

Biennial report

A. General information

Party	Australia
Period covered in this report (e.g. 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2004)	1 January 2013 - 31 December 2014
Details of agency preparing this report	Australian Department of the Environment – CITES Authorities for Australia
Contributing agencies, organizations or individuals	

B. Legislative and regulatory measures

1	Has information on CITES-relevant legislation already been provided under the CITES National Legislation Project? If yes, ignore questions 2, 3 and 4.	Yes (fully)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
		Yes (partly)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		No information/unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>				
2	If any CITES-relevant legislation has been planned, drafted or enacted, please provide the following details:						
	Title and date:	Status:					
	Brief description of contents:						
3	Is enacted legislation available in one of the working languages of the Convention?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>				
4	If yes, please attach a copy of the full legislative text or key legislative provisions that were gazetted.	legislation attached	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		provided previously	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		not available, will send later	<input type="checkbox"/>				
5	Which of the following issues are addressed by any stricter domestic measures adopted for CITES-listed species (in accordance with Article XIV of the Convention)? Tick all applicable						
		The conditions for:		The complete prohibition of:			
	Issue	Yes	No	No information	Yes	No	No information
	Trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Taking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Possession	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Transport	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Additional comments							

6	What were the results of any review or assessment of the effectiveness of CITES legislation, with regard to the following items?				Tick all applicable	
	Item	Adequate	Partially Inadequate	Inadequate	No information	
	Powers of CITES authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Clarity of legal obligations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Control over CITES trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Consistency with existing policy on wildlife management and use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Coverage of law for all types of offences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Coverage of law for all types of penalties	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Implementing regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Coherence within legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other (please specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Please provide details if available: Reviews of compliance with the wildlife trade provisions of Australian implementing legislation have been undertaken. Responses to the recommendations of these reviews are in development.						
7	If no review or assessment has taken place, is one planned for the next reporting period?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	No information <input type="checkbox"/>
Please provide details if available: A review of opportunities for streamlining domestic regulation of wildlife trade under Australia's implementing legislation is underway.						
8	Has there been any review of legislation on the following subjects in relation to implementation of the Convention?				Tick all applicable	
	Subject	Yes	No	No information		
	Access to or ownership of natural resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Harvesting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Transporting of live specimens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Handling and housing of live specimens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Please provide details if available:						
9	Please provide details of any additional measures taken: In July 2014, Australia introduced a stricter domestic measure restricting the import and export of rhinoceros specimens including rhinoceros horn hunting trophies. Permits are no longer issued to import hunting trophies of southern white rhinoceros listed on Appendix II to CITES, rhinoceros horn hunting trophies may not be imported as personal and household effects, and radiocarbon dating is required to conclusively prove the age of vintage rhinoceros horn for export.					

C. Compliance and enforcement measures

		Yes	No	No information
1	Have any of the following compliance monitoring operations been undertaken?			
	Review of reports and other information provided by traders and producers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inspections of traders, producers, markets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Border controls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Have any administrative measures (e.g. fines, bans, suspensions) been imposed for CITES-related violations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	If Yes, please indicate how many and for what types of violations. If available, please attach details.			
4	Have any significant seizures, confiscations and forfeitures of CITES specimens been made?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	If information available: <input type="checkbox"/> Significant seizures/confiscations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total seizures/confiscations If possible, please specify per group of species or attach details.	Number Total number of seizure notices issued - 2603 (1801 Seizure Notices issued in 2013; 802 Seizure Notices issued in 2014).		
6	Have there been any criminal prosecutions of significant CITES-related violations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	If Yes, how many and for what types of violations? If available, please attach details as Annex. See Annex.			
8	Have there been any other court actions of CITES-related violations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	If Yes, what were the violations involved and what were the results? Please attach details as Annex. See Annex and attached media releases.			
10	How were the confiscated specimens usually disposed of?	Tick if applicable		
	– Return to country of export			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Public zoos or botanical gardens			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Designated rescue centres			<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Approved, private facilities			<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Euthanasia			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Other (specify):			<input type="checkbox"/>

