

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Deletion of Thamnophis couchi hammondi from Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

The Swiss Confederation.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Reptilia
12. Order: Serpentes
13. Family: Colubridae
14. Species: Thamnophis couchi hammondi
15. Common Names: English: two-striped garter snake
French: serpent-jarretière à deux raies
Spanish: Serpiente jarretera
16. Code Numbers: 305.005.278.007 (ID Manual)

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution:
USA: Central coast of California (Monterey) to Mexico.
Mexico: Baja California.
22. Population: Rated rare by the 1979 IUCN Red Data Book. Threatened by loss of habitat and, possibly, pesticides.
23. Habitat: Rocky streams with protected pools near shore. Deteriorating due to extensive human development throughout the area, including flood control, subdivision of land, diversion of water from rivers and ponds.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Has been subject to collecting by children and pet industry.
32. Legal International Trade: Has never been recorded in trade since 1975.
33. Illegal Trade: No evidence (?).
34. Potential Trade Threats: Unlikely to be any since the State of California legislation prevents commercial exploitation.

4. Protection Status

A bag and possession limit of one specimen has been established under State of California law.

CITES history: Listed at Washington, D.C., 1973.

5. Information on Similar Species

There are four other subspecies of T. couchi. Thamnophis elegans with four subspecies. None of these is included in CITES appendices.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

Solicited but not received.

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

Behler, J.L., 1979. The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Reptiles and Amphibians. New York.

Stebbins, R.C., 1966. A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians. Boston.

Honegger, R.E., 1979. IUCN Red Data Book, Volume 3: Amphibia and Reptilia. Morges.