



Wildlife Trade Control CAFTA-DR Regional Gap Analysis Report

TRAFFIC North America

April 2009



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Wildlife Trade Control
CAFTA-DR Regional Gap Analysis Report

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This document is the product of a project carried out by TRAFFIC North America, in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), with support from the U.S. Department of State, in order to improve implementation of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) and other wildlife trade regulations, providing guidance to the actions and approach of TRAFFIC in the context of environmental cooperation of the CAFTA-DR.

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Purpose of Regional Gap Analysis and Methodology

The trade in wild plants and animals is a complex and challenging issue, which many governments and organizations internationally have struggled with to reduce illegal and unsustainable elements. The countries that have signed the Central America - Dominican Republic – United States Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR) are no exception to this challenge. There is a clear need to understand the drivers of illegal and unsustainable trade in wildlife to formulate approaches to improve the capacity of government authorities to enforce existing laws and regulations in a coordinated manner. Governments need to work with stakeholders to support management of wildlife and deter any illegal activities that are currently commonplace.

TRAFFIC North America (TRAFFIC) in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) received a grant from the U.S. Department of State for a project designed to undertake an overview “gap analysis” related to priority issues concerning implementation of wildlife trade controls in the CAFTA-DR signatory countries of Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. This project’s primary goal is to assist CAFTA-DR countries with better implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and wildlife trade regulations, by guiding TRAFFIC’s capacity building approach and activities within the CAFTA-DR environmental cooperation context. The project undertook analyses of the best approaches to strengthen capacity at local, national and regional levels to improve the implementation and enforcement of existing wildlife laws, in particular, CITES. This gap analysis does not cover timber related concerns however, as another CAFTA-DR implementing agency, the U.S. Forest Service, is supporting efforts to address trade in that commodity specifically. In this report “Central America” refers to those countries that are party to the CAFTA-DR agreement, therefore Belize and Panama are not included under this grouping.

The information contained in this gap analysis was obtained from desk research and detailed questionnaires that were distributed by mail, in person and via e-mail to each of the CITES Scientific and Management Authorities as well as other stakeholders in each of the countries, including law enforcement agencies. Response rates to questionnaires were lower than originally anticipated at the beginning of the project. In addition, over the past year TRAFFIC held in-person interviews at a number of key meetings and workshops including CAFTA-DR Coordination and Implementation meetings and Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) CITES Expert Group meetings. These were quite useful

Gap Analysis components:

- Main wildlife trade issues in each country
- Species of concern in national and international trade
- Wildlife protection legal framework
- Authorities responsible for developing and implementing national and international legislation
- Familiarity with CITES among key actors
- Key ports of entry where CITES control and monitoring takes place or could take place
- Description of the law enforcement chain and key actors
- Communication, coordination, and collaboration among authorities
- Available materials, human and financial resources for implementation and management
- Existing national training/capacity building schemes for agencies addressing wildlife issues

opportunities in terms of developing contacts with government departments and agencies and in particular, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, as well as understanding how CITES is implemented and coordinated in Central America.

After vetting country-specific assessments with each country, TRAFFIC has produced this regional report that synthesizes information from each of the six country assessments and makes recommendations for regional capacity building approaches. This analysis includes an overview of the legal structure and functional ways that wildlife trade is managed in CAFTA-DR countries. The analysis also includes a synthesis of recommendations and strategies focused on reducing illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade by improving the capacity, technical skills and knowledge among authorities, enforcement staff and other persons involved in wildlife management and enforcement of wildlife laws. This analysis will provide both a useful framework for guiding TRAFFIC's capacity building work in the region in cooperation with CAFTA-DR countries and will also provide a way to promote communication and facilitate cooperation among key authorities responsible for wildlife law enforcement and management. This regional report will be in the public domain but will not attribute capacity needs, gaps or challenges to any particular country without that government's approval. We are grateful to the governments of each of the CAFTA-DR countries for their cooperation in working with TRAFFIC on this project.

Status of Biodiversity

The five Central American countries of CAFTA-DR, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, although different politically and culturally, form an interconnected landscape that acts as a bridge between North and South America. These countries in Central America together with Belize and Panama, support 7% of the Earth's species within a biological corridor that plays a vital role in the maintenance of long-term evolutionary processes in the Western Hemisphere. The Central American region is geographically diverse, from volcanoes, rift lakes, and coral reefs to wetlands, semi-deserts, rainforests, and the world's second largest barrier reef system, the Mesoamerican Reef. Along with the region's impressive biodiversity are equally impressive threats. Although relatively intact, the Selva Maya in Guatemala, the Miskito region in Honduras and Nicaragua, the Talamancan-Isthmian Pacific Forests in Costa Rica and Panama, are threatened by inappropriate land use, such as uncontrolled agricultural development, commercial logging and urban growth (WWF, 2008a) as well as hunting and wildlife trade for local and international use. The Mesoamerican Reef, a jewel of the Caribbean because of its array of reef types, luxuriance of corals, and nearly pristine condition supports important economic activities, such as tourism and fisheries, which continue to grow and contribute significantly to the national economies in the region. Unfortunately, these same activities are also the major threats to the integrity of this unique ecoregion, since they often produce the destruction of coastal habitat, sedimentation, water pollution and over-exploitation of marine resources (WWF, 2008a).

The Dominican Republic (DR), located in the Caribbean Sea, shares the island of Hispaniola with the country of Haiti. With an area of 48,733 km² (18,816 sq mi) the Dominican Republic has a variety of ecosystems including portions of the Greater Antillean Moist Forests, Greater Antillean Pine Forests, Greater Antillean Streams, and the Greater Antilles & Bahamian marine ecosystems. This country has a impressive amount of biological diversity for a relatively small

area and there are 70 fish species, 60 amphibian species, 141 reptile species, 254 bird species, 33 mammal species and 5,600 vascular plant species identified in the Dominican Republic (Natl. Geog. Soc. 1995, Olson & Dinerstein 1998, Olson & Dinerstein 1999, República Dominicana 2002). Over a third of the vascular plants in the Dominican Republic are endemic and many are especially prone to becoming threatened with habitat loss because of their restricted distribution. Over 80% of all reptiles and amphibians and 10% of birds in the Dominican Republic are endemic (<http://jmarcano.netfirms.com>). According to USAID's 2002 Diagnostico: Situación Legal e Institucional de la Biodiversidad en República Dominicana (USAID 2002) it is estimated that at least 10% of all species in the DR are threatened, particularly due to habitat loss. Estimates also suggest that almost a third of all vertebrates are threatened.

Overview of Wildlife Trade

Numerous plant and animal species found in Central America and the Dominican Republic are utilized in various ways in domestic and international trade ranging from ornamental plants, reptile skins for leather products, pets and food. The following table, although not exhaustive, describes species or groups of species that were identified by consultation with contacts in Central America and the Dominican Republic (see Annex 1) who are familiar with wildlife trade related issues (CAFTA-DR, 2007-2008). These species were highlighted because of their use in illegal, unsustainable and/or extensive trade.

FAMILY	SPANISH AND ENGLISH COMMON NAMES; SCIENTIFIC NAME	COUNTRY*	NATIVE SPECIES	NON-NATIVE SPECIES	MOST COMMON FORM OF TRADE
Atelidae	Mono congo Howler monkey <i>Alouatta palliata</i>	Nicaragua	X		Live
Cebidae	Mono araña Central America spider monkey <i>Ateles geoffroyi</i>	Nicaragua	X		Live
Cebidae	Mono cara blanca Capuchin monkey <i>Cebus capucinus</i>	Honduras, Nicaragua	X		Live
Cervidae	Cabrito, hutzil, temazate Red brocket <i>Mazama americana</i>	Guatemala	X		Hunting trophy
Cervidae	Venado cola blanca White tail deer <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	Costa Rica, Guatemala	X		Hunting trophy
Dasyproctidae	Tepezcuintle Paca <i>Agouti paca</i>	Costa Rica	X		Meat
Felidae	Tigrillo Margay <i>Leopardus wiedii</i>	Costa Rica, El Salvador	X		Live, skin
Felidae	Oncilla Ocelot <i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	Costa Rica, El Salvador	X		Live, skin
Tayassuidae	Jabali o pecari de collar White lipped peccary <i>Tayassu pecari</i>	Guatemala	X		Hunting trophy

Cracidae	Pavon Great horned guan <i>Oreophasis derbianus</i>	Guatemala	X	Live, hunting trophy
Cracidae	Crolita cojolite Crested guan <i>Penelope purpurascens</i>	Guatemala	X	Live
Cracidae	Pajuil Great curassow <i>Crax rubra</i>	Guatemala	X	Hunting trophy
Psittacidae	Loro nuca amarilla Yellow-naped Amazon <i>Amazona auropalliata</i>	El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua	X	Live
Psittacidae	Cotorra de frente blanca White-fronted Amazon <i>Amazona albifrons</i>	El Salvador, Nicaragua	X	Live
Psittacidae	Perico verde centroamericano Pacific parakeet <i>Aratinga holochlora strenua</i>	El Salvador, Guatemala	X	Live
Psittacidae	Cotorra Hispaniolan amazon <i>Amazona ventralis</i>	Dominican Republic	X	Live
Psittacidae	Perico Hispaniolan parakeet <i>Aratinga chloroptera</i>	Dominican Republic	X	Live
Psittacidae	Perico de frente roja Red-lored Amazon <i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	Guatemala, Honduras	X	Live
Psittacidae	Lapa Verde Great green macaw <i>Ara ambiguus</i>	Nicaragua	X	Live
Psittacidae	Perico frente-naranja Orange-fronted parakeet <i>Aratinga canicularis</i>	Guatemala	X	Live
Psittacidae	Loro copete azul Mealy Amazon <i>Amazona farinosa</i>	Nicaragua	X	Live
Psittacidae	Perico gorjirrojo Green parakeet <i>Aratinga holochlora</i>	El Salvador	X	Live
Psittacidae	Periquito barbinaranja Orange-chinned parakeet <i>Brotogeris vicularis</i>	Guatemala	X	Live
Psittacidae	Guara roja/Guacamaya roja Scarlet macaw <i>Ara macao</i>	Honduras, Nicaragua	X	Live
Meleagrididae	Pavo ocelado Ocellated turkey <i>Agriocharis ocellata</i>	Guatemala	X	Hunting Trophy
Rhamphastidae	Tucan Red-billed toucan <i>Rhamphastus suffuratus</i>	Nicaragua	X	Live
Rhamphastidae	Tucan pechiamarillo Chesnut-mandible toucan <i>Rhamphastus swainsoni</i>	Nicaragua	X	Live
Order Falconiformes	Aves de presa Raptors (variety of species)	El Salvador	X	Live
Boidae	Boa rosada Rosy boa <i>Lichanura trivirgata</i>	Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua	X	Live
Colubridae	Culebra Snakes (variety of species)	Dominican Republic	X	Oil

Crotalidae	Cascabel Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus durissus</i>	Guatemala	X	Live, meat, skin, rattle, taxidermy
Crotalidae	Cascabel neotropical Neotropical rattlesnake <i>Crotalus durissus</i>	Honduras	X	Live
Cheloniidae	Tortuga verde Green turtle <i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua	X	Meat, eggs, oil
Cheloniidae	Tortuga golfina Olive ridley turtle <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua	X	Meat, eggs
Cheloniidae	Tortuga baula/Tinglar Leatherback <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Dominican Republic, Nicaragua	X	Meat, eggs, oil
Cheloniidae	Tortuga carey Hawksbill turtle <i>Eretmochelys imbricate</i>	Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua	X	Shell, jewelry, accessories
Cheloniidae	Caguamo Loggerhead turtle <i>Caretta caretta</i>	Dominican Republic	X	Meat, eggs, oil
Testudinidae	Tortuga de las islas Galápagos, Galápagos tortoise <i>Geochelone nigra</i>	El Salvador	X	Live, eggs
Testudinidae	Tortuga terrestre, tortuga de espolones African spurred tortoise <i>Geochelone sulcata</i>	El Salvador	X	Live, eggs
Testudinidae	Tortuga leopardo Leopard tortoise <i>Geochelone pardalis</i>	El Salvador	X	Live, eggs
Variety of Families	Tortugas de agua dulce Freshwater turtles (variety of species)	Honduras	X	Live
Helodermatidae	Escorpion Beaded lizard <i>Heloderma horridum charlesbogerti</i>	Guatemala	X	Live
Iguanidae	Iguana común Green iguana <i>Iguana iguana</i>	Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua	X	Live, eggs
Iguanidae	Garrobo/Iguana negra Black iguana <i>Ctenosaura similis</i>	Honduras	X	Meat, eggs
Dendrobatidae	Rana camuflada Green poison dart frog <i>Dendrobates auratus</i>	Nicaragua	X	Live
Dendrobatidae	Rana dardo venenosa, rana flecha Poison dart frogs <i>Dendrobates</i> sp.	Costa Rica	X	Live
Dendrobatidae	Ranita de sangre Strawberry poison dart frog <i>Dendrobates pumilo</i>	Nicaragua	X	Live
Alligatoridae	Crocodrilo Spectacled Caiman <i>Caiman crocodilus</i>	Nicaragua	X	Leather products e.g., shoes, wallets
Crocodylidae	Crocodrilo Morelet's Crocodile <i>Crocodylus moreletii</i>	Guatemala	X	Taxidermy, skin, parts

Crocodylidae	Cocodrilo americano, cocodrilo de río American crocodile <i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	Honduras	X		Live, taxidermy, meat, skins
Class Elasmobranchia	Tiburón Shark (variety of species)	Costa Rica, El Salvador	X		Fins
Arcidae	Casco de burro Mangrove cockle <i>Anadara grandis</i>	El Salvador	X		Meat
Strombidae	Caracol / abulón Queen Conch <i>Strombus gigas</i>	El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua	X	X	Meat
Antipathidae	Coral negro Black Coral <i>Antipathes sp.</i>	Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras	X		Jewelry
Arcidae	Casco de burro Mangrove cockle <i>Anadara grandis</i>	El Salvador	X		Meat
Arecaceae	Palma Real Royal Palm <i>Roystonea hispaniolana</i>	Dominican Republic	X		Live
Arecaceae	Palma Palm <i>Neodypsis decaryi</i>	Guatemala		X	Live
Cactaceae	Cactus Cacti (variety of species)	El Salvador, Guatemala	X	X	Live
Cyatheaceae	Helochos arborescentes Tree ferns <i>Cyathea spp.</i>	Guatemala	X		Crafts, pots, boards, sticks, fibers
Cycadaceae	Cicadas Cycads <i>Cycas revoluta</i>	Costa Rica, Guatemala		X	Leaves, live
Lauraceae	Palmito, palmiche <i>Euterpe precatoria</i>	Costa Rica	X		Live
Myrtaceae	Canelilla <i>Pimenta haitensis</i>	Dominican Republic	X		Leaves
Orchidaceae	Orquídeas Orchids (variety of species)	Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras	X	X	Live
Bromeliaceae	Bromelias Bromeliads (variety of species)	El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras	X	X	Live
Zamiaceae	Zamia <i>Zamia furfuracea</i>	Costa Rica, Guatemala		X	Live

Source: (CAFTA-DR, 2007-2008) (Proyecto Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano, 2006) (Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería, Oficina Nacional CITES, 2005). Please note that all Testudinidae species included in the table are non-native captive bred, as is the case of some orchids, cacti and bromeliads from nurseries in El Salvador.

