

## China's Wildlife Enforcement News Digest (Aug 2018)

### Domestic

#### Ningbo customs has seized a number of endangered animals, plants and products cases



**Ningbo, Zhejiang, 3rd, Aug 2018**—Recently, Ningbo Airport Customs seized 3 cases of suspected red coral products, including 46 bracelets, necklaces and earrings, during X-ray inspection of imported express mail from Taiwan. In June, when the airport customs inspected a batch of imported express shipments from Taiwan, it was found that two freights named “pool cues” were abnormal. After inspection, a total of 13 suspected ivory pool cues were found. At present, these batches of suspected coral and ivory products have been handed over to the Anti-smuggling department for further processing. [Read More](#)

#### A Courier who helped deliver rhino horn has been arrested

**Xianyou, Fujian, 3rd, Aug 2018**—Chen was a courier of a courier company and met Lee through his friends. Lee often sells precious and endangered wild rhinoceros horn products on the Internet and WeChat, mails the rhinoceros horn products to the buyers through the courier company. In order to

obtain a high reward, despite knows that they are endangered species, he helped Lee to mail them. Since October last year, Lee has repeatedly called Chen to deliver rhinoceros horn products. Chen uses his courier's identity to post and use other people's ID cards for registration. On June 21 this year, Chen was preparing to mail a suspected rhinoceros horn cup for Lee, arrested at the SF Express business office in Xianyou and seized the items on the spot. After identification, the items seized were rhinoceros horn products, weighted 0.013kg, worth 3,250 yuan. Xianyou People's Procuratorate approved the arrest of the suspect Chen for the crime of illegally transporting precious and endangered wild animal products. [Read More](#)

#### Changchun customs seized whole ivory in the postal channel for the first time



**Changchun, Jilin, 8<sup>th</sup>, Aug 2018**—Recently, the on-site customs officer of Changchun Customs Office in the post office found a suspicious image of a mail from Japan when it



was checking by machine. After unpacking and checking, it was found that there was a whole ivory in the mail parcel, weighing 3.1536 kg. It was identified as an ivory product of Asian or African elephant and belongs to the state banned imports. [Read More](#)

sent from South Africa to Guangzhou without declared. After the inspection, they seized 21 pieces of ivory products hidden in biscuits. The net weight is 580 grams. [Read More](#)

**A man from Wenshan, Yunnan, arrested for illegally purchasing 7kg pangolin**



**Wenshan, Yunnan, 9th, Aug 2018**—On July 22, Huang, who lives in Wenshan, Guangnan County, purchased a pangolin from Vietnamese for 9,000 yuan and planned to sell it in China. When passing through the Malipo prevention checkpoint, it was seized. Huang and the pangolin were transferred to the Malipo Forest Public Security Bureau for investigation. It has been identified as a national second-level protected animal, the Chinese pangolin, weighing 7 kg. On August 1<sup>st</sup>, Huang was arrested by Malipo County Procuratorate for illegally acquiring and selling precious and endangered wildlife. [Read More](#)

**Zhongshan customs has uncovered a number of import cases involving endangered animal products**



**Zhongshan, Guangdong, 13th, Aug 2018**—On July 22nd and 29th, Zhongshan Customs successively seized 4 cases of illegally carrying endangered wildlife products in the passenger inspection site of Zhongshan Port. The customs seized 4 pieces of tridacna, weight 4272g; 2 giant clam products weight 160g; 1 cassis cornuta weighing 1444g. On August 8<sup>th</sup>, through the feedback and identification results of the South China Wildlife Species Identification Center, the above-mentioned tridacna and cassis cornuta belonged to endangered animal and plant products and have been handed over to the Anti-smuggling department for further process. [Read More](#)

**Guangzhou food mail hidden ivory bracelet**

**Guangzhou, Guangdong, 10th, Aug 2018**—On July 11, Guangzhou Customs Office in the post office found that there was an abnormality in the express delivery parcels



### Shanghai customs seized two smuggled hawksbills



**Shanghai, 17th, Aug 2018**—On June 6, Shanghai Customs found two suspected hawksbill specimens packed in cartons in a crew room during a boarding inspection of a Panamanian ship at the Jungong Road Wharf. Upon inquiry by the customs officer, the crew told that he purchased the specimens in Thailand and prepare to take home. After the identification by CITIES MA Shanghai Testing Center, the two specimens were all live hawksbill specimens. At present, the case has been handed over to the Anti-smuggling department for filing. [Read More](#)

### Luohu customs intercepted a case worth 600,000 yuan of red coral products



**Shenzhen, Guangdong, 28th, Aug 2018**—On the evening of June 23, a middle-aged man caught the attention of customs officers when he entered Luohu Port. The man was carrying

a shoulder bag and carrying parcel of diaper. During the X-ray inspection, the officer found that the X-ray machine image showed that the shoulder bag contained bags of granulated items, so the party was stopped for further inspection. Open the small bag, the customs officers found that the shoulder bag is a suspected red coral product packed in plastic bags. After inventory, 27 suspected red coral beads, 914 red coral beads and 168 K gold inlaid red coral pendants were found. South China Wildlife Species Identification Center identified the above items are all red coral products. At present, the Customs is further investigating the case. [Read More](#)

