

## Key Biodiversity Areas Project Report

# Animal and Bird Trade and Hunting in Iraq



Goitered Gazelles *Gazella subgutturosa* in the Erbil Zoo, Kurdistan, Iraq (2010). Photo by H.A. Raza, Nature Iraq

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Nature Iraq & Iraqi Ministry of Environment  
July 2011

## **Internal KBA Report**

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Sulaimani, Kurdistan, Iraq

This internal report was prepared to summarize and inform partner agencies and organizations on the status and progress of the biodiversity initiatives of Nature Iraq. The contents of this paper are under peer-review for publication. For more information please refer to Nature Iraq's web site: [www.natureiraq.org](http://www.natureiraq.org) or write to [info@natureiraq.org](mailto:info@natureiraq.org) or to:

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### **Abstract**

Hunting and wildlife trade is a critical issue throughout modern day Iraq. It is practiced openly in southern and central Iraq and covertly in the north of the country. These practices are fueled by harsh socio-economic conditions, weak and unevenly applied laws regarding animal trade and hunting, and a lack of scientific study, making the severity of animal trade very difficult to assess and act on accordingly.

Most zoos in Iraq exist primarily as purely financial ventures and in some cases represent a major staging point for the import, export, and trade within Iraq of exotic animals. Zoo in Iraq generally provide extremely poor living conditions for the animals in their care and zoo staff usually have little to no awareness of their needs.

This report seeks to document and analyze these threats and provide information on what action can be taken to improve animal welfare and conservation in Iraq.

### Introduction

The issue of illegal hunting and trade of animals and birds has been a recurrent theme faced by Nature Iraq, an Iraqi conservation, non-governmental organization, in the six years its survey teams have been conducting field work throughout the country. Although not all wildlife trade and hunting is forbidden in Iraq, these activities have remained largely unregulated or, in the case of the few laws that do exist, go unenforced by Iraqi authorities.

Field teams have visited many local zoos and animal markets as part of their research for this report, in addition to over 200 sites throughout the country for the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) project undertaken in partnership with the Iraqi Ministry of Environment and with the support of the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land & Sea. Sites, which include a diverse range of habitats such as marshlands, deserts, steppes and mountains, are surveyed in order to identify globally, regionally, and nationally important areas for biological diversity within the country. These surveys have been conducted in winter and summer since 2005 in southern Iraq, since 2007 in Kurdistan, northern Iraq, and since 2009 in central and western Iraq. Teams have interviewed local community members including farmers, hunters, falconers and traders in addition to local and regional government officials. During these discussions, unsustainable and uncontrolled hunting and animal trade issues were raised repeatedly, and anecdotal information has been gathered concerning the negative effects of these activities. As the Iraqi government joins the international community by recently becoming a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other international agreements, it must soon address these problems. The government is now also considering accession to the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which would add yet more obligations under international law to provide effective protection and conservation of wildlife.

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While the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) generally enforces a no-hunting rule in Kurdistan, it has also implemented an act to arrest and charge animal traffickers within its territory (as enforced by the forestry police and the environmental Pesh Merga forces). Shamal Mufti, consultant to the Kurdistan Commission on the Environment, explains that these regulations fall under the most limited category of legislation in Iraq, the three tiers of legislation comprising the top level, which is law approved by the parliament; mid-level, which are acts approved by the minister's council; and low-level, that which is regulated within the authority of only one ministry, such as specific orders approved by individual ministers. Meanwhile in central and southern Iraq, wildlife hunting and trade continues to be practiced openly with little done by officials to regulate hunting and address conservation of the species that are involved or the methods used in hunting (though recently the Iraqi Ministry of Environment has begun to develop the rules that will begin to address these issues). As a result of the ongoing conflict in Iraq, factors such as social upheaval, poverty, and limited job and education opportunities have combined to create a ripe environment for wildlife hunting to those seeking extra income. Moreover, as stated by Zahler (2010) "poor and marginalized people are usually directly dependent upon environmental services" that come from their surrounding area. As little has been done to regulate hunters in central and southern Iraq or address trans-border trafficking, the focus of the latest KBA surveys conducted by Nature Iraq and the Iraqi Ministry of Environment was to gain deeper insight into the issues of hunting and trade.

## **Methods**

Information on animal hunting and trade was obtained through a variety of means throughout the KBA project. A more dedicated survey focusing specifically on these issues took place during the Key Biodiversity Areas surveys in winter (12 January to 3 February) and summer (18 April to 4 June) 2010 at various locations primarily throughout Kurdistan, but information was also reviewed and collected from current and previous surveys in central and southern Iraq. This information came

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from interviews with individuals from local communities in or near KBA survey sites as well as hunters at these sites or at local animal markets. Market sellers and traders, zookeepers and zoo staff were also interviewed in some locations. Periodic visits were also made to animal markets and zoos outside of the survey periods noted above during the spring of 2010 and the following summer in Kurdistan as well as in previous survey years in central and southern Iraq.

Interviews were recorded through note-taking and the use of a Sony cassette recorder (TCM-200DV) for an audio recording of the interviews. Anonymity of the interviewees was ensured. Observational notes were taken through direct counting of the animals, how they were contained, and their origins and destinations. In addition, a camera was used to photograph the animals in the zoos and markets to help determine a detailed count of the animals or provide extra information that was not written as notes. This research was conducted to outline the major concerns of wildlife hunting and trade of endangered species that is currently practiced throughout Iraq, and to provide the public with a snapshot of the situation as a step towards further actions to address the issue.

## **Literature Review**

### **Legislation**

In Iraq, hunting of wildlife is not regulated thoroughly and, despite recent interest by the Iraqi Ministry of Environment in joining CITES, Iraq is not yet a signatory to the convention. Moreover, the Iraqi national legislation relevant to wildlife protection and trade regulation has not been fully implemented. The Iraq government issued Law No. 17 of 2010 (Law of Protecting Wild Animals) to update and abolish an older law (Law No. 21 of 1979) but, as yet, is still working out the specific regulations and instructions that will implement the law. The law, which is composed of 23 articles and is provided in Annex 1, focuses on the regulation of hunting. It limits the hunting of various

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wildlife to specific seasons, which are to be determined by a specialized directorate or department empowered by the Ministry of Environment (MoE) according to Article 2 of the law. Article 3 of law No. 17 states that, “In order to fulfill its duties, the specialized directorate is entitled to coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) to perform the following measures: 1) conserve local wild animal species through breeding centers within fenced or protected areas; 2) protect and maintain the natural environment for wild animals; 3) fence and confine hunting areas, and regulate hunting according to the law, and 4) monitor the proper execution of the law and related regulations.” (Iraq Government, 2010)

This law is only the first step. In order for the law to be implemented and enforced effectively the implementing agencies, the Ministries of Agriculture, Higher Education and Scientific Research and Environment, must develop the appropriate regulatory settings. As stated by TRAFFIC (2008), an international wildlife trade monitoring network, “laws and regulations stand little chance of success unless they are effectively implemented and enforced, and wider issues of governance are also tackled”.

