

Activity: Migratory Birds, Law Enforcement and International Conservation
Subactivity: International Affairs

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
International Conservation	(\$000)	6,515	7,574	-66	-1,150	6,358	-1,216
	FTE	23	23	0	0	23	0
International Wildlife Trade	(\$000)	6,689	6,805	-70	0	6,735	-70
	FTE	40	40	0	0	40	0
Total, International Affairs	(\$000)	13,204	14,379	-136	-1,150	13,093	-1,286
	FTE	63	63	0	0	63	0

Program Overview

The Service, through the International Affairs Program, works with private citizens, local communities, state and federal agencies, foreign governments, and U.S. and international non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) to promote a coordinated domestic and international strategy to protect, restore, and enhance the world’s diverse wildlife and their habitats, with a focus on species of international concern.

The Service implements U.S. wildlife laws, as well as international treaties and agreements including:

- The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the only global treaty that ensures international trade is based on sustainable-use management of wild and captive populations;
- The Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere (Western Hemisphere Convention), a broad accord to conserve wildlife and their natural habitats; and,
- The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), the only global habitat-oriented convention for wetlands conservation.

The International Affairs Program consists of two functions:

International Conservation provides conservation education and technical training to local communities in the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, the Near East, and Asia, pursuant to the Western Hemisphere Convention and bilateral international agreements in concert with the State Department. In addition, it manages the grants programs established under the Multinational Species Conservation Funds for African elephants, Asian elephants, rhinoceroses and tigers, great apes, and marine turtles. International Conservation also works closely with the Division of Bird Habitat Conservation to implement the Neotropical Migratory Bird Program. This function also supports the Department of the Interior’s Resource Protection Goal as stated above, as well as by creating habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish.

International Wildlife Trade implements the management and scientific requirements of domestic laws and international treaties enacted or ratified by Congress for the conservation of species subject to trade. It helps to conserve species at-risk by using best science and management practices to make decisions on the status of species and develop policy to implement laws and treaties effectively, administer an international permitting program, collaborate with States, Tribes, and others, and provide training and technical assistance to other countries. This function supports the Department of the Interior’s Resource

Protection Goal by ensuring sustainable use of protected wildlife in trade and thereby meeting species-specific international obligations.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

Established performance measures are set focusing on only the highest priority species. These target measures establish a framework under which the Service can monitor its international obligations to further the Service strategic goal of influencing sustainable conservation of species of international concern, and the four Critical Success Factors related to bi-national and multinational initiatives and federal assistance awards.

International Affairs achieves mission results via performance-based management in conformance with the Departmental Strategic Plan:

- The Service influenced the conservation of 33 species listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) through activities that promote and sustain the species. Among the species benefiting from conservation action are leopards, peregrine falcons, giant pandas, tigers, African and Asian elephants, and orchids.
- During 2009, the Service influenced the conservation of 49 species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of the Endangered Species Act. Among the species benefitting from the conservation activities are: 10 species of penguins; and other foreign bird species such as the black-breasted puffleg, medium tree finch, Andean flamingo, Chilean woodstar, and the St. Lucia Forest thrush.
- The Service influenced the conservation of 179 species of international concern through the wildlife trade permitting program. These species, listed in Appendix I and II of CITES, as well as the Endangered Species Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act, are traded internationally for commercial and noncommercial purposes.
- The Service influenced the conservation of 33 species through activities that promote and sustain species of international concern relative to the provisions of CITES. Among the species benefiting from conservation action were American ginseng, bigleaf mahogany, American paddlefish, and those species included in the CITES Appendix-II export program, such as American alligator, bobcat, and river otter, for which 755,748 export tags were issued to the States and Tribes for identifying legally acquired furs.
- For the past five years (2005 through 2009) the Mexico and Latin America/Caribbean Wildlife Without Borders programs have leveraged over \$18.6 million in matching and in-kind support from a wide range of partner organizations from \$7 million in appropriations for ongoing capacity building projects including: 1) a project to teach indigenous people to manage their lands as "Peasant Reserves", based on their cultural and economic needs in Mexico; 2) a project to strengthen the ability of natural resource managers, educators, and community leaders to raise knowledge, awareness, and appreciation about the importance and value of local wetlands and bird life and effectively conserve and manage them for the benefit of species and people in Latin America; and 3) a project enhance the technical capacity of Peruvian Park Service staff of Alto Purús National Park and strengthen the capacity of local communities to participate in and benefit from conservation efforts aimed at the park.
- During 2009, the Service received 260 proposals for Wildlife Without Borders funding and awarded 90 grants for a variety of capacity building activities, leveraging \$6.2 million in matching resources from \$3.6 million in appropriations. Projects included support of activities to manage and conserve monarch butterflies and the California condor in Mexico; the Antiquan racer and the guanaco in Latin America and the Caribbean; and the wisent in Russia.
- International Conservation will continue development of a strategic plan designed to evaluate all aspects of operations and staffing consistent with Departmental and Service mission goals.

