

A Photographic Dossier of Wild Elephants of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

July 2025



The Nature
Conservancy



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Wildlife Research and Conservation Society

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Aseem Srivastava I.F.S.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Head of Forest Force
Madhya Pradesh



Foreword

The return of the Asian elephant to Madhya Pradesh marks a significant milestone in the state's wildlife management journey. As a keystone species, elephants shape forests and water systems, and their presence is both an ecological opportunity and a management responsibility. Monitoring individual elephants is essential to understanding behaviour patterns, ensuring their safety, and addressing conflict with communities.

This photographic dossier of individually identified wild elephants in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, developed jointly by the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, Wildlife Research and Conservation Society, and TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre, is a vital addition to our conservation toolkit. It reflects a science-based, field-validated approach to elephant management.

I congratulate the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve field staff and partner organizations for their dedicated efforts. This work will help strengthen our ability to track individual elephants, manage conflict incidents with precision, and foster long-term coexistence between people and elephants in Madhya Pradesh.

Aseem Srivastava
PCCF and HoFF

Subharanjan Sen I.F.S.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden
Madhya Pradesh



Foreword

The conservation of Asian elephants in Madhya Pradesh is entering a dynamic phase, with their range expanding into new landscapes including protected areas as well as territorial forests. In this evolving context, robust data and field-based knowledge are essential tools for conservation planning and conflict mitigation.

This photographic dossier developed through the collaborative efforts of the Forest Department, Wildlife Research and Conservation Society, and TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre, presents a unique and systematic approach to identifying individual wild elephants in the Bandhavgarh landscape. Using photographic evidence and a standardized identification protocol, the dossier provides a valuable resource for long-term monitoring of elephants in the region. Such efforts not only enhance our capacity to monitor and manage elephant populations but also support evidence-based decision-making in mitigating human-elephant conflict. I am confident that this report will be of great utility not just within Bandhavgarh but also as a model for similar documentation across the state.

I appreciate the initiative and scientific rigour with which this work has been undertaken and encourage similar approaches across other elephant-occupied landscapes in Madhya Pradesh.

Subharanjan Sen
PCCF (WL) and CWLW

Dr. Anupam Sahay I.F.S.

Field Director

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve



Foreword

The Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, known for its significant role in tiger conservation, is witnessing a renewed presence of wild Asian elephants in its forests- an ecological phenomenon of great significance. As these elephants explore and reclaim territories across central India, it becomes imperative for managers to understand their movement patterns and identify the high-conflict individual elephants.

This photographic dossier is a product of a collaborative effort between the untiring staff of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Wildlife Research and Conservation Society, and TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre. It is a pioneering effort to create detailed identification profiles of wild elephants in the Bandhavgarh landscape based on the unique identification features documented through rigorous fieldwork. Through meticulous documentation of elephant photographs, individual elephants have been identified and profiled based on their distinctive morphological features. These profiles will be extremely valuable in understanding elephant behaviour, monitoring movements of individuals, and planning effective conflict mitigation strategies. The dossier will be a valuable aid to the frontline staff of the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve for identifying the elephants that they see in their day-to-day field activities and serve as an important reference to managers in long-term management planning, especially in the evolving context of human-elephant interactions in and around the reserve.

I congratulate the team for this timely and meticulous effort, which is going to promote interest in elephant conservation and help in the management of elephants. Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve is deeply grateful to the Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh, for giving full support to this effort.

Dr. Anupam Sahay

Field Director, BTR



Preface

Wildlife Research and Conservation Society (WRCS), in partnership with TNC-The Nature Conservancy Center and Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, is implementing a project for mitigation of Human Elephant Conflict for the villages in and around the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. Individual adult elephants can be distinguished by their unique morphological features. Identification of individual elephants can help in answering a range of species management questions, allowing the study of behaviour of elephants at individual and population levels, and for assessing their density and distribution. Identification of elephants using external body features as non-invasive markers, through photographs, offers a cost-effective method for creating a database of elephants.

The need for identification of individual elephants was felt by the project team as well as by the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. While the identification of elephants based on morphological features has been done by researchers and conservationists in other regions of India, it was not done in the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve so far, since elephants migrated to this region quite recently.

Considering this need, the WRCS team, supported by the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, carried out the photographic documentation of elephants as a priority. Though elephants are easy to observe, taking photographs that will allow the elephant's morphological features to be clearly visible is quite challenging. However, our team, consisting of Alfred, Siddharth and Anit, under the guidance of Dr. Rajashekhar Niyogi, carried out this challenging task admirably.

We made strenuous efforts to photograph elephants over two months, supplemented by photographs from tourists and strategically placed camera traps, in order to include as many individuals as possible in the database. This was followed by meticulous examination of the photographs to pinpoint the most visible morphological features for the identification of individual elephants. The result is an excellent publication identifying 24 elephants from the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. In this exercise, the support of the officers and staff of the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve was critical, for locating elephants in the forest and informing our team of their locations in a timely manner.

We hope this dossier is useful for the frontline staff of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve for elephant management, as well as for elephant researchers. Each elephant has been assigned a unique identity based on their most visible features. Whenever these elephants are re-sighted again, it will provide information on their habitat use and their tendency for crop-raiding. Also, in cases of elephant mortality, it will aid the Forest Department in updating the database of elephants in the Tiger Reserve. This is very much a work in progress, since one cannot locate and identify all elephants in such a short span of time. Moreover, more elephants may migrate to this region in the future, adding to their number. We hope to carry on the work of recording elephants and strengthen the database of elephants in Bandhavgarh.

Dr. Prachi Mehta and Jayant Kulkarni
Wildlife Research and Conservation Society

About the Project

The return of elephants as a catalyst for landscape restoration

Asian elephants went extinct from Madhya Pradesh (MP) more than 100 years ago due to various reasons, such as their capture from the wild and hunting. In recent years, driven by loss of habitat in the neighbouring states, elephants have 'rediscovered' MP again. Elephants are, at present, mostly found in a six lakh hectare region that includes the Sanjay-Dubri and Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserves and a part of North Shahdol Forest Division. Most of this area supports only temporary elephant presence, but a few pockets now have year-round elephant occupancy.

The return of this culturally important and charismatic species is a positive development for conservation and could lead to widespread benefits for other species and habitats. This is because the presence of elephants could catalyse greater interest and investment in conservation, which would also benefit the numerous other species that co-occur with them as well as the associated habitats. This concept is known as the 'flagship species' model and is widely applied in India and across the world. India's *Project Tiger* is a well-known example of this model.

However, such conservation gains are neither equitable nor sustainable if they are accompanied by conflict with people due to crop loss, property loss and human casualties, which also eventually lead to retaliatory killing of elephants and erosion of support for conservation in general. This pattern has been experienced in several areas where elephants unexpectedly returned after long gaps (such as South Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, and parts of Karnataka). MP has the opportunity to plan and manage this process better, so as to benefit both people and nature.

Through this project, we seek to address one of the most pressing conservation questions in MP today – is it possible to bring back elephants while also securing the lives and livelihoods of the people living in these landscapes?

Building on the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department's stated desire to advance work on conservation of elephants while ensuring equitable co-existence between people and elephants, TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre (TNCC), along with aligned support to partners from its parent organisation The Nature Conservancy, has been undertaking a series of field-level activities. These activities include:

1. Mitigating human-elephant conflict through (a) demonstration of low-cost human-elephant conflict mitigation measures, (b) capacity building of Forest Department frontline staff and community members, (c) installation of innovative fence system ('Inno Fence'), inclusive of an early warning provision, and (d) material support to Elephant Response Teams.
2. Integrating human-elephant conflict mitigation and habitat restoration, through identification of overlaps between habitat suitability for elephants, restoration potential and lantana infestation in the landscape. This will be followed up with a demonstration pilot.
3. Identifying policy gaps/needs for refinement of policies, management systems and field protocols to enhance the co-existence of people with elephants in Madhya Pradesh.

These activities are being advanced in collaboration with partners including Wildlife Research & Conservation Society and SNAP Foundation.

We have been advancing this project under the aegis of a three-year Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society and TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre in October 2023.



WRCS

Acknowledgement

We express our sincere gratitude to the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department for their support and collaboration in this effort. We are especially thankful to the staff of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve for their consistent logistical support, field coordination, and valuable inputs throughout the preparation of this photographic dossier. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre for their overall support and partnership in this initiative. Their support has been instrumental in enabling this work. This dossier is the outcome of a strong and sustained collaboration between WRCS, the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve team, and TNC-The Nature Conservancy Centre, and we hope it contributes meaningfully to ongoing conservation and management efforts in the landscape. Lastly, we thank Bipul Mayank for sharing his elephant photographs, one of which is featured in this dossier.

WRCS Team

ORGANIZATION CONTRIBUTIONS

Administrative Support **Madhya Pradesh Forest Department**

Logistic Support **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve**

Project Support **The Nature Conservancy**

Project Execution **Wildlife Research and Conservation Society**

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

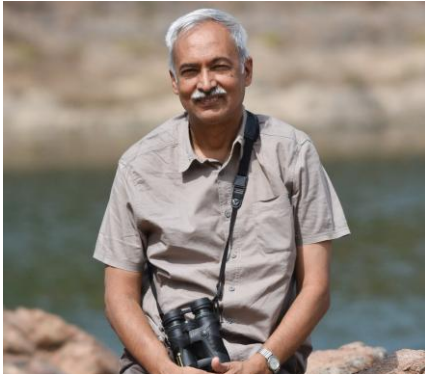
**Concept and
identification protocol** **Dr. Prachi Mehta**

Document Design **Dr. Rajashekhar Niyogi and Mr. Jayant Kulkarni**

**Photography, Analysis,
and Page Layout** **Mr. Alfred Jemy, Mr. Anit Bansode, Mr. Siddharth Dixit**



WRCS TEAM MEMBERS



Mr. Jayant Kulkarni



Dr. Prachi Mehta



Dr. Rajashekhar Niyogi



Mr. Alfred Jemy



Mr. Anit Bansode



Mr. Siddharth Dixit

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INTRODUCTION

Asian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*),
Local Name: Hathi (हाथी)

STATUS

- IUCN: Endangered
- IWPA: Schedule I
- CITES: Appendix I

POPULATION

- 27,000-30,000 in India

Key States:

- Karnataka (6,000) • Assam (5,700) • Kerala (3,000) • Tamil Nadu (2,700)

AGE-BASED CLASSIFICATION

Age	Height
Calf	<1 yr, ≤3 ft
Juvenile	2-4 yrs, 4-6 ft
Sub-adult	5-15 yrs, 6-8 ft
Adult	>15 yrs, >8 ft

TERMINOLOGY

- Bull: Tusked male
- Cow: Female
- Makhana: Tuskless male

PHYSIOLOGY

Weight:

- ♂ 4,000-5,000 kg | ♀ 2,000-3,000 kg
- Gestation: 22 months
- Breeding: Peaks monsoon (Jun-Sep)

DIET DAILY

- Food: 150-170 kg (grass, bark, fruit)
- Water: 80-200 liters

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL ELEPHANTS IDENTIFIED 21 ADULTS + 3 CALVES

Number of Male Elephants	12
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Number of Female Elephants	08
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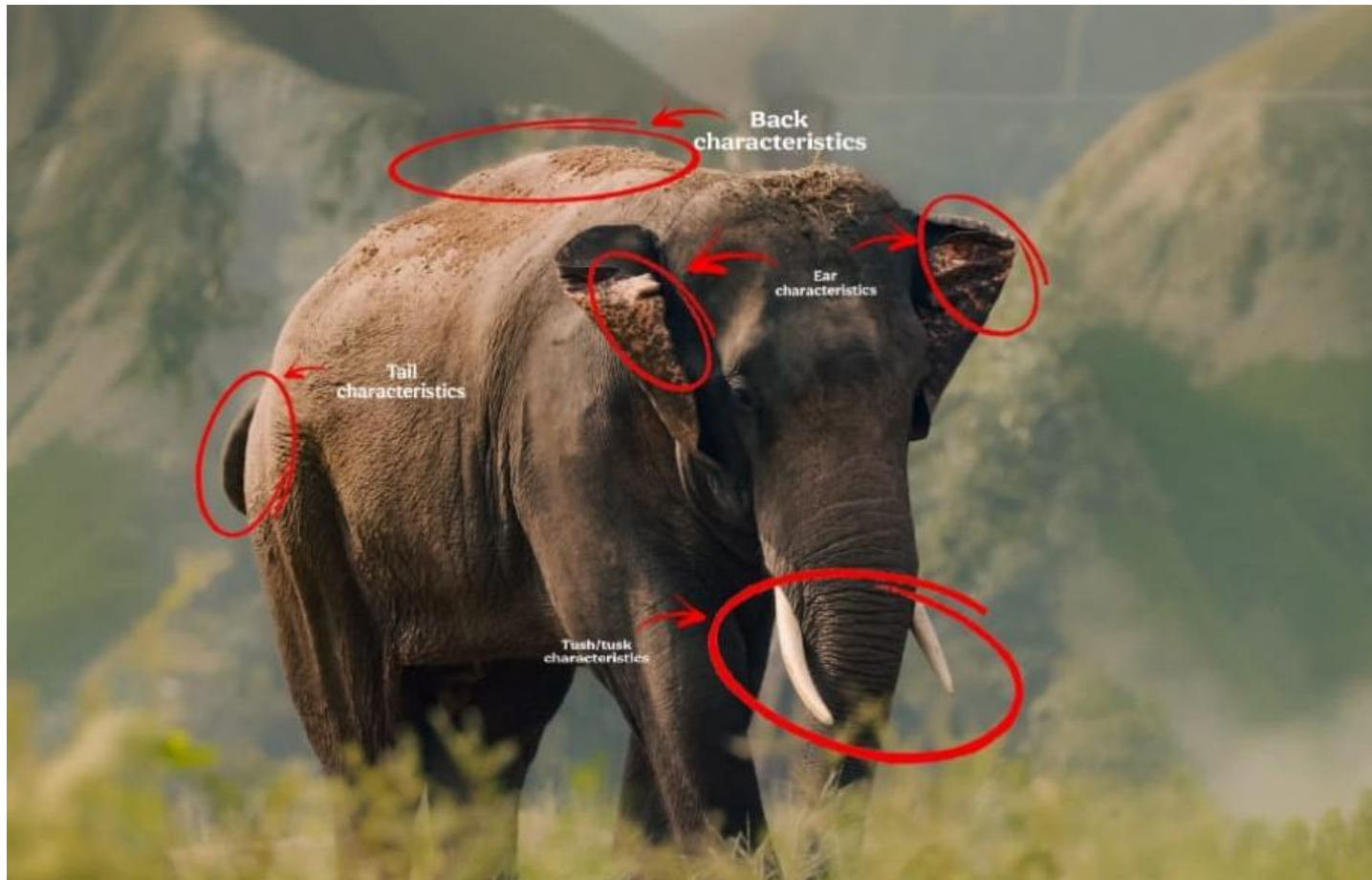
Number of tuskless male elephant (Makhna)	01
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Number of calf sighted	03
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Glossary of Key Identification Features



Key Identification Features



Main Feature	Sub-Feature/State	Brief Description
1. Ear Top Fold: How the top edge of the ear is folded		
	Not Folded	Top edge is relatively straight/unfolded
	Facing Forward	Ear top folds sharply forward (L-bend)
	Folded Forward	Ear tip curls forward (U-shape)
	Folded Forward Slightly	Gentle forward curl
	Backward	Ear tip folds backward (reverse curl)
2. Ear side fold: Side edge of ear folded inward/outward		
	Folded Forward	Side edge is folded forward
	Folded Backward	Side edge is folded backward
3. Ear lobe length: Shape and extension of the bottom tip of the ear		
	Pointed	The lowest point sticks out noticeably past the bottom of the ear
	Blunt	Tip stays above the ear's bottom edge
	Average	
4. Ear Marks: Acquired damage to the ear		
	Nicks	Small dents; ear stays stiff when flapping
	Tears	Large damages (missing parts, finger-like projections); ear moves differently
	Holes	Perforations in the ear

