

Crocodile Specialist Group Steering Committee Meeting
Double Tree Hilton, Darwin, Australia
(15 April 2024)

IUCN Red List Authority

The CSG Red Listing (RL) process continues to be very successful with 3 more updated RL assessments submitted for 3 species (*Crocodylus rhombifer* (CR A2cde); *Crocodylus moreletti* (LC); and, *Tomistoma schlegelii* (EN C2a(i)). We are grateful for the efforts of all the assessor/authors (S. Platt, L. Sigler, T. Rainwater, J. Cedeño-Vázquez, A. Villegas, W. McMahan, R. Targarona, R. Soberon, M. Alonso Tabet, K. Shaney, B. Shwedick, B. Simpson, A. Pine, B. Sideleau, C. Stevenson) and the numerous other CSG members who contributed to, or reviewed, these publications.

Current priorities for assessment remain with African species *C. suchus*, *O. tetraspis*, *M. cataphractus* and *M. leptorhynchus*. Drafts for the two *Mecistops* species are advancing, and an assessment team has been assigned for *C. suchus*. Since the last SC meeting, *Osteolaemus* has been recognised by the taxonomic group as comprising three species, but as the paper proposing this is still in progress, these other species have not yet been added to the Red List species list. Matt Shirley was successful in obtaining a SSC Internal EDGE grant to host a workshop in West Africa to develop Red List assessments and Action Plans for the three *Osteolaemus* species - we await participation in, and the outcomes from, this workshop.

The CSG taxonomy group has not yet formally recognised *C. halli*, although it acknowledges that genetic data will likely support the species. Until such time, the current *C. novaeguineae* assessment is current although lacks much of the detail expected in our normal assessment process.

Following from the above, all species have been assessed under the current Red List criteria (version 3.1; see table below) and updates are now required on a 10-20-year cycle which is the recommended reassessment schedule for crocodylians based on their life history and intensity of threats.

Accordingly, the first re-assessment drafts of the text and map have been developed for *Melanosuchus niger*. An assessment team for *C. palustris* has been identified, with *C. siamensis* and *C. mindorensis* the next priorities.

We continue to improve our capacity and systems for conducting RL assessments. One significant advancement has been our refinement of distribution maps to distinguish between extant, possibly extant and extinct areas. Some of our previous distribution maps will need to be updated upon reassessment to incorporate these refinements but are not perceived as a disadvantage at this stage from those published (eg *C. porosus*). The other advancements have been the development of Word and Excel templates as well as a review of the RL assessment process summary, as applicable to crocodylians, that is distributed to our assessment teams.

The team now consists of Sally Isberg, Sergio Balaguera-Reina, Brandon Sideleau and Colin Stevenson. Perran Ross continues to be of great assistance and guidance when required. Identifying others to become involved in the RL team, particularly trained RL assessors, is still required.

It has been suggested that when Red List assessments are published, that we do a short video release to be promoted on our social media channels. This will be trialled on the two released assessments from 2023, *C. moreletti* and *T. schlegelii*, and engagement will be reported to determine the level of interest against effort to develop.

Prepared by: Sally Isberg, Perran Ross, Sergio Balaguera-Reina, Brandon Sideleau and Colin Stevenson
Date prepared: 13 February 2024

Species	Assessed as	Assessed	Published	Actions
<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	LC	2018	2019	Current
<i>Alligator sinensis</i>	CR A1b, B1ab(11.v)+2ab (ii.v), C1 +2a(i)	2017	2018	Current
<i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	LC	2016	2019	Current
<i>Caiman latirostris</i>	LC	2019	2020	Current
<i>Caiman yacare</i>	LC	2019	2020	Current
<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	VU A2cd	2020	2022	Current
<i>Crocodylus intermedius</i>	CR A2bcd, C2a(i)	2017	2018	Current
<i>Crocodylus johnstoni</i>	LC	2016	2017	Current
<i>Crocodylus mindorensis</i>	CR A2cd	2012	2016	Due
<i>Crocodylus moreletii</i>	LC	2020	2023	Current
<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	LC	2017	2019	Current
<i>Crocodylus novaeguineae</i>	LC	2018	2019	Current
<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>	VU A2cd	2009	2013	Due
<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	LC	2019	2021	Current
<i>Crocodylus rhombifer</i>	CR A2cde	2022	2022	Current
<i>Crocodylus siamensis</i>	CR A2cd	2012	2012	Due
<i>Crocodylus suchus</i>	Not yet been assessed			Assessment team assigned
<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i>	CR A2bce	2017	2019	Current
<i>Mecistops cataphractus</i>	CR A2acde+3cde+4acde	2013	2014	Underway
<i>Mecistops leptorhynchus</i>	Not yet been assessed			Underway
<i>Melanosuchus niger</i>	LR; not yet assessed under version 3.1	2000	2000	Nearing completion
<i>Osteolaemus tetraspis</i>	VU A2cd; not yet assessed under version 3.1	1996	1996	Plan enacted; along with species split
<i>Paleosuchus palpebrosus</i>	LC	2018	2019	Current
<i>Paleosuchus trigonatus</i>	LC	2018	2019	Current
<i>Tomistoma schlegelii</i>	EN C2a(i)	2022	2023	Current