

RIVER TERRAPIN



Common name
River terrapin

Scientific name
Batagur affinis

Local Malaysian name:
Tuntung sungai

Conservation status **CR**
Listed as critically endangered
in the 2009 IUCN Red List and
in CITES Appendix I

Range
Tidal portions of major rivers in
Southern Thailand, Cambodia,
Peninsular Malaysia



Adult Female

Shell Length: 47 - 62.5 cm Body Weight: 15 - 36 kg

Characteristics



Upturned snout

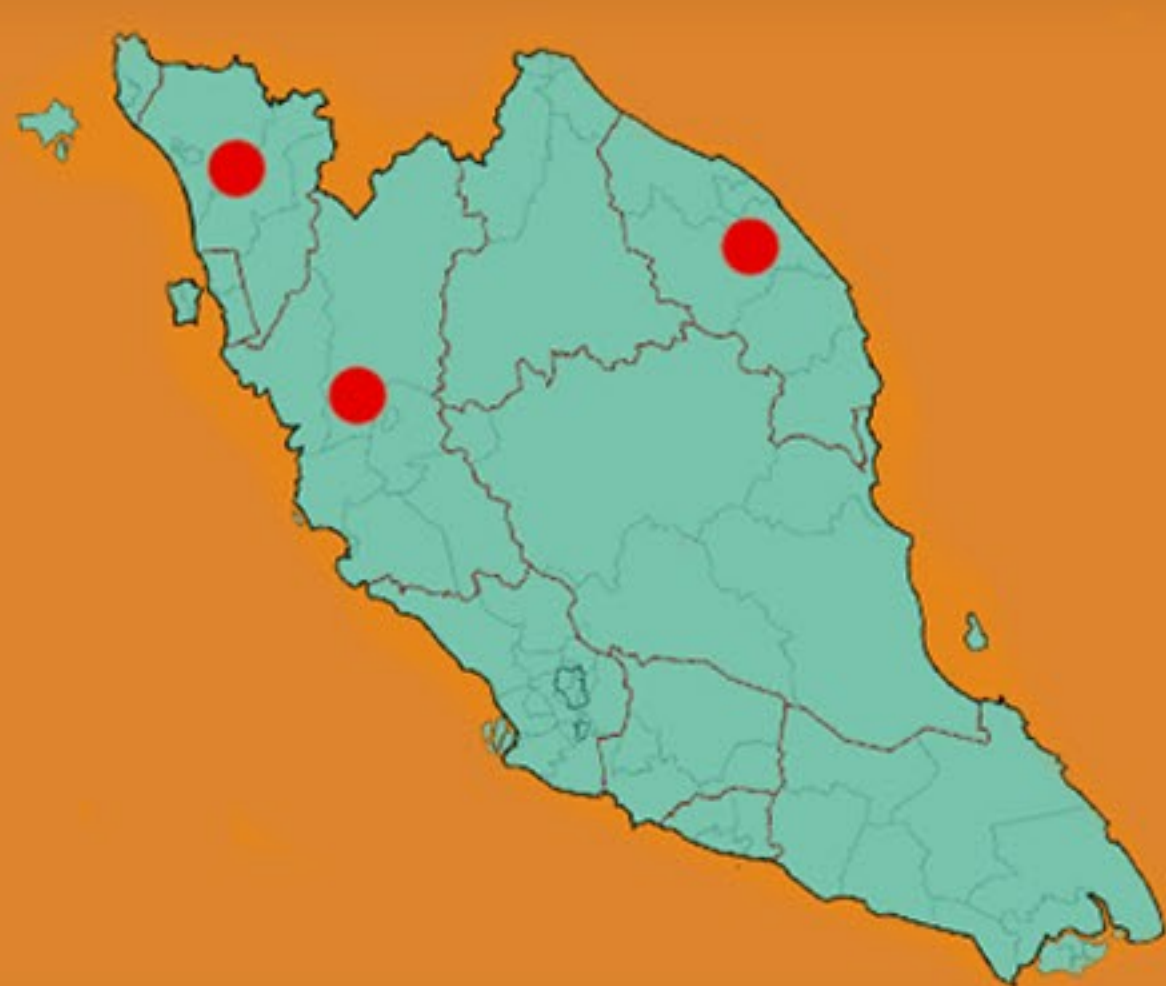


4 front claws

Food



Mangrove apples, screwpines,
grasses, malay apples, vines,
wild mangosteens



Natural distributions in Malaysia

- Kedah river systems
- Perak river systems
- Terengganu river systems
- Possibly in Pahang and Johor
(more research is needed)

Nesting Season

Mid January - mid March

Sexual dimorphism

Adult males are smaller than adult females. During the nesting season, the male's head, neck and feet turn jet black and the iris changes from creamish to white in colour



A male river terrapin in
full breeding coloration



A post-nesting
female terrapin



Newly emerged river
terrapin hatchlings



Incubation duration

Range of 60 - 92 days
for in-situ nests

Inter-nesting interval (interval between each nesting)

Females re-nest between 1 and 11
days. Mean inter-nesting interval
is 3.5 days.

Number of nests deposited per individual per season

Typically one nest, with very few
depositing two, three and four nests

Number of eggs per nest

Range of 9 - 39, average of 25

Hatchling

Shell Length : 5.2 - 8.4 cm
Body Weight : 60 - 89 g



www.turtleconservationsociety.org.my



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