



The CITES regulated legal trade in flora and fauna has an estimated worth of **US\$320 Billion pa**



CITES core budget to administer the legal trade in flora and fauna is **US\$6 Million pa**

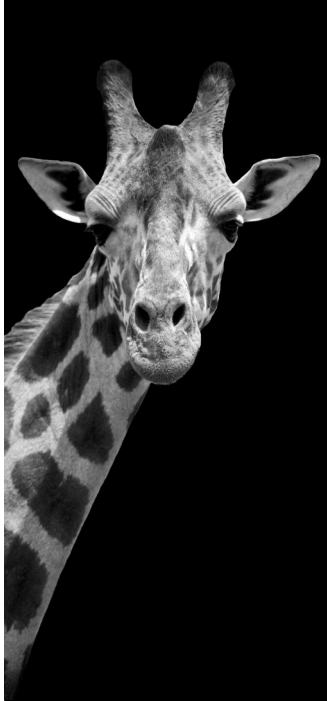


The illegal trade is estimated to be worth **US\$91– US\$258 Billion pa** and exploits the loopholes in the legal trade system



You do the math
**US\$320 Billion pa vs.
US\$6 Million pa**

Help us redress the balance
Because Nature Needs More



The CITES regulated legal trade in flora and fauna has an estimated worth of **US\$320 Billion pa**

The 2017 WCU Illegal Trade Report estimated profit from the illegal trade in flora & fauna to be as much as **US\$258 Billion pa**



CITES core budget to administer the legal trade in flora and fauna is **US\$6 Million pa**

You do the math!



In the same year, the ICCWC announced new funding of **US\$20 Million** to fight the illegal wildlife trade.

You do the math!



CITES, No New Trade Opportunities Until Your Trading System Is Fixed!

A paper published in 2015 outlined the prevalence of documentation discrepancies in CITES trade data for Appendix I and II species exported out of 50 African nations (and 198 importing countries) between the years 2003 and 2012.

The data represented 2,750 species. Of the 90,204 original records downloaded from the database:

- **Only 7.3% were free from discrepancies**
- **Increases in discrepancy-rates between 2003 and 2012 suggests that the trade was monitored less efficiently in 2012 than it was in 2003**

There needs to be a moratorium on any additional and new trade opportunities until this system is decisively fixed.



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A paper published in February 2019 highlights that species identified by the IUCN Red List as being threatened from trade:

- Can wait as long as 19 years for protection under CITES or
- Have already been waiting up to 24 years to be listed after first being named.
- Can take on average about 12 years for species to be protected by CITES once identified as at risk

Therefore, the authors urge policymakers to hasten the wildlife protection process, which at present, can typically take more than two decades.

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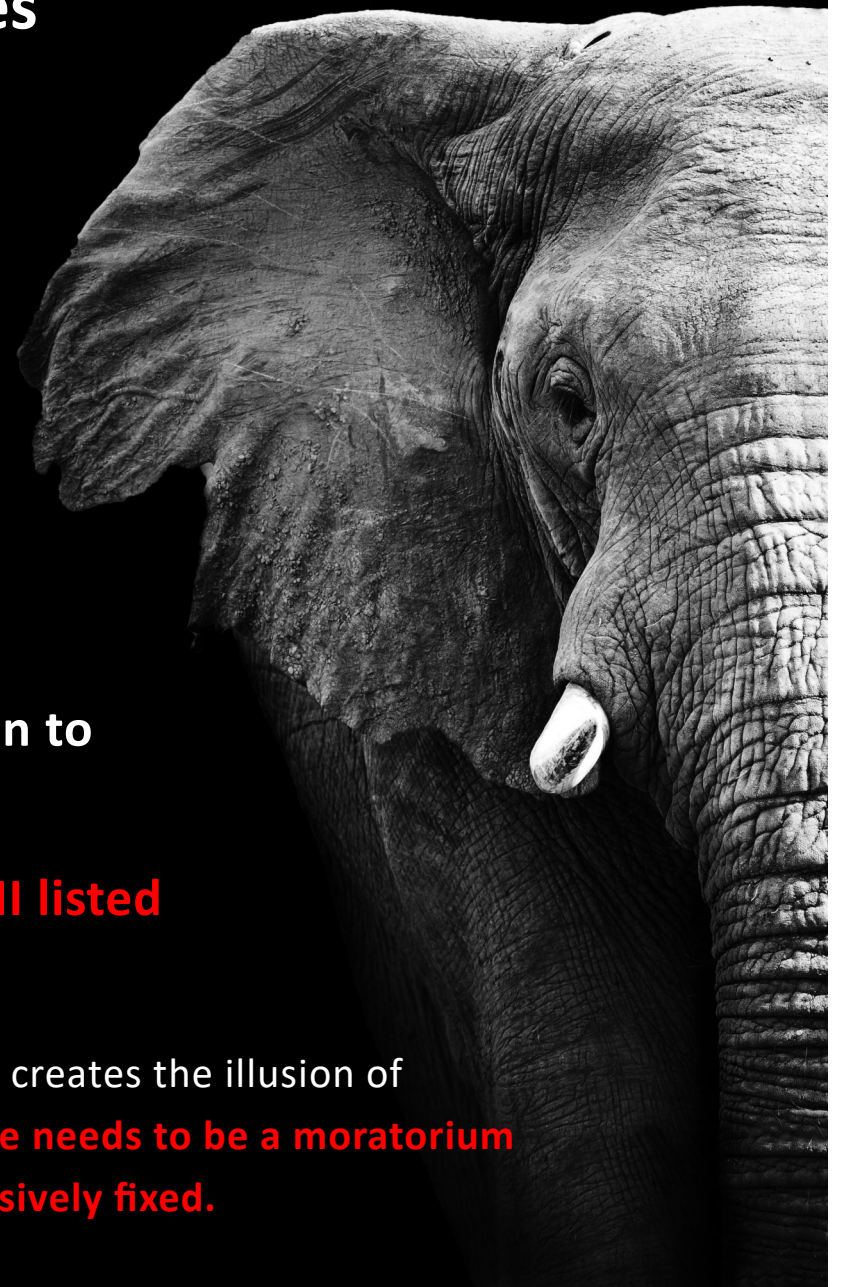


