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Chair

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Number of members

642

Social networks

Facebook:
IUCN Crocodile Specialist Group
Website:
www.iucncsg.org



Mission statement

The Mission of the IUCN SSC Crocodile Specialist Group (CSG) is to assist the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to meet their missions with regard to the conservation, management and sustainable use of world crocodilians.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, we envisage: (1) increased reintroductions and improved status of wild populations of Critically Endangered (CR) crocodilian species (e.g. *Alligator sinensis* in China, *Crocodylus siamensis* in Cambodia and Thailand, *C. mindorensis* and *C. porosus* in the Philippines, *C. rhombifer* in Cuba and *C. intermedius* in Venezuela and Colombia); (2) improved legal protection status of habitat for *C. siamensis* and *Tomistoma schlegelii* in Mesangat Lake, East Kalimantan, Indonesia; (3) publication of "CSG Conservation Priorities for World Crocodilians" and species action plans.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: review and progress Red List assessments for crocodilians.

Plan

Planning: (1) update and review Species Action Plans; (2) improve protection status of Lake Mesangat, Kalimantan, Indonesia, for Siamese Crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*) and False Gharial (*Tomistoma schlegelii*).

Policy: (1) complete at least two country/species reviews; (2) maintain involvement at international forums (e.g. CITES); (3) develop "CSG

Conservation Priorities for World Crocodilians"; (4) update "Crocodile Capacity Building Manual".
Research activities: quantify taxonomic and population status of the Rio Apaporis Caiman, *Caiman crocodilus apaporiensis* (Colombia).

Act

Conservation actions: improve the status of wild Siamese Crocodile populations through reintroduction programmes (Cambodia, Viet Nam, and Thailand).

Network

Capacity building: (1) fund up to 20 postgraduate students per annum through the CSG Student Research Assistance Scheme; (2) continue promoting the CSG Future Leaders Program.

Communication: investigate the concept of a "Junior CSG".

Documents review: update *Best Management Practices for Crocodilian Farming*.

Proposal development and funding: establish a fundraising advisory group.

Technical advice: develop updated standard reference source for crocodilian taxonomy and phylogenetic relationships.

Communicate

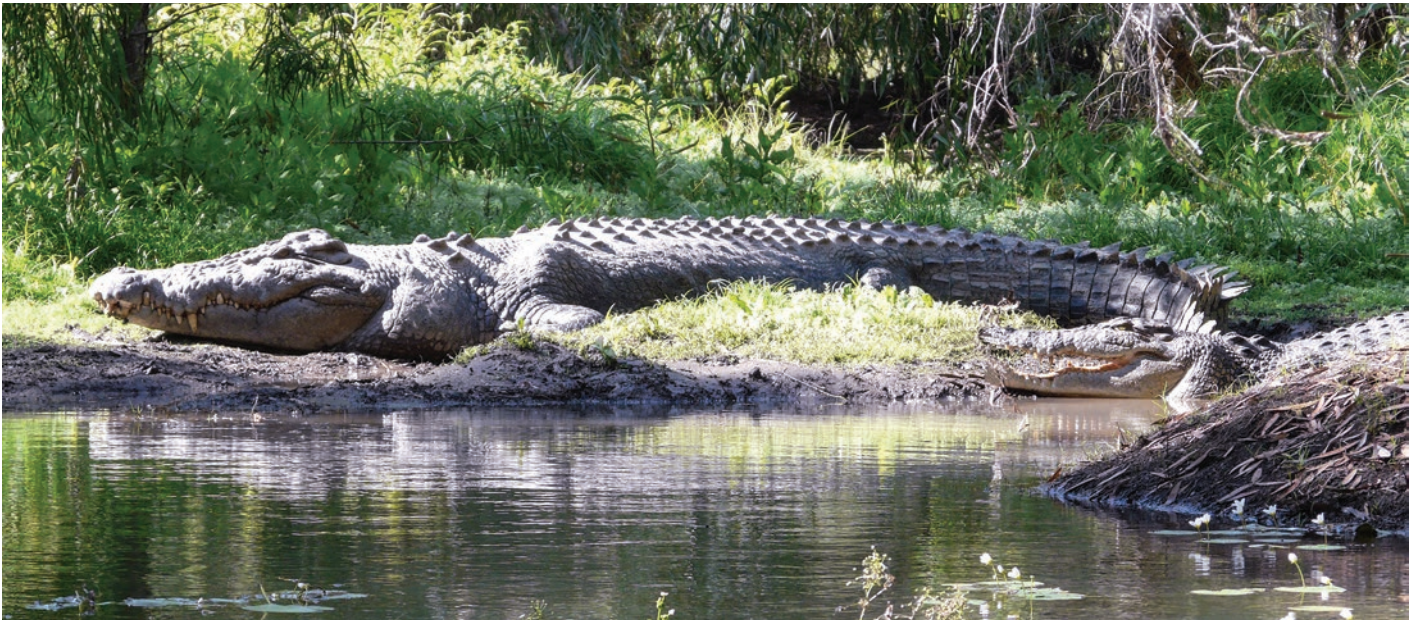
Synergy: improve communication with membership.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