*Country column refers to instances where this species was identified as being in trade in the specific country gap analysis reports.

Wildlife Trade Exports

Trade data were analyzed to understand the general dynamics of export trade from Central America and the Dominican Republic, with specific emphasis on exports to the United States. TRAFFIC analyzed wildlife trade data available from both the United Nations Environment

Programme World Conservation Monitoring Center's (UNEP-WCMC) CITES Annual Report database and the USFWS's Law Enforcement Management Information System (LEMIS) database over a five year period between 2001 and 2005. The two datasets are generally complimentary but there are some differences that should be noted.

There are some commonly accepted departures from the *Guidelines for the Preparation of CITES Annual Reports* that impact the data held within the UNEP-WCMC CITES Trade Database (UNEP WCMC, 2004). Additionally, even though the USFWS Division of Management Authority (DMA) submits data from the LEMIS system as part of its annual report to CITES (which feeds into the UNEP-WCMC CITES Trade database), the information specific to U.S. imports does not match up consistently between the two data sets. WCMC often attempts to match CITES trade data from importing countries to the corresponding CITES trade data from exporting countries. As such, the data one receives from WCMC regarding U.S. imports of CITES species may not be based completely on the trade data on U.S. CITES imports that DMA submitted. Even with these differences, the two datasets are still extremely useful for understanding the general dynamics of trade at a macro level. Moreover, data analyzed from LEMIS also allows for a general characterization of the type and scale of illegal trade as seized and abandoned shipments can be isolated from legal shipments with the LEMIS dataset. Furthermore, LEMIS also includes trade data for selected non-CITES species, as opposed to WCMC which only includes data for CITES species.

WCMC data was used to assess the level and type of exports from Central America and the Dominican Republic to the United States and the rest of the world (RoW) and re-exports from Central America and the Dominican Republic of five different taxa groups: birds, reptiles (excluding marine turtles), marine turtles, corals and mammals. As an example of the information that was found, over the five year period, the six countries of Central America and the Dominican Republic, reported exporting over 2.5 million live reptiles from companies that have captive breeding facilities, the vast majority of which were exported from El Salvador. More than half of the total exports of live reptiles were destined for the United States. The Dominican Republic reported re-exporting over 27,000 specimens of wild coral during the five year period. Nicaragua reported exporting around 29,000 specimens from wild caught reptiles and a similar level of exports of captive bred reptile specimens. Bird trade from the region as a whole is relatively limited (most likely a result of the bird trade bans in the EU and the United States) with the exception of over 9,000 live, ranched birds from Nicaragua.

In addition to the United States, other countries are major importers of products from Central America. Specifically, the member states of the European Union, import live plants and animals in significant numbers from Central America. For example, over 800 000 live CITES-listed reptiles (mainly all captive bred ~98%) were legally imported by the European Union during 2000-2006 from Central America. In fact, 9 out of the top 10 CITES listed species (by quantity) imported during 2000-2006 from Central America to the European Union were live specimens, including some 6.6 million live plants (practically all artificially propagated– 99%). In financial terms, imports to the European Union from Central American wildlife are quite significant. During the same period (2000-2006), imports of live trees and other plants was valued at over USD\$846 million, live reptile imports including snakes and turtles were valued at USD\$3 million, and reptile skin imports (which approximately 60% of them were extracted from wild specimens) is valued at USD\$5.3 million (TRAFFIC/WWF, 2008).

**Selected Animal Taxa Exports from CAFTA-DR countries
to United States and Rest of the World, 2001 – 2005**

Exporting Country	Taxa	Importing country**	Wild caught		Captive Bred		Ranched	
			Live	Others*	Live	Others*	Live	Others*
Costa Rica	Birds	US	-	335	-	53	-	-
		RoW	2	19	448	-	-	-
	Reptiles	US	-	35	281	9	-	-
		RoW	-	600	117	-	-	-
	Marine Turtles	US	-	1214	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	2404	-	-	-	-
	Corals	US	-	264	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	2423	-	-	-	-
	Mammals	US	-	845	4	-	-	-
		RoW	-	332	-	51	-	-
Dominican Republic	Birds	US	1	13	5	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	1	-	-	-
	Reptiles	US	-	31	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	2	100	-	-	-
	Marine Turtles	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Corals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	27,356***	-	-	-	-
	Mammals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
El Salvador	Birds	US	-	-	4	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Reptiles	US	1445	-	1,656,784	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	975,717	-	-	-
	Marine turtles	US	-	-	60	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Corals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mammals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	RoW	4	-	27	-	-	-	
Guatemala	Birds	US	-	502	13	-	-	-
		RoW	-	131	1	-	-	-
	Reptiles	US	-	-	205	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	41,640	-	-	-
	Marine Turtles	US	-	110	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	140	-	-	-	-
	Corals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	1	-	-	-	-
	Mammals	US	-	92	2	2	-	-
		RoW	3	-	7	1	-	-
Honduras	Birds	US	5	2	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	1	-
	Reptiles	US	4494	-	-	-	1130	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	1631	273
	Marine Turtles	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Corals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	508	-	-	-	-	-
Mammals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nicaragua	Birds	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	603	-	-	-	9010	-
	Reptiles	US	-	16,693	-	23,557	-	-
		RoW	-	13,257	2041	-	-	-
	Marine Turtles	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Corals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Mammals	US	-	-	-	-	-	-
		RoW	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: CITES trade statistics derived from the CITES Trade Database, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK. *The category "Others" includes all items in trade and is not comparable to the category Live where each number depicts one individual. **RoW=Rest of World *** These are re-exports originating in Asia

Wildlife import data from the USFWS LEMIS database were analyzed for the five year period, 2001-2005. The analysis assessed the amount of legal exports from Central America and the Dominican Republic into the United States for the same taxa groups: birds, reptiles (not including marine turtles), marine turtles, corals and mammals. Over the five year period, the United States recorded imports from the six countries from Central America and the Dominican Republic of over 1.5 million specimens (considering also non-CITES species), including live animals, reptile skins, eggs, feathers and other products. Specifically, 1.3 million reptiles specimens were imported; the majority were live captive-bred iguanas from Nicaragua and El Salvador for the pet trade. Additionally, during the five year period over 7000 bird specimens were imported from Central America and the Dominican Republic, which includes both live individuals as well as feathers.

Legal imports into the United States of Selected Taxa from CAFTA-DR countries, 2001- 2005

Country	Birds	Reptiles	Marine Turtles	Corals	Mammals	Total
Costa Rica	2281	1944	99	140	899	5363
Dominican Republic	505	3007	-	173	906	4591
El Salvador	976	1,062,374	48	1	64	1,063,463
Guatemala	762	51,079	192		162	52,195
Honduras	4	88,843	0	9	1,115	89,971
Nicaragua	3108	291,180	140	251	1061	295,740

Source: TRAFFIC analysis of USFWS LEMIS data, April 2008. This analysis includes species sourced from the wild and captive bred, as well as CITES and non-CITES species. It also includes live individuals and other specimens (one specimen does not always equal one whole animal).

Illegal Wildlife Trade to the United States

Law enforcement records of illegal wildlife seized or abandoned upon import into the United States were analyzed from the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's LEMIS database for the five year period, 2001-2005. The analysis assessed the amount of illegal trade from Central America and the Dominican Republic into the United States for these same five taxa groups: birds, reptiles (not including marine turtles), marine turtles, corals and mammals. During the five year period, over 11,000 specimens of wildlife products were seized by the U.S. Government or declared abandoned when imported into the United States (note that a single seizure often involves tens or hundreds of specimens.) This total includes approximately 7,000 specimens from either marine turtles or other reptiles-illegal shipments of this type are often comprised of eggs or meat. Illegal shipments occurred every year between 2001 and 2005 from every CAFTA-DR country.

**Illegal imports (abandoned and seized specimens) into the United States
from CAFTA-DR Countries, 2001-2005**

Country	Birds	Reptiles	Marine Turtles	Corals	Mammals	Total
Costa Rica	7	179	142		2	330
Dominican Republic	-	129	47	11	-	187
El Salvador	3	3672	3255	-	-	6930
Guatemala	12	154	13	-	4	183
Honduras	7	753	907	26	-	1693
Nicaragua	134	882	711	-	12	1739

Source: TRAFFIC analysis of USFWS LEMIS data, April 2008. This analysis includes species sourced from the wild and captive bred, as well as CITES and non-CITES species. It also includes live individuals and other specimens (one specimen does not always equal one whole animal).

It is important to notice that specimens from wild origin are also illegally exported to other countries and regions. As one example, WWF reported in 2006 that illegal timber exports to the European Union from Honduras totaled 15 000 m³ (raw wood equivalent). (WWF 2008b)

Overview of Wildlife and Natural Resources Management and Policy

A number of different government ministries and departments are mandated with managing wildlife in Central America and the Dominican Republic and a variety of laws, regulations and decrees form the policy framework that governs wildlife conservation and use. This section describes the different roles of ministries as well as their mandates in relation to managing wildlife trade, with a specific focus on those ministries that implement CITES. There is also an overview of the national policy framework and a summary of ongoing policy developments in Central America and the Dominican Republic.

CITES in Central America and the Dominican Republic

The six CAFTA-DR countries became Parties to CITES at different times over the span of more than fifteen years.

Costa Rica:	September 1975
Nicaragua:	July 1977
Guatemala:	May 1980
Honduras:	June 1985
El Salvador:	July 1987
Dominican Republic:	March 1987

In these countries there are a number of different government ministries that are involved in managing wildlife, fisheries, and timber in domestic and international trade. See Appendix 4 for a full listing of current contact information as listed on the CITES Secretariat website.

In order to meet the minimal requirements needed for the implementation of CITES a country should: designate national CITES authorities, prohibit trade in violation of the Convention, penalize illegal trade and establish a legal provision for the confiscation of specimens that are illegally traded or possessed. Based on these minimum requirements, the CITES National Legislation Project administered by the CITES Secretariat, assigns a category ranking to each Party. Category 1 is applied to Parties that possess legislation that is believed generally to meet the requirements for implementation of CITES. Category 2 is applied to Parties that possess legislation which is believed generally not to meet requirements for implementation of CITES. Category 3 is applied to Parties that possess legislation that is believed generally not to meet all the requirements for the implementation of CITES. El Salvador currently has a CITES National Legislation Project Category 2 ranking, and is the only CAFTA-DR country without a Category 1 ranking.

CITES relies on each country to implement the Convention by passing implementing legislation and establishing Management and Scientific Authorities. The Management Authority is the national management body designated in accordance with Article IX of the Convention. The Management Authority is responsible for implementing the Convention in its country. In particular it is the only body allowed to grant import and export permits and re-export certificates on behalf of that Party. Even though a Party may designate multiple Management Authorities, one must be designated as the Management Authority responsible for communication with other Parties and the Secretariat. The CITES Scientific Authority is the national scientific advisory body designated in accordance with Article IX of the Convention. A Scientific Authority is responsible for providing technical and scientific advice to its Management Authority, in particular as to whether the export or introduction from the sea of a specimen will be detrimental to the survival in the wild of the species. A Party may designate more than one Scientific Authority.

CITES Permitting Process

Import, export and re-export of species included in the Appendices of CITES are regulated through a series of permits and certificates issued by the Management Authority. There are four types of documents used for CITES imports and exports depending on the type of transaction and species. An Export Permit is used when exporting any Appendix I, II or III (for App. III, the export permit only needs to be issued by the country that included the species on the Appendix) listed species. An Import Permit is necessary when importing any Appendix I listed species. A Certificate of Re-export is issued for any Appendix I, II or III listed species. A Certificate of Origin is used when a country is exporting a species that is listed by another country on Appendix III. As established by Article VI of the Convention, the permits issued must contain consistent information. Each of the countries in Central America utilizes its own model of CITES Permits with consistent content according to a harmonized format. (See Appendix 2 for examples of CITES Permit).

National Legal Frameworks

A wide variety of decrees, laws and policies, including the national implementing legislation for a variety of multilateral environmental agreements such as CITES, have been enacted that establish the legal framework under which wildlife is managed by each of the six governments in Central America and the Dominican Republic. This table in Appendix 3 highlights some of the most important components of the legal framework. Information for this table was drawn from consultations and desk research (CAFTA-DR, 2007-2008).

Wildlife Policy Initiatives

At the regional level, governments have been participating in a number of wildlife policy initiatives focused on coordinating regional efforts to improve management of wildlife resources and implementation of CITES. Consistent participation in CCAD's CITES Committee meetings has promoted communication and coordination between CITES authorities at the regional level. Additionally, at a recent Central American Ministers Meeting (25 January 2008), a directive was issued to the Executive Secretary of CCAD. This directive instructed the Executive Secretary to present, at the next Ministers Meeting, a framework for the development of a Regional Wildlife Management Policy. This policy is being developed jointly by both the CITES and Biodiversity committees of CCAD.