Additionally, Law No. 27 of 2009 entitled the “Law of Protection and Improvement of the Environment” (this is equivalent to Law No. 8 enacted by the Kurdish Regional Government in 2008) has provisions for regulating the importing and exporting of endangered or conservation concern species between Iraq and neighboring states. Article 18 of the law states that it is prohibited to “fish or hunt birds and land and water animals that are threatened or likely to be threatened with extinction, or use them for trade.”

### **Species traded**

There is little official data available on the extent of cross-border trade in species with Iraq. CITES began collecting data in 1978 from neighboring countries (all Iraq’s neighboring countries are



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signatories to CITES) on wildlife trade in which Iraq has been an importer, exporter, or the country of origin, and its online database documents the trade of exotic and sometimes endangered species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and even plants. Data obtained in 2010 from the CITES Trade Database (managed by United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP)/ World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC)) shows species imports and exports to and from Iraq from 1999 to 2009. Annex 2 provides complete details from the CITES Trade Database on documented species trade in and out of Iraq between 1999 and 2009.

According to the CITES Trade Database (UNEP-WCMC, 2010), fauna species were traded either as live animals or as body parts (skin, bodies or products such as garments, shoes, small leather products, ivory carvings and even eggs). Switzerland is often the main trading partner, with the USA coming second and Kuwait third. Other trading partners include the Netherlands, Sudan, France, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Thailand, Fiji, Norway, Qatar, Poland and the Russian Federation. Among the 32 different species of mammals, birds, reptiles, and plants recorded in the database, 10 species (including the *Acipenseriforms*, most species of which are endangered) are endangered, 8 species have not been evaluated by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List (2010), and 14 species are LR/LC (Lower Risk/Least Concern) that “includes species for which there are no identifiable risks” (IUCN, 2001). Although this information is informative, it does not appear to fully characterize the trade in species crossing Iraq’s borders.

### Illegal trade

Although uncontrolled hunting and trade of animals and birds is likely to have had major adverse effects on the biodiversity of Iraq, there has still been no comprehensive research to quantify these trends. One primary motive for animal trade and hunting in most poor regions seems to be financial as it “provides a regular source of income for some, and a safety net and coping strategy to

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meet sudden or unexpected needs for income for others” (TRAFFIC, 2008). However, this may not always be true as “the dividing line between a purely subsistence use of wildlife, which plays a critical role in the livelihoods of a large proportion of the world’s population, and wildlife trade is often blurred” (Freese, 1998).

There are complex connections between wildlife and socio-economic conditions. According to TRAFFIC (2008), “people involved in the trade are not necessarily poor; indeed, the trade in wildlife in the region involves some extremely wealthy individuals and groups”.

Lyapustin, Vaisman and Fomenko (2007, pp 107) studied the reasons for illicit trade in wild plants and animals in eastern Russia. They concluded that “the importance of the work of all interested parties to combat this situation is underlined not only by the urgency of environmental protection issues and the scale of the damage being caused to biological diversity, but also by the considerable damage to the economy and loss in revenue to the government”.

According to a survey of wildlife experts done by TRAFFIC in their paper *What’s Driving the Wildlife Trade*, advocacy and education are not enough by themselves to address this issue; the success and effectiveness of controls on illegal trade are determined by implementation and enforcement of laws (TRAFFIC, 2008). The ongoing wars in the country have presented additional challenges to the wildlife of Iraq by increased social upheaval and poverty in the region. Referencing the work of others Dudley, Ginsberg, Plumptre, Hart and Campos (2002), said that “breakdowns in transportation infrastructure and food-marketing networks during and subsequent to the wars may prove more devastating to wildlife, because they force local inhabitants to rely on locally available wildlife and wild plants as their primary source of food and trade goods”. Roe (2008) also stated that “unsustainable wildlife trade has caused major population declines for a number of species”, which restricts use these species for subsistence or income generation. Particularly troubling is the

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involvement of the military forces in wildlife hunting and trade in Iraq, a factor that fuels the illegal trade to untold extents. Dudley *et al* (2002), in their paper *Effects of War and Civil Strife on Wildlife and Wildlife Habitats* state, “military combatants and foreign ‘peace-keeping’ forces may be both suppliers and consumers of wildlife products.” The importance of this issue was emphasized recently when Nature Iraq was contacted by the Wilderness Conservation Society (WCS) to request information and assistance in the development of a short film about the illegal wildlife trade in Iraq and Afghanistan. The WCS was asked by the U.S. Department of Defense Legacy Program to produce this film, which warns U.S. service men and women against participation in wildlife trading and educates them in helping to eliminate illegal trade activities when it is encountered in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Historical evidence of species extinction being caused primarily by human over-exploitation is patchy” (Groombridge, 1992), especially when our knowledge and the scientific data needed to respond to the issue is limited. This is particularly true in the Middle East where the wildlife trade does not appear to have been methodically studied. There are a few exceptions, one of which concerns the Kuwait Bird Market. Al-Sirhan & Al-Bathali, (2010) of the Ornithological Society of Kuwait produced a report documenting trade activities at the Kuwait Bird Market from January to May 2010. They visited the market on a regular basis and identified and counted all species they observed. Their report documented 72 species of birds that were sold in the market, most of which were from Kuwait or neighboring countries. They listed six IUCN Red-Listed species (Lesser Kestrel (vulnerable), Eastern Imperial Eagle (vulnerable), Pallid Harrier (near threatened), Eurasian Curlew (near threatened), Black-tailed Godwit (near threatened) and European Roller (near threatened).

Stanton (2010) in his article *A rough guide to the raptor trade in Yemen* noted an alarming number of species and individuals were involved in the trade and listed three issues that contribute to “the

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traumatic circumstances of the animals' captivity: 1) ignorance of each species' specific requirements, 2) the desire to maximize profits by expending the minimum on upkeep, and 3) a callous disregard for the comfort/care of the animals.”

After the beginning of the war in 2003, illegal animal hunting and trade issues in Iraq were occasionally covered in the international press. An example of this is a 2008 BBC story entitled “Iraq’s rare wild animal trade”, which discussed an informal zoo in Baghdad that was trading in both traditional pets and larger or more exotic species such as crocodiles, bears, and lions.

