

## National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)

### Why in News?

Recently, Indian PM chaired the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Board for Wildlife in Gir National Park in Gujarat.

- **Establishment** - It was constituted as a **statutory body** under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- **Aim** - To promote the conservation and development of wildlife and forests.
- **Composition** - 47 members including the Prime Minister.
  - **Chairman** - Prime Minister of India.
- **Term of office** - 3 years for the members other than those who are member's ex-officio.
- **Powers** - It recommends on the setting up of and management of **national parks, sanctuaries, and other protected areas** and on matters relating to restriction of activities in those areas.
- **Meeting** - It shall ordinarily **meet once in a year**, presided by chairperson or Vice-chairperson in chairperson's absence.
- The Member-Secretary shall prepare agenda items for the meetings, obtain approval of the Chairperson and circulate it.
- Quorum shall be one-half of the total number of members.
- **Standing committee** - If constituted, it shall consist of the Vice-Chairperson (Union Minister in charge of Forests and Wildlife), the Member Secretary and not more than 10 members to be nominated by the Vice-Chairperson from amongst the members of the NBWL.

### Key takeaways from the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting

- **Dolphin Estimation** - 1<sup>st</sup> ever riverine dolphin estimation conducted in India, estimated a total of **6,327 dolphins**.
- Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest numbers, followed by Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam.
- **Asiatic Lion estimation** - It announced the initiation of the 16<sup>th</sup> cycle of lion estimation to be conducted in 2025.
- It is carried out once every 5 years
- **Preserving traditional knowledge and manuscripts** - For conservation and management of forests and wildlife.
- There are plans to the success story of Gir in Lion and Leopard conservation.

### Reference

[PIB| 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Board for Wildlife](#)



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