Performance Change Table - International Affairs

Performance Goal	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Program Change Accruing in Out-years
Sustaining Biological Communities								
CSF 10.1 Number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries (GPRA)	60	60	87	49	49	49	0	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$6,550	\$9,632	\$7,287	\$4,199	\$4,199	\$4,295	\$97	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$4,024	\$4,510	\$4,891	\$5,004	\$5,004	\$5,119	\$115	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$109,172	\$160,536	\$83,763	\$85,689	\$85,689	\$87,660	\$1,971	
Comments:	The reduction in 2010 from 2009 is caused by the transfer of Section 4 activities to the ES Program. However, the FWS International Affairs Program is working on 11 species, in addition to the 49 shown above in 2011.							
CSF 10.2 Influence the conservation of X species of international concern through the wildlife trade permitting program	179	179	179	179	179	179	0	
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$2,085	\$1,794	\$2,031	\$2,078	\$2,078	\$2,126	\$48	
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$1,650	\$1,549	\$1,765	\$1,805	\$1,805	\$1,847	\$42	
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$11,646	\$10,020	\$11,346	\$11,607	\$11,607	\$11,874	\$267	
CSF 10.3 Facilitate the conservation of X species through federal assistance awards and leveraged funds or in-kind resources	32	32	32	56	56	32	-24	

Note: 2011 Base Budget is equal to 2010 Plan (enacted level) plus fixed cost (absorbed).

Performance Overview Table - International Affairs

Performance Goal	2006 Actual	2007 Actual	2008 Actual	2009 Plan	2009 Actual	2010 Plan	2011 Base Budget	2011 President's Budget Request	Program Change Accruing in 2011	Long-term Target 2012
Sustaining Biological Communities										
CSF 10.1 Number of international species of management concern whose status has been improved in cooperation with affected countries (GPRA)	60	60	60	87	87	49	49	49	0	49
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$6,907	\$6,550	\$9,632	n/a	\$7,287	\$4,199	\$4,199	\$4,295	\$97	\$4,394
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$3,772	\$4,024	\$4,510	n/a	\$4,891	\$5,004	\$5,004	\$5,119	\$115	\$5,237
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$115,123	\$109,172	\$160,536	n/a	\$83,763	\$85,689	\$85,689	\$87,660	\$1,971	\$89,676
Comments:	The reduction in 2010 from 2009 is caused by the transfer of Section 4 activities to the ES Program. However, the FWS International Affairs Program is working on 11 species, in addition to the 49 shown above in 2011.									
CSF 10.2 Influence the conservation of X species of international concern through the wildlife trade permitting program	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	0	179
CSF Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$2,863	\$2,085	\$1,794	n/a	\$2,031	\$2,078	\$2,078	\$2,126	\$48	\$2,174
CSF Program Total Actual/Projected Expenditures(\$000)	\$2,033	\$1,650	\$1,549	n/a	\$1,765	\$1,805	\$1,805	\$1,847	\$42	\$1,889
Actual/Projected Cost Per Species (whole dollars)	\$15,996	\$11,646	\$10,020	n/a	\$11,346	\$11,607	\$11,607	\$11,874	\$267	\$12,147
CSF 10.3 Facilitate the conservation of X species through federal assistance awards and leveraged funds or in-kind resources	32	32	32	32	32	56	56	32	-24	32

Note: 2011 Base Budget is equal to 2010 Plan (enacted level) plus fixed cost (absorbed).

