

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

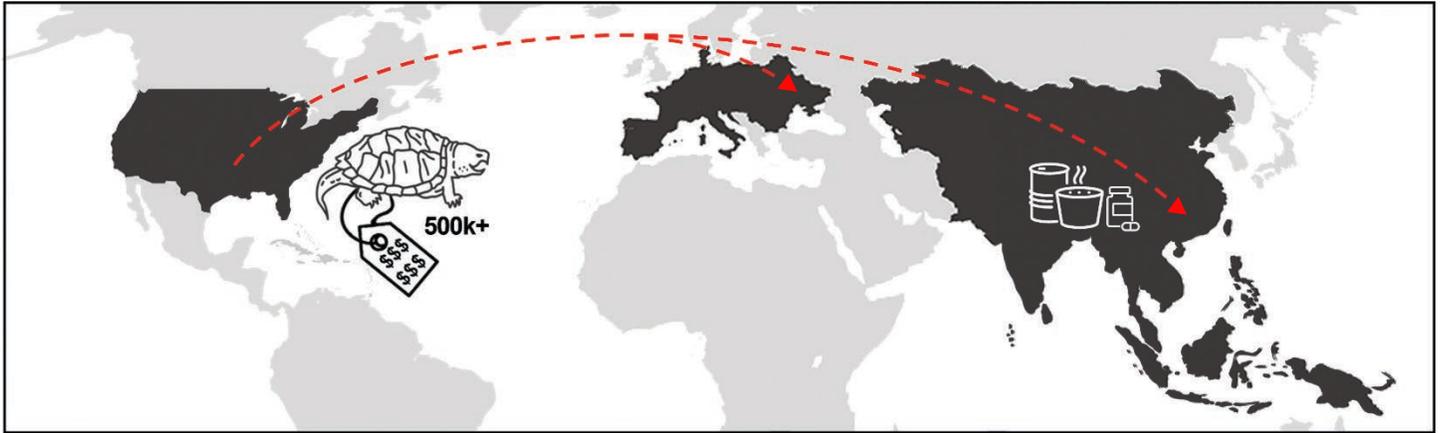


Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Panama City (Panama), 14 – 25 November 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL FRESHWATER TURTLE SPECIES PROPOSALS' INFORMATION PACKAGE

1. This document package has been submitted by the United States of America*. The first information graphic created by the United States addresses trade, fecundity, and the Federal-State relationship in the management of native turtles in the United States in relation to the CoP19 turtle proposals (Prop 23, 24, 29, 31, and 32).
2. In addition, the United States of America at the request of the International Coalition of Concerned Turtle Scientists and Conservationists (ICCTSC - 171 individuals from 50 countries signed these letters) in relation to the CoP19 turtle proposals (Prop 23 to 33) has submitted a letter of support along with a pictorial collage of similar turtle species. The document is submitted at the request of ICCTSC, Chelonian Research Foundation, and Wildlife Conservation Society.

* *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.*



Turtle Diversity Hotspot

Southeastern United States is one of the world's top areas for turtle diversity

Vulnerable to Extinction

Turtles become reproductively mature late in life and produce few offspring that survive to breeding age, making them especially vulnerable

Fragmented Management

Freshwater turtles in the U.S. are currently managed by States, resulting in a fragmented approach

International Demand

Demand for North American turtle species is coming largely from Southeast Asia and Europe

Unsustainable Trade

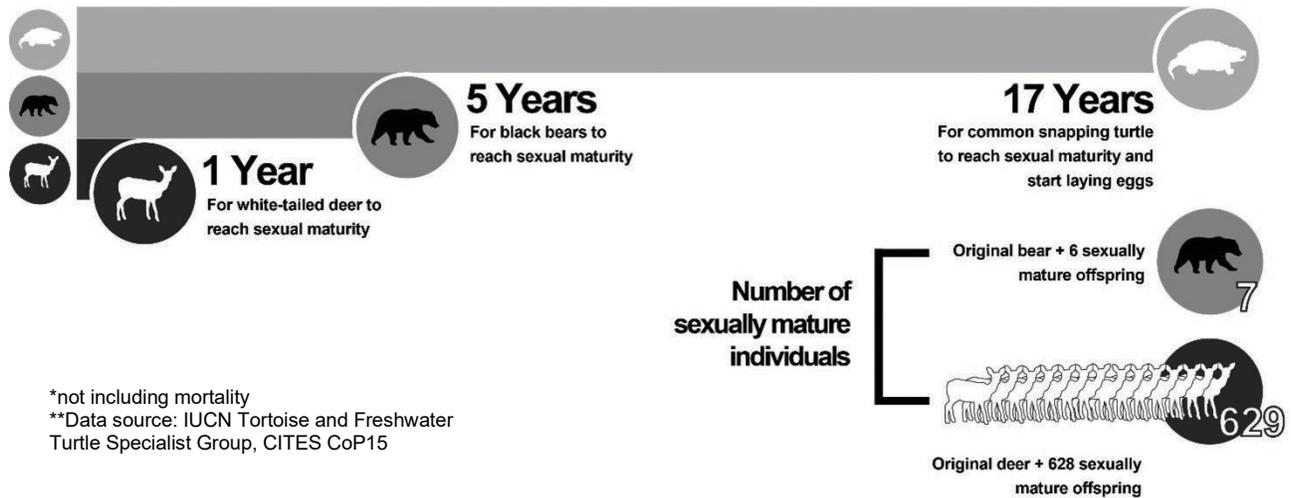
More than 500,000 alligator and common snapping turtles and nearly 1.5 million musk turtles exported from the U.S. in recent years

