



NOTICE TO THE WILDLIFE IMPORT/EXPORT COMMUNITY



May 3, 2013

Subject: CITES Species-Specific Trade Restrictions

Background: The Endangered Species Act prohibits trade in specimens contrary to the CITES Convention. Articles II and VIII of CITES require that we take appropriate measures to enforce the provisions of the treaty and to prohibit trade in specimens that are in violation of the treaty. Article III of CITES requires that we consider permits and certificates to be valid only when the exporting country has made the required determination that trade in the specimens will not be detrimental to the wild population.

When the CITES Parties, through the CITES Standing Committee or the CITES Conference of the Parties, determine that a country is not making the required non-detriment findings for a species, the United States cannot establish that trade in the species is sustainable and not detrimental to the wild population. An export permit or re-export certificate issued for the species by the country under suspension is considered invalid (see 50 CFR § 23.26 (c)(12)).

CITES Notification No. 2013/13 issued on May 2, 2013 announced the imposition of several new trade suspensions.

The following trade suspensions were imposed:

- *Balearica pavonina* from Guinea, the Sudan and South Sudan
- *Balearica regulorum* from Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania
- *Huso huso* from the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation
- *Hippocampus kuda* from Viet Nam
- *Pandinus imperator* from Benin and Togo

Action: The United States will continue to prohibit the import of any species subject to a CITES species trade suspension. This prohibition applies to all imports except specimens that meet the personal or household effects (50 CFR §23.15), artificial propagation (§23.40), bred-in-captivity (§23.41), pre-Convention (§23.45), registered scientific institution (§23.48) or traveling exhibition (§23.49) exemption. All such prohibited shipments or specimens are subject to seizure and forfeiture. Attached to this bulletin is the list of CITES species-specific trade restrictions. Additional information about other CITES trade restrictions can be found at: <http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/ref/suspend.php>.

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