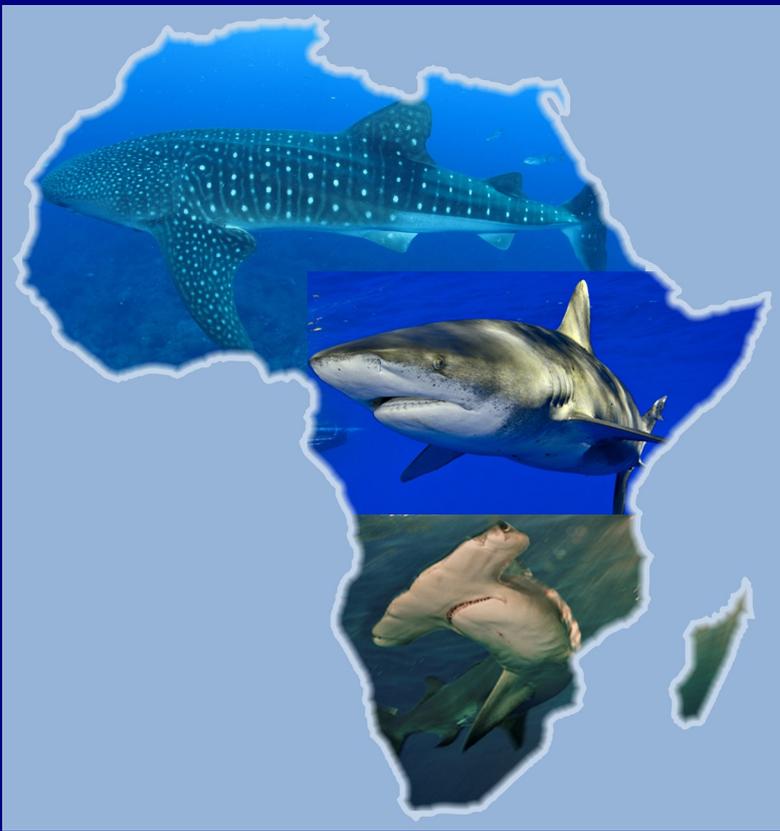


**GUIDE TO  
WEST AFRICAN  
SHARK AND RAY SPECIES  
LISTED IN  
THE  
CONVENTION ON  
INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE IN  
ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND  
FLORA (CITES)**





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## THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)



### What is CITES?

CITES is a multilateral environmental agreement under which Parties regulate international trade in plants and animals of conservation concern to ensure that such trade does not threaten their survival. The CITES treaty was initially signed in 1973 and entered into force in 1975. 180 member countries (“Parties”) have signed the CITES treaty, which now protects more than 33,000 species of animals and plants.

### What does CITES regulate?

CITES does not regulate domestic trade in wildlife, but only covers international trade. International trade includes import, export, re-export, and introduction from the sea (or transportation into a country of a specimen of a listed species taken on the high seas). CITES does not cover all species; it regulates international trade only in species listed in its Appendices. An updated list of the species in the Appendices is available on the CITES website at <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/index.shtml>. Trade in CITES species includes, among other things, trade in live animals and plants, food products, traditional medicine, leather goods, timber, wooden instruments or furniture, roots or essence, and raw or processed wildlife products.

### What species are covered by CITES?

CITES protects about 5,000 species of animals and 28,000 species of plants. These are listed in three lists (the CITES Appendices) depending in part on their conservation status and on the urgency of their

need for protection from international trade. The Appendices can include whole groups of species such as cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises), primates, big cats, sea turtles, parrots, corals, cacti and orchids, individual species, subspecies, or geographically separate populations. Listings for plant species, or listings in Appendix III, can be limited to specific parts, products, items or derivatives (such as timber, roots, essence, seeds). Some listings are governed by annotations that may restrict trade to populations in certain countries or regions, allow trade only in certain products, or impose other modifications or limitations.

Species listed in **Appendix I** are those that “are threatened with extinction and are or may be affected by trade” (CITES Article II). Appendix I species cannot be traded internationally for primarily commercial purposes, though they can be exported and imported for non-commercial purposes. CITES resolutions define an activity as commercial “if its purpose is to obtain economic benefit (whether in cash or otherwise), and is directed toward resale, exchange, provision of a service or any other form of economic use or benefit” (Resolution Conf. 5.10 (Rev. CoP 15)). International trade in Appendix I species is authorized for non-commercial purposes, but is strictly controlled through a permitting system to ensure that it is not detrimental to the survival of the species, that specimens were legally acquired, and, for live specimens, that they are so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. CITES Appendix I contains more than 890 species, including chimpanzees, gorillas, Asian and most populations of African elephants, rhinoceroses, great whales, West African manatee, sea turtles, leopards, peregrine falcons, West African dwarf crocodiles and some species of orchids.

Species listed in **Appendix II** are those that “although not necessarily now threatened with extinction, may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival” (CITES, Article 2). Species can also be listed in Appendix II if they look like, or if their parts and products look like, other listed species or their parts and products. International trade in Appendix II species is authorized, but is strictly controlled through a permitting system to ensure that it is not detrimental to the survival of the species, that specimens were legally acquired,

and, for live specimens, that they are so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. Appendix II contains more than 33,000 species, including most primates, most crocodile species, most parrot species, cactuses, succulent euphorbias, and most orchids.

