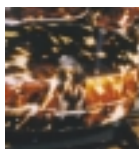
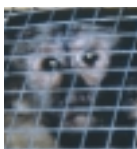


## WATCH LIST

### Prohibited imports include



all sea turtle products



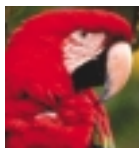
live monkeys



certain leather products, including some made from reptile skins



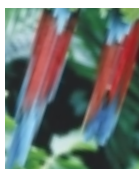
spotted cat skin products



certain live birds, including many parrots, macaws, cockatoos, and finches



some corals and coral products



some wild bird feathers, mounted birds, skins, and some skin products



certain orchids, cacti, and cycads

## REMEMBER — WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T BUY!

### Ask

- ✓ What is this product made of?
- ✓ Where did this product come from?
- ✓ Do I need any special documents or permits to take this item home?

Questions about a purchase? Contact local authorities and/or the CITES Management Authority office, or check these resources for the latest information:

[www.le.fws.gov](http://www.le.fws.gov)

[www.wwfus.org/buyer beware](http://www.wwfus.org/buyer beware)

[www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)

## Welcome to the Caribbean!

When shopping during your Caribbean trip, be aware that what you buy could affect the very environment you've come to enjoy. Although many wildlife and plant products you see for sale come from sustainably managed populations, you may need permits to take them out of the country or carry them into other countries. If a product is made from endangered or illegally taken wildlife or plants, it could be confiscated and even earn you a fine. Buyer beware — read on for tips on what to avoid, and where to find the rules you need to know before making purchases.

A region of remarkable beauty, the Caribbean is home to six of the world's seven sea turtle species and 14 percent of the world's coral reefs. Nearly one-third of the plants and animals in the Caribbean islands are found nowhere else in the world. Consequently, many Caribbean countries protect their native wildlife under both national laws and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). This comprehensive wildlife treaty, signed by some 160 nations, monitors and regulates international trade in wildlife and wildlife products, and helps to ensure sustainable trade.

Please support the conservation efforts of Caribbean nations: Learn the facts and ask questions before you buy any wildlife or plant product. By making informed choices, you can also avoid incurring fines, having your purchases confiscated upon departure from a Caribbean country or reentry to your home country, or introducing an invasive species in your home country. If you have questions about a purchase, contact local authorities and/or the CITES Management Authority office. Check the Web sites of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ([www.le.fws.gov](http://www.le.fws.gov)), World Wildlife Fund ([www.wwfus.org/buyer beware](http://www.wwfus.org/buyer beware)), or CITES ([www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)).



Stuffed green turtle/Nina Marshall

**TRAFFIC**  
—NORTH AMERICA—



**TRAFFIC North America**

c/o World Wildlife Fund  
1250 24th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037  
Tel: 202-293-4800  
Fax: 202-775-8287  
[www.traffic.org](http://www.traffic.org)



**U.S. Fish &  
Wildlife Service**

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20240  
1-800-344-9453  
[www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)  
<http://permits.fws.gov>

# BUYER Beware CARIBBEAN

## Buyer Beware! Learn about Trade in these Species



Loggerhead turtle/Anja Burns

**Sea Turtles** International trade in all sea turtle products is prohibited, and most Caribbean countries ban domestic sale, but poaching and commercial use remain serious threats. Please do not buy any items made of sea turtle, such as tortoiseshell items (jewelry, hairpins, etc.) or leather goods (wallets, belts, etc.). Overcollection has contributed to the decline of these turtles, and now all six species found in the region are endangered.

**Corals** Many Caribbean countries have laws protecting coral reefs. Dried coral sold in stores as souvenirs, jewelry, and aquarium decorations may require permits or be banned from export.



Tubastrea coral/Andrew Bruckner

**Shells** Many countries now regulate collection and export of queen conch and other shells. Populations of queen conch in most areas of the Caribbean have declined due to intensive fishing for their meat and collection for their rare pearls and their shells, which are sold whole or made into carvings or jewelry.

**Reptiles** Reptiles are traded as pets. Their parts, particularly their skins, are used for leather products such as shoes, wallets, handbags, and watchbands. Many products are made from reptiles from sustainably harvested populations, but some species in trade are protected and may be subject to export restrictions.



Caiman/Ginette Hemley

**Birds** Parrots make engaging pets, but trade in these birds requires permits. Also be aware that all birds face quarantine when you take them home. Products containing the feathers of exotic and migratory birds may be off limits under international and national laws.



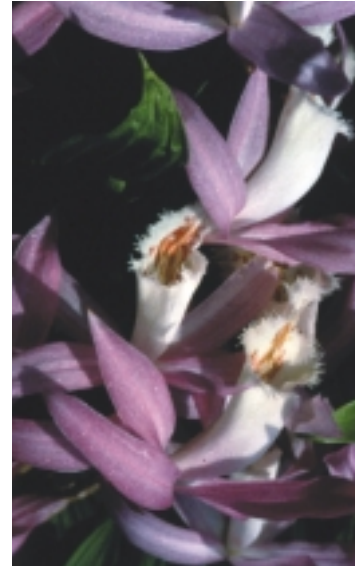
Yellow-headed Amazon parrot/TRAFFIC

**Insects** You can find mounted butterflies, moths, and other insects for sale in the Caribbean, and you may need permits to bring these items home.



Blue morpho butterfly/Dennis Glick

**Plants** Plants, such as orchids, cacti, and cycads, may be subject to national and international conservation laws as well as strict pest regulation. Many countries inspect imported plants and require documents certifying that they are pest- and disease-free. Before you collect seeds or buy live plants to bring home, remember that species introduced into new places can become invasive, crowding out and endangering native plants.



Windowsill orchid/Nina Marshall

**Caviar** If you're on a cruise or visit a duty-free shop, you may have an opportunity to buy caviar. All sturgeon species are protected, and trade in sturgeon meat and caviar is regulated worldwide. Without a CITES permit, you may only bring home 250 grams (about 8.5 ounces) or less of most types of caviar per person per trip.

Clip this card and keep it with you.

**Other Species** Other wildlife and wildlife products can also be found for sale in the Caribbean. Among these are live monkeys, which are almost universally protected from trade, and products made from spotted cats, such as jaguars and ocelots, whose skins are prohibited in trade.



Ocelot/Tony Rath

## BUYER BEWARE CARD Carry this when you travel

### WATCH LIST

- ✓ all sea turtle products
- ✓ certain leather products, including some made from caiman, crocodiles, lizards, and snakes
- ✓ certain live birds, including many parrots, macaws, cockatoos, and finches
- ✓ some wild bird feathers, mounted birds, skins, and some skin products
- ✓ live monkeys
- ✓ spotted cat skin products
- ✓ some corals and coral products
- ✓ certain orchids, cacti, and cycads