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CITES NON-DETRIMENT FINDING

A Primary Evaluation of *Notochelys platynota*

From INDONESIA



**Ministry of Environment and Forestry (KLHK)
&
National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
2024**

CITES Non-detriment finding

A Primary Evaluation of *Notochelys platynota* from Indonesia

Text in italics is explanatory and should be deleted in completed documents. Please refer to the NDF Guidelines document for further explanation on how to complete this evaluation.

Species name	Malayan flat-shelled turtle (<i>Notochelys platynota</i>)			
Range state name	ID			
Report compiled by	SA & MA			
Date compiled	07/22/2023			
Section One: Summary				
<p><i>Please provide a short overview (1-2 paragraphs) of the trade in this species in the country of interest.</i></p> <p>Malayan flat-shelled turtle (MFST), <i>Notochelys platynota</i>, was put on Appendix II.</p> <p>Based on the AC32 Doc. 14.2 mentioned that the exports of MFST from Indonesia was selected as RST candidates because they met the selection criteria of high volume. Indonesia has follows the CITES secretariat recommendation to reduce the quota up to 35% or to be 522 individuals that starting from 2018, and as well as applying a maximum size for harvest in 15 cm SCL. Based on exported reported in CITES trade database that from 2017 to 2021 was 2,408 individuals in total exported or equally to 482 individuals each year. This NDF will examine the 482 individuals yearly wild caught of MFST.</p>				
Section Two: Primary Evaluation score				
<i>Please score each attribute listed within the table below and sum these to provide a total.</i>				
	Number of points			Score
Criteria	1	2	3	
Annual Harvest level	Low (<2,000)	Medium (2,000 - 20,000)	High (>20,000)	1
Area of occupancy	Large (>20,000km ²)	Medium (2,500 – 20,000km ²)	Small (<2,500km ²)	1
Life-history	Fast	Medium	Slow	3
Illegal trade and IUCN Threat status	If levels of illegal trade are known, they should be included under “Annual harvest level”. If unknown, and suspected to be detrimental, give a maximum score of 1 point . Similarly, if the status of the species is listed as VU, EN or CR in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, give a maximum score of 1 point			1
Section Three: Justification – Harvest level				

Please provide an explanation with appropriate references to justify the score given.

Our export quota was 583 in 2017 and was reduce to be 522 in 2018 and 2019, then to be 497 for 2020 and 2021 (in order to following CITES secretariat) as well as applied maximal size for harvest in 15 cm SCL, but the export based on exporter report from 2017 to 2021 was 2408 individuals in total or equally to 482 individuals each year (see fig 1). This would give us an annual harvest rate value of 1.

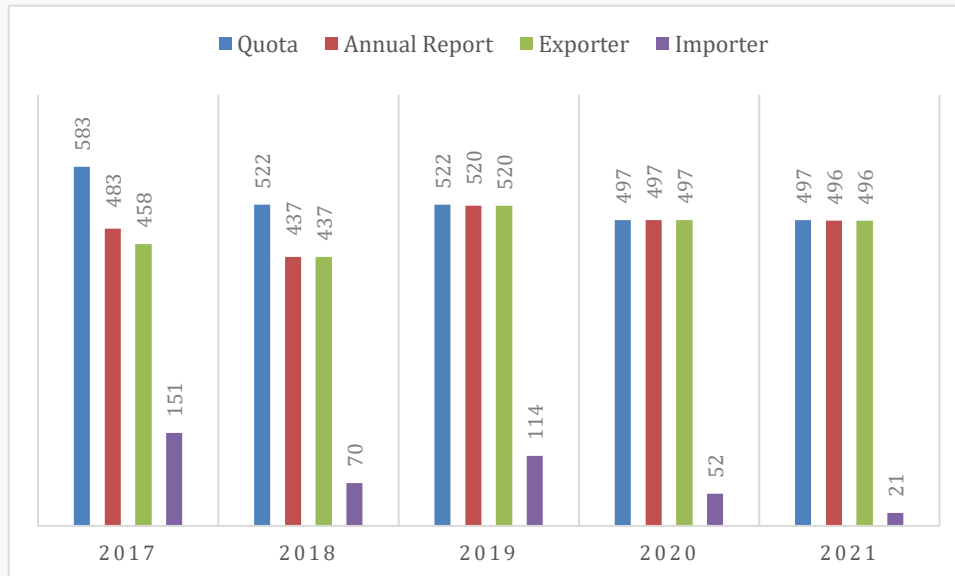


Figure 1. Comparison of annual export quota, annual report, exporter and importer report of *Notochelys platynota* from Indonesia between 2017 to 2021.