Species in **Appendix III** are unilaterally listed by a CITES Party which regulates those species and believes that cooperation of other CITES Parties is necessary to control their trade (CITES Article II). International trade in Appendix III species is authorized if specimens were legally acquired, and, for live specimens, that they are so prepared and shipped as to minimize the risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. Appendix III includes more than 160 species. Species in Appendix III include the dorcas gazelle, listed by Algeria and Tunisia, and the aardwolf, listed by Botswana.

### How does CITES protect species?

CITES protection is based on a permitting system which aims to ensure that legal international trade is not detrimental to listed species. Issuance of valid CITES permits and certificates, and control of these documents as they accompany species in trade, are crucial safeguards to ensure that international trade is not prejudicial to CITES listed species. Permitting requirements depend on whether the species traded are included in Appendix I, II, or III, subject to certain exceptions (CITES Article VII). The issuance of CITES permits for species in Appendix I or II requires a finding of non-detriment, certifying that the transaction authorized by the CITES permit (import, export or introduction from the sea) will not harm the species.

Trade of species in:

- ◆ Appendix I requires both an import and export permit (the import permit must be issued first);
- ◆ Appendix II requires only an export permit;
- ◆ Appendix III species requires an export permit issued by the country that listed the species or a certificate of origin for specimens originating from other CITES Parties

Introduction from the sea of species included in Appendix I or II requires the issuance of an introduction from the sea certificate, and re-export of species in Appendix I, II or III require the issuance of a re-export certificate.

Some Parties have domestic legislation with trade controls stricter than normal CITES requirements.

### **How is CITES implemented and enforced?**

CITES relies on individual Parties for its implementation and enforcement.

Each CITES Party must designate one or more Management Authorities mainly responsible for issuing permits and certificates, deciding if exemptions to CITES apply, communicating with the CITES Secretariat and other Parties, and preparing and submitting annual trade reports. Parties must also designate one or more independent Scientific Authorities which advise the Management Authority on important technical issues such as whether the issuance of permits and certificates will be detrimental to the survival of the species, monitor the status of native Appendix II species and export data, and determine whether a facility meets the criteria for captive breeding or artificial propagation in accordance with CITES.

Customs and border control officers also play a crucial role in CITES enforcement and must, among other things, identify CITES specimens at the border to detect illegal trade, inspect shipments and CITES documentation to ensure that the CITES documents accompanying shipments are valid and correspond to the actual goods, ensure that the standards applicable to live animals transport are complied with, seize illegal specimens, and help inform the public about measures in place to conserve fauna and flora.

Contact details for national CITES authorities are posted on the CITES website at:  
<http://www.cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp>

## **What are the exemptions to the CITES permitting requirements?**

CITES Article VII provides exemptions to standard permitting requirements for:

- ◆ specimens in transit or being transshipped that have not left customs control;
- ◆ specimens that were acquired before CITES provisions applied to them (or pre-Convention specimens);
- ◆ specimens that are personal or household effects;
- ◆ animals bred in captivity and artificially propagated plants (some permits may still be required);
- ◆ certain types of specimens being exchanged by registered scientists or scientific institutions;
- ◆ animals or plants forming part of a travelling collection or exhibition, such as a circus.

## **Where to find more information about CITES?**

See list of useful websites on page 28 of this guide.

## OVERVIEW OF INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA REQUIREMENTS



CITES-listed animals or plants taken from the high seas - defined as “the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State” - are subject to CITES trade provisions. Parties must implement these provisions whenever an Appendix I or II specimen is taken from the high seas and transported into a State. The trade in these specimens is referred to as “introduction from the sea.”

### A Framework for Implementation

At the most recent CITES meeting (CoP16, in March 2013), the Parties reached agreement on a new framework for implementation of CITES introduction-from-the-sea provisions. This new framework will provide certainty and consistency regarding which CITES documents are issued and which Party is responsible for issuing those documents. It is a pragmatic and effective permitting scheme for CITES specimens taken on the high seas. The new framework is contained in CITES Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16), which addresses introduction-from-the-sea. Within the new framework, if a vessel harvests CITES-listed specimens on the high seas and delivers them to the same country in which it is flagged, Parties will treat the transaction as an introduction from the sea and issue an introduction from the sea certificate. Under this scenario, there is only one country involved in the trade (see Scenario 1).

If there is more than one country involved in the trade (the vessel that harvests the specimens delivers them to a country other than the country to which it is flagged), CITES Parties will treat the transaction as an export and require the issuance of an export permit by the country to which the harvesting vessel is flagged (see Scenario 2).

## Provisions for Chartered Vessels

Some Parties expressed the desire for an exception to this permitting scheme when specimens are harvested by chartered vessels. A narrow exception, to accommodate some chartering arrangements, was incorporated into the new framework. Under the exception, when one country charters a vessel flagged to another country and that vessel harvests CITES-listed specimens on the high seas, the two countries involved could reach an agreement to allow the country that chartered the vessel to issue an introduction-from-the-sea certificate (instead of having the country to which the vessel is flagged issue an export permit). This narrow exception will only be allowed for chartering arrangements under specific conditions, including being consistent with the framework for chartering of a relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organization/ Arrangement (see Scenario 3).