Wildlife Trade Management, Implementation and Enforcement

In Central America and the Dominican Republic a variety of institutions and staff are involved with enforcement of wildlife trade legal frameworks. Those of particular relevance are listed in the table below.

Country	Institution	Role
Costa Rica	Ministry of Environment and Energy <i>Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía</i> MINAE	Responsible for the conservation, control and use of continental wildlife, through its National Conservation Areas System (SINAC), which, since 1992 was assigned the role of Management Authority of CITES by Decree 28522.
Costa Rica	National Conservation Areas System <i>Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservación</i> SINAC	The Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservación (SINAC) is a participatory management system decentralized from MINAE that integrates components of forestry, wildlife and protected areas matters. Its role is to dictate policies, plans, and implement processes aimed at achieving a sustainable management of Costa Rica's natural resources.
Costa Rica	General Customs Directorate <i>Dirección General de Aduanas</i>	According to its web site, the Dirección General de Aduanas, is responsible for managing international trade operations, promoting the facilitation and voluntary compliance of the norms, with an intensive use of information technology and communications, through risk management, and in the benefit of the Costa Rican society. (https://www.hacienda.go.cr/Msib21/Espanol/Direccion+General+de+Aduanas/BIENVENIDA.htm)
Costa Rica	Department of Agriculture <i>Ministerio de Agricultura</i> MAG	MAG aims to promote the efficiency, sustainability and competitiveness of agricultural and livestock production in the country, allowing the economic actors of the production a better and more significant integration to the markets. Among its functions the following are of interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and procure health and improvement of animals, products and derivatives beneficial to humans, through research, surveillance, prevention, control and eradication of illnesses, implementation of quarantine measures to imports, transit as well as national and international trade products, byproducts, secretions, excretions and remains. • Establish controls of imports and national production of all kind of medicaments, biological/hormonal pesticide products, growth promotion products, food additives and food for domestic or wild animals. • Prevent the introduction of plagues and exotic pathogenic agents of economical importance for plant species, through the establishment and maintenance of quarantine measures and agricultural defense programs. • Contribute to the protection of crops and animals, as well as imports and exports of the country, through plant and animal health diagnosis.
Costa Rica	Ministry of Public Safety <i>Ministerio de Seguridad Pública</i>	The Ministerio de Seguridad Pública, to which the different police bodies belong, is the institution responsible to protect national sovereignty, undertake surveillance, keep public order and ensure the safety of inhabitants. The Ministerio develops effective deterrents for the prevention of crime, collaborates in its role, and supports actions to defend natural resources in strict compliance with judiciary ordinances. As is the case for any other public servant, the police are also responsible to ensure the compliance with

		international conventions that Costa Rica is part of, such as CITES.
Costa Rica	Costa Rican Fisheries and Aquaculture Institute <i>Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura</i> INCOPECA	While MINAE is responsible to ensure the sustainability of the use of terrestrial natural resources, the Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura (INCOPECA) is responsible for marine resources. As the lead institute in this sector, it promotes the development of fisheries and aquaculture, through the regulation, protection and management of marine and other water resources. The institutes views fisheries and aquaculture as sustainable use activities which contribute to the economic development of the country.
Dominican Republic	Enironment and Natural Resources Ministry <i>Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales de República Dominicana</i> (SEMARENA)	The mission of this Ministry is to implement State policies to conserve, protect, and regulate the management of natural resources and the environment to achieve sustainable development in the Dominican Republic.
Dominican Republic	Protected Áreas Directorate <i>Dirección de Áreas Protegidas</i>	The Protected Areas Directorate is responsible for the development of the SINAP, to guarantee the conservation and preservation of representative samples of the different ecosystems as well as the natural and cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic. This is to ensure the permanence and optimization of environmental and economic services provided by these systems that benefit Dominican society now and in future generations.
Dominican Republic	Attorney for the Defense of the Environment and Natural Resources <i>Procuraduría para la Defensa del Medio Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales</i>	The aim of this Attorney is to promote the compliance of environmental and natural resources legal frameworks, through authority actions such as inspections, verifications or surveillance, or in coordination with other civil or government bodies. This institution is also responsible for determining and applying sanctions on illegal acts to contribute to the sustainability of natural resources and stimulate the voluntary compliance of environmental related legal frameworks that improves the livelihood of the population.
Dominican Republic	National Environmental Protection Service(Environmental Police) <i>Servicio Nacional de Protección Ambiental (Policía Ambiental)</i> SENPA	Also known as “environmental police”, SENPA is SEMARENA’s enforcement authority focusing on all laws, regulations or norms related to the protection of the environment and natural resources. Among its duties, SENPA undertakes preventive measures to prevent illegal activities, investigates and presents defendants to the Attorney for the Defense of the Environment and Natural Resources, implements capacity building efforts to improve its performance, and coordinates with other institutions to ensure effective implementation of its responsibilities.
Dominican Republic	Dominican Aquaculture and Fisheries Council <i>Consejo Dominicano de la Pesca y la Acuicultura</i>	The Dominican Aquaculture and Fisheries Council (Consejo Dominicano de la Pesca y la Acuicultura CODOPESCA) is responsible for the management of these activities in the Dominican Republic.

CODOPESCA		
Dominican Republic	General Customs Directorate <i>Dirección General de Aduanas</i> DGA	DGA oversees all customs activities so as to make sure these are done in an efficient, transparent and systematic way to facilitate trade, augment revenue and contribute with other State institutions to reduce external risks that could preclude the sustainable development of the Nation.
Dominican Republic	Ministry of Agriculture <i>Secretaría de Agricultura</i>	The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for, among other things, animal and plant health controls through its Animal and Plant Health Departments.
El Salvador	Republic of El Salvador Attorney General	Among its functions, include directing investigation of crimes with the collaboration of the National Civil Police, and of the criminal facts in particular subject to penal jurisdiction.
El Salvador	National Civil Police, Environmental Division <i>Policía Nacional Civil, División del Medio Ambiente</i>	The authority in charge of enforcing wildlife related laws and regulations in El Salvador is the National Civil Police that has a specific Environment Division, one of the specialized divisions created through Article 11 of the National Civil Police Organic Law in June 1994. Among the functions of this Division are to investigate, prevent, and combat: Illegal extraction of timber species; illegal hunting, harvesting, commercialization, national and international trafficking of wildlife; and fishing with illicit methods both in marine and freshwater environments. This Division has approximately 140 staff.
El Salvador	General Environmental Inspector <i>Inspectoría General de Medio Ambiente</i>	Its role is to implement inspection, surveillance and verification of compliance policies of the judiciary's disposition and environmental norms related to ecological zoning at the national level, and in a timely manner resolve citizen requirements on actions or omissions against nature and the environment.
El Salvador	Rangers <i>Guardarecursos</i>	Field staff in charge of surveillance and protection of cultural and natural resources in protected areas. In the case of El Salvador, given that in some cases Protected Areas are co-managed with NGOs, rangers sometimes belong to government institutions or NGO's.
El Salvador	Farming and Environmental Tribunals <i>Tribunales Agroambientales</i>	This is an initiative that is currently under development that aims to improve the effectiveness of the implementation of the Environmental Legislation in El Salvador through specialized courts on this topic.
Guatemala	National Protected Areas Council <i>Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas, CONAP</i>	This is the entity in charge of directing and implementing the protected areas law, has juridical personality and is directly dependant from the Republic's Presidency of Guatemala. The main instruments CONAP uses to comply with its mandate are the Guatemalan Protected Areas System Policy and the National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, which aims to guide, coordinate and organize actions of relevant related actors, so as to jointly achieve the conservation and sustainable use of the country biodiversity.

Guatemala	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources <i>Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales</i> MARN	Created by Decree 90-2000, its mandate is the formulation and execution of policies related to the compliance of the regime concerning conservation, protection, sustainability and improvement of the environment and natural resources in Guatemala, and the human right to a healthy and ecologically balanced environment, through preventing environmental pollution, diminishing environmental degradation and the loss of natural heritage. MARN's attributions are: a) Formulate and implement conservation, protection, environment and natural resource improvement policies b) Define the environmental norms related to non renewable resources c) Implement normative, control and supervision functions d) Control the environmental quality, approve environmental impact assessments, put them into practice in case of environmental risk and ensure of their compliance, and impose sanctions if this is not the case e) Promote and bring about a balanced male and female participation, natural or private persons, and the local and indigenous communities in the sustainable use of natural resources f) Prepare and present the State's Environmental Report annually
Guatemala	National Forests Institute <i>Instituto Nacional de Bosques</i> INAB	This is a State institution, autonomous, decentralized, with juridical personality, its own resources and administrative independence, in charge of the direction and authority of the Agricultural Public Sector on forestry issues.
Guatemala	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food <i>Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación</i> MAGA	Among other things, this Ministry is responsible to formulate and implement the policies on agriculture development, hydrobiological and renewable natural resource sustainability according to the legal frameworks.
Guatemala	Fisheries and Aquaculture Unit <i>Unidad de Manejo de la Pesca y Acuicultura</i> UNIPESCA	UNIPESCA formulates and disseminates procedures, proposes strategies and policies as well as sustainable management policies on hydrobiological resources. This institution establishes, maintains and supervises the official registers of fisheries production, and manages the concessions for the use of these resources. UNIPESCA also formalizes the adhesion of Guatemala to treaties, conventions or agreements with national or international bodies.
Guatemala	Ministry of Economy <i>Ministerio de Economía</i> MINECO	This Ministry is responsible for the compliance of the judiciary regime related to non agricultural and livestock production activities, internal and external trade, and also conducts the negotiations of binational and multilateral trade agreements and treaties, and implement them once approved and ratified.
Honduras	Natural Resources and Environmental Ministry <i>Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente</i>	Promote sustainable development in Honduras through the formulation, coordination, execution and evaluation of policies related to renewable and non renewable natural resources; also coordinate and assess policies in relation to the environment, ecosystems and pollution control, so as to improve the living quality of its inhabitants.

SERNA		
Honduras	State Forestry Administration <i>Administración Forestal del Estado</i> AFE-COHDEFOR	Responsible for managing and implementing the Forestry Law, being a semi-autonomous institution which depends on the Livestock and Agriculture Ministry (SAG) responsible to determine forestry policies as the head of this sector.
Honduras	Livestock and Agriculture Ministry <i>Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería</i> SAG	Develop strategies and implement actions to increase the competitiveness of the livestock and agriculture sectors in Honduras. Undertake actions aimed at coordinating the formulation, design and evaluation of the agro-alimentary production sector policy in Honduras. Implement and coordinate public sector actions directed to increasing primary production and also generating value added processing. Represents the Honduran livestock and agriculture sectors regionally and internationally.
Honduras	Attorney for the Protection of the Environment <i>Procuraduría para la Protección del Medio Ambiente</i>	Responsible for the follow up on civil and criminal actions related to the environment according to Article 199 of the General Environmental Law (Decree 104-93).
Honduras	Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health <i>Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria</i> OIRSA	Provides technical supports to Livestock and Agriculture Ministries of its member countries, specifically, for protection and development of agricultural resources for healthy food production to <i>improve</i> livelihoods of the population.
Nicaragua	Natural Resources and Environmental Ministry <i>Ministerio de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente</i> MARENA	Dictates the norms, determines quotas and closed seasons. In charge of administrative follow up, control and sanctioning.
Nicaragua	National Forestry Institute <i>Instituto Nacional Foresta</i> INAFOR	Decentralized government entity that functions through Delegations in 10 Forestry Districts nationally, with some delegations responsible for more than one department. Their goal is to promote, regulate and control the sustainable use of forestry resources. They are also responsible for assessing management plans, issuing harvest permits, performing inspections, and establishing agreements with public or private organizations to delegate surveillance, control and/or development functions.
Nicaragua	Environmental Attorney <i>Procuraduría Ambiental</i>	This is a specialized branch of the General Attorney's Office, created through the General Environmental and Natural Resources Law on June 6, 1996. The Environmental Attorney mainly promotes administrative actions, however, with the new Law on Environmental Crimes the trend is to make the administrative

		process a legal tool to support penal and civil cases against criminals.
Nicaragua	General Attorney's Office <i>Fiscalía General de la República</i>	The Attorney General is the authority responsible to follow up on denounces made on violations to the Special law against environmental and natural resources crimes (<i>Ley especial de delitos contra el medio ambiente y los recursos naturales; Ley 559</i>)
Nicaragua	Environmental and Natural Resource Protection Attorney <i>Procuraduría para la Defensa del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales PDARN</i>	Specialized branch of the General Justice Attorney, representing and defending the interests of State and the society on environmental matters
Nicaragua	National Police, Army and Navy <i>Policía Nacional (Ministerio de Gobierno), Ejército y Fuerza naval (Ministerio de Defensa)</i>	These institutions contribute to surveillance and control actions in relation to natural resources and biodiversity in coordination with MARENA, the Environmental Attorney, co-managing NGO's and other governmental institutions. The National Police helps control the illegal trafficking of specimens while the navy supports the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Administration (ADPESCA) in the monitoring and control of the fisheries fleet as well as the adequate use of Turtle Excluding Devices (TED's).

