

Enter Red List search term(s)

GO

OTHER SEARCH OPTIONS

[Discover more](#)

[Home](#) > [Trichechus manatus](#) (American Manatee, West Indian Manatee)



© Jean-Christophe Vié

Trichechus manatus

NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	< VULNERABLE >	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX

[Summary](#)

[Classification Schemes](#)

[Images & External Links](#)

[Bibliography](#)

[Full Account](#)

Taxonomy [\[top\]](#)

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
ANIMALIA	CHORDATA	MAMMALIA	SIRENIA	TRICHECHIDAE

Scientific Name:	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>
Species Authority:	Linnaeus, 1758
Infra-specific Taxa Assessed:	See Trichechus manatus ssp. latirostris See Trichechus manatus ssp. manatus
Common Name(s):	English – American Manatee, West Indian Manatee French – Lamantin Spanish – Manatí
Taxonomic Notes:	The West Indian Manatee is currently divided into the Florida (<i>T. m. latirostris</i>) and Antillean (<i>T. m. manatus</i>) subspecies (Hatt 1934, Domning and Hayek 1986). Recent mtDNA data (García-Rodríguez <i>et al.</i> 1998, Vianna <i>et al.</i> 2006) indicate three distinctive lineages corresponding geographically with: (1) Florida and the Greater Antilles; (2) Western and Southern Gulf of Mexico, Central America, and NW South America west of the Lesser Antilles; and (3) NE South America east of the Lesser Antilles. Evidence exists for viable hybridization with <i>T. inunguis</i> near the mouth of the Amazon, in Guyana, French Guiana, and possibly Suriname.

[Taxonomy](#)
[Assessment Information](#)
[Geographic Range](#)
[Population](#)
[Habitat and Ecology](#)
[Threats](#)
[Conservation Actions](#)

 [View Printer Friendly](#)

Assessment Information [\[top\]](#)

Red List Category & Criteria:	Vulnerable C1 ver 3.1
Year Published:	2008
Date Assessed:	2008-06-30
Assessor(s):	Deutsch, C.J., Self-Sullivan, C. & Mignucci-Giannoni, A.
Reviewer(s):	Reynolds III, J.E. & Powell, J.A. (Sirenia Red List Authority)
Justification:	Listed as Vulnerable because the number of mature individuals is currently estimated to number less than 10,000 (based on combined population estimates for the Florida and Antillean subspecies) and is expected to decline at a rate of at least 10% over the course of three generations (given a generation time of ~20 years) as a result of both habitat loss and anthropogenic factors.
<i>Trichechus manatus latirostris</i>: EN C1:	The Florida manatee subspecies is listed as Endangered on the basis of a population size of less than 2,500 mature individuals and the population is estimated to decline by at least 20% over the next two generations (estimated at ~40 years) due to anticipated future changes in warm-water habitat and threats from increasing watercraft traffic over the next several decades.
<i>Trichechus manatus manatus</i>: EN C1:	The Antillean manatee subspecies is listed as Endangered because the current population is estimated at less than 2,500 mature individuals and is predicted to undergo a decline of more than 20% over the next two generations (estimated at ~40 years for an unexploited population, based on <i>T. m. latirostris</i> data) without effective conservation actions, due to current and projected future anthropogenic threats (habitat degradation and loss, hunting, accidental fishing-related mortality, pollution, and human disturbance).