### **Zoos & Captive Breeding**

Today captive animals in Iraqi zoos are not generally kept for the purposes of education or conservation. The main goal is to offer an inviting recreational activity that attracts the public. The rarer the animal, the more money is gained as a source of income for the zookeepers. Animal park personnel lack the proper knowledge and training for handling and keeping these animals. The war in 2003 adversely affected many zoos and animal parks in the south and center of the country. After the fall of Saddam Hussein, the Baghdad Zoo suffered drastic loss of animal lives, wherein the animals were seriously neglected and left to starve (Reuters, 2009). As a result, only a few dozen of the zoo’s original 560 animals survived the war, which was featured on CBS news (2008).

Placed in the media spotlight, the condition of Baghdad Zoo improved somewhat with the aid of a group of U.S. civil affairs officers and “Care For The Wild” (CFTW), an international conservation organization. CFTW also assisted in transporting animals from Luna Park zoo, a private facility in the capital, to the Baghdad Zoo to remain there until the owners of Luna Park had been brought up to better standard (U.S. Army, 2007). But in general conditions of zoos in many parts of the country are pitiful. Following an inspection by a team of zoological specialists from Nature Iraq of the Nawruz Zoo facility in Sulaimani city, Nature Iraq issued an open letter in 2010 to all Iraqi zoos

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offering advice regarding the standard methods of care that should be given to animals in zoos throughout the country. As stated in the letter, “most animals in captivity are held in poor conditions, many of them requiring immediate care and in some cases surgery, due to certain ailments common among captive animals, including difficulties with breathing, malnutrition and bone ailments” (Nature Iraq, 2010). See Annex 3 for a list of the animals found at the Nawruz facility and the ailments they suffered from. The letter provides specific recommendations and urges zookeepers to provide adequate space for their animals in order to ensure the wellbeing and health of animals under zoo administrative care. It also strongly urges zoos to incorporate better educational programs for the public.

## Issues in Kurdistan, Northern Iraq

In the Kurdistan region, hunting has been a main source of income for many people in rural and even urban areas, which has caused the widespread eradication of many wild species, including several globally and near-threatened species such as Persian Leopards *Panthera pardus* (NT), which have now been driven into continuous decline.

During a study conducted in 2010 concerning wildlife hunting and trade in Kurdistan, the team was able to interview a hunter in the animal market in Sulaimani governorate, (its main city of the same name is located at N: 35° 33' 42 N and E: 45° 26' 27 E). He acknowledged the presence of a very large number of individuals hunting animals in the surrounding areas. He informed the team that the market is no longer used for displaying animals for sale, as traders fear that police crackdowns may occur there. The main customers of live-caught species are wealthy people and officials for whom the animals represent a status symbol, to be kept in their personal gardens or for use in traditional medical treatments. Ease of trade is assured by being conducted out of the public eye, with most animals taken directly to hunters' houses where sales are conducted in private.

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**Plate 1: Two Jungle cats *Felis chaus* brought from the hunter's home in Sulaiymaniya (Photo by K. Ararat)**

These activities are a concern in Kurdistan where there is a lack of general awareness by border and checkpoint officers and no mechanism by which endangered animals can be recognized. This is likely increasing the rate of hunting of species such as Wild Goats *Capra aegagrus*, which is internationally considered to be a vulnerable species according to the IUCN Red List of endangered species. Although Wild Goats are present in considerable numbers in the wild in Kurdistan, they are under threat due to extensive hunting. A hunter interviewed stated that he himself has transported live Wild Goats from Iran to Iraq by painting their fur with henna paste (made from ground leaves of the henna plant *Lawsonia inermis*) to prevent the Wild Goats from being identified. As the price for one live Wild Goat is approximately 400-500 USD, equivalent to a month's wage for a civil servant, this likely encourages hunters.

Traditional medicine and treatments utilizing wild species is another catalyst for the capture of live species. The hunter interviewed indicated that most of the officials and other buyers also use these animals for health, such as using the brain marrow of the Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica*, which is thought

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to cure typhoid, Hedgehogs *Erinaceous concolor* and *Hemiechinus auritus* are used for the treatment of rheumatism, Indian Crested Porcupine *Hystrix indica* is thought to decrease blood pressure, and the Honey Badger *Mellivora capensis* is used to lower blood cholesterol.

The owner of a zoo in Kurdistan was also interviewed, who claimed that the majority of imported exotic animals in the zoos of the region may be illegally smuggled from places such as Africa and Thailand and enter Iraq via Syria, where documents are created to import them to Iraq. The animals brought from Syria are commonly transported in very small wooden boxes or cages.

Many buyers from southern and central Iraq take advantage of the relative safety of the Kurdistan region to import animals through Kurdistan, generally through licensed zookeepers, or “merchants,” from the region. Merchants receive a sum of up to 1,000 USD for each time they provide help to the southern traders who are transporting animals from the Kurdistan region to the southern parts of Iraq.

Zoos themselves are a threat to the region’s wildlife, and one that fuels hunting in the region in their creation of an additional “available on request” illegal trade. The zoo acts as an additional market for wild species trade, where customers can order species specific to their desire. The licensing of zoos to receive and maintain exotic species enables them to take advantage of their privileged position by bringing in such species for customers, as well as for their own use. While the team was at a zoo to interview the owner, a local customer who appeared to be a regular buyer was waiting to negotiate a final price to purchase a female lion that was being offered for a price of 8,000 USD.



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**Plate 2: 6 months old female lion cub imported from Thailand when it was 2 months old - Erbil Animal Zoo-Kurdistan, January-2010 (Photo by Hana A. Raza)**

Also as Nature Iraq (2010) found in its visit to the Nawruz Zoo in Sulaimani as well as other zoos around the country, poor care results in a high mortality rate that requires zoos to constantly replace their animals.



**Plate 3: Dead Pelican at Sulaimaniyah Zoo, February-2010 (Photo by Hana A. Raza)**



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The increasing activities of hunters, smugglers and taxidermists in the country remains largely unchecked, and due to the lack of studies and scientific data on many mammal groups little is known of how these activities are affecting the population and conservation status of species in Iraq. Most professional hunters can easily identify the rare animals that they target in their hunting career and know the best means of finding them. Although they pose a major threat to these species, hunters are also an important resource for information.



**Plate 4: A Brown Bear *Ursus arctos* and a Gray Wolf *Canis lupus* caught in the districts near Erbil- Sulaimaniyah Zoo, Kurdistan, Northern Iraq, January-2010 (Photos by Hana A. Raza)**

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Plate 5: Mounted Goitered Gazelle after it was killed in a nearby district of Kirkuk, January-2010 (Photo by Hana A. Raza)



Plate 6: Animal pens in the Erbil Zoo, January-2010 (Photo by Hana A. Raza)



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**Plate 7: Eurasian Badgers *Meles meles* at the Sulaimaniyah Zoo (Photo by Mudhafar Salim)**

Methods of hunting and capturing employed in the country include guns (shotguns and rifles), poisons, nets, and iron traps. Falconry is also very popular, using birds of prey found throughout Iraq. In Kurdistan, some laws have been issued such as Law No. 8 of 2008 that attempt to set standards and regulate the utilization of equipment that is inhumane.