Inventory of Enforcement Staff and Equipment

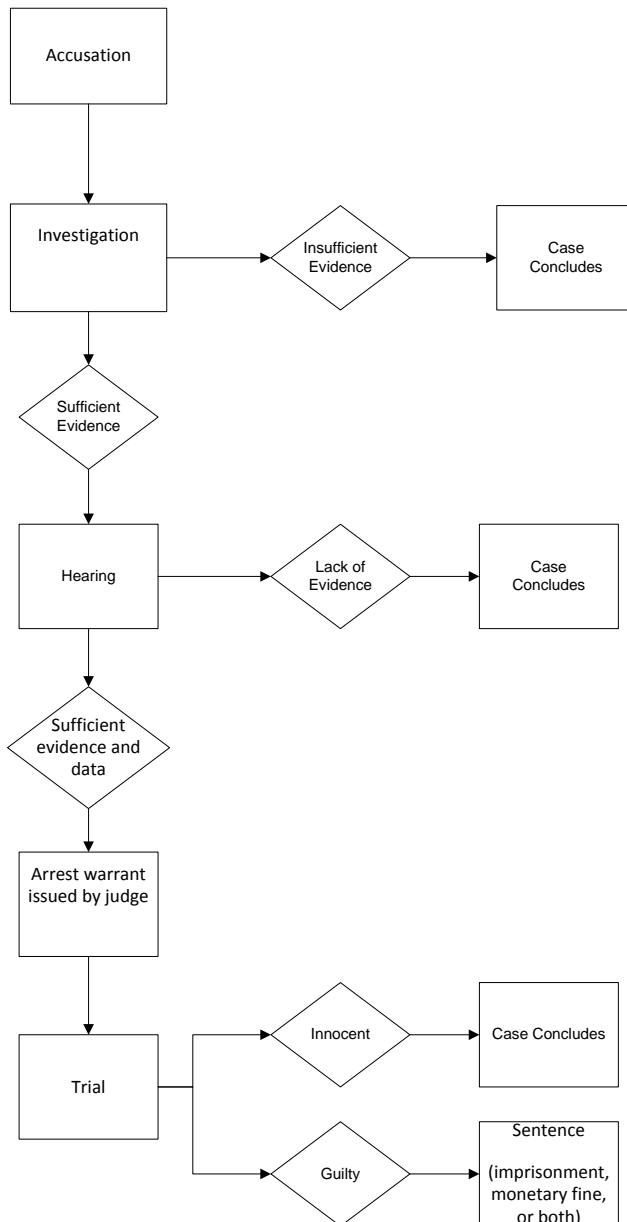
Through questionnaires and interviews, TRAFFIC attempted to inventory the resources and staff focused on wildlife enforcement in each of the six CAFTA-DR countries. However, there was almost no consistency between any of the answers received in relation to available resources (human, material, financial). There was an evident lack of clarity among interviewees regarding a number of factors, including the actual capacities of their institution and more generally, the total resources available for wildlife trade related management and enforcement in the country. A general consensus was clearly expressed though regarding the insufficiency of resources at all levels, from human to material to financial. Interviewees also added that in some cases, there is a lack of clear procedures for the implementation of CITES, as well as facilities to keep seized specimens, live animals in particular, which weakens enforcement efforts (CAFTA-DR, 2007-2008; Lopez, October 2007).

Additionally, the lack of inter- and intra-institutional coordination and communication precludes development of synergies that could improve enforcement of wildlife trade related legislation. The needs identified included continuous training for staff on wildlife related topics, and illustrated species identification guides for those working on the front lines of enforcement.

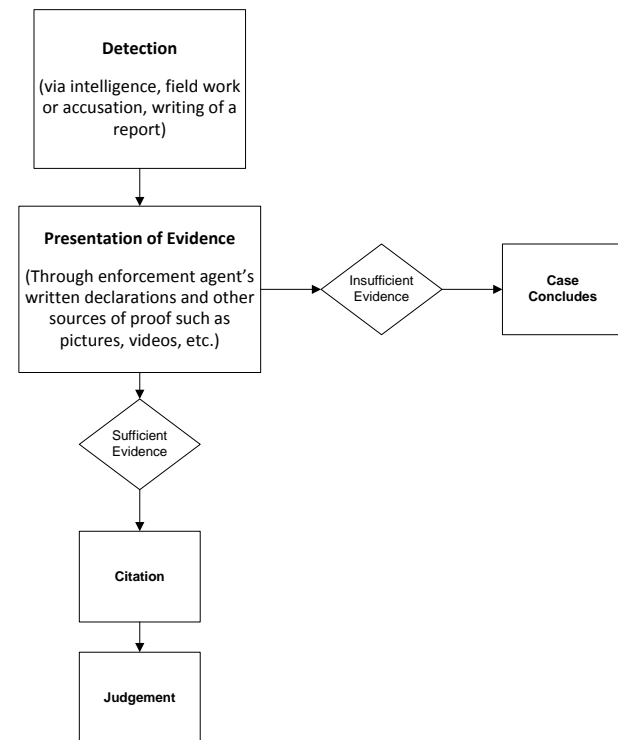
Enforcement Chain

The following shows a simplified schematic outlining model for the enforcement chain of processes and potential outcomes under both penal and administrative procedures. The schematic is based on information provided by some of the interviewees in El Salvador. This schematic can be refined used on a national basis by countries to illustrate how enforcement works for different pieces of legislation in the country.

Penal Procedure



Administrative Procedure



Key Wildlife Trade Hotspots

Through consultations and questionnaires, a number of key ports, airports and border crossing locations were identified as relevant because these are places where wildlife is sold, transported or smuggled. A summary of these trade and transport sites is provided below.

Country	Seaports	Airports	Border Crossing	Other Wildlife Trade Hotspots
Costa Rica	Caldera Moin Limón	Juan Santamaría Daniel Oduber Limón airport Tablas Bolaños	Peñas Blancas (with Nicaragua) Sixalao San Vito Paso Canoas (with Panama) Los Chiles	Turrialba Los Chiles Las Gemelas (border with Panama) Tourist sites Smuggling through express mail
Dominican Republic	Puerto Plataq San Pedro de Macorís La Romana	Aeropuerto Internacional Sto. Domingo	All crossing points with Haiti	Sto. Domingo - Mercado Modelo - Av. El Conde - Calle Isabel la Católica Boca Chica Bayehibe Sosúa Cabarete
El Salvador	Acajutla El Triunfo La Unión	Comalapa Ilopango	La Hachadura El Amatillo Anguiatú Chinamas Candelaria de la Frontera El Poy "Blind point" at the Río La Paz (between Guatemala and El Salvador)	Estero El Tamarindo Beaches at the Gulf of Fonseca Mercado Central, San Salvador San Miguel-El Delirio Road Carretera Panamericana San Vicente (Río Lempa area) Bahía de Jalisquillo Estero de Jaltepeque Los Cóbano Estero Bahía La Unión
Guatemala	Sto. Tomás de Castilla (Caribbean) Puerto Quetzal (Pacific)	Aeropuerto Internacional de la Aurora, Guatemala City Aeropuerto del Departamento del Petén	El Carmen (San Marcos) (MX) Tecún Umán (MX) Gracias a Dios (MX) La Mesilla (Hueuetenago) (MX) El Ceibo (MX) Melchor de Mencos (BZ) 3 banderas (illegal) El Florido (HN) Pedro de Alvarado (SV) Other crossings between Izabal and Chiquimula, and Jutiapa	Mercado de Quetzaltenango La Democracia Minerva Coatepeque Petén (e.g. timber, Chamaedora palms, trophies/hunting related species) Cobán Southeast (e.g. marine turtle eggs, iguanas) West (e.g. parrots)
Honduras	Puerto Cortés Puerto Castilla Puerto de Tela Puerto de Ceiba Puerto de San Lorenzo Puerto Henecan Puerto de Amapala Roatan	Toncontin Villeda Morales Goloson Juan Manuel Galvez	Las Manos Guasaule Agua Caliente El Amatillo Las mataras	Honduran Mosquitia Honduras-Nicaragua border
Nicaragua	El Bluff Corinto Puerto Sandino Puerto Cabezas	Aeropuerto Sandino, Managua	El Guasaule Peñas Blancas Las manos El Espino	Mercado Oriental, Managua Isla Zapatera Blind spots in borders and the Gulf of Fonseca

Source: (CAFTA-DR, 2007-2008)

Annual Seizures and High Profile Enforcement Cases

TRAFFIC was not able to access any centralized information regarding the number of annual wildlife seizures within Central America and the Dominican Republic. In some countries respondents made mention of isolated cases, involving mostly single specimens, such as parrots, but no verifiable source of information was provided. By definition, illegal trade is a hidden activity with no reliable data, so quantifying its scale and value is difficult. Therefore it is difficult to estimate how much illegal trade is occurring that is not being detected. The level of illegal trade reported may be a symptom of low capacity and awareness by law enforcement to prioritize and detect illegal trade. It may be a lack of centralized recording of seizures. Alternatively, it may be that there is very little illegal trade occurring.

Number of Prosecutors and Prosecutions

Regionally, little to no information was provided on the number of prosecutors involved in wildlife trade cases or the number of wildlife cases brought before the courts. Respondents generally agreed that very few cases are brought before the judiciary.

General Perceptions of Wildlife Law Enforcement

Information from respondents throughout the region suggested that the general perception is that there is a low probability of being punished when committing illegal activities related to wildlife. The general perception is that even if someone were caught committing an illegal act involving wildlife, the strict sanctions according to the law are usually not applied. Given this situation, there is little deterrent to stop illegal practices.

As has been discussed previously, authorities recognize that existing resource limitations at different levels prevent an effective enforcement of the laws. It can also be difficult to undertake “field” inspections in remote areas without available transportation. If enforcers lack key identification skills it will be difficult to determine whether a species in trade is endangered or illegal. Enforcement staff cannot seize wildlife if the proper facilities and/or husbandry skills to store or maintain specimens are not available or sufficient. Similarly they are unable to inspect live animal shipments in a way that is safe for both the inspector and the wildlife if they do not have adequate training and equipment.

Communication and coordination among authorities responsible for the implementation of the national and international legal frameworks could also be improved. This would support and strengthen each agencies’ work (e.g. along the different steps of the enforcement chain from the first identification of a crime through to the sentencing). Improved coordination can lead to more effective and efficient ways to stop and deter illegal activities and contribute to the conservation and sustainability of wildlife species. Corruption at different levels, a problem shared with many other countries, is also present according to comments from some interviewees. It is important to emphasize that no proof of specific corruption cases were presented, although several people mentioned that this ranges from lower level staff looking to supplement their usually low salary income, to higher level officials involved in international organized crime.

With the many obstacles that prevent effective enforcement of laws related to natural resources in general, it is not surprising that activities such as illegal wildlife trade, hunting, trapping or smuggling continue to be attractive sources of income to many nationals and foreigners in the region. In this particular case, smuggling or illegally exploiting plant and animal species from the region can be seen as an opportunity to make money with little investment and a very low risk. A difficult socio-economic situation in the region compounds the problem, as low salaries and high unemployment levels lead people to seek out additional sources of income.

Smuggling of wildlife between countries in Central America and then onto other international destinations was mentioned by a number of respondents. This makes it necessary to strengthen the capacities of Customs and invest ways to improve border controls. Enforcers did highlight the need for border focal points on wildlife enforcement topics in neighboring countries so as to make processes more agile when needed. This last point is also particularly important due to the potential risk of smuggled plants and animals that can spread diseases, and the threat to native species if invasive species are smuggled into a country.

Political Will and Awareness of Wildlife Trade

Among certain governmental sectors there seems to be a good understanding of the role of CITES, but awareness of the potential impact of wildlife trade and unsustainable use of natural resources is lacking in the region generally. In some countries, there are a number of successful captive breeding businesses that supply animals for the international pet trade, particularly iguanas. There has been a growing interest in this field demonstrated by a significant increase of facilities involved in this business over the last few years. Discussions and meetings with stakeholders indicate a need for generating heightened awareness among high level decision makers on the importance and potential benefits of well managed sustainable trade in natural resources, including plants and animals. This could significantly advance much needed actions such as; clarifying the various roles and responsibilities of institutions in charge of wildlife management, influencing the allocation of sufficient resources to monitor and control trade in both captive and wild specimens, and, guaranteeing the resources needed so that decisions on the use and trade of wildlife resources are based on well supported scientific information.

The participation of government representatives from Central America and the Dominican Republic in key events and meetings provides a way to gauge the political will to address wildlife trade issues. The regional initiative to develop a Central American wildlife policy, as instructed to the Executive Secretary of the CCAD, and which derived from a Central American Ministers Meeting held on June 25, 2008, is evidence of the regions interest in addressing these issues through a regional framework. A risk to these developments is that wildlife and wildlife trade related issues may remain under the shadow of other economic development topics, particularly in a time when trade agreements and foreign investment play a significant role in this region.

It seems quite clear that there is little awareness of the need and therefore the will to effectively enforce wildlife trade laws. Some interest has been shown through CCAD channels of the need to establish a Wildlife Enforcement Network for Central America. This would go some way to

alleviate some of the current challenges if the will and resources can be leveraged to ensure that a network could function.

Existing Capacity Building Approaches and Training Resources

Very little information was obtained regarding the existence of institutionalized training on wildlife trade related matters even though specific questions were included in interviews and in the questionnaires that TRAFFIC conducted. In the past, some training has been provided on taxonomic identification and the implementation of CITES, mostly by non-government organizations. Interestingly, most of the interviewees highlighted the need to receive training on both the CITES framework and species/specimen identification. These two items were among the top of a list of potential training topics, which indicates an ongoing need for strengthening the capacities in these fronts. Many of the interviewees had no knowledge of any trainings or seminars on this topic. The high turnover of staff was mentioned as a hindering factor to strengthen the capacities of institutions in Central America and the Dominican Republic, as was the lack of support materials and sources of expert information.

A number of publications have been produced as resources for those working with wildlife in the region. In 2003, CCAD produced a guide for CITES procedures *Guía de Procedimientos de la Convención sobre el Comercio de Especies Amenazadas de Fauna y Flora Silvestres en Centro América* (http://www.ccad.ws/publicaciones/publicaciones_03.html).

