



Save Steve's Place

Wildlife – Reptiles

Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve (SIWR), the conservation property funded by the National Reserve System Programme as a **tribute to Crocodile Hunter Steve Irwin**, is being threatened by strip mining.

The 135,000 ha property, in Queensland's Cape York Peninsula, is home to a set of five important spring fed wetlands which provide a critical water source to threatened habitat, provide permanent flow of water to the Wenlock River, and is home to rare and vulnerable plants and wildlife.

Terri Irwin has vowed to protect the property: "this wetland conservation property is a tribute to Steve. I will do whatever I can to protect it," she said.

Out of the **43 reptile species so far recorded on the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve**, seventeen of these have been snake species. Reptiles on the Reserve include:

- ***Acanthophis praelongis (Northern Death Adder)*** - a species readily impacted by clearing, excessive fire, and Cane Toad infestation; found to be common in tall Eucalypt woodlands and some bauxite springs
- ***Crocodylus porosus (Estuarine Crocodile)*** – listed as vulnerable; present in low densities in the upper Ducie River, and moderate densities in the tidal and lower freshwater section of the Wenlock. Nests found up to 500 metres from the Wenlock River
- ***Crocodylus johnstoni (Freshwater Crocodile)*** - Recorded in the Wenlock and in Gibson's Waterhole. Nesting sites found approximately one kilometre down from the junction with Nimrod Creek. Occurs here at the northern known limit of it's range, and as in other places, may be being impacted by pig predation of nests.



A northern Death Adder (Acanthophis praelongis) which was found to be common in the tall Eucalypt woodlands and some bauxite spring areas during the summer months.

Please Note: Wildlife and Plants identified as "rare or threatened" are listed as such under Queensland's Nature Conservation Act.

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For more information about the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve and the fight to Save Steve's Place, contact:

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