	<p>Comments:</p> <p>Live plants and animals confiscated at Australia's borders are generally destroyed and euthanased due to concerns about potential introduction of disease and other biosecurity issues. Non-live specimens confiscated at Australia's borders are also generally destroyed. A small number of specimens have been retained for educational and research purposes.</p>		
11	<p>Has detailed information been provided to the Secretariat on significant cases of illegal trade (e.g. through an ECOMESSAGE or other means), or information on convicted illegal traders and persistent offenders?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
	<p>Comments:</p> <p>Eco-messages/information reports were provided on the illegal importation/exportation of reptiles, ivory, rhino products, CITES listed specimens and the potential involvement of 'Silk Road' in illegal wildlife trade.</p>		
12	<p>Have there been any cooperative enforcement activities with other countries (e.g. exchange of intelligence, technical support, investigative assistance, joint operation, etc.)?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
13	<p>If Yes, please give a brief description:</p> <p>Australia has worked collaboratively with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Zealand authorities regarding illegal trade in giant clam meat and rock scorpions. • United Kingdom Wildlife Crime Unit regarding Australian nationals identified as potentially dealing in illegal ivory. • United States Fish and Wildlife Service regarding illegal trade in CITES specimens by an Australian national, and illegal possession of reptile eggs by a United States citizen. 		
14	<p>Have any incentives been offered to local communities to assist in the enforcement of CITES legislation, e.g. leading to the arrest and conviction of offenders?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
15	<p>If Yes, please describe:</p>		
16	<p>Has there been any review or assessment of CITES-related enforcement?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
	<p>Comments:</p> <p>Reviews of compliance with the wildlife trade provisions of Australian implementing legislation have been undertaken. Responses to the recommendations of these reviews are in development.</p>		
17	<p>Please provide details of any additional measures taken:</p>		

D. Administrative measures

D1 Management Authority (MA)

1	Have there been any changes in the designation of or contact information for the MA(s) which are not yet reflected in the CITES Directory?	Yes No No information	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
2	If Yes, please use the opportunity to provide those changes here.		
3	If there is more than one MA in your country, has a lead MA been designated?	Yes No No information	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
4	If Yes, please name that MA and indicate whether it is identified as the lead MA in the CITES Directory.		
5	How many staff work in each MA? 8		
6	Can you estimate the percentage of time they spend on CITES-related matters? If yes, please give estimation: 70%	Yes No No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
7	What are the skills/expertise of staff within the MA(s)?	Tick if applicable	
	– Administration		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Biology		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Economics/trade		<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Law/policy		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Other (specify):		<input type="checkbox"/>
	– No information		<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Have the MA(s) undertaken or supported any research activities in relation to CITES species or technical issues (e.g. labelling, tagging, species identification) not covered in D2(8) and D2(9)?	Yes No No information	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
9	If Yes, please give the species name and provide details of the kind of research involved.		
10	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:		

D2 Scientific Authority (SA)

1	Have there been any changes in the designation of or contact information for the SA(s) which are not yet reflected in the CITES Directory?	Yes No No information	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
2	If Yes, please use the opportunity to provide those changes here.		
3	Is the designated Scientific Authority independent from the Management Authority?	Yes No No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
4	What is the structure of the SA(s)?	Tick if applicable	
	– Government institution		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Academic or research institution		<input type="checkbox"/>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Permanent committee <input type="checkbox"/> – Pool of individuals with certain expertise <input type="checkbox"/> – Other (specify): <input type="checkbox"/> 																																																											
5	How many staff work in each SA on CITES issues? 7																																																											
6	Can you estimate the percentage of time they spend on CITES-related matters	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>																																																										
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7	What are the skills/expertise of staff within the SA(s)?	Tick if applicable																																																										
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Botany <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – Ecology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – Fisheries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – Forestry <input type="checkbox"/> – Welfare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – Zoology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – Other (specify): Biology, Chemistry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> – No information <input type="checkbox"/> 																																																											
8	Have any research activities been undertaken by the SA(s) in relation to CITES species?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>																																																										
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	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Species name</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Populations</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Distribution</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Off take</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Legal trade</th> <th style="width: 10%;">Illegal trade</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Other (specify)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Lichenostomus melanops cassidix</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td rowspan="4" style="vertical-align: top;">For Periodic Review of the Appendices – draft proposals provided to AC28</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Cyclopsitta diopthalma coxeni</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Psephotus dissimilis</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Sphyrna lewini</i>, <i>S. mokarran</i> and <i>S. zygaena</i></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td rowspan="3" style="vertical-align: top;">Metadata review to support the making of non detriment findings</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Lamna nasus</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>No information <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Species name	Populations	Distribution	Off take	Legal trade	Illegal trade	Other (specify)	<i>Lichenostomus melanops cassidix</i>	x	x		x	x	For Periodic Review of the Appendices – draft proposals provided to AC28	<i>Cyclopsitta diopthalma coxeni</i>	X	X		X	X	<i>Psephotus dissimilis</i>	X	X		X	X	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata</i>	X	X		X	X	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i> , <i>S. mokarran</i> and <i>S. zygaena</i>	X	X		X		Metadata review to support the making of non detriment findings	<i>Lamna nasus</i>						<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>												No information <input type="checkbox"/>	
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						No information <input type="checkbox"/>																																																						
10	Have any project proposals for scientific research been submitted to the Secretariat under Resolution Conf. 12.2?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>																																																										
11	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:																																																											

