



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/071

Geneva, 3 December 2020

CONCERNING:

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### Launch of ePermit electronic permitting platform

1. The present Notification to the Parties is published at the request of the United States of America.
2. The United States recently announced the initial launch of a new electronic permitting platform, ePermits. ePermits will provide significant efficiencies for permit applicants as well as for staff involved in issuing CITES permits and certificates. Although the United States has launched the initial phase of ePermits, the system will be developed further in subsequent phases.
3. ePermits will assist applicants in identifying the correct application form and submitting complete applications. Effective 30 September 2020, applications for all new CITES permits and certificates must be initiated in ePermits. For amendment or renewal of CITES permits and certificates issued prior to the launch of ePermits on 30 September 2020, applicants must still submit paper applications through January 2021. After January 2021, applicants may apply for renewals and amendments through ePermits. With ePermits, applicants and permittees must create a new account. For detailed instructions, please refer to the "Creating a New Account Quick Tour" on the ePermits website at [www.fws.gov/epermits](http://www.fws.gov/epermits).
4. Until the United States fully transitions to ePermits, valid U.S. CITES documents will be issued with the issuance and expiration dates in both of the following formats: MM/DD/YYYY and YYYY/MM/DD. Please direct any questions regarding the new ePermits system to [ManagementAuthority@fws.gov](mailto:ManagementAuthority@fws.gov).