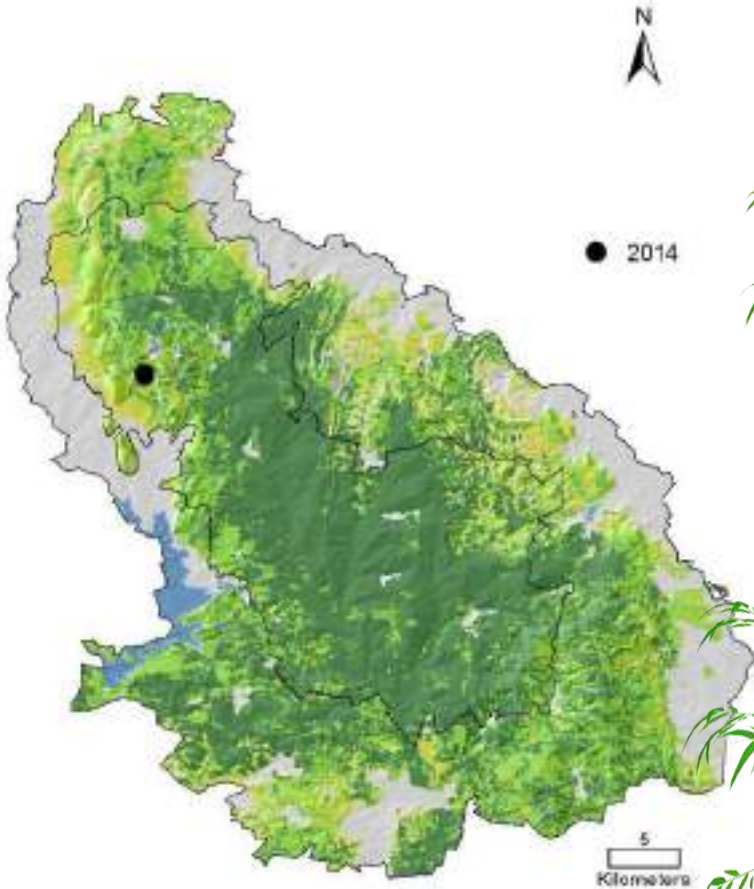


T51



The male tiger was captured from Moharli buffer area in 2014 but it established a territory in the Kolsa core area.

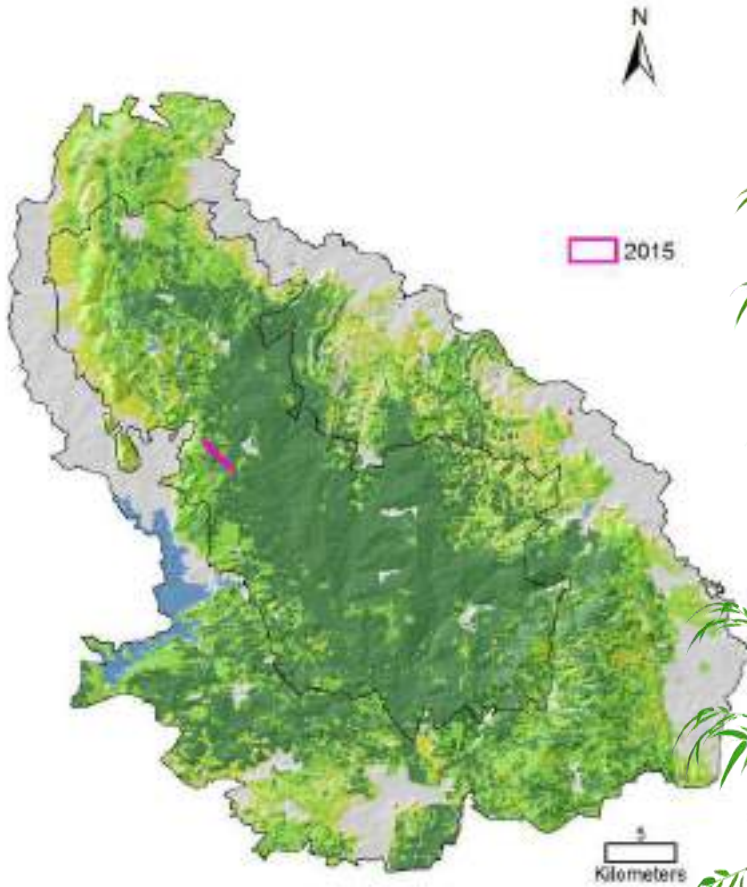




The tiger was born to the “Katejhari female” T2 in 2013. It is captured in the surrounding areas in 2014.

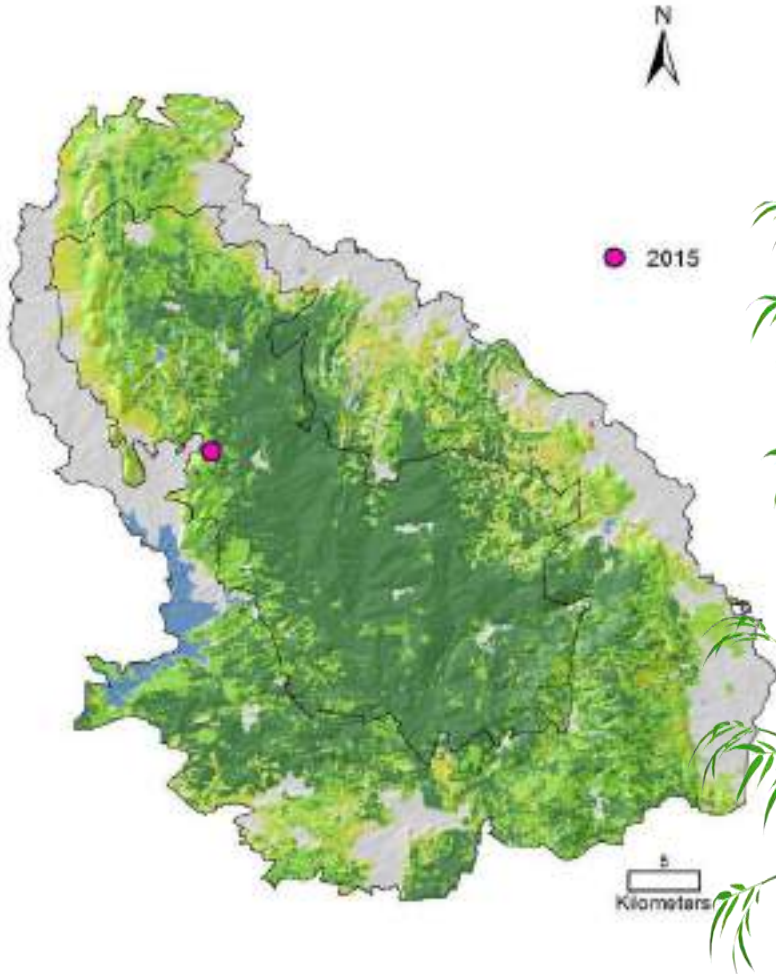


T53



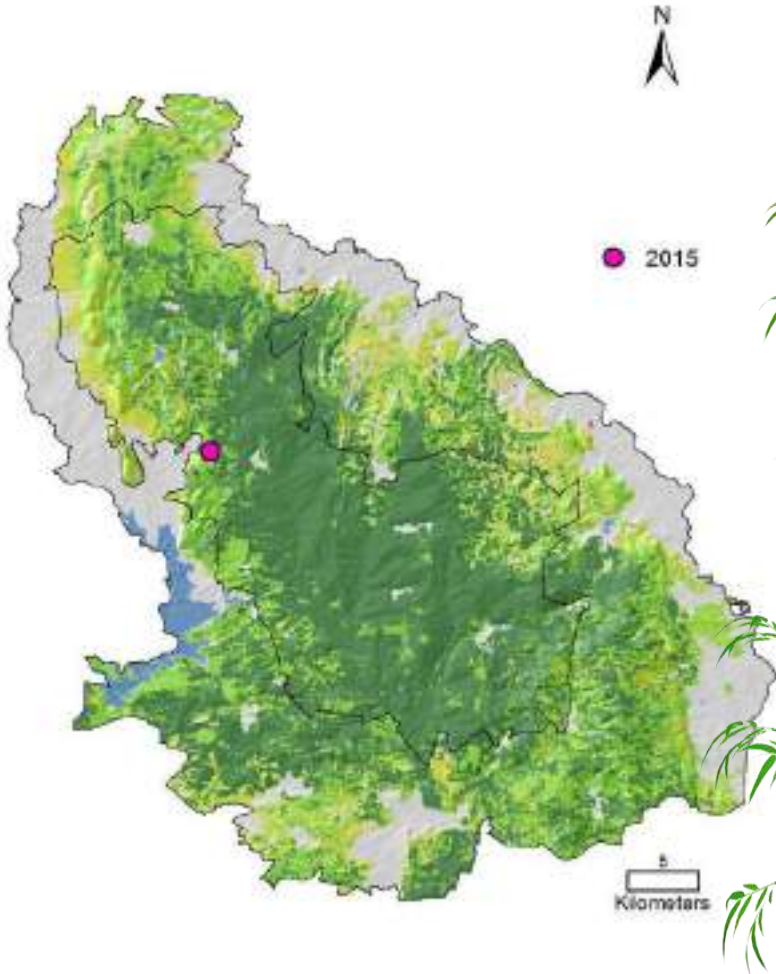
The female tiger was captured from the Moharli core area in the year 2015.





The sub-adult tigress was captured in the year 2015.

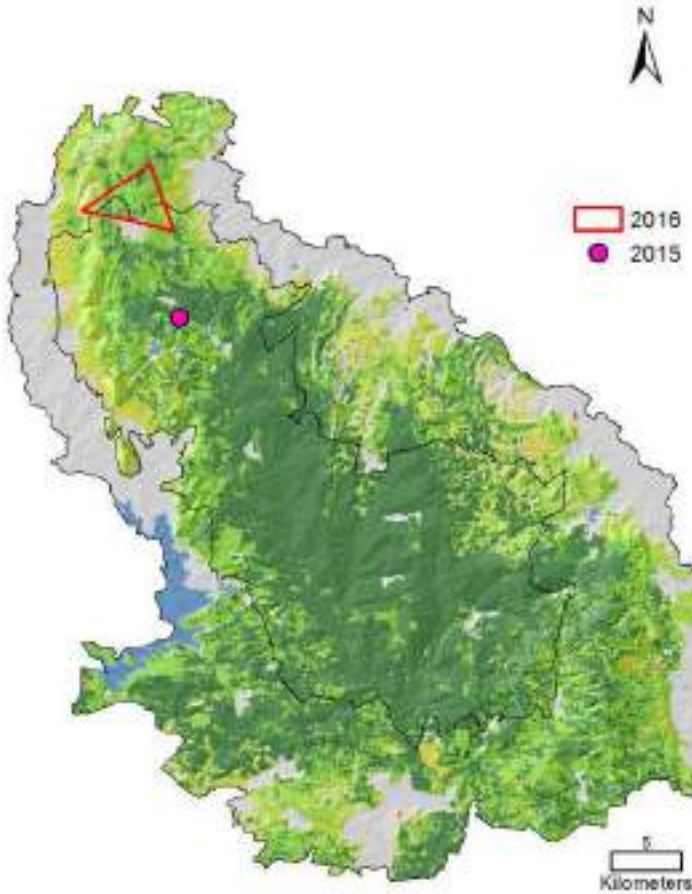




This tigress was captured from the boundary area of Tadoba range in the year 2015.

