

# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

January 2023

Updates



## COMMUNICATIONS

### INPUT NEEDED:

None at this time

### UPCOMING ACTIONS:

Engage with the US government (and potentially the Canadian government) to discuss subnational government inclusion in implementation of the GBF.

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

- Ramsar Wetland Convention Conference of the Parties (CoP): November 5th-13th, 2022
- UN Climate Change Conference November 6th-18th
- CITES CoP 19: November 13th-25th, 2022
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Open-ended Working Group 5 and CoP 15: December 3rd-19th, 2022
- World Resources Institute Biodiversity Task Force: December 15th, 2022
- IR Committee Meeting: March 21st, 2023

## UPDATES

### ISO TRAP TESTING STANDARDS

The trap testing standards are based on ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards. Every 5 years, the countries that are a members must vote to keep the ISO/TC 191 active. Partners from the U.S., Canada, and Europe worked together to garner the needed votes and successfully maintain the standards.

### CBD

The CBD spent over two weeks negotiating the final text of the GBF. After much debate and controversy, it is now up to the governments that are signatories to the Convention to begin implementation. The 23 targets will guide the work of Canadian and U.S. federal Administrations and impact federal policy. It will be important to be at the table early on to (con't next page)

### CITES

The CITES Technical Work Group (Team) and Ryan Brown (VA) attended CITES CoP19. Key agenda items included zoonotic diseases and One Health, the CITES Strategic Vision, the conservation of amphibians, eels, seahorse, queen conch, and species listing proposals. There were overarching themes that influenced the discussions and decisions. They included the role and engagement (con't next page)

### IPBES

The IPBES summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species is [available](#). The media release that highlights some of the main messages is [here](#). The messages and summary maybe of use in your work. IPBES also released the [values assessment summary](#). It may be of use in discussions on wildlife values.

## PRODUCTS/ACTIONS OF INTEREST



### CITES COP19

of indigenous, local, and rural communities; zoonotic diseases; and CITES workload and the impact that is having on the implementation of the Convention. The CoP adopted 46 of the 52 species proposals and over 350 decisions that added new measures and policies on international trade. These North American species are now listed in CITES Appendix II: Alligator and common snapping turtles, five species of broad-headed map turtles, all mud turtles except for the two species already included in Appendix I, all musk turtles, all U.S. soft-shelled turtles (*Apalone* species), the desert horned lizard, Mexican prairie dog, redfish sea cucumber (*Thelenota* spp.), and *Rhodiola* spp. The Aleutian cackling goose, short-tailed albatross, and Puerto Rican boa were downlisted from Appendix I to II.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee will meet on March 21st in association with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. The 2022-2023 Work Plan is [available](#). The Committee will focus on follow up from the CITES CoP and our strategy moving forward, strategies to ensure subnational government engagement in the implementation and step down of the GBF, and how to consider the work we do through a DEI lens to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment and include more voices in our discussions and development of our products.



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

determine how implementation will proceed, how targets will be stepped down, and how subnational government work contributes to the targets. The importance of a whole of government approach and the inclusion of subnational governments is integrated across the framework. Subnational government representative from California, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia attended CoP15. Final language of the GBF can be found [here](#). [Here](#) is an article that provides information about the how the negotiations played out. [This article](#) provides insights into the outcomes.



### CONTACTS

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