

## **Crocodile found near Brandywine Creek**

*DNR officers looks for person who released  
the Croc and hope to prevent more in wild*

*By Don Lee - September 2017  
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Monday a DNR (Department of Natural Resources) Conservation officer responded to a report from an land owner near the area who claimed to have seen a reptile resembling an alligator in Brandywine Creek.

That was when Indiana Conservation Officer Ted Stine responded to the area and found tracks in the mud that were consistent with an alligator, he believed. Then other Conservation Officers were able to locate and capture the reptile using spot lights and large dip nets, the report said. Once the crocodile was captured, it was determined to be a three foot long crocodile. The Crocodile will not be harm and the crocodile is currently being housed at a secure facility until a

suitable home can be located.

The Indiana DNR says that crocodiles and alligators are not native to Indiana, and although officers occasionally find one in our waters, they are not naturally occurring. It is legal to possess a crocodile up to five feet long in Indiana without a state permit, however some species may require a federal permit, the report said.

“Crocodiles are generally purchased by people who are interested in caring for an exotic and exciting pet, but they soon realize that proper care is difficult and expensive.” said Capt. Bill Browne. “The focus now will be to determine who may have released it, and make sure they do not have any other wild animals that might be released”, he said

Report info if you know anything:

If you have any information about where this crocodile may have come from, please contact 1-800-TIP-IDNR call line. All Callers can remain anonymous.