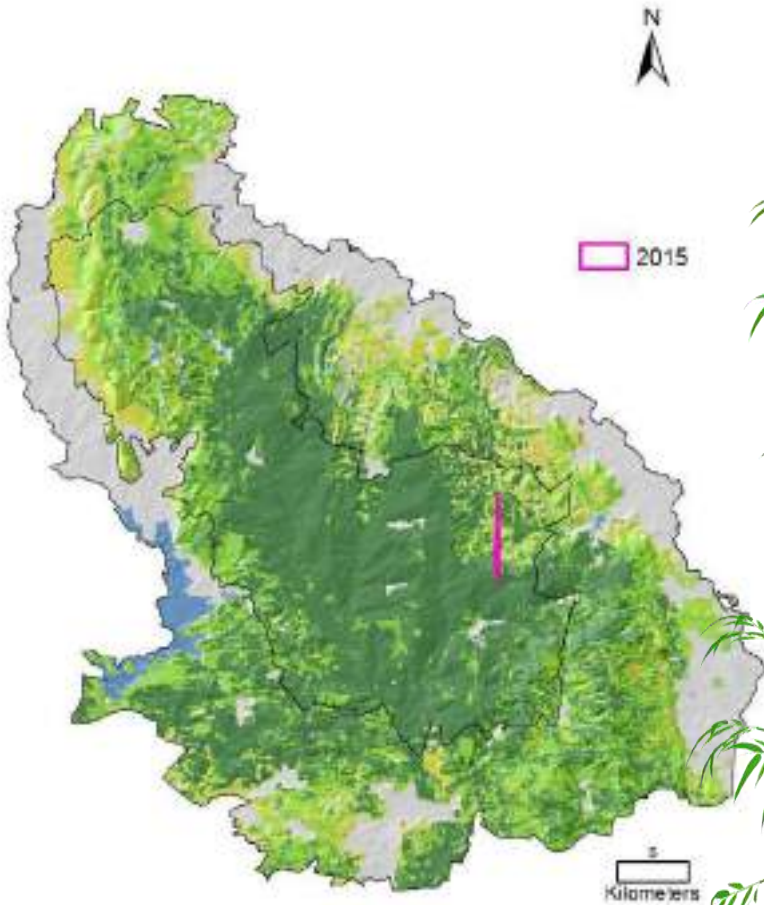


T56



The male tiger has been captured since 2015. It settled in an area overlapping both core and buffer in 2016.

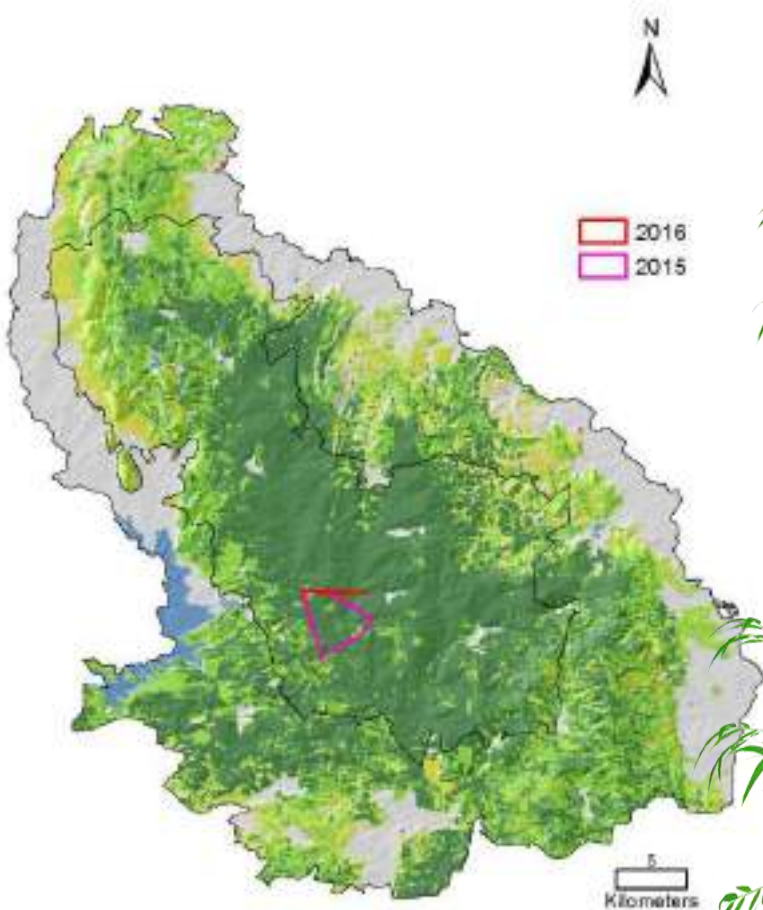




The sub-adult tiger was captured from the Kolsa core area in the year 2015.



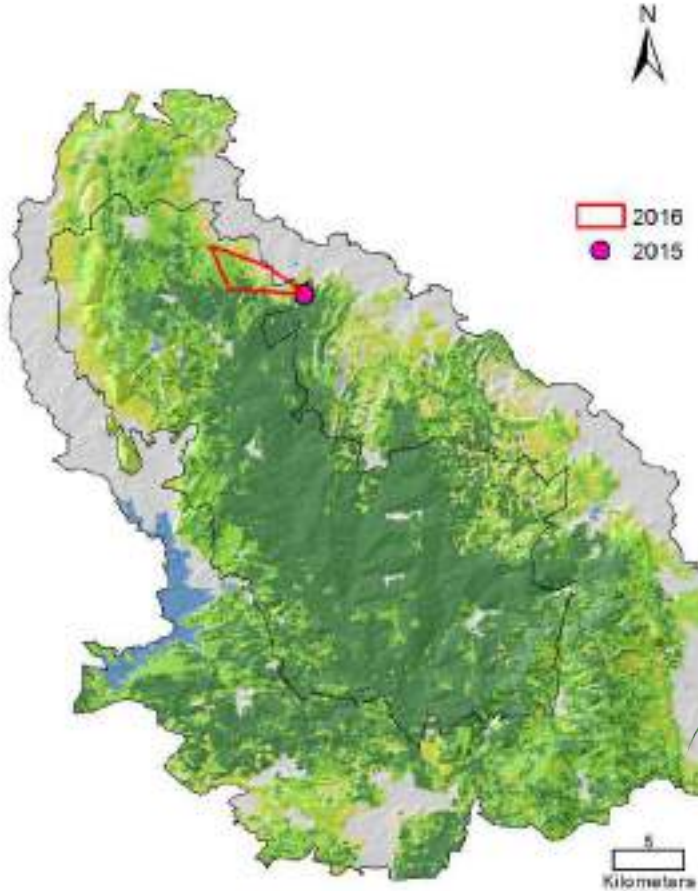
T58



The tigress has been captured from the boundary of Moharli and Kolsa range since 2015.

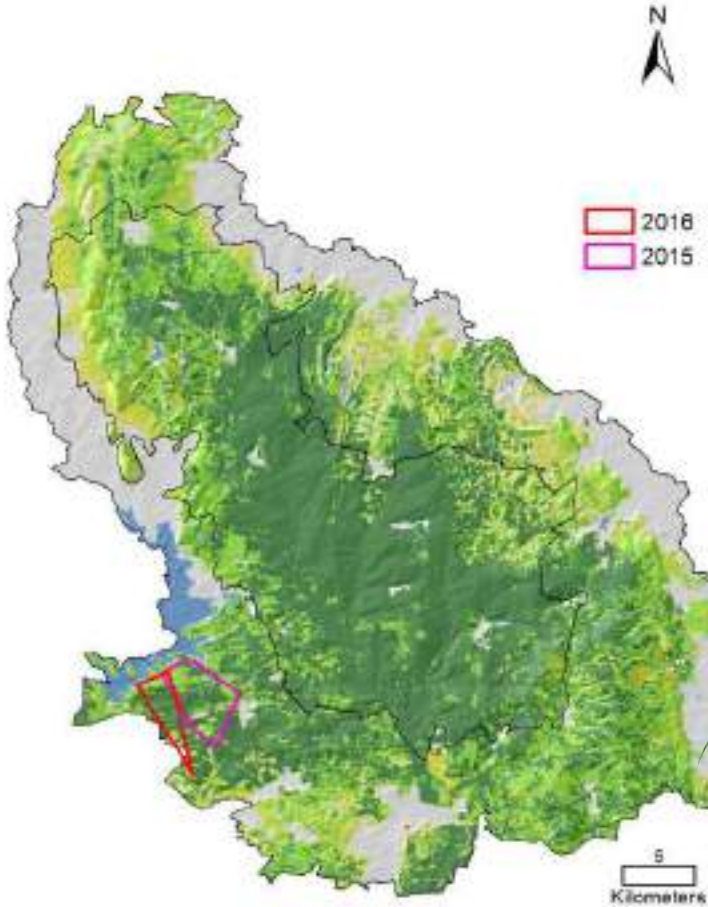


T59



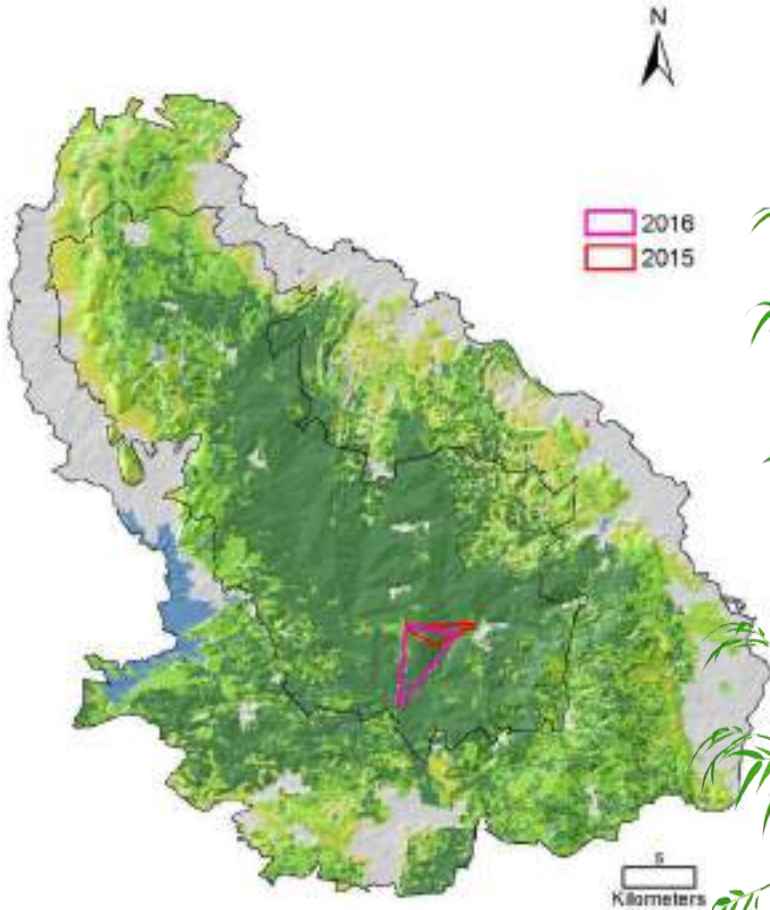
The female tiger was captured from the boundary of Tadoba core and Padasgaon buffer area from year 2015.