Additionally, there is a series of Binational CITES Operation Manuals recently produced as part of the MesoAmerican Biological Corridor project, which is also implemented as part of the CCAD framework (Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano, 2006). Both of these documents provide useful tools for CITES authorities in the region, and in the case of the latter, have been designed to be accompanied by trainings on how to use them. However, very few physical copies have been produced, which has also restricted its distribution to few actors in the region (250 copies of each manual per country in the region, plus around 50 CDs), and added to a high turnover of staff in the relevant agencies (who might have received a copy of these materials when originally distributed), has limited its impact. Even though the documents can be found online, internet access and a computer, of course are not always widely available to all staff, especially those at remote border checkpoints or field stations. Comments from some countries in Central America indicate the need to update some of the manuals. The following bi-national manuals are currently available: Honduras-Guatemala, Guatemala-El Salvador, Costa Rica-Nicaragua, Costa Rica-Panama, Honduras-Nicaragua and El Salvador-Honduras. These documents can be downloaded from the following link:
<http://www.ccad.ws/pccbm/proyecto.htm#especies>

Additionally, there is a *Guide for the Implementation of CITES in El Salvador Airports*, also produced under the CCAD's MesoAmerican Biological Corridors Project (Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería Oficina Nacional CITES, 2006). Another related and useful tool for park managers and guards is the *Manual Básico para el Guardarecurso Centroamericano*, published in 2004 by PROARCA/APM, The Nature Conservancy and USAID (PROARCA, 2004). These materials also share similar distribution and implementation challenges as the ones mentioned before.

Summary of Gaps and Regional Capacity Building Recommendations

Below is information that provides a useful background to inform capacity building efforts on wildlife trade control in Central America and the Dominican Republic. This report is also intended to provide recommendations on ways to reduce illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade through improving the capacity, technical skills and knowledge among authorities, enforcement staff and other key stakeholders involved in wildlife management and enforcement of the wildlife laws in the region. These recommendations include:

Summary of Gaps	Capacity Building Recommendations
<p>Government responsibilities regarding CITES implementation may be duplicative: From the information gathered in interviews, participation in meetings, questionnaires and other sources there seems to be a good understanding of roles and responsibilities among a number of the CITES Authorities and other agencies which contributes to beneficial collaboration. However, there is also the perception among several actors that the coordination between some agencies that deal with enforcement and prosecutions could be improved, as these institutions are perceived to sometimes implement an <i>ad hoc</i> interpretation of their roles and responsibilities resulting in an apparent overlap of roles. The latter results in undermined collaboration and loss of opportunity to develop synergies towards improved implementation of legal frameworks.</p>	<p>Clarify government agency responsibilities: Governments should hold or participate in workshops/trainings that bring together a cross section of the agencies that implement CITES and the stakeholder/industry groups involved in wildlife trade and management. These types of interagency meetings can have valuable outcomes in clarifying technical responsibilities as well as help promote the formation of productive professional relationships that often serve as the basis for better information flow and collaboration. Multilateral meetings of this nature are also extremely helpful to ensure that authorities in other countries have clear information on whom to contact for questions. Through these trainings, participants are consequently able to achieve more coordinated implementation of legal frameworks and achieve conservation benefits.</p> <p>It would also be advisable to hold periodic meetings of representatives from CITES Authorities and other institutions in each country to brief everyone on issues that might require the attention of more than one institution. These individuals could also act as contact points to receive and transmit information to other staff and officers in a number of government offices.</p> <p>A newsletter or periodic bulletin covering updates on CITES/wildlife trade topics of interest could also be produced and distributed. This would help ensure these developments reach a wider audience among relevant institutions, thus improving the understanding of this topic.</p>
<p>Regional Cooperation on Transboundary Wildlife Law Enforcement Operations and Information Sharing: There is generally a lack of coordination and prioritization between</p>	<p>Hold Regional Dialogues through CCAD (with all key stakeholders) on establishing a Central America Wildlife Enforcement Network: Formal mechanisms and a high level mandate are needed</p>

<p>enforcement agencies in CAFTA-DR countries to help curtail the trafficking of wildlife across their borders, to protect shared species populations that span borders or are migratory and to share information and best practices. It is proven in many regions globally that poor relationships between different agencies responsible for wildlife law enforcement, both internally in a country and externally with other countries' agencies, enables wildlife crimes to flourish. There is a tendency for individual enforcers and agencies to work in isolation, thereby lacking information, team work and strength in joint operations that can rapidly disrupt the criminal networks. In CAFTA-DR countries there are no national level wildlife crime focal points or task forces and there is no official mandate to collaborate between countries on wildlife trafficking -- any cooperation is piecemeal at best.</p>	<p>to stimulate cooperative and coordinated wildlife law enforcement. A regional level agreement at Ministerial level will ultimately be required to cement the sharing of information, best practices and joint operations into a strategic and long term enforcement network. For a network to operate well there needs to be formal national and agency level focal points or task forces on wildlife crime that link to each other nationally and regionally. There are positive examples of the structure and strategy in operation in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its ASEAN WEN (ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network), and this model approach could be readily transposed to Central America. It is recommended that dedicated dialogue and technical meetings are held to reach agreement on establishing such a network and mapping out how it could operate. Following agreement, a formal Ministerial declaration across the region should be made and a program of support established to help governments set up their national components of the regional wildlife enforcement network.</p>
<p>Internal communication of CITES Authorities could be improved: Developing links among personnel responsible for CITES implementation and strengthening the ability for authorities to effectively interact is important to improve the implementation of national and international legal frameworks. Of particular importance is to ensure effective inter and intra-agency communication channels between staff working in the regions and municipalities of the country.</p>	<p>Bolster internal communication of CITES Authorities: Internal communication could be improved by a variety of means including: holding periodic meetings, assigning contact points responsible for information compilation and dissemination among institutions along with developing policies that clarify the circumstances under which specific or sensitive information should be made available to other authorities and institutions. The CITES Management Authority in each country should lead on this recommendation.</p>
<p>Additional equipment and resources for enforcement and regulation are needed: Additional resources and equipment is needed for Central American and Dominican Republic enforcement agencies and CITES Authorities. It is quite important that authorities in charge of enforcing the current legal frameworks related to wildlife have sufficient staff and other necessary resources (i.e. training, vehicles, radios, specimen handling equipment, fuel, office space, internet access, digital cameras, identification materials, etc.) to perform their duties in an efficient and effective way. Without a strong basis for enforcement, countries will find it difficult to fully implement CITES to the appropriate level and illegal trade has the potential to increase.</p>	<p>Ensure necessary resources: The governments should pursue collaborative and cooperative approaches with Government Aid Agencies (GAA's) and non-governmental organizations to help provide additional resources to improve the availability of specialized equipment, reference tools and identification materials. These organizations can also help facilitate communication with and potential support from national and international experts to help bolster implementation of CITES.</p> <p>It would be useful to review the revenue generated by issuing wildlife use permits (e.g. CITES permits and certificates) to think about long terms efforts to generate funding for agencies. Strategically reinvesting revenue or charging service fees appropriately to recover costs would allow the agencies to have much needed financial resources to build the capacity of their institutions including</p>

	expanding existing infrastructure.
<p>Enhanced political will is needed to provide greater resources for wildlife enforcement and management: The general feeling of those surveyed is that there are not sufficient financial resources from any of the governments currently invested on CITES or wildlife conservation /enforcement because limited political will has existed in the past to address this as a priority. Strengthening the implementation of CITES and other wildlife trade/use/management controls can not only contribute to improved management but to increased economic returns from natural resources for the country as well as allow the country to maintain its compliance with the regional and international agreements. Many decision makers would be quite surprised to learn that the global trade in wildlife (including timber and fisheries), was valued at 249 billion Euros in 2005 (Engler, M. and Parry-Jones, R., 2008). Additionally, agencies need to highlight the risk that unregulated trade in wildlife can also have to human health as carriers of disease and risks to native species and agriculture from invasive species.</p>	<p>Establish agency linkages and highlight benefits of regulated trade: MoU's or interagency agreements to enhance collaboration and support CITES related efforts should be established, as they can be of significant help to raise the profile of the issue among policy makers and improve the chances of long term interagency efforts, even with high turnover of staff and changing administrations. Similar agreements and/or collaborative projects with academia or NGOs can also offer opportunities to disseminate CITES related information among the general public or the industry, for example, to educate and raise awareness on the issue.</p> <p>It is also important for the wildlife trade management institutions and the communities whose livelihoods are largely dependent on natural areas and resources, to highlight together to higher level decision makers in related sectors (i.e., environment, commerce, tourism, etc) the potential economic benefits that can accrue from the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife, as well as the threats involved if wild plants and animals are not adequately protected.</p> <p>Governments should push for effective enforcement and adherence to guidelines established by CITES and health requirements as these often mitigate potential risks from invasive species introduced by international trade.</p>
<p>Institutionalized staff development training and mentoring is needed: There is a clear need to improve the capacities of enforcement authorities and other stakeholders to monitor and implement the current legal frameworks in a coordinated manner, support sustainable use practices, and deter illegal activities (Reuter & Habel, 2004). Additionally, efforts should be made to retain and promote staff to minimize turnover. As Akella and Cannon mention in their "Strengthening the weakest links" report from 2004, a major challenge is insufficient skills and knowledge among enforcement personnel, which causes inefficiencies or compromises the effectiveness across the entire system (Akella, 2004). As it is mentioned in this report, when training is lacking or insufficient, the addition of supplemental staff makes it improbable that performance will improve.</p>	<p>Institutionalize training and staff development: The CITES Management Authority of each country should seek to establish the resources and expertise to deliver regular trainings to key personnel in the agencies responsible for CITES implementation and enforcement. A strategic approach to trainings and capacity building should be devised in cooperation with other agencies and stakeholders that outlines the basic needs for the subject matter of trainings, specialist materials, tools and information, and identifies expertise and potential sources of funds and in kind support. The strategy should consider how to establish a "train the trainers" program with an institution such as a university or NGO that can support long term institutionalized training. An integrated mentoring program could be established to facilitate the development of committed, core training staff and link them with experts in this field</p>

of conservation and sustainable use.	
<p>Lack of implementation of conservation and sustainable use principles: Additional attention should be made to explicitly integrate conservation and sustainable use principles into natural resource management and to promote public interest in these concepts. Resources from wild origin can and do bring benefits to communities in different ways- financially, spiritually and culturally- raising awareness of these benefits can persuade people to sustainably use and conserve natural resources for the long term.</p>	<p>Catalyze better implementation of conservation and sustainable use principles: Government ministries focused on CITES implementation and natural resource management could achieve better implementation of sustainable use principles as well as foster more understanding of the economic value of natural resources by sharing success stories or case studies of sustainable trade with other government sectors including those focused on tourism and economic development. Case studies, personnel exchanges or study trips could occur both on a national level and internationally: these could certainly help develop an improved sense of awareness and support for similar activities and initiatives. Basic sustainable use principles exemplified by initiatives such as crocodile ranching or certified forest management/timber production schemes around the world might offer good case studies.</p> <p>Outreach (printed materials, TV, radio spots, etc.) jointly produced by government, academia and/or NGOs that focus on developing and strengthening public awareness of the different values of resources from wild origin and the need to conserve them for this and future generations could also be explored.</p>
<p>Room to improve use of science in CITES implementation: In order to ensure that wildlife trade does not threaten species and provides sustainable benefits, it is key to ensure that decision makers base their deliberations on good science. CITES Resolution Conf. 10.3 on “Designation and role of the Scientific Authorities”, indicates that the Conference of the Parties recommends that Management Authorities “not issue any export or import permit, or certificate of introduction from the sea, for species listed in the Appendices without first obtaining the appropriate Scientific Authority findings or advice”. Resolution Conf. 10.3 also recommends “that the findings and advice of the Scientific Authority of the country of export be based on the scientific review of available information on the population status, distribution, population trend, harvest and other biological and ecological factors, as appropriate, and trade information relating to the species concerned.” Additional attention should be paid to the role of preparing robust scientifically defensible</p>	<p>Strengthen the role of science: CITES Scientific Authority staff should be encouraged to participate in and follow global CITES discussions regarding the development of NDFs. For example, an <i>International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings</i> was held in November 2008 in Cancun, Mexico, which was focused on providing a better understanding of how to make NDFs. Six participants from CAFTA-DR countries attended this workshop and the results of the workshop need to be discussed and used within each of the Scientific Authorities. The results of this workshop will be useful for members of the CCAD Expert Group to discuss during one of their periodic meetings, to share insights on applying NDFs regionally.</p> <p>Additionally, fostering interaction between the CITES Management and Scientific Authority with counterparts in other countries will help promote innovation. For example, countries can share different approaches to gathering trade information and their experiences with making scientifically-</p>

<p>non-detriment findings (NDF's) as well utilizing when possible, the available standardized guidelines and documented methodologies to making NDF's.</p>	<p>based non detriment findings that determine sustainable harvest quotas</p> <p>Additionally, the expertise of local, regional and foreign academic and research institutions could play a major role if their research (i.e. thesis projects) is linked to identified information gaps and needs on relevant species and habitats that can contribute to better decision making. It is thus important to undertake steps to strengthen the linkages with academic institutions in Central America and the Dominican Republic.</p>
<p>Species management plans for commonly traded species are needed: Comprehensive management plans for commonly traded species are needed to ensure the conservation of wild populations and habitats, as well as to ensure that any use or harvest is within sustainable limits. These plans need to explicitly incorporate trade and use monitoring components.</p>	<p>Develop species management plans for commonly traded species: It is important for institutions to closely monitor the implementation of wildlife related policies, including those that will influence consumptive or non-consumptive use of wildlife resources. Monitoring the initiatives and activities that potentially pose a threat to a particular species or habitat will allow for the rapid development of management plans. These plans should be developed with input from other institutions such as those that deal with forestry and fisheries resources. Additionally, the development of management plans and specific utilization practices for wildlife commodities (e.g. timber) must take into consideration input from the prosecutors in order to ensure activities "in the field" are carried out according to existing legal frameworks, both national and international.</p> <p>In instances when management plans are already in place, emphasis should be made on explicitly including trade related monitoring and management measures, which are often neglected. It is extremely important also to highlight the need to link ex situ efforts and operations involving wildlife to in situ conservation and management efforts.</p> <p>Personnel that develop management plans should also strive to include elements in the plan that help develop a sense of ownership by local communities. This sense of ownership and investment is valuable because local communities or organizations can eventually act as local guards or co-managers of the resources.</p> <p>Migratory species or species whose range straddles national boundaries pose an extra challenge for coordinated management and enforcement. This requires key institutions to collaborate with their counterparts in neighboring countries that share the</p>

