

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

Species specific matters

Jaguars (*Panthera onca*)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

1. This document has been submitted by the Standing Committee.*
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.251 to 18.253 on *Jaguars* (*Panthera onca*) as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

18.251 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *subject to the availability of external funding, commission a study on illegal trade in jaguars (*Panthera onca*) to:*
 - i) *map illegal trade in the jaguar throughout its range, including poaching, trade pathways and networks, and main markets that are driving this trade, and how it is connected to other wildlife trafficking activities in the region;*
 - ii) *analyse the uses of jaguar specimens, both within range states and in international markets, as well as the extent to which illegally sourced jaguar products are entering international trade;*
 - iii) *analyse the modus operandi associated with illegal trade in jaguar specimens and possible drivers of this activity; and*
 - iv) *characterize the overall impact of illegal trade on jaguar populations throughout the species' range;*
- b) *present the findings of the study referred to in Decision 18.251, paragraph a) to the Standing Committee together with any recommendations it may consider relevant; and*
- c) *issue a Notification seeking input from Parties, in particular exporting, re-exporting and importing countries affected by illegal trade in jaguar (*Panthera onca*) specimens, and relevant stakeholders to provide information to the Secretariat for the purposes of completing the study outlined in Decision 18.251, paragraph a).*

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Directed to Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*), and relevant stakeholders

18.252 Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and relevant stakeholders, are encouraged to take action to:

- a) support the preparation of the study referred to under paragraph a) of Decision 18.251;
- b) respond to the Notification as described in paragraph c) of Decision 18.251;
- c) recognize the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) as the flagship species of its range countries so that the protection and conservation of the species and its habitat becomes a joint priority;
- d) urgently adopt comprehensive legislation and enforcement controls aimed at eliminating the poaching of jaguars (*Panthera onca*) and illegal trade in their parts and derivatives, including online sales of specimens;
- e) promote the design and implementation of conservation corridors between range countries of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*), strengthening cooperation mechanisms on a local, national and regional level in order to promote good conservation practices, channel investments to the conservation of the species, reduce the threats to the connectivity of its habitats, and strengthen the capacities of the main players involved;
- f) raise awareness about the importance of the jaguar, its role in the ecosystem and the threats it faces, including illegal trade;
- g) participate in conferences and workshops, among other events, in order to share experiences and knowledge about the priority issues identified to combat illegal trade in jaguars (*Panthera onca*); and
- h) consider making a voluntary contribution to conduct the study or implement its recommendations.

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.253 The Standing Committee shall consider the findings of the study referred to in Decision 18.251, paragraph a) as well as the report and recommendations of the Secretariat and make recommendations as appropriate until the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Implementation of Decisions 18.251 and 18.253

3. Concerning Decision 18.251, the Secretariat informed the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting (SC74, Lyon, March 2022) that the study on illegal trade in jaguars was finalized and is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) as Annex 2 to document [SC74 Doc.75](#). The study was generously financed by Switzerland.
4. The Secretariat also informed the Committee that, in the context of preparing the study, it received a few reports on illegal trade in jaguars corresponding to undercover investigations conducted by journalists or non-governmental organizations. The Secretariat included this information in a separate confidential report with restricted circulation, intended for use by authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement. The report has been made available to INTERPOL in November 2021. INTERPOL confirmed to the Secretariat that it would be drawn upon to inform INTERPOL's ongoing activities related to jaguars.
5. The Secretariat further provided to SC74 an overview of cooperation with relevant partners, including members of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), and the Coordination Committee for the 2030 Jaguar Conservation Roadmap for the Americas led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
6. Concerning Decision 18.253, the Standing Committee considered the study on illegal trade in jaguars at SC74, as well as the Secretariat's report and recommendations. The Committee noted the main findings and conclusions of the study and agreed to submit the draft decisions on jaguars contained in Annex 1 to the present document for consideration at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19).

7. The Committee also requested the Secretariat to further engage in consultations with jaguar range States, destination countries, the host of the next Conference of the Parties, the Chair of the Animals Committee, the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species, the Coordination Committee for the 2030 Jaguar Conservation Roadmap, and other relevant stakeholders, with the aim of maintaining the momentum. Consultations should focus in particular on the development of a proposal to establish a long-term system for monitoring illegal killing of jaguars, associated illegal trade in their parts and derivatives, and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation, and on the purposes and characteristics of demand for illegal jaguar body parts in destination countries which constitute a key area for further investigation.

Recommendations

8. The Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt the draft decisions on jaguars (*Panthera onca*) in Annex 1 to the present document.

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft decisions presented in Annex 1 with the amendment indicated in paragraph B below. The Secretariat also recommends the deletion of Decisions 18.251 to 18.253.
- B. Concerning draft decision 19.BB, paragraph b), the Secretariat is of the opinion that the establishment of a long-term system for monitoring illegal killing of jaguars, associated illegal trade in their part and derivatives and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation may benefit from engaging local communities and including gender-based approaches and that these aspects should be considered when developing the proposal for the monitoring system. The Secretariat therefore suggests the following amendments:

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.BB** The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funding, cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species and the Coordination Committee for the 2030 Jaguar Conservation Roadmap for the Americas led by the United Nations Development Programme with a view to:

[...]

