

River Murray turtles

in South Australia

Murray short-necked turtle (*Emydura macquarii*)

Listed as vulnerable in South Australia.

The Murray short-necked turtle is distinct from other species of River Murray turtles by its relatively short neck and creamy-yellow stripe running back along the side of the head from the corner of the mouth.

Its olive green/bronze shell grows to about 30 cm in length. Males can weigh around 2.2 kg and females up to 4 kg.

Eastern long-necked turtle (*Chelodina longicollis*)

Not rated as threatened however numbers have declined sharply.

The eastern long-necked turtle is the smallest of the River Murray turtles. Its distinctive shell grows to about 25 cm and has black lines between the plates on the underside.

Males can weigh around 1 kg and females can weigh more than 1.5 kg.



Broad-shelled turtle (*Chelodina expansa*)

Listed as vulnerable in South Australia.

The broad-shelled turtle has the longest neck of any turtle in the world!

It is the largest of the 3 River Murray turtle species with a shell up to 50 cm long. Males can weigh up to 4 kg and females can exceed 5 kg.

When small they can look like eastern long-necked turtles but the underside of the shell does not have black lines.



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