

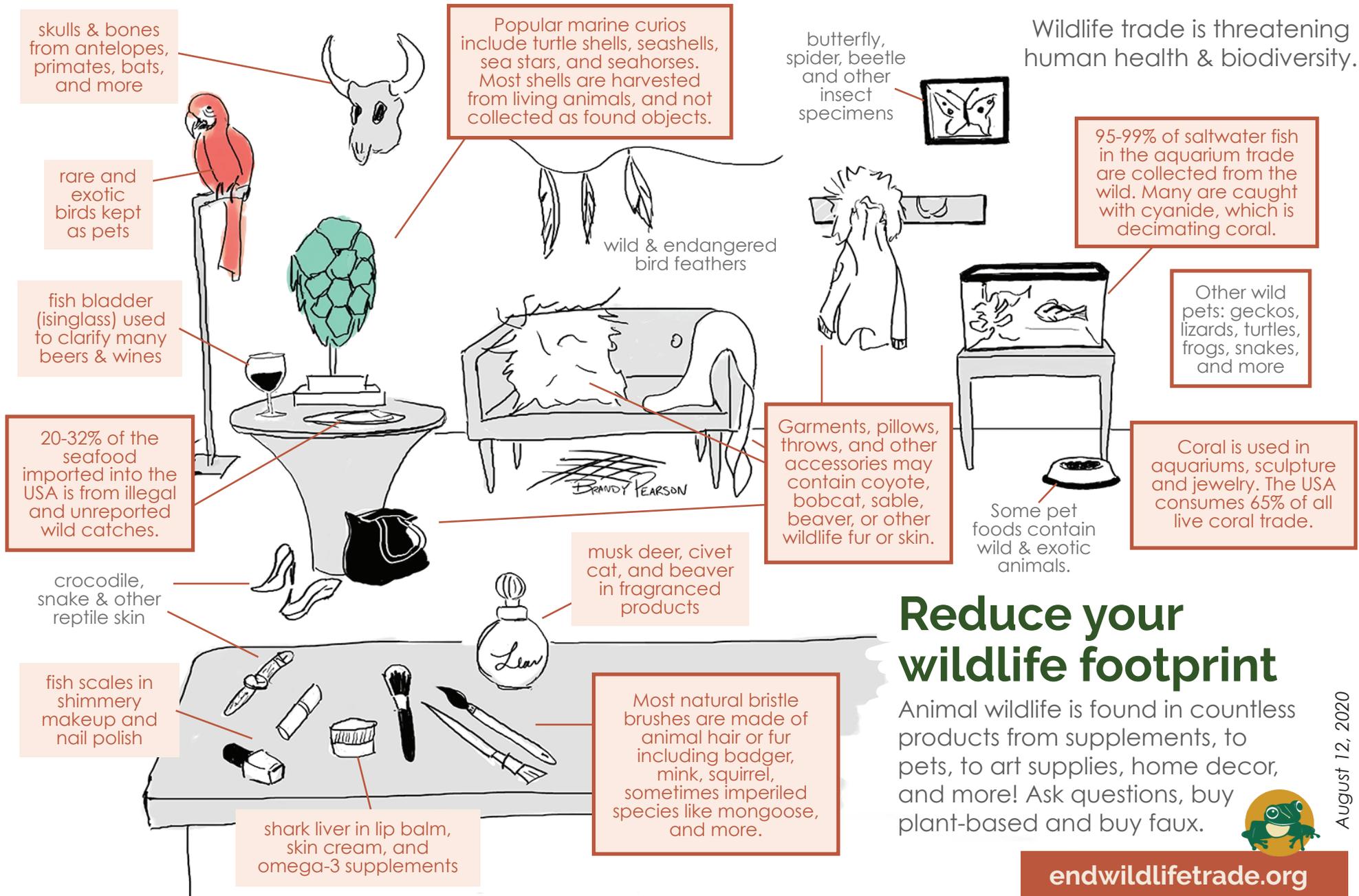
# Wildlife hiding in your home?

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The USA consumes

**20%** of all global wildlife trade.

Wildlife trade is threatening human health & biodiversity.



