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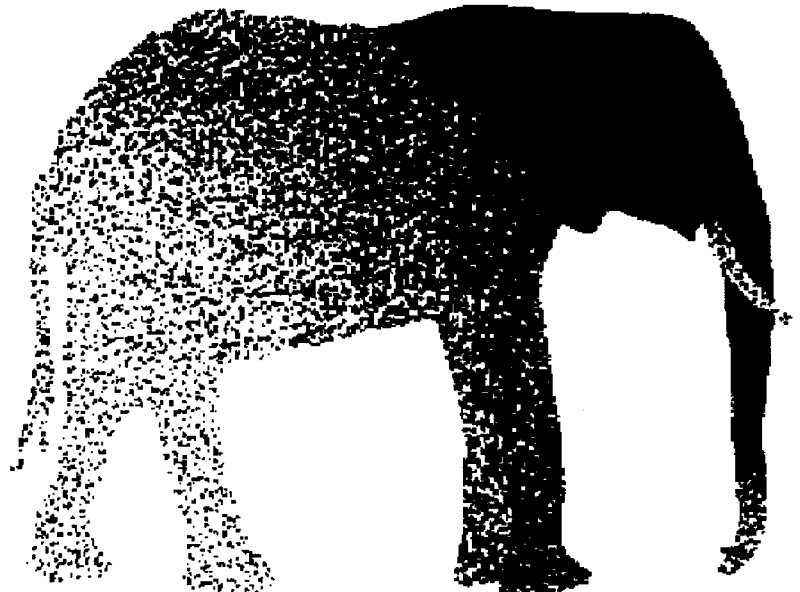
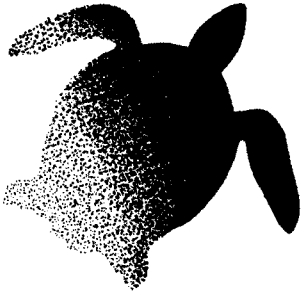
Environnement
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Canadian Wildlife
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Service canadien
de la faune

WILD ANIMAL AND PLANT PROTECTION AND REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE ACT

1999 REPORT



Canada

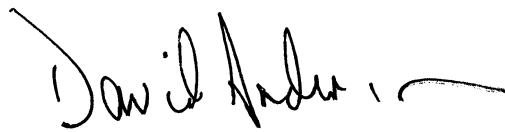
Minister's Message

Her Excellency
The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, C.C., C.M.M., C.D.
Governor General of Canada
Rideau Hall
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A1

Your Excellency:

I am pleased to submit to you, and to the Parliament of Canada, the fourth annual report on the *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act* (WAPPRIITA).

Much dedication and hard work go into the implementation of WAPPRIITA and the Wild Animal and Plant Trade Regulations. I wish to acknowledge the contributions of my federal, provincial, and territorial colleagues and their officials, Environment Canada employees across the country, the interested public, and representatives of non-governmental organizations, industry and trade associations, and hobbyist organizations. I look forward to continuing to work with all of these partners in our efforts to protect wild animals and plants from the risks posed by illegal trade.


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon. David Anderson

**Wild Animal and Plant
Protection and
Regulation of
International and
Interprovincial Trade Act**

1999 Report





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WILD ANIMAL AND PLANT PROTECTION AND REGULATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE ACT

1999 REPORT

A. INTRODUCTION

The *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act* (WAPPRIITA) received royal assent on 17 December 1992 and came into force on 14 May 1996 when the Wild Animal and Plant Trade Regulations took effect. The purpose of WAPPRIITA is to protect Canadian and foreign species of animals and plants that may be at risk of overexploitation because of poaching or illegal trade and to safeguard Canadian ecosystems from the introduction of species designated as harmful. It accomplishes these objectives by controlling the international trade and interprovincial transport of wild animals and plants, as well as their parts and derivatives, and by making it an offence to transport illegally obtained wildlife between provinces or territories or between Canada and other countries.