Main Feature	Sub-Feature/State	Brief Description
5. Tushes (females): Small tusk-like protrusions in females		
	1. Prominent	
	2. Visible	
	3. Not Visible	No tushes apparent
6. Tusk length (males): Length of tusks		
	1. Long	
	2. Medium	
	3. Short	
7. Tusk shape (front view)		
	1. Parallel	Tusks grow roughly parallel
	2. Divergent (Splayed)	Tusks grow outwards, away from each other
	3. Convergent	Tusks grow inwards, towards each other
	4. Divergent and Convergent	Tusks initially diverge, then curve inwards
8. Tusk asymmetry: Differences between the left and right tusk		
	1. Left Crossed over Right/Right Crossed over Left	
	2. Right Higher / Left Higher	
	3. Right Longer / Left Longer	
	4. No Asymmetry	

Main Feature	Sub-Feature/State	Brief Description
9. Back		The overall profile of the backbone
	1. Concave	Backbone gradually slopes down towards the middle from pectoral/pelvic girdles
	2. Flat	Backbone is flat
	3. Broken	Flat back with a sudden depression in the middle
	4. Flat and Broken	Flat back for halfway, then drops to a lower flat level until pelvic girdle
	5. Humped	A single highest raised point in the middle of the back
	6. Wavy	Two roughly equally high raised points on the back
	7. Humped and sloping	The pelvic girdle is 95% or lower than the height of the pectoral girdle
10. Warts/Wounds/Lumps		
	1. None	No visible warts, wounds, or lumps
	2. Positional Information	Located on Right/Left Body, Foreleg, Hind Leg, Tail Base, Head (including Ear), or Trunk

Main Feature	Sub-Feature/State	Brief Description
11. Tail Length		Length of the tail (excluding hair)
	Very Long	Extends to or below the ankle
	Long	Reaches below the knee but above the ankle
	Medium	Reaches to the knee
	Short	Reaches above the knee but below the abdomen
	Stumpy	The tail is above the abdomen
12. Tail Brush		The hair at the end of the tail
	No Hair	No tail brush
	Short Anterior	Short hair towards anterior side, no hair on posterior
	Short Posterior	Short hair towards posterior side, no hair on anterior
	Short Anterior Short Posterior	Short hair on both sides
	Normal	Full hair on both sides
13. Tail Kink		Crookedness or bends in the tail
	Kinked	A bend in the tail (excluding hair)
	Curved	The tail is bent away at the tail brush
	Twisted	The tail is twisted about the vertical
	Normal	The tail is straight

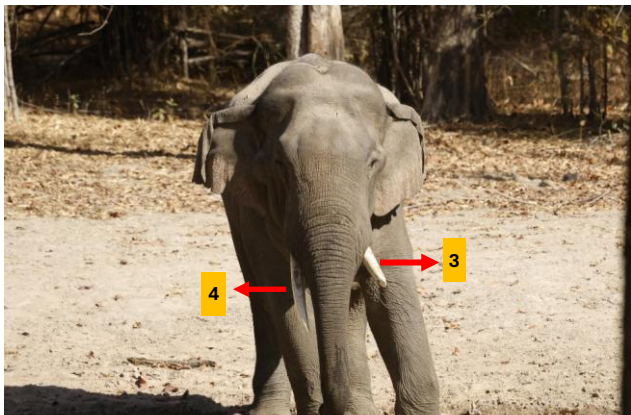
Completely Profiled Elephants



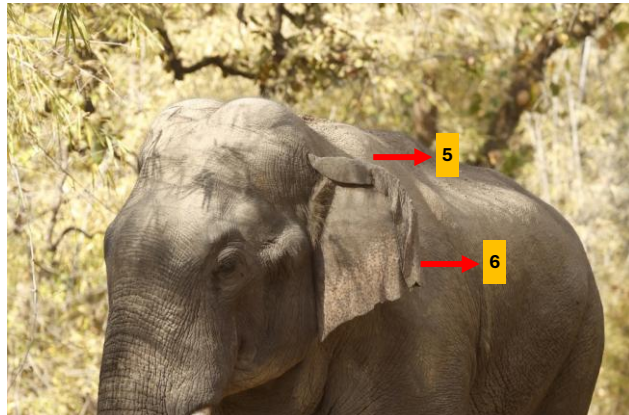
Bandhavgarh Tusker 1 (BT1)



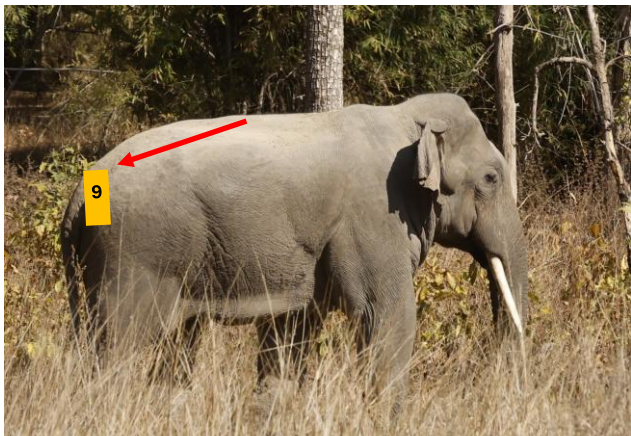
Elephant ID	BT1
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Prominent 2. Tusk length: Medium 3. Tusk shape: Divergent left tusk and downward convergent right tusk 4. Tusk asymmetry: Right longer 5. Top ear fold: Folded forward 6. Side ear fold: Folded forward 7. Ear lobe: Average 8. Ear tears: One large and two small tears in the right ear 9. Back: Flat 10. Tail brush: Normal 11. Tail kink: Curved 12. Wound, warts, and lumps: Lump just beside the temporal depression
Remarks	A longer right-side tusk can be a distinguishing identification mark for this elephant



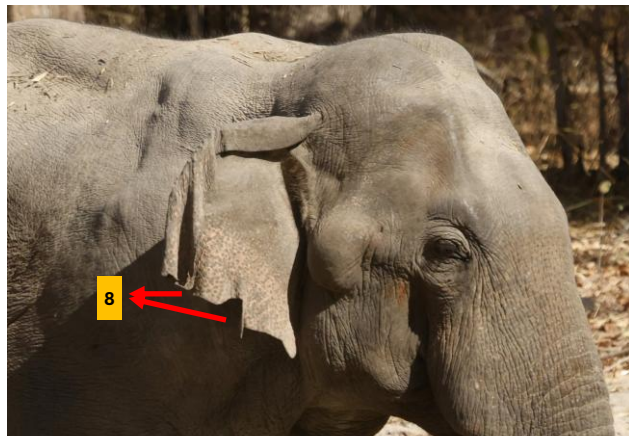
3- Tusk shape: Divergent left tusk and downward convergent right tusk
4- Tusk asymmetry: Right longer



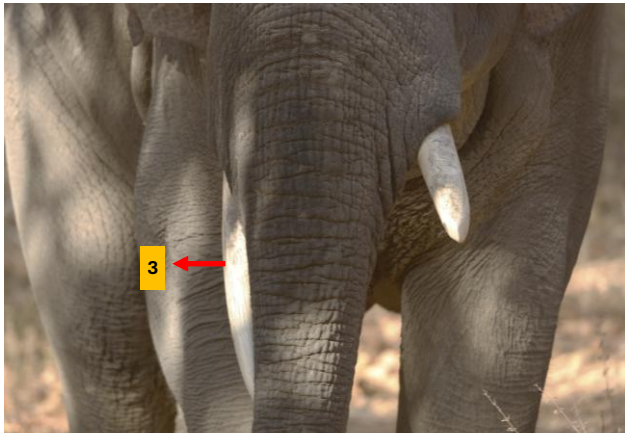
5- Top ear fold: Folded forward
6- Side ear fold: Folded forward



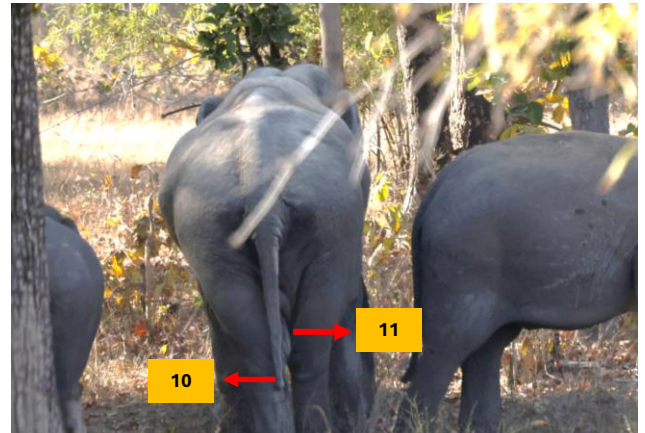
9- Back: Flat



8- Ear tears: One large and two small tears in right ear



3- Tusk asymmetry: Right longer



10- Tail brush: Normal

11- Tail kink: Curved



Front profile of BT1

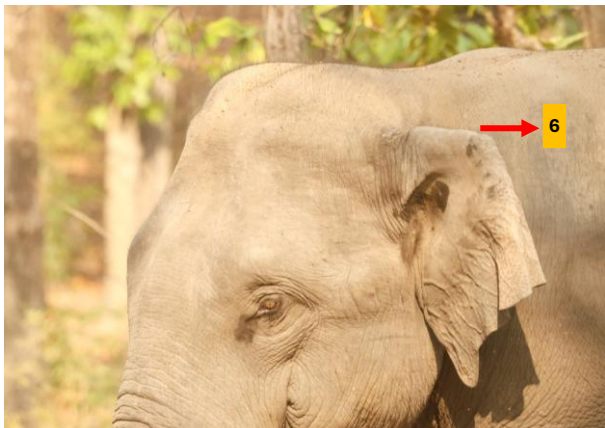


Side profile of BT1

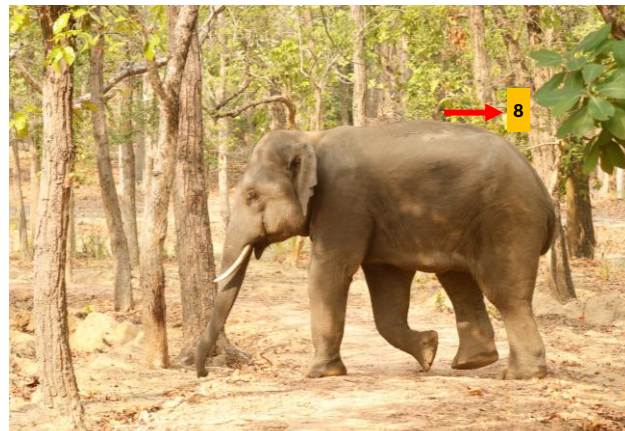
Bandhavgarh Tusker 2 (BT2)



Elephant ID	BT2
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Prominent (not sure) 2. Temporal depression: Concave (left side) 3. Tusk shape: Parallel 4. Tusk length: Medium 5. Tusk asymmetry: Both right and left tusk are mostly symmetrical 6. Top and Side ear fold: Both ears are folded backwards 7. Ear lobe: Average 8. Back: Humped
Remarks	BT2 was the last of his group, serving as their rear guard



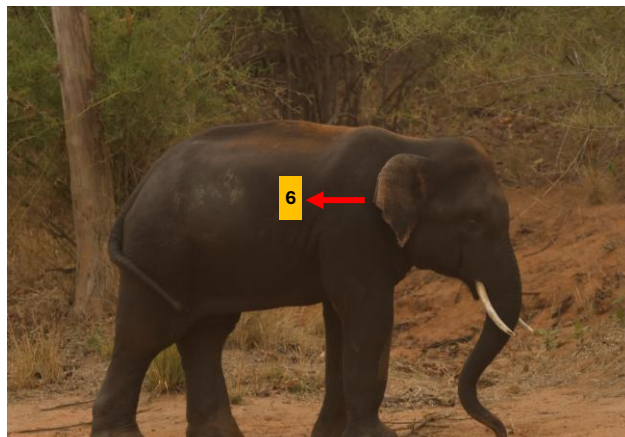
6- Top and Side ear fold: Both ears are folded backwards.



8- Back: Humped



3-Tusk shape: Parallel



6- Top and Side ear fold: Both ears are folded backwards

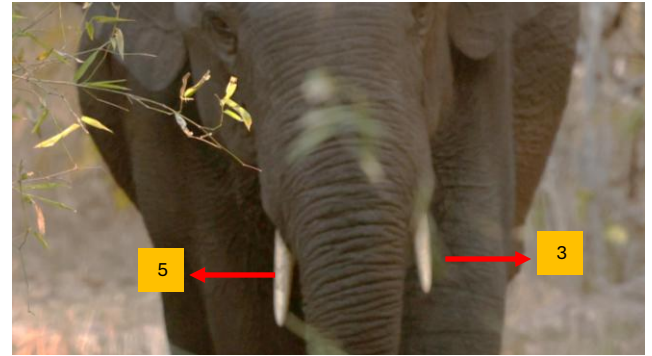
Bandhavgarh Tusker 3 (BT3)



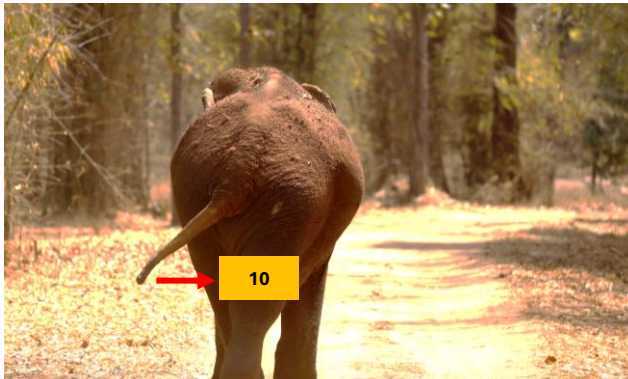
Elephant ID	BT3
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Temporal depression: Visible but not prominent 3. Tusk shape: Parallel-downward 4. Tusk length: Medium 5. Tusk asymmetry: The right tusk is longer than the left 6. Top and Side ear fold: Both ears are folded forward slightly 7. Ear lobe: Blunt 8. Ear nicks: Left ear after the side fold. 9. Back: Humped and sloping 10. Tail brush: No hair
Remarks	



6- Top and Side ear fold: Both ears are folded forward slightly
8- Ear nicks: Left ear after the side fold



3- Tusk shape: Parallel-downward
5- Tusk asymmetry: The right tusk is longer than the left



10- Tail brush- No hair



9- Back: Humped and sloping

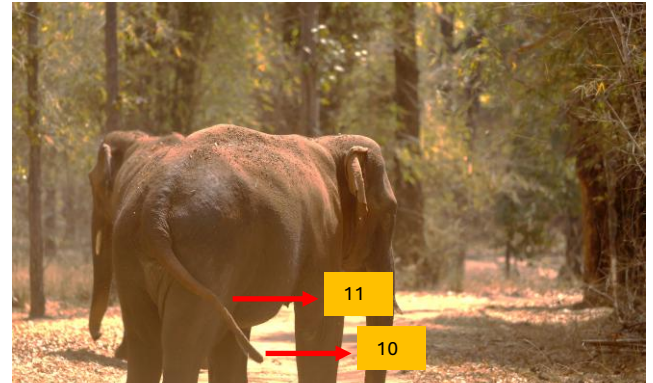


Bandhavgarh Tusker 4 (BT4)

