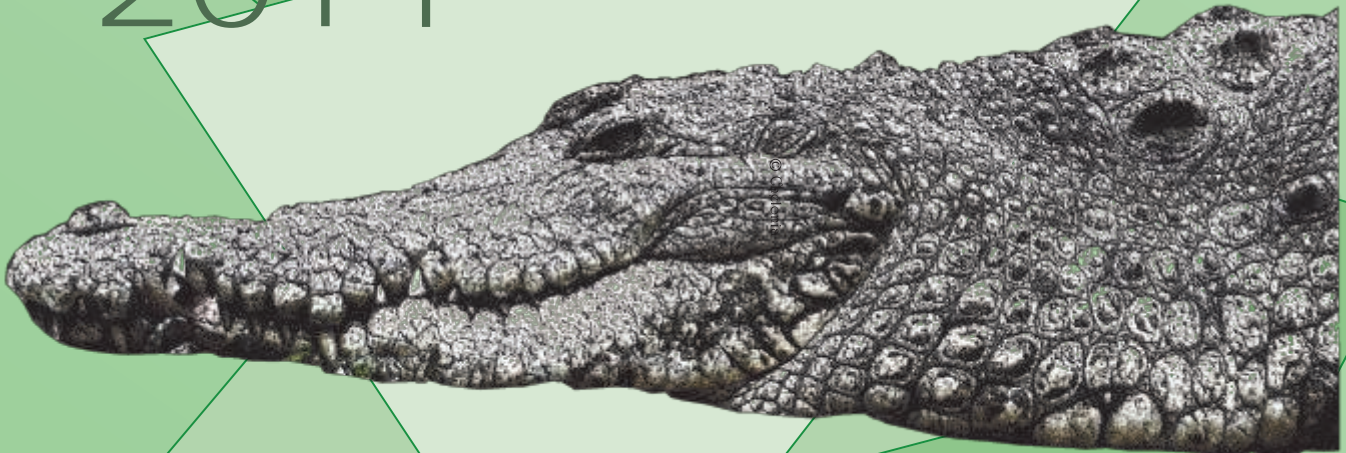




2014



© Chelonia

Supporting the conservation of the
Orinoco Crocodile (*Crocodylus intermedius*)
in the Eastern Llanos of Colombia



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

JANUARY 2014



Hatchling of Orinoco Crocodile. Cravo Norte (Arauca)
© Chelonia / Mario Garcés

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December 2013

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

February

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

The Orinoco crocodile (*Crocodylus intermedius*) is a true crocodile (Family Crocodylidae) and not an alligator (Family Alligatoridae), such as the Spectacled caiman (*Caiman crocodilus*), the Black caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*) or the species of the genus *Paleosuchus*.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

FEBRUARY 2014



Hatchlings of Orinoco Crocodile. EBT "Roberto Franco" (Villavicencio - Meta)
© Chelonia / Manuel Merchán

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

January

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

March

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/ 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

The Orinoco crocodile is the only crocodile species whose distribution is restricted to a single river basin, the Orinoco Basin, which is geographically shared by both Colombia and Venezuela. Within the river basin are located the rivers and water bodies of the Orinoco Llanos eco-region, which cover the departments of Arauca, Casanare, Meta and Vichada in Colombia.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

MARCH 2014



Adult Orinoco Crocodile, Ecoparque Wisirare (Orocué - Casanare)
© Chelonia / Miguel Cárdenas

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 /31	25	26	27	28	29	30

February

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

April

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

The Orinoco crocodile is considered to be one of the world's most threatened vertebrates, and is considered to be **Critically Endangered (CR)** by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the governments of both Colombia and Venezuela.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

APRIL 2014



Orinoco Crocodile (estimated total length 240 cm). Vichada River (Vichada)
© Chelonía / Fernando Gómez

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

March

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

May

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

It is estimated that there are only about 1,700 Orinoco crocodiles in the wild inhabiting the different rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs of the Orinoco Llanos; less than 200 individuals in Colombia and more than 1,500 in Venezuela.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