	<p>resource. This can be achieved by establishing effective communication channels and operational structures that ensure the conservation and sustainable use of the resource are based on common understandings and shared responsibilities.</p>
<p>Systems to track trade trends and management need to be developed: Even though the information TRAFFIC analyzed on international exports of CITES live specimens from each of the countries in Central America and the Dominican Republic covered only animals, it is important to note that plants are commonly traded in the countries as well, with orchids, bromeliads and cacti being of particular interest. A cursory search in WCMC's CITES Trade database shows that over the past 10 years, some countries in this region have been active exporters and importers of orchids, cacti, bromeliads and cycads, as well as other live plants. This suggests a need to monitor this trade and anticipate the potential impacts it could have on wild populations along with the livelihood benefits it could generate if sustainably managed.</p>	<p>Develop a way to anticipate trade trends and associated management needs: The establishment of a regional harmonized recording system for species (including non-CITES species) in national and international trade could be a useful tool. A trade record system would enable the region's countries to monitor trends and serve as an alert system on particular species that could be threatened by unsustainable trade. This could serve as a warning system to highlight the species that would benefit from stricter control and regulatory measures.</p> <p>A trade record system would be quite important to allow monitoring for newly emerging species in trade (or those whose trade has been mostly limited to the local or national level), determine trade trends, as well as to identify information gaps and needs. This would help pinpoint where further research is needed on particular species that could become threatened by unsustainable use driven by trade.</p> <p>Information from national trade system could feed into the broader regional information system. A regional system could help contribute to decision making processes both national and regional levels, and promote the development of strategic regional initiatives on species of shared concern.</p>
<p>Understanding of enforcement chain is limited: Laws and regulations for wildlife management that are in place have little purpose if not effectively implemented. A detailed understanding of the enforcement chain is needed in each country by all personnel involved in the management of wildlife resources.</p> <p>There are a number of steps that must take place from the time an environmental crime is suspected to the point when someone is found guilty of a crime. The various steps of the enforcement chain may involve several different agencies - it is important for all of these to have a clear understanding of the role and responsibility of each other along the process. Clarity and</p>	<p>Clarify enforcement chain: Bringing personnel from different agencies to wildlife focused trainings and capacity building efforts provides a venue to share experiences and promote a better understanding of the wildlife crime issues different agencies face at different levels of the enforcement chain. Similarly cross-agency secondments for a period of time can build interagency collaboration and mutual understanding and generate opportunities for best practices learning from each agency to be shared.</p> <p>It is highly recommended that the environmental authorities together with the enforcement authorities develop a comprehensive and detailed wildlife law enforcement chain model as a practical exercise</p>

understanding of the different institutions and personnel involved along the enforcement chain provides the opportunity to support each other's work and contribute to more effective and efficient law implementation. This level of clarity also avoids potential problems that could arise from interfering with a particular agencies' task (e.g. evidence gathering/handling), that could subsequently hinder the prosecution of a case. Identifying bottlenecks and challenges at different levels such as resource limitations (human and material), lack of capacity, corruption, insufficient or deficient intra and interagency communication and/or support channels is also vital to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the enforcement system.

and tool. Using a recent prosecution may serve as a good starting point for discussion. This enforcement chain tool should include a clear description of each step along the enforcement/prosecution process and include names and contact information of the personnel from each agency that should be involved (including non governmental agencies such as rescue centers for housing confiscated specimens). The tool will need to be periodically updated and should be widely distributed along with supporting information that will help ensure successful prosecutions of environmental crimes. This could include updated copies of the relevant legal and regulatory frameworks as well as detailed information on what enforcement staff should do with seized specimens and who to contact for proper care/handling of live specimens.

Judiciary is unaware of-or underestimates-seriousness of wildlife trade crimes: The judiciary needs to understand that wildlife smuggling and illegal trade are important issues to consider. The need for raising judicial awareness is not unique to Central America or the Dominican Republic-in many countries it is difficult to bring wildlife cases to trial. It can also be difficult to obtain strict sentences or harsh penalties when cases are successfully tried by the judiciary, simply because judges are not aware of the critical status of many traded species or do not view wildlife crimes with the same sense of severity as other criminal activity.

Highlight impact and seriousness of wildlife crime to judiciary: The CITES authorities of each country, in cooperation with experts such the United States Department of Justice, should hold seminars to sensitize the judiciary on the importance of CITES; the impact of CITES crimes and the value of wildlife conservation and the illegal revenues made from wildlife crimes. Additionally, background materials related to these subjects should be provided to prosecutors and courts. TRAFFIC has undertaken judiciary support work in several countries around the world, including a regional effort in Southeast Asia to highlight the need for increased attention to this issue. Encouragingly, TRAFFIC has received positive feedback from the judiciary participants.

For More Information...

TRAFFIC appreciates the opportunity to have reviewed the status of CITES and wildlife trade regulations in Central America and the Dominican Republic and we gladly welcome feedback on this analysis in order to ensure that it reflects the current situation. As stated in the introduction, the purpose of this regional report is to guide the capacity building work that TRAFFIC is undertaking to support the six countries that are signatories to the CAFTA-DR.

For further information on TRAFFIC's capacity building efforts in Central America please contact Adrian Reuter, TRAFFIC Mexico National Representative at areuter@wwfmex.org.

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Appendix 1: Institutions Contacted

The following individuals participated in general CITES/wildlife trade meetings, provided interviews or completed questionnaires that contributed to the information presented in this document.

Country	Name	Position	Institution	Email	Phone
El Salvador	José Enrique Barraza	Especialista en Ecología Costero Marina	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales	ebarraza@marn.gob.sv	(503) 2267 9309
El Salvador	Zulma Ricora de Mendoza	Gerente de Areas Protegidas y Corredor Biológico	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales	zmendoza@marn.gob.sv	(503) 226719312
El Salvador	Ricardo Vaquero		MAG/Coordinador de CITES		
El Salvador	Luis Alonso Vásquez Hernández	Colaborador Jurídico	Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería	ivasquez@mag.gob.sv	(503) 2241 1747
El Salvador	Jorge Quezada		MARN/ Director de Biodiversidad		
Honduras	Daisy Johanna Samayoa Rubio	Analista Ambiental	Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente	Djohanna2000@yahoo.com	(504) 235 3764
Honduras	María Gabriela Pineda Occhiena		MAG/ Coordinadora Nacional Oficina CITES	gabrielapineda@sag.gob.hn mpao2@hotmail.com	(504) 235-8448
Costa Rica	José Joaquín Calvo Domingo	Encargado de Vida Silvestre y Autoridad Administrativa CITES	Sistema Nacional de Areas de Conservación, ministerio de Ambiente y Energía	joaquin.calvo@sinac.go.cr	(506) 256 0917 x153
Costa Rica	Jorge Hernández Benavides	Coordinador de Vida Silvestre	Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía	Jorgecrcr@yahoo.com	(506) 2686756
Nicaragua	Liza González	Director Nacional	Paso Pacífico (ONG)	liza@pasopacifico.org	(505) 2334455
Nicaragua	Fátima Vanegas	Consultora para la CCAD, ex autoridad CITES para Nicaragua		fhaydee92@gmail.com	505 2514328

Nicaragua	Maria Antonieta Rivas L.	Directora General	Dirección General de Comercio y Ambiente, Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales		
Guatemala	Otoniel Chacón	Jefe de Sección de Flora Silvestre, Autoridad Científica CITES	Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas	ochacon@conap.gob.gt	(502) 2422 6700 x 2005
Guatemala	Hiram Ordóñez	Director de Vida Silvestre, Autoridad Científica CITES	CONAP	hordonez@conap.gob.gt	
Guatemala	Alan Francisco Wong Diaz	Asesor Específico Política Internacional		Alan15wong@yahoo.com	58 08 76 87
Guatemala	Mygdalia García	Jefe de la Sección de Exportaciones e Importaciones	CONAP	cites@conap.gob.gt	(502) 2422 67 00 x 2005
Guatemala	Francisco Gilberto Méndez Quiñonez	Técnico Forestal	CONAP	Pancho.mendez@hotmail.com	7726644
Guatemala	Mildred Anabella Arango Barrios	Asesora legal	CONAP	Aabarrios44@yahoo.com	59976841
Guatemala	Mario Estuardo Morales Ochoa	Director General	CONAP	Ing_emoralesgt@yahoo.com	(502) 7767 1885
Guatemala	Sergio Otomil González García	Técnico en Vida Silvestre	CONAP	Sogoga020482@yahoo.es	54602087
Guatemala	Alan Estuardo marroguín Juárez	Asistente Técnico	CONAP	alancees@gmail.com	57624468
Guatemala	Werner Yovani	Jefe	DIPRONA	Werner.yaxcal@yahoo.es	22541849

	Leal Yaxcal			
República Dominicana	Amarilis Polonia	Directora de Biodiversidad y Vida Silvestre	Autoridad Nacional de la Convención CITES	vida.silvestre@verizon.net.do
República Dominicana	Cecilia Hernández	Director	Dpto. de Regulaciones y Controles	
República Dominicana	Rosa Otero Nieves	Directora Legal	Ministerio del Ambiente y recursos Naturales	rosa.otero@medioambiente.gov.do

Note: These persons had the specified positions at the time the interviews were done and the questionnaires applied. It is important to mention that some of them currently (at the moment the report is being written) have different positions and others even do not work anymore for the above mentioned institutions.

Appendix 2: Example of CITES Permits

El Salvador CITES Permit

This is a green CITES permit form from El Salvador. It is titled 'MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA Y GANADERIA República de El Salvador' and 'Serie A No. 6544'. The form includes sections for:

- 1) Permit Original / Original Permit
- 2) Destination (Mexico, Honduras, Cuba, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, USA, Canada, Other)
- 3) Species (Scientific Name, Common Name, and IUCN Status)
- 4) Quantity (Number of individuals, eggs, or other parts)
- 5) Date of issue and validity period
- 6) Signature and stamp of the issuing authority

Nicaragua CITES Permit

This is a green CITES permit form from Nicaragua. It is titled 'CONVENCIÓN SOBRE EL COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPECIES AMENAZADAS DE FAUNA Y FLORA SILVESTRES'. The form includes:

- 1) Species and quantity
- 2) Date of issue
- 3) Conditions of export
- 4) Destination (USA, Canada, Mexico, etc.)
- 5) Issuing authority (Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Recursos Ambientales, MANAGUA, NICARAGUA)
- 6) Signature and stamp
- 7) Table for listing species and quantities
- 8) Signature and stamp of the recipient

Guatemala CITES Permit

This is a green CITES permit form from Guatemala. It is titled 'CONVENCIÓN SOBRE EL COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPECIES AMENAZADAS DE FAUNA Y FLORA SILVESTRES'. The form includes:

- 1) Species and quantity
- 2) Date of issue
- 3) Conditions of export
- 4) Destination (USA, Canada, Mexico, etc.)
- 5) Issuing authority (CONSEJO NACIONAL DE ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS (CONAP), REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA)
- 6) Signature and stamp
- 7) Table for listing species and quantities
- 8) Signature and stamp of the recipient

Honduras CITES Permit

This is a green CITES permit form from Honduras. It is titled 'CONVENCIÓN SOBRE EL COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPECIES AMENAZADAS DE FAUNA Y FLORA SILVESTRES'. The form includes:

- 1) Species and quantity
- 2) Date of issue
- 3) Conditions of export
- 4) Destination (USA, Canada, Mexico, etc.)
- 5) Issuing authority (Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería, Tegucigalpa, D.F., C., HONDURAS, C.A.)
- 6) Signature and stamp
- 7) Table for listing species and quantities
- 8) Signature and stamp of the recipient

Costa Rica CITES Permit

This is a pink CITES permit form from Costa Rica. It is titled 'CONVENCIÓN SOBRE EL COMERCIO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPECIES AMENAZADAS DE FAUNA Y FLORA SILVESTRES'. The form includes:

- 1) Species and quantity
- 2) Date of issue
- 3) Conditions of export
- 4) Destination (USA, Canada, Mexico, etc.)
- 5) Issuing authority (AUTORIDADES ADMINISTRATIVAS FLORA Y FAUNA CITES, REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA)
- 6) Signature and stamp
- 7) Table for listing species and quantities
- 8) Signature and stamp of the recipient

Appendix 3: National Legislation

Country	Legislation	Description of Legislation
Costa Rica	Wildlife Conservation Law (Law No 7317)	<p>The State can subscribe contracts, grant use permits, licenses, concessions or any other legally established figure for sustainable conservation and/or use of wildlife.</p> <p>Art. 14 Prohibits the hunting, fishing and extraction of threatened continental or insular flora and fauna with the exception of that originated sustainably in registered captive breeding or facilities or nurseries and have undergone the appropriate scientific studies. Registration of these facilities is done by the Dirección General de Vida Silvestre-MINAE.</p> <p>Art. 15 MINAE will designate wildlife inspectors, honorary wildlife inspectors and natural resources surveillance committees (non government employees). Wildlife inspectors have police authority and should have a MINAE identification.</p> <p>Art.18 All trade and activities involving wild fauna and flora, products or derivatives except for those approved by the Dirección General de Vida Silvestre-MINAE and based on prior scientific studies is prohibited. Exports, imports and activities affecting any threatened wildlife species as established by the Executive are prohibited.</p> <p>Art. 25 Threatened species should only be scientifically managed in order to improve the condition of the species.</p> <p>Art. 26 MINAE has the faculty to grant import permits for wildlife species.</p> <p>Art. 27 The Dirección General de Vida Silvestre has the faculty to grant export permits of species from registered captive breeding operations.</p> <p>Art. 76 All international wild fauna and flora related activity in transit through national territory should have all the required permits according to this Law.</p> <p>Art. 77 If CITES specimens are seized, these will be returned to the country of origin, or act according to the Conventions text. If from national origin, live specimens will be relocated according to their natural habitat and the instruction of the scientific authority, this Law and its regulations; or be assigned to national zoos or botanical gardens according to the situation and best opinion of authorities.</p> <p>Art. 78 Legally authorized ports of import, export or transit of wildlife are: Aeropuerto Juan Santamaría, Puntarenas, Caldera, Limón, Peñas Blancas, Paso Canoas or any other in the future which complies with the requisites of this Law and its regulations.</p> <p>Art. 79 Imports, exports and movement of CITES wildlife specimens with non-CITES countries is prohibited.</p> <p>Art. 81 For each CITES permit, the user will deposit 10% of the CIF value in the case of animals, and 5% in the case of plants to the Wildlife Fund account, resources which will be utilized to support the structural local operation of the Convention.</p>