Subactivity: International Affairs
Program Component: International Conservation

		2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
				DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Wildlife Without Borders (\$000)		6,365	7,424	-66	-1,000	6,358	-1,066
Caddo Lake Ramsar Center (\$000)		150	150	0	-150	0	-150
Total, International Conservation (\$000)		6,515	7,574	-66	-1,150	6,358	-1,216
FTE		23	23	0	0	23	0

Summary of 2011 Program Changes for International Conservation

Request Component	(\$000)	FTE
• Wildlife Without Borders	-1,000	0
• Caddo Lake Ramsar Center	-150	0
Total, Program Changes	-1,150	0

Justification of 2011 Program Changes

The 2011 budget request for the International Conservation program is \$6,358,000 and 23 FTE, a program change of -\$1,150,000 and 0 FTE from the 2010 Enacted Budget.

Wildlife Without Borders (-\$1,000,000/+0 FTE) – The unrequested increase of \$1,000,000 for the Wildlife Without Borders program in 2010 will not be continued in 2011. The funding requested in 2011 is sufficient to address the most important priorities to support capacity-building projects for the long-term conservation of endangered and migratory species occurring abroad and to provide technical assistance as a complement to the multinational species conservation fund.

Caddo Lake Ramsar Center (-\$150,000/+0 FTE) – Since 2003, this Congressional earmark has, through the Service, provided funding to the Caddo Lake Ramsar Wetlands Science Center facility. The Institute implements a 1996 joint U.S. Government and Caddo Lake Institute Ramsar Convention pledge to establish a regional Ramsar Center and academy for wetland education in the United States. The Institute provides the physical venue to support local efforts, and develops projects that demonstrate the ecological values, and opportunities for compatible economic development of wetlands. Since the Caddo Lake RAMSAR Center is not directly related to International Conservation’s performance goals under the DOI Strategic Plan, continuing this earmark is not requested. This decrease will not affect International Conservation’s ability to meet the program’s overall strategic goals, outcome measures, and outputs.

Program Overview

Conservation of wildlife is a global priority. The survival of wildlife species largely depends on the health of habitats extending beyond political boundaries, and the need for international collaboration has never been greater. The Service is mandated through a number of statutes and international treaties to provide support for the conservation of species of international concern. For more than 20 years the Service’s International Conservation program, through a series of *Wildlife Without Borders* initiatives, has developed projects for training wildlife managers and conserving species of international concern. These initiatives support DOI’s Resource Protection Mission, aimed at sustaining biological communities, by fulfilling DOI’s international obligations to manage populations to self-sustaining levels for specific species and create habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish. These goals are achieved

through projects that provide for habitat management training, education, information and technology exchange, and networks and partnerships.

The International Conservation Program administers the *Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat* (Ramsar Convention) and supports the *Multinational Species Conservation Acts* (African and Asian elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes, and marine turtles). Additionally it supports other international agreements and conventions, which contain provisions related to other species and habitats.

The International Conservation Program, which is complementary to the Multinational Species Conservation Funds, provides technical assistance and training related to projects funded for those specific species. The *Wildlife Without Borders* initiatives bridge the gap between projects that are funded, and long-term viability, which is dependent upon the knowledge and skills of local conservation managers and the advice and ongoing support of Service project managers. More information can be found in the Multinational Species Funds section.