D3 Enforcement Authorities

1	Has the Secretariat been informed of any enforcement authorities that have been designated for the receipt of confidential enforcement information related to CITES?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
2	If No, please designate them here (with address, phone, fax and email).	
3	Is there a specialized unit responsible for CITES-related enforcement (e.g. within the wildlife department, Customs, the police, public prosecutor's office)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Under consideration <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>
4	If Yes, please state which is the lead agency for enforcement: Department of the Environment	
5	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:	

D4 Communication, information management and exchange

1	To what extent is CITES information computerized? Tick if applicable																													
	– Monitoring and reporting of data on legal trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																												
	– Monitoring and reporting of data on illegal trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																												
	– Permit issuance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																												
	– Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/>																												
	– Other (specify): Monitoring and reporting of permit applications, assessments and issuance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>																												
2	Do the following authorities have access to the Internet? Tick if applicable																													
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3	Is there an electronic information system providing information on CITES species?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>																												

4	If Yes, does it provide information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Legislation (national, regional or international)? – Conservation status (national, regional, international)? – Other (please specify): 	Tick if applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Is it available through the Internet: Please provide URL: http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>

6	Do the authorities indicated have access to the following publications?			Tick if applicable
	Publication	Management Authority	Scientific Authority	Enforcement Authority
	<i>2003 Checklist of CITES Species</i> (book)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>2003 Checklist of CITES Species and Annotated Appendices</i> (CD-ROM)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<i>Identification Manual</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<i>CITES Handbook</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	If not, what problems have been encountered to access this information?			
8	Have Enforcement Authorities reported to the Management Authority on:			Tick if applicable
	– Mortality in transport?			<input type="checkbox"/>
	– Seizures and confiscations?			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Discrepancies in number of items in permits and number of items actually traded?			<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				
9	Is there a government website with information on CITES and its requirements?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, please give the URL: http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade				
10	Have CITES authorities been involved in any of the following activities to bring about better accessibility to and understanding of the Convention's requirements to the wider public?			Tick if applicable
	– Press releases/conferences			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Newspaper articles, radio/television appearances			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Brochures, leaflets			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Presentations			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Displays			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Information at border crossing points			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Telephone hotline			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	– Other (specify):			<input type="checkbox"/>
Please attach copies of any items. See attached media releases.				

11	<p>Please provide details of any additional measures taken:</p> <p>During 2013-2014, education and awareness raising activities regarding CITES requirements for international trade in CITES listed species were targeted at Australian auction houses. In particular, focus was given to requirements regarding proof of provenance for specimens such as rhino horn and elephant ivory. An analysis of illegal trade of wildlife products through online auction sites was also undertaken in collaboration with the International Fund for Animal Welfare Oceania.</p> <p>In November 2014, Australia, as the Chair of the Coalition Against Wildlife Trafficking (CAWT), coordinated an event at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, Australia. The 'Poaching from Parks – combating wildlife crime in protected areas' Congress Event was a market-place style event where respected international organisations showcased their work to combat wildlife crime. The event facilitated information and knowledge sharing between organisations and people involved in the prevention and prosecution of wildlife crime and management of protected areas.</p>
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D5 Permitting and registration procedures

1	<p>Have any changes in permit format or the designation and signatures of officials empowered to sign CITES permits/certificates been reported previously to the Secretariat?</p> <p>If no, please provide details of any:</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No information <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
2	<p>To date, has your country developed written permit procedures for any of the following?</p>	Tick if applicable		
		Yes	No	No information
	Permit issuance/acceptance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Registration of traders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Registration of producers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3	Please indicate how many CITES documents were issued and denied in the two-year period? (Note that actual trade is reported in the Annual Report by some Parties. This question refers to issued documents).					
	Year 1	Import or introduction from the sea	Export	Re-export	Other	Comments
	How many documents were issued?	1152 (238 MUP*) (914 SUP*)	280 (137 MUP*) (143 SUP*)	288 (201 MUP*) (87 SUP*)	80 (Pre-Convention and Certificate of Origin) 13871 (PBP*)	*SUP = Single Use Permit *MUP = Multiple Use Permits (one permit covers multiple consignments) *PBP = Personal Baggage Permits are required under domestic legislation for most CITES listed specimens carried as personal baggage.
	How many applications were denied because of serious omissions or misinformation?	4	1	0		
	Year 2	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
	How many documents were issued?	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
	How many applications were denied because of serious omissions or misinformation?	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
4	Were any CITES documents that were issued later cancelled and replaced because of serious omissions or misinformation?				Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
					No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	If Yes, please give the reasons for this.					

