



Species

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2023 Report

IUCN SSC Crocodile Specialist Group



CO-CHAIR
Alejandro Larriera
Universidad Nacional
del Litoral, Santa
Fe de la Vera Cruz,
Argentina



CO-CHAIR
Charlie Manolis
Wildlife Management
International (WMI),
Queensland, Australia

**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**
Sally R. Isberg
Centre for Crocodile
Research, Noonamah,
Australia

PROGRAMME OFFICER
Sally R. Isberg
Centre for Crocodile
Research, Noonamah,
Australia

NUMBER OF MEMBERS
726

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE
Facebook: @iucncsg
X: @CrocSpecGroup
Website: www.iucncsg.org

Mission statement

ACT

T-018 Prepare and disseminate case studies on Livelihoods and Sustainable Use.

Status: On track

T-019 Assess the impact on crocodilian conservation efforts by various NGOs to

curtail all trade in wildlife to meet ideo-0.01 (d)-14.175.3 (s)-11.5 (e)-904.20m1C 48.189 34acee 0 S 2a tdr Stgoua On track T-019 nv13eedGOS

Result description: In Lao People's Democratic Republic, thirty-one hatchlings from the 2020 hatchling cohort were released in the Xe Champhone Ramsar Wetlands in March 2023 as part of a collaborative effort between the Savannakhet Provincial Department of Agriculture and Forestry, and the Wildlife Conservation Society. Drone technology is now being utilised to locate Siamese Crocodile nests, which are also being used as the metric to estimate population trends because of the difficulties of nocturnal counts owing to densely vegetated wetlands. The number of crocodiles is estimated to be between 70 to 225 individuals, thus making this population of global conservation significance, ranking among the largest known wild Siamese Crocodile population in mainland Southeast Asia. In Cambodia (Pablo Sinovas, FFI), the annual monitoring was conducted in five crocodile sanctuaries (O'Som, Areng, Chhay Reap, Tatai Leu, and Steung Khiew) in the Cardamom Mountains. Analysis of monitoring data from the last two decades indicates that the population in the Cardamom Mountains is stable overall, with the two sites known to hold the largest populations of the species showing evidence of reproduction, and a stable and growing population, respectively. One nest was located in May 2022 (Chhay Reap – 22 eggs; all infertile) and another in June 2023 (Trapeang Peing crocodile sanctuary with 21 eggs; 17 fertilized, four infertile but were all compromised by flooding). Ten crocodiles (two males; eight females) were released in the upper Stung Kampong Tachey River in a community-protected sanctuary in the Cardamom Mountains in December 2022. Permission has already been sought from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) to release more crocodiles in the Cardamom area and plans are underway to release another 50 crocodiles in late February 2024. In 2022-23, the captive breeding facilities at Phnom

Tamao Wildlife Rescue Centre (PTWRC) have produced 138 hatchlings (60 in 2022 and 78 in 2023) and currently hold a total of 269 Siamese Crocodile individuals (10 breeding males, 43 breeding females, 129 sub-adults and juveniles, and 87 new hatchlings) as part of the breeding and release programme. The DNA sampling of 75 of these crocodiles has identified 63 as being purebred Siamese Crocodiles and 12 as hybrids. In March 2023, Fauna and Flora International (FFI) conducted a crocodile survey and habitat assessment in O'Chay and O'Chentong within Virachey National Park (VNP), Siem Pang district, Steung Treng province, but no evidence of Siamese Crocodiles was found. Habitat assessment of these rivers was found not to be suitable for the release of crocodiles as only a small number of anlongs (small

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and sustainable use, were reviewed, and a document was prepared for distribution on our website and social media channels.

T-021 Encourage programmes aimed at improving the status of Lake Mesangat and associated areas (Kalimantan, Indonesia) for Siamese Crocodiles and Tomistoma.
(KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies updated: 1

Result description: Discussions with different organisations, as well as the recruitment of students, are in progress.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-023 Improve the status of wild Black Caiman and Orinoco Crocodile populations by establishing and/or furthering programs to engage more rapidly in restocking and reintroduction programs. (KSR 10)

Number of conservation translocations conducted: 1

Result description: In May 2023, 169 Orinoco Crocodiles (*Crocodilus orinoco*) were released into the Capanaparo River, Venezuela. These crocodiles were one-year-old, captive-bred individuals

