

(in the original language / dans la langue d'origine / en el idioma original)

Notification 2018/002 Asian Big Cat Captive Facilities

Australia only breeds big cats in approved zoos as part of non-commercial breeding programs managed by the Australasian Zoo and Aquarium Association. The Zoo and Aquarium Association has strict animal transaction and disposal policies in place.

Under Australia's CITES-implementing legislation, the Australian Government only permits the export of live Asian big cats to legitimate zoos that exhibit animals for conservation education purposes or participate in approved conservation breeding programs. Parts from animals may only be exported for eligible non-commercial purposes, such as scientific research or education.

----- Forwarded by Pascal PERRAUD/UNEP/GVA/UNO on 05-03-18 09:07 -----

From: Claudia.Mello@ibama.gov.br
To: info@cites.org
Cc: Octavio.Valente@ibama.gov.br, ugo.vercillo@mma.gov.br
Date: 28-02-18 11:42
Subject: Response Notif. 2018/002

Dear CITES Secretariat,

In response to the Notification to the parties n.º 2018/002, we inform that in Brazil, the maintenance, the reproduction and the importation of animals of species of the genus *Panthera* exotic to the Brazilian territory are only allowed with authorization of the competent governmental environmental service. Reproduction is authorized only for zoological gardens which have breeding programs for the intended species and which have facilities for keeping the offspring even when they reach adulthood. Trade in these animals is only allowed among zoological gardens.

Best regards,

Claudia M. C. de Mello
Management authority
CITES/Brazil

Claudia M. C. de Mello
Diretoria de Uso de Biodiversidade e Florestas
Coordenação de Comércio Exterior
Coordenadora

CITES Notification No 2018/002
Asian big cat captive facilities

February 21, 2018

Report by Germany

In Germany, there are several facilities, especially zoos, where live specimens of Asian big cats are kept. As overview, we refer to the webpage <http://www.zootierliste.de/en>, especially under <http://www.zootierliste.de/en/?klasse=1&ordnung=115&familie=11508>, which provides information about keeping those species [clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*), Asiatic lion (*Panthera leo persica*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*) within its Asian range, tiger (*Panthera tigris*) and snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*)] in captivity. Most animals are bred in captivity. If such an animal dies it may be stuffed in few cases. The zoological garden may take some parts and derivatives for scientific or educational purposes. According to our domestic regulations on animal welfare and animal epidemic diseases these institutions are obliged to dispose the remaining parts and carcasses of the dead animals in specific facilities to destroy this material completely. According to our knowledge Asian big cats that die in captivity are not preserved in order to get bones for commercial or private purposes.

Since 1996 nearly all imported or exported live specimens have been of captive-bred origin.

Only few trade (import/export) cases refer to parts and derivatives, mostly imports as trophy parts. Since 1996, 258 bones of the species *Panthera pardus* have been imported from African countries for scientific purposes only.

For the time being we have no information that in Germany there is a market for parts, derivatives and products (especially bones), of Asian big cats. In addition, we have no information that illegal trade in such parts and derivatives (especially bones) occurred in Germany, especially not from or through such facilities keeping live Asian big cats in Germany.

Following legal framework does apply:

All species of Asian big cats [clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*), Asiatic lion (*Panthera leo persica*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*) within its Asian range, tiger (*Panthera tigris*) and snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*)] are listed in Annex A of EU Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 and are strictly protected by our domestic legislation. In general, commercial trade within the EU is prohibited. The prohibition is applicable to specimens of Annex A-listed species. Specific exemptions from the internal trade prohibition through the issuance of a certificate (certificate for commercial use) on a case-by-case basis may be granted (especially in case of specimens bred in captivity). For the time being we were not informed that German authorities have issued those certificates for bones from the species of Asian big cats as mentioned above. However, within the EU there are pre-Convention specimens (imported before the species concerned was first included in the Appendices to the Convention), especially skins, which may be used for commercial purposes through issuance of a EU certificate.

Legally imported trophies may not be used for commercial purposes.