Section Four: Justification – Area of occupancy

Please provide an explanation with appropriate references to justify the score given.

MFST has variable habitats, including marshes, swamps, ponds, and streams in lowland rain forests with abundant aquatic plants, and widely distributed in Indonesia, including three big islands Sumatra, Java and Kalimantan as well as the adjusted islands surrounding them (see fig 2). Feed primarily on aquatic plants. In captivity, MFST are found omnivorous.

The total area of wetland of Sumatra (72,043 km²), Java (12,206.14 km²), and Kalimantan (57,692.46 km²) is 141,941.6 km².

Therefore, we assign an area of occupancy of 1.



Figure 2. Distribution of this species in Indonesia: Western Java, Sumatra, Bangka Island, Belitung Island, and Kalimantan*.

*Reference *Notochelys platynota* (Gray, 1834) in GBIF Secretariat (2023). GBIF Backbone Taxonomy. Checklist dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/39omei> accessed via GBIF.org on 2024-05-08

Section Five: Justification – Life history

Please provide an explanation with appropriate references to justify the score given.

The reproductive of MFST is little known. Lifespan in captivity reach 18.8 years, with clutch size 4 to 6 eggs, but unknown on age of first maturity. In the fig 3 and 4, the existence species of *N. platynota* in captivity and in the wild.

We therefore assign this species clearly to the ‘Slow’ category: 3 points.



Figure 3. juvenile of *Notochelys platynota* in the captivity



Figure 4. *Notochelys platynota* in the wild (Barito, Central Kalimantan)

Section Six: Illegal trade

Please provide an explanation with appropriate references to justify the score given.

No data on illegal trade, the species is listed as VU.

We therefore assign this species clearly to score 1 point

Section Seven: Conclusion, course of action and determination on exports

Please provide an overall conclusion on the perceived threat of trade to the species and details on whether further course of action will be taken to complete an NDF for the species.

Our evaluation yields a final score of **6**, therefore a **thorough NDF is required**.

Evaluating Non-Detriment

Primary Evaluation score lower than five (5) = trade is non-detrimental (**record the score and justification in the *Primary Evaluation* worksheet provided (in [Annex B](#)). This can be used for Step 4 of the Non-Detriment Finding**).

If the *Primary Evaluation* score is equal to or greater than five (5) then the non-detriment requirement cannot be satisfied, warranting additional information based on other indices to evaluate detriment. **A *Secondary Evaluation* should be undertaken**.

Based on this primary evaluation therefore with consideration of the precautionary, the annual export quota has been reduced by 50% (to be 250 individuals) and as well as applied size limitation for allowed harvest specimens in straight carapace length (SCL) \leq 15 cm.

This management intervention provides guarantees a sustainable on utilization of Malayan flat-shelled turtle from Indonesia at level annually harvest from Sumatra and Kalimantan up to 250 individuals, and this be enforced from 2024.

Section Eight: Literature Cited

AC32 Com. 3. Compliance REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE IN SPECIMENS OF APPENDIX-II SPECIES

An Age entry for *Notochelys platynota*

https://genomics.senescence.info/species/entry.php?species=Notochelys_platynota

Borneo Happy Farm

<https://www.borneohappyfarm.com/malayan-flat-shell-turtle>

Kusrini, M.D., Hamidy, A., Guntoro, J., Cota, M. & Schoppe, S. 2021. *Notochelys platynota*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2021: e.T14856A546301. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2021-1.RLTS.T14856A546301.en>. Accessed on 22 July 2023.

Turtle Taxonomy WorkingGroup. 2017. Turtles of the World: Annotated Checklist and Atlas of Taxonomy, Synonymy, Distribution, and Conservation Status (8th Ed.). In: Rhodin, A.G.J., Iverson, J.B., van Dijk, P.P., Saumure, R.A., Buhlmann, K.A., Pritchard, P.C.H., and Mittermeier, R.A. (Eds.). *Conservation Biology of Freshwater Turtles and Tortoises: A Compilation Project of the IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group*. Chelonian Research Monographs 7:1–292. doi: 10.3854/crm.7.checklist.atlas.v8.2017.

Wahyunto, S. Ritung, Suparto, H. Subagjo. 2005. *Sebaran Gambut dan Kandungan Karbon di Sumatera dan Kalimantan*. *Proyek Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia*. Wetlands International–Indonesia Programme dan Wildlife Habitat Canada. Bogor.

Please provide references to all the reports and literature cited in this evaluation.