Scenario 1: Ship registered in country A transports CITES specimen into country A

Ship registered in country A takes CITES Appendix-II specimen from the high seas



Transports specimen into country A



**Action Needed**

Introduction from the sea - IFS certificate issued by country A

Scenario 2: Ship registered in country A transports CITES specimen into country B

Ship registered in country A takes CITES Appendix-II specimen from the high seas



Transports specimen into country B



**Action Needed**

Export by country A - export permit issued by country A

Import by country B - export permit issued by country A presented to AND accepted by country B

Scenario 3: Country A charters a vessel registered in country B and that vessel transports CITES specimen into country A

Country A charters a vessel registered in country B that takes CITES Appendix-II specimen from the high seas



Transports specimen into country A



Country A and country B agree to allow country A to issue the CITES IFS certificate\*



**Action Needed**

Introduction from the sea - IFS certificate issued by country A

## OVERVIEW OF CITES PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

	Primarily commercial purposes (import)	Purposes other than primarily commercial
<b>APPENDIX I</b>	<p>→ International trade <b>PROHIBITED</b></p>	<p>→ International trade <b>ALLOWED</b></p> <p><b>EXPORT and IMPORT</b> → requires <b>import and export permits</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment findings → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements and that facilities in importing country are suitable (live animals)</p> <p><b>REEXPORT</b> → requires <b>import permit and re-export certificate</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*) → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements and that facilities in importing country are suitable (live animals)</p> <p><b>INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA</b> → requires <b>introduction from the sea certificate</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements and that facilities in importing country are suitable (live animals)</p>

	Primarily commercial purposes (import)	Purposes other than primarily commercial
APPENDIX II	<p>→ International trade <b>ALLOWED</b></p> <p><b>EXPORT and IMPORT</b>  → requires <b>export permit</b> (except for article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p> <p><b>REEXPORT</b>  → requires <b>re-export certificate</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*)  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p> <p><b>INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA</b>  → requires <b>introduction from the sea certificate</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p>	<p>→ International trade <b>ALLOWED</b></p> <p><b>EXPORT and IMPORT</b>  → requires <b>export permit</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p> <p><b>REEXPORT</b>  → requires <b>re-export certificate</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*)  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p> <p><b>INTRODUCTION FROM THE SEA</b>  → requires <b>introduction from the sea certificate</b> (except for Article VII exemptions*) subject to non-detriment finding  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p>

\* In most cases Article VII exemptions require a certificate in lieu of a permit

	Primarily commercial purposes (import)	Purposes other than primarily commercial
<p><b>APPENDIX III</b></p>	<p>→ International trade <b>ALLOWED</b></p> <p><b>EXPORT and IMPORT</b>  → requires an <b>export permit</b> issued by the country that listed the species in Appendix III or a <b>certificate of origin</b> issued by other Parties (except for Article VII exemptions*)  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p> <p><b>REEXPORT</b>  → requires <b>re-export certificate</b> (except for article VII exemptions*)  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p>	<p>→ International trade <b>ALLOWED</b></p> <p><b>EXPORT and IMPORT</b>  → requires an <b>export permit</b> issued by the country that listed the species in Appendix III and a <b>certificate of origin</b> issued by other Parties (except for Article VII exemptions*)  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p> <p><b>REEXPORT</b>  → require <b>re-export certificate</b> (except for article VII exemptions*)  → must ensure that transport conditions conform to Convention requirements (live animals)</p>

*\* In most cases Article VII exemptions require a certificate in lieu of a permit*

 <b>CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA</b>		PERMIT/CERTIFICATE No.		Original	
		<input type="checkbox"/> EXPORT <input type="checkbox"/> RE-EXPORT <input type="checkbox"/> IMPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER		2. Valid until	
3. Importer (name and address)		4. Exporter/re-exporter (name, address and country)			
3a. Country of import		Signature of the applicant			
5. Special conditions		6. Name, address, national seal/stamp and country of Management Authority			
<small>If for live animals, this permit or certificate is valid only if the transport conditions comply with the IATA Live Animals Regulations; if for live plants, with the IATA Perishable Cargo Regulations; or, in the case of non-air transport, with the CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants</small>					
5a. Purpose of the transaction (see reverse)		5b. Security stamp no.			
7.8. Scientific name (genus and species) and common name of animal or plant		9. Description of specimens, including identifying marks or numbers (ages/sex if live)		10. Appendix no. and source (see reverse)	11. Quantity (including unit)
11a. Total exported/Quota					
7.8. A		9.		10.	11.
12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***	
7.8. B		9.		10.	11.
12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***	
7.8. C		9.		10.	11.
12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***	
7.8. D		9.		10.	11.
12. Country of origin * Permit no. Date		12a. Country of last re-export Certificate no. Date		12b. No. of the operation ** or date of acquisition ***	
* Country in which the specimens were taken from the wild, bred in captivity or artificially propagated (only in case of re-export) ** Only for specimens of Appendix I species bred in captivity or artificially propagated for commercial purposes *** For pre-Convention specimens					
13. This permit/certificate is issued by:					
Place		Date		Security stamp, signature and official seal	
14. Export endorsement:		15. Bill of Lading/Air waybill number:			
Block		Quantity			
A					
B					
C					
D		Port of export		Date	
		Signature		Official stamp and title	