CITES, No Additional Trade Opportunities Until Your Trading System Is Fixed!

Analysis of trade in Elephantidae specimens between Australia and UK from 2010 to 2016 using the CITES Trade Database:

- The number of Elephantidae specimens exported from the UK to Australia amounted to 2,953 'units'
- In the same timeframe the number of Elephantidae specimens recorded as imported in to Australia from the UK equalled 3 'units'
- **A difference of 2,950 'units' because Appendix II listed species do not require an import permit.**

Any permit system that is this useless is counterproductive – it creates the illusion of traceability and control, whilst in reality offering nothing. **There needs to be a moratorium on any additional trade opportunities until this system is decisively fixed.**



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Whole countries have been found to be exporting pythons with a CITES source code C [captive bred] when there is no evidence that python farming is currently taking place anywhere in the country. This has enabled large scale laundering of illegal python skins in to the legal marketplace.

There needs to be a moratorium on any additional trade opportunities until this system is decisively fixed.



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A recent paper analysing the lion bone trade found many issues in the data. One key concern relates to the interpretation of trade terms, for example:

- The CITES trade term **'bone' (BON)** is different to **'skeleton' (SKE)**.
- A **'skeleton'** is further differentiated from a **'body' (BOD)**.

During crosschecking, we found that BON, SKE and BOD were inconsistently classified on South Africa's reports, in part because:

- (1) There is no CITES trade term guideline for interpreting the description **'carcass'**, and
- (2) There were different interpretations of what constitutes a **'set'** of lion bones.

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A paper published in 2010 on the international trade in CITES-listed live reptiles and amphibians highlighted significant discrepancies between exports and imports in the case of Thailand and Kazakhstan between 1990 and 2007:

- Thailand reports the import of >10,000 individuals (51 species) originating from Kazakhstan, but,
- Kazakhstan reported no exports of these species
- **A discrepancy of >10,000 individuals**

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A 2016 summary of CITES trade data for 47 species of seahorse, all listed as Appendix II, concluded:

“An evident need for greater universal compliance with CITES reporting requirements was identified. **The most glaring problem was a substantial mismatch in species and volumes between export records and import records**, indicating that neither dataset is complete nor reliable.”