MAY 2014



Adult Orinoco Crocodile. Wisirare Ecopark (Orocué - Casanare)
© Chelonia / Antonio Castro

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

In the first half of the twentieth century, an estimated two to four million *C. intermedius* were hunted, more intensively between 1929 and 1934, for the international skin trade. This uncontrolled and disproportionate exploitation rapidly reduced the species' populations and brought it to the brink of extinction.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

JUNE 2014



Adult Orinoco Crocodile. Los Ocarros Biopark (Villavicencio - Meta)
© Chelonia / Manuel Merchán

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

May

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	19	30	31	

July

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
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In Colombia there are four relict populations: 1. The Cravo Norte-Ele-Lipa-Cuiloto (Arauca) river system 2. The Duda and Guayabero rivers (Meta department.) 3. The middle and lower courses of the Vichada River (Vichada Department) 4. The middle course of the Meta River (near the confluence of the Arauca, Casanare and Vichada departments).



Corporinoquia
 Por una Región Viva

JULY 2014



Newborns of Orinoco Crocodile. Cravo Norte (Arauca)
 © Chelonia / Mario Garcés

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

June

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

August

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	26	28	29	30	31

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

The biggest Orinoco crocodile population in Colombia is found in the department of Arauca, with at least 50 individuals and 9 reproductive events in 2012. In addition to the four relict populations, there is evidence that in other areas and rivers of the Colombian Llanos, there are a small number of more or less isolated individuals (Guarrojo River, Bitá River, Orinoco River, lower courses of the Meta River, among others).



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

AUGUST 2014



Gallery forest bordering the Vichada River (Vichada)
© Chelonia / Antonio Castro

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

July

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

Adult Orinoco crocodile males could reach in the past up to 7 meters, and females can reach up to about 3.50 meters. These usually lay between 20 and 70 eggs in nests they dig on beaches or sandbars along rivers and streams. Both females and males can reach ages of over 60 years old.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

SEPTEMBER 2014



Pozo Calmán. Meander of the Vichada River (Vichada)
© Chelonia / Fernando Gómez

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

August

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

October

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

Females lay their eggs between December and February, when river and stream water levels are low. The eggs remain buried between 80 and 120 days. Orinoco crocodile hatchlings are born between March and May, measuring between 25-30 centimeters. Females can remain vigilant whilst in the water, still staying close to the nest and they can help the young out of the nest into the water by transporting them in their mouths.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

OCTOBER 2014



Storm over the Meta River
© Chelonia / Antonio Castro

September

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

Burrowing adult crocodiles feed primarily on fish, but can also hunt birds, other reptiles and mammals. The hatchlings are usually kept close to the vegetated river banks and feed mainly on insects, amphibians and crustaceans. The mother may stay close to them for up to two months after their hatching.



Corporinoquia
 Por una Región Viva

NOVEMBER 2014



Palmarito Casanare Natural Reserve (Orocué - Casanare)
 © Chelonia / Mario Garcés

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

December

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

The Orinoco crocodile serves several important functions within the Llanos ecosystems, helping to regulate the carnivorous fish populations (it feeds on), providing nutrients to the water (droppings), preventing the clogging of wells and pipes (through their movements) and maintaining a balance within the trophic or food web.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva

DECEMBER 2014



Dawn on the shore of the Meta River
© Chelonia / Antonio Castro

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November

Mo	Tu	We	Tr	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

January 2015

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Holidays

Colombia	Colombia & Spain
Spain	

The collection of eggs for consumption and of hatchlings to own or sell as pets, the destruction or deterioration of habitat, the deliberate or accidental death of individuals, the changes in climate and the natural dynamics of rivers (which can cause flooding of their nesting areas and consequently egg loss) seem to negatively influence the recovery of Orinoco crocodile populations.



Corporinoquia
Por una Región Viva



© Chelonia / Mario Garcés

Supporting the conservation of the
Orinoco Crocodile (*Crocodylus intermedius*)
in the Eastern Llanos of Colombia