

Morelet's Crocodile

Crocodylus moreletii

- The geographic range of the Morelet's crocodile extends from southern Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize. They live in sympatry with the American Crocodile in Belize and Mexico, and *Caiman* spp. in the southwest of Mexico, and possibly northern Guatemala.
- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Morelet's crocodile is of Least Concern. Previously, poaching was a major cause for killings and small population numbers. However, Morelet's have recovered, particularly in Belize and Mexico. Currently, the major threats are habitat destruction and pollution.
- The Morelet's crocodile is a medium-size species of crocodylian. Males can reach up to 10ft (~3m)
- Morelet's crocodile have a very wide snout, similar to alligators. This reflects their preferred prey such as raccoons, and other small mammals.
- The Morelet's crocodile is principally a freshwater dwelling crocodile. It primarily inhabits freshwater lakes, rivers, but can be found in brackish water.
- The Morelet's crocodile is NOT a man-eater. They prefer eating fish, crab, shrimp, and small mammals like raccoons.
- Mating season for the Morelet's crocodile begins mid-dry season. Gestation lasts for about 60-90 days in which females will create a mound nest and lay

