

## **Donations of Legally Owned Ivory to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), along with its conservation partners, is in the forefront of efforts to quash the illegal ivory trade which promotes the poaching of elephants to an extent that could threaten the species' survival. In an effort to raise awareness of the illicit trade in ivory, many citizens have expressed an interest in donating their personal legally owned ivory to the FWS, in an effort to reduce the overall market in ivory. To that end, the FWS will accept donations of ivory and ivory products which are the legally owned personal property of the donor(s). The items donated will be used primarily to educate the public about the ivory trade and will not be returned to the commercial market. Such donations will be accepted by the FWS, Office of Law Enforcement's National Wildlife Repository in Commerce City, Colorado.

Any ivory donations should be sent via USPS, UPS, Federal Express, or other appropriate method to the Repository at the following address:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Wildlife Property Repository  
6550 Gateway Road, Bldg. 128  
Commerce City, Colorado 80022  
Attention: Ivory Donations

Donations should be accompanied by a letter addressed to the Repository containing the following information:

- \*Description of the item(s) of legally obtained ivory being donated;***
- \*Name and address of the donor(s);***
- \*A statement certifying that the donor(s) is/are the sole legal owner(s) of the property being donated and that by submitting such ivory to the repository they relinquish all rights to such property, without condition, to the FWS***

The cost of shipping ivory items to the Repository, as well as insuring the value of the items during shipping, if any, is the sole responsibility of the donor. Such donations are not consummated and do not become property of the FWS until a signed acknowledgement is sent to the donor(s).

Claiming any value for such ivory donations for federal, State, or local tax purposes, or any other purpose is the sole responsibility of the donor. The FWS will not in any way value such donated items. By submitting such a donation, the donor agrees that upon acceptance such ivory items will become the sole property of the FWS, without recourse.

If you have questions regarding Ivory donations please contact:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
National Wildlife Property Repository  
6550 Gateway Road, Bldg. 128  
Commerce City, Colorado 80022  
Telephone: 303/287-2110  
Email: repository@fws.gov