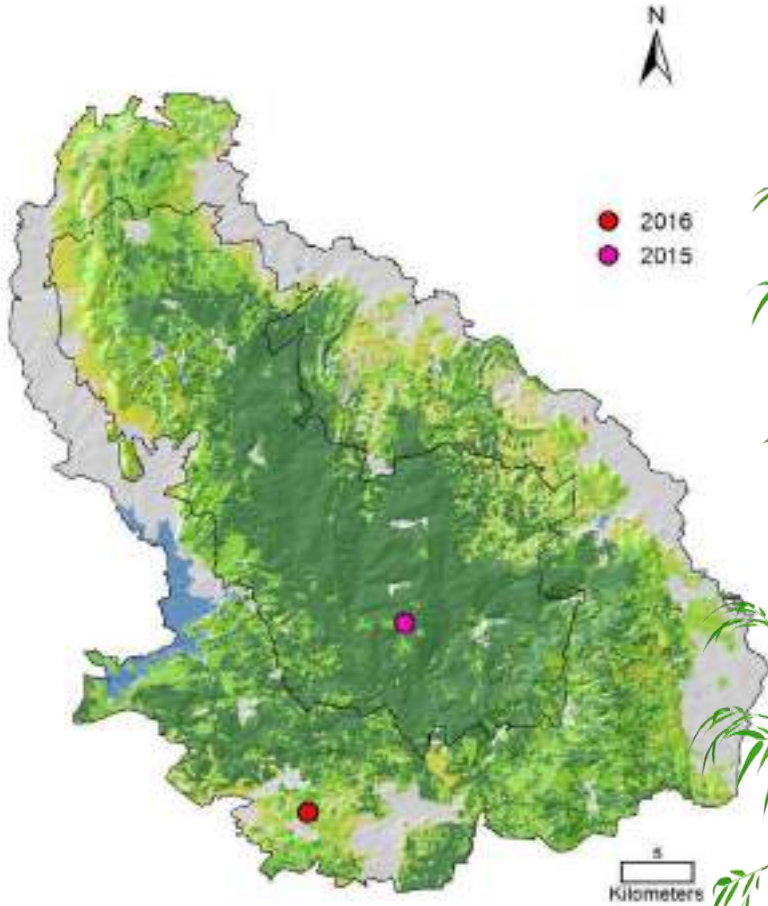
The female tiger has been captured from the buffer area of Moharli range since year 2015. It is popularly known as “Sharmili” and had a litter of 2 in 2016.





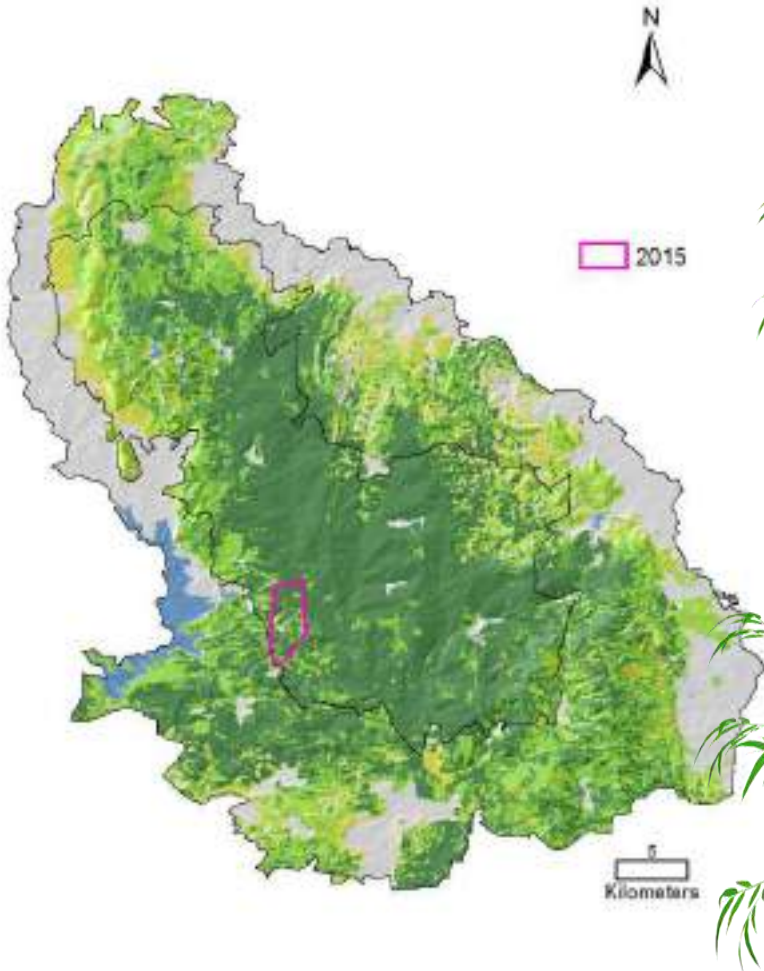
The tigress has been captured in the core area of Kolsa range since 2015.



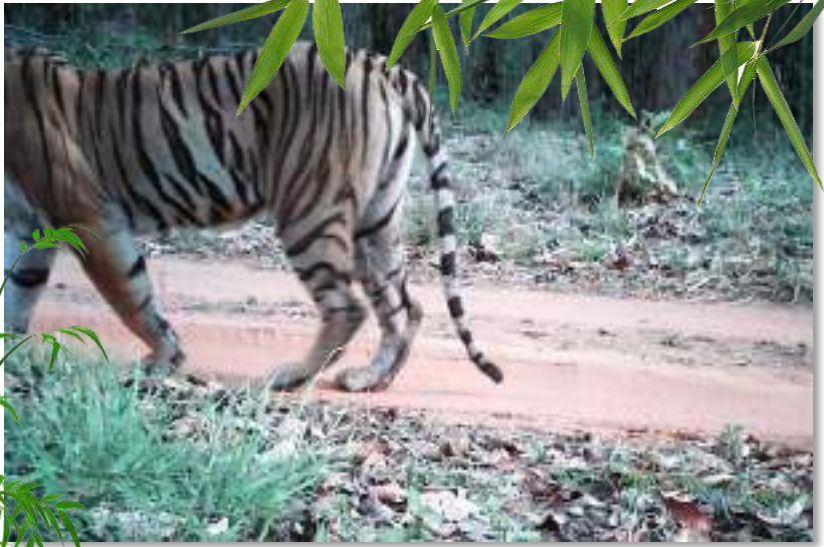


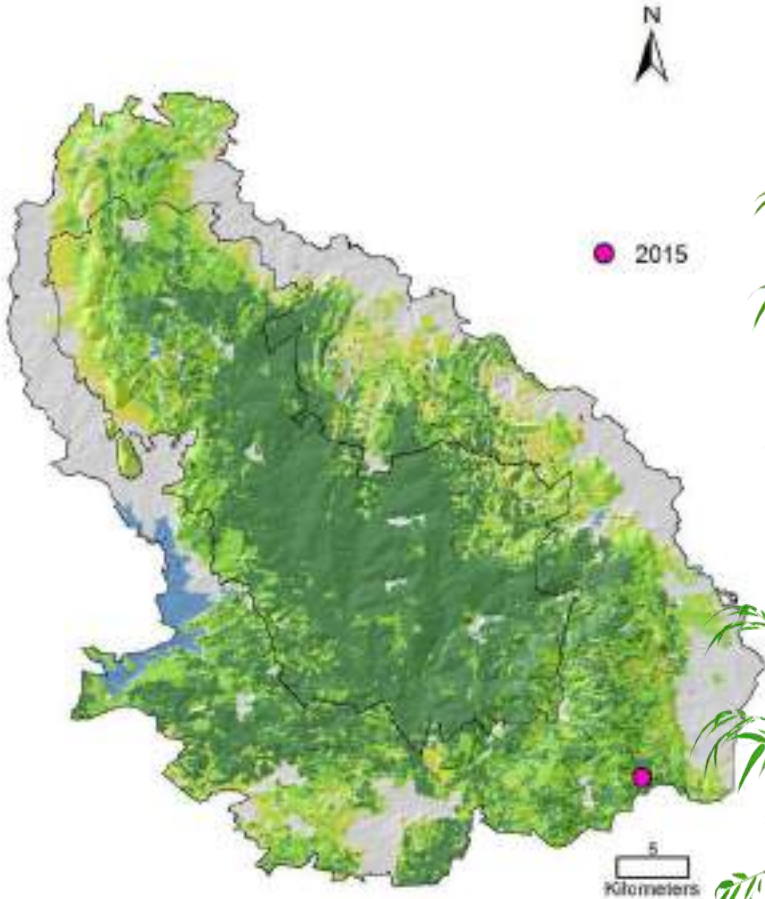
The tiger was captured from the core and buffer area in the year 2015 and 2016 respectively.





The female tiger was captured from the boundary area of Moharli core range in the year 2015.