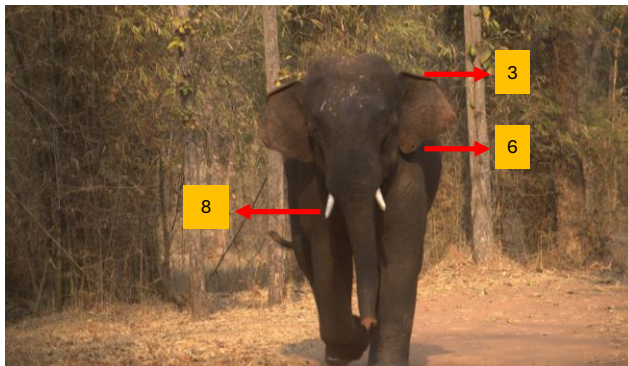
Elephant ID	BT4
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Temporal depression: Concave on both sides 3. Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward 4. Side ear fold: Both ears folded backward 5. Ear lobe length: Average 6. Ear hole: Present in the left side fold. 7. Ear tear: A large part of the right ear is missing towards the side fold 8. Tusk shape: Parallel & divergent 9. Back: Humped 10. Tail brush: Normal anterior 11. Tail kink: Curved and twisted
Remarks	



9- Back: Humped



10- Tail brush: Normal anterior
11- Tail kink: Curved and twisted

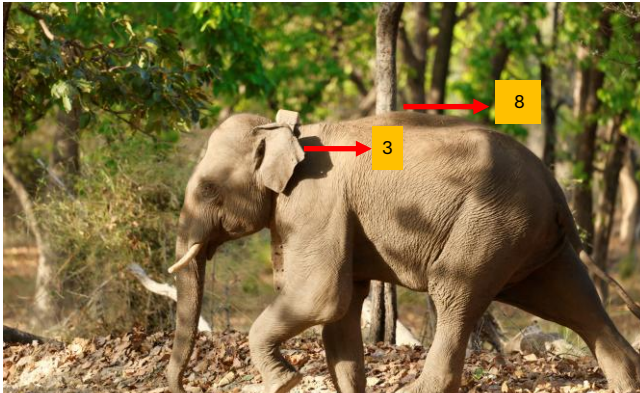


3- Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward
6- Ear hole: Present in the left side fold
8- Tusk shape: Parallel & divergent

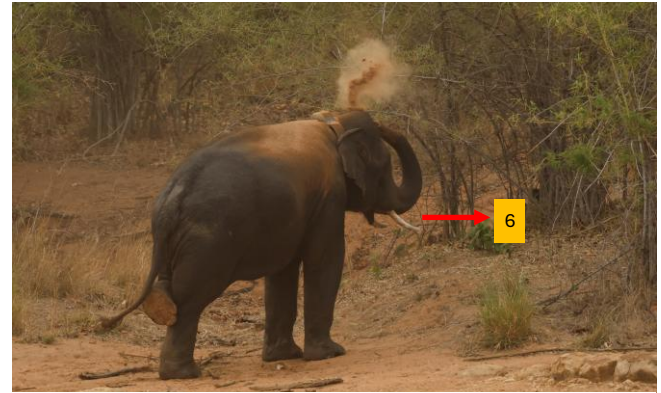
Bandhavgarh Tusker 5 (BT5)



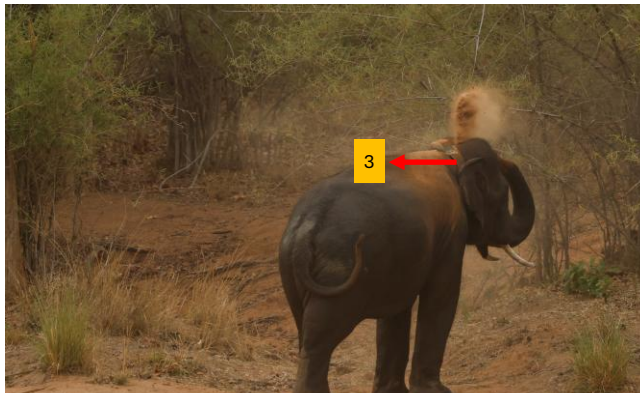
Elephant ID	BT5
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward 3. Side ear fold: Both ears folded backward 4. Ear lobe length: Blunt 5. Ear hole: Left ear- side fold 6. Tusk shape: Divergent 7. Tusk length: Medium 8. Back: Humped and sloping 9. Tail brush: Short posterior and long anterior
Remarks	This elephant is collared by forest department and monitored regularly.



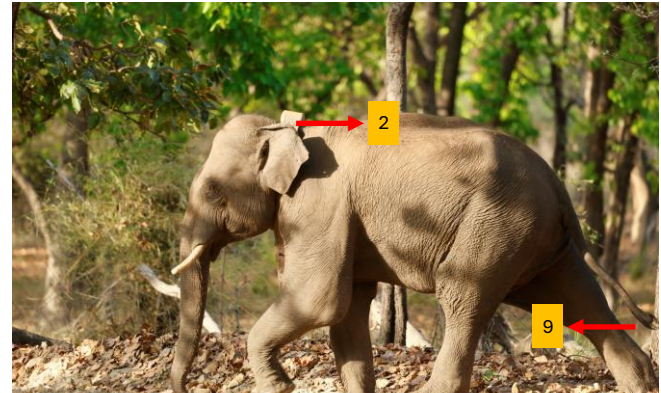
3- Side ear fold: Both ears folded backward
8- Back: Humped and sloping



6- Tusk shape: Divergent



2- Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward



2- Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward
9- Tail brush: Short posterior and long anterior



Bandhavgarh Tusker 6 (BT6)

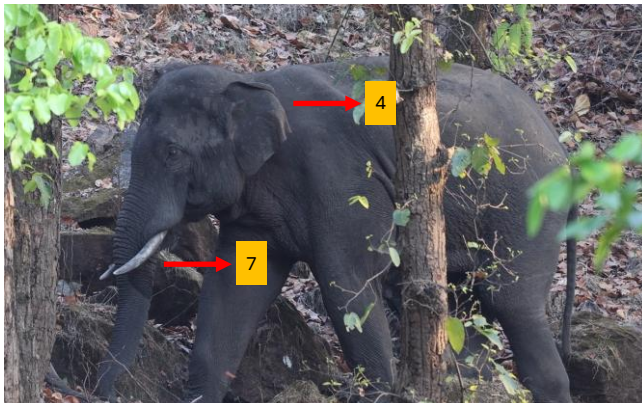
Elephant ID	BT6
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Prominent 2. Temporal depression: Slightly concave 3. Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward 4. Side ear fold: Both ears folded backward 5. Ear lobe length: Blunt 6. Tusk length: Short 7. Tusk shape: Parallel-convergent and pointed 8. Back: Broken 9. Tail brush: Normal anterior
Remarks	



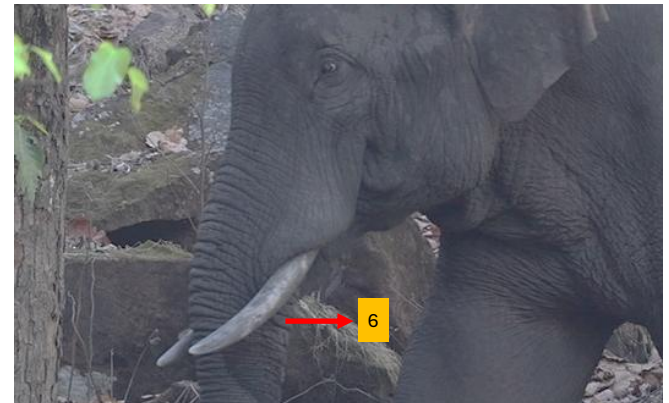
3-Top ear fold: Both ears folded forward
9-Tail brush: Normal anterior



8- Back: Broken



4-Side ear fold: Both ears folded backward
7-Tusk shape: Parallel-convergent and pointed

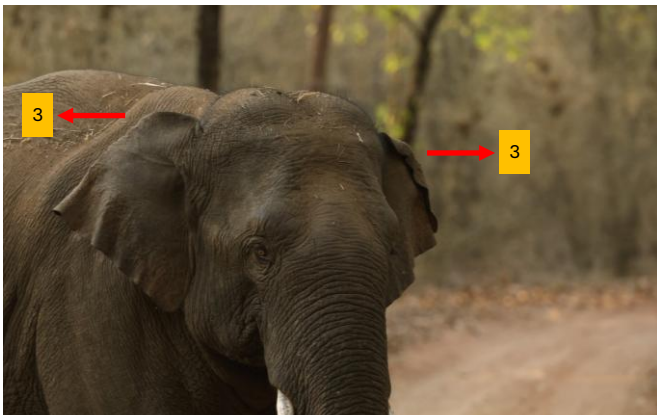


6- Tusk length- Short

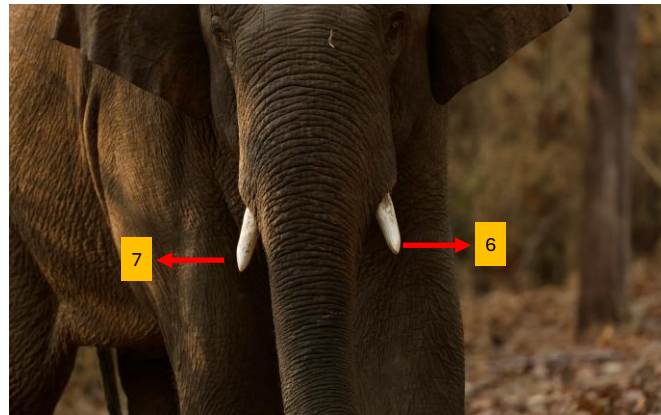
Bandhavgarh Tusker 7 (BT7)



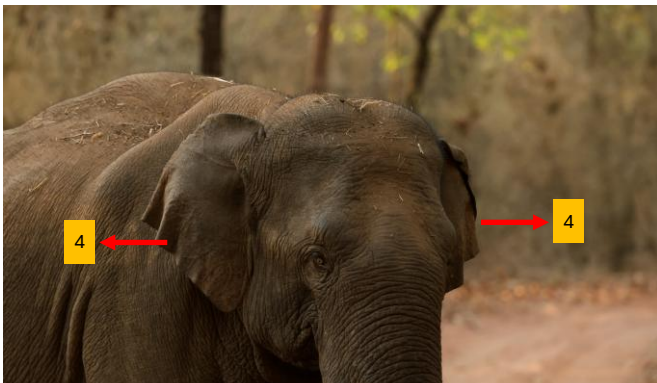
Elephant ID	BT7
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Temporal depression: Slightly concave 3. Top ear fold: Right ear folded backward & left ear folded forward into rolling fold 4. Side ear fold: Left ear folded forward and right ear folded backward 5. Ear lobe length: Average 6. Tusk shape: Pointed & divergent 7. Tusk length: Short 8. Back: Humped and sloping 9. Tail brush: Normal anterior and posterior
Remarks	



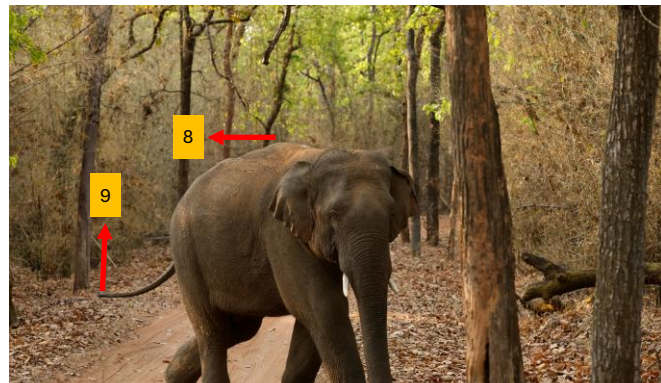
3- Top ear fold- Right ear folded backward and left ear folded into a rolling fold



7- Tusk length: Short
8- Back: Humped and sloping



4- Side ear fold: Left ear folded forward and right ear folded backward



8- Back: Humped and sloping
9- Tail brush: Normal anterior and posterior

Bandhavgarh Tusker 8 (BT8)



Elephant ID	BT8
Sex	Male
Age	Sub-adult (5-15 yrs)
Height	6-8 feet
Key features for identification	1. Top ear fold: No fold 2. Side ear fold: Both folded forward 3. Ear lobe length: Average 4. Tusk: Parallel & divergent 5. Back: Humped and sloping 6. Tail brush: Normal anterior
Remarks	Being a sub-adult key identification can change as the individual matures



1- Top ear fold: no fold



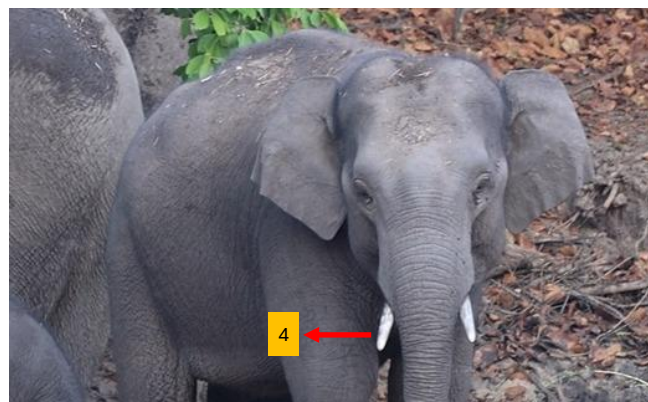
5-Back: Humped and sloping

6-Tail brush: Normal anterior



1- Top ear fold: no fold

2-Side ear fold: both folded forward

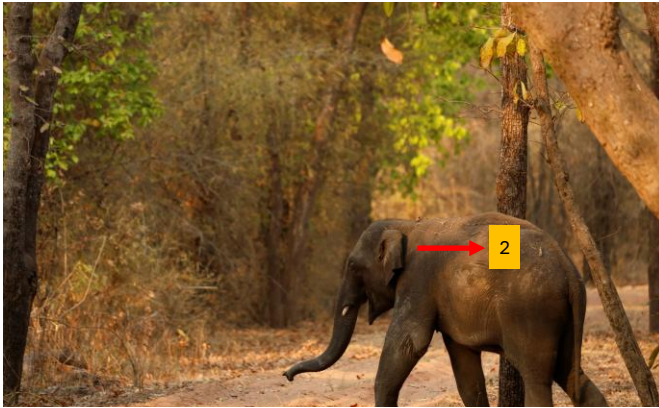


4-Tusk: parallel & divergent

Bandhavgarh Tusker 9 (BT9)



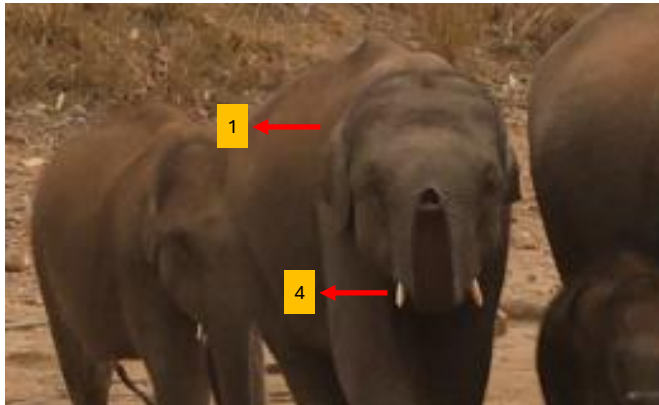
Elephant ID	BT9
Sex	Male
Age	Sub-adult (5-15 yrs)
Height	6-8 feet
Key features for identification	1. Top ear fold: Folded backward 2. Left ear folding: Backward 3. Ear lobe length: Average 4. Tusk: Short and pointed (sub-adult, so tusk shape and symmetry could change over time) 5. Back: Humped and sloping 6. Tail brush: Normal anterior
Remarks	Being a sub-adult key identification can change as the individual matures