Wildlife Without Borders- Latin America & The Caribbean

This initiative was established in 1983 to implement the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere (Western Hemisphere Convention). It assists in the development of locally-adapted wildlife management and conservation programs through grants that provide academic and technical training, conservation education, information exchange and technology transfer, networks and partnerships, and informed citizen participation in natural resource issues. From 2005 through 2009, \$3.7 million in appropriations has leveraged over \$11.3 million in matching and in-kind support from a wide range of partner organizations. Trainees from these programs now manage some of the most important protected areas all over Latin America, helping protect numerous endangered and migratory species of priority to the United States.

Wildlife Without Borders- Mexico

In 1994 the Service and the Mexican Secretariat for the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries created this initiative to assist in capacity building for natural resource management in Mexico, ecosystem management via sustainable resource use, and information exchange to promote better management and understanding of conservation issues. Wildlife Without Borders- Mexico grants promote sustainable conservation practices through academic and technical training, conservation education, information exchange and technology transfer, networks and partnerships, and informed citizen participation in natural resource issues. For the past five years (2005 through 2009) this program has leveraged over \$7.3 million in matching and in-kind support, more than doubling the Service's investment of \$3.5 million.

Wildlife Without Borders- Russia & East Asia

The Service cooperates with Russia to conserve shared species and populations of wildlife, such as sea otters, walrus, polar bears, sturgeon, emperor geese, and eider ducks under the 1972 U.S. - Russia Environmental Agreement and the 1976 U.S. - Russia Migratory Bird Convention. A grants program instituted in 1995 has provided needed support to enhance law enforcement, education activities and infrastructure at federal nature reserves. For the past five years, this program has provided \$702,000 for these activities.

With its unique wildlife, plant species and landscapes, some of which are found nowhere else, China's biodiversity has long been of interest to the American people. The Protocol on Cooperation and Exchanges in the Field of Conservation of Nature was signed in 1986 by the U.S. Department of the Interior and China's Ministry of Forestry. Since then nearly 80 short term exchanges of biologists have taken place, and the Service has encouraged China to better safeguard its wildlife resources through

conservation education, improved management of wildlife trade and enforcement, and protection of rivers and wetland habitat.

The Service's relationship with its Japanese counterparts is a result of a 1972 bilateral Migratory Bird Convention. The two countries meet periodically to review efforts to conserve the 189 species of birds common to both countries, including the endangered short-tailed albatross.

Wildlife Without Borders- Africa

Since 2007 the Service's Africa program has replicated wildlife successes from the New World. The Service has provided almost \$1.5 million and received \$1.7 million in matching resources to implement a mentoring program, designed to assist countries in this region of the world with development of wildlife management capacity. Support in the form of seed money influences the involvement of other organizations to begin significant conservation activities and facilitate development of innovative wildlife conservation solutions. The focus of this initiative is on bushmeat, an increasing scourge affecting wildlife in all quarters of the continent. By establishing a unique international team of fellows guided by a cadre of world-class mentors, new solutions will be sought to this plague on wildlife. The Service's leadership in efforts to reduce this threat will increase the capacity of local people to manage and conserve species in their natural range habitats.

Wildlife Without Borders- Critically Endangered Animals

The Service implemented this program in 2009 to focus on vertebrate species that face an extremely high risk of extinction in the immediate future in natural habitat ranges of developing countries. In its first year alone, 99 proposals were received for funding. Federal assistance awards were made for only 24 of these projects, which included those for amphibians facing the increasing threat of chytrid disease.

2011 Program Performance

The Service's *Wildlife Without Borders* initiative will continue to strengthen the capacity of people in regions throughout the globe to manage and sustain native wildlife populations and their habitats. These activities provide training and fund outreach activities to people in undeveloped nations about alternative approaches for self support and sustainment activities, which currently include information about wildlife habitat destruction and the consumption of bushmeat. These activities are significant threats to species conservation and sustainment and are destined to further reduce and possibly destroy the few remaining populations of species such as rhinoceros and elephant affected by them. The Service's focus is on conservation priorities with species sustainment outcomes. Proposals submitted to the Service for funding of projects with this focus are reviewed and funded on a competitive basis under federal assistance guidelines.

