



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

March 9, 2010

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U.S. Government Launches New CITES Website

A new website sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will concentrate specifically on information concerning the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), from a United States perspective. This website is not intended to replace the official CITES website (cites.org), but will provide information and highlight the U.S. perspective on CITES and the conservation and protection of species in international trade.

The website will be launched on March 9, 2010. Initially, the website will feature interactive information on species and agenda items to be discussed during the upcoming Meeting of the CITES Conference of Parties (CoP15), to be held in Doha, Qatar on March 13-25, 2010. It will provide updates on the U.S.'s positions regarding species proposals and other agenda items. During the meeting, the website will provide real-time updates on actions taking place during the conference, using social media tools including daily blogs, twitter (USFWSInternatl) and an RSS feed. The Service plans to make this website a permanent source of CITES-related information for the general public, interested parties, and the news media following the conference.

WHEN: Launch: March 9, 2010

www.uscites.gov

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