6	Please give the reasons for rejection of CITES documents from other countries.			Tick if applicable	
	Reason	Yes	No	No information	
	Technical violations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Suspected fraud	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Insufficient basis for finding of non-detriment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Insufficient basis for finding of legal acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other (specify): Administrative errors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	Are harvest and/or export quotas used as a management tool in the procedure for issuance of permits?			Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Comments:			No	<input type="checkbox"/>
				No information	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	How many times has the Scientific Authority been requested to provide opinions? The Scientific Authority was approached by the Australian CITES Management Authority, other scientific authorities, government agencies, industry and researchers both formally and informally for opinions. These approaches occurred at least weekly.				
9	Has the MA charged fees for permit issuance, registration or related CITES activities?			Tick if applicable	
	–	Issuance of CITES documents:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Licensing or registration of operations that produce CITES species		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Harvesting of CITES-listed species		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Use of CITES-listed species		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Assignment of quotas for CITES-listed species		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Importing of CITES-listed species		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Other (specify):		<input type="checkbox"/>	
10	If Yes, please provide the amounts of such fees.				
	Year	2013 (AUD\$)	2014 (AUD\$)		
	Single use import/export permits	\$30	\$61		
	Multiple use import/export permits	\$75	\$153		
	Facility assessment	\$150	\$306		
	Household pet import/export permit	\$150	\$306		
	Personal baggage permit	\$1	\$2		
11	Have revenues from fees been used for the implementation of CITES or wildlife conservation?			Tick if applicable	
	–	Entirely		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Partly		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Not at all		<input type="checkbox"/>	
	–	Not relevant		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Comments: Fees go into consolidated government revenue.				
12	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:				

D6 Capacity building

1	Have any of the following activities been undertaken to enhance effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level?					Tick if applicable	
	Increased budget for activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Improvement of national networks			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Hiring of more staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchase of technical equipment for monitoring/enforcement			<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Development of implementation tools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Computerization			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify):						<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	Have the CITES authorities received or benefited from any of the following capacity-building activities provided by external sources?					What were the external sources?	
	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.						
	Target group	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	
	Staff of Management Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CITES Secretariat
	Staff of Scientific Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interpol
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Traders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (specify):						<input type="checkbox"/>	

3	Have the CITES authorities been the <i>providers</i> of any of the following capacity-building activities?	Oral or written advice/guidance	Technical assistance	Financial assistance	Training	Other (specify)	Details
	Please tick boxes to indicate which target group and which activity.						
	Target group						
	Staff of Management Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Awareness-raising and education regarding permitting requirements.
	Staff of Scientific Authority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	December 2013 and February 2014 the CITES Scientific Authority of Australia in conjunction with New Zealand, TRAFFIC and ANCORS held workshops for CITES authorities in the Oceania region regarding the making of non detriment findings and implementation of newly listed shark and ray species.
	Staff of enforcement authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Awareness-raising and education of border authorities regarding domestic implementation of CITES requirements, including through a 24 hour manned telephone hotline.

Traders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Display of CITES listed specimens and educational material on cruise ships operating in the South Pacific region.
NGOs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Collaborative investigation into illegal ivory trade.
Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other parties/International meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Confiscated specimens provided to scientific and museum facilities for education and research purposes.
4	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:					

D7 Collaboration/cooperative initiatives

1	Is there an inter-agency or inter-sectoral committee on CITES?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>					
		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>					
2	If Yes, which agencies are represented and how often does it meet?							
3	If No, please indicate the frequency of meetings or consultancies used by the Management Authority to ensure coordination among CITES authorities (e.g. other MAs, SAs, Customs, police, others):							
		Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	None	No information	Other (specify)
	Meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As needed
	Consultations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As needed

