Taiwan's Wildlife Protections and Trade Laws

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CITES trade in Taiwan

- Ornamental plants imported from South America.
- Birds and reptiles imported from Africa.
- Biggest Aloes wood trading country in the world.
- Major CITES trading partners: Singapore, Japan, S. Korea, USA, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand.
- Huge economic interest in Taiwan, over 500 billion USD
Violation records outside Taiwan

- **Plants**
  - Taiwan export but arrest/stop by imported country:
    - Ornamental plants: 29250 in US
    - Timbers: 99776 in EU
    - Medical plants: 5818 in NZ & UK
    - Gastrodia (medicine): 297 kg in US.

- **Animals**
  - Taiwan exported Annex I species but arrest/stop by imported country:
    - Ivory and products: 168 pic. in US
    - Rhino horns: 5 in Mexico
    - Moschus skin in 145 in NZ
  - Annex II: 0
  - Annex III
    - Siberian weasel 35539 Pic. In US.
Taiwan and Singapore

- CITES Annex I Parrots,
  - Taiwan imported 92264 birds from Singapore (89.2%).

- CITES Annex II & Annex III Python and products
  - 19% imported from Singapore.
  - Africa states to Singapore, reexport to Taiwan, destination is EU.

- Ornamental plants and red coral reefs.
Regulations to Protect Wildlife in Taiwan

- Foreign Trade Act, 2013
  - Regulations on Import and Export of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna, Flora and Related Products, 2010

- Wildlife Conservation Act, 2013
  - Enforcement Rule

- Culture Heritage Preservation Act, 2011
Enforcement Bureau/Authority Agencies

- Management Agency: Bureau of Foreign Trade (BOFT), Ministry of Economic Affairs

- Scientific Agency
  - Council of Agriculture (COA), Forestry Bureau

- Enforcement Agencies/Authorities
  - Local governments.
  - Customs Administration, Ministry of Finance (財政部關務署)
    - Keelung, Taipei, Taichung, Kaohsiung Customs.
  - Conservation Center/shelter: 7 shelters
    - Taipei Zoo, NCHU Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, Endemic Species Research Institute, COA..........
  - The Seventh Special Police Corps, Ministry of Interior
Foreign Trade Act, 2013

- Article 11, Free to trade.
  - Restriction is allowed from international treaty, trade agreements......

- Article 13-1
  - CITES endangered species of wild fauna and flora, and products
    - Exportation and importation are prohibited.
    - Exportation and Importation permits are required.
    - Endangered species of wild fauna and flora: Decided and published by the BOFT.
Regulations on Import and Export of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna, Flora and Related Products, 2010

- Management on Exportation and Importation
- Endangered species of fauna, flora and products
  - BOFT produced the CITES LIST. (瀕臨絕種動植物之物種, 8 documents)
- No Exportation, unless COA allowed and granted permit.
- No Importation, unless importer submit CITES certificate.
Penalties: Article 28

- Importation Without CITES certificate: Fines NTD $ 30,000 - $ 300,000 (USD $ 1,000 - $ 10,000)

- Exportation without COA permits: Fines NTD $ 30,000 - $ 300,000 (USD $ 1,000 - $ 10,000)

- Stop the exporter/importer from exporting, importing, or exporting/importing goods for not less than one (1) month and not more than one (1) year.
Fauna: Taiwan Wildlife Conservation Act

- Domestic wildlife protection, including endangered species fauna.
- Article 3.3:
  - **Endangered Species**: those wildlife species whose population size is at or below a critical level so that their survival is in jeopardy.
  - **Rare and Valuable Species**: endemic species or those species with a very low total population.
- Article 4: Schedule of Protected Species.
- Rare and Valuable species.
  - 5 types (Birds, Fish, Mammals, Reptiles, Insects), 23 wildlife.
- Article 24: Exportation and importation of live specimens are prohibited, unless permits issued by COA.
  - Exception: education or academic research purposes.
Enforcement Rule of Wildlife Conservation Act, Chapter 3.

- Article 26, Importation
  - live CITES Protected Species or its products from CITES Member States, CITES export certificate is required.
  - Non-CITES states, permits or certificates issued by authorized agency.

- Article 27, Exportation
  - Application documents
  - Wildlife Registration card
  - Export to CITES member States, CITES exportation certificate is required.
  - Export to non-CITES member States, authorized agency permit is required.
  - 6 photocopies of wildlife animal.
Flora: Taiwan Culture Heritage Preservation Act, 2011

- Article 3.7: Flora belongs to parts of “nature landscape”.
- Article 76: Nature landscape
  - Nature Reserve.
  - Nature Commemoratives.
    - valuable and rare plants.
    - valuable and rare mines.
- Article 78: COA shall make a complete file of investigation, research, preservation and maintenance of Natural Landscapes.
- FILE: Plants Conservation and Protection 植物保育
CITES & TWCA

- CITES specimens
- CITES Certificate
- Wildlife in TWCA
- COA permits

CITES wildlife + TWCA
CITES & TWCA

CITES specimens = TWCA

1. CITES Certificate
2. CITES specimens
   - Wildlife in TWCA
   - COA permits
Violation WCA, 2005-2014

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Statistic Year Book, Forest Bureau, 2014
## Smuggling livestock and products

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Taipei Custom: Ivory Smuggling from Japan.
Date: June 14, 2015
Pretended as peanut butter candies.
How Taiwan Learns CITES

- WTO
- TRAFFIC EAST ASIA--Taipei: wildlife trade monitoring network
  - Starting from 1991
  - Training program started from 1996
- International conferences
- International cooperation with other country/authorized agencies
- Foreign media or NGOs
Conclusion

• Lacking official CITES trading data or reporting system.

• Taiwan does not report violation calculation result to CITES.

• Enforcement on CITES trading to be enhanced.

• Regulations modification are needed.
Thank You

Q & A