

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Maintenance of the Indonesian population of Crocodylus porosus in Appendix II, without being subject to an export quota.

B. PROPONENT

The Republic of Indonesia.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Reptilia
12. Order: Crocodylia
13. Family: Crocodylidae
14. Species: Crocodylus porosus, Schneider, 1801
15. Common Names: English: estuarine crocodile, saltwater crocodile
French: crocodile marin
Spanish: Cocodrilo poroso

16. Code Numbers: -

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: In Indonesia, crocodiles are distributed throughout the country, particularly in the lower parts of large rivers. Sometimes they are caught at sea in Sumatra, Kalimantan and Irian Jaya (see Appendix 1).

Especially in Irian Jaya a planimetric measurement estimated that crocodile habitat covered about 6,250,000 hectares which evenly distributed along the riverines and tidal lowlands (see Annexes 2 and 4).

The species is also distributed in south Asia, Australia and Pacific regions.

22. Population: The wide distribution of crocodiles throughout the country makes it difficult to get an accurate estimation of the population.

Crocodylus porosus is mostly reared in Irian Jaya (Jayapura, Merauke and Sorong Districts), North Sumatra, South Sumatra, West Kalimantan and South Kalimantan. Based on the above figure of the distribution areas, the population of crocodile in Irian Jaya is estimated about 2,596,800 head, i.e. 905,200 head in the Conservation Areas and 1,646,600 head in the Utilization Zone. The estimated ratio between C. porosus and C. novaeguineae is 1:3. Respectively the population of C. porosus in Irian Jaya is estimated about 649,200 head found in the Utilization Zone (Annex 2).

23. Habitat: The main habitat of the common crocodiles in Indonesia is the estuarine system (the lower part of the rivers).

3. Economic Value

In several areas especially in Irian Jaya the capture of crocodiles has been a traditional activity of the local people in the past and is still carried on illegally today. This is reconfirmed by the fact that whenever there is a confiscation operation, stocks of skins from crocodiles killed illegally by local hunters are always found on the black market.

4. Production Activity

Since 1980 several crocodile rearing projects have been initiated by the Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation (Direktorat Jenderal Perlindungan Hutan dan Pelestarian Alam), in order to establish the practice of crocodile rearing in Irian Jaya, North Sumatra and South Sumatra, West Java, West Kalimantan, South Kalimantan. There are fifteen rearing projects and two breeding projects (in North Sumatra Province). (see Annex 3), the rearing system used begins with the capture of young crocodiles of a defined size which are then captive bred and the baby crocodiles reared until slaughter. Figures of such crocodile skins exported during the period of 1980-1986 are as follows:

1980:	4,953 skins
1981:	200 skins
1982:	300 skins
1983:	1,180 skins
1984:	200 skins + 1,000 inches
1985:	1,094 skins
1986:	456 skins (until July 1986)

5. Trade Data

51. National Utilization: National utilization can be divided into two main categories:

- i) traditional hunting (especially local people in Irian Jaya for subsistence);
- ii) crocodile ranching.

52. Legal International Trade: Export of crocodile skins confined to non-Party states (reservation) e.g. Singapore.

53. Illegal Trade: There are some records on illegal trade of Crocodylus porosus or their products.

E.g. about 2000 crocodile skins which were smuggled from Irian Jaya were seized in Medan in 1982 and other 9000 inches were confiscated in Monokwari in 1983.

54. Potential Trade Threats:

541. Live Specimens: While there is little or no trade in the species involved in this proposal, there is some potential for export to zoos.
542. Parts and Derivatives: Crocodile skins (leather) are used for ornamental purposes and crocodile meat for food (especially in Irian Jaya) and animal feeding.

6. Protection Status

61. National: Crocodylus porosus in Indonesia is protected (under Decree of the Minister of Agriculture No. 716/Kpts/Um/10/1980). Other conservation efforts are made by allocating crocodile habitat with Conservation Area, Nature Reserve, Game reserve and National Park status. In Irian Jaya there are areas of 3,287,200 ha of crocodile habitat that are allocated as Conservation Areas (see Annex 2).
62. International: Appendix II of CITES, subject to an export quota.
63. Additional Protection Needs: Some areas which include crocodile habitats are appointed to be reserves mostly in Sumatra and Irian Jaya. Ex situ conservation efforts on crocodiles are implemented through zoos, breeding programmes and local stricter regulations on poaching.