4	At the national level have there been any efforts to collaborate with:	Tick if applicable	Details if available
	Agencies for development and trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Department of Agriculture
	Provincial, state or territorial authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Local authorities or communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Indigenous peoples	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Trade or other private sector associations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	NGOs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5	To date, have any Memoranda of Understanding or other formal arrangements for institutional cooperation related to CITES been agreed between the Management Authority and the following agencies?	Tick if applicable	
	Scientific Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Customs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Police	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other border authorities (specify): Department of Agriculture (Biosecurity)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Other government agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Private sector bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	NGOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6	Have government staff participated in any regional activities related to CITES?	Tick if applicable	
	Workshops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Meetings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7	Has there been any effort to encourage any non-Party to accede to the Convention?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No information	<input type="checkbox"/>

8	<p>If Yes, which one(s) and in what way?</p> <p>CITES information and awareness raising materials have been translated into Pacific Island nation languages for use by CITES and non-CITES Parties in the Oceania region. Non-Parties in the Oceania region were invited to regional CITES workshops and meetings to promote awareness of CITES and identify opportunities for addressing barriers to sustainable wildlife trade.</p>		
9	Has technical or financial assistance been provided to another country in relation to CITES?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>	
10	<p>If Yes, which country(ies) and what kind of assistance was provided?</p> <p>In March 2014, An Australian Government officer travelled to the Solomon Islands to provide technical assistance in relation to permit application and assessment processes.</p>		
11	Has any data been provided for inclusion in the CITES Identification Manual?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>	
12	If Yes, please give a brief description.		
13	Have measures been taken to achieve coordination and reduce duplication of activities between the national authorities for CITES and other multilateral environmental agreements (e.g. the biodiversity-related conventions)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>	
14	<p>If Yes, please give a brief description.</p> <p>Australian CITES authorities work closely with the coordinators of Australian engagement in all other multilateral environment agreements to promote coordination, efficiency and consistency.</p>		
15	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:		

D8 Areas for future work

1	Are any of the following activities needed to enhance effectiveness of CITES implementation at the national level and what is the respective level of priority?			
	Activity	High	Medium	Low
	Increased budget for activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hiring of more staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development of implementation tools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Improvement of national networks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Purchase of new technical equipment for monitoring and enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Computerization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2	Were any difficulties encountered in implementing specific Resolutions or Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No information <input type="checkbox"/>		

3	If Yes, which one(s) and what is the main difficulty?		
4	Have any constraints to implementation of the Convention arisen in your country requiring attention or assistance?	Yes No No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
5	<p>If Yes, please describe the constraint and the type of attention or assistance that is required.</p> <p><i>Permit validation</i></p> <p>Australia does not fully implement CITES Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP16). The Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection undertakes export clearances in Australia by electronic means, in line with the best practice international border clearance processes. Intervention at Australia's borders is undertaken using a risk-based, intelligence-driven approach.</p>		
6	Have any measures, procedures or mechanisms been identified within the Convention that would benefit from review and/or simplification?	Yes No No information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
7	<p>If Yes, please give a brief description.</p> <p><i>Non-detriment findings</i></p> <p>The development of non-detriment findings by a Party for migratory species and shared stocks would be assisted by the publication of information used by other range state Parties in making non-detriment findings for the same species. While CITES Parties are encouraged to share non-detriment findings and a number of non-detriment findings and case studies are made available through the CITES website, broader dissemination of research undertaken to support existing non-detriment findings would benefit the development of new non-detriment findings, particularly for migratory species and shared stocks.</p>		
8	Please provide details of any additional measures taken:		

E. General feedback

Please provide any additional comments you would like to make, including comments on this format.

Thank you for completing the form. Please remember to include relevant attachments referred to in the report. For convenience, these are listed again below:

Question	Item		
B4	Copy of full text of CITES-relevant legislation	Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not relevant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
C3	Details of violations and administrative measures imposed:	Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not relevant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
C7	Significant seizure and confiscations of CITES specimens include the following:	Enclosed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 December 2013, a conviction and fine for the attempted export of a large number of giant clams (<i>Tridacna gigas</i>) from Australia. • February 2014, seizure of a large quantity of ivory (estimated value AUD\$80,000). • 3 April 2014, sentencing for the attempt export of giant clams (<i>Tridacna gigas</i>) from Australia . • May 2014, a conviction on 24 charges and sentencing to 12 months imprisonment for illegal possession of CITES specimens. • 30 July 2014, a conviction, 3 month prison sentence and deportation for illegal importation of parrot eggs to Australia. • 29 September 2014, a conviction and fine for illegal possession of Asian arowana (<i>Scleropages formosus</i>). 	Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>
C9	Details of violations and results of court actions	Enclosed	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not relevant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
D4(10)	Details of nationally produced brochures or leaflets on CITES produced for educational or public awareness purposes	Enclosed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Not available	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Not relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Comments		



Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment,
Water, Population and Communities

■ Exporting Australian wildlife

Australian wildlife is subject to stringent export controls. The export of live animals such as birds, reptiles and other species (including eggs) is generally prohibited.

