

New Lacey Act Provisions

Michael J. Guzman

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Environment and Natural Resources Division

United States Department of Justice

Lacey Act's Wildlife Provisions

- **Applies to all “wild” animals, whether alive or dead**
- **Applies to any animal part, product, egg or offspring**
- **Applies to wild animals bred in captivity**

Lacey Act Wildlife Provisions

- **It is illegal to:**
 - 1. Import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase any fish or wildlife that are**
 - 2. taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of U.S. state, federal, tribal, or foreign laws or regulations that are fish or wildlife-related.**

- **Also illegal to make any false record, account, label for, or identification of any wildlife transported in foreign commerce**

Lacey Acts Plant Provisions

- **Prior to amendment, plant provisions narrow**
- **Plants had to be native to the U.S. and listed under CITES or U.S. state law**

Lacey Act Amendments

- **Broadened enforcement provisions for plants, including, trees**
 1. **Unlawful to import, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase plants taken in violation of foreign law**
 2. **Expanded definition of plants-includes trees from either natural or planted forest stands**
 3. **New declaration requirements for importers of plants**

Penalties for Lacey Act Violations

1. Criminal Penalties

- Felony
- Misdemeanor

2. Civil Penalties

- Fines
- Forfeiture of seized items

Next Steps:

- **Create declaration forms**
- **Disseminate information about declaration requirements**
- **Prepare implementing regulations and guidance**
- **Organize additional investigative resources**
 - **Within United States government**
 - **In collaboration with other countries**
 - **In collaboration with NGOs**