



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2020/055

Geneva, 2 September 2020

CONCERNING:

Request for input for study on illegal trade in jaguars (*Panthera onca*)

1. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.251 to 18.253 on *Jaguars* (*Panthera onca*). These decisions are contained in the Annex to the present Notification.
2. Pursuant to paragraph b) of Decision 18.252, Parties, in particular exporting, re-exporting and importing countries affected by illegal trade in jaguar specimens, and relevant stakeholders, are hereby requested to submit to the Secretariat relevant information for the purposes of completing the study on illegal trade in jaguars, outlined in Decision 18.251, paragraph a).
3. Relevant information including but not limited to poaching incidents and statistics, trade pathways and networks, main markets that are driving this trade, connections to other wildlife trafficking activities in the region, uses of jaguar specimens, both within range States and in international markets, information on the modus operandi associated with illegal trade in jaguar specimens and possible drivers of the illegal trade in jaguars; and impacts of illegal trade on jaguar populations throughout the species' range.
4. The Secretariat will make the responses received available to the consultant(s) to be commissioned to prepare the study on illegal trade in jaguars and, in accordance with paragraph b) of Decision 18.251, present the study, along with any recommendations the Secretariat may have, to the next meeting of the Standing Committee tentatively scheduled for autumn 2021 in Geneva.
5. Responses should be submitted by email to penelope.benn@cites.org no later than **15 October 2020**.

Annex

**Decisions on Jaguars (*Panthera onca*),
adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019)**

18.251 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to the availability of external funding, commission a study on illegal trade in jaguars (*Panthera onca*) to:
 - i) map illegal trade in the jaguar throughout its range, including poaching, trade pathways and networks, and main markets that are driving this trade, and how it is connected to other wildlife trafficking activities in the region;
 - ii) analyse the uses of jaguar specimens, both within range states and in international markets, as well as the extent to which illegally-sourced jaguar products are entering international trade;
 - iii) analyse the *modus operandi* associated with illegal trade in jaguar specimens and possible drivers of this activity; and
 - iv) characterize the overall impact of illegal trade on jaguar populations throughout the species' range;
- b) present the findings of the study referred to in Decision 18.251, paragraph a) to the Standing Committee together with any recommendations it may consider relevant; and
- c) issue a Notification seeking input from Parties, in particular exporting, re-exporting and importing countries affected by illegal trade in jaguar (*Panthera onca*) specimens, and relevant stakeholders to provide information to the Secretariat for the purposes of completing the study outlined in Decision 18.251, paragraph a).

18.252 Directed to Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*), and relevant stakeholders

Parties, especially those that are range States of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) and relevant stakeholders, are encouraged to take action to:

- a) support the preparation of the study referred to under paragraph a) of Decision 18.251;
- b) respond to the Notification as described in paragraph c) of Decision 18.251;
- c) recognize the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) as the flagship species of its range countries so that the protection and conservation of the species and its habitat becomes a joint priority;
- d) urgently adopt comprehensive legislation and enforcement controls aimed at eliminating the poaching of jaguars (*Panthera onca*) and illegal trade in their parts and derivatives, including online sales of specimens;
- e) promote the design and implementation of conservation corridors between range countries of the jaguar (*Panthera onca*) strengthening cooperation mechanisms on a local, national and regional level in order to promote good conservation practices, channel investments to the conservation of the species, reduce the threats to the connectivity of its habitats, and strengthen the capacities of the main players involved;

- f) raise awareness about the importance of the jaguar, its role in the ecosystem and the threats it faces, including illegal trade;
- g) participate in conferences and workshops, among other events, in order to share experiences and knowledge about the priority issues identified to combat illegal trade in jaguars (*Panthera onca*); and
- h) consider making a voluntary contribution to conduct the study or implement its recommendations.

18.253 Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall consider the findings of the study referred to in Decision 18.251, paragraph a) as well as the report and recommendations of the Secretariat and make recommendations as appropriate until the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.