



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

December 2020

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Jiangyin Customs Seized Dried Seahorses



News Release Date: 7 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Nanjing Jiangyin Customs, Jiangsu Province

Detection Method: Baggage inspection

Species: Ten dried seahorses, weighing about 50g

Way of Transport: concealed in the luggage of a ship crew

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Number of offenders: one

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Qingdao Liuting Airport Customs Seized Two Pieces of Hippo Ivory Products from an Incoming Traveler's Luggage



News Release Date: 8 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Qingdao Liuting International Airport Customs

Location: Qingdao Liuting International Airport, Shandong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: one hippo ivory ornament, around 480 grams; one hippo ivory necklace, around 112 grams

Way of transport: passenger's carry-on luggage

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Number of offenders: One

Case Progress: Temporarily detained, pending further processing

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Suzhou Post Customs Seized Ivory Products from Inbound Mail



News Release Date: 13 December 2020

Seizure Date: 7 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Suzhou Customs

Location: Suzhou Post Office, Jiangsu Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 8 pieces including ivory jewelry necklace, ear rings, net weight 51.5 g

Way of transport: inbound mail (declared as "Accessories")

Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Tianjin Customs Seized Products of Endangered Timber Products



News Release Date: 14 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Xingang Customs Customs

Location: Xingang, Tianjin

Species involved: 2630 kg of *Dalbergia spp.* products, including boxes, baskets, chairs and so on

Way of transport: imported goods (declared as "Wooden decoration")

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Case Progress: detained and handed over for further proceeding

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Qingdao Liuting Airport Customs Seized Ivory Products



News Release Date: 15 December 2020
Law Enforcement Authority: Qingdao Liuting Airport Customs
Location: Qingdao Liuting International Airport, Shandong province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: One ivory bangle, about 32 grams
Way of transport: carry-on luggage of inbound passengers
Reason of seizure: smuggling
Number of offenders: One

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Ivory Products



News Release Date: 15 December 2020
Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs
Location: Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: two ivory necklaces, weighing about 165.4 grams
Way of transport: Check-in baggage of inbound passengers
Country/region of export: Southeast Asia
Reason of seizure: smuggling
Number of offenders: one

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Jinan Airport Customs Seized Four Suspected Ivory Products



News Release Date: 15 December 2020
Law Enforcement Authority: Jinan Airport Customs
Location: Jinan Airport, Shandong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: suspected ivory bangle, necklace, bracelet products, four pieces of three cases, weighing 48, 22, 63, 43 grams respectively
Way of transport: carry-on luggage of inbound passengers
Reason of seizure: smuggling
Number of offenders: One

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Dalian Zhouzishui Airport Customs Seized Three Ivory Products



News Release Date: 15 December 2020
Law Enforcement Authority: Dalian Zhouzishui Airport Customs
Location: Dalian Zhouzishui Airport, Liaoning province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: Three African or Asian elephant ivories
Reason of seizure: smuggling
Case Progress: Handed over to the anti-smuggling department for further processing.

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Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport Continuous Detected Three Cases of Ivory Smuggling



News Release Date: 15 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Dalian Zhouzishui Airport Customs

Location: Zhouzishui Airport, Dalian, Liaoning province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 12 pieces of ivory with a total weight of 308.52 grams

Way of transport: inbound passenger baggage

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Case Progress: products are detained and will be identified by relevant departments for further processing.

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Yiwu Customs Seized Endangered Cactus in Inbound Mail



News Release Date: 23 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Yiwu Customs

Location: Yiwu Post Office, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Six wild cactus (*Mammillaria spp.*)

Way of transport: inbound mail

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Case Progress: referral to the follow-up disposal unit

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Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport Seized Ivory Products



News date: 24 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport Customs

Location: Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 34 pieces of ivory products, total weighting 451.58 grams

Mode of transport: inbound passenger baggage (concealed in a metal box in a milk powder can, gloves, shoes, wrapped in foil)

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Number of offenders: One

Case Progress: Under further proceeding.