Review and policy:

Hence, for the time being we do not think that stricter regulations are needed; the current legal framework is sufficient to react to illegal activities in Germany.

In 2015 Germany reported on illegal activities (see Notification 2015/002) where illegally imported specimens of *Panthera pardus* and *Panthera tigris* were seized by German custom offices.

Michael Müller-Boge
CITES MA Germany



**MINISTRY
OF ENVIRONMENT
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Directorate for Nature, Biodiversity and Landscape Protection

CITES Secretariat
International Environment House
11, Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva
Switzerland

Your ref.	Our ref.	Attended to by/phone	Date
	4292 /2018-6.2	Dana Kmecová/+421 2 5956 2170	23 rd February 2018

**Subject: Resolutions Conf. 10.10.(Rev. CoP17), 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) and Decision 17.226
- reply of Slovakia**

Based on the Notifications No 2017/079, 2017/080 and 2018/002 we are sending the following information relating to Resolution Conf. 10.10.(Rev. CoP17), Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) and Decision 17.226:

1. **Resolution Conf. 10.10.(Rev. CoP17) on Trade in elephant specimens** (Notification No 2017/079)

Enclosed you can find the completed table for reporting of government-held stocks of raw elephant ivory including correcting data from the previous report.

2. **Resolution Conf. 9.14 (Rev. CoP17) on Conservation of and trade in African and Asian rhinoceroses** (Notification No 2017/080)

Enclosed you can find the completed table for reporting of government-held stocks of rhinoceros horns (*Ceratotherium simum simum*). Slovakia confiscated 8 rhino horns in 2013 and 2014 (seizure in 2012). In comparison with reporting in 2014 the stocks were reduced to 2 rhino horns; the rest 6 horns were burned in September 2014.

3. Decision 17.226 (Notification No 2018/002 Asian big cat facilities)

There are several private breeding facilities of Asian big cats (especially tigers) in Slovakia. They are regularly inspected by Slovak Environmental Inspectorates. In 2017 they did not find any violation of CITES legislation.

In 2013 one tiger skull was confiscated by Czech Customs Authorities from the car of Vietnamese person. The skull came from private breeder of tigers in Slovakia. In order to prevent such illegal activities Slovak Cites Management Authority has decided to implement some new provisions regarding disposal of specimens that die in captivity in national CITES legislation. Entry into force of the amendment of the CITES Act is foreseen in the end of 2018.

Kind regards

MINISTERSTVO
ŽIVOTNÉHO PROSTREDIA SR
nám. Ľudovíta Štúra 1
812 35 BRATISLAVA
-66-



Katarína Butkovská
Director General

Enclosures: 2

CC: European Commission (heidi.fuehrmann@ec.europa.eu)

From: "B.O. CITES" <cites.ssc@comercio.mineco.es>
To: "info@cites.org" <info@cites.org>
Cc: "Gael.DE-ROTALIER@ec.europa.eu" <Gael.DE-ROTALIER@ec.europa.eu>, "Heidi.Fuehrmann@ec.europa.eu" <Heidi.Fuehrmann@ec.europa.eu>
Date: 20-02-18 15:14
Subject: Decisión 17.226 Establecimientos de cría en cautividad de grandes felinos asiáticos

R. S. EA0011316s18N0000205

Buenos días,

En relación con la información que nos han solicitado, indicar que en España contamos diferentes instalaciones (centros zoológicos) en los cuales se encuentran especímenes correspondientes a *Panthera leo persica*, *Panthera pardus* y *Panthera tigris*.

Algunos de ellos son instituciones o refugios que no crían grandes felinos asiáticos con fines comerciales sino que están incluidos en programas de conservación Europeos.

Estos ejemplares, de los cuales se conoce su origen, han sido identificados y marcados. Asimismo, cada centro informa de nacimientos y muertes. De hecho, cuando se produce un nuevo nacimiento se realiza una inspección física para verificarlo.