**Plate 8: Hunters Hide near Rania, Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan Iraq -January 2010, (Photo by Hana A. Raza)**

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Plate 9: Brown Bear *Ursus arctos*, killed in Kurdistan' mountains. (Photographer unknown, Source K. Ararat)



Plate 10: A typical days' hunting small passerines in Iraq - 2007 (Photo by O. Fadhel)

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The 2010 Kurdistan surveys covered Sulaimani, Erbil and Duhok governorates. Each has a zoo and small animal markets, focusing largely on trade in domesticated farm species, pets, and singing birds. But in all the three zoos the survey team found globally and locally threatened species of mammals, including four Striped Hyenas *Hyaena hyaena* (NT) (the zookeeper stated that these had been brought from Australia), four African Lions *Panthera leo* (VU) (supposedly brought from Thailand via Syria), ten Goitered Gazelles *Gazella subgutturosa* (VU) that were caught in Kurdistan and bred in the zoos and four Brown Bears *Ursus Arctos* (LC) that were captured in Kurdistan's mountains. Other species that were found in local zoos included 20 Persian Squirrels *Sciurus anomalis* caught in Kurdistan, 20 unidentified Indian and African Monkeys, six Red foxes *Vulpes vulpes*, three Gray Wolves *Canis lupus*, two Indian Crested Porcupines *Hystrix indica*, one Jungle Cat *Felis chaus* caught in Kurdistan, four Domestic Dogs *Canis lupus familiaris*, eight Domestic (European) Cats *Felis catus*, six Domestic Rabbits *Oryctolagus cuniculus*, six Domestic Goats *Capra aegagrus hircus* (breeds), one Camel *Camelus dromedaries*, two Python Snakes, and three African Crocodiles. Some birds seen in Kurdisan zoos include Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*, Short-toed Snake-eagle *Circaetus gallicus*, Eurasian Eagle-owl *Bubo bubo*, See-see Partridge *Ammoperdix griseogularis*, Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix*, Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*, Eurasian Wigeon *Anas Penelope*, Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*, Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo*, Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus* and Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*. These species are considered of least concern by IUCN but also the globally endangered Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus* has also been seen in the Erbil Zoo. These animals were retained in poor conditions and most were suffering from various medical conditions or ailments.

The visits to the markets in Erbil and Sulaimani found a total count of 61 Persian squirrels *Sciurus anomalis*, one Eastern European Hedgehog *Erinaceus concolor*, one Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes*, one unidentified species of Monkey and 45 Domestic Rabbits *Oryctolagus cuniculus*. There is no regular animal market in Dohuk governorate.



### Issues in Central and Southern Iraq

The Mesopotamian Marshlands of Iraq are a major center of activity for hunting and trade in waterfowl species, which are sold in the markets to local buyers. Mallards *Anas platyrhynchos* were observed by the field team being sold in markets at prices ranging from 20,000ID (15 USD) to 25,000ID (20 USD) each – prices that are actually considered quite high for these species (in 2005 the market price of Marbled Duck *Marmaronetta angustirostris*, a vulnerable species, was approximately 4-9 USD per bird).



Plate 11: Northern Pintail, Eurasian Wigeon, and Mallard - Amarah city market, Missan Governorate. (Photo by M. Salim)

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**Plate 12: Endangered Egyptian Vulture for sale – 2009 (Photo by O. Fadhel)**



**Plate 13: Marbled Ducks for sale -2009 (Photo by O. Fadhel)**



**Plate 14: Iraqi Houbara Hunters in Salah Aldin Governorates – Winter 2010 (Photo by O. Fadhel)**



**Plate 15: Bustards that were said to have died while being smuggled to Kuwait. (Photographer unknown)**

If it is necessary to transport the birds, they are slaughtered and sold at half the live, market price.

Winter 2009-10 saw a high rate of waterfowl sales, generally higher than previous winters. Hunters killed a large number that were then sold in the markets, although according to locals some of these birds (large and rare species such as Swans *Cygnus* sp.) were exported, mainly to Kuwait, where they can be sold at double the Iraqi price.

Unlike in the Kurdistan region, there appears to be fewer regulations regarding animal trade in south and central Iraq, with several markets dealing quite openly in the trade of wild species. Hunting of Macqueen's Bustard *Chlamydotis macqueenii*, a species classified as vulnerable by the IUCN, occurs heavily in regions of southern and western Iraq. In the winters of 2009 and 2010, foreign hunters

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and falconers from Gulf States have come to Iraq in large, heavily-protected convoys to hunt in these areas, remaining active in an area for several weeks at a time. One such hunting trip reportedly killed up to 100 birds. These hunting parties are transporting birds of prey across national borders and many of these birds, used in falconry hunting, are themselves conservation concern species.

There is one official zoo in the capital, Baghdad Zoo in Al-Zawra' Park, as well as seven main animal markets in the city that participate in the animal trade. One Baghdad trader was featured in the BBC video mentioned above (2008). Most animal markets in southern and central Iraq are quite small in size, such as the "Al-Ishar" Basrah pigeon market, which holds only these birds. Larger markets are located in Baghdad, Diyala, Anbar, and Kirkuk.

Falcons traders operate throughout the country, with the largest number concentrated in Ramadi, Salah Ad Din governorate, and Basrah. The majority of gazelle trading is conducted in Rutba, Anbar governorate, which is also the location of a large Ministry of Agriculture gazelle reserve.

## Examples of Hunted and Traded Species in Iraq

The following wild species are commonly exported from Iraq:

### Musstelids

Eurasian Otters *Lutra lutra* and Smooth-coated Otters *Lutrogale perspicillata* are hunted in the rivers and wetland areas of Kurdistan and in southern Iraqi marshes, respectively. Common Otters are also caught in the central region of Iraq, in Samara and Salah Ad Din along the Tigris river banks, as well as Zagaton and Alduz near Kirkuk, and further north at Taq Taq and Altun Kopri on the Little Zab River in Erbil governorate. These species are mostly exported to Turkey. Otter pelts are also reportedly used in some cases for drug smuggling because their fur prevents the drugs from getting wet.



