

SIAMESE CROCODILE

(Crocodylus siamensis)

IUCN Red List: **Critically Endangered**

Current Population Trend: **Decreasing**

Estimated Number of Mature Individuals:
Less than 500 – only 20 in the project site

Protected status in Thailand: **Yes**

speciesconservation.org



Project Target
Areas

Status of Siamese crocodile in Thailand

The Petchburi River, ca. 210 km in length, is the main river in south-central Thailand and flows eastward into the Gulf of Thailand. Although a large portion of the lower river basin has been converted to farmlands and urbanization, the headwaters within Kaeng Krachan National Park (KKNP) are still relatively intact and protected. Within KKNP, the primary threat is habitat degradation from human disturbance, particularly fishing and land conversion. Although it has never been quantified, it is clear that density and diversity of fish and some invertebrates are far lower near villages.

The project area is a stronghold for the Critically Endangered Siamese crocodile in Thailand, where over 20 wild individuals are thought to remain throughout the country. Within KKNP, the primary threat is habitat degradation from human disturbance, particularly fishing and land conversion. Furthermore, the only known nesting site is in close proximity to the villages.

Conservation Project Objectives

The project will address knowledge gaps by conducting a set of standard surveys along the main rivers. These will involve monthly track and sign surveys for the target species to determine distribution and occupancies. The surveys will also include fish-surveys to determine variation in fish species richness and abundance along the rivers. Surveys will be implemented upstream and downstream of the villages to quantify the physical factors of the rivers and impact of human activities. The team will then use this information to help improve habitat management and law-enforcement planning, and also to design and implement awareness and education campaigns with local communities, particularly through schools.

Conservation Partner:

