

CITES and the oceans: an introduction



Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora



Washington, D.C., on 3 March 1973



CITES objectives

Ensure that wild fauna and flora in international trade are not exploited unsustainably

Legality, sustainability, traceability



S. Heindrichs / PEW, Shark fins, China



CITES is a multilateral agreement

Operates through an **intergovernmental process**,

which combines **wildlife** and **trade** themes within a **legally binding** instrument,

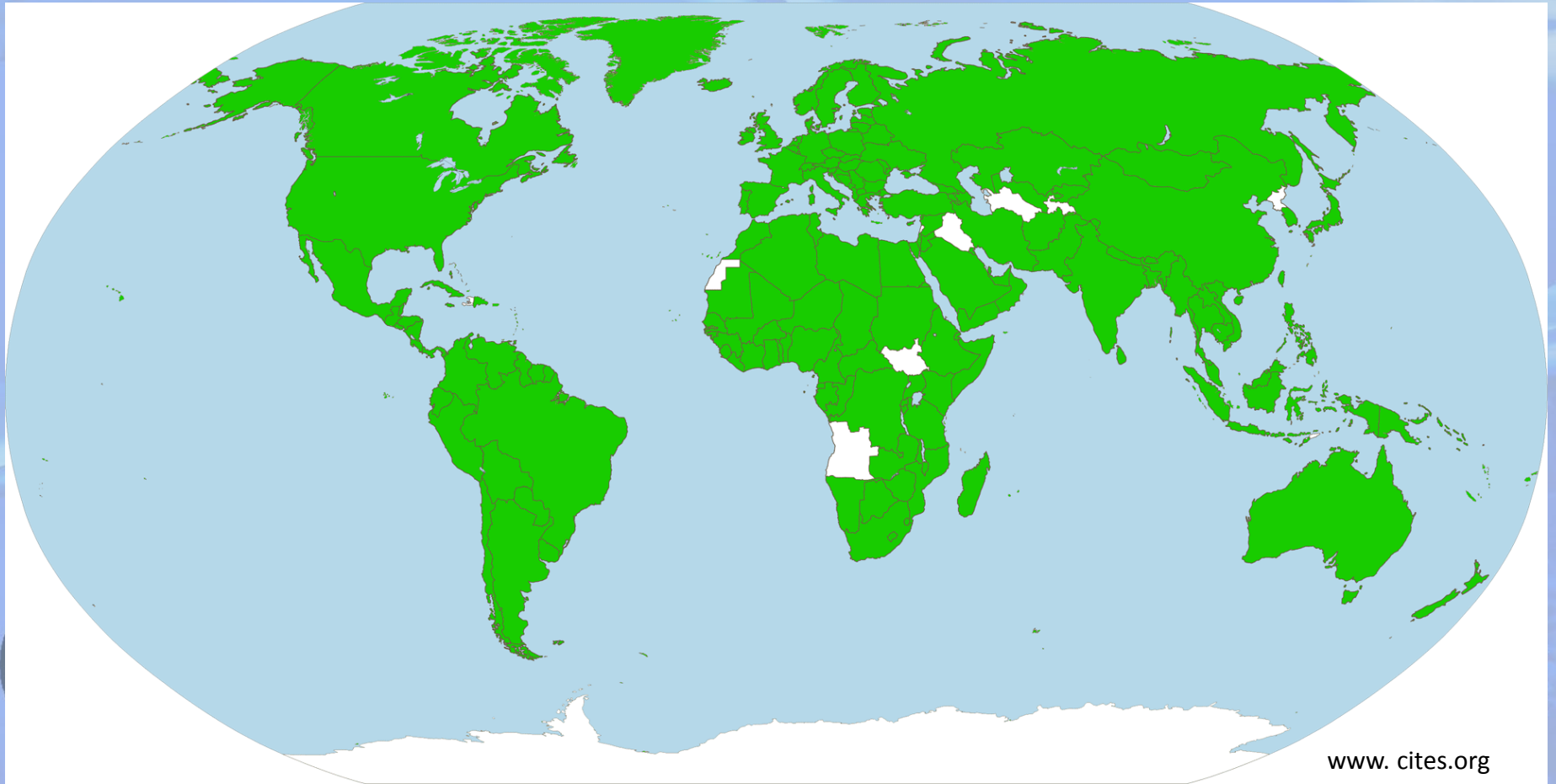
achieving **conservation** and **sustainable use** objectives

...by setting a common procedural mechanism



CITES coverage & scope

- **182 Parties**
- Regulates international trade of 35,000+ listed species (live, dead, parts and derivatives)



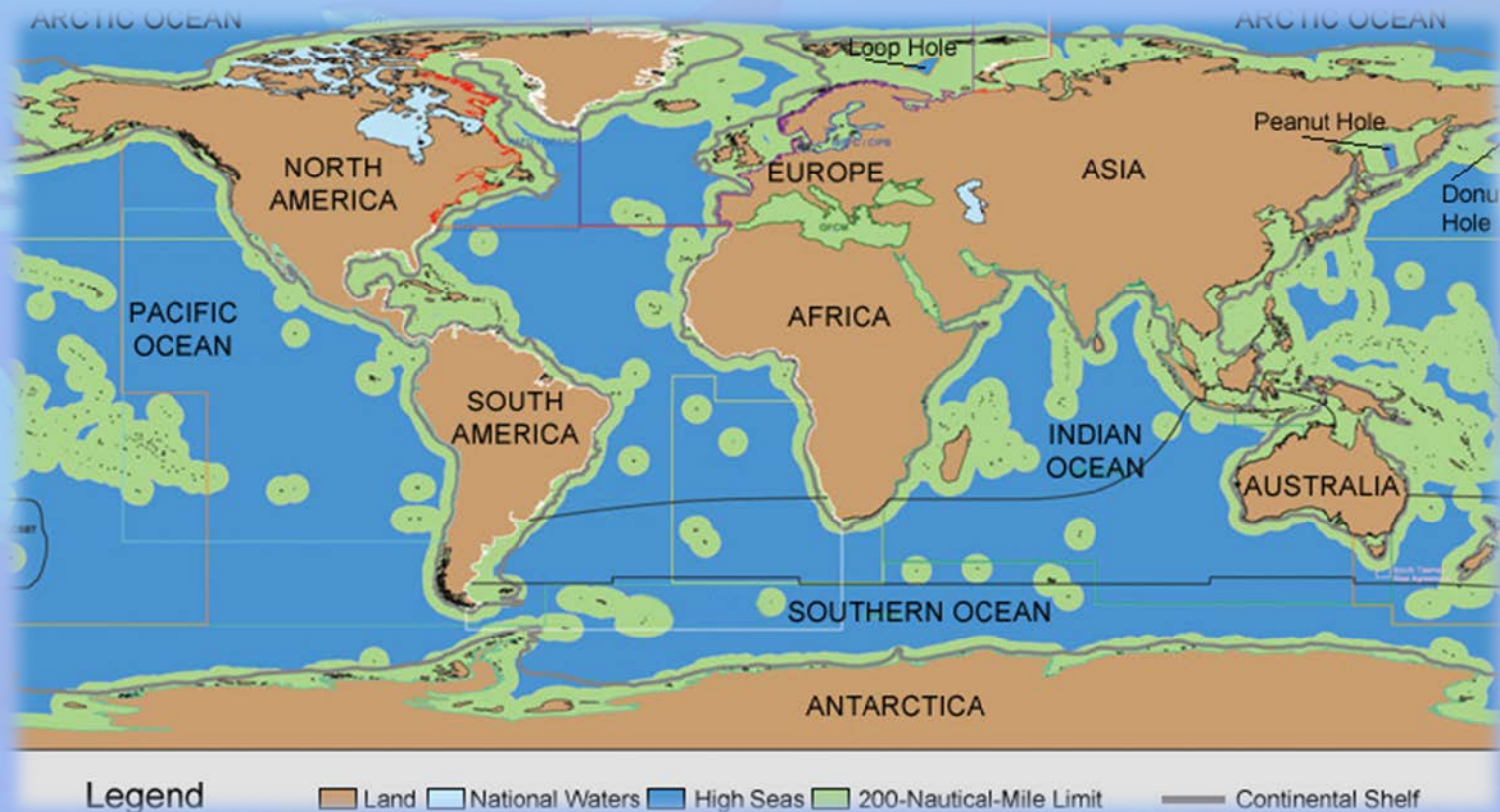
The world's high seas

71% of the Earth is covered by ocean

64% of the ocean is considered high seas/ international waters

The high seas cover

45% of the Earth's surface



Source: Fisheries and Oceans Canada

“marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State”



(commonly known as)

High seas

The Conference of the Parties (CoP) has agreed that this means:

“those marine areas beyond the areas subject to the sovereignty or sovereign rights of a State, consistent with international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”



[Resolution Conf. 14.6 (Rev. CoP16)]



Introduction From the Sea (IFS)

- One of 4 types of trade regulated by CITES
- A prior grant of an **IFS certificate** is required
[Convention Article III 5 and Article IV 6 and 7]
- Involves “specimens taken in the marine environment not under the jurisdiction of any State”

[Convention Article I(c)]



What is IFS: issues to consider

**What
is being taken?**

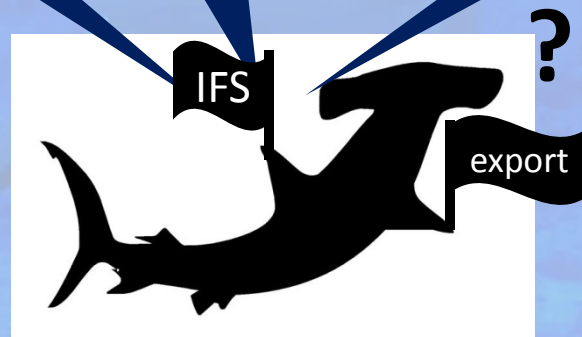
*Is the specimen
listed in CITES
Appendix I or II?*

**Who
is taking it?**

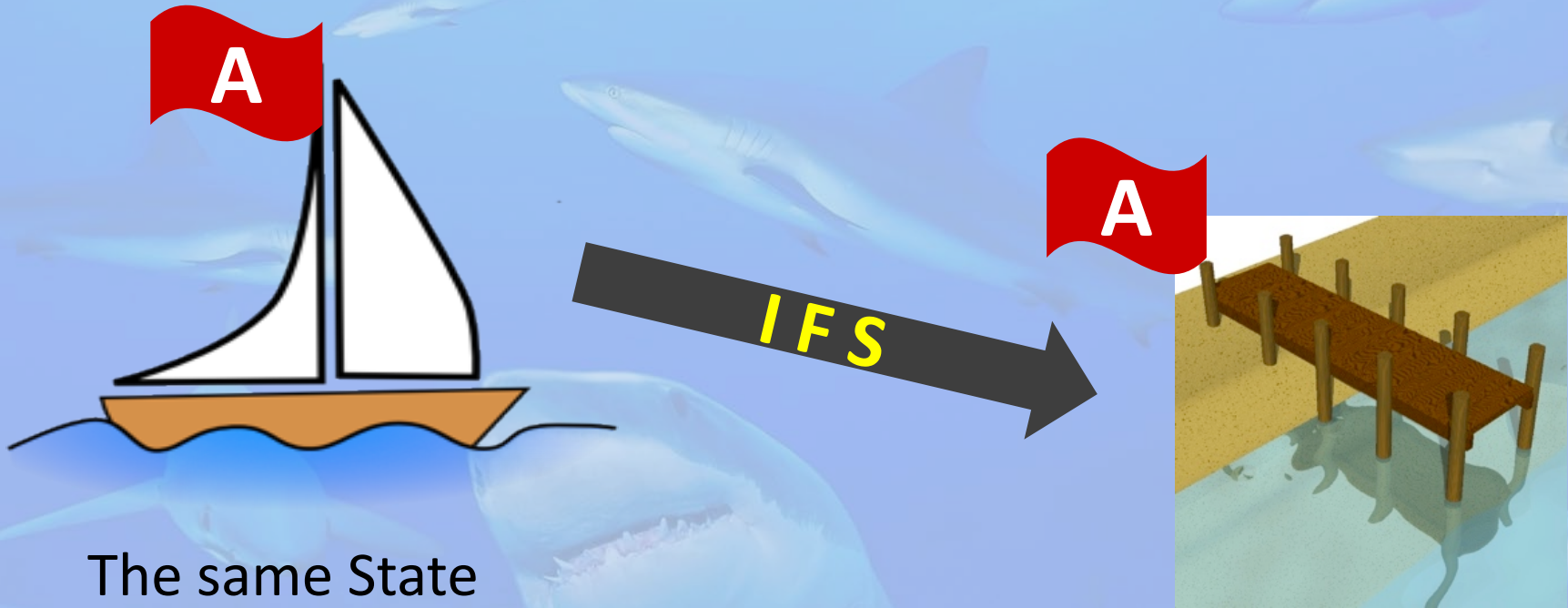
*Which State owns the
vessel?
Is the vessel chartered?*

**Where
is it taken from?**

*In which State was it
landed?*



IFS is a one-State transaction

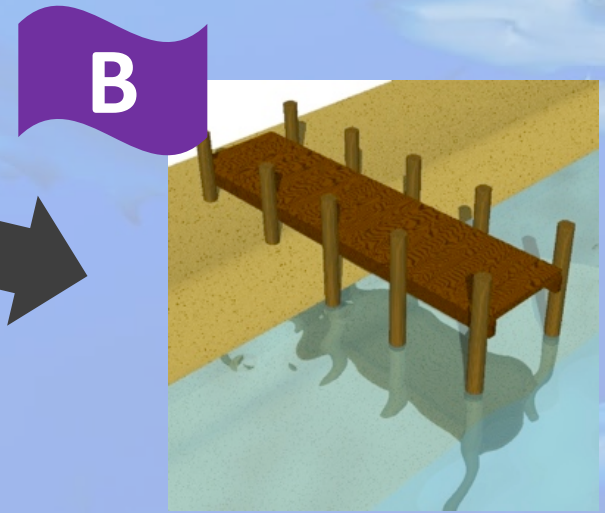
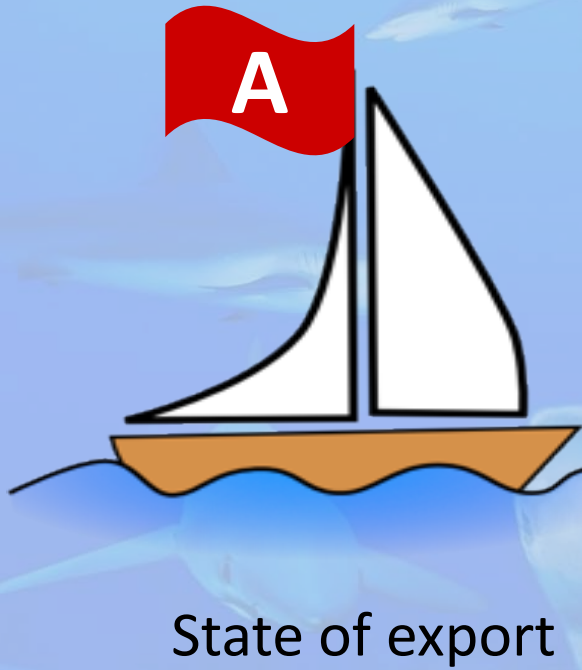


The same State

- Takes the specimens from the high seas;
- Serves as the State of introduction; and
- Issues an IFS certificate.



Two or more States = export/import



CITES Appendices

Species* regulated under CITES are divided amongst 3 Appendices



I



II



III



* "Species" means any species, subspecies, or geographically separate population thereof



Sharks/Manta rays in Appendix II



Cetorhinus maximus
(Basking shark)



Carcharhinus longimanus
(Oceanic whitetip shark)



Sphyrna lewini, *S. mokarran*,
S. zygaena
(Hammerhead sharks)



Rhincodon typus
(Whale shark)



Lamna nasus
(Porbeagle shark)



Manta spp.
(Manta rays)



Carcharodon carcharias
(Great white shark)

Entry into effect delayed to
14 September 2014



Other marine species in CITES Appendices

- Humphead wrasse
(Napoleon fish) - Appendix II
- Queen conch – Appendix II
- Giant clams – Appendix II
- Hard corals, black corals
– Appendix II
- European eel – Appendix II
- Sturgeons – Appendix I & II



CITES listing criteria

Biological criteria

Low productivity (slow-growing, small number of pups), behavioral vulnerability to harvesting

Trade criteria

(historic population declines related to international trade in fins, meat and bycatch)

- Great and Smooth hammerheads: specimens most frequently traded resemble those of the scalloped hammerhead to such an extent that enforcement officers are unlikely to be able to distinguish them



What should Parties do?

Legality

National laws,
legal
acquisition,
RFMOs,
enforcement, ...

Sustainability

NDFs, science,
Introduction From
the Sea, ...

Traceability

Permits,
identification,
reporting,
databases



CITES Permits and Certificates

11/2/11/12/12/TRADE AVAIL - EXP

PERMIT No. 074458

CITES CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

EXPORT RE-EXPORT IMPORT OTHER

2. Valid until 29/11/2008

3. Importer (name and address)
ETHNO AFRICA LLC
9811 W CHARLESTON BLVD.
STE 2-374 - LAS VEGAS
NV 89117

4. Exporter (name, address and country)
ROMEO GROBBELAR
TRADE AVAIL
STENBERG-PONTEN FARM
CALEDON, T230
SOUTH AFRICA

5a. Country of origin UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

5b. Name, address, national designation and country of Management Authority
Department of Environmental Affairs
and Tourism
Private Bag X447
PRETORIA
0001
SOUTH AFRICA

6. Special conditions

7a. Purpose of the transaction (see reverse) T 7b. Security Marking No. 071614

7. SCIENTIFIC NAME (genus and species) AND COMMON NAME OF ANIMAL OR PLANT

7.1. SCIENTIFIC NAME (genus and species) AND COMMON NAME OF ANIMAL OR PLANT
A Hoodia Gordonii
Cactus

7.2. Description of specimens, including identifying marks or numbers (specimens) if any
POWDER ITW

7.3. Quantity (including unit)
2800KG

7.4. Total exported quota
N/A

7.5. Country of origin	Permit No.	Date	7.6. Country of last re-export	Certificate No.	Date	7.7. No. of the operation *** or date of acquisition ***
A						
B						
C						
D						

1. Country in which the specimens were taken from the wild, bred in captivity or artificially propagated (only in case of re-export)
--- Only for specimens of Appendix I species bred in captivity or artificially propagated for commercial purposes
--- For live Convention specimens

13. THIS PERMIT ISSUED BY: C. ARENDSE

Cape Town
Date 30/05/2008

14. EXPORT ENCLOSURE:
Stock Quantity

15. Signature: [Signature]
Date: [Date]
Official stamp and title: CapeNature
FAUNA - FLORA - HUNTING - CITES

PERMIT No. 074458

V & A Printing Works (Pty) Ltd (012) 326-7190 (10769)



CITES permits and certificates

import

export

re-export

introduction from the sea

- Animals and plants (live, dead, parts and derivatives)
- Permits and certificates issued under certain conditions:
 - Lawfully obtained
 - Trade will not be detrimental to the survival of the species



Collaboration and cooperation are essential for CITES implementation

National stakeholders include:

- CITES Authorities
- Natural resources sector (fisheries, forestry, etc.)
- Businesses (traders, wholesalers, transport, etc.)
- Customs
- Police
- Judiciary
- Others



Thank you for your attention!

CITES and FAO working for legal, sustainable and traceable international trade in sharks and manta rays, supported by the European Union