Relación de nº de ejemplares por centro

	Algeciras	Vigo	Madrid	Palma de Mallorca	Coruña	Alicante
<i>Panthera leo persica</i>	2	2	2	3	X	1
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	5	1	2	X	X	4
<i>Panthera tigris</i>	3	2	4	10	1	24
<i>Panthera tigris altaica</i>	X	X	3	X	X	X
<i>Uncia uncia</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X

Centros en España

Algeciras

- Zoológico de Castellar
- Zoológico de Jerez de la Frontera

Vigo

- Zoo de Vigo

Madrid

- Zoo Aquarium de Madrid
- Fauna y Acción

Palma de Mallorca

- Natura Parc
- Safari Zoo

Coruña

- 062CO

Alicante

- Terra Natura
- Safari Aitana

- AAP Primadomus
- Safari Elche

Málaga

- OASYS Parque Temático del Desierto de Tabernas
- PARQUE DE LA NATURALEZA SELWO
- PARQUE DE LA NATURALEZA PEÑA ESCRITA
- BIOPARC FUENGIROLA

Muchas gracias.

Saludos,

Lucia Frechilla Flórez

Jefe de Servicio – Autoridad Administrativa CITES

Subdirección General de Inspección, Certificación y Asistencia Técnica de Comercio Exterior

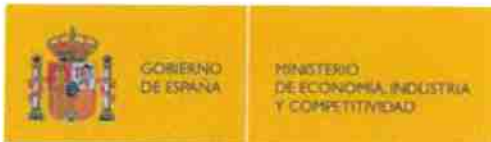
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No. 0902.3/ ๔๕๐



CITES Management Authority
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Bangkok 10900, THAILAND
Tel./Fax. (66)2 940 6449

๑๖ February B.E. 2561 (2018)

Dear CITES Secretariat,

Subject: Asian big cat captive facilities

Reference is made to Notification to the Parties no. 2018/002 dated 11 January 2018. Please find the attachment for the report for your consideration.

Your continued assistance is, as always, highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



(Mr. Somkiat Soontornpitakkool)

Director of CITES MA of Thailand

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation

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Captive Asian Big Cats

1. Regulation and Control on breeding captive Asian Big Cats to protect from illegal trafficking.

1.1 The Establishment of a registry for caged tigers in public zoological gardens

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP)

- established a registry for safekeeping evidential documentations on caged tigers and updating it to the latest iteration according to the information collected from caged tigers as well as assigning a unique marking (microchip), collecting DNA samples for examinations, and photograph tiger stripe patterns from all 6 sides.

Zoological Park Organization

- prepared for profiling of each individual animals which includes identification numbers (microchip) and gender of animals. If a specimen was born from breeding from parents from within the establishment, also include the parent's identification numbers. Personal information such as date of birth, medical history, illness history, vaccination history, and other important information such as living habitats, exhibition sites, government zoological garden transportation logs, and necropsy report, which will collect records from birth to death in order.

1.2 Terms and conditions in transferring and transporting specimens between zoological gardens

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP)

- Establish an account that shows species, population, identification mark, and documents on the acquisition of the specimen that's being transferred. Notify the DNP for consideration before transferring and transporting every time while giving importance to the safety of the specimen and general public. A veterinarian must be on-duty to take responsibility over the caretaking of the specimen. The exchange or transfer of wildlife species ownership between public zoological gardens must include the objective of showcasing the specimen in public exhibitions, without intention of advertised selling, in line with the natural business of the public zoological garden(s).

- When transporting a transferred specimen, both public zoological gardens must notify the change in wildlife population to the related official authority for further inspection.

Zoological Park Organization

- A mandatory health inspection will be conducted before transportation, as well as an inspection on the specimen's identification mark (microchip) for registry inspection and preparation for transfer. For each transport, a signature from the government zoological garden's management and the Zoological Park Organization must be present alongside input for the transfer in the population control program.

2. The supervision of operations in accordance with regulations and control. Guidelines in managing the specimens or parts of captive Asian big cats

2.1 The supervision of operations in accordance with regulations and control

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP)

- Enact an operation for controlled regulation of protected specimen and their carcasses (tiger) in the boundary of public zoological gardens. Enact at least once a month in strict accordance to the law. If a violation of the law or duty was found then law enforcement will be strictly enforced.