CITES Appendix II Listing

A necessary step to reduce risk of overharvesting and support sustainable use and legal trade of U.S. native turtles

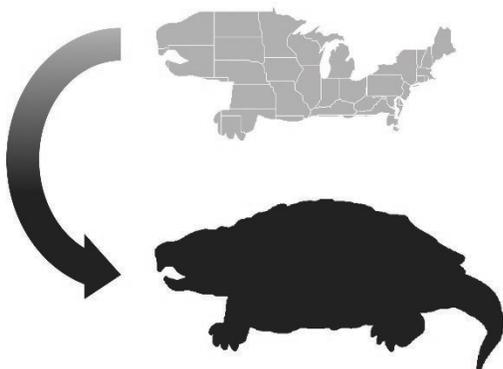
Why are Freshwater Turtles so Vulnerable to Extinction?

This graphic compares the reproductive potential* between white-tailed deer, black bears, and the common snapping turtle. The turtle becomes reproductively mature at 17 years, by which time a black bear may have produced six and a white-tailed deer 626 reproductively mature offspring,**



Appendix II Listing for Several North American Turtle Species

We propose inclusion of several North American turtle species in CITES Appendix II (see back). An Appendix II listing is **not a ban** on all trade, but rather regulates it through permits and certificates.



Problem

Different states have different conservation and trade management strategies. Fragmented approaches make it easier for trafficking and unsustainable trade to continue, putting turtles at risk of extinction.

Solution

A CITES Appendix II listing will complement U.S. state management efforts, reduce the risk of overharvesting, and support sustainable use and legal trade in U.S. native turtles.

U.S. Freshwater Turtle Priorities



Alligator snapping turtle and common snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii* and *Chelydra serpentina*): proposal to transfer these two species from Appendix III to Appendix II

Big-headed map turtles (*Graptemys barbouri*, *Graptemys ernsti*, *Graptemys gibbonsi*, *Graptemys pearlensis*, and *Graptemys pulchra*): proposal to transfer these five species of *Graptemys* spp. from Appendix III to Appendix II

Mud turtles (*Kinosternon* spp.): proposal to include 20 species in the genus in Appendix II and two in Appendix I (this proposal is being co-sponsored by Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico, and the United States, and submitted by Mexico)

Musk turtles (*Sternotherus* spp.): proposal to include the genus in Appendix II

Softshell turtles (*Apalone* spp. not including subspecies already in Appendix I): proposal to transfer the genus from Appendix III to Appendix II



Thank you for your Support!

ICCTSC

INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF CONCERNED TURTLE SCIENTISTS AND CONSERVATIONISTS

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14 October 2022

To the Parties at CITES CoP19 regarding Turtle Proposals 22 through 33:

We, the undersigned turtle biologists and conservationists, representing a broad international coalition of concerned turtle-focused leading academic and conservation individuals and organizations (**171 individuals from 50 countries**), applaud Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, the European Union, India, Mexico, Panama, Peru, the United States of America, and Viet Nam for the formulation and submission of the current Turtle Proposals to CoP19, and we commend the CITES Parties and Secretariat for their impressive track record of actions to date.

Turtles, including tortoises, freshwater turtles, and sea turtles, are among the two most severely threatened large groups of vertebrates (along with primates), with 63% of the 270 species currently assessed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (2022.1) listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered, or Vulnerable. Additionally, provisional assessments by the IUCN Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group of previously unevaluated species and updated re-evaluations of previously listed species indicates that more than half (ca. 55%) of all 357 global species of turtles and tortoises are threatened with extinction (Rhodin et al. 2018, in *Chelonian Conservation and Biology*; Turtle Taxonomy Working Group 2021, in *Chelonian Research Monographs*).

Predictably, all the typical negative impacts on biodiversity affect turtles, including habitat degradation and loss, pollution, disease, invasive alien species and subsidized native predators, as well as climate change. Above all, however, turtle populations have precipitously declined, and continue to decline, as a result of targeted exploitation via unsustainable domestic and international trade for commercial hobbyists, commercial food use, and shell bones for traditional medicine. These impacts are additive, and often leverage each other, but targeted over-exploitation of wild populations is the single most powerful factor driving turtle populations and species towards extinction.

The potential harm of international trade to turtle populations has been recognized by the CITES Parties from the beginning. Over the years a succession of turtle species have been added to CITES Appendix II and a small number of the most critically endangered species to Appendix I. These actions by the CITES Parties have benefited wild turtle populations and played a significant role in managing the international trade in wild turtles to minimize detrimental effects. CITES Actions have included reviewing legal and illegal trade in CITES-listed turtle species, preparing Non-Detriment Finding guidance, compiling identification resources and establishing a secure turtle identification network, and more. Further, turtles have featured prominently in the Review of Significant Trade, and the Review of trade in animal specimens reported as produced in captivity. Additionally, Parties have developed complementary domestic initiatives to assess and improve awareness and regulation of turtle exploitation. Many of us have contributed to these efforts, and we applaud the many and diverse actions taken by the CITES Parties and the Secretariat.

