



# Queensland east coast freshwater turtle identification guide

for the Queensland Eel Fishery

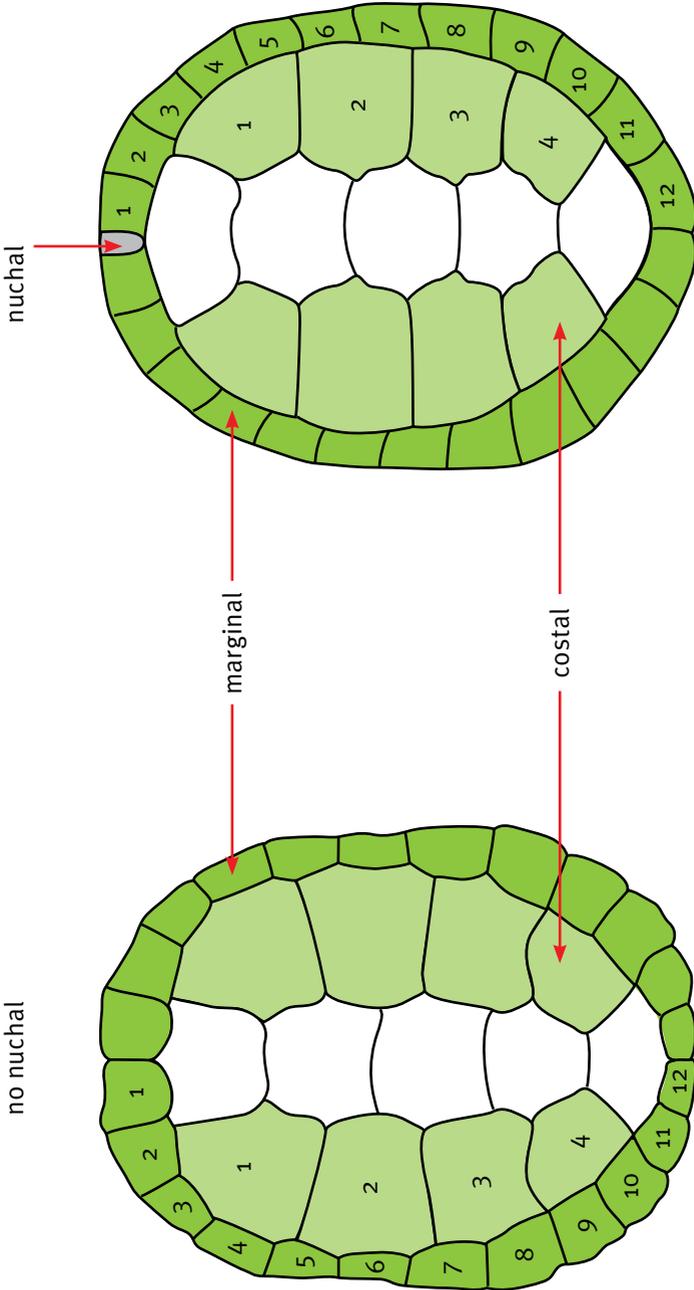
This guide has been developed for use by commercial fishers operating in the Queensland Eel Fishery for reporting in the species of conservation interest (SOCl) logbook. This is not a comprehensive freshwater turtle guide for Queensland and contains only those freshwater turtle species which inhabit the area covered by the Queensland Eel Fishery. Information contained in this guide was modified by Fisheries Queensland with permission from the Department of Environment and Resource Management.

© The State of Queensland,  
Department of Employment,  
Economic Development and  
Innovation, 2011.

