

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-22 July 2011

Periodic review of animal species included in the CITES Appendices

Periodic review of Felidae

PERIODIC REVIEW OF FELIDAE [DECISION 13.93 (REV. COP15)]

1. This document has been prepared by the Scientific Authority of the United States of America* at the request of the Animals Committee Chair.
2. At the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Doha, March 2010), the Parties adopted the revised Decision 13.93, which directs the Animals Committee to provide a report at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress of the review of all Felidae, particularly the review of *Lynx* spp. and look-alike issues.
3. The United States has completed its review of *Lynx* spp. and has submitted a separate document reporting the outcome of the *Lynx* spp. review for the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, July 2011). The current document, therefore, provides a status update on the remaining Felidae species and recommendations for completion of the Felidae review.
4. At the 23rd meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, April 2008), a working group met to discuss the strategy for the Periodic Review of Felidae and made a priority list of recommendations (see document AC23 WG3 Doc. 1) for species to review. The recommendations were accepted by the Animals Committee, including:
 - a) A review of *Panthera onca*, volunteered by Mexico
 - b) A review of the genus *Prionailurus* which includes *P. bengalensis*, *P. iriomotensis*, *P. planiceps*, *P. rubiginosus* and *P. viverrinus*
 - c) Assigning a low priority for review to the following species:
 - Catopuma badia*
 - Felis bieti*
 - Felis chaus*
 - Felis manul*
 - Felis margarita*
 - Felis nigripes*
 - Felis silvestris*
 - The genus *Leopardus* which includes *L. braccatus*, *L. colocolo*, *L. geoffroyi*, *L. guigna*, *L. jacobitus*, *L. pajeros*, *L. pardalis*, *L. tigrinus* and *L. wiedii*
 - Profelis aurata*

* 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.

Puma concolor
Puma yagouaroundi

d) Eliminating the following species from the review:

Acinonyx jubatus
Caracal caracal
Catopuma temminckii
Leptailurus serval
Neofelis nebulosa
Panthera leo
Panthera pardus
Panthera tigris
Pardofelis marmorata
Uncia uncia

5. Following the 23rd meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, April 2008), the Secretariat sent Notification to the Parties No. 2008/049 requesting the Parties to undertake a review of the Felidae species identified by the Committee. Aside from *Panthera onca*, which had been volunteered by Mexico, no Parties offered to conduct a review for the species recommended for review by the Committee.
6. Mexico has completed its review of *Panthera onca* and has submitted a document reporting on this review to the 25th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, July 2011).
7. At the 24th meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, April 2009), the Committee noted that no additional Parties had volunteered to conduct a review of Felidae species.
8. Canada is currently considering conducting a review of *Puma concolor cougar* and *Puma concolor coryi*.
9. In order to complete the Periodic Review of Felidae, we have provided a list of recommendations in the Annex to this document for consideration by the Committee. We provide this list of recommendations as a discussion tool for determining how the Periodic Review of Felidae will be completed.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMPLETION OF THE PERIODIC REVIEW OF FELIDAE

- A. Notification to the Parties: The United States recommends that the Secretariat send a final Notification to the Parties urging range countries of the Felidae species remaining on the list for review (see below) consider taking the lead on these reviews. If, by the 26th meeting of the Animals Committee, no Parties have assumed the responsibility for these reviews, we recommend that the Animals Committee consider that the remaining species are appropriately placed in the Appendices and remove them from the list of species to be reviewed.
- B. Prionailurus species: We note that *P. planiceps* and *P. viverrinus* are considered endangered by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and *P. rubiginosus* is considered vulnerable, with all three species experiencing decreasing populations. Furthermore, both *P. bengalensis* and *P. rubiginosus* are split-listed in CITES, with some populations being included in Appendix I and others in Appendix II. Therefore, given the conservation concerns, the split-listing status, and the volume of international trade in this complex of species, we would like to recommend that the *Prionailurus* complex receive the highest priority for review. Further, we recommend that a review of *Prionailurus* spp. be conducted before the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- C. Panthera leo: We note that at the 23rd meeting of the Animals Committee (Geneva, April 2008), the Committee removed *Panthera leo* from the Felidae review, consistent with Resolution Conf. 14.8 c) ii) A., which states that species that were the subject of listing proposals at the previous two meetings of the Conference of the Parties (whether or not the proposals were adopted) should not be considered for review. Kenya had submitted a proposal on this species (CoP13 Prop. 6) for consideration at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, October 2004) and then withdrew the proposal in favor of conducting a series of workshops on this species among range countries to improve its management. Since two meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP14 and CoP15) have since passed and the workshops and other research have been conducted producing additional information on the conservation and status of this species (eg., Mésochina et al. 2010a, Mésochina et al. 2010b, Mésochina et al. 2010c, Packer et al. 2011, Chardonnet et al. 2009, Packer et al. 2009), we recommend that the Committee add this species as a high priority for review, to be conducted before the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- D. Puma concolor cougar and Puma concolor coryi: Recognizing that Canada is considering conducting a review of *P. concolor cougar* and *P. concolor coryi*, the United States agrees to contribute to this review as a range state for these subspecies.
- E. Lower Priority Species: We recommend maintaining the following species as a lower priority for review, consistent with the recommendation by the 23rd meeting of the Animals Committee (see document AC23 WG3 Doc. 1):
- *Catopuma badia*
 - The genus *Felis*, including *F. bieti*, *F. chaus*, *F. manul*, *F. margarita*, *F. nigripes*, and *F. silvestris*
 - The genus *Leopardus*, including *L. braccatus*, *L. colocolo*, *L. geoffroyi*, *L. guigna*, *L. jacobitus*, *L. pajeros*, *L. pardalis*, *L. tigrinus*, and *L. wiedii*
 - *Profelis aurata*
 - *Puma yagouaroundi*

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