Nevertheless, many non-CITES and CITES-listed freshwater turtle species continue to be affected negatively by unregulated, poorly regulated, and/or illegal international trade. Traders and collectors seeking new sources to supply the demand for turtle meat and shell bones, and the changing fashion for commercial hob-

byist turtle species, have continued a pattern of sequential exploitation, shifting to turtle populations in ‘new’ countries as populations elsewhere are depleted, and to ‘new’ species as more species come under regulatory control. Clearly the trade prefers species that are not CITES-listed, because their trade implies reduced delays, costs and regulatory oversight of trade shipments. We continue to believe that a piecemeal approach to listing turtles in the Appendices, one species at a time, is not the most effective strategy, and may indeed drive unsustainable trade towards additional non-listed species. Waiting for complete data for all populations would mean the certain depletion or complete loss of many species.

As the largest and most experienced group of turtle researchers globally, we must also highlight the reality of the extreme difficulty in making species identifications for several species proposed for inclusion at CoP19. Turtles pose significant identification challenges even for experts – so they surely do the same for Customs and wildlife inspectors. For example, without reliable information on their precise origin, individual specimens of *Kinosternon* and *Rhinoclemmys* are nearly impossible to identify with certainty without resorting to literature, expert consultation, or molecular genetic analysis. Failing to list look-alike species will be the only roadmap needed by traffickers to evade CITES control measures. These considerations make it imperative that, where possible, turtles be listed in the Appendices at the genus or family level, as many turtles and tortoises already are.

Turtles have a specialized life history, characterized by late reproductive maturity and great longevity. Individuals may breed only once a year, but their reproductive lifetime can last for several decades. Females of many species produce relatively small numbers of eggs per year, and on average suffer high losses of eggs, hatchlings, and juveniles. Though this life strategy has served turtles well through their evolutionary history, it now renders them greatly vulnerable to over-exploitation. Removing even a relatively small proportion of breeding-age adults from the wild reduces the probability that sufficient numbers of the next generation will be produced, and renders populations unable to respond adequately to high levels of extractive utilization. It is essential that the international trade in turtles is subject to the minimum standards of an Appendix II listing focused on ensuring that trade is legal and sustainable: verified legal acquisition, detailed records of traded animals and parts, and non-detriment findings.

We acknowledge that including additional freshwater turtle species in the CITES Appendices may impose additional administrative burdens on trading Parties and on legitimate captive breeding specialists and facilities. Additional listings will mean that we scientists and conservationists ourselves will also have to contend with further regulatory requirements for the international exchange of turtles between zoos and assurance colonies, transfer of tissue samples and museum specimens, and more. Nevertheless, we are convinced that the safeguards afforded by inclusion under the CITES trade governance structure are well worth the potential burdens involved, and more crucially, are in the best long-term interests of these species and their wild populations.

We therefore now urge the CITES Parties at CoP19 to support and adopt the following Proposals to amend the Appendices concerning Freshwater Turtles:

- Prop. 22. Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Peru: *Chelus fimbriata* and *C. orinocensis* – Include in Appendix II.
- Prop. 23. United States of America: *Macrochelys temminckii* and *Chelydra serpentina* – Transfer from Appendix III to Appendix II.
- Prop. 24. United States of America: *Graptemys barbouri*, *G. ernsti*, *G. gibbonsi*, *G. pearlensis*, and *G. pulchra* – Transfer from Appendix III to Appendix II.
- Prop. 25. India: *Batagur kachuga* – Transfer from Appendix II to Appendix I.
- Prop. 26. European Union, Viet Nam: *Cuora galbinifrons* – Transfer from Appendix II to Appendix I.

- Prop. 27. Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Panama: *Rhinoclemmys* spp. – Include in Appendix II.
- Prop. 28. Mexico: *Claudius angustatus* – Include in Appendix II.
- Prop. 29. Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, and United States of America: *Kinosternon* spp – Include *Kinosternon cora* and *K. vogti* in Appendix I and include all other *Kinosternon* spp. in Appendix II.
- Prop. 30. El Salvador, Mexico: *Staurotypus salvinii* and *S. triporcatus* – Include in Appendix II.
- Prop. 31. United States of America: *Sternotherus* spp. – Include in Appendix II.
- Prop. 32. United States of America: *Apalone* spp. (except the subspecies in Appendix I) – Transfer from Appendix III to Appendix II.
- Prop. 33. India: *Nilssonina leithii* – Transfer from Appendix II to Appendix I.

We respectfully request and urge the CITES Parties to adopt all these CoP19 Turtle Proposals, thereby continuing and strengthening the commendable progress already accomplished to secure the survival of some of the world's most endangered and well-liked charismatic vertebrates – turtles and tortoises.

We thank you for your consideration. Individuals from the following **50 countries** are represented among the **171 turtle scientists and conservationists** signing this document: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

