IDENTIFICATION GUIDE TO KEY CITES APPENDIX 1 FELID SKINS ILLEGAL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE
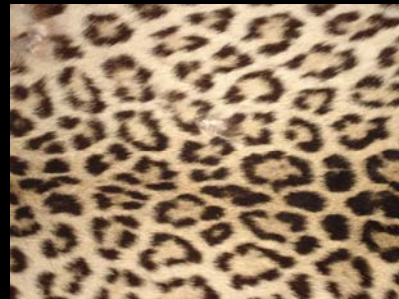
Cheetah

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Acinonyx jubatus venaticus*
CITES STATUS: Appendix 1 – All Trade Illegal
STATUS IN AFGHANISTAN: Highly Endangered to Extinct; Confirmed population of only 50 in Iran.
SIZE: Head and Body Length 1.5 m; Tail 60-70 cm.
COLOR: Color light yellow. Mid-size cat species. Spots are entirely closed.

Persian Leopard

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Panthera pardus saxicolor*
CITES STATUS: Appendix 1 – All Trade Illegal
STATUS IN AFGHANISTAN: Endangered (IUCN) due to fur trade and hunting.
SIZE: Body Length: 1.0-1.9 m; Tail: 58-100 cm.
COLOR: Color variable from golden orange to pale cream near Herat. Spots are darkened, often incomplete, rings with orange or yellow filling.

Snow Leopard

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Uncia uncia*
CITES STATUS: Appendix 1 – All Trade Illegal
STATUS IN AFGHANISTAN: Highly Endangered
SIZE: Body Length: 1.0 – 1.3 m; Tail: 80-100 cm.
COLOR: Color light. Ranges from pale gray to creamy smoke gray. Markings are faint against fur, and range from spots on head to large rings on tail. Chest and belly fur is long. Tail is extremely wide and almost equal to body length.

Leopard Cat

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Prionailurus bengalensis*
CITES STATUS: Appendix 1 & 2
STATUS IN AFGHANISTAN: Status unknown. Heavily hunted in Afghanistan for fur.
SIZE: Small cat; Body Length: 44 cm – 55 cm; Tail: 23-44 cm.
COLOR: Coloration is tawny/yellow with medium to large dark brown to black spots which often coalesce into solid stripes on the top of the back and thin stripe markings on the top and side of the head. Tail ringed at tip.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Dept. of Natural Resource Management

Afghan Tourist Organization

National Environmental Protection Agency

The above species are endangered and protected by Afghan and US law. The importation of these skins into the US is a violation of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna. Please assist us in stopping illegal trade in wildlife in Afghanistan.

Find out more about how you can help save Afghan wildlife at www.wcs.org/afghanistan.