

DATE: July 16, 2002

TO: Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (MAFWA) Directors

FROM: Chuck Pils- MAFWA CITES Representative

SUBJECT: 69th Annual Meeting of The MAFWA -CITES Report

I will update the most important CITES developments during the past year in this memo.

During the past year I attended several meetings on behalf of the MAFWA. All expenses were paid by a multistate Conservation Fund Grant funded by \$6 million in Wallop-Breaux and P-R funds. This grant money will last for a 3-year period.

CITES Activities Important To the MAFWA

I forwarded all federal register notifications to all the Directors of MAFWA as well as State special interest staff such as herpetology, fisheries, and botanical staff. I also forwarded a recent request (from United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) staff in Washington D.C.) for any states interested in applying for a joint federal-private-state grant proposal to survey medicinal plants.

I attended the Animals Committee meeting held in San Jose, Costa Rica from April 8-13th. Our CITES Team Animals Committee Report is attached to this memo (Attachment 1)

I attended the Plants Committee meeting held in Leiden, The Netherlands from May 13-17th. Our CITES Team Plants Committee Report is attached to this memo (Attachment 2)

The following issues are still unresolved at this point and could be discussed at the 2002 International Association of Fish and Wildlife Association (IAFWA) meeting and/or at the 12th Conference of The Parties (COP 12) at Santiago, Chile during November, 2002:

The USFWS is uncertain at this point whether to list the following midwest species in the following Appendixes (Some of the USFWS decisions will be based on a yet to be published U.S. Geological report analyzing several herp species):

- ☐ North American Softshell turtles- may list in APP II
- ☐ Bobcat- may remove from App II
- ☐ Goldenseal- may remove from APP II
- ☐ Bloodroot- May include in App II
- ☐ Black Cohosh- May include in APP II
- ☐ Blue Cohosh- May include in App II
- ☐ Map turtles- May list in App III
- ☐ Snapping turtle- Will not list in App II
- ☐ Spotted turtle- May list in App II

- Timber rattlesnake- May list in App II
- Eastern diamondback rattlesnake- May list in App II
- Peregrine Falcon- May transfer from App I to App II

There are other uncertainties that are not known at this time such as some possible listing of bears, sturgeon (quotas), and certain animals and plants used for medicinal purposes.

These uncertainties make it very important for our CITES Team to attend the various CITES meetings in order to counter damaging proposals.

The good news is that the current group of Management Authority and Scientific Authority staff from the USFWS are very cooperative and have been helpful when discussing CITES issues.

Important Future Meetings:

I will attend the IAFWA September, 2002 meeting that will be held at West Yellowstone, Montana. Our CITES team will meet with USFWS reps to discuss various developments since the Animals and Plants Committee meetings were held and since comments were received related to the Federal Register notice concerning various CITES proposals.

I will also attend the COP 12 meeting which will be held in Santiago, Chile from November 3-15, 2002.