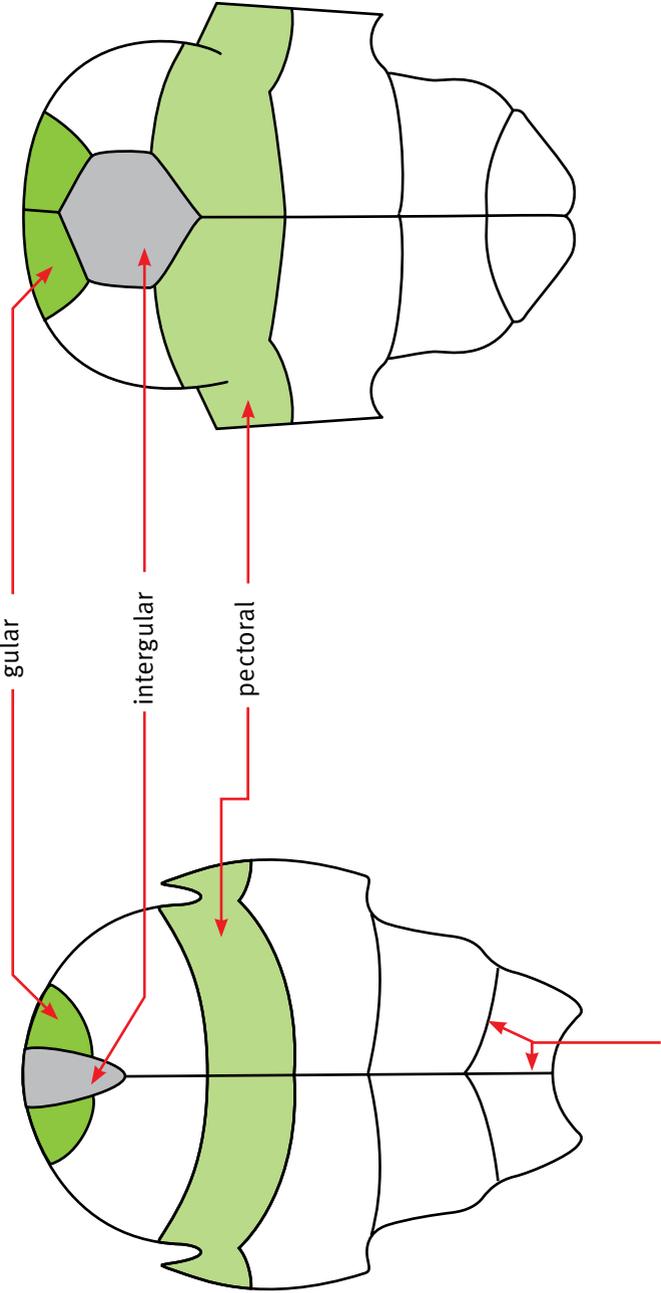
Except as permitted by the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part of this work may in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or any other means be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or be broadcast or transmitted without the prior written permission of the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation. The information contained herein is subject to change without notice. The copyright owner shall not be liable for technical or other errors or omissions contained herein. The reader/user accepts all risks and responsibility for losses, damages, costs and other consequences resulting directly or indirectly from using this information.

Enquiries about reproduction, including downloading or printing the web version, should be directed to SAFTRSCopyright@deedi.qld.gov.au or telephone 13 25 23 (Queensland residents) or +61 7 3404 6999.