The export of products derived from most Australian native plants and animals, such as kangaroo leather, is also regulated. Contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities for more information.

■ Personal items

There are some exceptions to the rules. Contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities to find out more about exemptions for personal items.

■ You can help our wildlife survive

Wildlife trade is diverse – it can involve live animals or plants or the many products made from them, such as:

- caviar
- clams and shells
- exotic leather goods
- musical instruments
- souvenirs and
- complementary medicines.

If managed properly, trade need not threaten species with extinction.

Careful management of import and export activity helps to ensure that these species survive for future generations.



If in doubt- check it out

■ More information

For more information or to obtain a permit contact:

Department of the Environment

Phone: 02 6274 1900

Email: wildlifetrade@environment.gov.au

Internet: <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade>

Department of Immigration and

Border Protection:

General enquires:

<http://www.border.gov.au/about/contact/make-enquiry>

Webpage:

<http://www.border.gov.au/canibringingitback>

Phone: 131 881

Cargo support (EDN's and ICS):

Email: cargosupport@border.gov.au

*Email is the primary method of contact for the Cargo Clearance Centre.

Phone: 1300 558 099

Department of Agriculture:

Phone: 1800 900 090, (02) 6272 3933

Email: info@agriculture.gov.au

Internet: www.agriculture.gov.au

If in doubt – check it out

Does your luggage break wildlife laws?



BI0156.0511

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT

tips for travellers

If you bring wildlife souvenirs or products into or out of Australia, make sure you do it legally.

Find out if you need approvals or permits from:

- Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
- Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

If in doubt – check it out!

Wildlife trade around the world

Many of the world's animals and plants are threatened by uncontrolled trade.

During the past 100 years, three of the eight tiger subspecies have become extinct, and it is likely that there are now fewer than 5000 tigers left in the wild.

Global trade in animals, plants and the various products made from them is controlled by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

CITES protects over 33 000 species of animals and plants worldwide. It aims to ensure that international trade in wildlife does not threaten its survival.

The import and export of wildlife into and out of Australia is regulated under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.



Know before you go – how does the law affect you?

Some tourist souvenirs can threaten the most endangered species. You may be unaware that you are breaking the law by buying them. For example ivory (elephant) and turtle shell (marine turtle), are both made from threatened animals.

Sometimes traders won't tell you the truth about where they obtained their products from. Don't be fooled by statements like, 'believe me, it's OK'.

If you intend to buy wildlife products during your travels, contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities before you leave or enter Australia to find out if you need a permit.

Without the correct permit, your product may be seized by Customs

Common issues affecting travellers

Complementary medicines

Complementary medicines are also known as 'traditional' or 'alternative' medicines.

Without a permit, the import or export of complementary medicines containing species such as tiger, bear, monkey, Saussurea/Aucklandia (found in Po Chai pills) or rhinoceros is prohibited under Australian law.

These products must be declared on entering or leaving Australia.

If in doubt, declare it to Customs

Corals, clams and shells

Many corals, clams and shells – and jewelry made from these items – need a permit to bring them into, or out of, Australia. Contact the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities to see if you need a permit.



Record illegal wildlife seizure results in guilty plea from Sydney school teacher

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Media release
19 April 2013

A Parramatta man has entered a guilty plea in the Parramatta Local Court to 24 charges of possessing illegal wildlife products made from endangered species.

The charges against the 43-year-old school teacher, John Kolettas, relate to the haul of illegal wildlife products found during a search of premises in Western Sydney. Mr Kolettas' home was targeted as part of an extensive criminal investigation called Operation Bonaparte.

Altogether, 61 illegal wildlife products made from 24 endangered species were found in Mr Kolettas' possession. Among the illegal products seized were 11 orangutan skulls and 25 other skulls of monkeys, lynx, bears and a tiger. Other illegal items included teeth and skins from protected species such as orangutans, lynx, otters, and a feather headdress from a bird of paradise.

