Crocodile Specialist Group Steering Committee Meeting

Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Australia (15 April 2024)

Trade Monitoring Report

Data on world trade in crocodilians are obtained from CITES annual reports, the Fishery Statistics Division of FAO and the Crocodile Farmers Association of Zimbabwe. Annual reports to CITES should be submitted by 31 October of the year following that in which the trade occurred and therefore 2021 is the most recent year for which we have reasonably complete data. The deadline for 2021 reports is long past but as usual, some crocodilian producer countries have failed to submit their reports. Although problematic, this is not necessarily disastrous as the data from an exporting country may be recorded in the annual reports of importing countries. The real problem occurs when both ends of the trade route fail to report adequately.

Since the 26th CSG Working Meeting (Mexico, 2020), skin trade data for 2021 and 2022 has been collated for the FAO Yearbook of Fishery Statistics and the IACTS reports for the years up to 2021.

At the time of the global analysis for the most recent IACTS report (April 2023), several CITES annual reports that might have contained important crocodilian data had not been received by the CITES Secretariat. These included Australia (2020 and 2021), Bolivia (2021), Brazil (2019 and 2021), Guyana (2021), Madagascar (2021), Malawi (2021), Mexico (2021), Papua New Guinea (2021), Suriname (2021), USA (2020 and 2021), Venezuela (2021) and Viet Nam (2021).

Of these, Australia (2020), Guyana (2021), Mexico (2021), Papua New Guinea (2021), Suriname (2021), USA (2020) and Venezuela (2021) have now been received.

The current IACTS report can be downloaded <u>here</u>. A further IACTS report is scheduled for completion in June 2024 covering the triennium 2020-2022.

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