- In the event of a change in tiger population by either birth or death, the changes in population must be notified to the DNP immediately within 24 hours through the governmental line 1362 for official inspection. The notification must also notify officially with the according form on the increase or decrease in population within 60 days.

- Newborn tigers are subjected to identification marking (microchip) within 90 days. They are also expected to have their DNA samples collected and be registered in the stripe pattern database.

- Newly deceased tigers are to be kept in preservation by the officials. Veterinarians are to conduct necropsy for cause of death, inspect its identification mark, and extract a sample for DNA inspection. The remains of the tigers are not to be moved outside the vicinity of the public zoological gardens until it is inspected by officials.

- Breeding and reproductions are forbidden to regulate the population of tiger. This is to be done by separating the cages of male and female tigers, preventing all contact, and operate under the Notification of the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment B.E. 29 January 2558 (2015) on "Terms of caretaking protected species B.E. 2558"

Zoological Park Organization

- Newborn tigers are given health inspections and identification numbers (microchip) to be noted in the specimen's history after a number of time has passed. Cubs are to be given a maximum time window of 3 months of care after birth if the mothers of the cubs are willing, otherwise they'll receive at most 1 month of care from officials before they receive the above. Observation will be made and recorded in report form for the duration of the newborn care periods. The completed report will then be sent along to the Organization management as the newborn cub's birth report along with its breed history in the population program.

- Newly deceased tigers are to be identified via identification numbers (microchip). Veterinarians are then to conduct the necropsy to find out the cause of death and record photographs of illness or infection for evidence. They are then expected to summarize each specimen's death in a detailed report. In the case of an important specimen, veterinarians from outside the organization will be invited to the necropsy procedure.

- The cages of the government zoological garden's Asian big cats use tight locks and securities. Keys for the animal cages are allowed to be carried by the only caretakers.

Security systems include Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, security guards, and caretaker staffs to observe and ensure the tigers' safety.

2.2 Guidelines in managing the specimens or parts of captive Asian big cats

(1) In the cases of safekeeping.

- State your intention to the inspection official with a completed registry according to the official form within 60 days. The form must state which parts of tiger will be kept for safekeeping such as the skin, bones, teeth, furs, claws, or etc. and their individual identification mark.

- The preservation of biopsy, skeleton, organs, or skins of the diseased or dead specimen for research must be properly registered by species, sex, date, and identification number (microchip) on the preservation utilities and have its record registered in the laboratory. The samples will be kept in a sealed room, locked by keys, and where all withdrawals and deposits are recorded every time.

- In the case of sample preservation for the research of Zoological Park Organization, the research must pass the approval of the Committee of Animal for Scientific Development of the Zoological Park Organization first. When samples are withdrawn or deposited, they are expected to be clearly recorded on which species, quantity, and identification numbers are transported. In the case of an inter-agency cooperation, an official ownership document will be made and stating the species, quantity, flaw, identification number, objective of usage, and length of ownership.

(2) In the case of disposal.

- Disposal methods will be through incineration, the presence of an official are mandatory for every disposals.

3. Species and Population of Captive Asian Big Cats.

Species	Government-held		Privately-held	
	Live (no.)	Carcass (no.)	Live (no.)	Carcass (no.)
1. Clouded leopard (<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>)	48	-	5	-
2. Asiatic lion (<i>Panthera leo persica</i>)	-	-		-
3. Leopard (<i>Panthera pardus</i>)	24	-	111	-
4. Tiger (<i>Panthera tigris</i>)	182	-	1,464	25
5. Siberian (<i>Panthera tigris altaica</i>)	6	-	-	-
6. Corbett's tiger (<i>Panthera tigris corbetti</i>)	24	-	-	-
7. Bengal tiger (<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>)	12	2	-	-
8. White tiger (<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>)	10	-	-	-
9. Snow leopard (<i>Uncia uncia</i>)	-	-	-	-



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**
VIETNAM ADMINISTRATION OF FORESTRY
VIETNAM CITES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



Ha Noi, 28 February 2018

To: CITES Secretariat

Sub: *Implementation of CITES Secretariat's notification concerning Asian big cat facilities*

