



World Tomistoma Day

Tomistoma schlegelii

World Tomistoma Day is an education and conservation initiative of the Tomistoma Task Force to highlight an incredibly rare species of crocodilian in need of conservation support.



Tomistoma schlegelii

also known as the False gharial or Sunda gharial, is an unusual freshwater crocodilian with very long slender jaws.

IUCN Red List: Vulnerable

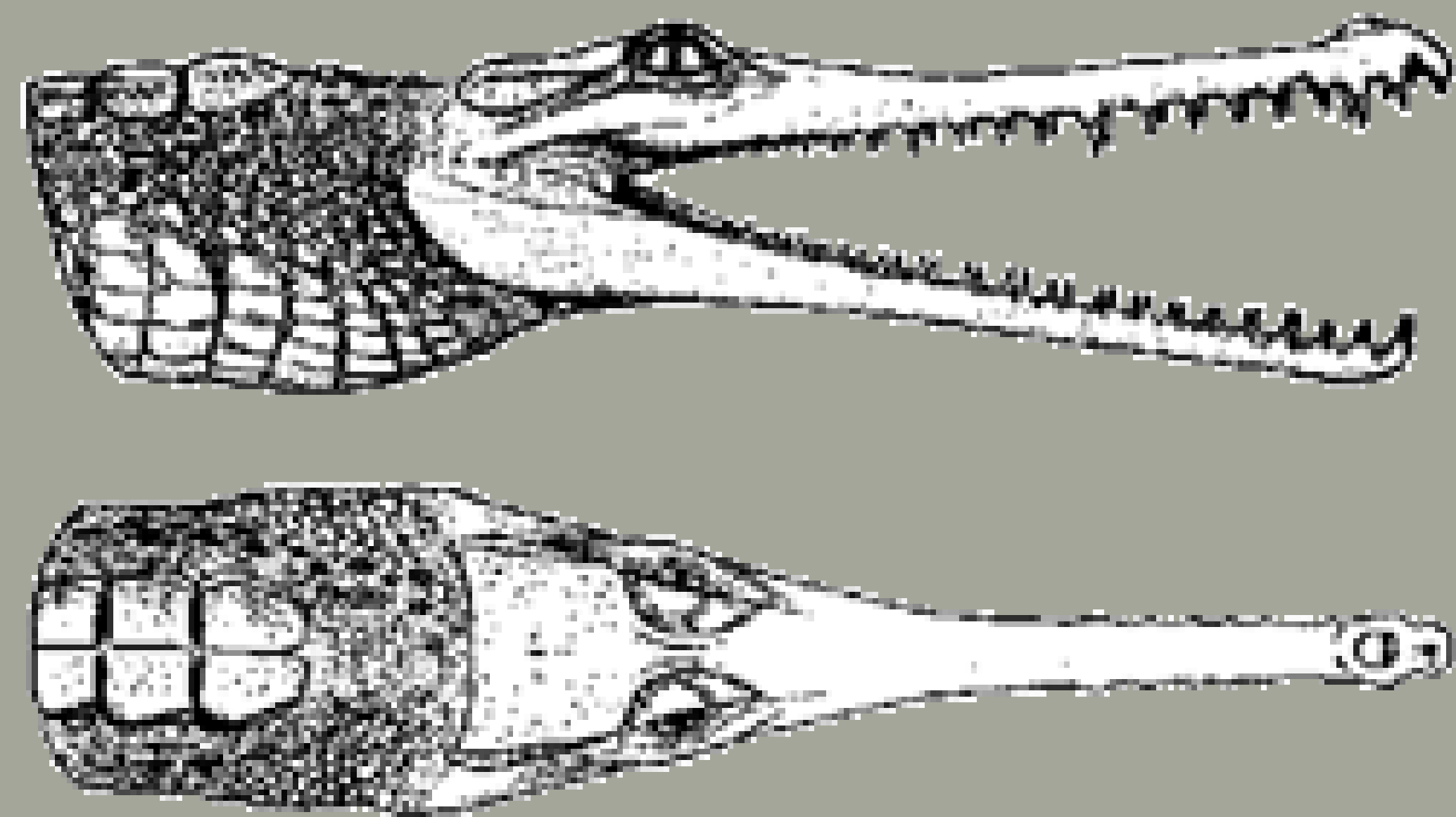
CITES: Appendix I

Where did they get that name?