### Instructions and explanations (These correspond to the block numbers on the form)

- A unique number should be generated by the issuing Management Authority for the certificate.
- The date of expiry of the document may not be more than three years after the date of issuance.
- Complete the full name, permanent address and country of the owner of the specimen covered by the certificate. Absence of the signature of the owner renders the certificate invalid.
- The name, address and country of the issuing Management Authority should already be pre-printed on the form.
- This block has been pre-printed to indicate the validity of the certificate for multiple cross-border movements of the specimen/s with its/their exhibition for exhibition purposes only and to clarify that the certificate is not to be collected but is to remain with the specimen/owner. This block also can be used to justify the omission of certain information.
- This block has been pre-printed to indicate that cross-border movement is permitted to any country accepting this certificate as a matter of national law.
- This block has been pre-printed with the code Q for circuses and travelling exhibitions.
- Indicate the number of the security stamp affixed in block 17.
- Indicate the scientific name (genus and species, where appropriate subspecies) of the species as it appears in the Convention Appendices or the reference lists approved by the Conference of the Parties, and the common name as known in the country issuing the certificate.
- Describe, as precisely as possible, the specimen/s covered by the certificate, including identifying marks (tags, rings, unique markings, etc.) sufficient to permit the authorities of the Party into which the exhibition enters to verify that the certificate corresponds to the specimen/s covered. The sex and age, at the time of the issuance of the certificate, should be recorded, where possible.
- Indicate the total number of specimens. In the case of live animals it should normally be one. If more than one specimen, state "see attached inventory".
- Enter the number of the Appendix of the Convention (I, II, or III) in which the species is listed. Use the codes below to indicate the source. This certificate may not be used for specimens with source code **W**, **R**, **F** or **U** unless they are pre-Convention specimens and the code **O** is also used.

**W** Specimens taken from the wild

**X** Specimens taken in "the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State".

**R** Ratched specimens: specimens of animals reared in a controlled environment, taken as eggs or juveniles from the wild, where they would otherwise have had a very low probability of surviving to adulthood.

**A** Plants that are artificially propagated in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP15), as well as parts and derivatives thereof, exported under the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 5, of the Convention (specimens of species included in Appendix I that have been propagated artificially for non-commercial purposes and specimens of species included in Appendices II and III)

**C** Animals bred in captivity in accordance with Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.) and exported under the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 5

**F** Animals born in captivity (F1 or subsequent generations) that do not fulfil the definition of "bred in captivity" in Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.), as well as parts and derivatives thereof

**U** Source unknown (must be justified)

**O** Pre-Convention specimens (may be used in conjunction with other source codes).

- The country of origin is the country in which the specimens were taken from the wild or bred in captivity.
- Indicate the number of the export permit of the country of origin and the date of issuance. If all or part of that information is not known, this should be justified in block 18.
- This block must contain the exhibition registration number.
- Enter the date of acquisition only for pre-Convention specimens.
- To be completed by the official who issues the certificate. A certificate may only be issued by the Management Authority of the country where an exhibition is based and only when the owner of the exhibition has registered full details of the specimen with that Management Authority. The name of the issuing official must be written in full. The security stamp must be affixed in this block and must be cancelled by the signature of the issuing official and a stamp or seal. The seal, signature and security stamp number should be clearly legible.
- This block may be used to refer to national legislation or additional special conditions placed on the cross-border movement by the issuing Management Authority.
- This block has been pre-printed to refer to the attached Continuation Sheet, which should indicate all cross-border movements.

**SUBJECT TO 5 ABOVE, UPON EXPIRATION, THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ISSUING MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY.**

## STEPS FOR THE CONTROL OF CITES PERMITS



**List of countries requiring a security stamp as of 30 November 2011 (CITES Notification No. 2011/052):** Argentina, the Bahamas, Benin, Bermuda, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (Greenland), the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Honduras\*, India, Indonesia, Iran (the Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (the Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

*\* The CITES Management Authority of Honduras has asked the Secretariat to inform the Parties that, owing to a shortage of security stamps, it will temporarily cease affixing CITES security stamps on its permits and certificates. The Secretariat will inform the Parties when Honduras resumes using security stamps. (CITES Notification No. 2013/021)*



### that the permit...

- is still valid (an export permit is valid until six months after the date of issuance but some Parties use a shorter validity period; an import permit has a validity of maximum one year)
- was signed by permit applicant, if there is a space for the applicant's signature
- includes complete name and contact details for importer and exporter
- describes with accuracy the specimens included
- is a CITES permit and not a health certificate or another document
- is an original and not a photocopy or a duplicate
- is not falsified (i.e. that it was not changed after issuance)
- was issued by the correct Management Authority
- does not include errors (refers to the correct source code, the correct country of origin, etc.)
- includes information that matches content of shipment (correct species, correct number of specimens, correct description and identification mark, correct source code, correct country of origin, same content as initial export permit in case of a re-export)
- includes a security stamp if country issuing the permit uses security stamps (\*)
- was endorsed at time of export and that number of specimens exported is confirmed on the permit

### that the security stamp ...

- was canceled by the signature of the issuing official and a stamp or seal (the seal, signature and security stamp number must be clearly legible)
- is authentic and was issued for the permit

## SUMMARY INFORMATION ABOUT THE RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE



The World Conservation Union (IUCN) is the world's main authority on the conservation status of species. It is a membership organization which includes more than 1,000 organizations, as well as 10,000 individual scientists and experts. The **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species** (or Red List) is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of flora and fauna species. It provides taxonomic, conservation status and distribution information on plants and animals that have been globally evaluated.