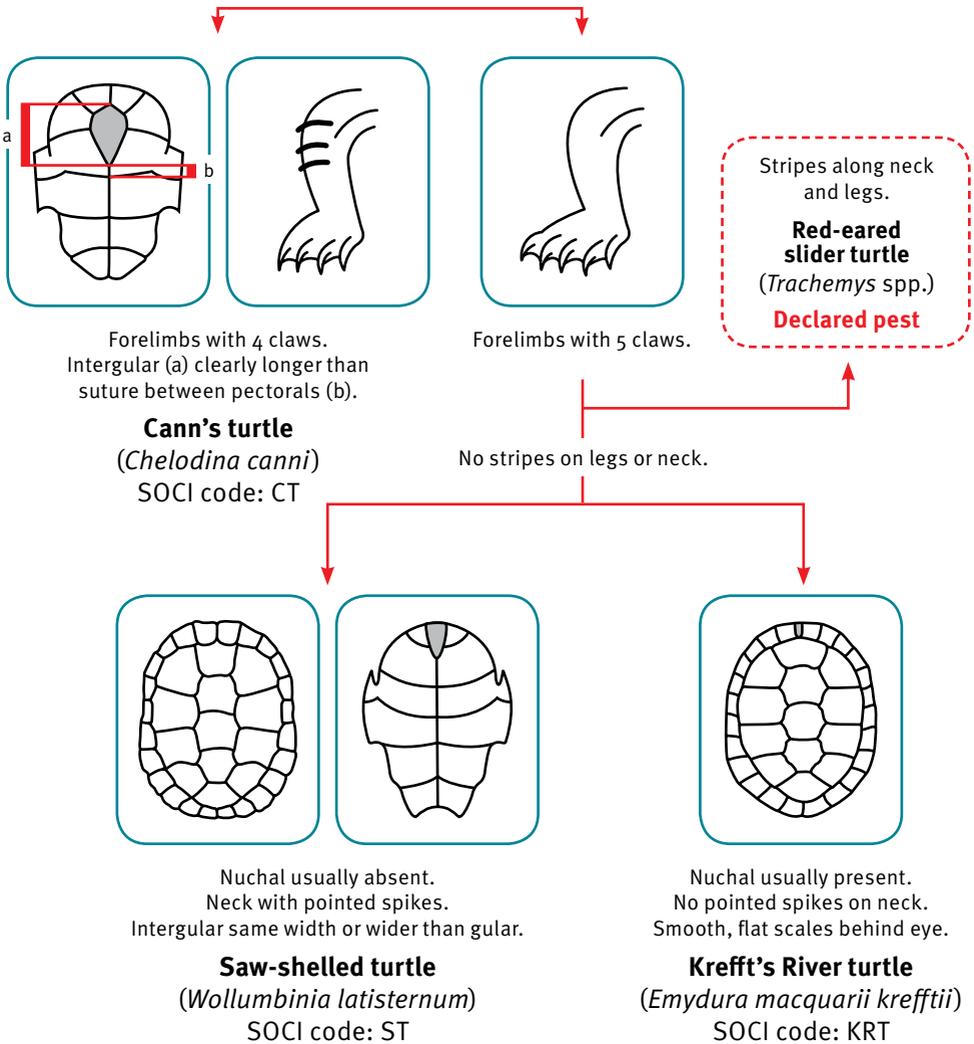
# Scutes (plates) on carapace (top)