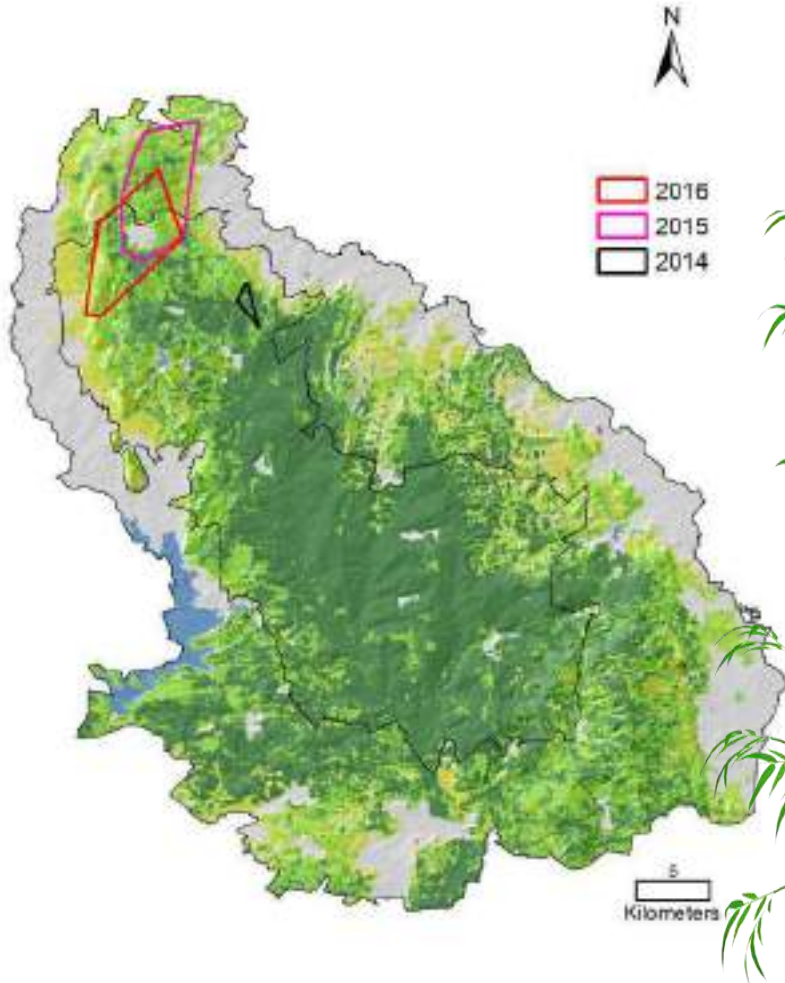




The female tiger was captured in buffer range of Mul from the year 2015 .

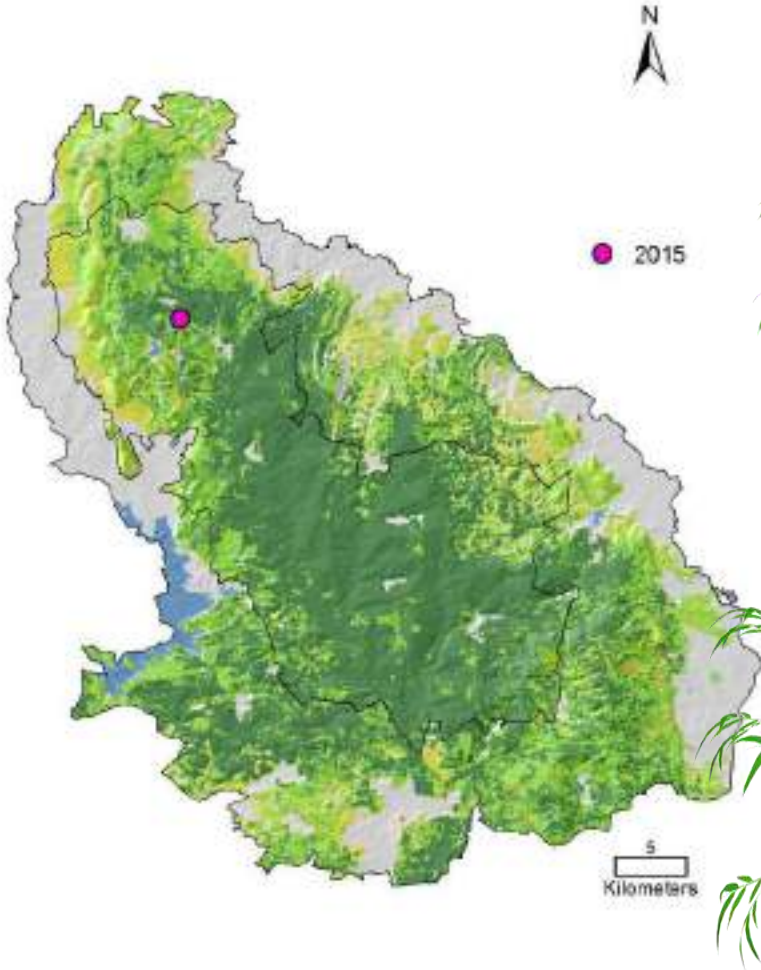


T65



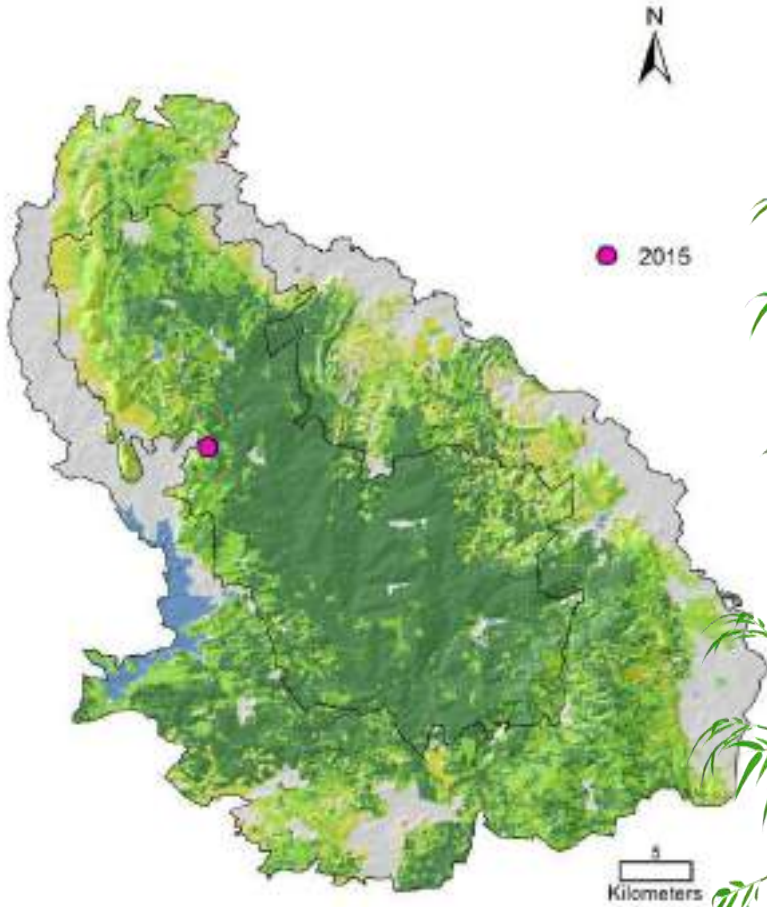
The male tiger was born to the Kolara female T1 in 2013. It established a territory in the fringe areas of Tadoba core in subsequent years.



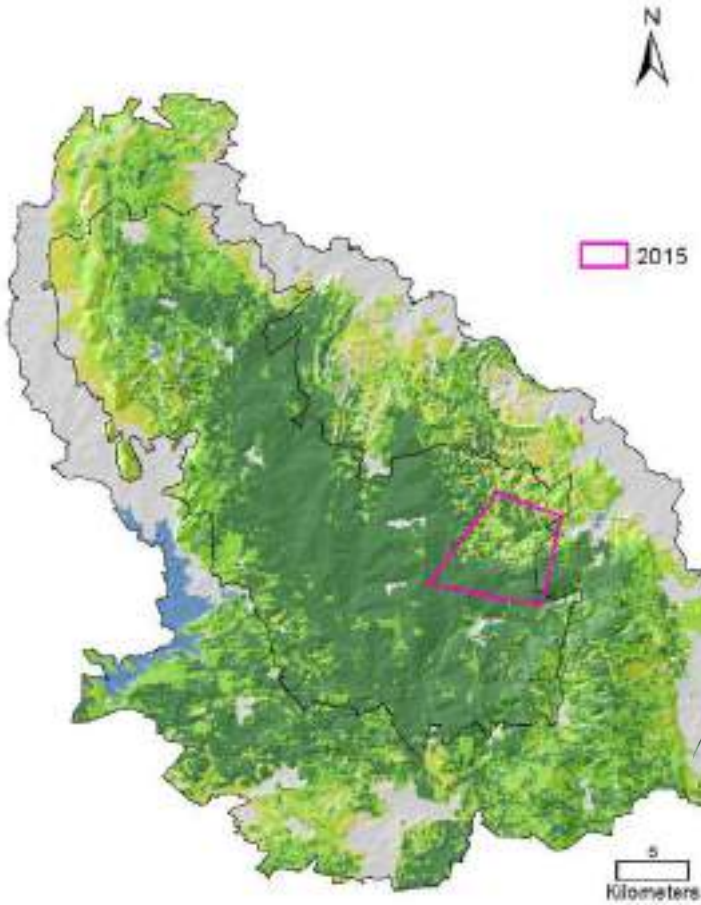


The tiger was captured in the Tadoba core area in 2015.