WAPPRIITA is the legislative vehicle by which Canada meets its obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, commonly called CITES. Canada was one of the original Parties to this international agreement, which had been adopted by 148 sovereign states by the end of 1999. CITES sets controls on the trade and international movement of animal and plant species that have been, or may be, threatened with overexploitation as a result of trade pressures. Such species are identified by the Parties and listed in one of three appendices to the Convention according to the level of control considered necessary for them. Appendix I lists species that are threatened with extinction. Trade in these species is strictly regulated to ensure their survival, and trade for primarily commercial purposes is prohibited. Appendix II lists species that are not currently threatened with extinction but may become so unless trade is strictly regulated to avoid overexploitation. Individual Parties may list species found within

their borders in Appendix III in order to manage international trade in those species.

B. ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACT

B-1 Authorities

Environment Canada administers WAPPRIITA through its national office, where the national CITES management and scientific authorities are located. CITES management and scientific authorities are also located in Fisheries and Oceans Canada for fish and marine mammals and in each province or territory (except Alberta) for provincially or territorially managed species. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency assists Environment Canada by processing CITES documentation for the export of artificially propagated plants as an attachment to documents required under the *Plant Protection Act*, which it administers.

Enforcement of WAPPRIITA is overseen by the Enforcement Branch in Environment Canada and carried out by five regional offices (Pacific and Yukon, Prairie and Northern, Ontario, Quebec, and Atlantic) in cooperation with other federal agencies, including the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (formerly Revenue Canada), the RCMP, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada, as well as with provincial and territorial wildlife agencies.

B-2 Agreements with the Provinces and Territories

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to support cooperative management, administration, and enforcement of WAPPRIITA have been established with Saskatchewan and Yukon (1997); Alberta, Manitoba, and the Northwest Territories (1998); and British Columbia (1999). Similar MOUs are currently being negotiated with most of the remaining jurisdictions, including Canada's new territory, Nunavut. Agreements with Prince Edward Island (1997) and Manitoba (1998) have been signed by the Department of Justice to permit ticketing for WAPPRIITA offences under the *Contraventions Act*. Ticketing agreements with other provinces are being negotiated.

B-3 Permits

Currently, all permits issued under the Act are to implement CITES. There were no applications in 1999 to import controlled species listed in Schedule II of the Wild Animal and Plant Trade Regulations as harmful to Canadian species or ecosystems.

All CITES import permits are issued by Environment Canada, as are all temporary movement permits for live animals and scientific certificates. Fisheries and Oceans Canada issues CITES export permits for fish and marine mammals. The provinces and territories (except Alberta for all items and Saskatchewan for black bear) issue CITES export permits for items leaving their jurisdictions. Environment Canada issues CITES export permits valid for multiple shipments by certified nurseries of artificially propagated plants.

CITES Permits Issued in Canada in 1998 and 1999

Jurisdiction	Import		Export		Temporary Export/Import		Scientific	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
Canada	193	190	8 438	9 169	239	247	36	37
N.W.T.			95	153				
Yukon			242	225				
British Columbia			2 084	2 386				
Saskatchewan			480*	923				
Manitoba			1 630	1 958				
Ontario			5 697	3 490				
Quebec			1 999	2 612				
New Brunswick			1 547	1 699				
Nova Scotia			63	68				
P.E.I.			3	3				
Newfoundland			130*	143				
TOTAL	193	190	22 408	22 819	239	247	36	37

Notes: Note: Alberta does not issue CITES permits. Since 1997, Canada has issued export permits for black bear from Saskatchewan.