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Plate 16: Otters killed in Hawizeh Marsh, a Ramsar Site - 2007. (Photo by Mukhtar. Kh. Haba)



Plate 17: The pelt of an otter reportedly used for drug smuggling. (Photo by Mukhtar Kh. Haba)

## Ungulates

Goitered Gazelles *Gazella subgutturosa* are hunted in the eastern territories and the southern arid and grassy lands mainly around the Hamreen, Qaratapa, and Mandali areas of Diyala governorate; Badra and Jassan of Wassit governorate; Kumait, Al-Teeb, Al-Sheeb and the sparse areas of Ali Al-Grabi of Missan governorate. Gazelles are reportedly being hunted and captured by hunters using

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floodlight-mounted trucks to track the animals at night. Those that are captured live are then exported to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.



**Plate 18: Gazelles (Reem) captured in Al-Teeb and Al-Sheab near Missan Governorate (Photo by Mukhtar Kh. Haba)**

## Rodentia

Persian Squirrels *Sciurus anomalus* are hunted in the Kurdish mountains, particularly in the areas near Gali Ali Beg and Soran. A few have been trapped near Mar Matti and Sinjar of Mosul. These species are sold throughout Iraq as pets and are also reportedly exported, primarily to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, as well as Syria and Jordan. Indian Crested Porcupines *Hystrix indica* are widely hunted and trapped in central and western Iraq, particularly near the banks of the Tigris River in the Al-Allam and Al-Mahzan areas of Salah Ad Din and the Nimrod area near Mosul. These are sold in Iraqi markets to local buyers and also exported to Kuwait, UAE, and Saudi Arabia.



Plate 19: Persian squirrel *Sciurus anomalus* in Erbil Animal Market. (Photo by Hana A. Raza, 2010)



Plate 20: Persian squirrel *Sciurus anomalus* in Sulaimaniyah Animal Market. (Photo by Hana A. Raza, 2010)

### Birds

Much of following information comes from an article on Raptors Trapping and Trade in Iraq (Al-Sheikhly, in press) and from the Nature Iraq Key Biodiversity Areas program in Kurdistan, Iraq (Ararat, Abdulhassan & Abdulrahman, 2010). Saker Falcons *Falco cherrug* are hunted in the early winter in the arid steppes of eastern and western Iraq, including the western steppes of Al-Jazera in Anbar governorate; Rabea'a and Sinjar in Mosul; the open steppes of Himreen in Diyala governorate; Al-Azezia, Al-Gearbi and Al-Teeb in Missan governorate and the Fao of Basrah. They are reportedly exported to Kuwait, Qatar, and UAE from the southern provinces of Iraq and to Saudi Arabia from the northern and western provinces of Iraq. Birds in particularly good condition and that are well-trained are said to be given priority to UAE buyers. Peregrine Falcons *Falco peregrinus* are found foremost and hunted near large water bodies such as: Dukan Lake (a reservoir) near Rania in Sulaimani governorate. Tharthar lake of both Anbar and Salah Ad Din governorates

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and the southern marshes, primarily the Hawizeh Marshes (Iraq's only Ramsar site) in Missan and the Fao Peninsula of Basrah during the winter and fall migration period. Barbary Falcons *Falco peregrinoides* are hunted in Maqloob, Sinjar Mountain and the Makhool hill range of Mosul, Hawija of Kirkuk governorate and Himreen range of Diyala governorate. Both Peregrine and Barbary Falcons are exported to the same countries mentioned above. Macqueen's Bustards *Chlamydotis macqueenii* are captured in the arid steppes of western Iraq in Anbar governorate, Himreen, Rabea'a steppes of Mosul, Al-Azezia and Al-Garbi of Missan, Nogratt Al-Salman of Muthanna and other areas of Iraq within suitable wintering migration habitat. When captured they are exported (as live or dead birds) to UAE, Qatar and Kuwait. White-eared Bulbuls *Pycnonotus leucotis* are frequently hunted from Sharaban, Baladrouz and Mandli of Diyala governorate and are sold internally within Iraq or transported to Syria and Jordan. In addition, Chukars *Alectoris chukar*, which are found in the mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan, are often caught and sold for the pet trade throughout Iraq

## Reptiles

Nose-horned Viper *Vipera ammodytes* is a rare species in Iraq that inhabits the sandy dunes of the western and southwestern Iraqi deserts and are hunted in the Al-Qae'm and Rutba areas of Anbar governorate and the deserts of Muthana governorate. They are exported to Kuwait in the south and to Turkey in the north. Saw-scaled Vipers *Echis* sp. are captured from old abandoned buildings near the bank of the Tigris River, from Mosul all the way down to Basrah. The Euphrates Softshell Turtle *Rafetus euphraticus* are collected in limited numbers in Diyala, Wasit, and Salah Ad Din provinces. Locals consume the animal as a traditional Arab medicine for treating arthritis and fever. Our team observed several of this species near the Euphrates valley and Tharthar in Anbar province, held in small tanks and ready for transportation to Saudi Arabia, where they are generally consumed for the same purpose.



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Plate 21: Harvesting of Spiny-tailed Lizard *Uromastix a. microlepis* from the western steppes of Anbar and Diyala of Iraq. 161 individuals counted. (Photos by Omar Fadhil, 2009)



Plate 22: Adult *Pesudocerastes p. fieldi* in Anbar market of Central&Western Iraq. (Photo by Omar Fadhil, 2009)



Plate 23: Tessellated Water Snake *Natrix t. tessellate*, total count of 400 individuals, Al-Gazel local market in Baghdad, harvested mainly from the wetlands of Al-Kut governorate. (Photo by Omar Fadhil, 2010)



### **Discussion and Conclusions**

This report was developed to provide an overview of hunting and animal trade within Iraq and between neighboring countries involving individual hunters, local animal markets, and zoos. It provides primary information as a basis for future research.

#### **Trade Issues**

Animal trade within Iraq consists of the importation of exotic animals through legal, licensed zookeepers who then resell the animals to private zoos and individuals, and illegally through professional hunters and dealers in the region. Checkpoint officers and border officials have no background or training in identifying or curtailing trade in internationally protected species such as those listed in the CITES Appendices list. The wildlife trade is conducted more openly in southern and central Iraq than in the Kurdistan region due to more lax rules and enforcement. It is not uncommon to find globally-threatened species shown for sale along roadsides and in small village markets.

The most significant finding of this survey was the implication of government authorities' involvement in the illegal animal trade. These officials request traders to obtain rare and/or exotic species, for which it is unlikely that they have the fundamental knowledge of how to care for these animals. These private zoos or collections are particularly troubling in the case of large predator species that are commonly killed when they reach maturity and have become too dangerous to handle by the inexperienced or ill-equipped.

