

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



ASSOCIATION of  
FISH & WILDLIFE  
AGENCIES

December 2024

Updates



## COMMUNICATIONS

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT:

Provide input and management information on potential CITES species listings leading up to the CITES CoP.

**ACTIONS:** No action needed at this time

### RECENT/UPCOMING MEETINGS AND DATES OF INTEREST:

- IUCN Canada Regional Conservation Forum: October 1-2
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Conference of the Parties (CoP): October 21 to November 1
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Americas Flyways Task Force meeting: December 2-6
- Second US CITES Federal Register Notice: TBD (potentially December)
- Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Standing Committee: February 3-8, 2025
- Document Submission Deadline for CITES CoP: June, 27 2025
- CITES CoP20: November 24-December 5, 2025

## Updates

### CMS

Out of CMS's Scientific Council Meeting in September came opportunities to join working groups.

- Taking of migratory species for various uses
- Aquatic Wild Meat
- Multiple Systems of Knowledge, Including Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge
- Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wildlife

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### CBD

The Biodiversity CoP wrapped up on November 1st. A report from the meeting is available [here](#). Over 190 countries met in Cali, Colombia. They adopted the Global Action Plan for Biodiversity and Health, discussed the linkages between the climate and biodiversity agendas, reinforced the need for ecological integrity, and laid out next steps for (continued on next page)

### Road to the CITES CoP

Every three years, CITES convenes a Conference of the Parties (CoP). The AFWA CITES Technical Work Group has already begun preparing for CoP20 that will held from November 24 to December 5, 2025. Each of the regional associations of fish and wildlife agencies has a member on the Work Group. The Work Group consists of Stewart Liley (Western), Carolyn Caldwell (Midwest), Buddy Baker (continued next page)

### IUCN

The World Conservation Congress (WCC) will be held October 9 to 15, 2025. Starting in November of this year, motions will be developed. There will be an online discussion of any motion that advances in the Spring of 2025. We also provided input on the 20 year vision and the IUCN Programme for the coming years.



- The CMS Scientific Council Working Group on Migratory Species and Health We submitted nominations for the Taking and Avian Influenza Working Groups.



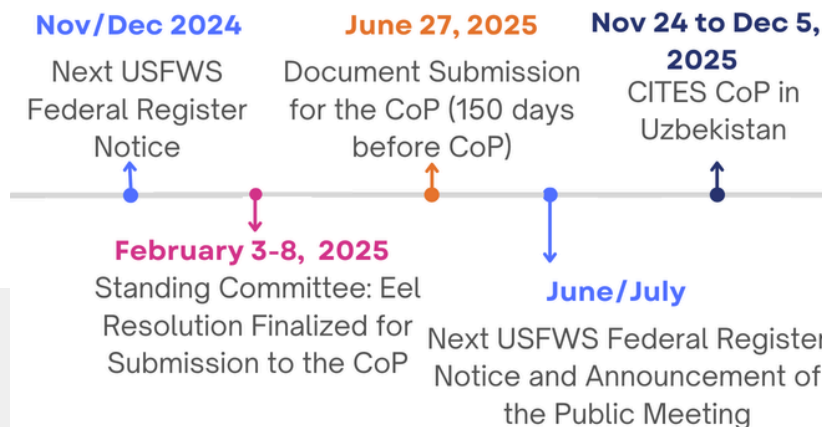
sustainable wildlife management. However, the CoP was suspended before they could agree on a number of agenda items, which will require reconvening the meeting in the coming months. Decisions regarding sustainable wildlife management are available [here](#).



(Southeastern), Gordon Batcheller (Northeast), and Deb Hahn (AFWA). The Work Group attended the Animals Committee meeting this summer, which provided an opportunity to begin discussions with Parties about issues of importance at CoP20 and influence what species listing proposals are brought before the Cop for

consideration. Parties are already considering what species listing proposals and resolutions and decisions they might bring forward for debate and consideration at CoP20. Species currently being discussed to varying degrees include peregrine falcon, rattlesnakes, sea cucumbers, horseshoe crabs, and American eel. Topics being considered include zoonotic diseases, and the potential use of microchips to mark live animals in international trade, and simplified and expedited permits. In the coming weeks and months, the Work Group will reach out to the regional associations and individual states, provinces, and territories to gather information and input on key issues likely to be taken up at the next CoP.

## Road to the Conference of the Parties.



## CONTACTS

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# TIMELINE