Species assessed in the **IUCN Red List of Threatened Species** are classified in nine groups, set through criteria such as rate of decline, population size, area of geographic distribution, and degree of population and distribution fragmentation. The nine categories of the IUCN Red List are as follows:

### Categories of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

Extinct (EX)	There is no reasonable doubt that the last individual of the taxon has died
Extinct in the wild (EW)	The taxon is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range
Critically endangered (CR)	The taxon is considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild
Endangered (EN)	The taxon is considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild
Vulnerable (VU)	The taxon is considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild
Near threatened (NT)	The taxon it does not qualify for <i>Critically Endangered</i> , <i>Endangered</i> or <i>Vulnerable</i> now, but is close to qualifying for or is likely to qualify for these criteria.
Least concern (LC)	The taxon does not qualify for <i>Critically Endangered</i> , <i>Endangered</i> , <i>Vulnerable</i> or <i>Near Threatened</i>
Data deficient (DD)	There is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of the risk of extinction of the taxon based on its distribution and/or population status
Not evaluated (NE)	The taxon has not yet been evaluated against the criteria

## SUMMARY INFORMATION ABOUT CITES LISTED SHARK AND RAY SPECIES OCCURRING IN AFRICAN WATERS



### Sharks and rays on CITES Appendix II



- (A) Basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*); (B) Whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*)  
(C) Great white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*); (D) Porbeagle shark (*Lamna nasus*)  
(E) Scalloped, great and smooth hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna lewini*, *S. mokarran*, *S. zygaena*)  
(F) Manta rays (*Manta spp.*); (G) Oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*)

**Status of CITES-listed Sharks by Range States as per IUCN Red List (as of 30 June 2014):**

CITES PARTIES	OCEANIC WHITETIP	SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD	GREAT HAMMERHEAD	SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD	PORBEAGLE	BASKING SHARK	WHALE SHARK	GREAT WHITE	MANTA RAYS
Benin	X	X					X		
Cape Verde	X	X	X	X			X		X*
Cote d'Ivoire	X	X		X			X		
Gambia	X	X					X		
Ghana	X	X					X		
Guinea	X	X		X			X		
Guinea-Bissau	X	X					X		
Liberia	X	X					X		
Mauritania	X	X			X	X	X	X	
Nigeria		X					X		X
Senegal	X	X	X		X	X	X		X**
Sierra Leone	X	X					X		
Togo	X	X					X		

\* Only reef manta rays

\*\* Great and reef manta rays

**SCALLOPED, GREAT AND SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD SHARKS  
(*SPHYRNA LEWINI*, *S. MOKARRAN*, *S. ZYGAENA*)**



**IUCN Red List status:**

***S. lewini*: Endangered** (IUCN Red List 2007).  
Population Trend: Unknown

***S. mokarran*: Endangered** (IUCN Red List  
2007). Population Trend: Decreasing

***S. zygaena*: Vulnerable** (IUCN Red List  
2005). Population Trend: Decreasing

**Distribution:**

The three large hammerhead species range widely through coastal temperate and tropical waters throughout the world. The smooth hammerhead has a slightly wider range than the other two species. Because they are mainly coastal, with a distinctive appearance and a non-aggressive nature, they are a top diving attraction that can contribute to the economies of coastal communities.

### **Main threats:**

Large hammerhead shark fins are considered one of the most valuable fins for shark fin soup. These species tend to aggregate in coastal waters, making them easy to catch in large numbers. They are especially vulnerable to overfishing, and slow to recover due to biological traits including late maturity and low numbers of offspring. Because of the high value of their fins and the low value of their meat, they are particularly vulnerable to finning, or cutting the fins off and throwing the rest of the animal back into the ocean. Hammerheads are also often a target of illegal and unregulated fishing, including fishing in protected areas.

### **Form in trade and identification:**

Hammerhead shark meat is consumed locally in some countries, but is not generally traded internationally due to its low value. Almost all trade in hammerhead products is in the fins. Hammerhead fins are easily identifiable due to their light coloring, large size, long length and short width. Because the fins of these three species are extremely valuable, they are often traded together but separated from those of other species.

### **Protective measures in place:**

In 2010, the International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) prohibited the retention, transshipment, landing, storage and sale of these species, with an exception for developing countries that ensure that products from these species are not entering international trade. Scalloped hammerhead sharks were listed on CITES Appendix III in 2012 by Costa Rica and scalloped, great and smooth hammerhead sharks were listed on Appendix II of CITES in 2013, with an 18 month delay before the listings enter into force. The Appendix II listings will go into effect in September 2014.

## OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK (*CARCHARHINUS LONGIMANUS*)



### IUCN Red List status

Globally Vulnerable (IUCN Red List 2006), Critically Endangered in the Northwest and Western Central Atlantic. Population Trend: Decreasing

### Distribution:

The oceanic whitetip shark is distributed worldwide in epipelagic tropical and subtropical waters (i.e. occupying waters in the upper zone of the ocean from just below the surface to approximately 100 meters deep) between 30° N and 35° S (Baum et al., 2006). Its range includes the western Atlantic Ocean from Portugal to the Gulf of Guinea, and possibly the Mediterranean Sea. In the Indo-Pacific, this species is found from the Red Sea and the coast of East Africa to Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti and the Tuamoto Islands. In the eastern Pacific Ocean, it ranges from southern California south to Peru. Oceanic whitetip sharks are found in the following FAO Areas: 21, 27, 31, 34, 41, 47, 51, 57, 61, 71, 77, 81 and 87 (Compagno, 1984). (CITES CoP16 Proposal)

### **Main threats:**

The primary threat to oceanic whitetip sharks is overfishing. They are especially vulnerable to overfishing and slow to recover due to biological traits including late maturity and low numbers of offspring. These sharks are mostly pelagic, and are often caught by fisheries targeting other species such as tuna and swordfish. They are retained because the fins of this species are considered one of the most valuable for shark fin soup. The high value of the fins and low value of the meat also makes this species particularly vulnerable to finning, or cutting the fins off and throwing the rest of the animal back into the ocean.

### **Form in trade and identification:**

The main products in international trade are the fins. The fins of this species are easily identifiable due to their white tips and rounded shape. Other products may include meat, skin, liver oil, cartilage and teeth but these should not be prevalent in international trade due to their relatively low value, the scarcity of this species and the protections in place for this species.

### **Protective measures in place:**

Because of steep population declines due to overfishing, prohibitions on the catch, fishing and landing of oceanic whitetip sharks have been adopted by ICCAT for the Atlantic, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the West and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for the Pacific and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) for the Indian ocean. Oceanic whitetip sharks were listed on Appendix II of CITES in 2013 with an 18 month delay before the listings enter into force. The listing will go into effect in September 2014.

## PORBEAGLE SHARK (*LAMNA NASUS*)



### IUCN Red List status:

Globally Vulnerable. Population Trend: Decreasing

### Distribution:

*Lamna nasus* is found in a circumglobal band of ~30–60° S in the Southern Hemisphere and mostly between 30–70° N in the North Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean (CITES CoP16 proposal). It is mostly found in colder waters, and in the Subregional Fisheries Commission (CSRP) countries it is only found in the waters of Cape Verde and Guinea.

### **Main threats:**

The main threat to porbeagle sharks is overfishing to supply demand for both their meat and fins in international trade. Because of the high value of both products, directed fisheries for this species have resulted in worldwide population declines. They are especially vulnerable to overfishing and slow to recover due to biological traits including late maturity and low numbers of offspring.

### **Form in trade and identification:**

Porbeagle meat is especially popular in Europe, and their fins are considered one of the more valuable for shark fin soup. The EU created new species-specific codes for porbeagle shark products in 2010 which have facilitated monitoring and identification. The fins have characteristics that make them relatively easy to identify, including a white patch on the lower trailing edge of the first dorsal fin. Fins from this species are usually traded in sets because of their value, and because they are unlikely to be finned because their meat is also valuable. Other products may include leather and liver oil, but they are not likely to be traded in significant volumes.

### **Protective measures in place:**

The EU has not allowed porbeagle catches since 2010. Porbeagle sharks were listed on CITES Appendix III in 2012 by the EU and on Appendix II of CITES in March 2013 with an 18 month delay before the listings enter into force. The Appendix II listing will go into effect in September 2014. Porbeagle sharks are listed in Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and are covered by the CMS Sharks Memorandum of Understanding.

## MANTA RAYS (*MANTA SPP.*)



### IUCN Red List status:

***M. birostris* and *M. alfredi*:** Vulnerable.  
Population Trend: Decreasing

### Distribution:

Both great and reef manta rays (*M. birostris* and *M. alfredi*) have small, highly fragmented populations that are sparsely distributed across the tropics. In the CSRP countries, both species are found in Senegal but only the reef manta is found in Cape Verde. None of the other CSRP countries have either species in their waters. They are large, graceful and gentle animals, which makes them a top diving attraction which can contribute to the economies of coastal communities.

### **Main threats:**

The primary cause of population declines for both species is overfishing driven by demand for their pre-branchial appendages, called gill rakers or gill plates, purported in some Asian cultures to have medicinal qualities. These species move relatively slowly and tend to aggregate, making them easy to catch in large numbers. Because of their high value, the gills are sometimes removed and the rest of the animal is discarded. This trade is causing increasing and unregulated targeted fisheries for these species.

### **Form in trade and identification:**

Though their meat is sometimes consumed or used as bait locally, it is not often found in trade. The main products traded internationally are their gill rakers. There are guides for distinguishing the gill rakers of these two species from that of other species of devil rays. Live specimens, skin and cartilage of these species are sometimes traded internationally but in low volumes.