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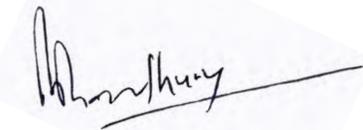
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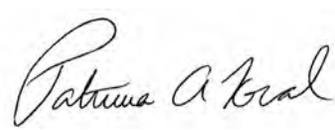
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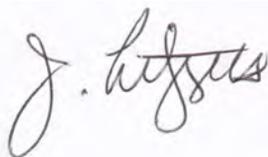
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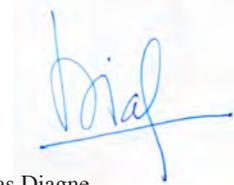
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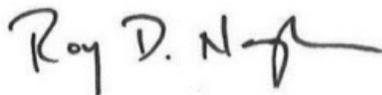
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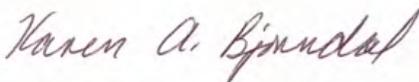
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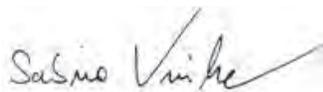
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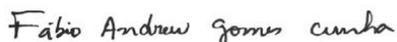
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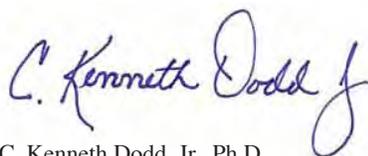
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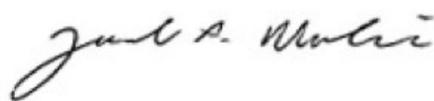
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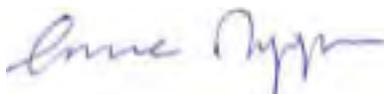
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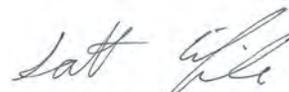
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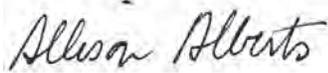
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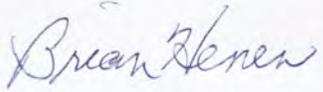
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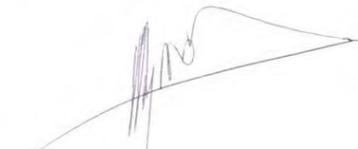
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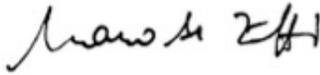
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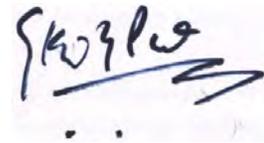
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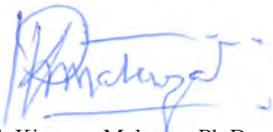
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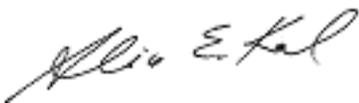
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Similarity of Appearance: Pictorial Collage of Similar Turtle Species on CITES CoP 19 Proposals

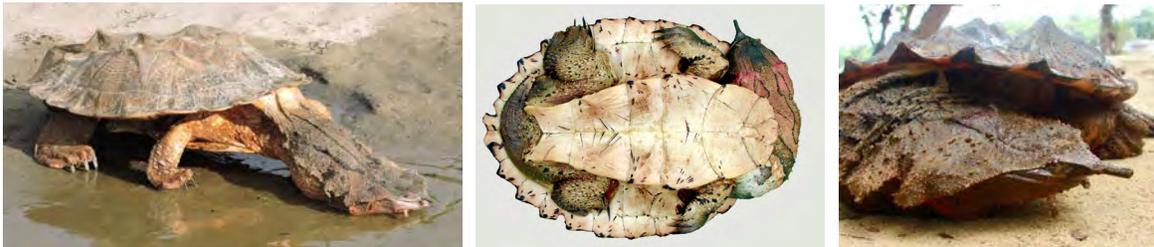
PREPARED BY
CHELONIAN RESEARCH FOUNDATION
ON BEHALF OF
INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF CONCERNED TURTLE SCIENTISTS AND CONSERVATIONISTS

Prop. 22. Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Peru: *Chelus fimbriata* and *C. orinocensis* – Include in Appendix II.

Chelus fimbriata



Chelus orinocensis



Prop. 23. United States of America: *Macrochelys temminckii* and *Chelydra serpentina* – Transfer from Appendix III to Appendix II.

Macrochelys temminckii



Chelydra serpentina



Prop. 24. United States of America: *Graptemys barbouri*, *G. ernsti*, *G. gibbonsi*, *G. pearlensis*, and *G. pulchra* – Transfer from Appendix III to Appendix II.

Graptemys barbouri



Graptemys ernsti



Graptemys gibbonsi



Graptemys pearlensis



Graptemys pulchra



Prop. 27. Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Panama: *Rhinoclemmys* spp. – Include in Appendix II.

Rhinoclemmys annulata



Rhinoclemmys areolata



Rhinoclemmys diademata



Rhinoclemmys funerea



Rhinoclemmys melanosterna



Rhinoclemmys nasuta



Rhinoclemmys pulcherrima



Rhinoclemmys punctularia



Rhinoclemmys rubida



Prop. 28. Mexico: *Claudius angustatus* – Include in Appendix II.

Claudius angustatus



Prop. 29. Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama, and United States of America: *Kinosternon* spp – Include *Kinosternon cora* and *K. vogti* in Appendix I and include all other *Kinosternon* spp. in Appendix II.

Appendix I

Kinosternon cora



Kinosternon vogti



Appendix II

Kinosternon abaxillare*Kinosternon acutum**Kinosternon alamosae**Kinosternon angustipons**Kinosternon baurii*

Kinosternon chimalhuaca



Kinosternon creaseri



Kinosternon dunni



Kinosternon durangoense



Kinosternon flavescens



Kinosternon herrerae*Kinosternon hirtipes**Kinosternon integrum**Kinosternon leucostomum**Kinosternon oaxacae*

Kinosternon scorpioides*Kinosternon sonoriense**Kinosternon steindachneri**Kinosternon stejnegeri**Kinosternon subrubrum*

Prop. 30. El Salvador, Mexico: *Staurotypus salvinii* and *S. triporcatus* – Include in Appendix II.