Pursuant to the decision 17.226 and Notification of CITES Secretariat 2018/002 dated 11 January 2018 on Asia big cat facilities, the Viet Nam CITES MA would like to inform CITES Secretariat our management of the subject as follow

Currently, there are 03 species of Asian big cat keeping in facilities for non – commercial purpose in Vietnam including: Tiger (*Panthera tigris*), Clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*) and Leopard (*Panthera pardus*). These species are listed in the List of endangered, rare and precious species prioritized to protect at the highest level according to Vietnam's legal regulations. The captive breeding for commercial purpose is totally prohibited by Laws

I. METHODS OF MANAGING TIGER, CLOUDED LEOPARD AND LEOPARD FACILITIES

The management of Tiger (*Panthera tigris*), Clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*) and Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) facilities in Vietnam has been strictly implemented, as follows:

1. Legal regulations related to management of Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard facilities

- Law on Biodiversity 2008.
- Law on Forestry 2017.
- Law on Animal Health 2015.
- Law on Amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Penal Code No. 100/2015/QH14
- Decree No. 160/2013/NĐ-CP
- Decree No. 82/2006/NĐ-CP.

According to Vietnam's legal regulations

(1) Forbidding acts of illegal poaching, exploiting, selling, purchasing, breeding, consuming, trafficking, slaughtering Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard and their specimens.

(2) Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard are bred only for biodiversity conservation, scientific research in biodiversity conservation facilities that have been registered with provincial People's Committee according to the Decree No. 160/2013/NĐ-CP.

(3) Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard facilities shall register as biodiversity conservation facilities with provincial People's Committee. Asian big cat species transfer activities among facilities are implemented only for biodiversity conservation, scientific research purpose. Asian big cat species transfer and transportation activities need the approval from provincial People's Committee according to the Decree No. 160/2013/NĐ-CP.

(4) All acts of illegal poaching, exploiting, selling, purchasing, breeding, consuming, trafficking, slaughtering Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard and their specimens shall become subjects to penalty of maximum of 15 years of imprisonment according to Law on Amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Penal Code No. 100/2015/QH14

2. System of management authorities

Managing Asian big cat species is the responsibility of numerous central and local government agencies, law enforcement agencies.

- Central authorities: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

- Provincial authorities: provincial People's Committee, provincial Forest Protection Departments (FPDs), Police force. Provincial FPDs are the primary agency which directly involve in managing Asian big cat facilities on number of animal individuals, the origin of individuals, number of Asian big cat individuals entering and leaving facilities. Additionally, the environment police force regularly inspects the number of number of big cat individuals, the origin of individuals.

Local FPDs and environment police process their inspection in Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard facilities periodically and unexpectedly in order to discover, prevent and handle violations in accordance with Vietnam's legal regulations.

Besides, veterinary agencies inspect the epidemy; environment agencies inspect environmental specifications in Asian big cat facilities.

3. Communications measures

In addition to inspection and handling of violations, forest ranger forces regularly spread propaganda to Asian big cat facilities owners and the community about legal regulations related to wildlife management, protection in general and Asian big cat management in particular. Facilities owners are being guided to strictly follow legal regulations related to Asian big cat farming activities.

4. Implementing State's regulations

All violations on Tiger, Clouded leopard and Leopard shall be handled according to legal regulations. For example, in 2015 and 2016, law enforcement agencies in Vietnam discovered and arrested 07 cases of illegal tiger trade, including 06 cases being judged (01 case can not be prosecuted since offender can not be detected).

II. DESTROY DEAD TIGER, CLOUDED LEOPARD AND LEOPARD SPECIMENS

According to Decree No. 160/2013/NĐ-CP, dead tiger, clouded leopard and leopard in facilities are handled as follows:

- (1) Transfer to scientific, environmental education, specialized museums facilities for research, storage, education in raising awareness for the community;
- (2) Disposal by burn in case of death due to epidemic or the above measure can not be implemented.

