



## **ANNOUNCEMENT FOR US TIMBER IMPORTERS AND RE-EXPORTERS**

This announcement is directed to U.S. timber importers and re-exporters, and associations that represent such businesses, including the International Wood Products Association (IWPA) and the International Hardwood, Plywood, and Veneer Association (HPVA). We are posting it on our website at <http://www.fws.gov/international/> and will provide it to IWPA and HPVA to post on their websites and distribute to their constituents.

In [Notification to the Parties No. 2014/051](#), posted on November 7, 2014, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ([CITES](#)) Secretariat announced that Guatemala has listed the following four timber species in CITES Appendix III: *Dalbergia calycina* (a rosewood without an English common name); *Dalbergia cubilquitzensis* (Guatemalan rosewood); *Dalbergia glomerata* (a rosewood without an English common name); and *Dalbergia tucurensis* (Yucatan rosewood). Guatemala has limited these listings to cover only its national populations of the four species, and has annotated the listings to include only the following commodities: logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, and plywood (Annotation #6). All four listings become effective on February 5, 2015.

CITES is an international treaty that has been ratified by 180 countries since it entered into force in 1975. Its aim is to ensure that international wildlife trade is based on sustainable use and management of wild and captive or cultivated populations of animals and plants. Under CITES, international wildlife trade is regulated through a system of permits and certificates to ensure that trade in listed wildlife and plants, including parts and products, is legal and does not threaten the survival of the species. Species can be listed under CITES in one of three Appendices, each of which provides a different level of protection. Appendix I includes species threatened with extinction, and international trade in these species is strictly regulated. Appendix II includes species that, although currently not threatened with extinction, may become so without trade controls. Most CITES species are listed in this Appendix. Appendix III includes species for which a range country has asked for cooperation from other CITES member countries to help it better control international trade in the species.

### **Imports of these four rosewood species into the United States**

With respect to *Dalbergia calycina*, *Dalbergia cubilquitzensis*, and *Dalbergia glomerata*, since Guatemala has limited the Appendix-III listings of these three species to cover only its national populations of the species, all parts, derivatives, products, and other commodities derived from specimens from populations other than the national population of Guatemala are not subject to the provisions of CITES and their import into the United States does not require CITES documentation. Also, since Guatemala has annotated these listings to include only logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, and plywood, imports into the United States of any commodities of these three species other than logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, or plywood obtained from any populations (including Guatemala's) are not subject to the provisions of CITES and their import into the United States does not require CITES documentation. However, beginning on February 5, 2015, all shipments for import into the United States of logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, and plywood of *Dalbergia calycina*, *Dalbergia cubilquitzensis*, or *Dalbergia glomerata* originating

from Guatemala must be accompanied by CITES documents. These documents must be issued by the CITES Management Authority in the exporting or re-exporting country. For exports of the listed commodities from Guatemala, the shipments must be accompanied by CITES export permits. If the listed commodities to be exported were acquired prior to February 5, 2015, the Management Authority of the Guatemala must issue CITES pre-Convention certificates.

With respect to *Dalbergia tucurensis*, although Guatemala has restricted its Appendix-III listing of this species to cover only its national population, Nicaragua already listed this species in Appendix III on June 24, 2014. Nicaragua's listing, like Guatemala's listing, includes only logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, and plywood, but it covers the species throughout its entire range. Therefore, all shipments of *Dalbergia tucurensis* logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, and plywood for import into the United States are currently required to be accompanied by CITES documents. These documents must be issued by the CITES Management Authority in the exporting or re-exporting country. For exports of the listed commodities of this species from Nicaragua, the shipments must be accompanied by CITES export permits and, beginning on February 5, 2015, for exports of the listed commodities from Guatemala, the shipments must also be accompanied by CITES export permits. For exports of the listed commodities from countries other than Nicaragua (effective now) and Guatemala (beginning on February 5, 2015), the shipments must be accompanied by CITES certificates of origin.

All re-exports of the listed commodities of *Dalbergia calycina*, *Dalbergia cubilquitzensis*, *Dalbergia glomerata*, and *Dalbergia tucurensis* must be accompanied by CITES re-export certificates, which are issued by the Management Authority of the re-exporting country. For a directory of CITES contacts in member countries, please see the CITES directory at: <http://www.cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp>.

All shipments of listed commodities of *Dalbergia calycina*, *Dalbergia cubilquitzensis*, *Dalbergia glomerata*, and *Dalbergia tucurensis* imported into the United States must enter through a port designated for the import and export of CITES-listed plants by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will inspect the shipments at these ports prior to the wood entering the United States to ensure that they are accompanied by the appropriate CITES documentation and are otherwise in compliance with U.S. law.

### **Re-exports of these four rosewood species from the United States**

For a shipment of listed commodities of *Dalbergia calycina*, *Dalbergia cubilquitzensis*, *Dalbergia glomerata*, or *Dalbergia tucurensis* to be legally re-exported from the United States, it must be accompanied by a U.S. CITES Appendix-III re-export certificate issued by this office, the U.S. CITES Management Authority. These regulated commodities must be re-exported from the United States through an APHIS designated port for CITES-listed plants, and must be inspected and cleared by APHIS.

We look forward to working with you on implementing these listings. If you have any questions, please feel free contact us by telephone at: 703-358-2095 or by email at: [managementauthority@fws.gov](mailto:managementauthority@fws.gov). If you have specific questions about APHIS designated ports

for CITES-listed plants and timber, or other timber enforcement matters, please contact John Veremis, National CITES Coordinator-USDA-APHIS-PPQ, at: [john.veremis@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:john.veremis@aphis.usda.gov).