Staurotypus salvinii



Staurotypus triporcatus



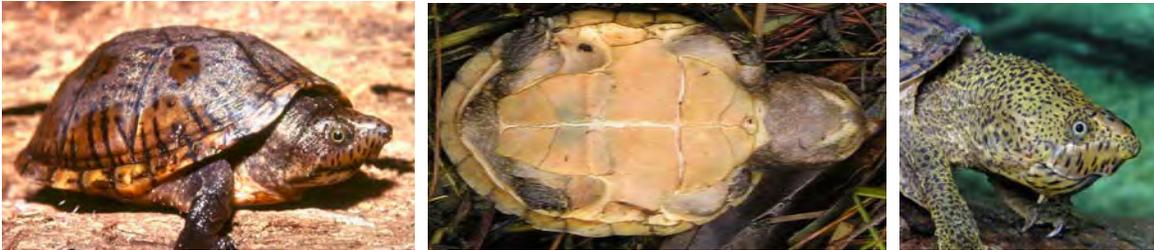
Prop. 31. United States of America: *Sternotherus* spp. – Include in Appendix II.

Sternotherus carinatus



Sternotherus depressus



Sternotherus intermedius*Sternotherus minor**Sternotherus odoratus**Sternotherus peltifer*

Prop. 32. United States of America: *Apalone* spp. (except the subspecies in Appendix I) – Transfer from Appendix III to Appendix II.

Apalone ferox



Apalone mutica



Apalone spinifera with subspecies



spinifera



pallida



guadalupensis

aspera

emoryi



atra (already listed in Appendix I)

ICCTSC

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14 رבותكأ 2022

إلى الأطراف في مؤتمر الأطراف (سائتس) التاسع عشر بشأن مقترحات السلاحف من رقم 22 إلى رقم 33:

نحن ، الموقعين أدناه ، علماء بيولوجيا السلاحف والمتخصصون في مجال الحفاظ على البيئة ، نمثل تحالفًا دوليًا واسعًا من الأفراد والمنظمات الأكاديمية الرائدة المعنية بالحفاظ على السلاحف (171 فردًا من 50 دولة) ، نشي و نحيي البرازيل ، كولومبيا ، كوستاريكا ، السلفادور ، الاتحاد الأوروبي ، الهند ، المكسيك ، بنما ، بيرو ، الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية وفيتنام لصياغة وتقديم مقترحات السلاحف الحالية إلى مؤتمر الأطراف التاسع عشر ، ونشيد بأطراف اتفاقية الاتجار الدولي بأنواع الحيوانات والنباتات البرية المهددة بالانقراض و سكرتارية اتفاقية سائتس لسجلها الرابع من الإجراءات حتى الآن.

السلاحف، والتي تشمل السلاحف البرية وسلاحف المياه العذبة، والسلاحف البحرية، هي من بين مجموعتين كبيرتين من الفقاريات الأشد تعرضًا للتهديد (جنبًا إلى جنب مع الزنيسيات)، بنسبة 63 ٪ من 270 نوعًا تم تقييمها حاليًا في القائمة الحمراء للأنواع المهددة بالانقراض (2022.1) الصادرة عن الاتحاد الدولي لصون الطبيعة (IUCN) على أنها مهددة بالانقراض بشكل حرج أو مهددة للانقراض أو معرضة للانقراض. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تشير التقييمات الموقنة التي أجرتها مجموعة اختصاصي السلاحف البرية وسلاحف المياه العذبة التابعة للاتحاد الدولي لصون الطبيعة (IUCN) للأنواع التي لم يتم تقييمها سابقًا وعمليات إعادة التقييم المحدثة للأنواع المدرجة سابقًا، تشير التقييمات إلى أن أكثر من نصف (حوالي 55 ٪) من جميع الأنواع العالمية البالغ عددها 357 نوعًا من السلاحف مهددة بالانقراض (Rhodin et al. 2018، في *Chelontian Conservation and Biology*؛ فريق عمل تصنيف السلاحف 2021 ، في *Chelontian Research Monographs*).

وكما هو متوقع، فإن جميع الآثار السلبية النموذجية على التنوع البيولوجي تؤثر على السلاحف، بما في ذلك تدهور الموائل وفقدانها، والتلوث، والأمراض، والأنواع الغريبة الغازية والحيوانات المفترسة المحلية المعززة والمدعومة، فضلًا عن تغير المناخ. وفوق كل شيء، ومع ذلك، فقد انخفض عدد السلاحف بشكل حاد، واستمر في التناقص، نتيجة للاستغلال المستهدف عبر التجارة المحلية والدولية غير المستدامة للهواة التجاريين، والاستخدام التجاري للأغذية، واستخدام عظام الصدف للطب الشعبي التقليدي. هذه التأثيرات المضافة وغالبًا ما تؤثر من بعضها البعض، ولكن الاستغلال المفرط المستهدف للمجموعات البرية هو العامل الوحيد الأقوى الذي يدفع تجمعات وأنواع السلاحف نحو الانقراض.