### **Protective measures in place:**

Giant manta rays were listed on Appendices I and II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) in 2011. The Appendix I listing provides strict protections. The listing did not include reef mantas because they were identified as a separate species after the listing proposal had been drafted. Giant and reef manta rays were listed on Appendix II of CITES in 2013 with an 18 month delay before the listings enter into force. The listings will go into effect in September 2014.

## CONSERVATION AGREEMENTS WITH SHARK MEASURES



CSRП countries that are Parties as of 24 July 2014	CITES	ICCAT	CMS	CMS Shark MoU
Benin	X		X	
Cape Verde	X	X	X	
Cote d'Ivoire	X	X	X	
Gambia	X		X	
Ghana	X	X	X	X
Guinea	X	X	X	X
Guinea-Bissau	X		X	
Liberia	X	X	X	X
Mauritania	X	X	X	X
Nigeria	X	X	X	
Senegal	X	X	X	X
Sierra Leone	X	X		
Togo	X		X	X

*ICCAT: International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tunas*

*CMS: Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

**LIST OF USEFUL CITES WEBSITES**  
Updated in April 2014



**CITES**

<b>Global CITES website</b>	<a href="http://cites.org">cites.org</a>
<b>CITES Appendices</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php">cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php</a>
<b>CITES text</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/disc/text.php">cites.org/eng/disc/text.php</a>
<b>CITES Resolutions</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/res/index.php">cites.org/eng/res/index.php</a>
<b>CITES Decisions</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/dec/index.php">cites.org/eng/dec/index.php</a>
<b>UNEP-WCMC CITES trade database</b>	<a href="http://unep-wcmc-apps.org/citestrade/">unep-wcmc-apps.org/citestrade/</a>
<b>CITES-listed species database</b>	<a href="http://speciesplus.net/">speciesplus.net/</a>
<b>Website of the national CITES authorities</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/links.php">cites.org/eng/resources/links.php</a>
<b>CITES Publications</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/publications.php">cites.org/eng/resources/publications.php</a>
<b>National contact list</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp">cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp</a>
<b>CITES Guidelines for transport</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/transport/index.php">cites.org/eng/resources/transport/index.php</a>
<b>CITES species identification manual</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php">cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php</a>

<b>CITES virtual college</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.unia.es/index.php?lang=en_utf8">cites.unia.es/index.php?lang=en_utf8</a></i>
<b>Training materials of the CITES virtual College</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.unia.es/cites/mod/resource/view.php?id=58">cites.unia.es/cites/mod/resource/view.php?id=58</a></i>
<b>CITES trade data dashboards</b>	<i><a href="http://dashboards.cites.org/">dashboards.cites.org/</a></i>
<b>CITES information on national reports</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/reports.php">cites.org/eng/resources/reports.php</a></i>
<b>Information on the CITES export quotas</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/quotas/index.php">cites.org/eng/resources/quotas/index.php</a></i>
<b>CITES guidance on non-detriment findings:</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php">cites.org/eng/prog/ndf/index.php</a></i>
<b>CITES calendar and deadlines</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.org/eng/news/calendar.php">cites.org/eng/news/calendar.php</a></i>
<b>CITES reference manual</b>	<i><a href="http://ssn.org/Meetings/cop/cop16/CITES_RefGuide.pdf">ssn.org/Meetings/cop/cop16/CITES_RefGuide.pdf</a></i>
<b>The World Conservation Union Red List of Threatened Species</b>	<i><a href="http://iucnredlist.org/">iucnredlist.org/</a></i>
<b>IUCN checklist on making non-detriment findings</b>	<i><a href="http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/SSC-OP-027.pdf">data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/SSC-OP-027.pdf</a></i>
<b>Information on CITES trade in the European Union</b>	<i><a href="http://eu-wildlifetrade.org/index.htm">eu-wildlifetrade.org/index.htm</a></i>
<b>International Air Transport Association</b>	<i><a href="http://iata.org/index.htm">iata.org/index.htm</a></i>
<b>InforMEA (United Nations information portal on multilateral environmental agreements )</b>	<i><a href="http://informea.org">informea.org</a></i>

## IDENTIFICATION OF CITES SPECIES

<b>CITES species identification manual</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php">cites.org/eng/resources/wiki_id.php</a>
<b>CITES Identification Guide (free – produced by Canada – covers amphibians, invertebrates, mammals. Birds, fish and reptiles)</b>	<a href="http://ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=En&amp;n=35ED0E50-1">ec.gc.ca/alef-ewe/default.asp?lang=En&amp;n=35ED0E50-1</a>
<b>Shark identification guides</b>	<a href="http://coaliciontiburones.org/?page_id=1199">coaliciontiburones.org/?page_id=1199</a>
<b>CITES species photo gallery:</b>	<a href="http://cites.org/gallery/species/index.html">cites.org/gallery/species/index.html</a>
<b>Information useful to the identification of crocodilian species</b>	<a href="http://crocodilian.com/cnhc/csl.html">crocodilian.com/cnhc/csl.html</a>
<b>Information useful to the identification of turtle species</b>	<a href="http://eti.uva.nl/turtles/">eti.uva.nl/turtles/</a>
<b>Information useful to the identification of seashells</b>	<a href="http://femorale.com.br/shellphotos/">femorale.com.br/shellphotos/</a>
<b>Database featuring pictures of scorpions</b>	<a href="http://ntnu.no/ub/scorpion-files/gallery.php">ntnu.no/ub/scorpion-files/gallery.php</a>
<b>Database featuring pictures of wild species</b>	<a href="http://arkive.org/">arkive.org/</a>

