CHACO SIDENECK TURTLE

Platemys pallidipctoris Freiberg 1945

Order TESTUDINES
Family CHELIDAE

SUMMARY An apparently extremely rare species from a very limited geographic range centered in the Argentinian Chaco. Only 4 specimens known to science. Basic ecological data and population status information are needed.

DISTRIBUTION Only known from the Chaco of Argentina, having specifically been collected at Presidencia Roque Saenz Pena (1,2).

POPULATION No data. Only 4 specimens currently known to science.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY Evidently inhabits slow streams and lagoons, but no specific information available. Diet carnivorous in captivity (3).

THREATS TO SURVIVAL No information.

CONSERVATION MEASURES TAKEN None.

CONSERVATION MEASURES PROPOSED The IUCN/SSC Freshwater Chelonian Specialist Group has proposed a priority project to investigate basic ecology and population status of the species.

CAPTIVE BREEDING None. Only one live specimen known to occur in captivity (4).

REMARKS This species is most closely related to Platemys spixii.

This account was very kindly prepared by Dr. Anders Rhodin (member, IUCN/SSC Freshwater Chelonian Specialist Group).


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