منذ البداية، تم الاعتراف بالضرر الواقع من التجارة الدولية على مجموعات الأعداد من السلاحف وذلك من قبل الأطراف في سائتس (CITES). وعلى مر السنين تمت إضافة سلسلة من أنواع السلاحف إلى الملحق الثاني لاتفاقية الاتجار الدولي بأنواع الحيوانات والنباتات البرية المهددة بالانقراض سائتس (CITES)، وعدد قليل من أكثر الأنواع المهددة بالانقراض بشكل حرج في الملحق الأول. وهذه الإجراءات التي اتخذتها الأطراف في سائتس (CITES) قد أفادت مجموعات السلاحف في البرية ولعبت دورًا هامًا في إدارة التجارة الدولية للسلاحف البرية، ولحده من الآثار الضارة. تضمنت إجراءات اتفاقية CITES مراجعة إجراءات التجارة المشروعة وغير المشروعة في أنواع السلاحف المدرجة في CITES، اعداد دليل إرشادات التحقق من عدم الأضرار ببقاء النوع، تجميع مصادر تحديد الأنواع وإنشاء شبكة أمانة لتحديد السلاحف ، والمزيد، علاوة على ذلك، احتلت السلاحف مكانة بارزة في مراجعة التجارة ذات الكميات الكبيرة، ومراجعة التجارة في عينات الحيوانات التي تم تسجيلها على أنها مرياه في الأسر. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، طورت الدول الأطراف مبادرات محلية تكميلية لتقييم وتحسين الوعي وتنظيم استغلال السلاحف. وقد ساهم العديد منا في هذه الجهود، ونثني على الإجراءات العديدة والمتنوعة التي اتخذتها الأطراف في اتفاقية CITES وسكرتارية الاتفاقية.

ومع ذلك، فإن العديد من أنواع سلاحف المياه العذبة غير المدرجة والمدرجة على قوائم سائتس (CITES) لا تزال تتأثر سلبيًا بالتجارة الدولية غير المنظمة و / أو ضعيفة التنظيم و / أو غير المشروعة. يواصل التجار وهواة الجمع الذين يبحثون عن مصادر جديدة لتوفير الطلب على لحوم السلاحف وعظام الصدف، والموضة المتغيرة لأنواع السلاحف المرغوبة لأغراض تجارية ، استمرار نمط الاستغلال المتسلسل ، والتحول إلى مجموعات السلاحف في البلدان "الجديدة" حيث يتم استنفاد أعدادها في أماكن أخرى، وإلى الأنواع "الجديدة" حيث تخضع المزيد من الأنواع للسيطرة التنظيمية. من الواضح أن التجارة تفضل الأنواع غير المدرجة في CITES ، لأن تجارتها تنطوي على تقليل التأخير والتكاليف والإشراف التنظيمي على شحنات التجارة. ما زلنا نعتقد أن اتباع نهج مجزأ لإدراج السلاحف في الملاحق، نوعًا واحدًا في كل مرة، ليس هو الاستراتيجية الأكثر فعالية، وقد يدفع بالفعل التجارة غير المستدامة نحو الأنواع الإضافية غير المدرجة في القائمة. قد يعني انتظار البيانات الكاملة لجميع مجموعات السلاحف استنفادًا أو خسارة كاملة للعديد من الأنواع. بصفتنا أكبر مجموعة من باحثي السلاحف وأكثرهم خبرة على مستوى العالم ، يجب علينا أيضًا تسليط الضوء على حقيقة الصعوبة الشديدة في تحديد هوية الأنواع للعديد من الأنواع المقترحة لإدراجها في مؤتمر الأطراف 19 ، تشكل السلاحف

تحديات كبيرة في تحديد الهوية حتى بالنسبة للخبراء - لذا فهي تفعل الشيء نفسه بالتأكيد لمفتشي الجمارك والحياة البرية. على سبيل المثال ، بدون معلومات موثوقة عن أصلها الدقيق ، يكاد يكون من المستحيل تحديد العينات الفردية من السلاحف الطينية (*Kinosternon*) و السلاحف الخشبية المدارية الجديدة (*Rhinoclemmys*) دون اللجوء إلى كتب التعريف المطبوعة أو استشارة الخبراء أو التحليل الجيني الجزيئي. إن الفشل في إدراج الأنواع المشابهة على قوائم سايتس سيكون هو خارقة الطريق الوحيدة التي يحتاجها المهربون للتهرب من تدابير المكافحة التي تتطلبها اتفاقية سايتس ، و هذه الاعتبارات تجعل من الضروري ، حيثما أمكن ، إدراج السلاحف في الملاحق على مستوى الجنس أو الأسرة ، كما هو الحال بالفعل في العديد من السلاحف التي تعيش في المياه والسلاحف البرية.

إن السلاحف لها دورة حياة خاصة ، تتميز بالنضج الإنجابي المتأخر وطول العمر. قد يتكاثر الأفراد مرة واحدة فقط في السنة ، لكن عمرهم الإنجابي يمكن أن يستمر لعدة عقود. إنث العديد من الأنواع تنتج أعداداً صغيرة نسبياً من البيض سنوياً ، وتعاني في المتوسط من خسائر كبيرة في البيض والفقس والصغار. على الرغم من أن الاستراتيجيات الحياتية هذه قد خدمت السلاحف بشكل جيد خلال تاريخها التطوري ، إلا أنها تجعلها الآن عرضة للإفراط في الاستغلال. إن إزالة حتى نسبة صغيرة نسبياً من البالغين في سن التكاثر من البرية يقلل من احتمالية إنتاج أعداد كافية من الجيل التالي ، ويجعل مجموعات الأعداد غير قادرين على الاستجابة بشكل كافٍ لمستويات عالية من الاستفاد الاستخراجية . من الضروري أن تخضع التجارة الدولية في السلاحف للمعايير الدنيا المدرجة في قائمة الملحق الثاني والتي تركز على ضمان أن تكون التجارة قانونية ومستدامة: إقتناء العينات بصورة قانونية معتمدة ، والسجلات التفصيلية للحيوانات والأجزاء المتداولة ، و إرشادات التحقق من عدم الأضرار ببقاء النوع