This is the largest illegal wildlife seizure by the federal environment department and it further demonstrates Australia's commitment to stamp out crime involving endangered species.

The sentencing hearing for the case is scheduled for 21 June 2013.

In addition to the illegal items seized, the Australian Government gathered intelligence that is vital in its continued efforts to fight wildlife crime.

The illegal trade in wildlife is driving the decline of many species around the world. In recent years, it has become more widespread and lucrative. Illegal wildlife trade is now valued in the billions of dollars worldwide and Interpol has linked it to funding criminal groups.

The success of Operation Bonaparte is the result of governments working together to combat the threat of wildlife trafficking.

Operation Bonaparte was the result of an extensive investigation led by the federal environment department and carried out with the cooperation of the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the NSW Office of the Environment and Heritage, the NSW Police and the RSPCA.

The charges in this criminal case relate to wildlife that is listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Under Australian law, it is illegal to import these species, or parts of them, into the country without a permit. It is also an offence to possess items that have been illegally imported by someone else.

The maximum penalty for wildlife trade offences is 10 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$170 000 for individuals and up to \$850 000 for corporations.

Australia is one of 178 countries that are signatories to CITES. Collectors, travellers and online shoppers, in particular, are urged to be aware of how their purchases may contribute to the decline in endangered species populations. They need to thoroughly research what they are buying or face the risk of prosecution, heavy fines or imprisonment either in Australia or overseas.

Those with information about trade in illegal wildlife or wildlife products should contact the federal environment department on 02 6274 1900 or wildlifetrade.compliance@environment.gov.au.

Media contact: 02 6275 9880 or media@environment.gov.au

Media enquiries

These contacts are intended for journalists only. For other queries please see our [contact us](#) page.

Phone: +61 2 6275 9880
media@environment.gov.au

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Office of Environment & Heritage (NSW)

Illegal wildlife seized during Operation Eclipse

Joint media release
16 May 2013

Exotic snakes and lizards have been seized during Operation Eclipse—a joint Federal and state investigation into the alleged importation of illegal wildlife into Australia.

During a regular inspection of an international courier's warehouse in Sydney, officers from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) discovered exotic snakes and lizards.

The DAFF officers immediately seized and humanely euthanased three pythons and three lizards.

Snakes and other reptiles can carry diseases such as mycoplasmosis, ranavirus infection, herpes virus and paramyxovirus and various parasitic and bacterial infestations that could spread to both native species and pets.

Australia is free from many pests and diseases found in other parts of the world and any animals imported illegally have the potential to threaten Australia's native species.

The Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPaC) said the importation of snakes and other reptiles is prohibited under Australian law except where the animal is being imported by a government-registered zoo or wildlife institution.

Following further investigations by officers from DSEWPaC, DAFF and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, a warrant was executed at a residential address in inner Sydney.

During the search of the premises, additional snakes and lizards believed to have been illegally imported into Australia were also seized and euthanased due to the serious risk they posed to the state and the country's biodiversity and biosecurity.

Assistance was also gratefully received from the NSW Police for Operation Eclipse which is continuing.

The Australian and NSW governments are committed to combating illegal wildlife trade which often involves cruel and dangerous methods of transportation. Smuggled animals suffer stress, dehydration, or starvation and many die in transit.

Operation Eclipse is an example of the collaborative approach taken across Federal and state agencies to protect our native flora and fauna from exotic pests and diseases and prevent the illegal trade in wildlife.

Under the Australian Government's national environment law the maximum penalty for wildlife trade offences includes up to 10 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$170 000 for individuals and up to \$850 000 for corporations. Penalties also apply under the relevant state legislation.

For more information on the prevention of the illegal trade in wildlife go to the federal environment department's website: www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/index.html

Media enquiries

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Phone: +61 2 6275 9880
media@environment.gov.au



Australian Government
Department of the Environment

Illegal ivory seizure

Department of the Environment

Media release

21 February 2014

Federal environment investigators yesterday seized illegal ivory products with an estimated value of up to \$80,000.

Following several months of investigation, officers from the federal Department of the Environment, with the assistance of NSW Police, executed warrants at two locations in inner Sydney where they found a large number of illegal carved ivory ornaments and jewellery.

As a result, two people are being further investigated for offences under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Illegal wildlife trade is valued in the billions of dollars globally. Wildlife trafficking is a crime that is driving the decline of many endangered species-such as elephants and rhinos-and one that Interpol has identified to be a lucrative business for criminal groups.

The global reach of wildlife trafficking makes it difficult for governments to tackle on their own. This operation is a good example of government and environment organisations working together to stop this criminal trade.