2- Left ear folding: Backward



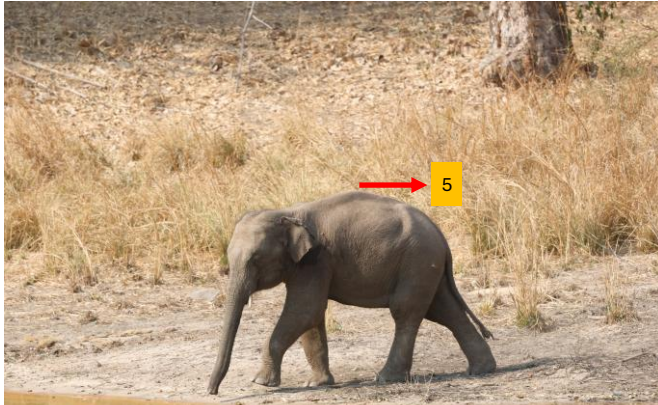
5- Back: Humped and sloping



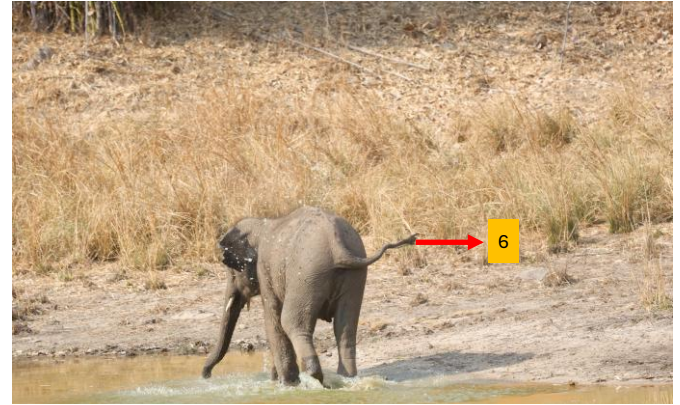
1- Top ear fold: Folded backward
4- Tusk: Short and pointed (sub-adult, so tusk shape and symmetry could change over time)



6- Tail brush: Normal anterior



5- Back: Humped and sloping



6- Tail brush: Normal anterior



1- Top ear fold: Folded backward

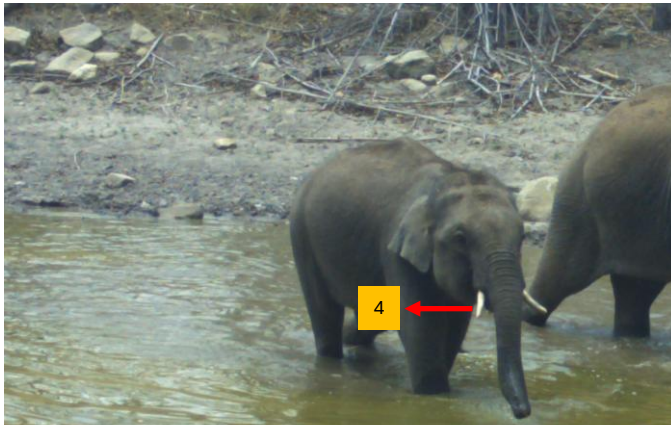


2- Left ear folding: Backward

Bandhavgarh Tusker 10 (BT10)



Elephant ID	BT10
Sex	Male
Age	Sub-adult (5-15 yrs)
Height	6-8 feet
Key features for identification	1. Top ear fold: Both folded backward 2. Ear side fold: Folded backward 3. Ear lobe length: Average 4. Tusk shape: Pointed and divergent 5. Back: Humped and sloping 6. Tail brush: Normal anterior and short posterior 7. Tail kink: Normal
Remarks	Being a sub-adult key identification can change as the individual matures. Camera trap images were also used for this identification.



4- Tusk shape: Pointed and divergent

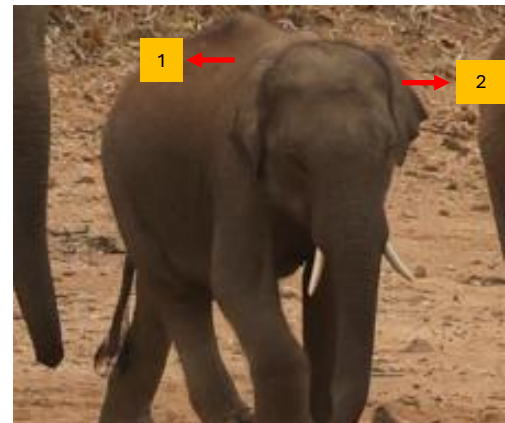


5- Back: Humped and sloping

7- Tail kink: Normal



6- Tail brush: Normal anterior and short posterior



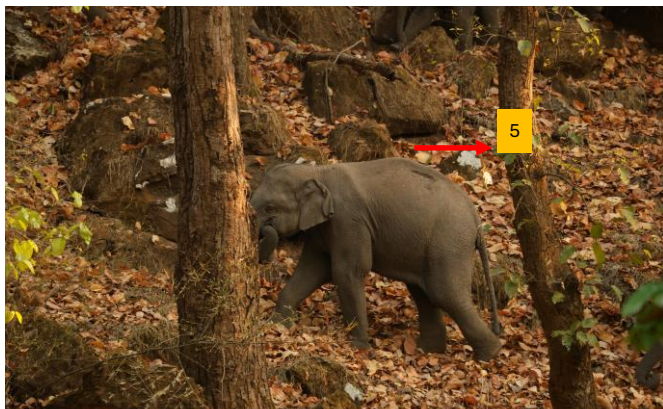
1- Top ear fold: Both folded backward

2- Ear side fold: Folded backward

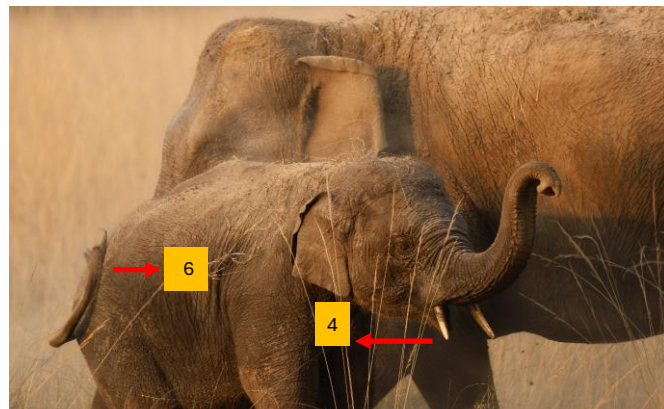
Bandhavgarh Tusker 11 (BT11)



Elephant ID	BT11
Sex	Male
Age	Sub-adult (5-15 yrs)
Height	6-8 feet
Key features for identification	1. Top ear fold: Folded forward 2. Side ear fold: Folded forward 3. Ear lobe length: Average 4. Tusk shape: Pointed and parallel 5. Back: Humped and sloping 6. Tail brush: Normal anterior and short posterior
Remarks	



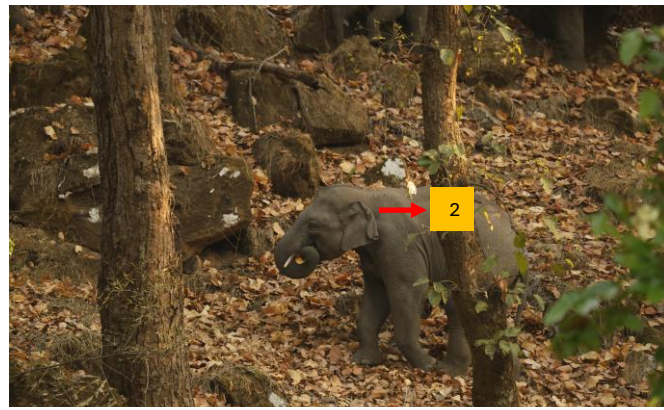
5- Back: Humped and sloping



4- Tusk shape: Pointed and parallel
6- Tail brush: Normal anterior and short posterior



1- Top ear fold: Folded forward

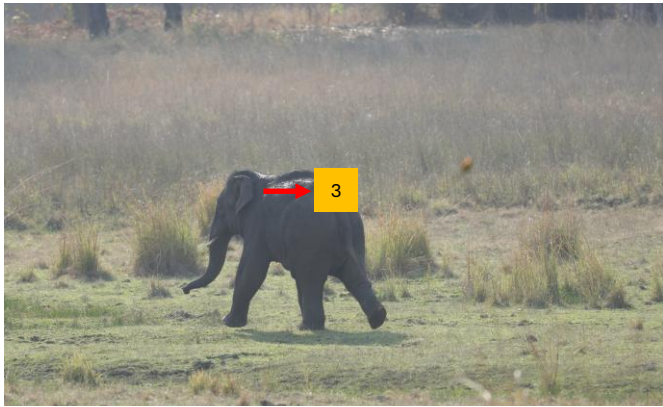


2- Side ear fold: Folded forward

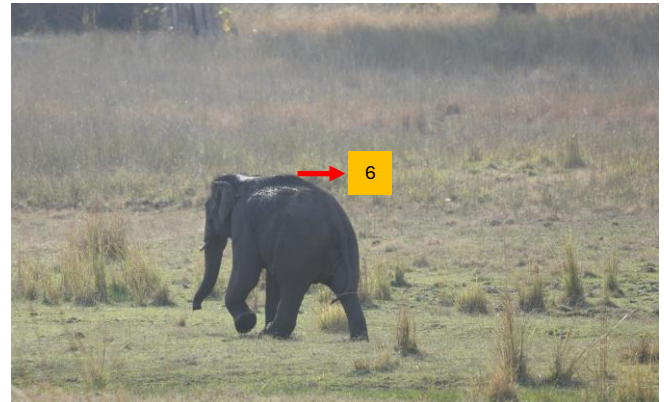
Bandhavgarh Tusker 12 (BT12)



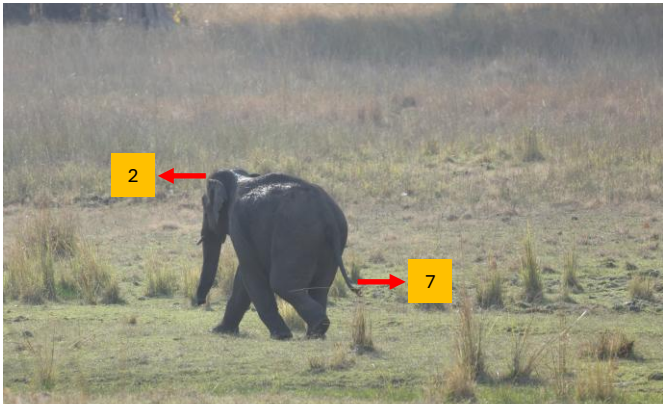
Elephant ID	BT12
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top left ear fold: Folded forward 3. Side left ear folding: Folded forward 4. Left ear lobe length: Average 5. Tusk shape: Short and divergent 6. Back: Humped and sloping 7. Tail brush: Normal
Remarks	Left side image is used for this identification



3- Side left ear folding: Folded forward



6- Back: Humped and sloping



2- Top left ear fold: Folded forward
7- Tail brush: Normal

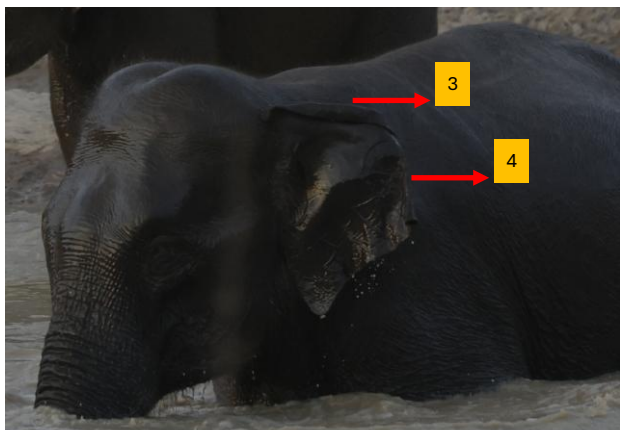


5- Tusk shape: Short and divergent

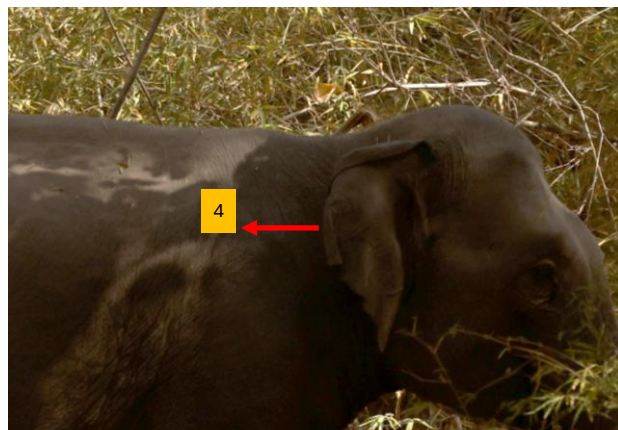
Bandhavgarh Female 1 (BF1)



Elephant ID	BF1
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Tushes: Not visible 3. Top ear fold: Both folded forward 4. Side ear fold: Both folded backward 5. Ear lobe: Average 6. Back: Flat and sloping 7. Tail brush: Short anterior
Remarks	Consistently observed around two elephant calves



3- Top ear fold: Both folded forward
4- Side ear fold: Both folded backward



4- Side ear fold: Both folded backward



6- Back: Flat and sloping



7- Tail brush- Short anterior

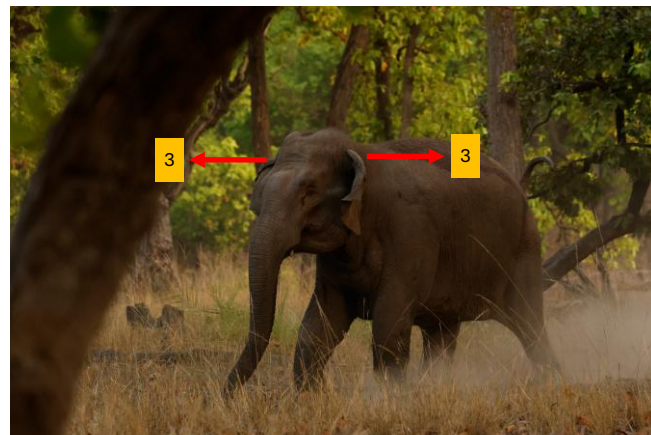


Bandhavgarh Female 2 (BF2)

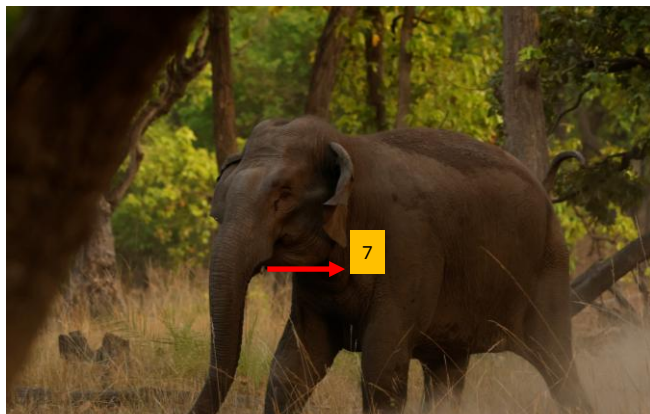
Elephant ID	BF2
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Prominent 2. Temporal depression: Concave 3. Top ear fold: Both folded forward 4. Side ear fold: Both folded forward 5. Ear lobe length: Average 6. Ear hole: Present in right side fold 7. Tushes: Visible 8. Back: Humped and sloping 9. Tail brush: Short posterior
Remarks	Matriarch of the herd