i. Four people have undertaken IUCN Red List training; Red List assessments for six species were completed: *Gavialis gangeticus*, *Paleosuchus trigonatus*, *P. palpebrosus*, *Crocodylus niloticus*, *Alligator mississippiensis*, and *C. novaeguineae*. (KSR #5)



Salt-water Crocodile
(*Crocodylus porosus*), Least Concern
Photo: Tom Dacey



Siamese Crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*)
Photo: G. Webb



Caiman *crocodilus fuscus* in Cuba
Photo: Gustavo Sosa

Plan

Planning

- i. Six Action Plans updated in 2018. (KSR #15)
- ii. The Ecosystem Essential Areas status currently in place is not considered sufficient. Crocodile population surveys were carried out in late 2017. Draft Action plan is in preparation. (KSR #15)

Policy

- i. Reviews of Queensland Government population monitoring programme, and egg harvesting programme, were carried out. (KSR #27)
- ii. Attendance at the 30th meeting of CITES Animals Committee and 70th meeting of CITES Standing Committee. (KSR #26)
- iii. Some Action Plans have been incorporated into the draft CSG Conservation Priorities for World Crocodilians document. (KSR #28)
- iv. The 'Crocodile Capacity Building Manual' is updated regularly. (KSR #26)

Research activities

- i. In September 2018, a research team visited the Apaporis River, Colombia, and rediscovered the Rio Apaporis Caiman; the species had not been seen in the wild for 22 years. (KSR #43)

Act

Conservation actions

- i. In Cambodia, wild populations of the Siamese Crocodile have been enhanced; captive breeding of pure Siamese Crocodiles is ongoing. In Thailand, plans for reintroduction are being implemented. (KSR #24)

Network

Capacity building

- i. Twenty-nine postgraduate students were funded (US\$ 1,000 each) through the CSG Student Research Assistance Scheme. (KSR #17)
- ii. Members of the Future Leaders Program attended the 30th meeting of CITES Animals Committee (AC30) and the 70th meeting of CITES Standing Committee (SC70), and a workshop at the 25th CSG Working Meeting. (KSR #17)

Communication

- i. The concept of a "Junior CSG" was kindly advanced by two CSG members in the US, and its progress is being monitored by CSG. The broad concept initially articulated by the CSG has not been established, and ways in which it can be more broadly implemented are currently being addressed.

Documents review

- i. No updates to the *Best Management Practices (BMP) for Crocodilian Farming* were required in 2018. (KSR #25)

Proposal development and funding

- i. Preliminary planning for establishment of a group (e.g. Terms of References) has been undertaken. (KSR #19)

Technical advice

- i. CSG Taxonomy Group established. (KSR #26)

Communicate

Synergy

- i. Sub-Regional Office established in Belize. The 25th CSG Working Meeting was held in Argentina, 7–10 May 2018.

Acknowledgements

We thank the various donors who have contributed funding to the CSG.

Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 5/5

Assess	1	█
Plan	7	███████
Act	1	█
Network	6	███████
Communicate	1	█

Main KSRs addressed: 5, 15, 17, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 43

KSR: Key Species Result