The seizure is the result of intelligence provided by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) Oceania to track the illegal trade of wildlife products on online trading sites.

Acting on information supplied by IFAW, officers from the Department examined the activities of a Sydney-based online trading company.

This successful operation was made possible by the close cooperation between IFAW and the Department, as well as the operational support provided by the Australian Taxation Office and NSW Police.

The maximum penalty for wildlife trade offences is 10 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$170 000 for individuals and up to \$850 000 for corporations.

Information about trade in illegal wildlife or wildlife products can be provided to the Department of the Environment on 02 6274 1900 or wildlifetrade.compliance@environment.gov.au.

More information on wildlife trade can be found on the Department's website:
www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/index.html



Australian Government
Department of the Environment

NSW man sentenced for record illegal wildlife haul

Department of the Environment

Media release

2 May 2014

A Parramatta man convicted of 24 charges of possessing illegal wildlife products was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment following the largest seizure of illegal wildlife items in the history of the Federal Department of the Environment.

Mr John Kolettas pleaded guilty in April 2013 to charges related to possessing illegal wildlife products found during a search of his western Sydney home.

The Parramatta Local Court ordered Mr Kolettas' sentence to be served by way of intensive correction order for the possession of specimens listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Mr Kolettas will also be required to undertake 384 hrs of community service over the next 12 months and comply with other strict conditions.

He was also fined \$4000 under NSW legislation for firearms matters that were uncovered as part of the Department of the Environment's search warrant action.

Mr Kolettas' house was searched as part of an extensive criminal investigation which resulted in the seizure of 78 illegal wildlife products made from 24 threatened species; including 11 orang-utan skulls and 25 other skulls of monkeys, lynx, bears and a tiger. Other illegal items included teeth and skins from species such as orang-utans, lynx, otters, and a feather headdress made from a bird of paradise.

The Department of the Environment worked with other federal and NSW government agencies on the record haul. Wildlife trafficking is a cruel and often barbaric trade that has become more widespread and lucrative and is now valued at billions of dollars worldwide.

The illegal trade in wildlife is also driving the decline of many species around the world. The community—particularly collectors, travellers and online shoppers—should be aware of what they are buying, what it is made of, and where it is from. Without realising it they may be contributing to the decline of threatened species, simply by purchasing what initially looks like a bargain.

The best way to avoid this is to ask for supporting documentation and finding out if any regulations apply by going to the wildlife trade section of the federal department website.

Items seized in this case were listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to which Australia is one of 178 countries that are signatories.

Under Australian law, it is illegal to import these species, or parts of them, without a permit. It is also an offence to possess items that have been illegally imported by someone else.

Those with information about trade in illegal wildlife or wildlife products contact the federal environment department on 02 6274 1900 or wildlifetrade.compliance@environment.gov.au.



Australian Government
Department of the Environment

Man sentenced for smuggling endangered bird eggs

Department of the Environment

Media release

5 August 2014

A Czech national, charged for attempting to illegally import 16 endangered bird eggs, has been sentenced to 72 days' imprisonment.

The 39-year-old man appeared before the Sydney Central Local Court on Thursday (30 July 2014) and pleaded guilty to the offence of importing a regulated live specimen.

On 20 May 2014, Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) officers at Sydney Airport stopped the man for further examination when he arrived on a flight from Dubai. During the examination, ACBPS officers conducted a frisk search of the man and found 16 small eggs concealed in his undergarments.

The eggs were later identified to be of a Monk parakeet or Quaker parakeet, which has been listed under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) since 1976.

Australia is a signatory to CITES and implements the Convention under its national environment law, the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. The Australian Government is committed to protecting and conserving endangered plants and wildlife. It is illegal to import CITES-listed species without a permit under Australian law.

The operation was made possible by close cooperation between ACBPS and the Department of the Environment, with support from the Australian Museum. This seizure and subsequent conviction is a significant blow to illegal wildlife smuggling.

Australia has some of the strongest wildlife protection laws in the world. Australian law enforcement agencies, including Customs and Border Protection, takes attempts to illegally smuggle wildlife into and out of Australia very seriously.

The maximum penalty for wildlife trade offences under the Act is 10 years' imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$170,000 for individuals or up to \$850,000 for corporations. Information about trade in illegal wildlife or wildlife products can be provided to the Department of the Environment on 02 6274 1900 or wildlifetrade.compliance@environment.gov.au

More information on wildlife trade is at: www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/index.html