7. Additional Remarks

A rearing programme was promoted as soon as the protected status was enforced in 1980 and by mid-1986 there were 17 crocodile ranching enterprises which were registered in Irian Jaya, North Sumatra, West Java, West Kalimantan and South Kalimantan (see Annex 3).

Those rearing practices are obliged to release into the wild habitat at least 10 per cent of their rearing products and they are obliged to develop themselves fully into breeding farms.

It is anticipated that the demand for crocodile ranching enterprises will increase if there is a atmosphere that could guarantee that their products could enter international markets legally, since the market within the country is extremely limited.

Legalised farming and export hopefully will increase the support of the people toward a total ban over direct harvest from the wild, and will help wild populations by requiring the release of 10 per cent of reared crocodiles to the wild.

There are 4 companies which intend to establish crocodile farms (80,000 skins a year) which in principle are already approved. The above population figure could result in an estimated increment of about 90,000 heads/year. Based on the above-mentioned reasons the proponent proposes the downlisting of the species into Appendix II.

Annex 1: Distribution of Crocodylus porosus Ranching Location

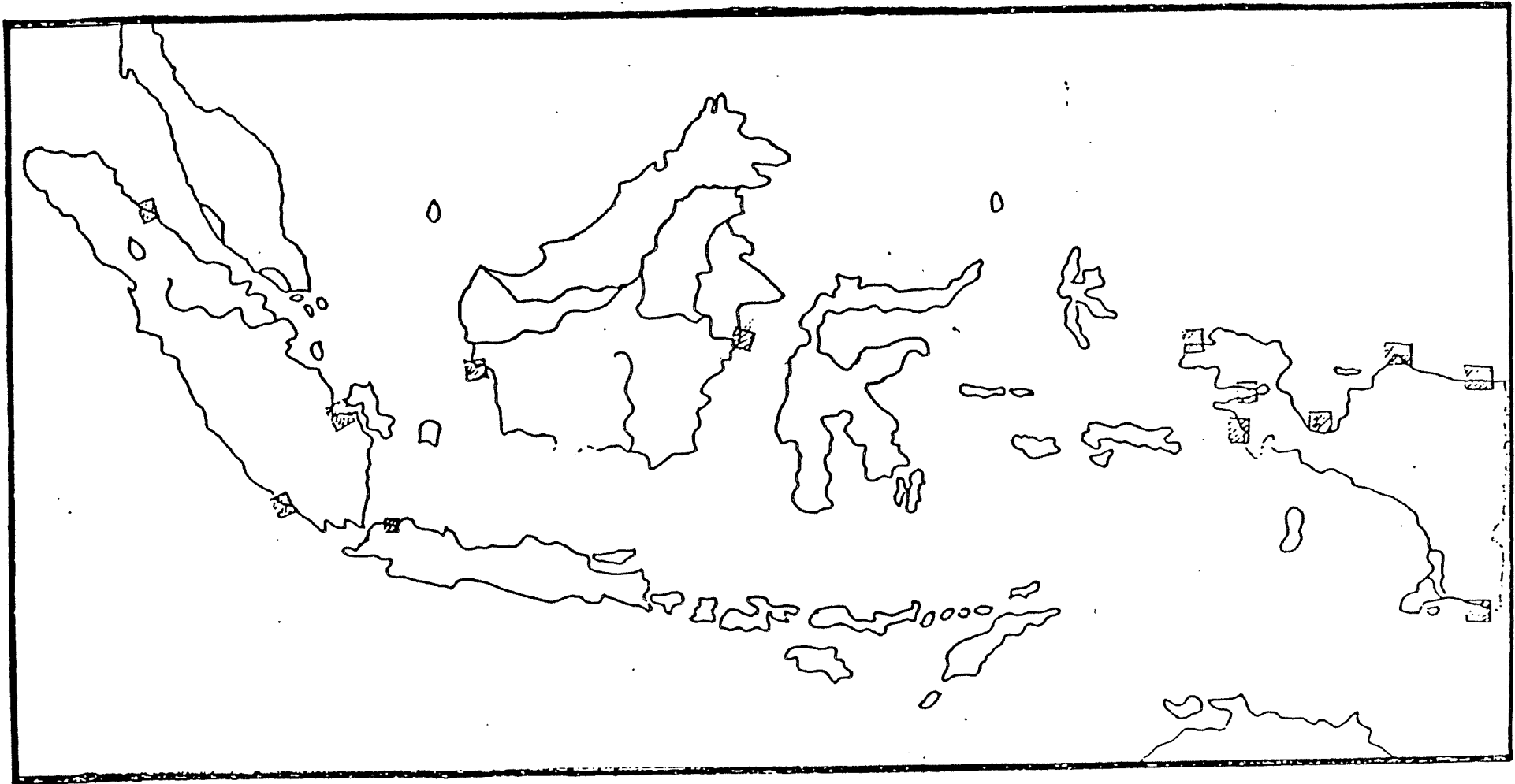


Figure of Crocodile Populations Based on the Distribution of habitats and Size in Irian Jaya

No.	Zone	Location	Surface in Hectares	Population Density (head/ha)	Estimated Population	Size (%)			K
						1m	1-2m	2m	
1.	Nature Reserve	Mamberamo WS	250,000	1.5	375,000	60	23	17	0.25
2.	Game Sanctuary	a. Vriendschap We	1,253,706	0.14	175,518	54	20	26	0.60
		b. Lorentz Ws	470,904	0.14	65,926	54	20	26	0.60
