



NDF WORKSHOP
WG 5 – Mammals
CASE STUDY 5 SUMMARY
Macaca fascicularis
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CITES NON-DETRIMENTAL FINDING CASE STUDY FOR THE EXPORTING CRAB-EATING MACAQUES (*MACACA FASCICULARIS*) FROM CHINA

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Macaca fascicularis is native to Southeast Asia but is an exotic species to China. *Macaca fascicularis* inhabits in primary forests, disturbed and secondary forests, and riverine and coastal forests of nipa palm and mangrove, but it lives most successfully in disturbed habitats and on the periphery of forests. Although the estimation of its global population has not been reported, *Macaca fascicularis* population in the world is stable or increase. Global conservation status of *Macaca fascicularis* are Near Threatened and Least concern (IUCN Red List ver 2.3). As a species listed in CITES Appendix II, *Macaca fascicularis* is automatically granted the Type II Key Stat Protected Wild Animal Species status in China. Import, export, breeding, and transportation of *Macaca fascicularis* should first obtain permits from wild management authorities. There is no threat to *Macaca fascicularis* in China. Before 1980s, domestic experimental primates in the country were mostly *Macaca mulatta*. During early 1980s, since the market economy reform in China, the cross-border trade was booming in the country. As a result of CITES enforcement, illegal trades of the crab-eating monkeys were detained and seized. Those macaques all were sent to local wildlife rescue centres, which formed the initial founder populations of *Macaca fascicularis* in China. Late 1980s, the international demands for primate as laboratory animals increased. Around 1990, four large primate breeding companies in China were established. In August 2008, there are 40 primate breeding companies in the country, which keep about 170,000 crab-eating macaques. From 2004 to 2007, China imported 36,620 *Macaca fascicularis*, and exported 12, 244. Average number of *Macaca fascicularis* exported from China during 2004 to 2007 was around 3,000 each year. *Macaca fascicularis* exported from the country are *Macaca fascicularis* of generations lower than second generation bred in primate breeding

bases. All macaque trades are with CITES permits and come from captive populations. The smuggling of live primates were sized in southern China and detained and smugglers were prosecuted. However, the level of illegal trade of *Macaca fascicularis* is low to compare with legal tread level. Criteria to be considered for NDFs of *Macaca fascicularis* are: (a) *Macaca fascicularis* is artificially bred in the country; (b) *Macaca fascicularis* breeding company do not require wild individuals for breeding; (c) Exporting volume of captive breed *Macaca fascicularis* will not hinder the breeding of the population. Restoration or alleviation measures do not apply to this case. The State Forestry Administration, national CITES management and scientific authorities closely monitor the trade of primates in the country. International market demand for macaques as laboratory animals in coming years should be carefully study. Because of the high cost in maintaining laboratory animals and animal welfare issue, many companies in developed countries will gradually move their animal experiments overseas, primate breeding countries.