



A level – Conservation Worksheet

In this worksheet, we'll devise an outline of a conservation program for a crocodilian species.

When selecting a species for conservation, what factors do you think we need to consider?

Select a crocodilian species that you think requires a conservation plan.

My Species is: _____

Where is this species found in the wild? _____

What is its conservation status? _____

Look at: the IUCN Red List at <http://www.iucnredlist.org/> and search for that species of crocodile to see detailed information on its conservation status.

Head then to: <http://www.iucncsg.org/pages/Publications.html> This is the website for the IUCN SSC Crocodile Specialist Group. In the species Action Plans, you can read about your selected crocodile species. The end of each Action Plan outlines the conservation priorities for that species. Read through these and list the priorities for your species:

It is very difficult for one project to address all of the conservation priorities. So, which of the priority actions do you think your project should address?

Since we are a zoo, we not only support some of these actions for the animals in the wild (*in situ*), but we also run programs for the species within the zoo community (*ex situ*). Do you think a zoo can run an *ex situ* program for the species you have selected? _____

Head to this link that will display what European programs may exist for this species:

<http://www.eaza.net/activities/cp/pages/eeps.aspx>

Are there already programs being run in European zoos for this species? _____

Some species are very difficult to maintain in zoo collections and to breed. These species are often maintained in just a few institutions, so developing a solid breeding program within zoos can be difficult. What factors do you think are important in determining this?

Have you found any information as to whether your species is difficult to maintain in zoo collections? _____

Do you feel you have a clearer understanding of some of the issues we need to consider when developing our conservation programs for crocodiles and alligators?

Finally, have a look at this link:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-EN.pdf>

It is a summary of the overall targets that have been established within the conservation world. These targets are critical for the conservation of wildlife and plant species. However, the real importance of these targets is that they are also critical for our survival, and the sustained health of our planet. We encourage you to show these to your families and spread the word about the crucial stage we are at with the Earth's resources.

Other conservation links:

<http://www.cbd.int/> - Convention on Biological Diversity

<http://www.iucn.org/> - the International Union for the Conservation of Nature

http://www.waza.org/files/webcontent/1.public_site/6.marketing_and_media/waza_strategy_flyer/WAZA%20strategy%20flyer%20EN.pdf - a looong link, but this summarises the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums' conservation strategy that we all support.

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