* Estimated from the 1997 report

C. REGULATION, COMPLIANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT

C-1 Regulatory Development

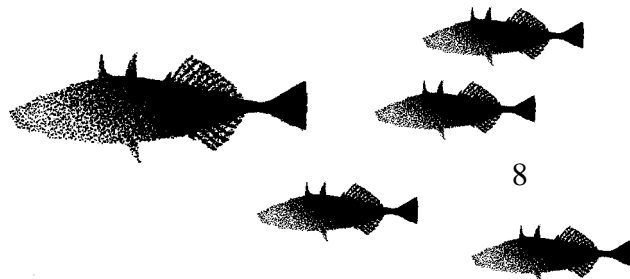
The Wild Animal and Plant Trade Regulations (1996) designate the species protected by the Act and detail the Act's requirements with respect to import, export, and possession of wild species. Further regulatory development has been the subject of consultations since 1997. In December 1999, regulations amending the Wild Animal and Plant Trade Regulations were gazetted. These amendments include:

- exemptions from CITES permit requirements for most types of personal effects, including Appendix II and III tourist souvenirs accompanying a traveller; items that are part of an inheritance or the household effects of individuals moving to or from Canada; and black bear and sandhill crane hunting trophies taken between Canada and the United States by hunters who are residents of these countries;
- the authority to prosecute based on species information provided on shipment labels, marks, or accompanying documents; and
- prescribing the content of removal orders and extending the period before automatic forfeiture of detained or seized items to the Crown.

C-2 Compliance

Environment Canada continues efforts to promote compliance with WAPPRIITA by focusing on public awareness through media and informational items, printed information, regular mailings to user groups, CITES displays in public buildings, public information sessions, and attendance at special events. For example, in 1999:

- The Pacific and Yukon Region provided assistance and information on CITES to conference organizers and exhibitors at the 16th World Orchid Conference in Vancouver.
- The Prairie and Northern Region ran a popular public service announcement, "Endangered Species and the Traveller," on national television and mailed brochures on this subject to travel agents throughout the region to distribute to their clients.
- The Ontario Region installed two permanent CITES exhibit kiosks at Pearson International Airport in Toronto.





- The Quebec Region operated a kiosk at the Salon Tourisme-Voyages in Montreal and Quebec City to encourage travel wholesalers and agents to offer CITES information to their clients.
- The Atlantic Region participated in more than 25 interviews for television, radio, and print media.

Compliance with WAPPRIITA is monitored by such means as checking permits, making inspections at international ports, running routine or spot inspections of wildlife businesses, monitoring hunting, sharing information with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency and other national/international agencies, gathering intelligence, and following up reports from the public (e.g., through Crime Stoppers). Environment Canada conducted about 6940 inspections related to wildlife trade in 1999.

C-3 Enforcement

In 1999, Environment Canada cooperated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in service training for enforcement inspectors. Environment Canada regional enforcement officers conducted training programs on WAPPRIITA for regional personnel in other federal and provincial/territorial agencies.

Environment Canada carried out more than 800 investigations into poaching or trafficking incidents involving international or interprovincial movement of wildlife, under provisions of applicable federal, provincial/territorial, or foreign legislation. Most of these investigations concluded with the confiscation of goods or issuance of a ticket.

Nine significant cases were prosecuted successfully under WAPPRIITA in 1999. Examples follow.

- **Illegal interprovincial transport:** In October 1999, an Alberta resident pleaded guilty to one count under the *Alberta Wildlife Act* and one count under WAPPRIITA. The offender had presented four sets of deer antlers to an Alberta taxidermist; two sets were found to have been illegally transported from Alberta to Saskatchewan and back. The offender was fined \$2500 for the provincial offence and \$7000 for the

WAPPRIITA violation (Prosecuting agency: Alberta Fish and Wildlife).

