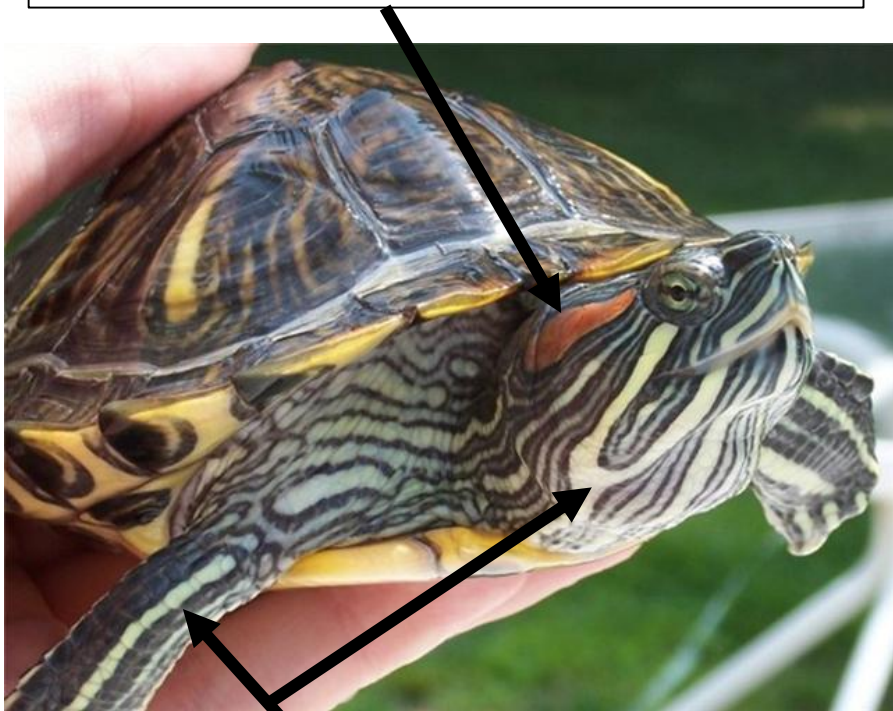


HAVE YOU SEEN THIS ANIMAL?



Identification

Red coloured marking behind the eyes (can fade with age).



White/yellow markings on neck and front limbs

The red eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*), is a species of terrapin native to southern United States and northern Mexico. It is listed as one of the 100 worst invasive species by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG). The red eared slider is the most popular terrapin within the pet trade and has become invasive in many countries across the world. Whether it has established in southern Africa and where it is found here has not been investigated. This species of terrapin may negatively influence our native species of terrapins and other native animal and plant species. In order to investigate whether and where it has established and to estimate the impacts this species has on our natural ecosystems, we need your help!

If you have spotted a free ranging red eared slider, please contact me via charisma.adlem@zoology.up.ac.za, make the subject of your email “Slider spotted”. Provide all information relevant to its location and identification such as name of the dam/nature reserve you have spotted it at, a picture if you have one, etc. Please do not attempt to catch them.

