

**Government of West Bengal
Directorate of Forests
Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests and Field Director
Sundarban Tiger Reserve**

O.O No: 80/FD/Fishing Permit/2026

Date: 14/07/2026

Office Order

Fishing & Crab Collection in Sundarban Tiger Reserve (2026-27)

Period of Fishing Season: 27th July, 2026 to 31st March, 2027

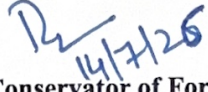
**Permitted Areas: Buffer Area of Sundarban Tiger Reserve
(Basirhat Range except Jhilla 1, 2, 3 compartments)**

Rules and Regulations for Fishing & Crab Collection in Sundarban Tiger Reserve:

- 1.** Fishing/crabbing without the **Fishing Permit and a valid pass** issued by the tiger reserve is strictly prohibited. Any such act/attempt will be considered trespass, illegal entry which is punishable u/s 27, 35(8), 38-V(2) & 38 - V(4)(i) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and u/s 26(d) of the Indian Forest Act, 1927. A photocopy of the Fishing permit and pass along with the original shall be carried during all the fishing trips.
- 2.** Only the fishermen to whom the pass is issued shall be permitted for fishing/crabbing inside the reserve. In case the fishermen to whom the fishing permit has been issued is not physically present during the fishing trip or non-permitted person(s) is/are found in the boat, then the fishing permit shall stand suspended with immediate effect and such persons will be detained for enquiry.
- 3.** All members of the boat shall carry valid **photo ID proof** (Aadhaar/ PAN/Voter/ Driving Licence) in all the fishing/crabbing trips inside the reserve. Person(s) unable to provide a valid ID proof shall remain barred from fishing activities and will be immediately detained for enquiry.
- 4.** Fishing/crabbing is allowed in **permitted areas only**. Presence or attempt to enter in any other area of the Tiger Reserve will be considered as an attempt to trespass u/s 27, 35(8), 38-V(2) & 38 - V(4)(i) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and u/s 26(d) of the Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- 5.** Fishermen are allowed to collect only the **fishes listed in Annexure I**. Crab Collectors are allowed to collect only mud crabs (*Scylla olivacea*). Any other species caught as bycatch needs to be released immediately. Possession of any species other than that are listed in Annexure I will be considered as an attempt to hunt and destruction of the habitat which is punishable u/s 9 of WPA, 1972.
- 6.** Fishermen/crab collectors shall only use the **fishing/crabbing gear listed in Annexure II**. Possession of any net(s), gear(s) or tool(s) other than the ones listed in Annexure II will be seized and the permit shall be suspended.
- 7.** Fishing/Crabbing boat shall comply with the following rules:
 - a. Fishing Permit Number shall be written legibly on both sides of the bow in White color.
 - b. Indian Flag shall be painted on both sides of the boat.
 - c. The top bead section of the boat shall be coloured bright White on both sides all along the length of the boat. This shall be recoloured every 60 days to remain identifiable.
 - d. Each boat shall carry a cooking gas filled mini cylinder for all cooking related purposes. Collection of dry wood from forest areas is strictly prohibited.
 - e. Any kind of mechanization of boats for propelling, fishing or any other purpose is strictly prohibited.
 - f. Any marks of identification on the boats made by the tiger reserve shall not be tampered with.
- 8.** Digging and collection of crabs from crab holes is strictly prohibited. Fisherman, Crab collectors are not allowed to step on land for any reason. Any such attempt or commission will be considered as destruction of habitat which is punishable u/s 29, 35(6) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and u/s 26(i) of the Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- 9.** All the existing forest and environmental laws for the time being in vogue and any other directives issued from time to time shall strictly be adhered to.

The entire policy of Fishing Permits issuance (BLC issuance for fishing) is under review as per the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta vide their order dated 07-03-2023 in WPA(P) 107 of 2023, and modifications/changes may be made during the season or course of the year as per the directions of the competent authority.

In case of violation of any of the rules and regulations mentioned above, Sundarban Tiger Reserve Officials shall exercise the authority to impose fines and restrictions on the corresponding permits in proportion to the gravity of the violation/offence along with initiation of proceedings under WPA, IFA and other acts and rules as applicable.


