Identification Notes for wildlife law enforcement

**CATEGORY:** BIRD

**Scientific Name/s:** Gallus sonneratii

**Common Name/s:** Grey Junglefowl
Jungle Cock

**PROBLEM:** Fishing flies with Junglefowl (Gallus sonneratii) feathers imported without CITES permits; unmarked skins of the Grey Junglefowl imported without CITES permits and in violation of the Tariff Classification Act.

**GUIDE TO IDENTIFICATION:** SKIN AND FEATHERS
(by Beth Ann Sabo, USFWS Forensics Lab)

Neck feathers have one to several glossy spots near the tip and a white streak along the midshaft (rachis). The spots are yellow-brown or white on the dorsal (upper) surface and white on the ventral (under) surface; the rachidial streak is white on both surfaces. The vanes between the spots are often iridescent blue, and near the mid-point of the feather they maybe laterally fringed with light grey.

**WATCH FOR** Fishing accessories and lures imported via parcel post. Grey Junglefowl skins are hidden between cardboard and may be declared as magazines.

**OTHER** Beware of paper substitutes and painted domestic chicken feathers. English starling and North American wood duck flank feathers are also used. The grey Junglefowl is bred in captivity in the U.S., U.K., and China. Color and definition of feathers from captive-bred fowl is poor.

**FROM:** Belgium, Netherlands, Canada, U.K., and Hong Kong

Identification Notes and other Lab information available at:
http://www.lab.fws.gov/for-lab.htm

Submitted by: Mike Coffey, Wildlife Inspector, Port of Chicago, IL, and Tim Santel, Wildlife Inspector, Port of Boston (current address: USFWS, Division of Enhancement, Marion, IL).
Updated by: B.A. Sabo, May 1996

Prepared in cooperation with the National Fish & Wildlife Forensics Laboratory, Ashland, OR, USA
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Skin and Neck Feathers

Dorsal Surface of Neck Feather

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