Costa Rica	General Customs Law (Law No 7557)	<p>Art.2 All vehicles, merchandise and people entering or leaving the national territory are subject to this Law.</p> <p>Art. 20. Officers from other public institutions, within their competences, should support custom authorities in the compliance of their functions, and must communicate custom authorities on potential facts and acts in contravention of the customs judiciary regime and hand them the merchandises involved if in their possession. If a non customs authority wants to inspect merchandises or vehicles subject to customs control, previous authorization from the customs authority should be obtained. Exceptions to this can occur during prohibited substances/drugs controls, for national security reasons, in the case of natural disasters or emergencies. The inspection must however, be immediately communicated to the customs authority.</p> <p>Art. 21. All authorities with any control responsibility on trans-border movement of merchandises, vehicles or people should act collaboratively in a coordinated manner os as to implement existing legal and administrative dispositions. If special control by another authority needs to take place, custom authorities will inform the respective institution and will not accept the customs declaration until the requisites are fulfilled.</p> <p>Art. 22 Defines customs control.</p> <p>Art. 24 Lists Customs functions</p> <p>Art. 25 Indicates that Customs authority can request national and international assistance to prevent and investigate related crimes, seize merchandise and detain suspects when caught in an illicit act. Suspects are to be handed over to the judiciary within 24 hrs.</p>
Costa Rica	National Animal Health Service General Law (Law No 8495)	States that the Servicio Nacional de Salud Animal (SENASA) is responsible to establish the necessary health measures for the national and international transit or exchange of domestic, wild, aquatic and other animals, its genetic or biotechnological material, products, byproducts, derivatives, remains, hazardous substances, food or veterinary use medicines. This, to avoid plagues or illnesses that could pose a risk to public or animal health. SENASA is instructed to respect CITES dispositions and other related laws and regulations.
Costa Rica	Plant Health Protection Law (Law No 7664)	States that the Servicio Fitosanitario del Estado is responsible to establish the necessary health measures for the national and international transit or exchange of plants, biological control agents and other organism for agricultural use, packaging and conditioning materials, containers, luggage or personal belongings, and postal packages to avoid plagues or illnesses that could pose a risk to agriculture, the health or the environment.
Costa Rica	Decree No 28522	Designates the National Conservation Areas System as CITES Management Authority. Determines the scientific committee and the roles of the authorities.
Costa Rica	Wildlife Conservation Law Regulations Decree No 32633- MINAE/2005	Establishes specific requisites for hunting, fishing, recollection and extraction of wild fauna and flora permits for commercial, sport, subsistence, scientific and educational purposes; as well as for the export of wildlife specimens from zoos, captive breeding/propagation facilities, and aquaria.

Costa Rica	Prohibition for the import and itinerant exhibition of circus animals (Decree No 30580-MINAE-MAG)	Regulates the import and exhibition of wild animals that belong to circuses.
Costa Rica	Prohibition for the trade in dolphins and killer whales (Decree No 27007-MINAE)	Regulates the capture, keeping and trade of dolphins and killer whales.
Dominican Republic	General Environment and Natural Resources Law (No. 64-00)	This law focuses on environment and natural resources conservation, improvement and restoration norms, so as to ensure sustainable use. This law considers the development of the National Protected Areas System (SINAP) to guarantee biological and landscape diversity as one of its management tools.
Dominican Republic	Protected Areas Law (No. 202-04)	Establishes the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARENA), and particularly the Protected Areas Directorate (Dirección de Areas Protegidas) as responsible to develop the SINAP.
Dominican Republic	Fisheries Law (No. 5914)	This purpose of this law is to promote aquaculture practices, and regulate fishing in Dominican Republic waters. Fishing activities are all those that are practiced in territorial waters both in the sea or inland (freshwater) targeted at obtaining species specimens or biological elements that live in water. This includes the capture, fishing or killing of fish, mollusks or crustaceans.
Dominican Republic	Decree No. 1288-04	This Decree makes official the Wild Flora and Fauna Trade regulations (Reglamento para el Comercio de Fauna y Flora Silvestres).
Dominican Republic	Decree No. 752-01	This decree establishes a 10 year prohibition to the capture, killing, egg harvesting and sale of hawksbill, leatherback, loggerhead and green turtle products
Dominican Republic	Law No. 307-04	This law creates the Dominican Republic Aquaculture and Fisheries Council (Consejo Dominicano de la Pesca y la Acuicultura CODOPESCA) responsible for the management of fishing and aquaculture activities in the Dominican Republic.
Dominican Republic	Resolution on Hunting Norms in the Dominican Republic (Resolution No. 013-2004)	This resolution regulates hunting activities and establishes specific conditions for such activities for sport, subsistence, scientific purposes plague controls and introduced species.
El Salvador	Constitution of El Salvador (Articles 117)	Article 117 of the Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador is of particular importance, because it states that it is a duty of the State to protect natural resources and the integrity of the environment, in order to guarantee sustainable development. This article declares the social interest regarding the

		protection, conservation, rational use, restoration or substitution of natural resources, according to the Law.
EI Salvador	Constitution of El Salvador (Article 144)	According to Article 144 of the Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador, international treaties signed by El Salvador become national laws and enter into force once they have been ratified and published in the National Gazette (<i>Diario Oficial</i>). El Salvador has signed 11 international and six regional conventions related to the environment that directly or indirectly address the themes of biodiversity, forest and water resources. CITES was ratified in 1986 and has the goal to protect many species of animals and plants to ensure that commercial trade does not threaten their survival in the wild.
EI Salvador	Wildlife Conservation Law	This law focuses on the protection, restoration, management, use and conservation of wildlife. This law regulates activities such as hunting, harvesting and commercialization, and any other types of use of this resource.
EI Salvador	Forestry Law	This law establishes those controls that allow for the development, management and sustainable use of forestry resources and the development of the timber industry. This law considers forestry resources as part of the natural wealth of the Nation and it is the Nation's role to protect and manage them. This Law also aims to establish the conditions so as to stimulate private sector participation in the reforestation of the national territory with productive goals. Protected areas are not included under this regulation.
EI Salvador	Natural Protected Areas Law	This law regulates the establishment of the legal regime, administration, management and development of Natural Protected Areas, in order to conserve biological diversity, ensure the functioning of essential ecological processes and guarantee the perpetuity of natural systems, through sustainable management for the benefit of the inhabitants of the country.
EI Salvador	Regulation for the Establishment and Management of Captive Wildlife Breeding Centers	This regulation establishes the required norms and dispositions for the establishment and development of captive breeding and restoration projects of wild fauna.
EI Salvador	General Fisheries and Aquaculture Planning and Promotion Law	This law aims to promote socio-economic development, through the sustainable use of fisheries resources. According to the Constitution it is in society's interest to promote the protection, development and use of natural resources, and conservation and development will be subject to special laws. This law stipulates that it is necessary to formulate and apply new planning and sustainable development criteria in the use of hydro-biological resources, according to national policies and international principles accepted by El Salvador, with a foundation of equity and competitiveness.

EI Salvador	Penal Code	<p>This code establishes the penal norms and penalties generally for EI Salvador. Article 259 of the Penal Code establishes a prison sentence of 1-3 years for anyone cutting, burning, taking, trading or illegally trafficking species or subspecies of protected flora, or severely destroying or modifying its natural environment. The same sanction will be applied to whoever severely damages any of the elements in a Protected Natural Area that are used to define it as such. Article 261 of the Penal Code imposes a 3-5 year prison sanction to anyone illegally hunting, fishing, trading animals or their parts, or pursuing activities that make it difficult for species to reproduce in contravention of the laws and regulations protecting wild fauna. The sentence will be increased by 1/3rd of the maximum term indicated if the status of the species affected is endangered.</p>
Guatemala	Constitution	<p>Article 64 declares the national interest in the conservation, protection and improvement of the Nation's natural heritage. The State will promote the creation of national parks, reserves and natural refuges and the protection of its flora and fauna will be guaranteed by a Law</p> <p>Article 97 indicates that the State, Municipalities and inhabitants in Guatemala are to support social, economic and technological development that prevents environmental pollution and maintains the ecological balance. All norms necessary will be developed so as to guarantee the rational use of fauna, flora, land and water to avoid any negative impacts.</p> <p>Article 119 states that it is an obligation of the State to adopt necessary measures for the conservation, development and efficient use of natural resources</p>
Guatemala	Protected Areas Law (Decree 4-89 and its reforms)	<p>Aims at ensuring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) optimal functioning of essential ecological processes and vital natural systems for the benefit of Guatemalans b) achieving the conservation of biological diversity in the Country c) reaching the capacity for a sustainable use of species and ecosystems in the Country d) defending and preserving the Nation's natural heritage e) establishing the necessary protected areas in Guatemala for social and public interest <p>Article 23 Considers as urgent and as a national need the restoration of threatened fauna and flora species and the protection of endemics.</p> <p>Article 24 Mandates CONAP to prepare the Guatemalan endangered species lists on a yearly basis, and also for endemic species and those that even not having the status mentioned before, require from authorization for their use and trade. All modifications, additions, deletions, reservations or changes will be published in the Official Gazette (Diario Oficial).</p> <p>Article 25 indicates that CITES Appendixes I, II and III will be considered as official for Guatemala unless an expressed reservation by the Guatemalan CITES Management Authority exists.</p> <p>Article 26 Prohibits the free export and trade of endangered flora and fauna species from wild origin. Only 2nd generation specimens from authorized captive breeding operations that comply with all legal requisites will be allowed for export.</p>

		<p>Article 27 Prohibits the harvest, hunting, fishing, transportation, exchange, trade and export of endangered fauna and flora species according to CONAP lists, unless for scientifically proven species survival, rescue or protection activities.</p> <p>Article 73 The Executive Secretary of CONAP represents the CITES Management Authority, and has the ability to designate Scientific Authorities as he/she considers appropriate, as well as mechanisms that improve the conventions implementation.</p>
Guatemala	Procedures Manual for Mahogany Exports	Presents in a systematic and standardized form, the procedures for Mahogany exports. A clear separation of each institution's responsibilities and roles, particularly for those institutions in charge of the management and regulation of forestry resources in the country, the National Protected Areas Council (CONAP) and the National Forests Institute (Instituto Nacional de Bosques).
Guatemala	General Hunting Law	The objective of this law is to regulate and control hunting activities, either for sport or subsistence in order to ensure its sustainability.
Guatemala	Hunting calendar	This is a matrix containing the species subject to hunting, the approved quotas, gender of animals to be hunted, and allowed hunting seasons (months, days), so as not to affect the survival of species involved.
Honduras	General Environmental Law and its regulations	Establishes, in chapters II and IV ,the general guidelines for wildlife use and conservation.
Honduras	Fisheries Law (Decree 154-59)	Establishes norms and procedures for the capture and export of marine and freshwater species.
Honduras	Animal and Plant Health Law (Decree 157-94 and Quarantine and Farming Regulations Agreement 1618-97)	Establishes norms for the application of fauna and flora health measures for the export and import of animal and plant species, products and sub products .
Honduras	Technical and administrative norms manual on wildlife use (Resolution 138-2) Directive Council of AFE-COHDEFOR	Establishes national guidelines and norms for the use of wildlife.
Honduras	Regulation on the procedures for the implementation of CITES (Decree 966-03)	Establishes the legal, administrative and technical ordinances for the effective implementation of CITES in Honduras.
Honduras	Approval of the Manuals on Technical and Administrative norms for the management of Protected Areas in Honduras, and the use of wild fauna (Resolution 138-2)	Establishes the legal, administrative and technical dispositions for the management of Protected Areas in Honduras and the use of wild fauna.

