

# Forest policy will focus on steps to boost ecological health in Raj

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Jaipur: The Rajasthan Forest Policy will focus on forest protection through constant vigil in the forest area to ensure the growth and ecological health of forest areas in the state.

The policy states that the authorities will ensure regular engagement with stakeholders and augmentation of protection capability proportional to the gravity of the threat, whether biotic or abiotic pressure.

The forest policy also focuses on grassland management as the livestock population of the state is immensely dependent on grasslands for their fodder and forage requirements.

“Species like the Great Indian Bustard (GIB), florican, black buck, chinkara, etc, are dependent on grasslands for their survival,” states the policy.

The latest policy also has a provision for working on desertification and land degradation in the state, the main causes for which have been identified as wind erosion, water erosion, water logging.

“Sand dune stabilisation of actively shifting sand dune shall be promoted, wind-breaks and shelter-belt plantation shall be promoted on public as well as private lands to arrest desertification,” are some of the measures mentioned in the policy.