8- Back: Humped and sloping



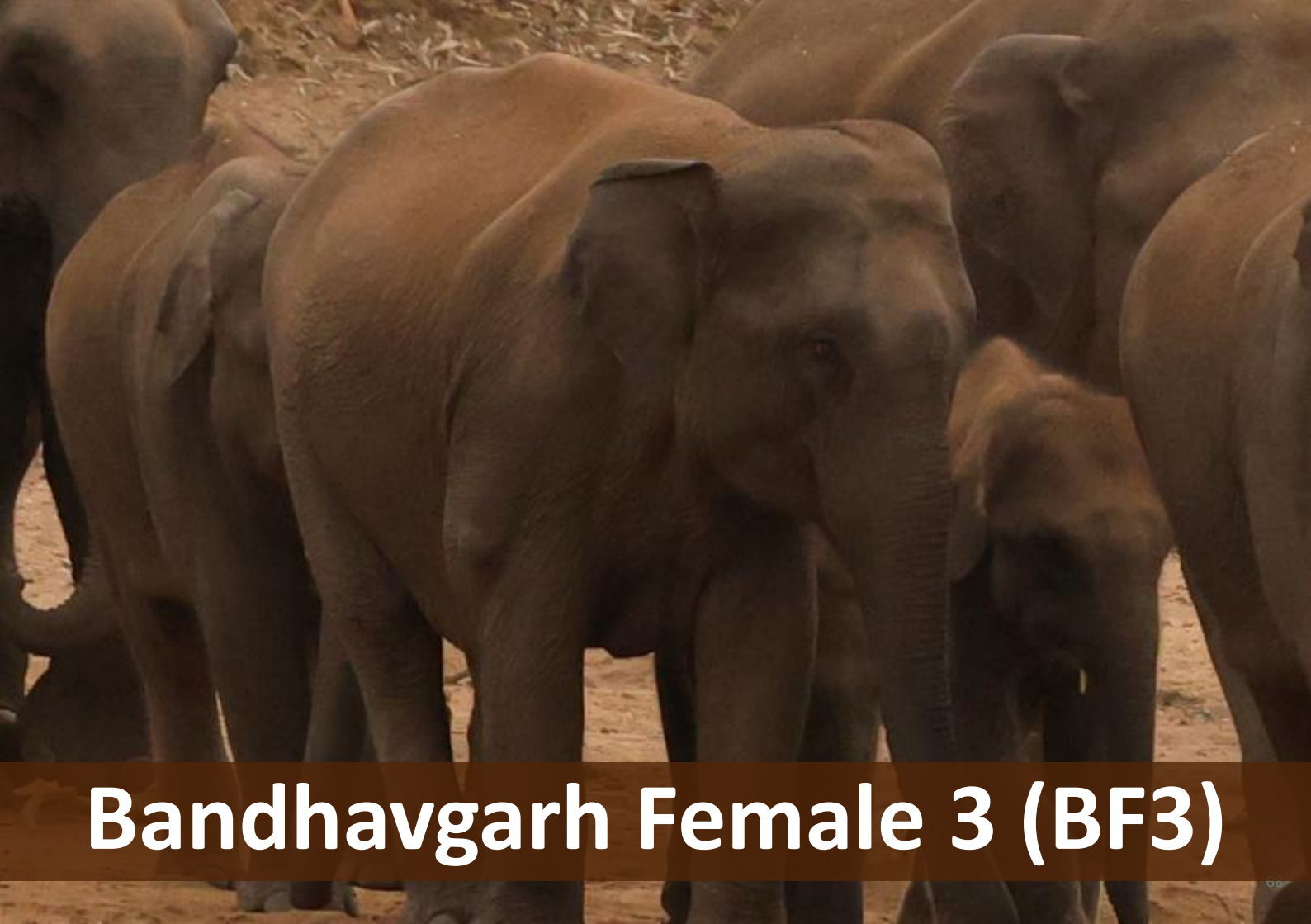
3- Top ear fold: Both folded forward



7- Tushes: Visible



BF2 with the herd



Bandhavgarh Female 3 (BF3)

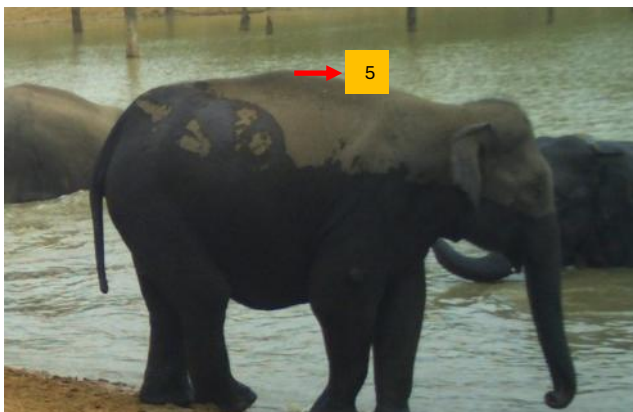
Elephant ID	BF3
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top ear fold: Folded forward 3. Ear lobe length: Pointed 4. Tushes: Not visible 5. Back: Broken 6. Lump present on right front leg
Remarks	



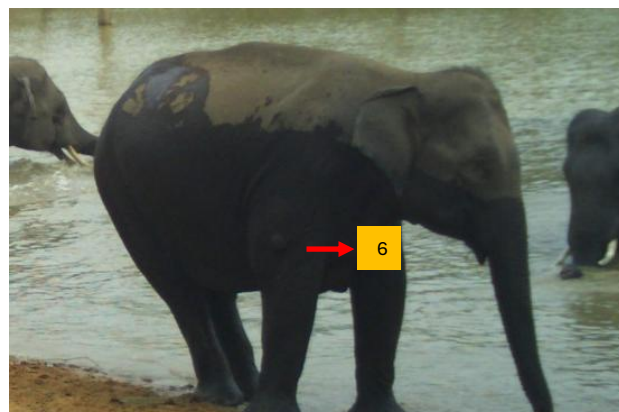
1- Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent



2- Top ear fold: Folded forward



5- Back: Broken



6- Lump present on right front leg



Bandhavgarh Female 4 (BF4)

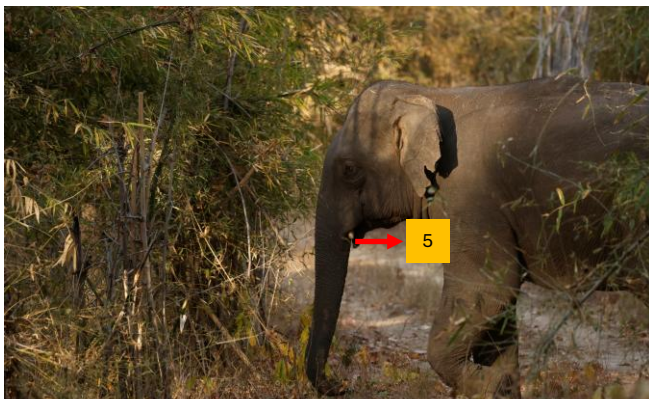
Elephant ID	BF4
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top ear fold: Folded forward 3. Side ear fold: Folded backward 4. Ear lobe length: Average 5. Tushes: Visible 6. Back: Humped and sloping 7. Ear tear: Large part of left side fold missing
Remarks	



2- Top ear fold: Folded forward



3- Side ear fold: folded backward



5- Tusches: Visible

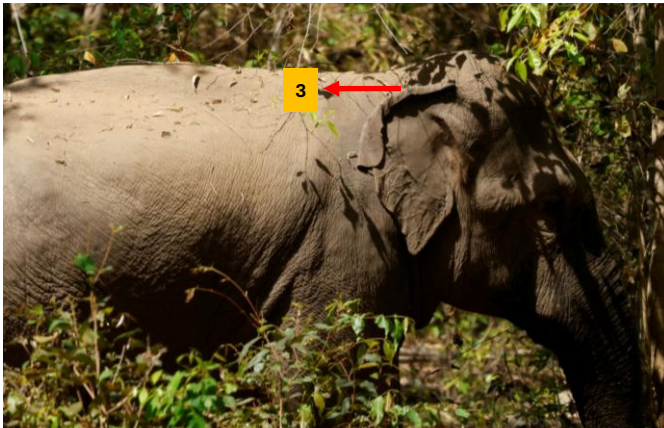


7- Ear tear: Large part of left side fold missing

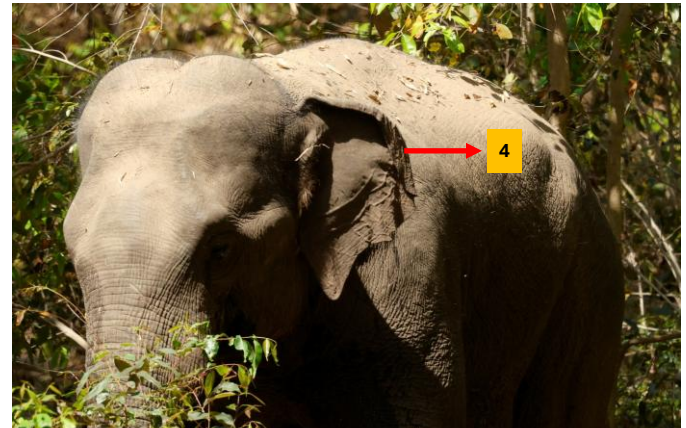


Bandhavgarh Makhana 1 (BM1)

Elephant ID	BM1
Sex	Male
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	8+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Prominent 2. Temporal depression: Concave 3. Top ear fold: Both folded forward 4. Side ear fold: Both folded forward 5. Ear lobe: Average 6. Back: Humped and sloping 7. Tail brush: Normal
Remarks	BM1 was consistently observed solitary (away from herds), often close to the agricultural fields



3- Top ear fold: Both folded forward



4- Side ear fold: Both folded forward



7- Tail brush: Normal



6- Back: Humped and sloping



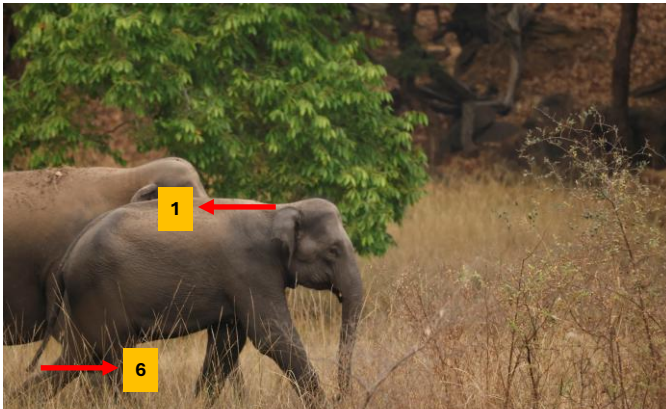
Partially Profiled Wild Elephants



Bandhavgarh Female 5 (BF5)



Elephant ID	BF5
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top ear fold: Folded forward 3. Side ear fold: Folded backward into a rolling fold 4. Ear lobe length: Average 5. Tushes: Visible 6. Back: Humped and sloping
Remarks	Right side image is used for identification



1- Top right ear folding: No fold
6- Tail brush: Normal anterior



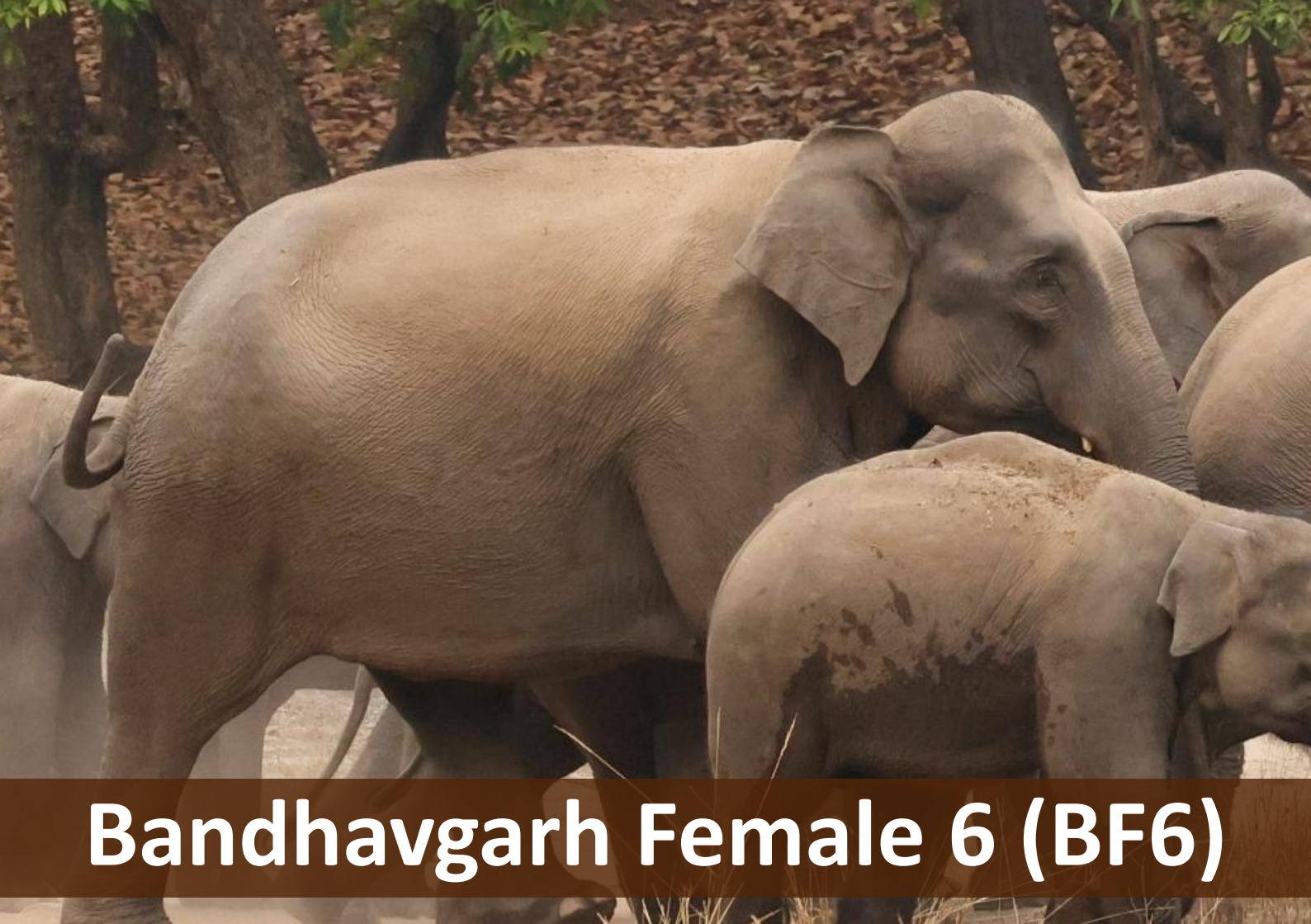
2- Right side ear fold: Folded backward into a rolling fold