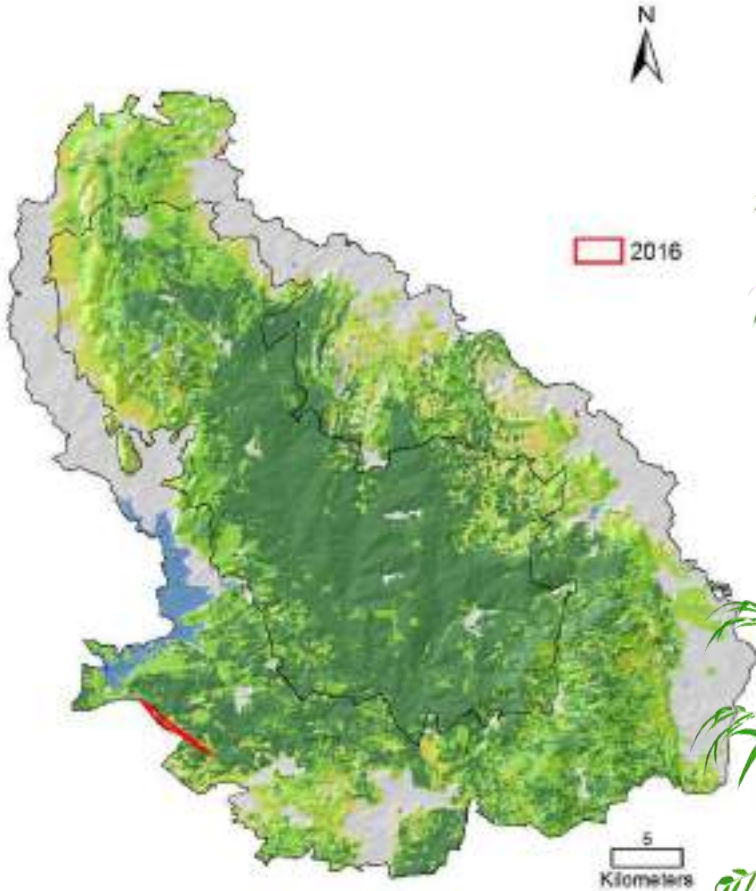






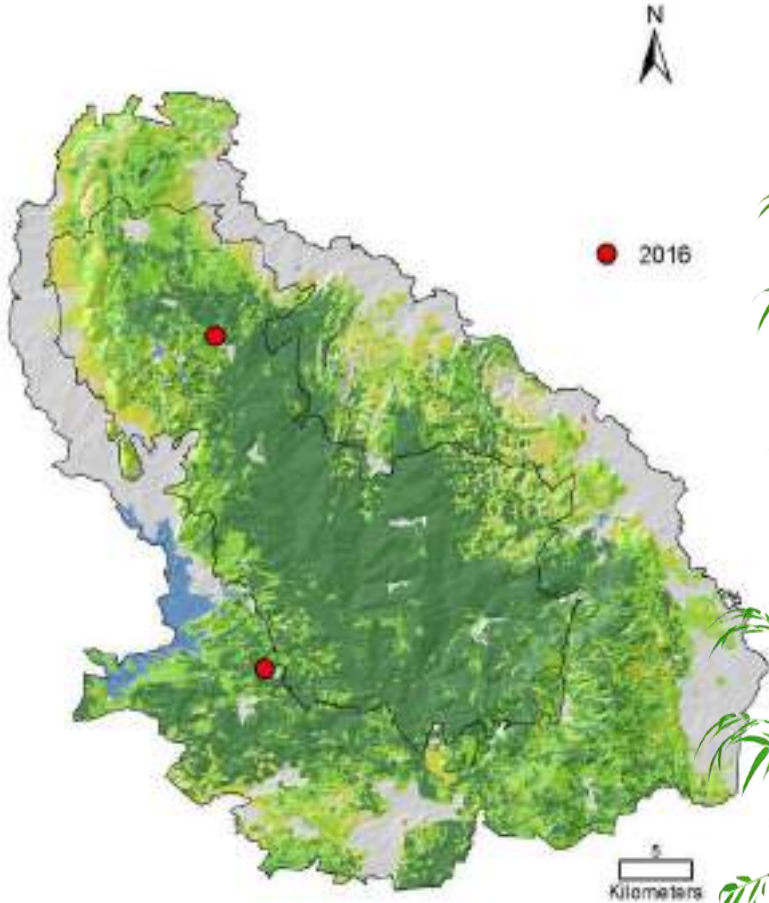
The tiger was captured in the boundary areas of Kolsa range in the year 2015.





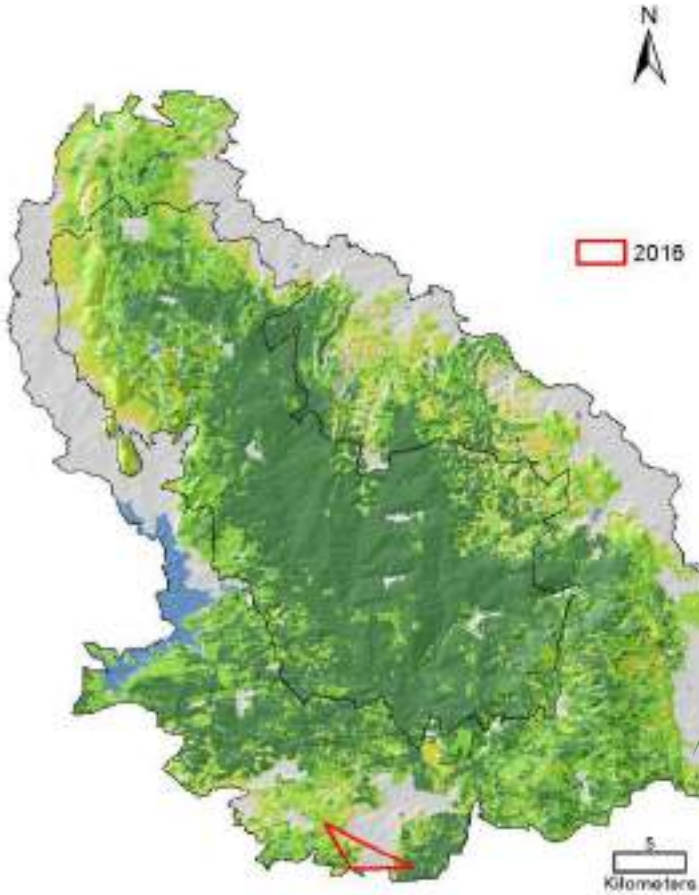
The tiger was captured from the buffer area of Moharli range in the year 2016.





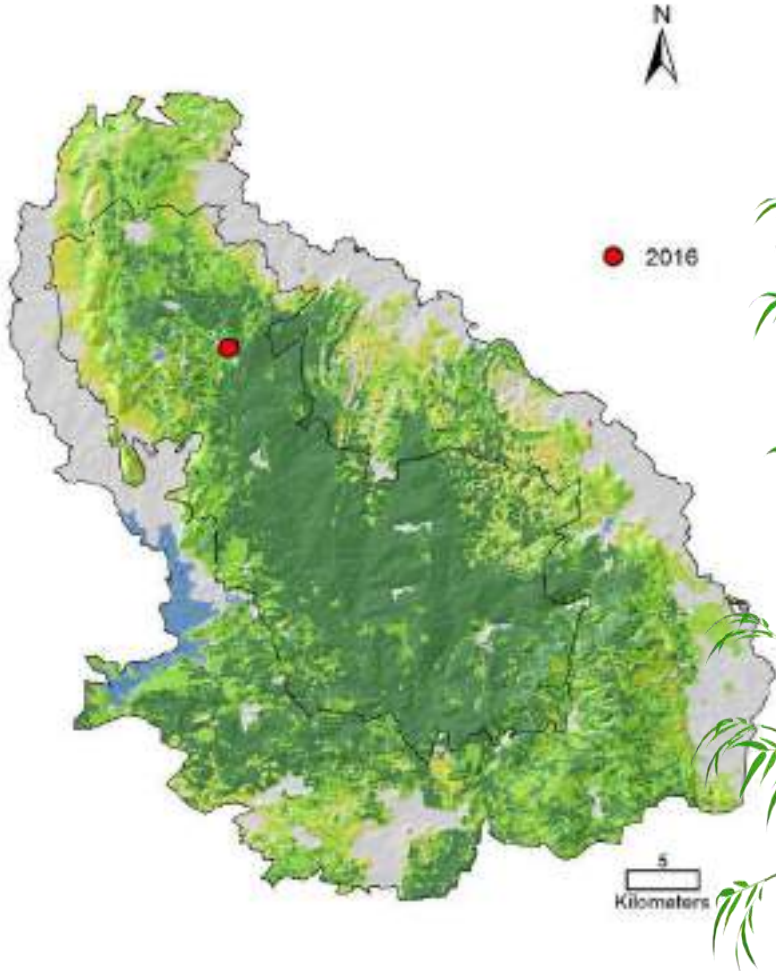
The tiger was captured from the Moharli buffer range in the year 2016.





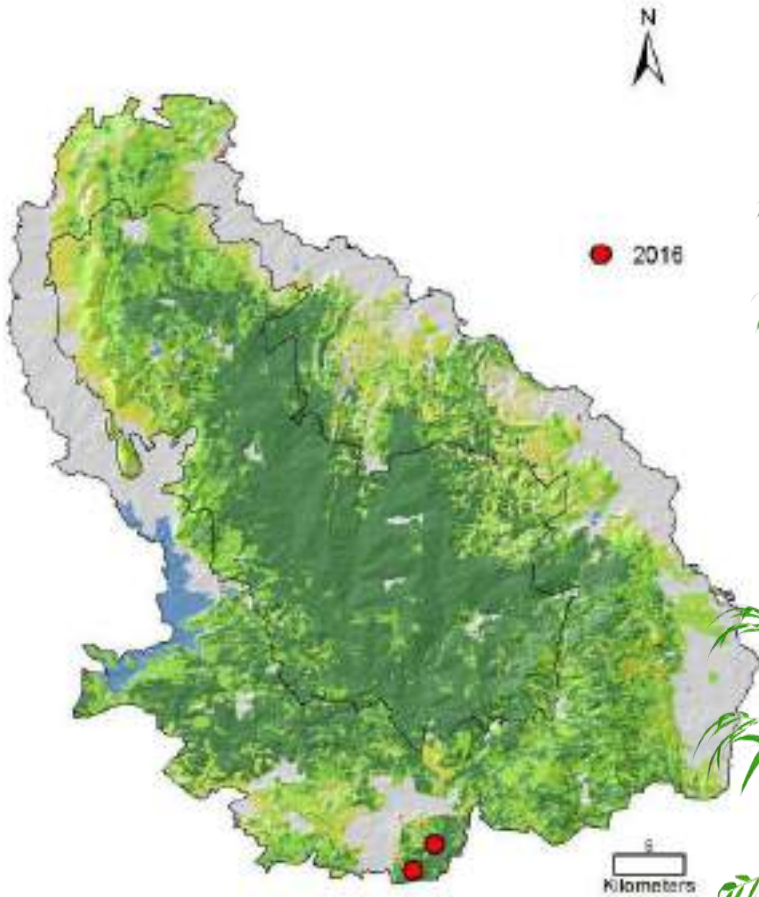
The male tiger was captured in the Chandrapur buffer area in the year 2016.





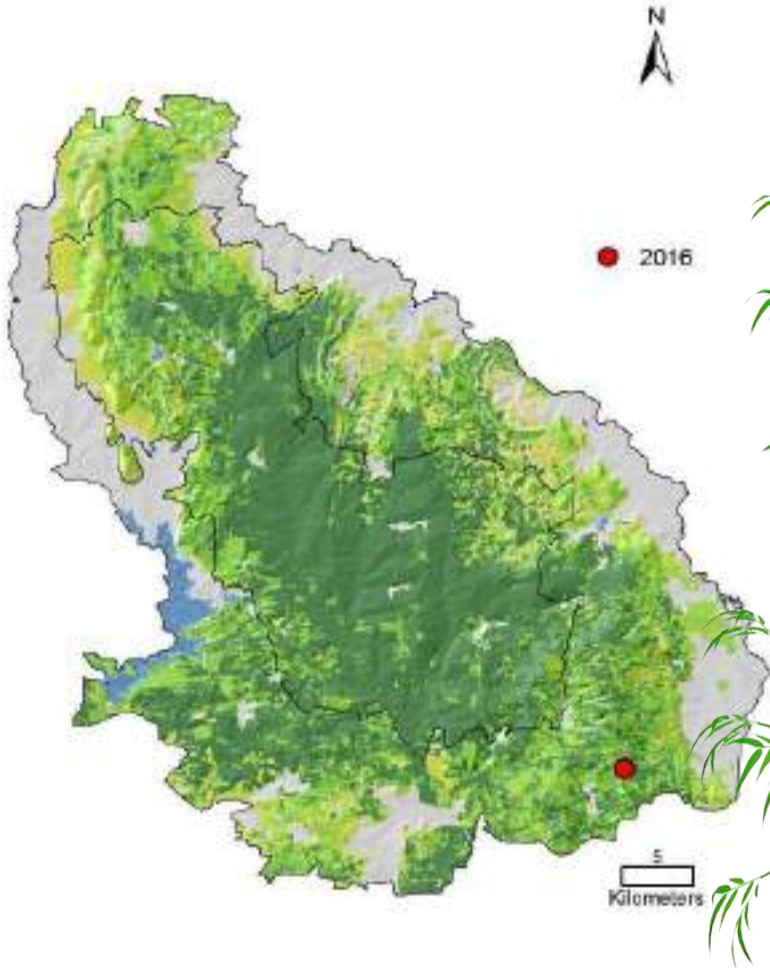
The tiger was captured from the core area of Tadoba range in the year 2016.