#### **Zoo Issues**

Zookeepers in Iraq today generally have poor knowledge in handling and keeping animals. The main purpose of Iraqi zoos is entertainment and profit rather than education and conservation. In contrast, in the 1980s the Zawra Zoo in Baghdad had trained Iraqi veterinarians looking after their

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animals and published events such as the birth of cubs to a Bengal Tiger in local papers. But in general today, the living conditions of animals at both zoos and animal markets are extremely poor and urgently require better management and improvement in the standards of animal care.

### **Hunting Issues**

Interviews conducted with locals near KBA survey sites provided a rough guide to hunting activities in the country. Hunting is practiced extensively in Kurdistan despite the existence of regional hunting prohibitions. Hunting is largely uncontrolled in the south of the country and is likely to be just as extensive as in the north, though poor security in some parts of Iraq may prevent such behavior or restrict it to limited areas.

The recent wars in Iraq have likely increased the practices of animal trade and hunting as they represent a source of extra income, especially for the poor, in uncertain times. There is a significant gap in Iraqi law concerning hunting regulations and the protection of animals, with only perfunctory drafting efforts made to update old laws, rather than implement them. The 2010 law regarding the protection of animals has not yet been fully implemented as most of the law's articles remain to be further defined by government agency regulations and proper management input by scientific authorities is required.

Also, since Iraq is not yet a member party of CITES, animals of specific concern in the CITES appendices are not recognized as such within the country. Population data are not available to allow conclusive statements to be made on the sustainability of current harvesting practices in Iraq. However, based on reports made by locals as part of the KBA survey on the status of species' presence in each area, a rough list of species that are declining in number is currently being developed. The list can aid in future legislation, enforcement and research efforts. As Iraq has recently become a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the government will be

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required to develop and implement a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). This plan will require a thorough review of trade and hunting legislations in Iraq and, it is hoped, enable the appropriate actions to address the declines seen in fauna diversity.

### **Recommendations**

This survey has raised many issues of interest and concern regarding animal trade and hunting in Iraq. Nature Iraq hopes to address and work with the Ministry of Environment and other partner agencies to implement the following recommendations for future work:

- The enactment and enforcement of proposed wildlife legislation specifically in regard to hunting and animal trade, and to ensure its proper implementation.
- Immediate steps be taken to become a signatory to the CITES and designate a scientific authority to provide comprehensive and up-to-date information on animal hunting and trade to the government to draft and implement federal laws targeting these issues. This national authority will liaison with the appropriate CITES management authorities to execute actions according to the laws.
- Implement necessary capacity building, advocacy programs and education campaigns directed at border officials, local hunters, zookeepers and pet shop owners to raise their awareness and build their skills on the subjects of new legislative requirements and the importance of animal conservation, welfare and care. Such programs seek to emphasize the mutual benefits to both people and wildlife.
- Increase involvement of the local public, scientific communities and international institutions in education, research and funding in wildlife conservation activities.



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- Strengthen regional enforcement co-operation and the relationship between the scientific and border authorities of Iraq and its neighboring countries to more effectively target the issue of cross-border wildlife trade in the future and improve CITES reporting.
- Further research focused on wildlife trade, including the sustained monitoring of animal trafficking. Further study will provide invaluable insight in to what steps must be taken towards controlling the illegal trade.
- Initiate yearly studies of key hunted Iraqi species at the population level to provide data necessary for setting appropriate and sustainable hunting limits on all key species hunted in Iraq.
- Local community involvement in enforcement and conservation should be increased.

## **Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to offer special thanks to the Iraqi Ministry of Environment for their contribution to the KBA project, under which some of the research for this report was conducted; the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea for their financial sponsorship; Prof. Zuhair Amr of the Jordan University of Science & Technology for assistance with identification of species; Dr. Iman Memarian for giving advice about ailments seen in zoo animals and required treatment for their conditions; Virginia Tice, R. F. Porter and Shamal Mufti for their assistance in gathering information, David Stanton and Richard Thomas for reviewing the paper and Anna Bachmann and Bridget Chappell for editorial support.

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### Annex 1: Law No. 17 of Protecting Wild Animals (2010)

#### Article (1)

1. Wild animals are national wealth that all citizens are obliged to protect and not to harm, overhunt or deal with in any form except for actions corresponding with the valid regulation annexed to the law of the protection and improvement of environment numbered 39 (amended) for 2008.
2. Wild animal mentioned hereby mean all wild mammals and birds.

#### Article (2)

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) empowers one of its directorates and relative department in the governorates the assignment of monitoring and supervising the execution of these regulations and to be called the specialized directorate or department.

#### Article (3)

In order to fulfill its duties, the specialized directorate is entitled to coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) to perform the following measures:

1. Local wild animals breeding within fenced or protected areas for conservation, reproduction purposes to help restore the natural balance in such field.
2. Protecting and maintaining the natural environment for the wild animals.
3. Fencing and confining hunting areas and regulating hunting according to the laws.
4. Monitoring the proper execution of these laws and regulations.

#### Article (4)

Areas in the country to the purposes of these regulations are divided into:

1. Forbidden areas, where no hunting is permanently or temporarily not allowed.
2. Protected hunting areas in the government-owned lands. The government regulates hunting under its direct supervision according to the protection order annexed to the 1997 law of the protection and improvement of environment number 3.

#### Article (5)

1. An annual pamphlet about hunting of each season with species defining is to be issued.
2. MoE and Ministry of Interior approvals concerning hunting practices should be had.
3. MoE and Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research specify “hunnable” species and give the list to the Ministry of Interior and hunting groups.
4. Hunting of the endangered species in the red list is prohibited and confined only to reproduction and research purposes.
5. Foreign hunters from other countries should have hunting license from exclusively MoE valid for one week and renewable.
6. MoE acquires fees upon issuing hunting licenses and the money is to be used in maintaining the natural parks.
7. In case of the license expires, a fine is imposed and the money goes to MoE to maintain the natural parks.
8. Hunting techniques and devices according to each species are to be defined in pamphlets published by MoE.
9. An environmental monitoring agent and a member of one of the active civil society organizations interested in birds and mammals are to accompany hunting campaigns to watch for the guns used and hunting density. The hunting group or campaign pays the expenses of the monitoring agents.

#### Article (6)

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The following practices are totally prohibited:

1. The use of the techniques of deceit in hunting wild animals and mass killing like the use of nets, iron traps, gins and poisons.
2. Hunting down animals by planes, cars, or any other automated transportation vehicle.
3. Using automatic weapons or shot guns of less than 40mm caliber.
4. Hunting during forbidden seasons or areas.
5. Any form of harm to the wild animals.
6. Collecting bird eggs or sabotaging their nests except for research purposes provided that MoE approval is prior granted.
7. Hunting Houbaras by aid of night vision binoculars as this can lead them to migrate to other areas in the neighboring countries.
8. Introduction of hybrid raptor species as they can influence the endemic species.
9. Hunting Houbaras by hunting rifle (shot gun).
10. Hunting Houbaras by all means for at least two years starting from the date of issuing these regulations in order to compensate for the high population decline due to overhunting in recent years.