		c. Kemuntan/ Central Tembuni Ws	188,966	0.275	51,777	34	33	33	0.60
		d. East Bintuni Bay (islands and coasts)	125,977	0.274	34,518	34	33	33	0.60
		e. Kimaam Ls	300,000	0.825	247,500	54	20	26	0.40
3.	Utilization Zone	a. Bian Ws	510,625	0.14	71,487	54	20	26	0.60
		b. Digul Ws	807,264	0.14	113,016	54	20	26	0.60
		c. East Kimaam Ws	311,875	0.825	257,297	54	20	26	0.60
		d. Mamberamo Ws	732,500	1.50	1,098,750	60	23	16	0.25
		e. Kemuntan/East Tembuni Ws	251,955	0.274	69,035	34	33	33	0.60
		f. Kemuntan/West Tembuni Ws	134,977	0.274	36,984	34	33	33	0.60
4.	Free Zone	a. Fak-fak region	610,000	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
		b. Yapen waroten region	96,250	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
		c. Paniar region	205,000	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
T O T A L			6,250,000	2,596,808					

Remark: WS : Watershed

Source: Feasibility study of Crocodile Industry in Irian Jaya 1986. Forest Regional Office and Faculty of Forestry

Annex 3 : List of Registered Crocodile Farmers in Indonesia.

No.	COMPANY	CAPACITY	LOCATION
1.	CV. Kiman Raya	500	Irian Jaya - Merauke
2.	Fa Giat Maju	600	Nabire - Irian Jaya
3.	PT. Buma Kumawan	500	Irian Jaya - Fak-fak
4.	CV. Sinar Harapan	3000	Irian Jaya - Jayapura
5.	CV. Skyline Raya	4000	Irian Jaya - Jayapura
6.	CV. Bintang Diai	500	Irian Jaya - Jayapura
7.	CV. Jaya Abadi	5000	Irian Jaya - Merauke
8.	PT Jaya Agung	600	Irian Jaya - Merauke
10.	PT. Ala, Murni Bahana	2500	Sumatera Utara, Meda
11.	CV. Modan Baru	3000	Irian Jaya - Sorong
12.	CV. Stock Bersuma	1000	Sumatera Selatan - Palembang
13.	CV. Nikmat	500	Irian Jaya - Merauke
14.	CV. Candi Ayu	500	West Kalimantan
15.	CV. Pembangunan Jaya	500	West Kalimantan
16.	CV. Sumber Daya Alam	500	South Kalimantan
17.	CV. Leo Jaya	1000	West Java - Ciputat

Annex 4: Distribution Map of Crocodile Habitat in Irian Jaya