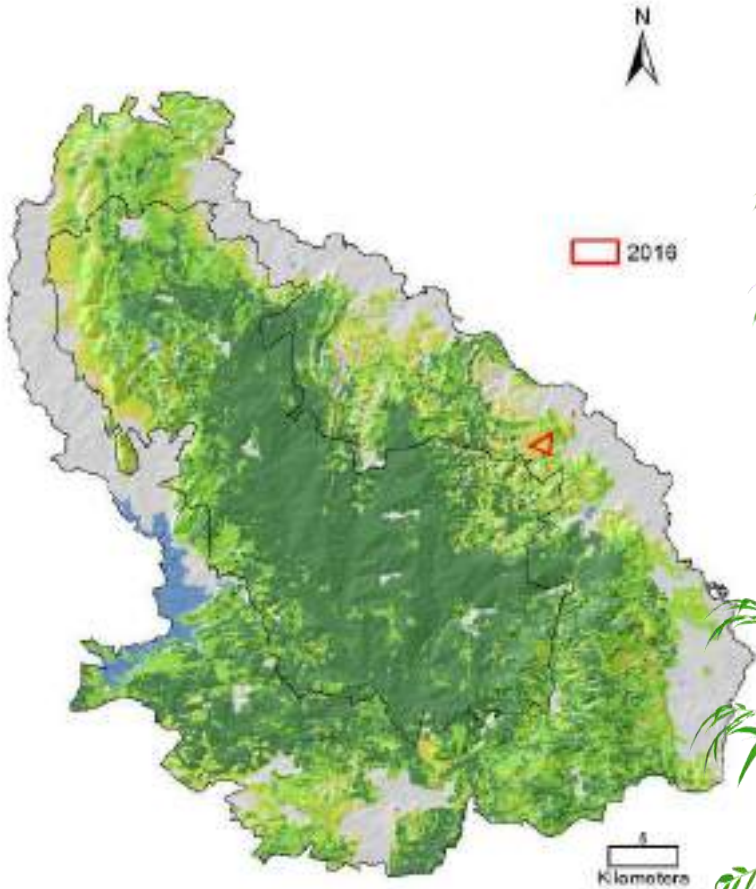
The male tiger was captured from the Chandrapur buffer area in the year 2016.





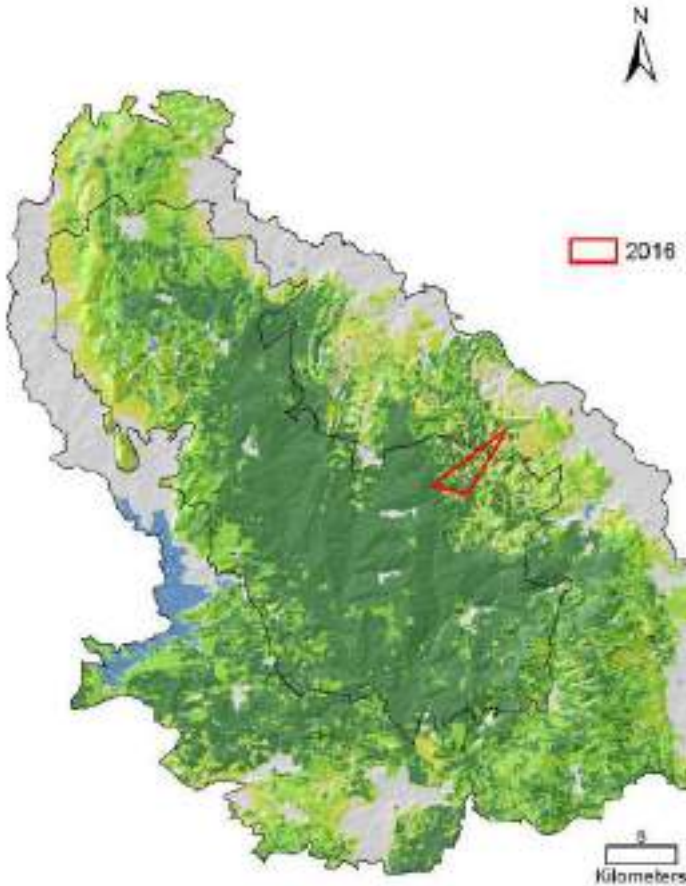
The tiger was captured from the buffer range of Mul in the year 2016.





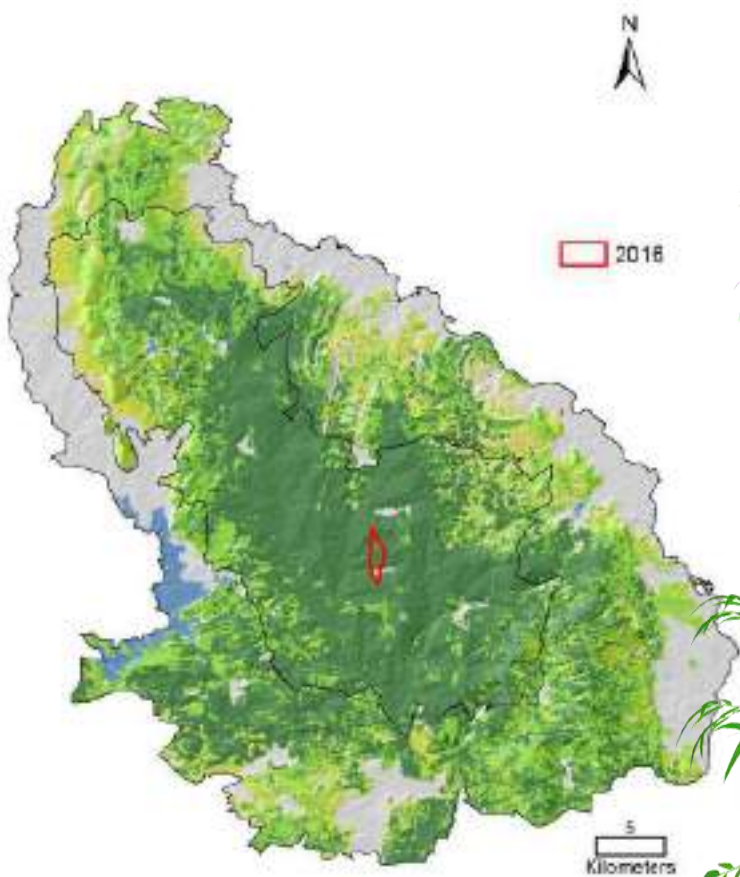
The tiger was captured from the Seoni range of buffer area in the year 2016.





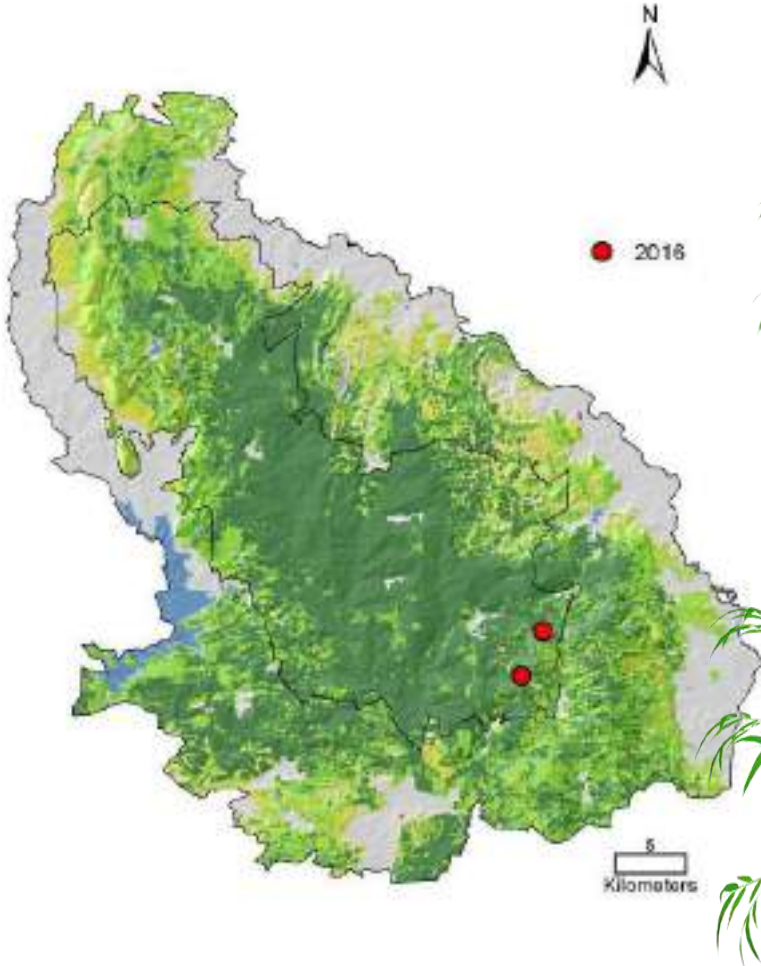
The tiger was captured from an area overlapping the Kolsa core range and Seoni buffer range. It was captured in the year 2016.





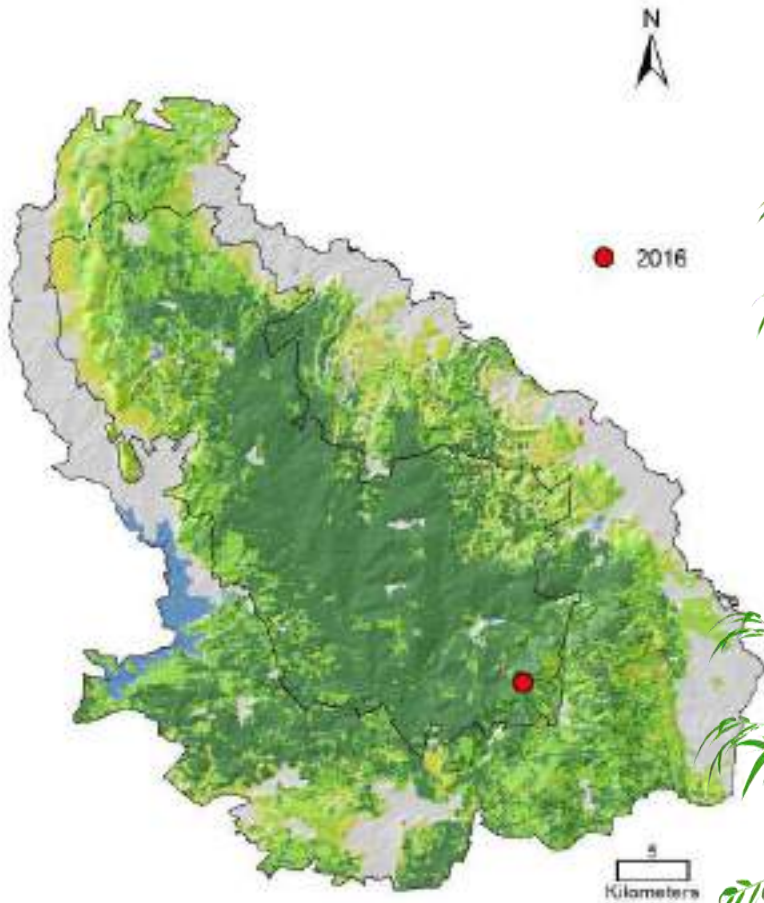
The female tiger was captured from the boundary of Moharli and Kolsa range in the core area. It was captured in the year 2016.