Tomi– Sharp

stoma– mouth

schlegelii– refers to Hermann Schlegel, the Dutch Zoologist that discovered the species



Threats

Large scale habitat destruction

Drowning in fishing nets

Overfishing of food resources

Juveniles are occasionally caught in fish traps



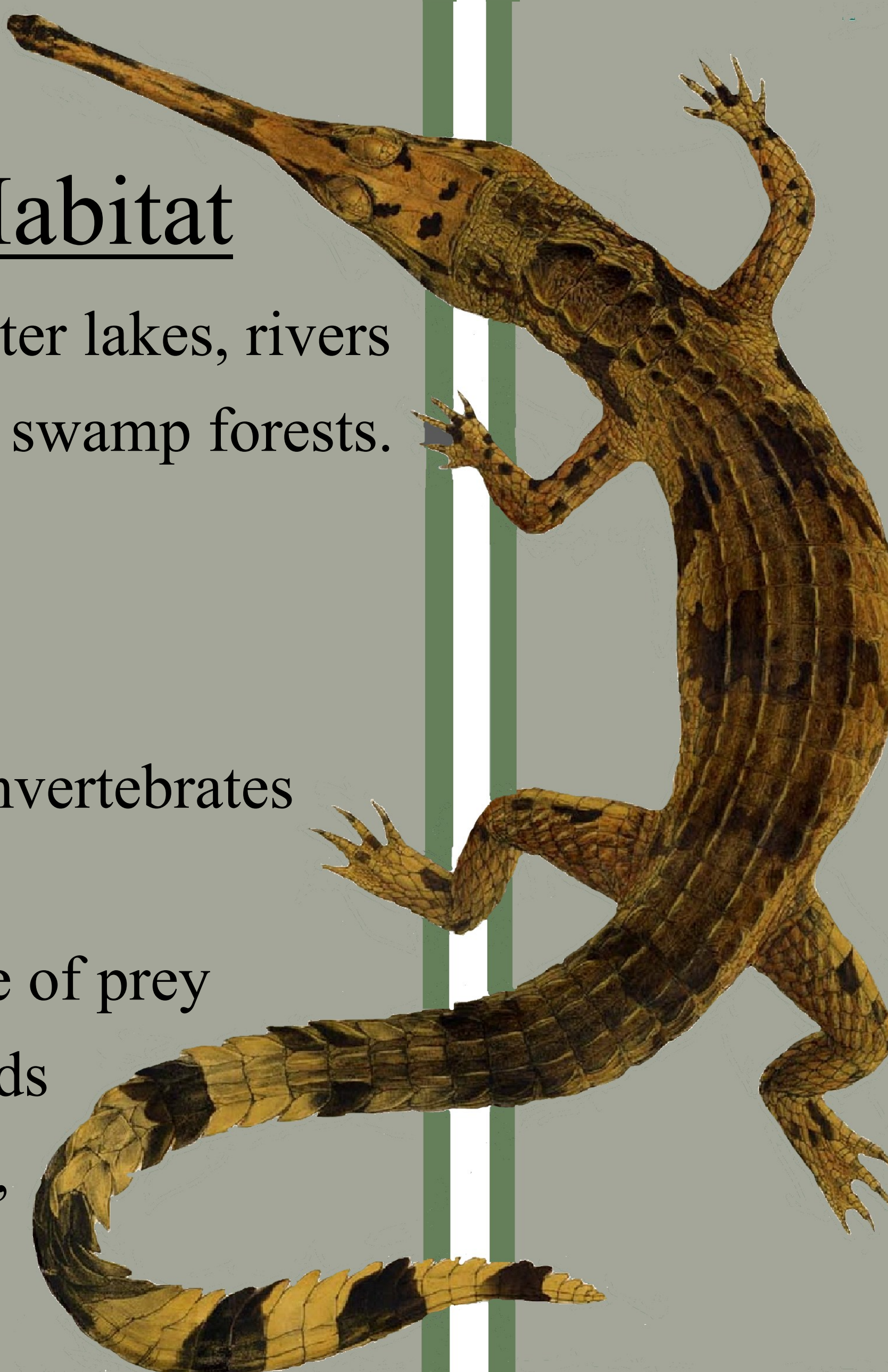
Habitat

Freshwater lakes, rivers and peat swamp forests.

Diet

Juveniles- A wide variety of invertebrates and small vertebrates.

Adults- consume a wide range of prey including reptiles, birds and small mammals, such as primates.



Distribution

Indonesia (Sumatra, Kalimantan and possibly Java) and Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia, Sarawak and Sabah). Probably extirpated from Thailand and Vietnam.



■ Established populations
■ Rare or unconfirmed

Due to its secretive behavior and often inaccessible habitat, this species remains one of the least studied crocodilians.

Tomistoma Conservation

In 2003, the IUCN Crocodile Specialist Group (CSG) formed the Tomistoma Task Force (TTF). This Specialist Group is dedicated to:

- Studying wild Tomistoma
- Identifying major threats to Tomistoma populations
- Promoting sustainable conservation methods for the species

To learn more about the Tomistoma and other endangered crocodilians, please visit: www.iucncsg.org

