



# Fighting Illegal Wildlife Trade

# Supporting Sustainable Trade of CITES Species

## Why this matters to you:

The illegal global trade of wildlife species as pets, for food, and as raw material threatens their survival and that of the ecosystems they inhabit. Trade of species needs to be legal, traceable, and sustainable. The CEC is building capacity in North America to help make the trade legal and sustainable to support the survival of sharks, tarantulas, timber, and turtle/tortoise species.

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**LEGAL TRADE IN ANIMAL AND PLANT SPECIES IN NORTH AMERICA CAN HELP ENSURE SPECIES SURVIVAL AND IS A MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS, BUT ILLEGAL HARVESTING AND TRADE OF WILDLIFE THREATENS THE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF SPECIES AND THE BENEFITS FROM THEIR TRADE.**

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## Because of the CEC...

- Enforcement and customs officers across the continent have been trained to better identify species in trade and to deter illegal trade.
- Relevant information on conservation and trade is now available to inform national and trinational policies and regulations.
- Government officials, species experts, industry and communities are collaborating to highlight the importance of sustainable wildlife trade.
- Trilaterally agreed-upon actions have been identified for implementation through partnerships.
- The general public understands the benefits of participating in the legal trade chain and the consequences of illegal trade.

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