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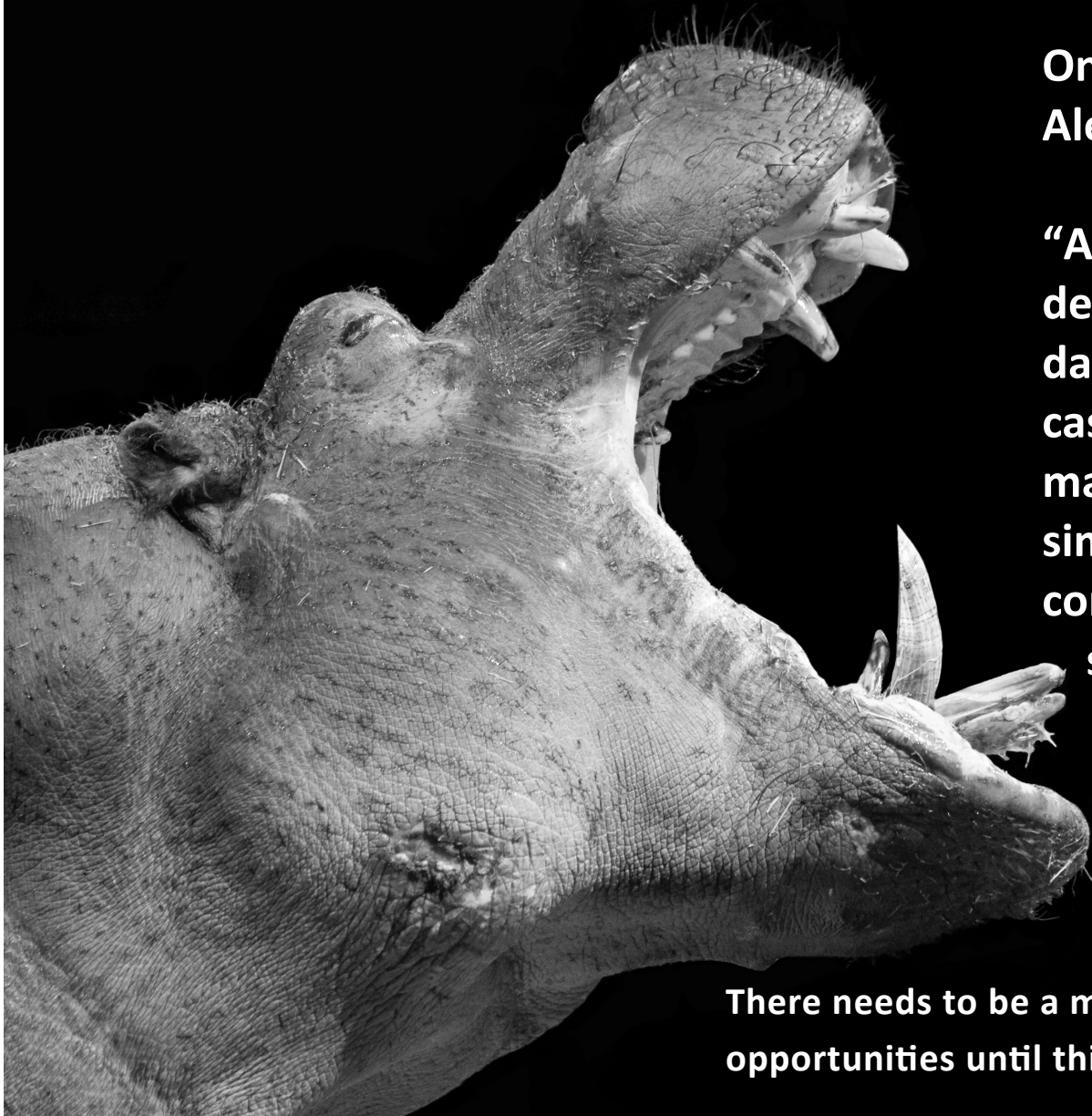


When comparing the trade volumes in hippo teeth reported between Hong Kong and Uganda from 1995 through 2013, researchers found:

- Uganda reported exports totalling 79,000 kilograms but,
- Hong Kong reported receiving just 65,000 kilograms
- **More than 14,000 kilograms of hippo teeth were missing, representing more than 2,700 individual hippos—2% of the global population**

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One of the authors of this paper, Alexandra Andersson, commented:

“A quick scan of the records demonstrates that vast and consistent data discrepancies are clear in many cases, and that the true volume of many traded endangered species is simply unknown. This is alarming, considering the reason that all of these species are included in CITES is because they are vulnerable to over-exploitation, and extinction”.

There needs to be a moratorium on any additional and new trade opportunities until this system is decisively fixed.

A black and white close-up photograph of a rhinoceros's head, showing its thick, wrinkled skin and a large horn. The rhino is looking towards the right. The background is solid black.

**There needs to be a moratorium
on any additional quotas and
new trade opportunities until
this system is decisively fixed.**

Because Nature Needs More

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) has had only 1 review in the 44 years it has been in force.

That single review was in 1994 and there has been NO review since.

What else happened in 1994?

1. Nelson Mandela is elected as president of South Africa.
2. Rwandan President and Burundi President die when a missile shoots down their jet near Kigali, Rwanda. The Rwandan genocide begins.
3. Ayrton Senna is killed in an accident during the San Marino Grand Prix.
4. O. J. Simpson flees, in a low-speed chase, from police in his white Ford Bronco, before he surrenders.
5. The last Russian troops leave Germany and the allied occupation of Berlin ends
6. Microsoft announces it will no longer sell/support the MS-DOS operating system separately from Microsoft Windows.
7. The car ferry MS Estonia sinks in the Baltic Sea, killing 852 people.
8. The first passengers travel through the Channel Tunnel.
9. Russian president Boris Yeltsin orders troops into Chechnya.
10. Fred West is remanded in custody, charged with murdering 12 people (including two of his own daughters)
11. Apple releases the first Macintosh computers to use the new PowerPC Microprocessors
12. Online service America Online offers gateway to World Wide Web for the first time
13. The Sony PlayStation was launched together with its competitor the Sega Saturn
14. Amazon and Yahoo were both founded
15. The Lion King hits the cinema
16. Nirvana frontman, Kurt Cobain, committed suicide

Why haven't the 183 CITES signatories called for a review for 25 years? And why has corporate conservation been complicit?

A lot has changed in the world since 1994, but not CITES. It is time for a comprehensive review because Nature Needs More