## ENFORCEMENT AND CUSTOMS

<b>International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php">cites.org/eng/prog/iccwc.php</a></i>
<b>Interpol</b>	<i><a href="http://interpol.int/en/Internet">interpol.int/en/Internet</a></i>
<b>World customs organization</b>	<i><a href="http://wcoomd.org/home.htm">wcoomd.org/home.htm</a></i>
<b>The Green Customs Initiative</b>	<i><a href="http://greencustoms.org/">greencustoms.org/</a></i>
<b>The Green Customs guide to multilateral environmental agreements</b>	<i><a href="http://greencustoms.org/reports/guide/Green_Customs_Guide_new.pdf">greencustoms.org/reports/guide/Green_Customs_Guide_new.pdf</a></i>
<b>The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement</b>	<i><a href="http://inece.org/">inece.org/</a></i>
<b>The East African Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (EANECE)</b>	<i><a href="http://us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=0a75b87bdb95a779929655145&amp;id=27ad2732a8">us4.campaign-archive1.com/?u=0a75b87bdb95a779929655145&amp;id=27ad2732a8</a></i>
<b>Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora</b>	<i><a href="http://lusakaagreement.org/">lusakaagreement.org/</a></i>
<b>Compliance-Related Texts and Decisions of Selected Multilateral Environmental Agreements</b>	<i><a href="http://unep.org/delc/Portals/119/Compliance-relatedtext.pdf">unep.org/delc/Portals/119/Compliance-relatedtext.pdf</a></i>

## CITES IMPLEMENTATION FOR SHARKS

<b>CITES website on sharks and rays</b>	<i><a href="http://cites.org/eng/prog/shark/index.php">cites.org/eng/prog/shark/index.php</a></i>
<b>Shark identification guides</b>	<i><a href="http://coaliciontiburones.org/?page_id=1199">coaliciontiburones.org/?page_id=1199</a></i>
<b>TRAFFIC report on CITES shark implementation</b>	<i><a href="http://traffic.org/fisheries-reports/traffic_pub_fisheries15.pdf">traffic.org/fisheries-reports/traffic_pub_fisheries15.pdf</a></i>
<b>Factsheet on the CITES rules for introduction from the sea</b>	<i><a href="http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/global_agreements/cites_page/cites.pdf">www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ia/agreements/global_agreements/cites_page/cites.pdf</a></i>
<b>Information on the CITES implementation workshop for sharks organized in the Latin American region (with link to presentations and guides)</b>	<i><a href="http://oas.org/en/sedi/dsd/biodiversity/WHMSI/SharkEvent%20.asp">oas.org/en/sedi/dsd/biodiversity/WHMSI/SharkEvent%20.asp</a></i>
<b>Shark database</b>	<i><a href="http://shark.ch/Database/index.html">shark.ch/Database/index.html</a></i>
<b>CSRP report: "Thirty Years of Shark Fishing in West Africa"</b>	<i><a href="http://iucnssg.org/tl_files/Assets/Regional%20files/West%20Africa/30years_eng.pdf">iucnssg.org/tl_files/Assets/Regional%20files/West%20Africa/30years_eng.pdf</a></i>
<b>Video on the genetic identification of sharks (in Spanish with English subtitles)</b>	<i><a href="http://youtube.com/watch?v=Asuu4_7Kr0g">youtube.com/watch?v=Asuu4_7Kr0g</a></i>
<b>Video on shark finning (English subtitles)</b>	<i><a href="http://youtube.com/watch?v=psb1s5Efihw">youtube.com/watch?v=psb1s5Efihw</a></i>
<b>IUCN shark specialist group</b>	<i><a href="http://iucnssg.org/">iucnssg.org/</a></i>

## ORGANIZATIONS

<b>Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations (FAO) activities in relation to CITES</b>	<i>fao.org/fishery/cites-fisheries/en</i>
<b>Sub-regional fisheries commission</b>	<i>spcsrp.org/</i>
<b>International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas</b>	<i>iccat.es/en/</i>
<b>International Tropical Timber Organization</b>	<i>itto.int/</i>
<b>World Organization for Animal Health</b>	<i>oie.int/en</i>
<b>Species Survival Network</b>	<i>ssn.org</i>
<b>TRAFFIC (wildlife trade monitoring network)</b>	<i>traffic.org/</i>

## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS



### **CITES Secretariat:**

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Web: [cites.org](http://cites.org)  
Email: [info@cites.org](mailto:info@cites.org)

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Email: [spcsrp@spcsrp.org](mailto:spcsrp@spcsrp.org)  
Web: [spcsrp.org](http://spcsrp.org)  
youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/csrp>  
video

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**CITES Authorities in the United States**

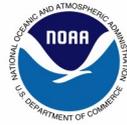
CITES management authority  
Telephone: 1-703-358-2104  
Fax: 1-703-358-2280  
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