

07/07/2021

To,

The Chief Judicial Magistrate,

Nainital.

Dear sir,

Thank you for taking the time out and visiting Sattal today (07/07/20201). I would like to request you to please help us in taking the correct course of action in regards to sattal (it's people and the environment). **We would like to request for an environmental and livelihood impact assessment of the proposal.**

I had sent a letter to the DFO asking for a special status for the Sattal forests I am attaching the letter to DFO as an Annexure. This is a follow up letter to the same issue.

The forests hosts numerous trees of the family 'orchidaceae' like foxtail orchid (endangered) which are rare or endangered. Also trees from the species of the family Woodsiaceae such as woodsia cyaloba, which are believed to be near extinct or extremely/ highly endangered are also found here.

The banj oak-chir pine forests of Sattal form a part of the globally recognised western Himalyan temperate forest biome located in the Himalayan biodiversity hotspot.

Wester Himalayan temperate forest have been attributed high conservation importance. This area has been designated as an 'endemic bird area' due to the overlapping of ranges of eleven restricted - range species.

There are as of now very few protected areas located in this forest type in Uttarakhand.

35-45% of the bird species found in Sattal are forest specialists, that is they cannot adapt to any other habitat type such as gardens, orchards, pine forest or degraded forest.

Oak forests are shrinking rapidly in the area due to climate change, extractive pressure, and need to be given high level of protection.

We recognise the importance of the aforesaid factors and the biodiverse nature of this region. Hence we are asking for the appropriate intervention to protect the livelihood and biodiversity of this beautiful yet fragile ecosystem.

Thanking you,

Best wishes,



savesattal@gmail.com