

IWMC Special Comment on Proposal 44 Mobula or Devil Rays

On 29 July, the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species, CMS, published its recommendations on the marine species proposals submitted for consideration at CITES CoP17. IWMC would like to draw your attention to the recommendation respecting Proposal 44, Mobula or Devil Rays (*Mobula* spp.)

Le 29 juillet, le Secrétariat de la Convention sur les espèces migratrices (CMS) a publié ses recommandations sur les propositions relatives aux espèces marines soumises pour examen à la CdP17. IWMC souhaite attirer votre attention sur la recommandation concernant la proposition Prop. 44, raies mobula ou diables de mer (*Mobula* spp.).

“The CMS Secretariat is pleased to bring to your attention the comments of CMS on the proposals to Amend CITES Appendices I & II (Marine Species)...

*3. Mobula or Devil Rays (*Mobula* spp.)*

*All nine species of the genus *Mobula* were listed on Appendix I and II of CMS in 2014 as well as Annex 1 of the CMS Sharks MOU in 2016. Consequently, the 124 Parties to CMS, out of which 123 are also Parties to CITES (see Table 2), have committed to strictly protect all species of the genus *Mobula* by: prohibiting the taking of such species, with very restricted scope for exceptions; conserving and where appropriate restoring their habitats; preventing, removing or mitigating obstacles to their migration and controlling other factors that might endanger them. Thus, these 123 Parties to both Conventions have already adopted measures which would preclude the issuing of Non-Detriment Findings for these species.” (Underlining, ours)*

For all purposes, a CITES Appendix II listing of the genus *Mobula*, will be the equivalent of an Appendix I listing for the 123 CITES Parties which are also Party to the CMS, as these Parties will be preclude to issue a NDF certificate, as required by CITES.

Quels qu’en soit les buts, une inscription à l’Annexe II de la CITES correspondrait à une inscription à l’Annexe I pour ses 123 Parties qui sont également Parties à la CMS, puisqu’elles n’auraient pas la possibilité d’émettre un certificat de commerce non préjudiciable, ainsi que le requiert la CITES.

Lausanne, 9 August 2016