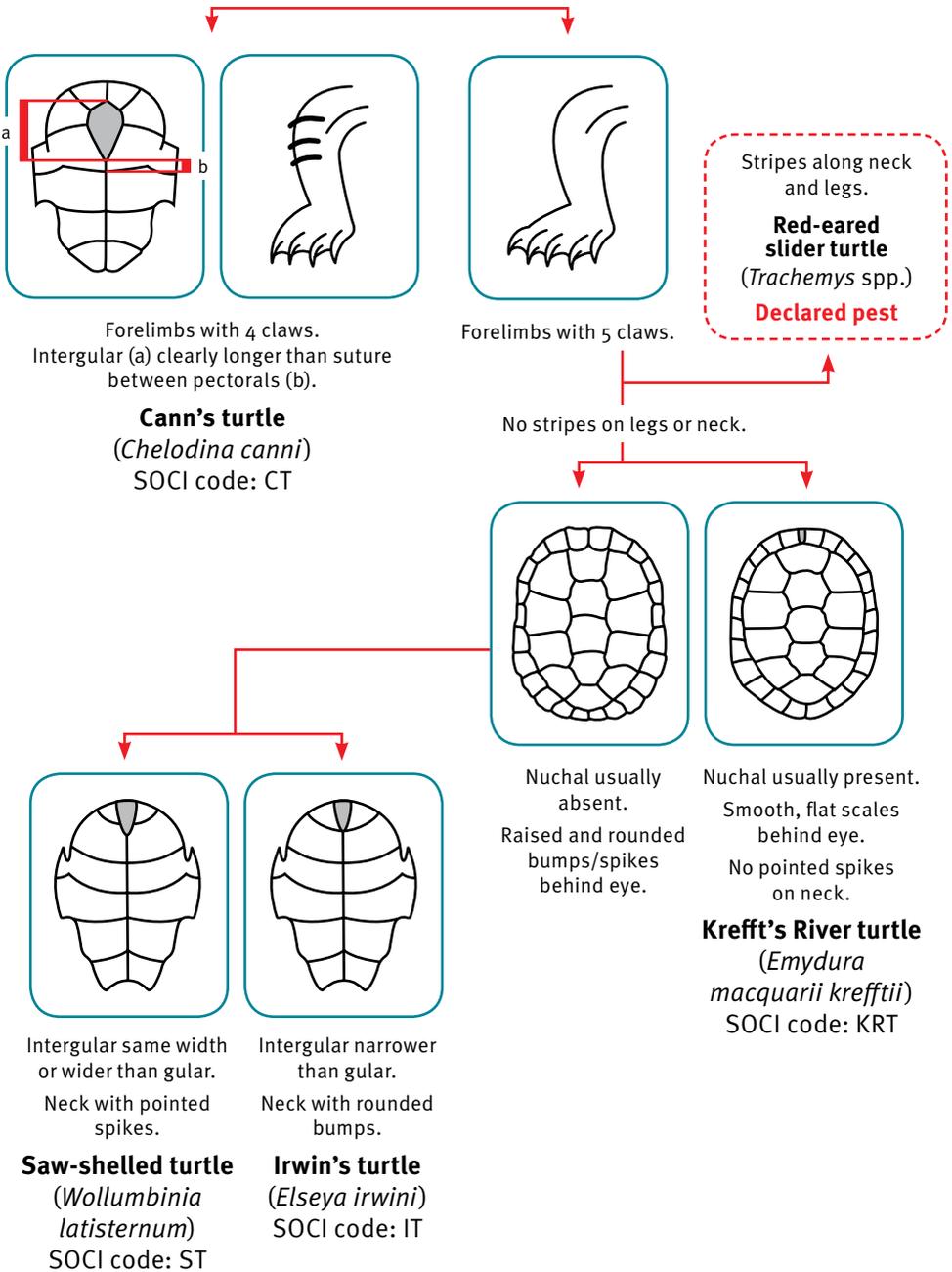
# Scutes on plastron (bottom)



# Turtles of Cape York to Port Douglas



# Turtles of Burdekin and Far North Queensland



# Turtles of Fitzroy/Burnett/Mary



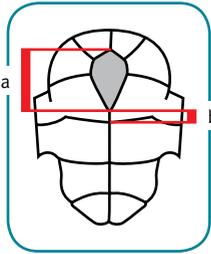
Forelimbs with 4 claws.



Forelimbs with 5 claws.

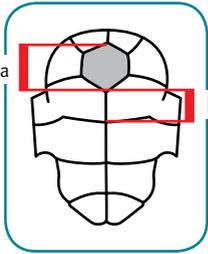
Stripes along neck and legs.  
**Red-eared slider turtle**  
*(Trachemys spp.)*  
**Declared pest**

No stripes on legs or neck.



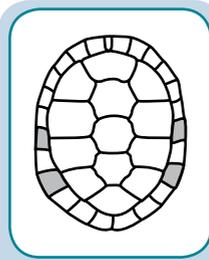
Intergular (a) clearly longer than suture between pectorals (b).

**Eastern snake-necked turtle**  
*(Chelodina longicollis)*  
 SOCI code: EST

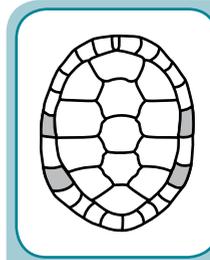


Intergular length (a) similar to length of suture between pectorals (b).

**Broad-shelled river turtle**  
*(Chelodina expansa)*  
 SOCI code: BSRT



2nd and 3rd costal match up with 7th marginal. 3rd and 4th costal match up with 9th marginal.