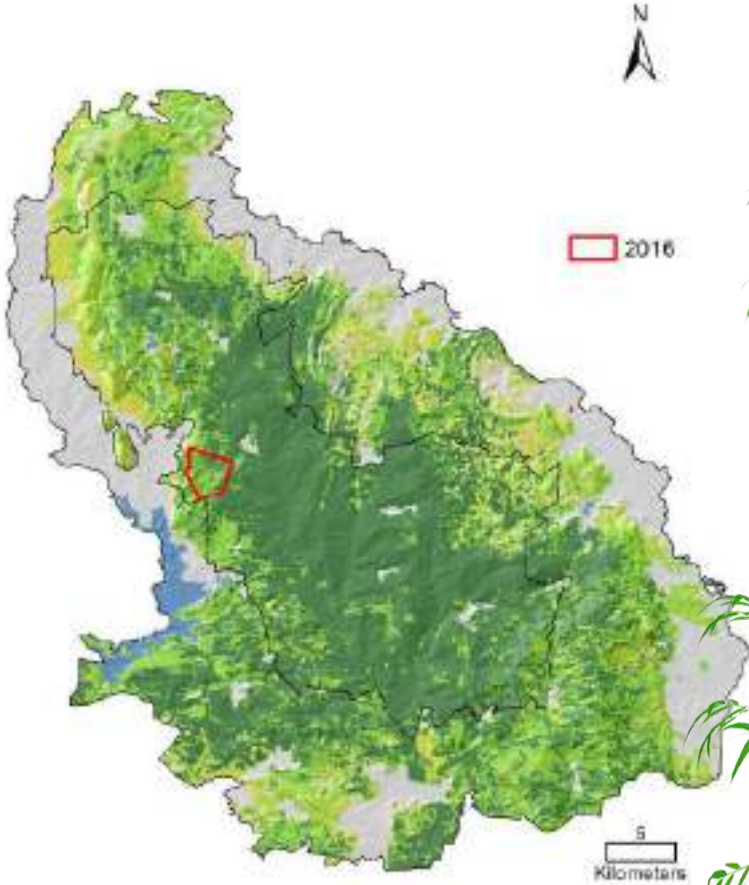
The female tiger was captured from the Kolsa core range in the year 2016.





The tiger was captured from Kolsa range in the core area in the year 2016.

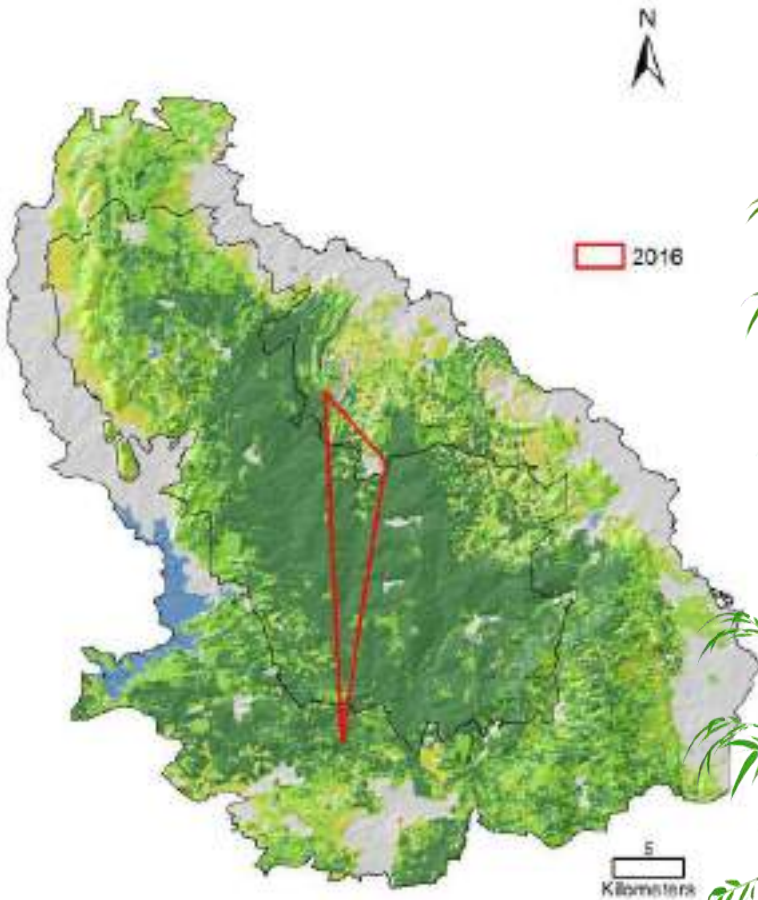




The tiger was captured from the Moharli core range in the year 2016.



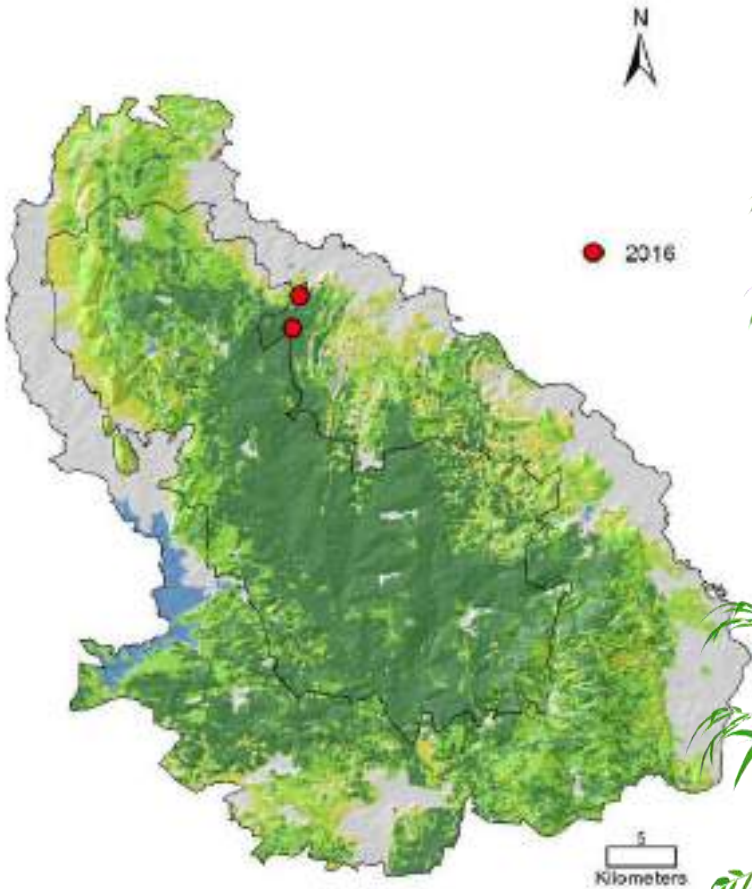
T81



The tiger was captured in multiple ranges comprised of Padasgaon and Moharli buffer. It was captured in the year 2016.



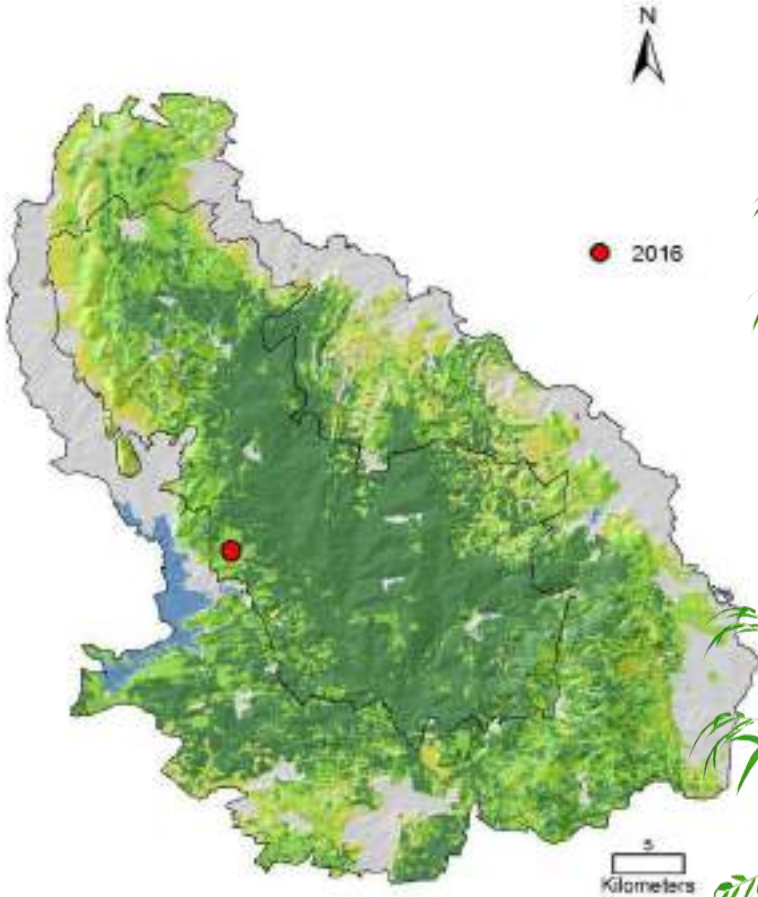
T82



The tiger was captured in the year 2016 from the Padasgaon buffer area.