**Chief Conservator of Forests
& Field Director
Sundarban Tiger Reserve, West Bengal**

No: 2505 (9)/FD/2026

Date: 14/07/2026

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

- 1.) PCCF & HoFF, West Bengal
- 2.) PCCF & Chief Wildlife Warden, West Bengal
- 3.) APCCF & Director, Sundarban Biosphere Reserve
- 4.) District Magistrate, 24 Parganas South District
- 5.) District Magistrate, 24 Parganas North District
- 6.) Superintendent of Police, Baruipur Police District
- 7.) Superintendent of Police, Basirhat Police District
- 8.) Divisional Forest Officer, 24 Parganas South Division
- 9.) All Range Officers of Sundarban Tiger Reserve.


**Chief Conservator of Forests
& Field Director
Sundarban Tiger Reserve, West Bengal**

Annexure I

[to O.O. No. 80/FD/Fishing Permit/2026 dated 14/07/2026]

List of Permitted Fish and Aquatic Species

(Buffer Area of Sundarban Tiger Reserve — Basirhat Range, except Jhilla 1, 2 & 3)

Sl. No.	Local / Bengali Name	Scientific Name	English Name
1	Ilish / ইলিশ	<i>Tenualosa ilisha</i>	Hilsa Shad
2	Phansa / ফঁসা	<i>Setipinna sp.</i>	Hairfin Anchovy
3	Gurjali / গুরজালি	<i>Eleutheronema tetradactylum</i>	Fourfinger Threadfin
4	Parse / পার্শে	<i>Mugil sp.</i>	Mullet
5	Ropse / রপসে	<i>Polynemus paradiseus</i>	Paradise Threadfin
6	Bhekta / ভেটকি	<i>Lates calcarifer</i>	Asian Sea Bass
7	Poa Bhola / পোয়া ভোলা	<i>Panna microdon</i>	Panna Croaker
8	Kaira / কাইরা	<i>Gudusia chapra</i>	Indian River Shad
9	Pangas / পাঙ্গাস	<i>Pangasius pangasius</i>	Pangas Catfish
10	Lote / লোটে	<i>Harpadon nehereus</i>	Bombay Duck
11	Amude / আমুদে	<i>Coilia sp.</i>	Grenadier Anchovy
12	Datne / ডাটনে	<i>Acanthopagrus latus</i>	Yellowfin Seabream
13	Bhangan / ভাঙন	<i>Mugil tade</i>	Tade Mullet
14	Chandana Ilish / চন্দনা ইলিশ	<i>Tenualosa toli</i>	Toli Shad
15	Pomfret / পমফ্রেট	<i>Pampus sp.</i>	Pomfret
16	Sele / সেলে	<i>Sele sp.</i>	Sele
17	Ava Vetki / আভা ভেটকি	—	Ava Bhekta
18	Magur / মাগুর	<i>Clarias batrachus</i>	Walking Catfish / Water Mutton
19	Bhola / ভোলা	<i>Otolithoides sp.</i>	Croaker
20	Sardine / সার্ডিন	<i>Sardinella longiceps / Dussumieria sp.</i>	Sardine
21	Ban / বান	<i>Anguilla bengalensis</i>	Bengal Eel
22	Payra / পায়রা	<i>Scatophagus argus</i>	Spotted Scat / Butterfish
23	Kuche / কুঁচে	<i>Monopterus cuchia</i>	Cuchia Eel
24	Lucho / লুচো	<i>Toxotes sp.</i>	Archerfish
25	Dhyala / ঢালা	<i>Pellona ditchella</i>	Indian Pellona
26	Tapertail Anchovy / —	<i>Coilia ramcarati</i>	Tapertail Anchovy
27	Pama / পামা	<i>Otolithoides pama</i>	Pama Croaker
28	Gung Mouti / গুং মউটি	—	Gung Mouti