III. PLAN OF MANAGING TIGER, CLOUDED LEOPARD AND LEOPARD FACILITIES AND DNA SAMPLING

1. Mark Asia big cat by microchip and DNA sampling

Viet Nam CITES Management Authority have plan and seeking funding and technical support to marking and collect DNA samples of all Asia big cat individuals that keeping in facilities and hope that CITES Secretariat can support us.

2. Cooperate with HSI to integrate wildlife protection content into the secondary education

The Curriculum contained wildlife conservation content will be tested in the end of 2018 and hope that can be applied widely in the whole primary schools.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



IN REPLY REFER TO
FWS/DMA/MA 5-09

Mr. John Scanlon, Secretary-General
CITES Secretariat
International Environment House
11 Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine-Geneve
Switzerland

FEB 26 2018

VIA EMAIL: info@cites.org

Dear Mr. Scanlon:

This letter provides the U.S. response to Notification to the Parties No. 2018/002 on Asian big cat captive facilities. In accordance with Decision 17.226 on *Asian big cats (Felidae spp.)*, the United States provide the following information concerning U.S. management practices and controls in place to regulate facilities that keep Asian big cats in captivity. A number of federal laws, summarized below, regulate the import, export, domestic sale, and transport of tigers and other Asian big cats.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

The clouded leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*) within its Asian range, tiger (*Panthera tigris*), and snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*) are listed as Endangered under the ESA. As such, there are strict controls over the killing of specimens, the import and export of any specimens, and the commercial sale across State lines (within the United States). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may grant authorization for activities that can be shown to provide a conservation benefit to the species or for scientific research. While the ESA does not prohibit commercial sales outright, it restricts the nature of any transaction with an endangered species. Under the ESA, captive-bred tigers may not be killed, nor may their body parts be sold across State lines or exported.

Lacey Act

The Lacey Act prohibits the following activities, as well as any efforts to engage in them: the import, export, transport, acquisition, receipt, sale, or purchase in interstate or foreign commerce of any fish or wildlife taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of any wildlife law or regulation of any State, or in violation of any foreign wildlife law. The Lacey Act also makes it illegal to import, export, or transport in interstate commerce (across U.S. State lines) any container or package containing fish or wildlife unless it has "previously been plainly marked,

labeled, or tagged" in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service marking regulations.

Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act (RTCA)

In 1994, the U.S. Congress enacted the RTCA, which established the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Fund to support on-the-ground conservation for these species. In 1998 Congress amended the RTCA through the Rhino and Tiger Product Labeling Act to prohibit the import, export and sale of any product for human consumption or application containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, any substance derived from any species or subspecies of tiger or rhinoceros.

Animal Welfare Act (AWA)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) is charged with implementing the AWA. Regulations under the AWA set standards for the humane care and treatment for certain animals that are exhibited to the public, sold for use as pets, used in research, or transported commercially. Facilities using regulated animals for regulated purposes must provide their animals with adequate housing, sanitation, nutrition, water, and veterinary care, and they must protect their animals from extreme weather and temperatures. Additionally, anyone importing, buying, selling, or transporting in interstate commerce (across U.S. State lines) animals foreign to the United States (wild or domestic) must be licensed. Licenses are also required to sell domestically-bred exotic animals. For licensed animals, standards include periodic inspections covering issues of humane handling and care, and these records concerning this care must be made available to inspectors.

Captive Wildlife Safety Act (CWSA)

The CWSA makes it illegal to move live lions, tigers, leopards, snow leopards, clouded leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, or cougars, or any hybrid combination of any of these species across U.S. State lines or the U.S. border unless the activity meets specific criteria.

Regulations concerning the possession and use of tigers and other big cats differ at the U.S. State level, with some States banning private possession and others allowing it under certain conditions. Nevertheless, there is no evidence to indicate that tigers or other Asian big cats are entering illegal trade from or through U.S. captive facilities, either domestically or internationally. If you have any questions concerning the information we have provided, or would like copies of any of the U.S. regulations summarized above, please feel free to contact me at email: craig_hoover@fws.gov.

Sincerely,



Craig Hoover, Chief
Division of Management Authority