



## Sea Save Foundation Newsletter

### CITES CoP17 - Unprecedented Success

Our last newsletter was sent from the floor of the CITES, Conference of the Parties in South Africa. Now back at our California office we are celebrating a strong victory and already planning for the next CITES which will assemble in Sri Lanka in 2019. Thanks for all the help in getting our team to South Africa where we worked strategically to realize one of our strongest historic successes.



#### The Challenges We Faced:

Many opposing interventions were made during the ten day CITES Conference of the Parties. The most common arguments against establishing Appendix II protection were:

1. Developing nations should not be required to shoulder the burden of paperwork and enforcement required by Appendix II placement
2. We could not find enough animals to do reliable counts for the scientific analysis to be viable. (Often we cannot find large populations to evaluate when the numbers of the species have already plummeted)

In addition to the above arguments, many delegates were not familiar with the species being discussed and could not relate to their cultural or economic

importance.

## The Approach We Used:

We used strong science, we showcased the fact that without healthy and balanced marine systems, developing nations will experience dire socioeconomic consequences. We leveraged images to acquaint delegates with each considered species. Much of the world depends heavily upon the ocean to feed their coastal communities. We need to protect this resource or the consequences will be dire.

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## Successes

The following marine species have been placed under the protection of CITES, Appendix II due to the work we recently concluded in South Africa

- Thresher Sharks
- Silky Sharks
- Mobula Rays - Eight different species
- Chambered Nautilus
- Precious Corals



Read the [Sea Save Foundation Position Paper](#), and learn more about our participation [here](#)



Our team is particularly proud of the gains we won during this conference. This was our second CITES, but we are confident that our participation was pivotal. Thank you for trusting in us and placing us in a position to represent the United States and make a dramatic difference.

*Please follow us on your favorite social media platform to stay informed.*

**Warm Regards and Best Fishes,**



**Georgienne Bradley  
Director  
Sea Save Foundation**

Photo Credits: CITES Cop17 Meeting - Jay Ireland / Silky Shark - Shmulik Blum / Thresher Shark - Sheila Ott / Mobula Ray - Brandon Cole / Sri Lanka Delegate - Jay Ireland

[SeaSave.org](http://SeaSave.org)



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