- **Illegal international importation:** In June 1999, an Ontario aviary was convicted on four counts under WAPPRIITA for international trafficking in birds protected by CITES. In 1997, the aviary sold two Appendix I macaws, and in 1998, it imported 350 to 400 Appendix II and III birds of 16 different species without the required permits. The judge ordered a fine of \$6000 for the first incident and \$2500 for the subsequent offence (Prosecuting agency: Environment Canada).
- **Illegal international exportation and possession:** In September 1999, a British Columbia resident was convicted on three counts under section 8(b) of WAPPRIITA for possessing bear gall bladders with the intent to export them from Canada, as well as 33 counts under the B.C. *Wildlife Act* and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* related to trafficking and unlawful possession of wildlife. The offender, a wholesaler and importer of seafood and exotic game meats, sold illegal wildlife to local restaurants and told undercover officers his plan to export the bear gall bladders from Canada. The judge imposed fines totalling \$25 000 (Prosecuting agencies: B.C. Conservation Service and Environment Canada).



D. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

D-1 Preparation for the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Preparations began in early 1999 for the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 10–20 April 2000. A call for Canadian proposals for the Conference of the Parties was sent to the public and environmental non-governmental organizations in May 1999. Species proposals and working documents for the Meeting were made available to the public and environmental non-governmental organizations throughout the year as they were received from the CITES Secretariat. Two public consultation meetings were held on 10 and 27 March 2000 to discuss the proposed Canadian positions on the 62 species proposals and 58 working documents.

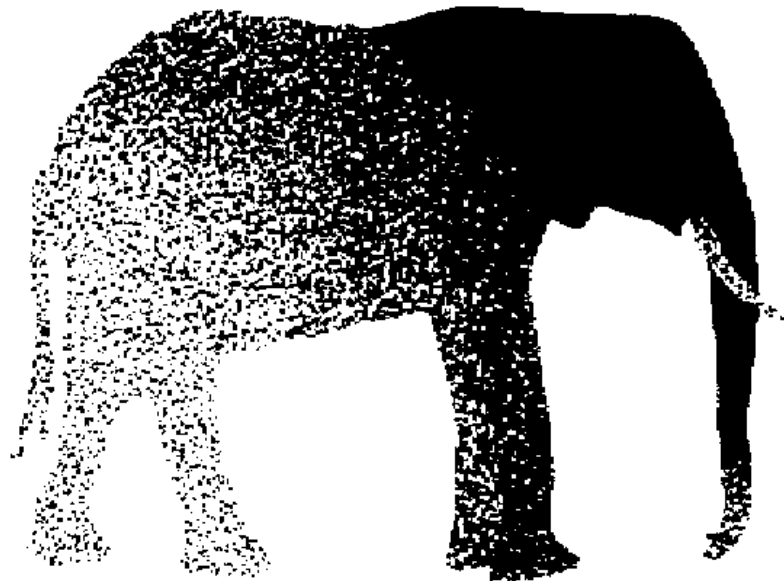
D-2 North American Wildlife Enforcement Group

Through the North American Wildlife Enforcement Group (NAWEG), Canada (Environment Canada) works with the United States (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and Mexico (Procuraduria Federal de Protección del Ambiente) to promote wildlife enforcement. NAWEG acts as the North American representative to Interpol and is the enforcement contact for the Trilateral Committee for Conservation and Management of Wildlife and Ecosystems. In Canada, NAWEG is the link between the foreign agencies and the federal and provincial/territorial chiefs responsible for natural resources law enforcement. Environment Canada personnel attend regular NAWEG meetings to discuss national positions and to develop a North American approach to present to CITES, Interpol, and the Trilateral Committee.

D-3 Other

In 1999, Canada's international cooperation included participation in:

- a seminar on wildlife forensics in Cheyenne, Wyoming;
- publication of the CITES information guide on turtles and tortoises; and
- an agreement among many forensic specialists to standardize techniques and coordinate laboratory efforts to optimize usefulness to enforcement officers.



E. FURTHER INFORMATION

It is expected that this will be the last stand-alone WAPPRIITA Report, as it will be consolidated in the annual Departmental Performance Report in the future.

For further information about WAPPRIITA, please refer to the Canadian Wildlife Service web site at <http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/cites/wappa/homepg.htm> or contact:

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