29	Pan Khaki / পান খাকি	<i>Lutjanus campechanus</i>	Red Snapper
30	Bele / বেলে	<i>Platycephalus sp.</i>	Flathead
31	Chota Bele / ছোট বেলে	<i>Platycephalus indicus</i>	Bartail Flathead
32	Tul Bele / তুল বেলে	<i>Sillaginopsis panijus</i>	Gangetic Whiting
33	Bhola / ভোলা	<i>Johnius gangeticus</i>	Gangeticus Croaker
34	Lal Bhola / লাল ভোলা	<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Mangrove Red Snapper
35	Silverbidy / —	<i>Gerres oyena</i>	Common Silverbidy
36	Corsula / কসুলা	<i>Rhinomugil korsula</i>	Korsula Mullet
37	Savalai / সাবালাই	<i>Lepturacanthus savala</i>	Savalai Hairtail
38	Ganges Hairtail / —	<i>Trichiurus gangeticus</i>	Ganges Hairtail
39	Kath Koi / কাঠ কই	<i>Terapon jerbua</i>	Crescent Grunter
40	Adi Tengra / আদি টেংরা	<i>Mystus bleekeri</i>	Day's Mystus
41	Sea Catfish / —	<i>Arius arius</i>	Threadfin Sea Catfish
42	Long Whiskers Catfish / —	<i>Mystus gulio</i>	Long Whiskers Catfish
43	Mudskipper / —	<i>Boleophthalmus sp.</i>	Mudskipper
44	Mudskipper / —	<i>Periophthalmus sp.</i>	Mudskipper
45	Bagda Chingri / বাগদা চিংড়ি	<i>Penaeus monodon</i>	Tiger Prawn
46	Galda Chingri / গলদা চিংড়ি	<i>Macrobrachium rosenbergii</i>	Giant Freshwater Prawn
47	Kucho Chingri / কুচো চিংড়ি	<i>Penaeus indicus</i>	Indian White Prawn
48	Opa / ওপা	<i>Cynoglossus cynoglossus</i>	Bengal Tongue Sole
49	Flatfish / —	<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>	Flatfish / Plaice
50	Red Eel Goby / —	<i>Odontamblyopus rubicundus</i>	Red Eel Goby
51	Trypauchen Goby / —	<i>Trypauchen vagina</i>	Trypauchen Goby
52	Stabe / স্টেবি	<i>Xenentodon cancila</i>	Needlefish / Garfish
53	Mud Crab — <i>Scylla olivacea</i> only (কাদা কাঁকড়া — শুধুমাত্র <i>Scylla olivacea</i>)	<i>Scylla olivacea</i>	Mud Crab (Olive-backed) — only this species; other <i>Scylla</i> spp. NOT permitted

Annexure II

[to O.O. No. 80/FD/Fishing Permit/2026 dated 14/07/2026]

List of Permitted Fishing Gear / Nets

(Buffer Area of Sundarban Tiger Reserve)

Sl. No.	Name of Gear / Net	Bengali Name	Remarks
1	Goishya / Golsa Net	গইশা / গলসা জাল	For fish
2	Khoira Net	খইরা জাল	For fish
3	Monofil Net — mesh size 10 cm and above ONLY	মনোফিল জাল — ১০ সেমি বা তার বেশি মেস	For fish; sub-10cm mesh prohibited
4	Fine Fibre Net — mesh size 8 mm and above ONLY	ফাইন ফাইবার জাল — ৮ মিমি বা তার বেশি মেস	For fish; sub-8mm mesh prohibited
5	Dhon / Caret (for crab collection only)	ধোন / কেরেট (শুধুমাত্র কাঁকড়া সংগ্রহ)	Crab collection ONLY

Note: Possession of any net(s), gear(s) or tool(s) other than those listed above will be seized and the fishing permit shall be suspended with immediate effect.

Government of West Bengal
Directorate of Forests
Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests and Field Director
Sundarban Tiger Reserve

O.O. No: 80(1)/FD/Fishing Permit/2026

Date: 14/07/2026

Office Order

**Issuance of Fishing Permits & Passes for Fishing & Crabbing in
Sundarban Tiger Reserve (2026-27)**

Temporary and Provisional Fishing permits (also called as Boat License Certificate) and passes shall be issued in pursuance of the office order No: 80/FD/Fishing Permit/2026 dated 14/07/2026 and shall be valid only for the fishing period mentioned in the order.

Issuance of Fishing permits (Temporary & Provisional) will start from **15.07.2026** and will be open till **27.07.2026**, the associated Passes for fishing will be issued from **28.07.2026**.

