

## NOTICE TO THE WILDLIFE IMPORT/EXPORT COMMUNITY



Date: March 27, 2023

## Subject: CITES Trade Suspension – All Commercial Trade in CITES species to/from Mexico

<u>Background:</u> The Endangered Species Act prohibits trade in specimens contrary to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Article I of the Convention defines "trade" to mean export, re-export, import, and introduction from the sea. Article XIII designates the Secretariat to communicate to the Parties when species in Appendix I and II are being adversely affected in trade or that the provisions of the Convention are not being implemented effectively.

An import permit, export permit, or re-export certificate issued for the species by the country under suspension is considered invalid (see 50 CFR § 23.26 (c)(5)).

The CITES Secretariat issued CITES Notification No. 2023/037 on March 27, 2023, announcing the trade suspension for all commercial trade with Mexico, effective immediately. See Notification to the Parties 2023 (cites.org).

The complete list of Parties subject to a recommendation to suspend trade is available on the CITES website under Documents/Trade suspensions (see <a href="http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/ref/suspend.php">http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/ref/suspend.php</a>).

<u>Action:</u> The United States implements all CITES recommendations to suspend trade, including the import, export, and re-export of any CITES species subject to a trade suspension. Effective immediately, all shipments containing CITES specimens traded for commercial purposes under an import permit, export permit, or re-export certificate issued by Mexico for the species, are subject to enforcement action.