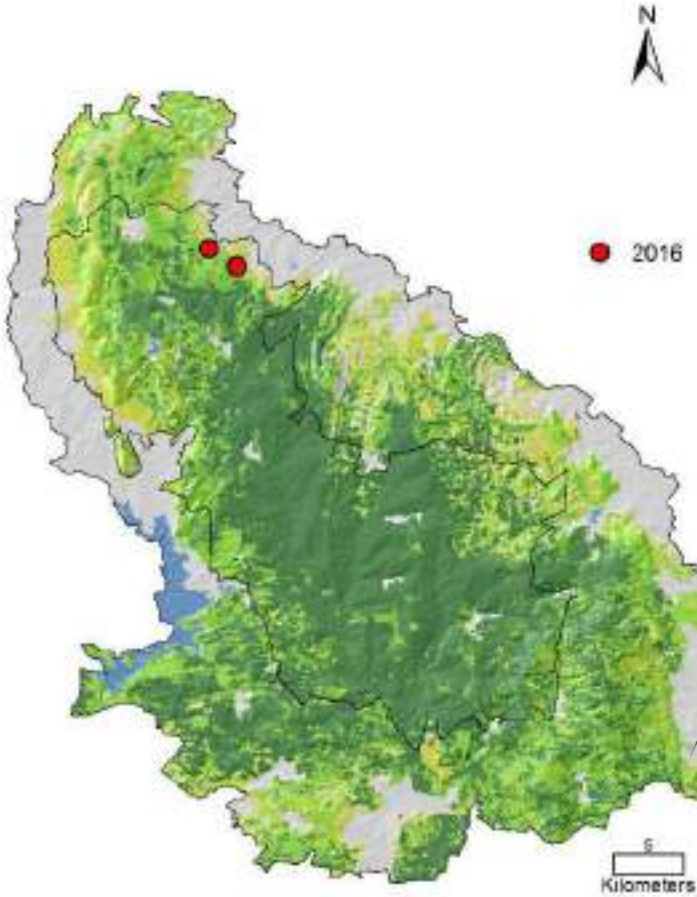
T83



The tiger was captured from Moharli core area in the year 2016.

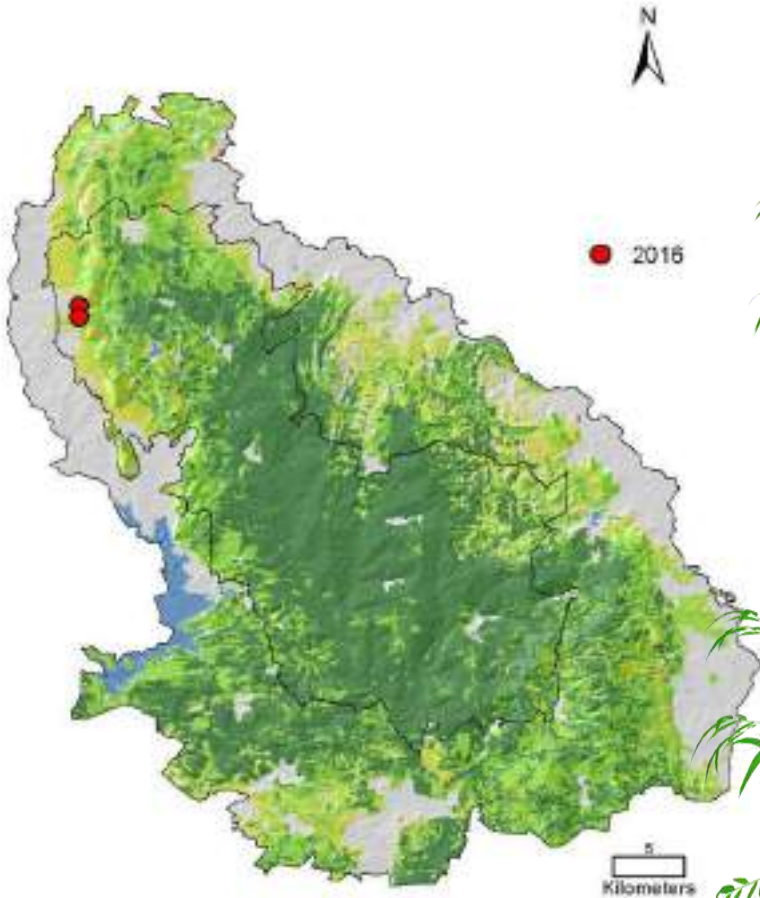


T84



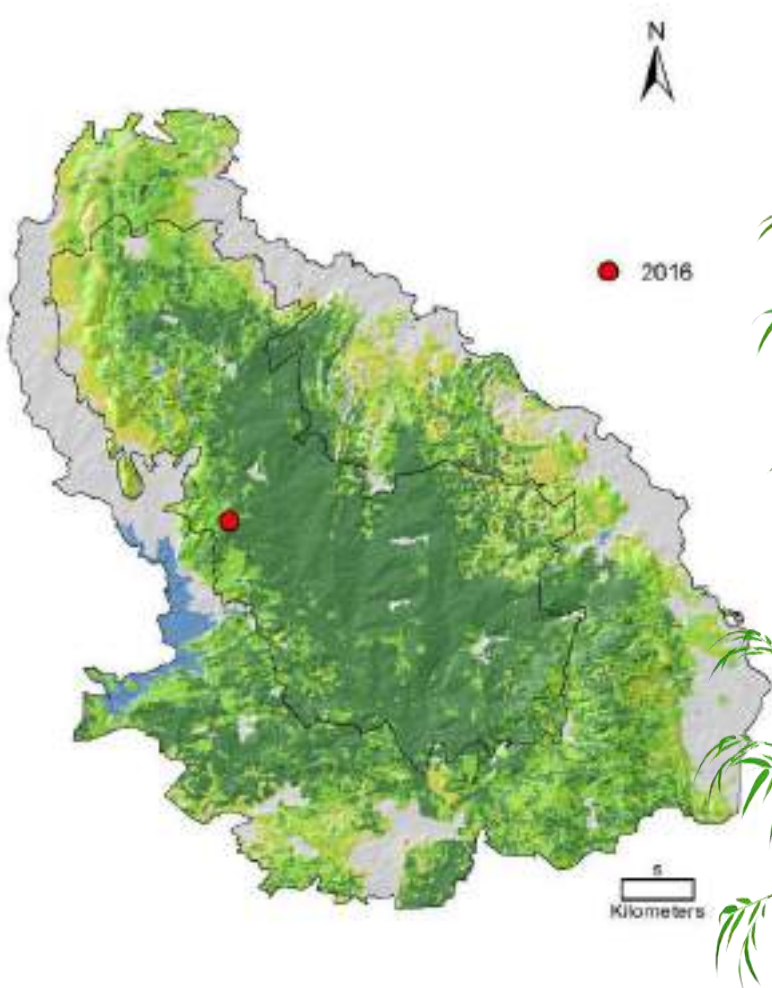
The female tiger was captured from the core area of Tadoba range from the year 2016.





The tiger was captured from the Tadoba range of core area in the year 2016.

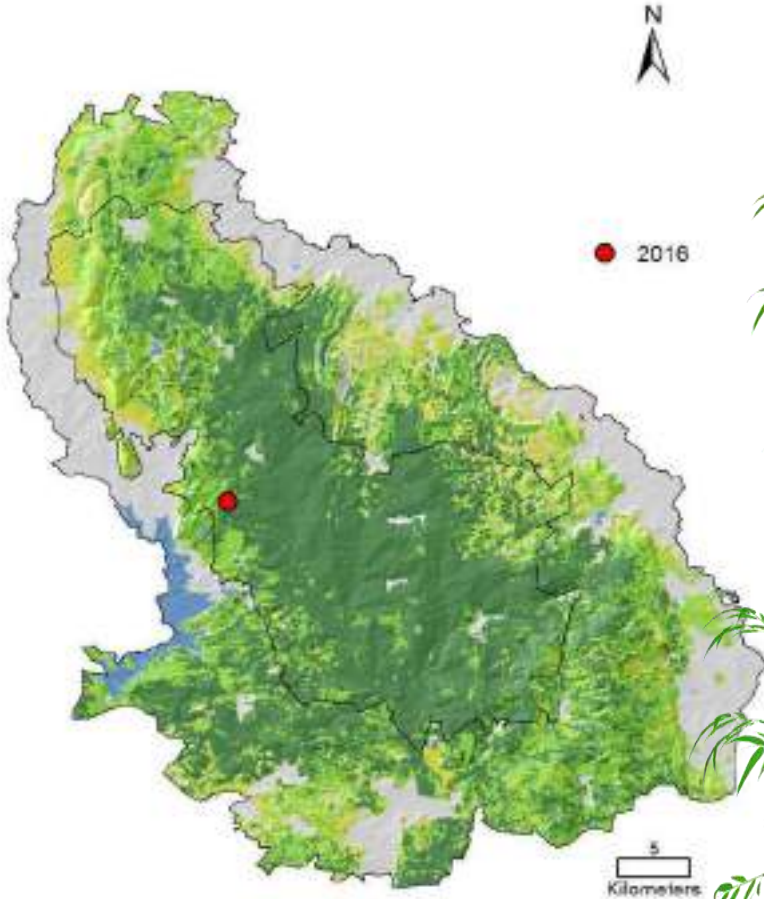




The tiger was captured in 2016 from one location in Moharli core area.



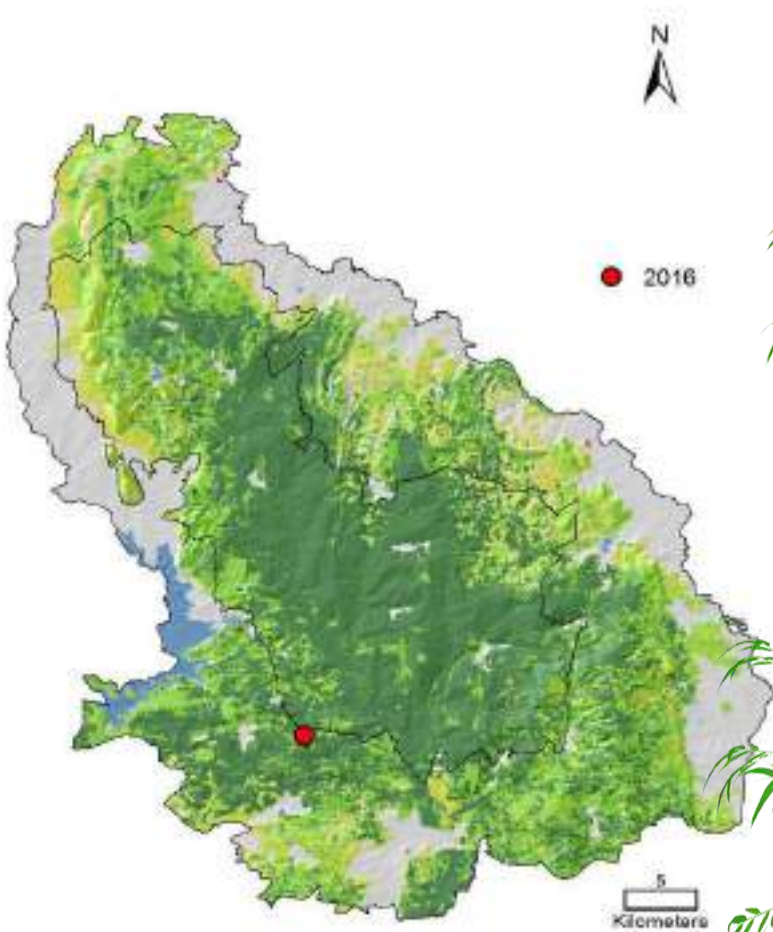
T87



The tiger was captured from Moharli core area in the year 2016.



T88



The tiger was captured near the boundary of Moharli core and buffer area in the year 2016.