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Tianjin Xingang Customs Seized 10.3 tons of *Dalbergia spp.*



News Release Date: 24 December 2020

Seizure Date: 22 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Xingang Customs of Tianjin Customs

Location: Xingang, Tianjin

Detection Method: cargo inspection

Species: 10.3 tons of *Dalbergia spp.* products

Way of transport: imported goods (declared as "carpets", etc., a total of four goods, including a wood decoration, material declared as "Chinese fir")

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Case Progress: transferred to the customs anti-smuggling unit

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Shenzhen Customs Seized Three Erhu with Python Skin in Outbound Mail



News Release Date: 26 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Post Office Customs

Location: Shenzhen Post Office, Guangdong Province

Species: Three erhu drum head of which are made from python skin

Way of transport: Outbound Mail

Country of export: China

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Case Progress: the case has been referred to the Customs disposal unit for processing

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized A Series of Ivory Products in Inbound Traveler's Luggage



News Release Date: 27 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 11 Ivory Products including combs, bracelets, and bangles, weighing about 637 grams

Way of transport: Check-in baggage of inbound passengers

Region of Export: Africa

Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Kunming Customs Seized Ivory Products Weighing 34.7 g



News Release Date: 27 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Kunming Mengla County Customs

Location: Mengla Port, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: routine examination (CT machine)

Species: Four suspected ivory products, weighing about 34.7 grams

Way of transport: inbound passenger baggage

Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Qianjiang Customs Seized Two Series of Ivory Products in Inbound Channel



News Release Date: 27 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Qianjiang Customs

Location: Qianjiang Post Office, Zhejiang Province

Species: Eight ivory-made painting scroll covers, gross weight 23 grams (two lots)

Way of transport: inbound mail

Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Kunming Changshui Airport Seized Ivory Products weighing 78.7g



News Release Date: 27 December 2020
Law Enforcement Authority: Kunming Changshui International Airport Customs
Location: Kunming Changshui International Airport, Yunnan Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: One ivory pendant, net weight 78.7g
Way of transport: Check-in baggage of inbound passengers
Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Zhengzhou Airport Customs Seized Two Suspected Ivory Products



News Release Date: 27 December 2020
Law Enforcement Authority: Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport Customs
Location: Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport, Henan province
Detection Method: routine inspection
Species: two pieces of suspected ivory bracelet and pendant products, net weight 101.7 grams
Way of transport: carry with inbound passengers
Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Changsha Customs Seized Four Live Endangered Plants of Two Species



News Release Date: 27 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Changsha Post Office Customs

Location: Changsha Post Office, Hunan Province

Species: One *Gymnocalycium hybopleurum*, Three *Echinocactus horizonthalonius*

Reason of seizure: smuggling

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Manzhouli Customs Seized 179 Saiga Antelope Horns



News Release Date: 28 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Anti-smuggling Bureau of Manzhouli Customs and Railway Police

Detection Method: Joint enforcement action

Species: 32 saiga horns were seized on the freight train, and then a total of 179 smuggled saiga horns were finally seized.

Way of transport: the outer recess of the carriage of an inbound freight train

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Number of offenders: Seven

Case Progress: the case has been referred to the prosecution

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Tianjin Postal Customs Seized an Ivory Painting Scroll in an Inbound Mail



News Release Date: 28 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Tianjin Post Customs

Location: Tianjin Post Office

Detection Method: Risk Management, abnormal images of machine inspection

Species: ivory painting scroll cover with a gross weight of 414.3 grams

Way of transport: inbound mail (declared as "painting")

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Case Progress: referral for further proceeding.

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Chengdu Shuangliu Airport Customs Seized eight Ivory Products from Inbound Passenger Luggage



News Release Date: 29 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Chengdu Shuangliu Airport Customs

Location: Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport, Sichuan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Eight ivory bangles, pendants, net weight 224 grams

Way of transport: inbound passenger baggage (in milk powder cans, wrapped in foil)

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Number of offenders: One

Case Progress: products detained.

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Xuzhou Police Cracked Down Illegal Endangered Wildlife Online Trade



News Release Date: 3 December 2020

Seizure Date: 7 April 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Xuzhou Police, Jiangsu Province

Location: Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province

Detection Method: Internet patrol, investigation (from information of mice acquisition tracing to the online forum selling ball python)

Species: 75 ball pythons, 11 African spurred tortoises (*Centrochelys sulcata*) and red-footed Tortoises (*Geochelone carbonaria*) (suspects had sold more than 100 ball pythons online).

Reason of seizure: Illegal trade

Estimated value: over 0.4million CNY

Number of offenders: 18

Case Progress: all suspects involved in the case were taken in criminal custody in accordance with the law.