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## REDUCE YOUR WILDLIFE FOOTPRINT

*A guide of common wild animal products in the USA, and how to reduce your impact.*

Buy plant-based and faux.

Many products don't list ingredients thoroughly, so visually inspect yourself, ask questions, and ask for permits & paperwork as needed.

Don't buy new or resale wildlife products. Both create demand.

**FEATHERS** Wild birds of all kinds are still hunted for their feathers. If a feather looks real, it probably is. In most cases, using feathers from wild birds is illegal in the USA. Try thread tassels and beads instead.

### FURS & SKINS/LEATHERS

Garments, pillows, throws, and other accessories may contain coyote, bobcat, sable, beaver, or other wildlife fur or skin. The fashion industry remains the largest importer of illegal wildlife to the USA. Leathers from reptiles, giraffes, wild cats, and more have been seized in recent years from high-end luxury brands. Buy faux, or locally sourced from domestic animals.

**BRUSHES** Most natural bristle brushes are made of animal hair or

fur, including badger, mink, squirrel, sometimes imperiled species like mongoose, and more. Use synthetic fiber brushes, which last longer and can match the performance of natural bristles to a microscopic level.

**SKULLS & BONES** Crocodile, primates, bat, and antelope are just a handful of animals whose skulls are still used as decoration.

**INSECT SPECIMENS** Butterflies, spiders, beetles, and many other insects are killed in growing numbers for display. Display illustrations instead.

**SHELLS & MARINE CURIOS** Turtles, conch, sea stars, seahorses, and others are often sourced unsustainably. Most shells are harvested from living animals, and not collected as found objects.

**CORALS** Wild coral is often indistinguishable from farmed coral, and is used in aquariums, sculpture and jewelry. The USA consumes 65% of all live coral trade. Buy faux.

*The care of legally sourced wild animal pets is highly unregulated, resulting in huge percentages of animals dying in capture and transport.*

**PET FISH** 95-99% of all saltwater fish for aquariums are wild-caught. About 50% have shown signs of being caught with cyanide, a method which is decimating coral. Aquarium lovers can try sourcing freshwater, sustainably raised fish.

**PET BIRDS** Demand for rare and exotic birds is fueling the black market. Enjoy local birds by using outdoor feeders and bird houses.

**PET REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS** Includes snakes, geckos, lizards, frogs, and turtles. Few reptiles are protected by laws. 51% of the nearly 9 million exotic pets in USA are reptiles.

**PET FOOD** Some contain wild and exotic animals.

**BEERS & WINES** Fish bladder (isinglass) is still commonly used to clarify beers & wines. Some is still made from endangered sturgeon. Isinglass is not required to be listed on the ingredient label. Ask, or buy vegan.

**SEAFOOD** Around 20-32% of seafood imported into the USA is from illegal and unreported wild catches. Ask for sustainably sourced seafood, and look for eco-certification labels.

**FROG LEGS** Many are sourced from threatened wild populations. Also, imported frogs have proven to be a dangerous vector for a tenacious fungus (Bd) that's highly deadly to other local frogs and amphibians.

**CAVIAR** Many caviars are mislabeled as from aquaculture or as the wrong species of sturgeon to launder it into legal trade. All sturgeon species are threatened.

**SHARK FIN** Though illegal, California is still one of the largest consumers of shark fin outside of Asia.

**MAKEUP** Fish scales (listed as guanine) are used to create shimmer lipstick, eye shadow, nail polish, and other beauty products. Shark liver oil (listed as squalene/squalane) is still a common ingredient in beauty products like lip balms and skin creams.

**SUPPLEMENTS/MEDICINE** Avoid shark liver oil (squalene/squalane) in omega-3 supplements. Defer to your doctor, who can recommend supplements from established retailers with testing certifications.

### PERFUME/COLOGNE & FRAGRANCED PRODUCTS

Watch out for smaller retailers selling natural fragrance with wildlife like musk deer, civet cat, and beavers. Avoid musk, civet, castoreum, and ambergris. Go fragrance-free for healthier indoor air quality, or use botanical and synthetic scents.

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