The priority needs for conservation in undeveloped countries continue to grow. Species conservation is at a critical juncture. The people in these poorest of nations rely upon subsistence involving the consumption of bushmeat and destruction of habitat. Without knowledge of the results of these activities or alternative survival methods that allow coexistence with other species, wildlife disease will continue to spread and habitats will be destroyed, effectively reducing or eliminating species.

Individuals trained or working in a conservation field is a reflection of the success of capacity building for the countries where the individuals reside. Their knowledge and work in wildlife management and conservation will translate into local conservation efforts with greater impact than that which could be provided by stand-alone U.S. involvement. Through capacity building and the active participation of local people who positively influence species in their natural domains, the Service's goals related to sustainment of biological communities is achievable.

The Service has established a cadre of well-trained and highly skilled staff to address the most critical conservation issues that impact endangered species and their habitats in other countries, including involvement in multinational conventions and range country meetings to discuss approaches for managing and sustaining wildlife and wildlife habitat and the increase in human-animal conflict.

Significant planned accomplishments in 2011 include:

- Continuing support of the Mexican campesino community which maintains the world's only winter habitat reserve of the Monarch butterfly, by integrating local people into conservation efforts and reconciling their local land use practices with butterfly survival in indigenous forests;
- Continuing facilitation of international cooperation related to the U.S./Canada/Mexico Trilateral Committee; international wetlands activities; the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere; the Commission for Environmental Cooperation the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance; the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative; and other bi-national and multi-lateral initiatives.
- Continuing support of academic and technical programs related to protected areas management training in the Western Hemisphere
- Continuing support for training initiatives aimed at building capacity of African wildlife managers to address threats from extractive industries, climate change, human/wildlife conflict, wildlife disease, and the illegal bushmeat trade.

Subactivity: International Affairs
Program Component: International Wildlife Trade

	2009 Actual	2010 Enacted	2011			Change from 2010 (+/-)
			DOI-wide Changes & Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
International Wildlife Trade (\$000)	6,689	6,805	-70	0	6,735	-70
FTE	40	40	0	0	40	0

Justification of 2011 Program Changes

The 2011 budget request for the International Wildlife Trade program is \$6,735,000 and 40 FTEs, with no program change from the 2010 Enacted Budget.

Program Overview

As the world’s largest importer and exporter of wildlife (animals and plants) and their products, the United States plays a significant role in the global wildlife trade, which is currently valued in billions of dollars annually. An efficient, responsive permits system to regulate this trade is critical to ensure international trade in listed wildlife and plants is legal, and will not adversely affect the biological status of the species in the wild. Strong Service participation in international meetings and negotiations that result in decisions on the listing of species and on policies and procedures for international wildlife trade is essential to meeting U.S. conservation priorities.

The Service has thirty years of history of implementing the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) – the only international treaty designed specifically to conserve certain animal and plant species that are now or may become potentially threatened with extinction due to trade. CITES is one of the most effective forces in the world today for conservation of fauna and flora, both in halting the trade in species threatened with extinction and in fostering sustainable use of other vulnerable species. Bigleaf mahogany, sturgeon and paddlefish, orchids, queen conch, and American ginseng, which are commercially imported and exported by the United States, represent some of the approximately 35,000 species protected by CITES. The Service also implements domestic laws, such as the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), Lacey Act, Wild Bird Conservation Act (WBCA), African Elephant Conservation Act, and Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act, to regulate the trade and movement of species of international concern.

