

# Wild Asian Buffalo

## Feeding behavior:

They are grazers by preference, feeding mainly on grasses when available, but they also eat herbs, fruits and barks. Sometimes they also browse trees and shrubs and also prefer agricultural crops such as paddy, sugar cane and jute.

## Breeding:

Male reaches sexual maturity at the age of 18 months while female at three years of age. Females normally produce calves every other year after a gestation of 9 to 11 months. Young bulls typically remain with maternal herds for three years after birth.



Status : IUCN Red List-Endangered  
CITES- Appendix III in Nepal  
NP & WC Act, 1973- Protected

## Status in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve:

The species is identified as an indicator species for Koshi Tappu. The census conducted in summer 2009 recorded 219 individual with 38% increment from 2004 census that recorded 159 individuals.



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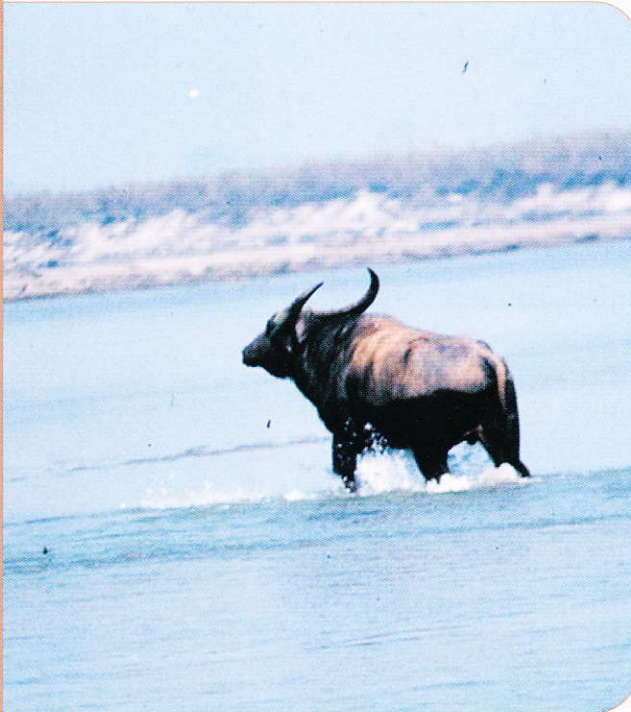
Scientific Name : *Bubalis bubalis arnee* or *Bubalus arnee* Kerr, 1792

Common Name : Asiatic Wild Water Buffalo/ Wild Asian Buffalo/  
Indian Water Buffalo

Local Name : Arna

## General description:

Standing 5 to 6 feet tall at the shoulder, they are formidable mammals with sparse gray-black coat. Both male and female carry backward-curving, crescent shaped horns, although the females' horns are significantly smaller. It is the second largest wild bovid, smaller only than the Gaur.



## Distribution:

Native to India, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Thailand.

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve holds the last remaining population of this species in Nepal.

## Habitat:

The species is tied to the availability of water and spend much of their day submerged in the muddy water of Asia's tropical and subtropical forests. They also prefer low-lying alluvial grasslands, sometimes riparian forests and woodlands as well.