Terms and Conditions for the Issuance of Fishing permits:

- 1.)** Documents to be submitted by the fishermen/crab collectors for issuing Fishing permit
 - a.) Duly filled in Application form (attached as Annexure A).
 - b.) Details of Co-Fishermen form (attached as Annexure B).
 - c.) Duly signed Undertaking/ Affidavit (attached as Annexure C).
 - d.) Valid Photo ID proof issued by the Government of the Permit holder and Co-fishermen as listed in Annexure B (Voter/PAN/Aadhar/Driver's License).

Submission of false information/documents may invite legal consequences besides cancellation of the fishing permit.
- 2.)** Permit holder shall submit an application form along with a list of Co-Fishermen who will be accompanying him/her during the fishing trips (including Govt IDs). Co-Fisherman should be JFMC members. Formats for submission of application and Co-fishermen details are attached as Annexure A & B respectively.
- 3.)** Permit holder shall submit an undertaking to abide by all existing forest, environment laws and rules mentioned in the extant office order for fishing as mentioned. (Annexure C)
- 4.)** Permit holder shall declare the purpose of Permit — Fishing/Crab Collection during the issuance of permits. The fishing permit shall be issued for fishing or crabbing and no conversion from one to another shall be entertained during the course of the current fishing season.
- 5.)** The applicant shall submit the necessary fee for fishing permit issuance as per the department order Memo No. 2044 WL/2L-1/2013 dated 05/07/2024.
- 6.)** Permit holders along with Co fisherman shall be present at the station at the time of issuance of fishing permit.
- 7.)** The boat along with the permit holder shall be present physically during the issuance of permit. The boat shall be inspected by the concerned Range officer, and a legible mark shall be made on the boat in order to identify the individual boat.

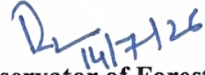
Fishing/Crabbing Pass against permit:

- 1.)** Fishing/crabbing passes shall be issued against the fishing permits for a period of **30 days** (maximum) and a new pass shall be issued only after the expiry of the previous pass.
- 2.)** Passes shall be issued every day from **8.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.** (Except on Tuesdays).
- 3.)** Passes shall be issued only from the respective territorial ranges from where the fishing permits have been issued.

4.) Passes shall be issued only to the Fishing permit holder(s) and Co-fishermen and he/she/they shall remain physically present while applying for the pass with valid photo identity proof issued by Government (Voter ID/PAN Card/ADHAAR Card)

The permit/pass shall be considered valid only after the seal of the forest staff which will be done after proper inspection of the boat and compliance of all other terms and conditions as mentioned in the order.

The entire policy of Fishing Permits issuance (BLC issuance for fishing) is under review as per the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta vide their order dated 07-03-2023 in WPA(P) 107 of 2023, and modifications/changes may be made during the season or course of the year as per the directions of the competent authority.


**Chief Conservator of Forests
& Field Director
Sundarban Tiger Reserve, West Bengal**

No: 2506 (9)/FD/2026

Date: 14/07/2026

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

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- 8.) Divisional Forest Officer, 24 Parganas South Division
- 9.) All Range Officers of Sundarban Tiger Reserve.


**Chief Conservator of Forests
& Field Director
Sundarban Tiger Reserve, West Bengal**

**Application Form for Fishing Permit in
Sundarban Tiger Reserve (2026-27)**
সুন্দরবন ব্যাঘ্র সংরক্ষণ ক্ষেত্রে মৎস্য আহরণের অনুমতির আবেদন পত্র (২০২৬-২৭)

Permit applied for / অনুমতির ধরন:		
☐ Fishing / মৎস্য আহরণ	☐ Crab Collection / কাঁকড়া সংগ্রহ	☐ Honey / মধু

Personal Details / ব্যক্তিগত বিবরণ

Name / নাম :	
Date of Birth / জন্ম তারিখ :	
Sex / লিঙ্গ :	☐ Male / পুরুষ ☐ Female / মহিলা ☐ Other / অন্যান্য
Address / ঠিকানা :	
Village / গ্রাম :	
Police Station / থানা :	
Govt. ID No. / সরকারি পরিচয়পত্র নং :	
Contact Number / যোগাযোগ নম্বর :	