5- Back: Flat and slightly sloping

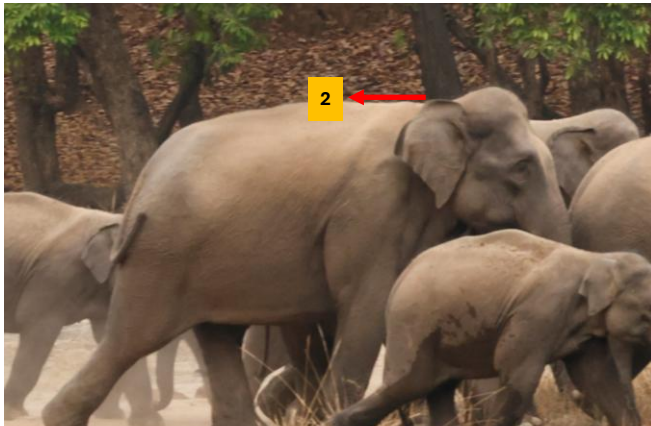


4- Tushes: Visible

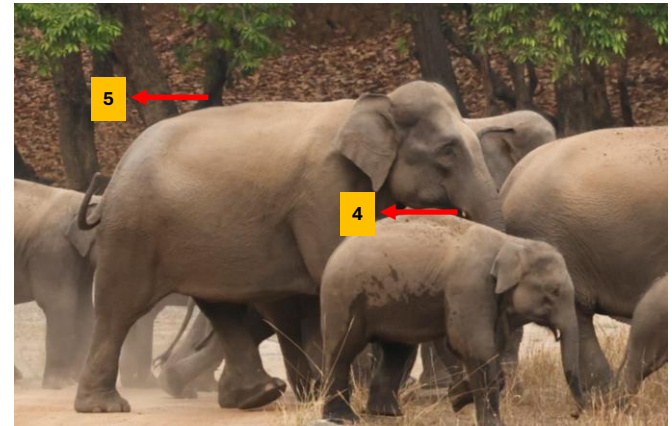


Bandhavgarh Female 6 (BF6)

Elephant ID	BF6
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top left ear fold: Folded forward 3. Left ear lobe length: Blunt (not confirmed) 4. Tushes: Prominently visible 5. Back: Humped and sloping 6. Tail brush: Blunt
Remarks	Right side image is used for identification



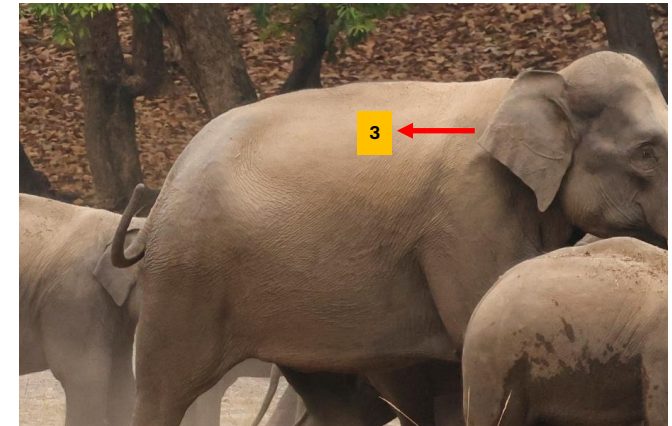
2- Top right ear folding: No fold



4- Tushes: Visible
5- Back: Flat and slightly sloping



6- Tail: Blunt

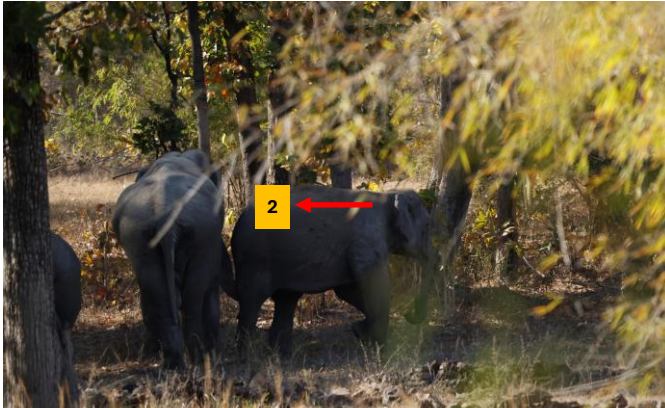


3- Right side ear fold: Backward



Bandhavgarh Female 7 (BF7)

Elephant ID	BF7
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Top right ear folding: No fold 2. Right side ear fold: Folded backward into a rolling fold 3. Right ear lobe length: Average 4. Right ear tear: Visible 5. Tushes: Visible 6. Back: Humped and sloping 7. Tail brush: Normal anterior (visible)
Remarks	Right side image is used for identification



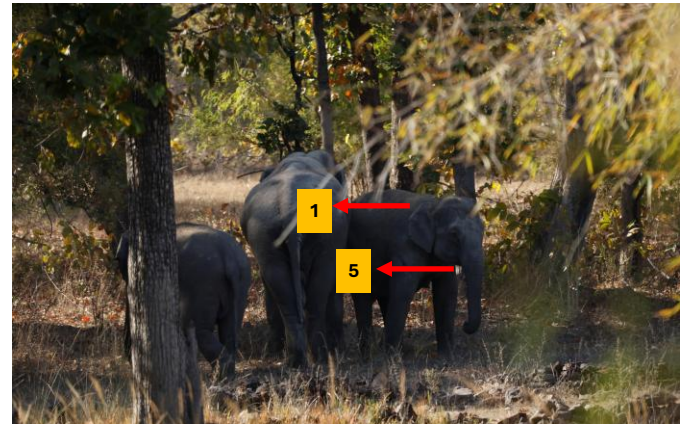
2- Right side ear fold: Folded backward into a rolling fold



6- Back: Humped and sloping



7- Tail brush: Normal anterior (visible)



1- Top right ear folding: No fold
5- Tushes: Visible



Bandhavgarh Female 8 (BF8)

Elephant ID	BF8
Sex	Female
Age	Adult (15+ yrs)
Height	7+ feet
Key features for identification	1. Dorsal hump: Slightly prominent 2. Top left ear fold: Folded forward 3. Left ear lobe length: Blunt (not confirmed) 4. Ear tear: Left ear side fold has a large part missing (tear) 5. Tushes: Visible 6. Back: Humped and sloping 7. Tail brush: Blunt
Remarks	Left side image is used for identification



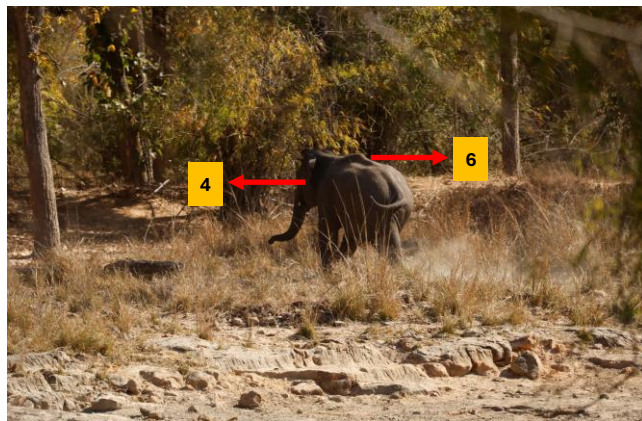
7- Tail brush: Blunt



2- Top left ear fold: Folded forward

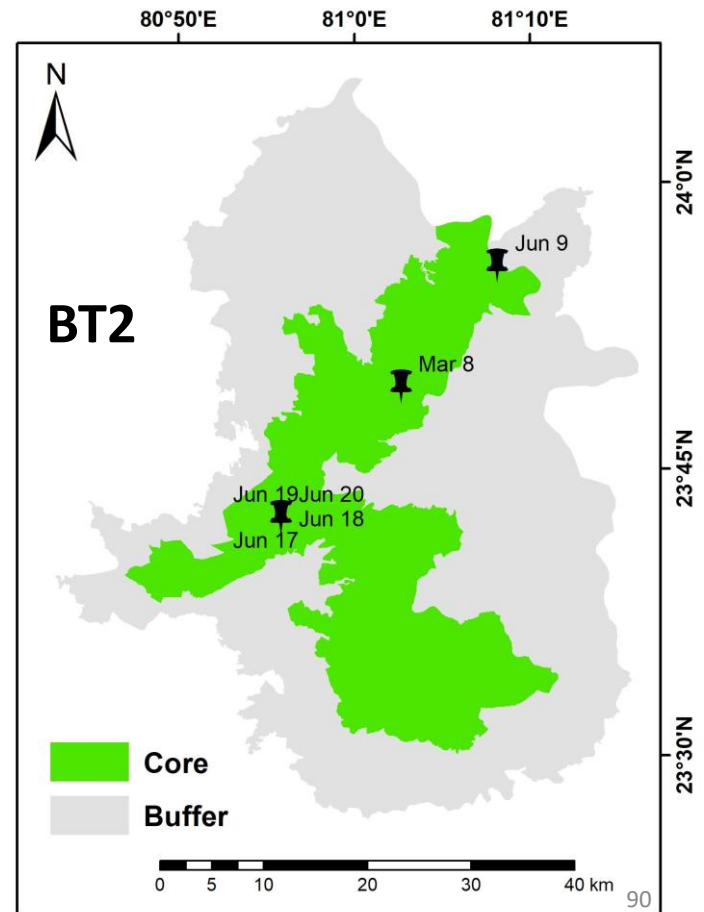
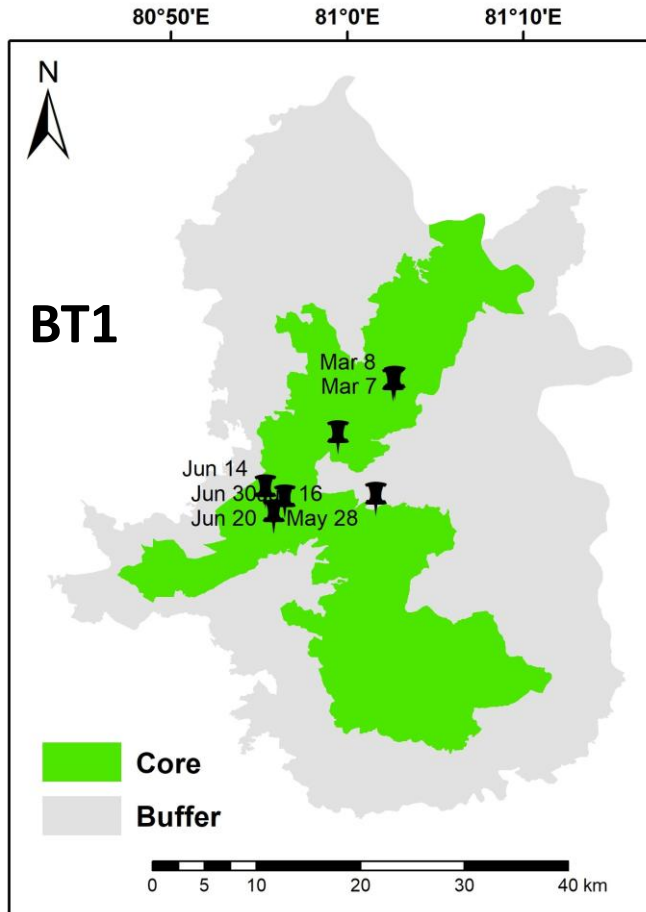


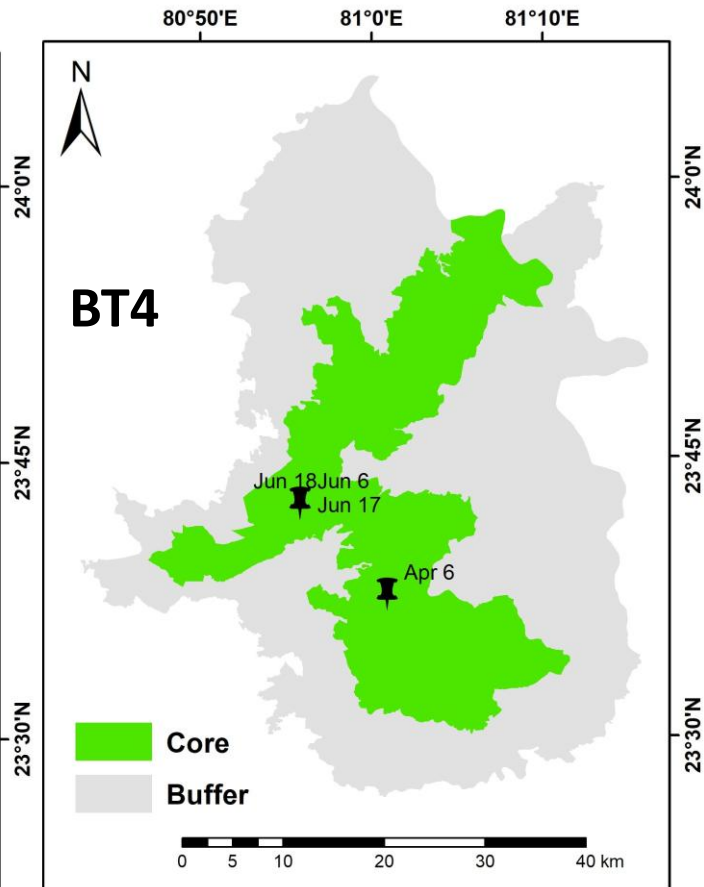
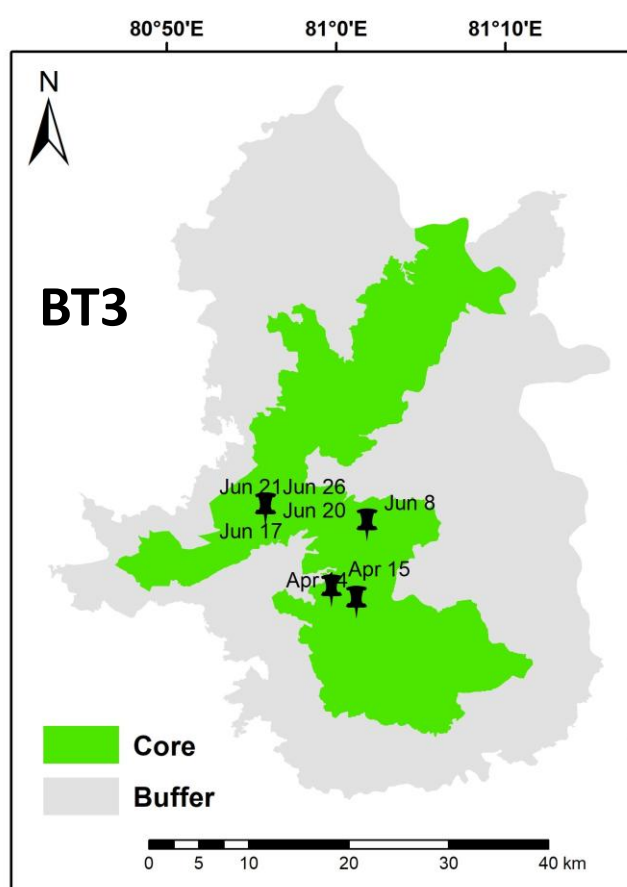
5-Tushes: Visible