- b) develop a proposal for establishing a long-term system for monitoring illegal killing of jaguars, associated illegal trade in their part and derivatives and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation, including engagement of local communities in the monitoring and gender-based approaches as appropriate;

[...]

DRAFT DECISIONS ON JAGUARS (PANTHERA ONCA)

Directed to Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar, and relevant stakeholders

- 19.AA** Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar, and relevant stakeholders are encouraged to:
- a) urgently adopt comprehensive legislation and enforcement controls aimed at eliminating the poaching of jaguars and illegal trade in their parts and derivatives, including online sales of specimens;
 - b) include the jaguar as a priority species to be targeted as part of enforcement operations, measures and controls deployed to respond to and address wildlife crime;
 - c) ensure that any illegal domestic and international trade in jaguar specimens detected are included in annual illegal trade reports in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on *National reports*;
 - d) promote the design and implementation of conservation corridors between range countries of the jaguar, strengthening cooperation mechanisms on a local, national and regional level in order to promote good conservation practices; channel investments to the conservation of the species; reduce the threats to the connectivity of its habitats; and strengthen the capacities of the main players involved, including by mobilizing Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding for this purpose;
 - e) support the development of the proposal for establishing a long-term system for monitoring illegal killing of jaguars, associated illegal trade in their part and derivatives and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation;
 - f) raise awareness about the importance of the jaguar and its protection status, its role in the ecosystem and the threats it faces, including illegal trade;
 - g) participate in the meeting of jaguar range States referred to in paragraph c) of Decision 19.BB, and other events as appropriate, in order to share experiences and knowledge about the priority issues identified to combat illegal trade in jaguars;
 - h) recognize the jaguar as the flagship species of its range countries so that the protection and conservation of the species and its habitat becomes a joint priority; and
 - i) provide information to the Secretariat on the measures and activities they undertook to implement the actions directed to them under this Decision.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 19.BB** The Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external funding, cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species and the Coordination Committee for the 2030 Jaguar Conservation Roadmap for the Americas led by the United Nations Development Programme with a view to:
- a) integrate and align conservation efforts, demand reduction strategies, behaviour change and livelihood alternatives to prevent illegal killing of jaguars and associated illegal trade in jaguar part and derivatives;
 - b) develop a proposal for establishing a long-term system for monitoring illegal killing of jaguars, associated illegal trade in their part and derivatives and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation;
 - c) convene a meeting of jaguar range States to:

- i) identify opportunities for cross-border collaboration and regional cooperation, joint actions, and resource mobilisation aimed at reducing habitat loss, habitat fragmentation and human-animal conflict, and preventing the illegal killing of and illegal trade in jaguars;
- ii) review options for an intergovernmental platform aimed to support jaguar conservation and combating the poaching and illegal trade in jaguars through a continental action plan;
- iii) review the Secretariat's proposal for establishing a long-term system for monitoring poaching and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation, referred to under paragraph b) of the present Decision; and
- iv) promote the reporting of any illegal domestic and international trade in jaguar specimens in CITES annual illegal trade reports in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on *National reports*.

19.CC The Secretariat shall:

- a) support Parties in their implementation of Decision 19.AA; and
- b) report on the implementation of the Decisions 19.AA and 19.BB to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties with recommendations as appropriate.

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.DD The Standing Committee shall review the implementation of Decision 19.BB as well as the report and recommendations of the Secretariat under Decision 19.CC and make recommendations to range States, transit and destination countries, as appropriate and to the Secretariat for inclusion in the Secretariat's report to the Conference of the Parties under Decision 19.CC.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP18) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding.

Decision	Activity	Indicative costs (USD) (excludes Programme Support Costs)	Source of funding
19.BB	<p>b) develop a proposal for establishing a long-term system for monitoring illegal killing of jaguars, associated illegal trade in their part and derivatives and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation;</p> <p>c) convene a meeting of jaguar range States to:</p> <p>i) identify opportunities for cross-border collaboration and regional cooperation, joint actions, and resource mobilisation aimed at reducing habitat loss, habitat fragmentation and human-animal conflict, and preventing the illegal killing of and illegal trade in jaguars;</p> <p>ii) review options for an intergovernmental platform aimed to support jaguar conservation and combating the poaching and illegal trade in jaguars through a continental action plan;</p> <p>iii) review the Secretariat's proposal for establishing a long-term system for monitoring poaching and other key aspects related to jaguar conservation, referred to under paragraph b) of the present Decision; and</p> <p>iv) promote the reporting of any illegal domestic and international trade in jaguar specimens in CITES annual illegal trade reports in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.17 (Rev. CoP18) on National reports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30,000 • 120,000 	Extrabudgetary funds