### **Hunting Organizing Regulations**

#### **Article (7)**

The right of hunting wild animals for trade and products processing purposes is confined solely to MoE in coordination and cooperation with the rest of the entities and authorities involved.

#### **Article (8)**

Professional hunting is prohibited. Hunting should only be taken as a hobby and practiced properly by means of a license from the specified authority.

#### **Article (9)**

Hunting license requires that the hunter is Iraqi or foreigner legally residing in Iraq whose country of origin holds correspondent standards.

#### **Article (10)**

1. The fee of issuing a hunting license for an Iraqi is 300.000 ID and can be annually renewed for another 100.000 fee.
2. Entities and agencies of scientific and research nature are exempt of the issuing fees in paragraph 1 above and they are granted free licenses for a period defined by MoE.
3. The fee of issuing a hunting license for a non-Iraqi is 1000.00 USD for one week for each case and will be doubled at renewal.

#### **Article (11)**

1. The private sector provides and sells hunting equipment and devices that should meet the standards put by the regional specialized directorates in MoE and MoA.
2. Selling hunting equipment and devices is not allowed except for people who have selling license for the first time for one year and for an unlimited number of years for those who renewed their licenses.

#### **Article (12)**

1. Members of the legally-established hunting clubs are to be given independent license each in return of half of the regular issuing fee.
2. Hunting clubs have to cancel the membership of the hunting-licensed member of theirs if they were proven to have violated the hunting laws and regulations.

#### **Article (13)**

Licensed hunters should not practice hunting in private and legally-owned land properties without the owner(s) permission.

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### **Article (14)**

The specialized directorate is entitled to suspend or cancel hunting license temporarily or permanently if the licensed hunter has violated hunting codes and regulations. The hunter as such can file a complaint to this at the MoE minister's office within no more than 15 days from the date the hunter was informed of the suspension or cancelling. The minister's decision thus is final.

### **Article (15)**

The Justice Minister, according to The Interior Minister's recommendation and The Environment Minister's support, is entitled to empower the mayors, whose districts have no court of law in them, to be judges in their districts to enforce those laws and regulations.

### **Article (16)**

The specialized directorates' staff or whom they empower, are authorized to inspect, if proven necessary, places (but not homes) that have no judges for suspected illegal hunting production or overhunting provided that they are accompanied with environmental police personnel to record the inspection details properly.

### **Article (17)**

The authorized personnel of the specialized directorates along with the administration and security authorities are entitled to arrest any violator to these laws and regulations and surrender them to the nearest police station to be legally processed.

### **Article (18)**

The court of law is entitled to use these regulations as convicting evidence if supported by testimony unless proved otherwise.

### **Article (19)**

The violator to these regulations is to be sentenced according to the penal codes of the 1997 law of the protection and improvement of environment (3).

The violator is banned of hunting practices for two successful years in addition to the penalties in 1 above.

### **Article (20)**

The confiscated wild animals, their products, tools, instrumentations, equipment, transportation, devices etc. by means of violation must be sold by the specialized directorate in any way it finds fit without selling records of their kinds, quantities or selling prices and the money stays to its custody until the court make a final verdict about how to handle it.

Confiscated hunting fire weaponry is to be surrendered to the disposal of the Ministry of Interior.

## **Conclusive Regulations**

### **Article (21)**

The Environment Minister or whom he/she authorizes is entitled to issue pamphlets and any means necessary to facilitate the implementation of these laws and regulations.

### **Article (22)**

The 1979 law of the protection of wild animals and birds (21) is hereby invalidated.

### **Article (23)**

These laws and regulations are to be published in the official newspaper and valid 30 days after publication date.

## **Motives**

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Wild animals are integral part of our national wealth and hunting is part of our cultural heritage. Thus, the relative legislations should have penal law and organizing regulations to protect those animals, reproduce them and prevent instinct dangers in order to regain the natural balance of the environment. To ensure that; avoid the lacks and gaps in the 1979 law of hunting wild animals and birds (21); and empower MoE active role at its establishment for the first time in Iraq in 2003 to perform its legal commitments on the same level in the countries in the region and the world as well.

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### Annex 2: Documented species Trade where Iraq is Exporter and Importer from the CITES Trade Database (UNEP-WCMC, 2010)

#### Trade where Iraq was an Exporter (1999-2009) (UNEP-WCMC, 2010)

Yr	Taxon	Common Name	Importer	Origin	Imp Qty	Imp Term	Imp Purpose	Imp Source*
99	<i>Testudo hermanni</i>	Hermann's Tortoise	USA	Russian Fed.	1	live		D
00	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Common Buzzard	Norway		1	bodies	Personal	I
02	<i>Chlamydotis undulata</i>	Houbara Bustard	UAE	Unkn.	2	live	Comm. Trade	I
02	<i>Buteo</i> spp.	Hawk sp	USA		1	bodies	Personal	W
02	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Common Teal	Qatar		1000	live	Comm. Trade	
02	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Rose-ringed Parakeet	Poland		1	live	Personal	W
03	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	Tiger	UK		1	skins		I
03	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	Brown Bear	UK		1	live	Zoo	I
04	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	Honey Buzzard	USA		1	bodies	Personal	I
05	<i>Buteo</i> spp.	Hawk sp	USA	Unkn.	2	bodies	Personal	W
05	<i>Buteo</i> spp.	Hawk sp	USA	Unkn.	4	bodies	Personal	U
06	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	African Grey Parrot	Austria		1	live		I
07	<i>Acipenseriformes</i> spp.	sturgeon sp.	USA	Unkn.	0.426 kg	eggs	Personal	W

#### Trade where Iraq was an Importer (1999-2009) (UNEP-WCMC, 2010)

Yr	Taxon	Common Name	Exporter	Origin	Exp Qty	Exp Term	Exp Purpose	Exp Source*
99	<i>Tayassu pecari</i>	White-lipped Peccary	Italy	Peru	26	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
99	<i>Tayassu pecari</i>	White-lipped Peccary	Italy	Peru	60	pairs of shoes	Comm. Trade	W
99	<i>Caiman crocodilus crocodilus</i>	spectacled (White or common) caiman	Italy	Venezuela	18	pairs of shoes	Comm. Trade	W
99	<i>Python molurus bivittatus</i>	Burmese Python	Russian Federation		2	live	Circuses and travelling exhibitions	C
00	<i>Tayassu pecari</i>	White-lipped Peccary	Italy	Peru	28 pairs	pairs of shoes	Comm. Trade	W
01	<i>Tupinambis rufescens</i>	Red Tegu (lizard)	Italy	Argentina	14 pairs	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
02	<i>Tayassu pecari</i>	White-lipped Peccary	Italy	Peru	42 pairs	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
02	<i>Tupinambis rufescens</i>	Red Tegu (lizard)	Italy	Argentina	42 pairs	leather products	Comm. Trade	W