Conservation Partnerships

The Service’s International Wildlife Trade Program (IWTP) works with private citizens, local communities, state and federal agencies, foreign governments, and nongovernmental organizations to promote a coordinated domestic and international strategy to protect,

IWTP Partnerships & Activities

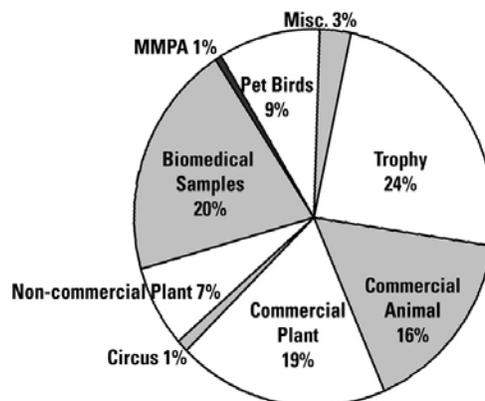


restore, and enhance the world's diverse wildlife and their habitats, with a focus on species of international concern. When the government of a State (country) decides that it will be bound by the provisions of CITES, it can accede to the Convention by making a formal declaration to this effect in writing to the Depository Government. A State for which the Convention has entered into force is called a Party to CITES. At present, 175 countries, including the United States, are Parties to CITES (i.e., countries that have signed onto the treaty). As the U.S. CITES Management Authority and Scientific Authority, the IWTP is a global leader in working with their counterparts from other CITES Parties to shape the development and implementation of international policy on permitting, scientific and technical matters, and other wildlife trade-related issues. These U.S. Authorities work closely with the CITES Secretariat, and communicate regularly with foreign CITES Authorities. The United States, as one of the first Parties to CITES, takes a very active role at meetings of the Conference of the Parties and the Standing and Technical Committees. The Service's IWTP participates in cooperative efforts, such as training workshops and working groups of the Convention, to build the international effectiveness of CITES and to empower other countries to better manage their own wildlife resources and to implement CITES. This constructive involvement is key to highlighting and addressing the concerns and interests of the U.S. Government and its constituencies.

In response to ever-increasing pressures of wildlife trade and habitat loss affecting species worldwide, the IWTP makes critical decisions on the status of species, on wildlife trade policy, and on individual imports and exports through its permit program. These activities support the achievement of outcome measures related to influencing the conservation of species of international concern through wildlife trade permitting activities and through bi-national and multinational initiatives under CITES, the ESA, the MMPA, and the WBCA.

The Service's IWTP issues between 15,000 and 20,000 permits annually to customers seeking to engage in a wide variety of wildlife trade activities. The Service uses best available biological information to make findings on whether the import or export of CITES-listed species may be detrimental to their survival, or whether the trade will not jeopardize the existence and enhance the survival of ESA-listed species. These decisions may involve country-wide review of management programs or, in the case of native CITES Appendix-II species, the review of state and tribal management programs. Permit approval is based on findings on whether the specimens are legally acquired, whether trade in CITES Appendix-I species (species threatened with extinction) is not for primarily commercial purposes, whether trade is not detrimental to a species, and whether transport of live specimens will be humane. Decisions on whether to issue permits frequently must be made in close consultation with foreign CITES Authorities, the States, other federal agencies, the CITES Secretariat, other relevant experts, and applicants.

Permit Applications from the Public by Trade Category



The Service is also responsible for consideration of new species listings and whether a change in a species' listing status under CITES is warranted. Depending on the Appendix (list) in which a species is listed or for which it is being considered for listing, changes in a species' listing status under CITES may require a two-thirds majority of CITES Parties to vote in favor of the change, although an Appendix-III listing can be done unilaterally. Listing proposals by the United States may originate from various

sources. Some proposals are based on recommendations from the public in response to our requests for information leading up to one of the biennial meetings of the CITES Parties. As part of their regular review of the CITES Appendices, the CITES Animals and Plants Committees may, after determining that a listing change is warranted, ask the United States to prepare a proposal. Consultations with the States and Tribes on native species subject to international trade may result in a proposal, as may a request from a foreign country, which may ask the United States to assist in the preparation of a proposal to protect one of their species. Finally, a proposal may arise as a consequence of new information received by the Service at any time that indicates that a species should be considered for listing, delisting, or transfer from one Appendix to another. Any proposed listing action is subject to public notification and comment, to ensure that the Service has the best available information on which to base CITES listing decisions.