نحن نقر بأن إدراج أنواع إضافية من سلاحف المياه العذبة في ملاحق سايتس CITES قد يفرض أعباء إدارية إضافية على الدول الأطراف التجارية وعلى متخصصي التربية في الأسر الشرعيين وعلى المرافق. القوائم الإضافية ستعني أنه يتعين علينا نحن العلماء والمتخصصون في مجال الحفاظ على البيئة أن نتعامل مع المزيد من المتطلبات التنظيمية للتبادل الدولي للسلاحف بين حدائق الحيوان ومستحرمات الضمان (توفر هذه المستحرمات برامج الحفظ مع مجموعات التربية لضمان عدم انقراض الأنواع) ، ونقل عينات الأنسجة وعينات المتاحف ، والمزيد. ومع ذلك ، نحن مقتنعون بأن الضمانات التي يوفرها الإدراج في هيكل حوكمة التجارة في اتفاقية CITES تستحق الأعباء المحتملة التي ينطوي عليها الأمر ، والأهم من ذلك ، أنها في أفضل المصالح طويلة الأجل لهذه الأنواع ومجموعاتها البرية.

لذلك نحث الآن أطراف CITES في مؤتمر الأطراف (CoP19) على دعم واعتماد المقترحات التالية لتعديل الملاحق المتعلقة بسلاحف المياه العذبة:

- الاقتراح 22- البرازيل ، كولومبيا ، كوستاريكا ، بيرو: سلاحف الأمازون مائتا مائتا *Chelus fimbriata* وسلاحف أورينوكو مائتا مائتا *C. orinocensis* - إدراج الأنواع في الملحق الثاني
- الاقتراح 23- الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية: الأنواع سلاحف القاطور النهاشة (*Macrochelys temminckii*) وسلاحف النهاشة الشائعة (*Chelydra serpentina*) - نقل الأنواع من الملحق الثالث إلى الملحق الثاني
- الاقتراح 24- الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية: سلاحف خريطة بربور (*Graptemys barbouri*) و سلاحف خريطة اسكامبيا (*G. ernsti*) و سلاحف خريطة باسكاجولا (*G. gibbonsi*) و سلاحف خريطة نهر اللؤلؤ (*G. pearlensis*) و سلاحف خريطة الأبابا (*G. pulchra*) - نقل الأنواع من الملحق الثالث إلى الملحق الثاني.
- الاقتراح رقم 25. الهند: سلاحف السقف ذات التوج الأحمر (*Batagur kachuga*) - نقل النوع من الملحق الثاني إلى الملحق الأول.
- الاقتراح رقم 26. الاتحاد الأوروبي، فيتنام: سلاحف المربع الزهرية (*Cuora galbinifrons*) - نقل النوع من الملحق الثاني إلى الملحق الأول.
- الاقتراح رقم 27. البرازيل وكولومبيا وكوستاريكا وبنما: السلاحف الخشبية المدارية الجديدة (*Rhinoclemmys* spp.) - إدراج الأنواع في الملحق الثاني.
- الاقتراح رقم 28. المكسيك: سلاحف المسك ضيقة الجسر (*Claudius angustatus*) - إدراج النوع في الملحق الثاني.

- الاقتراح رقم 29. البرازيل وكولومبيا وكوستاريكا والسلفادور والمكسيك وبنما والولايات المتحدة الأمريكية: ادراج هذه الأنواع في الملحق الأول *Kinosternon spp – Include Kinosternon cora and K. vogti* وادراج الأنواع الأخرى من *Kinosternon spp* في الملحق الثاني.
- الاقتراح رقم 30. السلفادور، المكسيك: سلحفاة المسك المكسيكية (*Staurotypus salvinii*) و سلحفاة المسك العملاقة (*S. triporcatus*) - ادراج الأنواع في الملحق الثاني.
- الاقتراح رقم 31. الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية: سلاحف المسك (*Sternotherus spp.*) - ادراج الأنواع في الملحق الثاني.
- الاقتراح رقم 32. الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية: سلاحف أمريكية ذات غطاء أملس (*Apalone spp.*) (باستثناء الأنواع الفرعية في الملحق الأول) - تنقل من الملحق الثالث إلى الملحق الثاني.
- الاقتراح رقم 33. الهند: سلحفاة ليث ذات غطاء أملس (*Nilssonia leithii*) - نقل النوع من الملحق الثاني إلى الملحق الأول.

نطلب و بكل احترام ونحث أطراف CITES على اعتماد جميع مقترحات السلاحف في مؤتمر الأطراف 19، وبالتالي مواصلة وتعزيز التقدم الجدير بالثناء الذي تم إحرازه بالفعل لضمان بقاء بعض الفقاريات الجذابة والأكثر شهرة في العالم والمهددة بالانقراض من السلاحف المائية والسلاحف البرية.