Honduras	Approval of a new Manual on Technical and Administrative norms for the management and sustainable use of Honduran wildlife (Resolution No. CD-256-003-2008)	This new (February 2008) Manual incorporates the Flora component which was not included in the 1994 version, and establishes norms and specific procedures to follow on the next themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvesting/capture of flora and fauna for commercial and non commercial purposes • Hunting (sport, subsistence, control) • Closed seasons and scientific research • Captive breeding operations (for CITES, non CITES species, and scientific purposes)
Nicaragua	General Environmental and Natural Resources Law (Law 217)	Mandates MARENA as the entity in charge of listing endangered species in accordance to international agreements; also to grant the right to utilize natural resources through concessions, permits, licenses and quotas.
Nicaragua	Regulations of the General Environmental and Natural Resources Law (Decree 9-96)	Establishes general norms for environmental management and sustainable use of natural resources under the framework of the General Environmental and Natural Resources Law.
Nicaragua	Norms and procedures for the export and import of wild flora and fauna species of Nicaragua (Decree 8-98)	Under Article 6, individuals involved with wildlife trade activities should be registered with the Management Authority. The responsibility of the Management Authority includes the roles indicated under the CITES convention, plus, among others: supervising in coordination with Customs, the packaging of live specimens to be transported according to International Air Transport Association (IATA) regulations. Article 14 indicates that the General Customs Directorate should establish, in coordination with the Management and Port authorities, the entry and exit ports (land or sea) for international trade of species, their parts, and also products from the sea.
Nicaragua	Animal and Plant Health Basic Law (Law 291)	In Article 4 this law addresses the prevention, control and eradication programs for plagues and illnesses affecting animals and plants, in order to avoid negatively affecting food, agricultural, fisheries, forestry and international trade. Article 8 focuses on the supervision, inspection and certification of areas, herds, slaughterhouses, processing plants of products and sub products of animal origin, as well as packaging and transportation operations. Article 32 addresses agricultural quarantine and the seizure, destruction or repatriation of items entering the country illegally.
Nicaragua	Hunting Law (Decree 206)	According to this law, hunting may be practiced in all parts of the national territory, as long as it complies with this law, its regulations, and any resolutions by the respective authorities, on closed seasons, off-limits hunting areas, hunting methods and systems, as well as trade of products resulting from hunting activities.
Nicaragua	Fisheries Exploitation Special Law (Decree 557)	This law applies to all territorial waters including lakes, lagoons and rivers of public use and also considers marine turtles.
Nicaragua	Special law against environmental and natural resources crimes	The objective of this law is to illustrate as crimes against the environment and natural resources those actions or omissions that violate or alter existing laws and resolutions related to environmental and natural resource conservation, protection, defense and improvement, and establishes the civil

	(Law 559)	responsibility to those actors whose participation/involvement in such crimes is confirmed.
Nicaragua	Regulations to the Forestry Law (Decree 45-93)	The scope of these regulations includes all activities related to land use of forests, sustainable management of forests and their exploitation, industrialization and marketing of forest products, including its services and infrastructure. Its objectives are: a) ensure use and development of land that is consistent with its capacity without being degraded, b) ensure a rational and sustainable exploitation of the forest resources of the country c) ensure the supply of raw material for the forest industry and contribute to the generation of financial resources for the country, d) stop the destruction of remaining forests and restore forest land, e) prevent soil erosion and degradation of ecosystems, deterioration of watersheds and improve water quality; f) avoid the loss of biodiversity, and g) ensure an efficient and appropriate land use of forests.
Nicaragua	Green and black iguana conservation and protection law (Decree 547)	This law prohibits cruel or damaging capture, handling and commercialization methods of green or black iguanas. This law also prohibits the hunting of these two species through the use of fire in their burrows and prohibits the export of these species, dead or alive, or their eggs.

Source: (CAFTA-DR, 2007-2008)

Appendix 4: Contact Information for CITES Authorities

Country	Current Contact Information for CAFTA-DR CITES Authorities (www.cites.org)
Costa Rica	<p>Management Authority</p> <p>José Joaquín Calvo Domingo Encargado de Vida Silvestre Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía Apartado Postal 11.384-1000 SAN JOSÉ Tel: +506 256 09 17 (ext. 167; 153) Fax: +506 256 24 36 Email: citescostarica@sinac.go.cr; joaquin.calvo@sinac.go.cr Other Contacts: Juan Rodríguez juan.rodriguez@sinac.go.cr Javier Guevara javiergs749@hotmail.com</p> <p>Scientific Authorities</p> <p>Universidad Nacional Apartado Postal 1916-3000 HEREDIA</p> <p>Dora Ingrid Rivera Coordinadora Consejo de Representantes de Autoridades Científicas – CITES Tel: +506 293 06 52; 372 29 80 (mobile / celular) Email: dora.ingrid.rivera@gmail.com</p> <p>Mauricio Jiménez Escuela de Veterinaria Tel: +506 261 00 25 Fax: +506 260 01 37 Email: mjimenez@medvet.una.ac.cr</p> <p>Grace Wong Programa Regional en Manejo de Vida Silvestre para Mesoamérica y el Caribe Tel: +506 237 70 39 Fax: +506 237 70 36 Email: gwongr@racsa.co.cr</p> <p>Universidad de Costa Rica San Jose Federico Bolanos-Escuela de Biología Tel: +506 207 59 59 Fax: +506 207 42 16 Email: bolanosv@biologia.ucr.ac.cr</p> <p>Isabel Carpio Laboratorio de Productos Forestales Escuela de Ingeniería Civil Tel: +506 207 55 91</p>

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Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica
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Julio Sanchez
Departamento de Historia Natural
Museo Nacional de Costa Rica
SAN JOSÉ

Noemi Canet
Colegio de Biólogos de Costa Rica
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Tel: +506 279 04 22

Enforcement Authority

Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación
Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía
Programa Nacional de Vida Silvestre
Gerencia de Manejo de los Recursos Naturales
Apartado Postal 11.384-1000
SAN JOSÉ

Lic. José Joaquín Calvo Domingo
Encargado de Vida Silvestre
Tel: 506 256 24 36
Email: citescostarica@sinac.go.cr;
joaquin.calvo@sinac.go.cr

Lic. Juan Rodríguez Ramírez
Tel: +506 445 92 57
Fax: +506 445 92 57
Email: citescostarica@sinac.go.cr
juan.rodriguez@sinac.go.cr

Dominican Republic

Management Authority

Lic. Angel Daneris Santana
Subsecretario de Estado de Áreas Protegidas y Biodiversidad
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Av. Máximo Gómez, esquina Av. Paseo de los Reyes Católicos,
Antigua Cementera
SANTO DOMINGO, D.N.
Tel: +1 (809) 472 42 04
Fax: +1 (809) 472 40 12
Email: areasprotegidas@medioambiente.gov.do

Dirección Nacional de Vida Silvestre y Biodiversidad
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Av. Máximo Gómez, esquina Av. Paseo de los Reyes Católicos,
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SANTO DOMINGO, D.N.
Tel: +1 (809) 472 70 29/81; 472 95 10
Fax: +1 (809) 472 71 05; 472 40 12
Email: vida.silvestre@verizon.net.do

José R. Albaine
Ivelisse Figueroa

El Salvador

Management Authority
Ing. Adolfo R. Robredo
Director General de Sanidad Vegetal y Animal
Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
Final 1a. Avenida Norte
13 Calle Oriente y Avenida Manuel Gallardo
NUEVA SAN SALVADOR
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Fax: +503 22 28 90 29
Email: rgavidia@mag.gob.sv
cites@mag.gob.sv; direccion@mag.gob.sv (Director)

Scientific Authorities Fauna & Flora
Director General
Dirección General de Recursos Naturales Renovables
Final 1a. Avenida Norte
13 Calle Oriente y Avenida Manuel Gallardo
NUEVA SAN SALVADOR
Tel: +503 22 28 32 62
Fax: +503 22 28 32 62

Scientific Authorities for Marine and Freshwater Species
Centro para el Desarrollo de la Pesca y Acuicultura
Final 1a. Avenida Norte
13 Calle Oriente y Avenida Manuel Gallardo
NUEVA SAN SALVADOR
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Fax. +503 22 28 22 21
b) Jefe de División de Investigación Pesquera
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Guatemala

Management Authority

M.Sc. Licda. Claudia Eugenia Santizo Arroyo
Secretaria Ejecutiva
Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (CONAP)
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Edificio IPM, 7o. nivel
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Tel: +502 22 32 07 30
Fax: +502 22 38 31 18; 22 53 41 41
Email: seconap@conap.gob.gt

Scientific Authorities

Dr. Med. Vet. Hiram Ordóñez Chocano
Director del Departamento de Vida Silvestre
Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (CONAP)
5a. av. 6-06, Zona 1
Edificio IPM, 7o. nivel
CIUDAD DE GUATEMALA
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Fax: +502 22 38 31 18; 22 53 41 41
Email: vidadil@conap.gob.gt

For timber species

Ing. Jimmy Alexander Navarro Ramirez
Director del Departamento de Manejo Forestal
Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (CONAP)
5a. av. 6-06, Zona 1
Edificio IPM, 5to, 6to y 7mo. nivel
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Tel: +502 24 22 67 00 (ext. 2001)
Fax: +502 22 53 41 41
Email: direccionforestal@conap.gob.gt
Web: <http://www.conap.gob.gt>

Honduras**Management Authority**

Ministro Hector Hernandez Amador
Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería
Despacho Ministerial
Boulevard Centroamérica
Avenida La FAO
TEGUCIGALPA, M.D.C.

Tel: +504 (2) 39 76 03; 39 88 51

Fax: +504 (2) 31 15 47; 32 53 75

Email: hectorh2002@yahoo.com

Scientific Authorities

Dirección General de Pesca y Acuicultura (DIGEPESCA)

Departamento de Areas Protegidas y Vida Silvestre (AFE/COHDEFOR)

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH)
Departamento de Biología

Escuela Agrícola Panamericana El Zamorano
Departamento de Recursos Naturales

Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Forestales (ESNACIFOR)
Departamento de Investigación

Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente (SERNA)
Dirección de Biodiversidad

Enforcement Authorities

Fiscalía Especial del Medio Ambiente
Ministerio Público
Edificio Lomas Plaza II
Ave. República Dominicana
Res. Lomas del Guijarro
Apdo. Postal 3730
TEGUCIGALPA, M.D.C.
Tel: +504 (2) 21 30 99; 21 56 20-34
Abogado Aldo Santos

Abogado Edy Nelson Lagos Pereira
Email: elagospereira@yahoo.com.mx
Procuraduría General del Ambiente
Abogado Rene Zúñiga Vargas
Colonia Lomas del Guijarro Sur
Ave. Berlín, Calle París, C-3826
Apdo. Postal 5977
TEGUCIGALPA, M.D.C.
Tel: +504 (2) 32 59 13; 39 44 74; 35 53 57
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Nicaragua**Management Authority**

René Salvador Castellón
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Note: This information was retrieved from CITES website (www.cites.org) at the moment the report was being written. Due to relatively frequent changes on Authorities' staff, in order to have the updated information it is recommended to periodically visit either CITES or each country's Authorities website.

Appendix 5: Gap Analysis Questionnaire

Nombre
País
Institución a la que pertenece
Cargo
Teléfono
Correo electrónico

Le agradecemos el tiempo que se tome para contestar este cuestionario. Por favor indique si sus respuestas reflejan la realidad de su institución o de las distintas instituciones en su país.

En su opinión, ¿cuáles son los tres principales problemas que su país enfrenta en el tema de regulación y control del comercio de vida silvestre?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

¿Cuáles son las especies de origen silvestre de mayor preocupación en su país, por estar amenazadas por comercio ilegal ó uso insostenible?

Especie: _____ uso insostenible ___ comercio ilegal ___

Especie: _____ uso insostenible ___ comercio ilegal ___

Especie: _____ uso insostenible ___ comercio ilegal ___

Especie: _____ uso insostenible ___ comercio ilegal ___

Especie: _____ uso insostenible ___ comercio ilegal ___

Especie: _____ uso insostenible ____ comercio ilegal ____

¿Existen mercados de vida silvestre o zonas que considere particularmente conflictivas en este tema? (en caso afirmativo indique cuales)

Mencione a las autoridades responsables de dar seguimiento e implementar las leyes en materia de vida silvestre:

Nivel Federal

Nivel Estatal (provincia, departamentos, etc)

¿Cuál es el papel de y la relación entre estas autoridades?

ATRIBUCIONES: _____

COORDINACIÓN _____

¿Con qué recursos cuentan para la aplicación de las leyes en materia de vida silvestre? (especialmente las relacionadas al comercio)

HUMANOS: número de personal encargado de la vigilancia y control (vida silvestre), por favor indique la institución a la que pertenecen

MATERIALES: vehículos _____ combustible _____

Radios ____

Oficinas ____

Material de apoyo para la identificación de especies ____

Acceso a Internet _____

Otros (especifique) _____

OTROS: _____

¿Conoce usted el número aproximado de aseguramientos/decomisos de fauna o flora silvestre realizados cada año?

¿Recuerda usted algún caso de aplicación de la ley en materia de vida silvestre que haya causado mucha atención y tenido un perfil alto? Por favor menciónelo y de ser posible indique donde obtener mas información al respecto

¿Cuál es el papel de la judicatura en la aplicación de la ley en materia de vida silvestre?

¿Existen fiscales a cargo de temas relacionados a recursos naturales/especies silvestres en su país? Podría dar un número aproximado?

¿En su país, qué otros actores tienen una influencia importante en materia de comercio de vida silvestre y por qué?

Organizaciones No Gubernamentales (favor de indicar cual(es))

Organismos Internacionales

Instituciones Académicas

Individuos

Instituciones

Científicas: _____

¿Cuáles son los principales puntos de entrada en su país para vida silvestre (que son puntos de control y vigilancia)? Indique el nombre y locación de éstos puntos.

Puertos: _____
_____Aeropuert

os: _____

Fronteras: _____

¿Se han llevado a cabo cursos de capacitación en materia de CITES y/o comercio de vida silvestre en los últimos 5 años? No ____ Si ____ ¿qué temas abordaron dichos cursos?

¿Existe alguna capacitación institucionalizada en esta materia en su país? En caso afirmativo, indique cual y en que institución.

Considera que el personal encargado del control y vigilancia de comercio de vida silvestre en su país está capacitado en este tema en un:

100% ____ 80% ____ 60% ____ 40% ____ 20% ____ 0% ____

¿Cuáles considera que son los temas más importantes que deberían de ser reforzados para fortalecer las capacidades de éste personal?

¿Cuáles son los principales retos que su país enfrenta para el control y seguimiento en temas de comercio de vida silvestre?

Por favor indique otro(s) contacto(s) o personas que cuente(n) con información relevante y podrían contribuir con este ejercicio.

SU VALIOSA COLABORACIÓN CONTRIBUIRÁ A QUE LOS ESFUERZOS PARA FORTALECER LAS CAPACIDADES EN MATERIA DE CONSERVACIÓN Y MANEJO DE VIDA SILVESTRE SEAN ESTRATEGICOS Y EFECTIVOS. ¡MIL GRACIAS!

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the wildlife trade monitoring network

is a joint programme of



The TRAFFIC Network is the world's largest wildlife trade monitoring program with offices covering most parts of the world, and it works to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature.

TRAFFIC is a program of WWF-World Wildlife Fund and IUCN-The International Union for Conservation of Nature, established to monitor trade in wild plants and animals. It works in close cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

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