The Service collaborates with States and Tribes to support their implementation of management programs for native species listed under CITES that are commercially traded in high numbers, including American ginseng, American alligator, bobcat, Alaska lynx, and river otter, to appropriately control and monitor the export of these species and support improved conservation efforts for species of international concern. The IWTP oversees and monitors approved export programs for 49 states and 11 tribes. These programs are designed to apply an appropriate level of control while streamlining procedures so as not to impede trade that is legal and not detrimental to the species involved.

Trade Monitoring, Training, and Technical Assistance

In addition to processing permits and furthering U.S. international wildlife trade policy, the IWTP compiles and maintains trade records for U.S. imports and exports for the purpose of monitoring trends in trade over time. Our 2008 compilation, which includes data of the U.S. trade with the rest of the world in live specimens, as well as parts and products, of CITES-listed species of animals and plants during the calendar year, contains 140,399 data records. Of these 140,399 records, 125,461 represent CITES animal trade, and 14,938 represent CITES plant trade. Data records from calendar year 2009 will be available early in fiscal year 2011. The records form the basis of the U.S. CITES annual report required by the Convention. In conjunction with data from other CITES Parties, they are used to determine trends in trade and to help ensure that significant trade in plants and animals is sustainable. The Service also provides technical assistance and training to encourage effective implementation and enforcement of CITES in collaboration with other CITES Parties. The Service works with range countries and permit holders to generate funding for conservation of high-visibility species in the wild, such as giant pandas in China and argali sheep in Asia.

2011 Program Performance

In 2011, the International Wildlife Trade Program will be able to achieve goals as a result of: restructuring some elements of its program to gain management efficiencies; and maximizing contributions from other countries and partners. Significant planned accomplishments in 2011 include:

In 2011, the Service will implement the results and reach out to U.S. importers and exporters, the States, and the general public following the Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (COP15) held in March 2010. CITES regulations and internal procedures will be revised as needed in coordination with affected government and State agencies. We will continue to follow up with implementation of decisions from the meeting by engaging in CITES working groups and other activities (e.g., assisting with planning, providing funding, or other support for workshops, training, or studies), particularly those proposed by the United States and adopted at the meeting.

The Service will continue to take an active role in advancing CITES policy initiatives internationally and actively work on issues in the CITES North American Region, the CITES Animals and Plants Committees, and the Standing Committee. In 2011, the CITES Animals, Plants, and Standing Committees will each meet at least once. The Service will be responsible for the preparation and

submission of documents for consideration at these meetings, as well as evaluation of other submissions to develop U.S. positions and negotiating strategies. The Service will also remain engaged in budget oversight of the CITES Secretariat, potentially by continuing as the North American member of the Finance and Budget Subcommittee of the CITES Standing Committee.

The Service will work with our State partners and focus on the conservation of native species that are subject to international trade, in particular native freshwater aquatic species that may be at risk due to impacts of trade, such as American eel, paddlefish, shovelnose sturgeon, and freshwater turtles.

The Service will work with the National Marine Fisheries Service on conservation and implementation issues for CITES-listed marine species, notably species addressed at CoP15, including corals, sharks, and blue fin tuna.

The Service will continue to work with U.S. breeders of CITES-listed wildlife to assess what species are commonly bred in captivity and meet the CITES requirements for “bred in captivity.” These assessments will help facilitate the issuance of permits in a timely and efficient manner.

In 2011, the Service anticipates having a majority, if not all, permit applications set up for electronic (on-line) application and will have completely migrated to a web-based permits system. We will continue to seek efficiencies in the administration of the permits program by evaluating processes and eliminating redundancies and procedures that unnecessarily lengthen processing times.