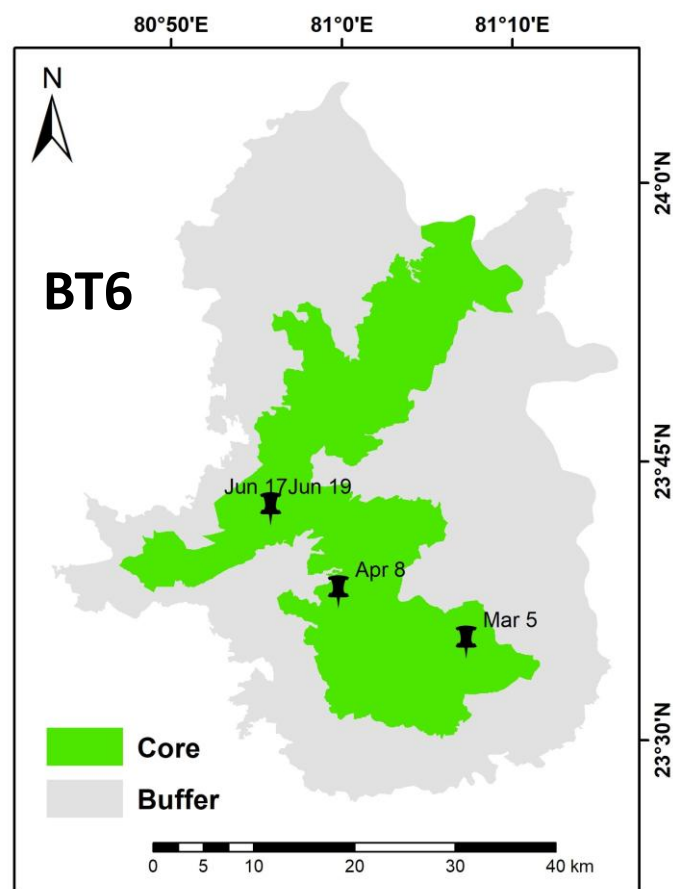
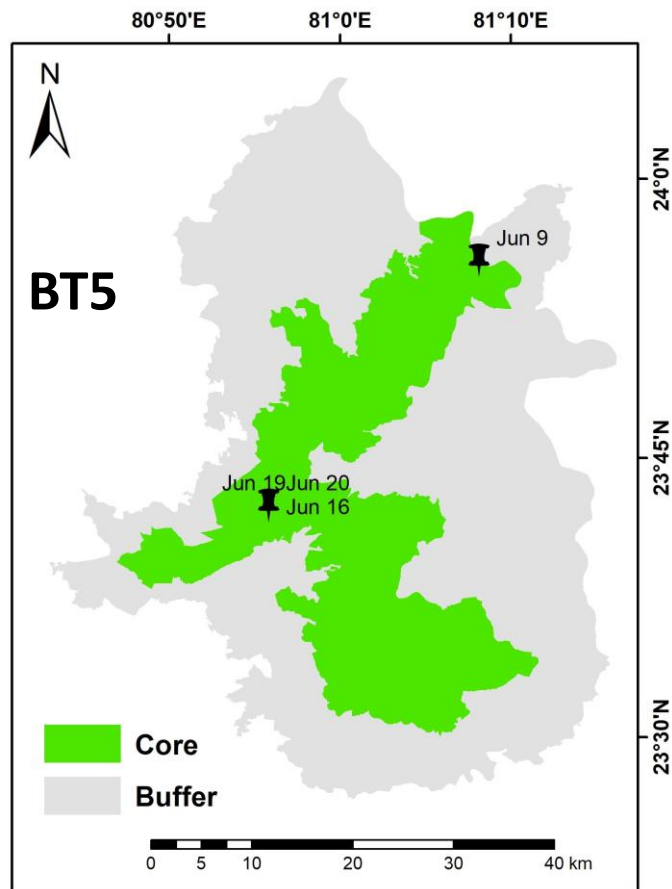


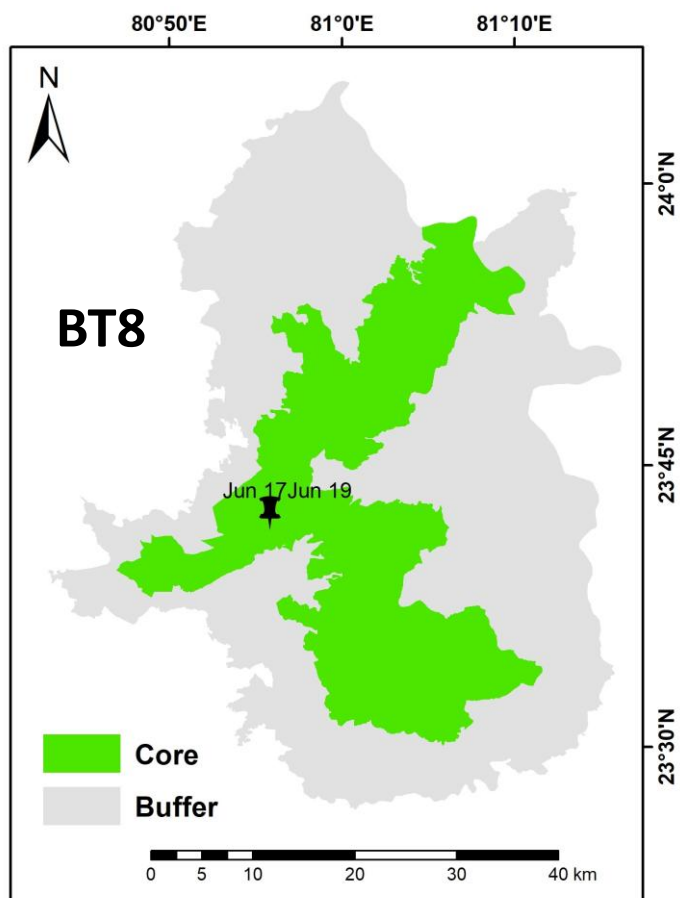
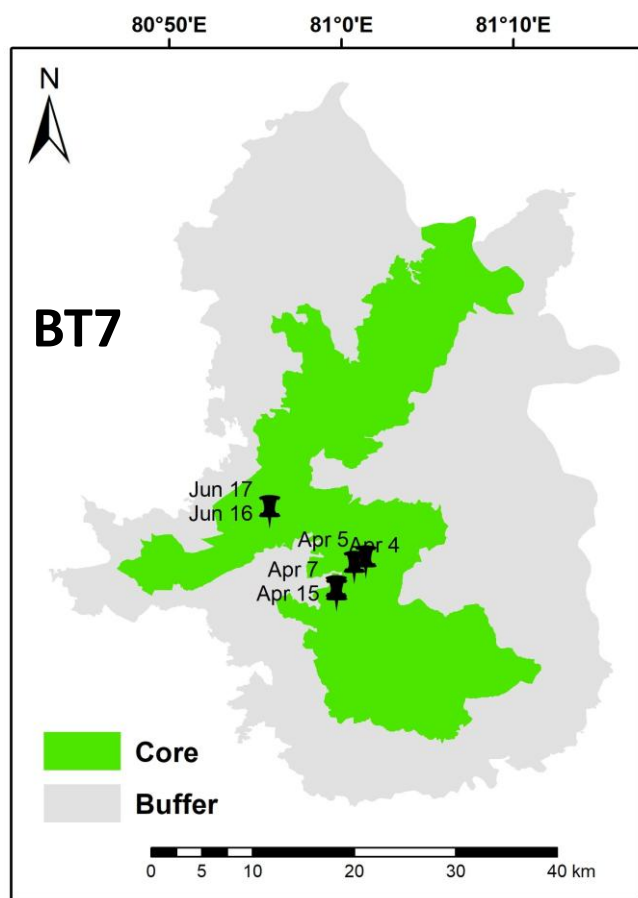
4- Ear tear: Left ear side fold has a tear
6- Back: Humped and sloping

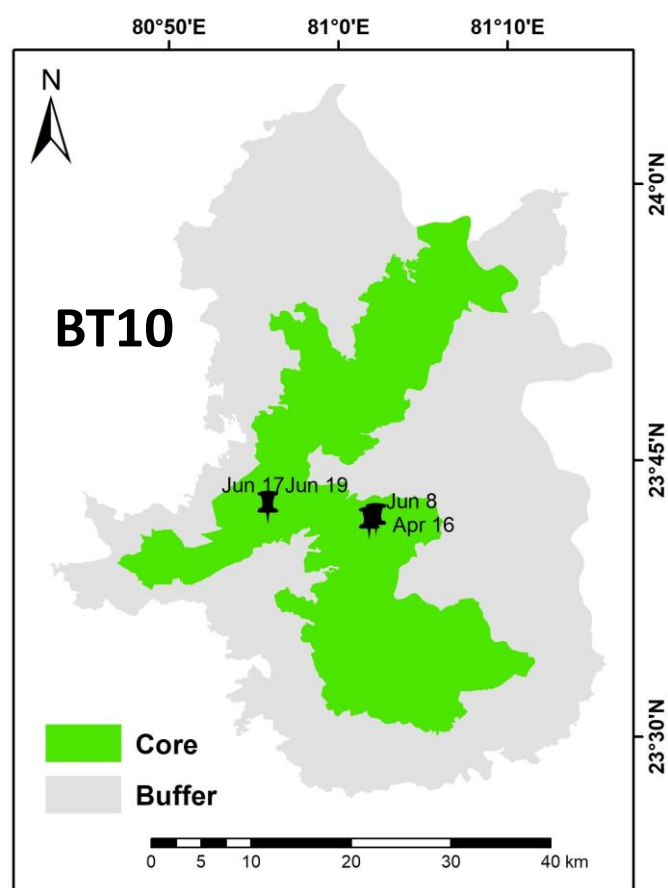
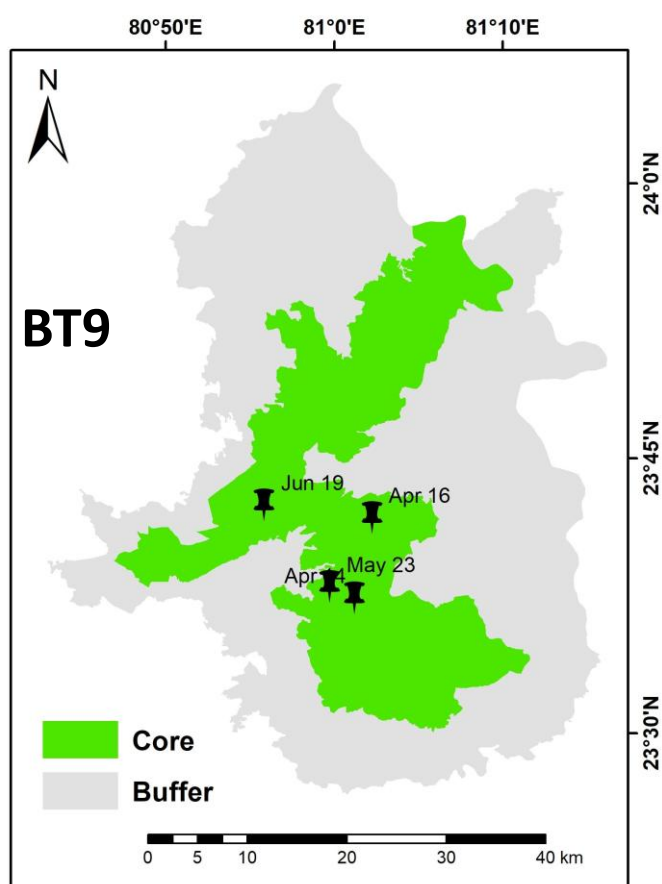
Elephant Photo-capture Sites

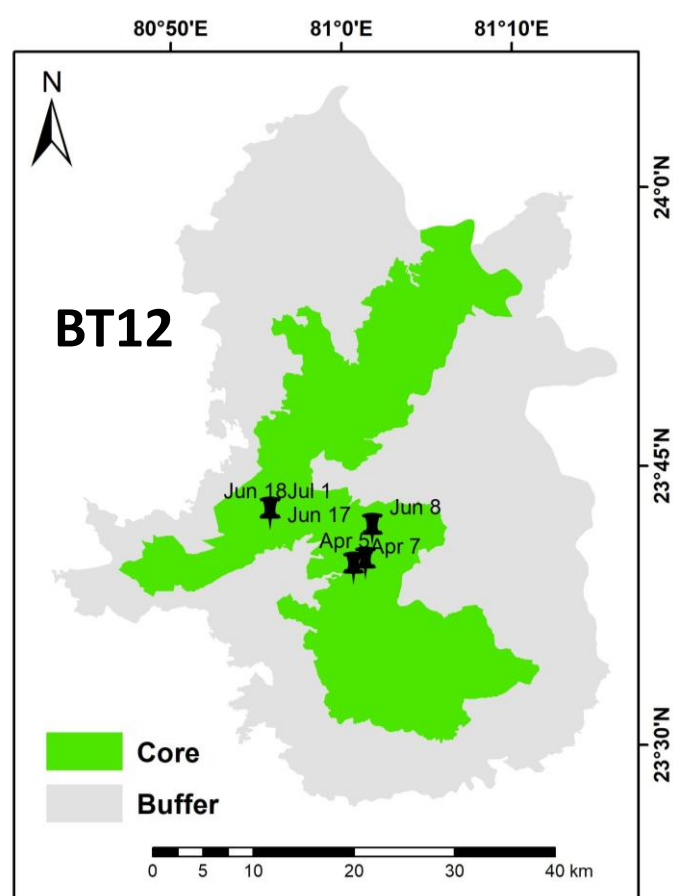
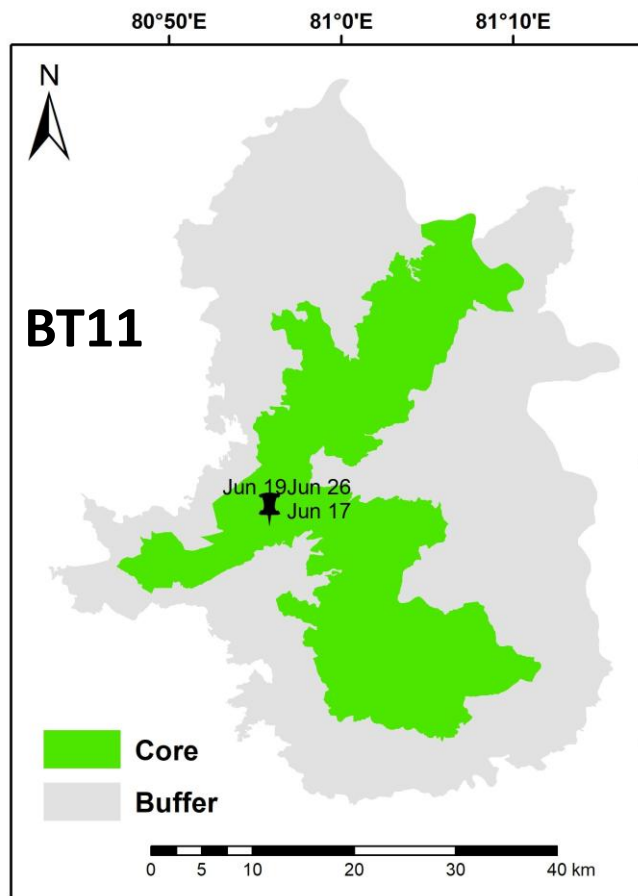