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Guangzhou Forestry Police Cracked Down Two Major Cases of Illegal Trade of Precious and Endangered Animals



News Release Date: 11 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Forest Branch of Guangzhou Police Bureau

Location: Baiyun District, Liwan District, Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: information, Network Patrol, investigation

Species: Three Indian star turtles (*Geochelone elegans*), Two ball pythons, One African spurred tortoise (*Centrochelys sulcata*), One leopard tortoise (*Stigmochelys pardalis*), One *boa constrictor*, Nine live black pond turtles (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*), One live Indochinese box turtle (*Cuora galbinifrons*), 17 shells of protected tortoise

Reason of seizure: Illegal Trade

Number of offenders: Three

Case Progress: both cases are under further investigation.

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Hunan Ningxiang Court Sentenced A Major Case of Illegal Endangered Wildlife Trade



News Release Date: 3 December 2020

Sentence Date: 1 December 2020

Judicial Authority: Ningxiang People's Court, Hunan Province

Locations (of Seizure): Hunan, Fujian, Guangdong, Zhejiang, Anhui, Hebei, Liaoning, Jilin, Heilongjiang and other provinces and overseas

Detection Method: online investigation etc.

Species: more than 1200 pieces of rare and endangered species products including rhino horns, pangolin scales, bear bile powder and deer musk, and 1000 saiga horns

Way of transport: Express delivery

Reason of seizure: illegal trade (online trading)

Estimated value: over 26 million RMB

Number of offenders: 17

Case Progress: all five principal offenders were sentenced to more than ten years in prison and fined between three hundred thousand and fifty thousand CNY; the remaining twelve defendants were sentenced to prison terms ranging from eight years and six months to five months' imprisonment respectively, and fines ranging from one hundred thousand to five thousand CNY.

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Restaurant Owners Were Sentenced for Publicly Displacing Parrots



News Release Date: 3 December 2020

Enforcement Date: May 2019

Law Enforcement Authority: Beijing police

Location: a hotel in Xicheng District, Beijing

Detection Method: public tip-off and investigation

Species: one African Grey Parrot (*Psittacus erithacus*) and one monk parrot (*Myiopsitta monachus*)

Reason of seizure: illegal trade

Number of Offenders: Two

Nationality: Chinese

Case Progress: sentenced (both were sentenced to one year and six months' imprisonment with two years' probation)

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Court of Jingtai County Sentenced A Case of *Pseudois nayaur* Poaching

News Release Date: 10 December 2020

Sentencing date: 31 August 2020

Law Enforcement Authority/Judicial Authority:

Jingtai County Forestry Police/ People's Court of Jingtai County, Baiyin City, Gansu province

Location: Jingtai County, Baiyin, Gansu province

Detection Method: public tip-off and investigation

Species: 14 skin pieces and 26 horns of *Pseudois nayaur*

Reason of seizure: poaching

Number of offenders: Two

Nationality: Chinese

Case Progress: the principal offender was sentenced to 11 years and three months' imprisonment and fined 10,000 yuan for illegal hunting, killing of precious and endangered wild animals, and illegal possession of guns, for covering up the crime of illegally hunting, killing rare and endangered wild animals and causing damage to ecological resources, which required him to pay 350 thousand CNY in compensation. And his son was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with one year probation.

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Case of Illegal Trafficking Crab-eating Macaque in Guangxi was Sentenced



News Release Date: 23 December 2020

Seizure Date: 23 July 2018

Law Enforcement Authority/Judicial Authority:

Guangxi Anti-Smuggling Department / Fangchenggang City Procuratorate of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

Location: Naliang Town Road, Fangchenggang, Guangxi Province

Species: over 2,400 crab-eating macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*)

Way of transport: Highway

Country of export: Vietnam

Reason of seizure: smuggling

Number of offenders: 17

Case Progress: 17 defendants were sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment ranging from 5 to 15 years, each with confiscation of property or a fine).

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The First-Instance of the Biggest Ivory Smuggling Case: 17 were Sentenced, Estimated Value Over One Billion CNY



News Release Date: 29 December 2020

Sentencing date: 29 December 2020

Judicial Authority: Guangzhou Intermediate People's Court

Species: more than 20 tonnes of raw ivory; 100 thousand CNY rhino horns and ivory products

Way of Transport: concealed ivory and other precious wildlife products in wooden cases, stored wooden cases and other materials in cargo containers, covered those by wooden boards by the door of cargo, and then smuggling into China by sea freight.