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Yr	Taxon	Common Name	Exporter	Origin	Exp Qty	Exp Term	Exp Purpose	Exp Source*
						(s)		
04	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	Vervet monkeys	Sudan		30	live	Comm. Trade	W
04	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	9	leather products (s)		C
04	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	Saltwater or estuarine crocodile	France	Australia	1	leather products (s)	Personal	R
04	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	Saltwater or estuarine crocodile	France	Australia	2	leather products (s)	Personal	C
05	<i>Physeter catodon</i>	Sperm Whale	Fiji		2	teeth	Personal	W
05	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	2	leather products (s)		C
05	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	8	leather products (s)		R
05	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	2	leather products (s)		R
05	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	6	leather products (s)		C
05	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Nile Monitor	Switzerland	Mali	13	leather products (s)		W
05	<i>Python reticulatus</i>	(Asiatic) reticulated python	Switzerland	Viet Nam	2	leather products (s)		C
06	<i>Physeter catodon</i>	Sperm Whale	Fiji		1	teeth	Personal	W
06	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	Vervet monkeys	Sudan		50	live	Comm. Trade	W
06	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	21	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
06	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	75	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	R
06	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Germany	USA	1	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
06	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Germany	USA	1	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
06	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	South Africa	16	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
06	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	20	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	R

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Yr	Taxon	Common Name	Exporter	Origin	Exp Qty	Exp Term	Exp Purpose	Exp Source*
06	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Kenya	25	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
06	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	89	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
06	<i>Tupinambis teguixin</i>	Black Tegu (Reptile)	Italy	Argentina	108	pairs of shoes	Comm. Trade	W
06	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Nile Monitor	Switzerland	Cameroon	3	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
06	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Nile Monitor	Switzerland	Mali	30	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
06	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	Water monitor	Italy	Indonesia	72	pairs of shoes	Comm. Trade	W
06	<i>Python reticulatus</i>	(Asiatic) reticulated python	Switzerland	Viet Nam	6	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	Vervet monkeys	Sudan		80	live	Comm. Trade	W
07	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	94	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
07	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	130	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Thailand	USA	1	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Caiman crocodilus fuscus</i>	Brown Caiman	Austria	Colombia	6	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	5	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	R
07	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Kenya	24	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	South Africa	70	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	396	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Nile Monitor	Switzerland	Mali	40	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
07	<i>Python reticulatus</i>	(Asiatic) reticulated python	Switzerland	Viet Nam	2	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
07	<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>	Common snowdrop (flower)	Netherlands		50	live	Comm. Trade	A

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Yr	Taxon	Common Name	Exporter	Origin	Exp Qty	Exp Term	Exp Purpose	Exp Source*
07	<i>Galanthus woronowii</i>	Caucasian Snowdrop (flower)	Netherlands		220	live	Comm. Trade	A
07	<i>Cyclamen bederifolium</i>	Hardy cyclamen (flower)	Netherlands	Turkey	10	live	Comm. Trade	A
08	<i>Panthera tigris</i>	Tiger	USA		2	live	Zoos	C
08	<i>Oryx dammah</i>	Scimitar Oryx	UAE		2	live	Personal	F
08	<i>Falco</i> hybrid	Hawk sp	Kuwait	UK	15	live	Personal	D
08	<i>Falco</i> hybrid	Hawk sp	Kuwait	UK	16	live	Personal	C
08	<i>Falco</i> hybrid	Hawk sp	Kuwait	UK	24	live	Comm. Trade	D
08	<i>Falco</i> hybrid	Hawk sp	Kuwait	UK	31	live	Comm. Trade	C
08	<i>Crocodylus siamensis</i>	Crocodylus siamensis	Thailand		2	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	D
08	<i>Falco cherrug</i>	Falco cherrug	Kuwait	Unknown	4	live	Personal	W
08	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	Switzerland	USA	68	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	W
08	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator	France	USA	3	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
08	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Kenya	33	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
08	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Switzerland	Zimbabwe	260	leather products (s)	Comm. Trade	C
08	<i>Galanthus woronowii</i>	Caucasian Snowdrop (flower)	Netherlands	Georgia	500	roots	Comm. Trade	W

\*The reported source of the transaction relates to the original source of the species being traded and again is shown by a one-letter code:

A - Plants that are artificially propagated in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.11, paragraph a), that has been propagated artificially for non-commercial purposes and specimens of species included in Appendices II and III).

C - Animals bred in captivity in accordance with Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.), as well as parts and derivatives thereof, exported under the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 5, of the Convention (specimens of species included in Appendix I that have been bred in captivity for non-commercial purposes and specimens of species included in Appendices II and III).

D - Appendix-I animals bred in captivity for commercial purposes and Appendix-I plants artificially propagated for commercial purposes, as well as parts and derivatives thereof, exported under the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 4, of the Convention.

F - Animals born in captivity (F1 or subsequent generations) that do not fulfill the definition of 'bred in captivity' in Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.), as well as parts and derivatives thereof.

I - Confiscated or seized specimens (may be used with another code)

O - Pre-Convention specimens (may be used with another code)

## **Internal KBA Report**

- R - Specimens originating in a ranching operation
- U - Source unknown (must be justified)
- W - Specimens taken from the wild

## Internal KBA Report

### Annex 3: Animals found in Nawruz Animal Zoo and the different diseases they suffer

No.	Family	Species	Diseases they suffer from
1	Bovidae	<i>Gazella subgutturosa</i>	Reduced activity of the thyroid gland
2	Felidae	<i>Felis chaus</i>	Pericardial sinus, reduction of thyroidal secretions, backbone and the spinal arch, breathing difficulties, and inflammation of the lungs.
3	Felidae	<i>Panthera leo</i>	
4	Canidae	<i>Canis lupus</i>	Stereotypy disorder; pacing round in circle, bar-biting of cages
5	Domestic Cats & Dogs	Unknown	Stereotypy disorder, Parasitic diseases; skin blemishes, and hair loss.
6	Crocodylidae	<i>Crocodylus</i> sp.	Vitamin D deficiency and digestion problems
7	Cercopithecidae	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	Viral diseases
8	Birds of Prey	Unknown	Feet infected and broken wing.