



CITES COP20

**DID IT GO FAR
ENOUGH TO
PROTECT
ENDANGERED
WILDLIFE?**

WHAT IS CITES?

It's an international agreement that makes sure **trading** of wild animals and plants **doesn't threaten the survival of any species.**

It places **legally binding rules** on anyone taking plants and animals, as well as things made from their parts, into and out of countries.

WHY IS COP20 IMPORTANT?

Every 3 years the participants meet to discuss which species should have protections upgraded or downgraded.

Human activities are driving a **global decline in biodiversity**, but environmental issues are slipping down the political agenda in some countries.

The success of CoP20 could have major impacts on the future of global biodiversity.

THE WINNERS*

*just a few of them.

SHARKS + RAYS

70 species of sharks
and rays gained new
protections.



RHINOS

Proposals to begin allowing legal trade of rhino horn were rejected.

HORNBILLS

Nine species of African hornbill were given new protections.



THE LOSERS*

*just a few of them.

SAIGA ANTELOPE

Trade in Saiga horn will be allowed
to resume in Kazakhstan.

This is following an
outstanding recovery
in their population
over the past 20
years, but leaves
their future
uncertain.



EELS

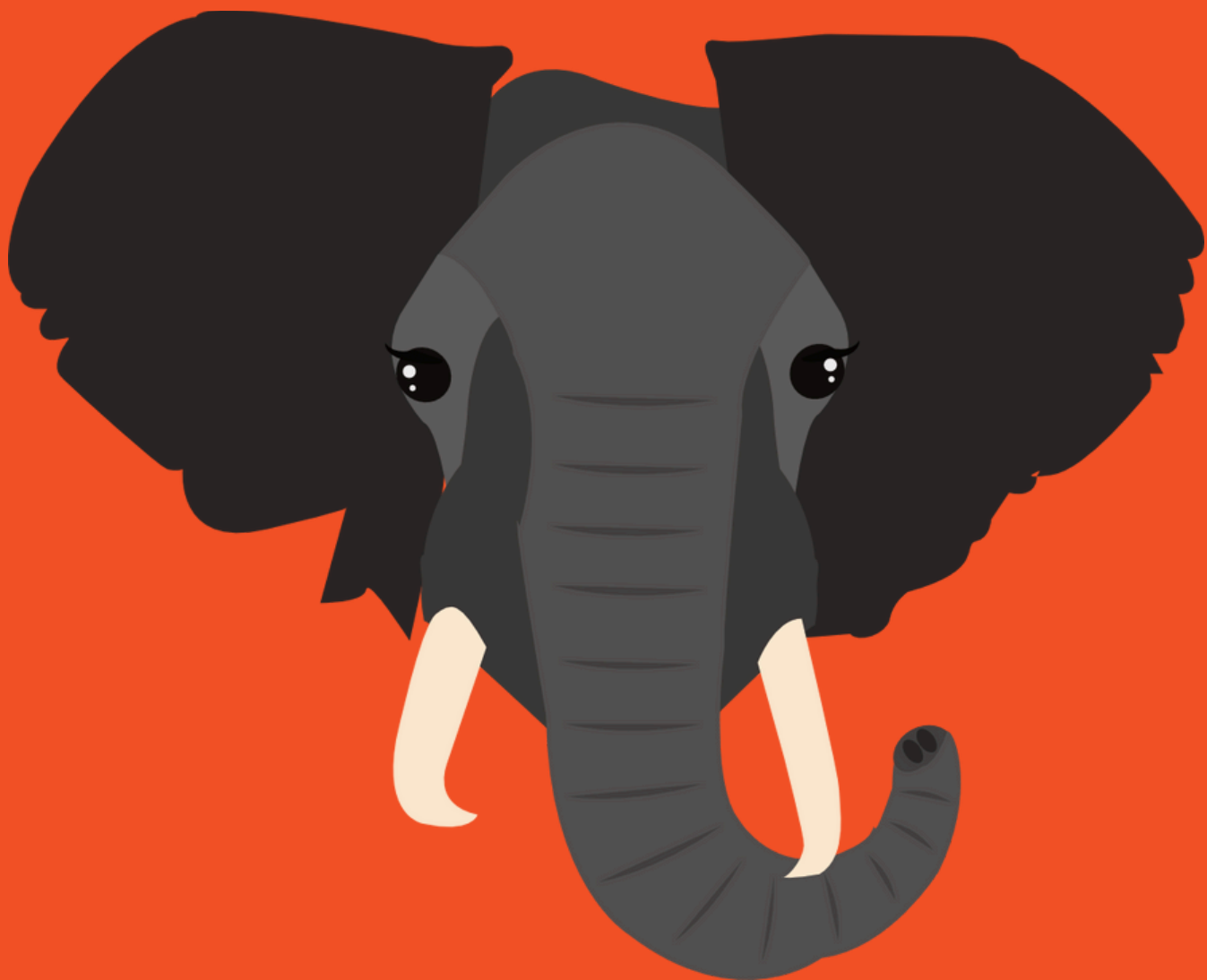
A proposed change that would protect all freshwater eel species was rejected.

Protections are already in place for European eels, but they can be hard to identify, making enforcement tricky.



ELEPHANTS

Live elephants will now be allowed to be exported from Zimbabwe, South Africa, Namibia, and Botswana (e.g., to zoos).



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You decide.
Let us know in the comments.