2nd and 3rd costal match up with 6th marginal. 3rd and 4th costal match up with 8th marginal.

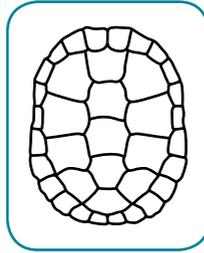
**Fitzroy River turtle**  
*(Rheodytes leukops)*  
 SOCI code: FRT

Fitzroy River catchment only

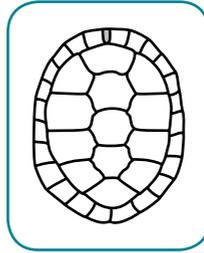
Go to page 6



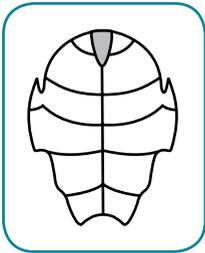
2nd and 3rd costal match up with 7th marginal. 3rd and 4th costal match up with 9th marginal.



Nuchal usually absent.



Nuchal usually present.



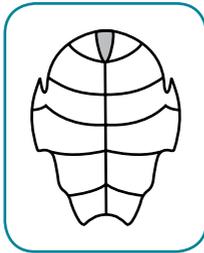
Intergular same width or wider than gular.

Neck with pointed spikes.

**Saw-shelled turtle**

(*Wollumbinia latisternum*)

SOCI code: ST



Intergular narrower than gular.

Neck with rounded bumps.

**White-throated snapping turtle**

(*Elseya albagula*)

SOCI code: WST

Smooth, flat scales behind eye.

No pointed spikes on neck.

**Kreffft's River turtle**

(*Emydura macquarii krefftii*)

SOCI code: KRT

Small raised scales behind eye.

Neck with pointed spikes.

**Mary River turtle**

(*Elusor macrurus*)

SOCI code: MRT

Mary River catchment only

# Turtles of South East Queensland



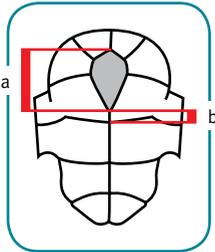
Forelimbs with 4 claws.



Forelimbs with 5 claws.

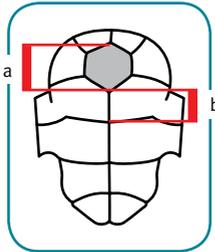
Stripes along neck and legs.  
**Red-eared slider turtle**  
*(Trachemys spp.)*  
**Declared pest**

No stripes on legs or neck.



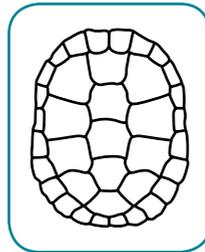
Intergular (a) clearly longer than suture between pectorals (b).

**Eastern snake-necked turtle**  
*(Chelodina longicollis)*  
 SOCI code: EST



Intergular length (a) similar to length of suture between pectorals (b).

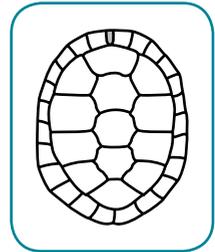
**Broad-shelled river turtle**  
*(Chelodina expansa)*  
 SOCI code: BSRT



Nuchal usually absent.  
 Neck with pointed spikes.

Intergular same width or wider than gular

**Saw-shelled turtle**  
*(Wollumbinia latisternum)*  
 SOCI code: ST



Nuchal usually present.  
 No pointed spikes on neck.  
 Smooth, flat scales behind eye.

**Macquarie River Turtle**  
*(Emydura macquarii macquarii)*  
 SOCI Code: MQRT



*Emydura*



*Wollumbinia*



*Trachemys*



*Eseya*



# Freshwater turtles of Queensland

*Rheodytes*



*Chelodina canni/longicollis*



*Elusor*



*Chelodina rugosa/expansa*





PR10\_5607