Country of Export: Nigeria

Transit country: Singapore, South Korea

Reason of seizure: smuggling, illegal trade

Estimated value: over 1.02 billion CNY

Number of offenders: 17

Nationality: Chinese

Case Progress: Verdict of first instance (Sentencing Chen Chengzong to life imprisonment, deprivation of political rights for life and confiscation of all personal property; sentencing Cai Shouduan to 15 years in prison and confiscation of five million CNY personal property; sentencing the remaining 14 defendants to 2 to 10 years in prison, and sentencing them to confiscation of personal property and fine of CNY 2,115,000. The seized property and booty will be processed according to law.

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Chengdu Police Successfully Handled A Series of Major Wild Animal Cases



News Release Date: 2 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Chengdu Police

Uncovered Wildlife criminal cases: 137
(including 12 major cases)

Number of Suspects: 200

Species involved: 79 first-class national protected wild animals, 1,082 second-class national protected wild animals and more than 1,000 other wild animals were confiscated.

Estimate Value: more than 20 million CNY

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Guangdong Province Cracked Down Numerous Wildlife-related Criminal Cases in Operation "Hurricane" 2020



News Release Date: 15 December 2020

Number of dispatch: over 37,000 person-times

Number of wildlife business site patrol: more than 26,000 person-times

Uncovered Wildlife-related Cases: 338 criminal cases, 62 administrative cases, 3 provincial-level supervisory cases and 19 major cases.

The number of offenders: 199 people were detained in criminal detention according to law, 83 people were arrested, and 62 people were administratively punished.

Species Involved: 8,315 wild animals and 1,248 kilograms of wildlife products were confiscated.

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Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Concentratedly Disposed Nearly 60 tonnes of Confiscated Aquatic Wildlife Products



News Release Date: 15 December 2020

Operation Date: 15 December 2020

Law Enforcement Authority: Fisheries and Fisheries Administration Bureau of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Department of Maritime and Fisheries of Fujian Province

More than 60 tonnes of aquatic wildlife products, including Tridacna, hawksbill and crown snail, were destroyed.

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Hong Kong SAR

Hong Kong Customs uncovered the largest seahorse smuggling case in two years, recovered 75kg of smuggled goods and worth HK\$1 million



Hong Kong customs officers have made their biggest seizure of endangered seahorses in two years with the arrest of a 63-year-old man during an operation against illegal wildlife trade, finding 75kg of the product valued at HK\$1 million.

About 25kg of the dried seahorses were airmailed into the city from Indonesia via a logistic hub in Shenzhen and were found in a Hong Kong truck at Lok Ma Chau border checkpoint on Wednesday.

The goods were found in two boxes which were declared to be carrying body scrub, according to a customs official. The parcel was addressed to a public housing flat in Tuen Mun.

“After a follow-up investigation, a customs officer posed as a courier and delivered the consignment to the Tuen Mun premises the next day,” a law enforcement source said.

He said a 63-year-old male tenant was the consignee and was taken into custody after he received the package from the undercover agent on Thursday night.

Inside his flat, customs officers seized another four boxes that carried a total of 50kg of the dried seafood.

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Benin

- [Two traffickers arrested with two tusks](#)

Cameroon

- [3 traffickers arrested with more than 70 kg of pangolin scales](#)
- [Cameroon Customs seized Eighty Cobras and Vipers at Douala Airport](#)

Gabon

- [Two Traffickers of Guinean and Burkina Faso Nationalities Arrested with Ivory](#)
- [2 ivory traffickers arrested with 7 elephant tusks!](#)

India

- [2 poachers arrested in Jaipur district, tusk, antlers seized](#)

Kenya

- [Suspected Ivory Trafficker Arrested In Migori, 54kg Elephant Tusks Cache Seized](#)
- [Update on 15 December](#)

Mexico

- [Reptiles smuggled from Mexico found at German airport stitched inside dolls](#)

Republic of Congo

- [2 traffickers arrested with an elephant tusk](#)

South Africa

- [SAPS seized 21 crocodile eggs & 3 crocodile skins](#)
- [A multi-disciplinary task team confiscated abalone with an estimated export value of more than R5 million over weekend](#)
- [Four-legged K9 officer tracks suspects, sniff out abalone in Jeffrey's bay](#)
- [A man was nabbed for possession of abalone valued R225000](#)
- [17 rhino horns confiscated](#)
- [Suspected poachers nabbed in Kruger](#)

Thailand

- [Five live tigers and a tiger head seized from Thai Zoo](#)



United States

- [Chinese National Kang Juntao is accused of financing international smuggling](#)

Vietnam

- [Over 90kg of suspected rhino horns seized at Tan Son Nhat airport](#)