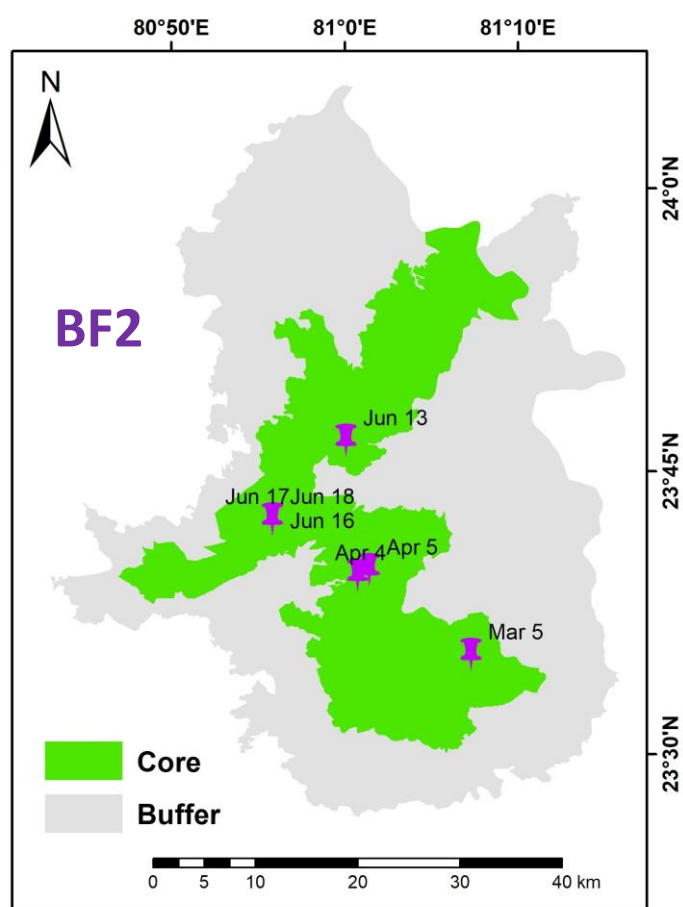
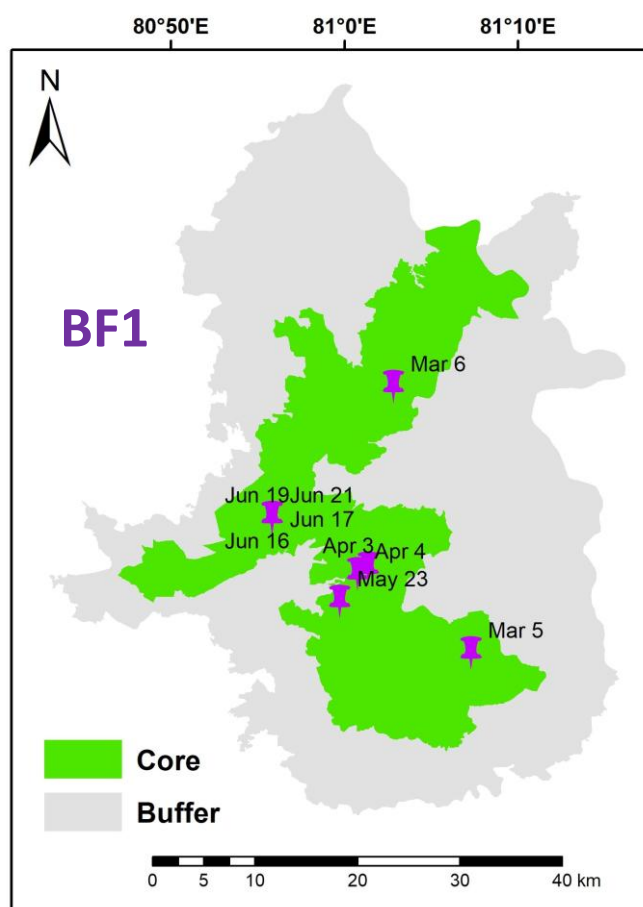


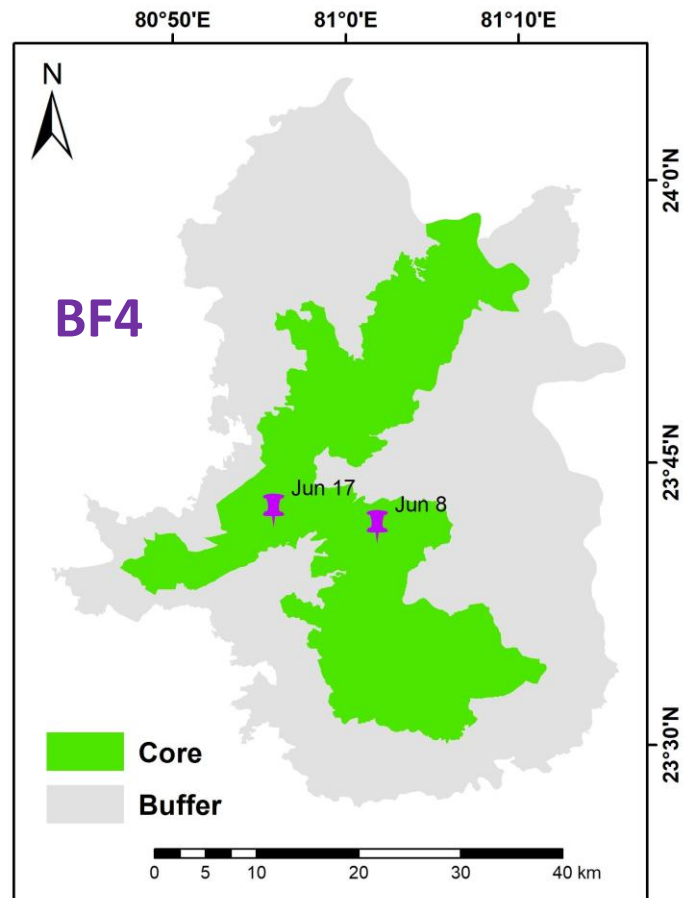
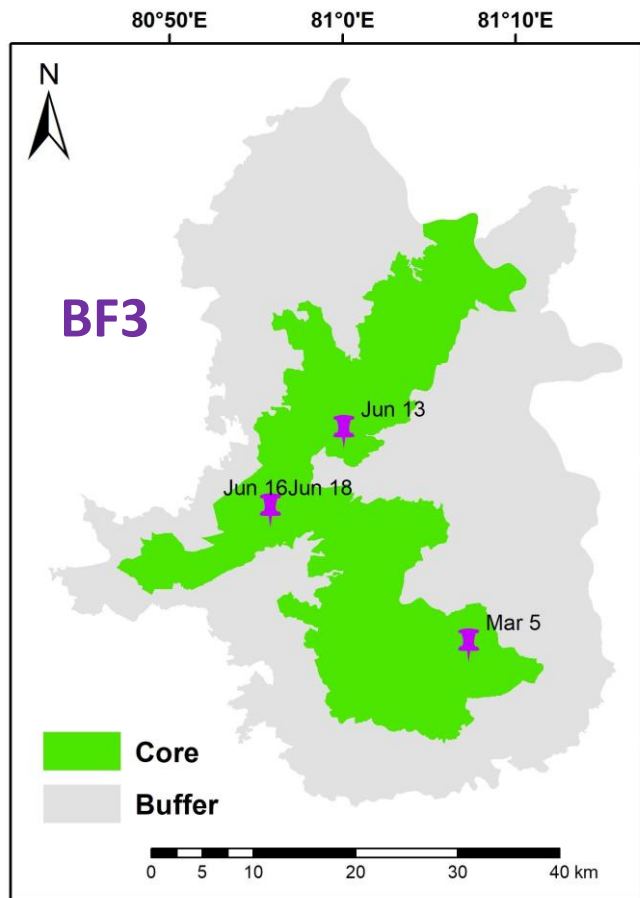


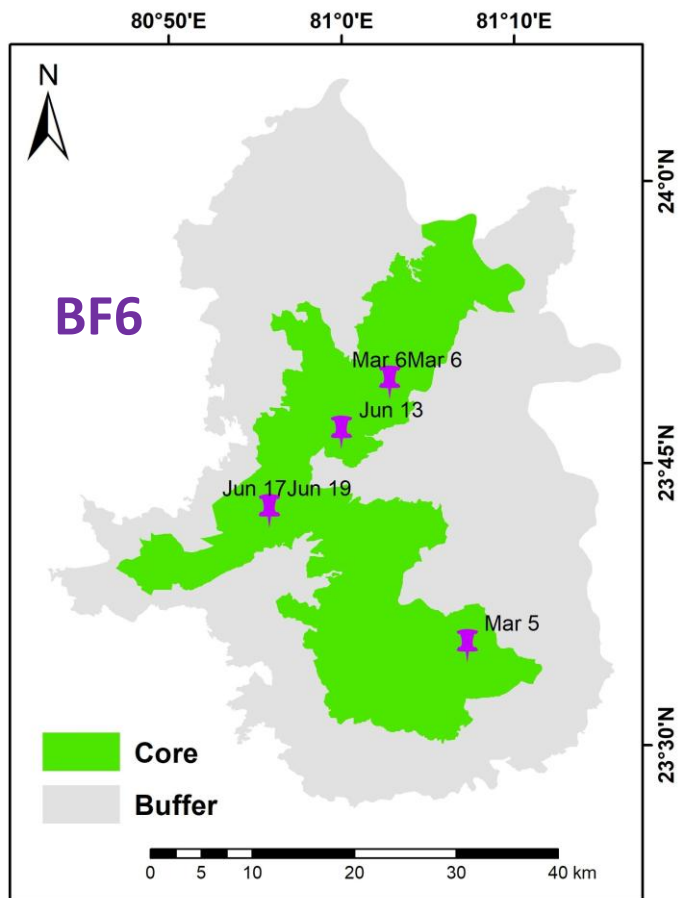
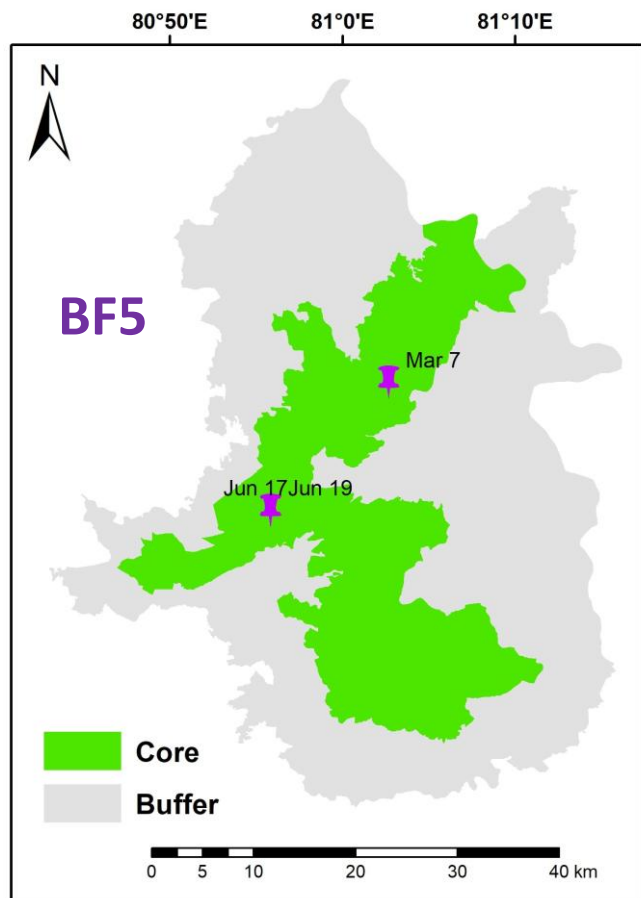


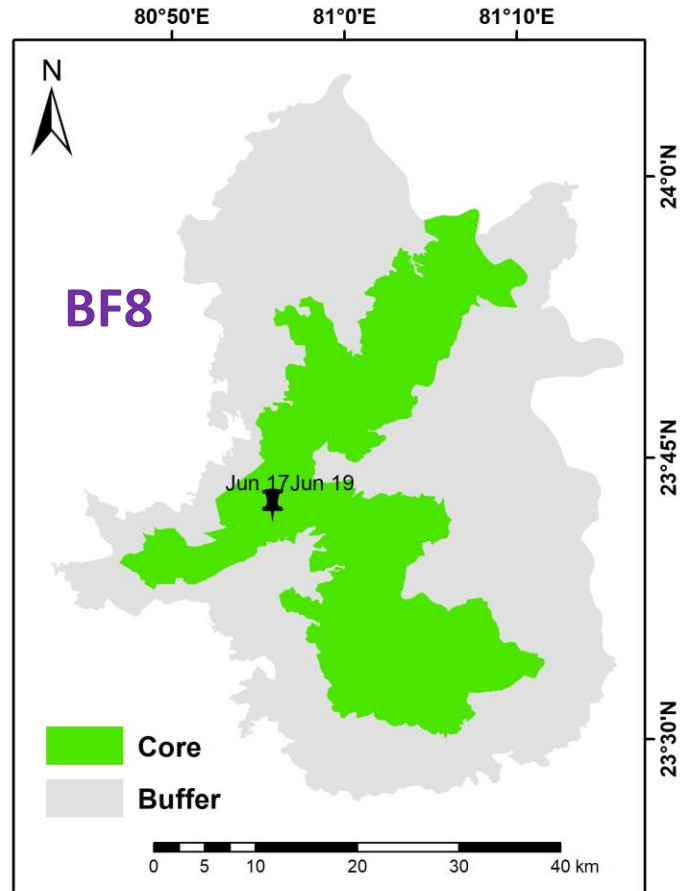
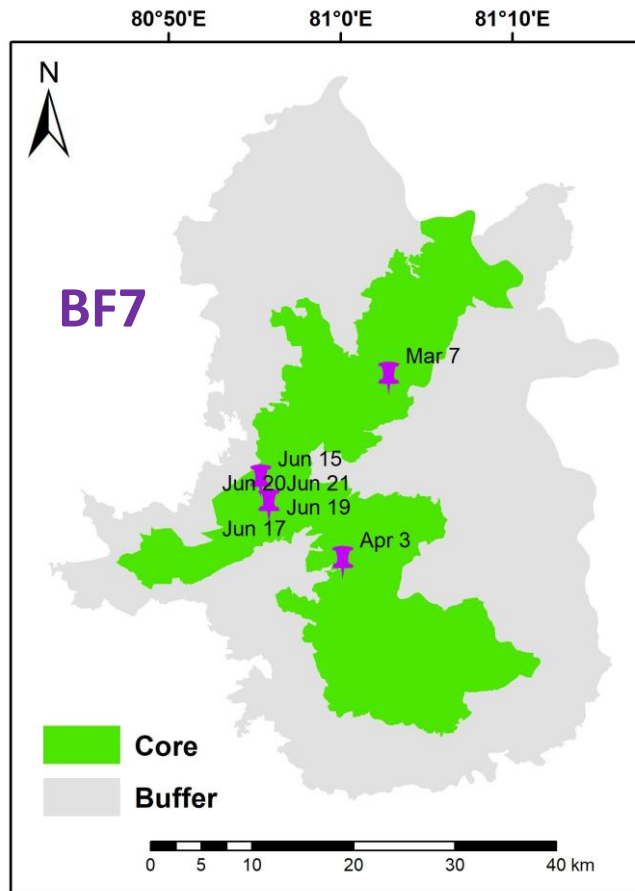


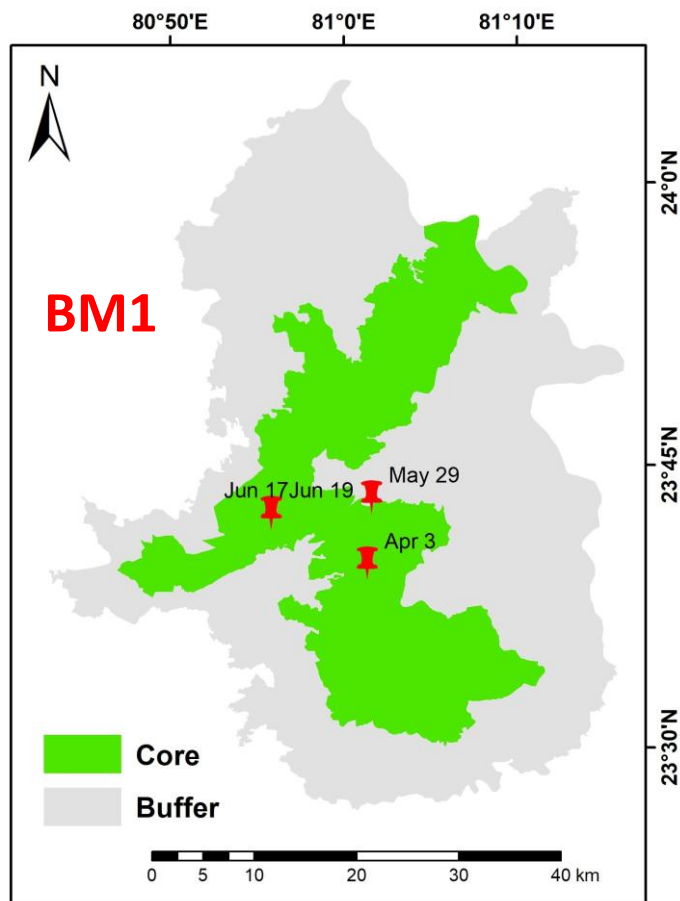












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