JFMC Details / JFMC-র বিবরণ

JFMC Name / JFMC-র নাম :	
JFMC Membership No. / সদস্যপদ নং :	
JFMC Recommendation Letter attached / সুপারিশপত্র সংযুক্ত :	☐ Yes / হ্যাঁ ☐ No / না

Boat Details (to be filled in Metres) / নৌকার বিবরণ (মিটারে)

Length / দৈর্ঘ্য :	
Breadth / প্রস্থ :	
Height / Depth / উচ্চতা / গভীরতা :	

Documents Submitted (Check List) / সংযুক্ত নথিপত্র (চেকলিস্ট)

☐ Government ID — Photocopy / সরকারি পরিচয়পত্র — ফটোকপি
☐ Income Certificate (Year 2024-25) / আয়ের শংসাপত্র (বছর ২০২৪-২৫)
☐ JFMC Committee Recommendation / JFMC-র সুপারিশপত্র
☐ JFMC Membership Details / JFMC সদস্যপদের বিবরণ

Date / তারিখ: _____	Place / স্থান: _____	Signature of the Applicant আবেদনকারীর স্বাক্ষর: _____
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Details of Co-Fisherman / সহ-জেলেদের বিবরণ

The applicant should fill in details of the Co-Fisherman who will be assisting him/her in fishing, Crab or Honey Collection throughout the year.

আবেদনকারী সারা বছর মৎস্য আহরণ, কাঁকড়া সংগ্রহ বা মধু সংগ্রহে যে সহ-জেলেরা সহায়তা করবেন তাঁদের বিবরণ পূরণ করুন।

Sl. No.	Name নাম	Father's Name পিতার নাম	Address ঠিকানা	Village গ্রাম	Govt ID No. পরিচয়পত্র নং	Mobile মোবাইল	JFMC Membership No.
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							

Emergency Contact Number / জরুরি যোগাযোগ নম্বর: _____

Date / তারিখ: _____	Place / স্থান: _____	Signature of the Applicant আবেদনকারীর স্বাক্ষর: _____
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Affidavit / শপথনামা

I hereby declare that / আমি এতদ্বারা ঘোষণা করিতেছি যে:

1. The Permit will be used only by me and only for the purpose for which the permit is issued.

অনুমতি শুধুমাত্র আমার দ্বারা এবং যে উদ্দেশ্যে অনুমতি জারি করা হয়েছে শুধুমাত্র সেই উদ্দেশ্যে ব্যবহার করা হবে।

2. The Permit will never be sublet, rented or sold through a deed by me in any circumstance.

কোনো পরিস্থিতিতেই অনুমতি ইজারা, ভাড়া বা বিক্রি করা হবে না।

3. In no circumstance, the Permit will be used for fishing without my physical presence inside the permitted forest areas.

কোনো অবস্থাতেই অনুমোদিত বনাঞ্চলে আমার শারীরিক উপস্থিতি ছাড়া মৎস্য আহরণের জন্য অনুমতি ব্যবহার করা হবে না।

4. The permit that is issued against my name will only be used for fishing/crab collection in the permitted areas.

আমার নামে জারি করা অনুমতি কেবলমাত্র অনুমোদিত এলাকায় মৎস্য আহরণ/কাঁকড়া সংগ্রহের জন্য ব্যবহার করা হবে।

5. I will adhere to all the Rules and Regulations that are issued and that may be subsequently issued from time to time by the Forest Department and Sundarban Tiger Reserve.

বন বিভাগ এবং সুন্দরবন ব্যাঘ্র সংরক্ষণ ক্ষেত্র কর্তৃক জারি করা এবং পরবর্তীতে সময়ে সময়ে জারি করা সমস্ত বিধি ও নিয়মাবলী আমি মেনে চলব।

6. I take full responsibility in case of any violation of the rules and regulations by using the Boat Registration Certificate or the permit issued against my name. Otherwise any lawful action may be initiated against me and the Registration certificate therein.

আমার নামে জারি করা নৌকা নিবন্ধন সনদ বা অনুমতি ব্যবহার করে নিয়ম লঙ্ঘনের ক্ষেত্রে আমি সম্পূর্ণ দায়িত্ব গ্রহণ করছি।

Date / তারিখ: _____	Place / স্থান: _____	Signature of the Applicant আবেদনকারীর স্বাক্ষর: _____
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