### Yunnan seized a large illegal transport animal case, nearly 4,000 live snakes filled the carriage



**Baoshan, Yunnan, 29th, Aug 2018**—On August 23, after receiving the clues, the Forest Public Security Bureau of Baoshan, Yunnan Province, set up an interception at the Mangyan checkpoint, investigated and dealt with a case of illegal transport animal. A commercial carrier from Ruili to Guangdong with 3940 live snakes, weight 2.8 tons were seized, the case value is more than 400,000 yuan. After the inventory, the driver Chen was



suspected of illegally transporting 158 boxes of living snakes, a total of 3,940 live snakes, with a total weight of 2,823 kg. Among them, there are 2,230 species of cobras in CITIES II, with a total weight of 1,433 kg; 1,247 Ptyas mucosus, with a total weight of 999 kg; and 463 pythons with a total weight of 391 kg. There were 2,230 cobras in this shipment, suspected of illegal transportation. At present, the case is under further investigation and processing, and all the living snakes seized have been handed over to the wildlife protection department for assistance. [Read More](#)

#### **Taiyuan detects the first case of illegal trade for tridacna**

**Taiyuan , Shanxi, 30th , Aug 2018**—On April 23, Taiyuan Forest Public Security Bureau received a report that some people publicly sold wild animal products at a booth in the coal trading center of Taiyuan. The branch immediately went for an investigation. After investigation, Liu from Fuzhou, Jiangxi Province illegally acquired and sold precious and endangered wild animals tridacna and hawksbill without approval. According to Liu's confession, the products involved were illegally purchased through WeChat and online shopping. After identification, there are 7 tridacna shells with a value of 16,800 yuan; 291 pieces of tridacna products (beads, bracelets, ornaments, pendants, necklaces, etc.); 23 pieces of hawksbill products; 18 pieces of other animal products. At present, the case has been transferred to People's Procuratorate of Wanbai District of Taiyuan for review and prosecution. [Read More](#)

#### **Pangolin stews in Changzhou, Jiangsu province cost tens of thousands of yuan each**

**Changzhou, Jiangsu, 31st , Aug 2018**—

In April this year, Jintan police received a report that a restaurant in Jintan City selling pangolin dishes, the price is up to 10,000 yuan, and long-term supply. After more than two months of investigation, the Jintan Public Security Bureau learned that several restaurants are also selling pangolins. The source of the animals' points to a seafood wholesale store in Liyang. The 50-year-old shop owner Chi and his wife sold seafood on the surface and secretly sold wild animals, which was handled by the police in Liyang. According to police investigations, Chi and his wife bought the goods from Shanghai and transported them to Xiangyang in the early morning through logistics trucks. They then sold them to Xiangyang and the surrounding private houses and game halls in Jintan, Yixing, Nanjing and Anhui. In addition, the police also found that there are sellers in Guangdong back the Shanghai sellers. In June this year, the police arrested more than 20 suspects in Liyang and Shanghai, rescued 7 live pangolins, and found more than 40 frozen pangolins and 3 bear paws in the freezer. The police are further investigating the case. In the past few years, the two have committed more than 50 crimes, involving more than one million RMB. [Read More](#)



## International

### Laos Closes Down Illegal Wildlife Trade Shops at Don Sao Market In Golden Triangle

**2018-08-02, Laos**—The Lao law enforcement officers have shut down illegal wildlife trade in four shops at Don Sao Market in the notorious Golden Triangle, confiscating almost 400 items during surprise raids on July 27, 2018. The illegal items, consisting of 9 different types such as bracelets, necklaces, horns, teeth, bracelets, pendants and bangles many from endangered species were taken for identification and the Chinese shop owners were ordered to no longer sell illegal wildlife items or reproductions of wildlife parts. The two hour-long seizure by the Provincial Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (P-WEN) of Bokeo Province and Department of Forest Inspection (DoFI) took place at four Chinese owned shops inside the Special Economic Zone well known as a hub of illegal wildlife trade and occurs inside the Golden Triangle, where Laos, Myanmar and Thailand intersect and many markets sell endangered species and their parts such as tigers, elephants, pangolin and bears. The trade takes place in shops, markets, restaurants and casinos. [Read More](#)

### Malaysia makes massive Viet Nam-bound rhino horn seizure



**2018-8-20, Malaysia**-Authorities have discovered 50 pieces of rhino horn at a postal aviation centre in the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in what is believed to be Southeast Asia's largest single seizure of rhino horns. The horns were packed in boxes that also contained nine whole carnivore carcasses, and all were bound for Ha Noi, Viet Nam. The rhino horn seizure announced today took place on 13th August when officials of the export branch of Pos Aviation suspected something amiss with a consignment at the cargo terminal building in the airport's Free Commercial Zone. They alerted the Royal Malaysian Customs who in turn called on the Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia (Perhilitan).



The agent who managed the consignment is under investigation, said Perhilitan Director-General Dato' Abdul Kadir Abu Hashim, who added that initial investigations showed false information had been used in the shipping document. Neither the source of the horns and the carcasses, nor the length of time they have been in storage, is known. [Read More](#)

### Cameroon Busts Pangolin Trafficking to Vietnam



2018-08-22, Cameroon—In a major wildlife trafficking bust, Cameroon authorities have arrested six men for smuggling more than 700 kilograms of endangered pangolins and pangolin scales from the Central African Republic to Vietnam. Cameroon's wildlife protection service said its officers and police caught six traffickers as they were attempting last week to smuggle pangolins and their scales through the Douala International Airport. Wildlife Protection Service officer Suh Ngwa said the pangolins were brought into Douala from the capital of CAR, Bangui, by road. The traffickers were attempting to fly the endangered animals and parts through Nigeria to Asia." They [the suspects arrested] told us that approximately 230 big pangolins and 26 smaller ones were going to the Asian continent - precisely at Vietnam," said the officer. [Read More](#)

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