



Species Survival Network

CITES COP16 2013 • Bangkok, Thailand



Ocellate River Stingray



Rosette River Stingray



Ceja River Stingray

Ocellate River Stingray *Potamotrygon motoro*

Rosette River Stingray *Potamotrygon schroederi*

Ceja River Stingray *Paratrygon aiereba*

CoP16 Props. 47 (Colombia) and 48 (Colombia and Ecuador) Inclusion of *Potamotrygon motoro*, *Potamotrygon schroederi*, and *Paratrygon aiereba* in Appendix II in accordance with Article II paragraph 2(a) of the Convention, and satisfying Criterion A in Annex 2a B. of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) (CoP16 Prop.47; CoP16 Prop.48) . The entry into effect of the inclusion of *Potamotrygon motoro*, *Potamotrygon schroederi*, and *Paratrygon aiereba* in Appendix II of CITES will be delayed by 18 months to “enable Parties to resolve related technical and administrative issues.”

SSN VIEW: SUPPORT Adoption of Proposals

LISTING IN APPENDIX II WILL REGULATE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THESE SPECIES

APPENDIX II IS NOT A TRADE BAN

THESE FRESHWATER SPECIES LIVE IN SOUTH AMERICAN RIVERS

Figure 1. Motoro Stingray: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Potamotrygon motoro



Source: (CoP16 Prop.48, Annex 1)

Figure 2. Rosette river stingray: Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela

Potamotrygon schroederi



Source: (CoP16 Prop.48, Annex I)

Figure 3. Discus ray: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela



Source: (CoP16 Prop.47, Annex 1)

THESE RAYS ARE LISTED AS ENDANGERED IN COLOMBIA.

All three species are considered data deficient on the IUCN Red List (CoP16 Prop.47, CoP16 Prop.48), but in Colombia, the analysis of the risk of extinction of freshwater fish classifies these species as endangered (CoP16 Prop.47, CoP16 Prop.48).

THESE RAYS ARE THREATENED BY INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

***P. motoro* and *P. schroederi*:** threatened by collection of juveniles for International commercial trade as ornamental aquarium fish (primarily to Germany, USA, Japan, Malaysia, and China). Also threatened by the international trade in adults for human consumption (primarily to Brazil, Korea and Japan). Live individuals traded as ornamental aquarium fish may sell for around \$200-350 USD/ £150-£400 (CoP16 Prop.47, CoP16 Prop.48). These freshwater stingrays are easy targets for fishermen when water levels in the streams and lagoons are low, or when the rivers flood and the rays can be found resting over vegetation in shallow water. The species have a low fecundity, long gestation periods (6 months), and slow growth (CoP16 Prop.47, CoP16 Prop.48) making them susceptible to over-exploitation (Araujo et al. 2004). In 2012, a group of experts¹ from South America declared that over-exploitation for commercial purposes was a main threat to the survival of these species (Mójica 2012).

***P. aiereba*:** Experts on this species who gathered in 2012 (Mójica 2012) to analyze its status concluded that juveniles are over-exploited for the ornamental aquarium trade (mainly to Thailand and Hong Kong) and that the meat of adults sold for human consumption in the international commercial trade is also a threat to the species (mainly to Brazil, Venezuela, Korea, and Japan) (CoP16 Prop.47). In addition, their livers are used locally for medicinal purposes while their spines are used as ornaments and as small arrows in the region.

THESE FRESHWATER RAYS QUALIFY FOR LISTING ON CITES APPENDIX II.

***Potamotrygon motoro*, *Potamotrygon schroederi*, and *Paratrygon aiereba* satisfy the criteria for inclusion in CITES Appendix II. Listing on Appendix II is necessary to ensure that commercial trade does not reduce the populations to levels at which the species would qualify for Appendix I in the near future. SSN strongly urges Parties to support this proposal.**

¹ Experts included in the proposal are listed as: Abt K. Gonzales M.; Rajbhandary J.; Zdilla K. ; Lasso, C. A. and Sánchez-Duarte P among others (from CoP16 Prop.48).

Photo credits: <http://eol.org/pages/205366/overview> ; <http://www.elasmodiver.com/Potamotrygon%20schroederi.htm>; ©Gillian Harris, 2004 at http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/accounts/Paratrygon_aiereba/pictures/

Araujo, M. L. G., P. Charvet-Almeida y Pinto M. Pereira H. 2004. Freshwater stingrays (Potamotrygonidae): status, conservation and management challenges. Information Document AC20: 8, 1-6.

Mójica, J.I. 212. Libro rojo de peces dulceacuícolas de Colombia / Editado por José Iván Mojica [*et al.*]. 1 ed. Bogotá: Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt.



2100 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20037 USA
Tel: +1-301-548-7769, Fax: +1-202-318-0891 E-mail: info@ssn.org
www.SSN.org