

## TRAFFIC Recommendations on the Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices at CoP15

Species	Comment	Recommendation
11	<p><i>Ctenosaura bakeri</i>, <i>C. melanosterna</i>, <i>C. oedirhina</i></p> <p>CoP15 Prop. 11 [Honduras]. Inclusion in Appendix II.</p> <p>The three species of <i>Ctenosaura</i> have been classified by IUCN as Critically Endangered on the basis of their small ranges, presumed limited and fragmented populations, habitat loss and local exploitation for food. For the Utila Spiny-tailed Iguana <i>C. bakeri</i>, the population estimate used by the Red List is a considerable underestimate. Recent studies found high population densities, with a population of 42 000–68 000 adults, and large numbers of juveniles.</p> <p><i>Ctenosaura bakeri</i> and the Honduran Paleate Spiny-tailed Iguana <i>C. melanosterna</i> are protected by Honduran law, although enforcement is reportedly poor. All three species gain some protection through protected areas and/or research and breeding programmes. International trade in these species appears to be very limited. Small levels of trade in <i>Ctenosaura melanosterna</i> were reported in recent years, with adequate numbers of captive-bred specimens available to supply the pet trade. There is no evidence that <i>C. bakeri</i> and the Roatán Spiny-tailed Iguana <i>C. oedirhina</i> are in international trade at present, nor that harvest from the wild of <i>C. melanosterna</i> for export may reduce the population to a level at which its survival might become threatened in the near future. Therefore, it is not possible to state with confidence whether the species meets the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II set out in <i>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev CoP14)</i>.</p> <p>Hatchlings or young specimens of these species may be difficult to distinguish from those of <i>Ctenosaura palearis</i>, proposed by Guatemala for inclusion in Appendix II (see CoP15 Prop. 12). In theory, the look-alike criteria of Annex 2 b of <i>Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev CoP14)</i> could apply, were that proposal to be accepted. However, as there is little evidence that the species that are the subject of this proposal are in trade, and as they have a different country of origin, it is unlikely that their inclusion would be necessary to assist in regulation of trade in <i>C. palearis</i>, particularly in view of the fact that all other <i>Ctenosaura</i> species would remain unlisted.</p> <p>The proponent could consider the inclusion of these <i>Ctenosaura</i> species in Appendix III.</p>	<p><b>REJECT</b></p>