نحن نشكركم على اهتمامكم. تم تمثيل الأشخاص من البلدان الـ 50 التالية بين 171 عالمًا من علماء السلاحف والمتخصصين في مجال الحفاظ على البيئة الذين وقعوا على هذه الوثيقة: الأرجنتين، أستراليا، بليز، بنين، البرازيل، بلغاريا، كمبوديا، كندا، الصين، كولومبيا، جمهورية الدومينيكان، فرنسا، ألمانيا، هندوراس، المجر، الهند، إندونيسيا، إيران، إيطاليا، كينيا، مدغشقر، ماليزيا، المكسيك، نيبال، بنما، بابوا غينيا الجديدة، باراغواي، بيرو، الفلبين، السنغال، جنوب أفريقيا، جنوب السودان، إسبانيا، سريلانكا، السويد، سويسرا، تنزانيا، توغو، ترينيداد وتوباغو، الإمارات العربية المتحدة، المملكة المتحدة، الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية، فنزويلا، فيتنام، بنغلاديش، الإكوادور، ميانمار، سنغافورة، تركيا، المملكة المتحدة و أوروغواي.

تم تضمين الإنتماءات أدناه من أجل تحديد الأشخاص ولا تعني بالضرورة تأييدًا مؤسسيًا رسميًا من قبل المنظمات المعنية؛ قام الأشخاص بالتوقيع بصفتهم الشخصية بصفتهم علماء السلاحف وخبراء الحفظ المعنيين.



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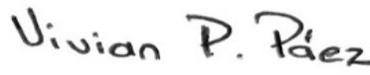
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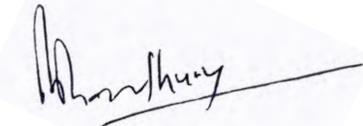
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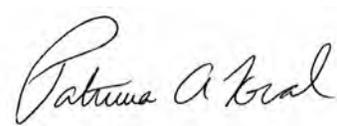
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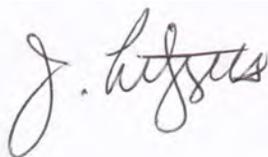
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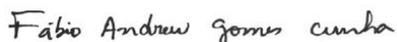
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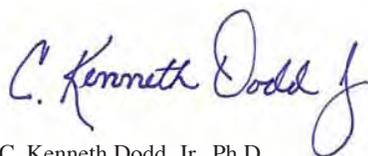
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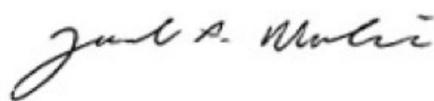
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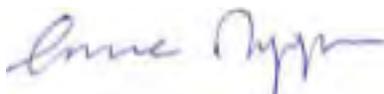
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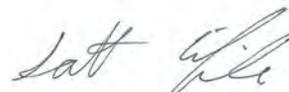
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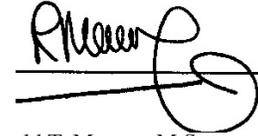
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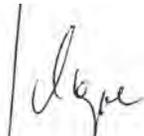
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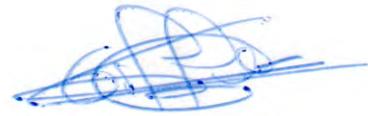
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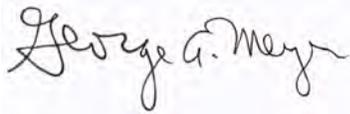
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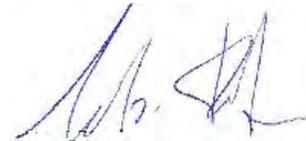
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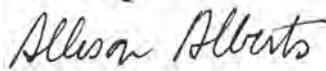
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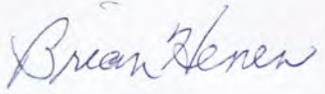
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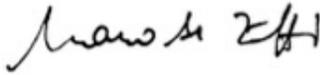
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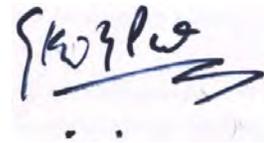
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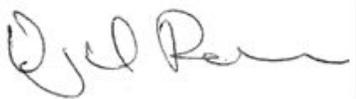
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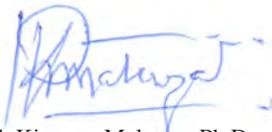
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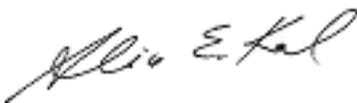
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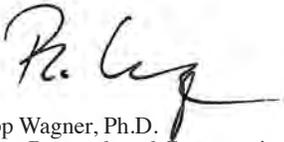
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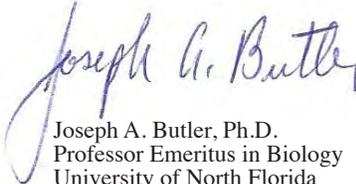
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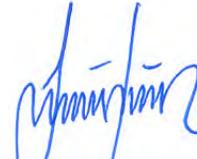
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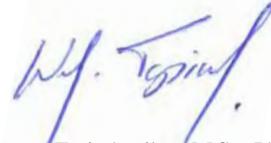
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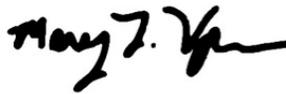
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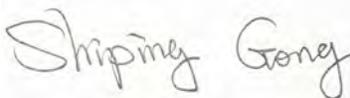
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وقع الأشخاص التالي أسماءهم على هذه الرسالة،
ولكن بسبب العمل الميداني و/ أو السفر، لم يتمكنوا من عمل مسح ضوئي وتقديم توقيعاتهم الرقمية.

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