



## China's Wildlife Enforcement News Digest (May 2013)

### Hong Kong seizes 113 smuggled tusks



**Scmp.com, May 1<sup>st</sup> 2013-** Hong Kong Airport Customs officers seized 113 ivory tusks, weighing 300kg, worth about HK\$3 million. The smuggled ivory was seized at the airport on Tuesday in a container marked "spare parts" from Burundi and bound for Singapore. [Read More](#)

### Nanning seizes an illegal wildlife transportation case

**Pagx.cn, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013-** On the early morning of April 21<sup>st</sup>, according to the intelligence, Nanning Forest Police, Guangxi Province uncovered 5 Siamese Crocodiles, 15 Snapping turtles, 24 racoon dogs, 23 elongated tortoises and other 61 tortoises in Hangzhou Street. The driver claimed that he was hired to transport the animals from Guangdong on 20<sup>th</sup>, to Nanning. [Read More](#)

### Hunan detained 22 wildlife criminals

**Zgpaw.com.cn, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013-** Recently, supervised by the National Forest Police Bureau, Hunan Forest Police took a joint enforcement with Yunnan, Guangdong, and Guangxi Forest Police and succeed in detecting a significant case on illegal transportation and trade of over 100 endangered species and 100 kg of wildlife products. Last October 2012, several restaurants in Changsha city of Hunan Province were found illegally serving endangered species. Later, eight suspects were seized for trading 24 live pangolins. After the further investigation, more wildlife products and another 14 criminals were seized. [Read More](#)

### Illegal ivory trader detained in Beijing



**Btv.org, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013-** On the evening of March 9<sup>th</sup>, Beijing Forest Police received the intelligence that



someone was mailing a bunch of ivory products to Beijing. After investigation, the police seized two elephant tusks and five ivory products from a parcel, which weighed 4kg. The parcel receiver Li explained that he purchased them for collection instead of trading. However, another 7 ivory products and an accounting book with his ivory trading records were found at his home, which shows that his monthly trading value has reached USD 16,000 since 2011.

[Watch the Film](#)

## 2 Hong Kong passengers arrested for smuggling 5.5kg of ivory products



**Dsb.gov.cn, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On April 25<sup>th</sup>, Luohu Customs of Shenzhen detected 1.7 kg of ivory products from a Hong Kong woman, Li's golf bag. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, another HK passenger was intercepted at Luohu Port and 3.8kg of 4 elephant tusk segments were confiscated. The two suspects have been detained. [Read More](#)

## Operation Skynet: Forest Police's crackdown on illegal wildlife trade in Beijing

**Xinhuanet.com, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2013-** During the Operation SkyNet, in collaboration with other enforcement agencies, Beijing Forest Police adopted a variety of investigation techniques to detect 14 wildlife criminal cases with the confiscation of 64 live animals, (snakes, chameleons and a Slow Loris), 65 snake eggs, and 160 cubic meters of illegal timber products, about 1000 items of ivory products, Hawksbill turtle shell items, rhino horn and a Snow Leopard skin. A total of 8 traders were arrested and 21 individuals were detained. [Read More](#)

## 10-month imprisonment for carrying sea horses across borders



**Fjsen.com, May 10<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On October 1<sup>st</sup> 2012, suspect Zhang was paid USD 800 by a Chinese Philippines for carrying 19.7 kg of dry sea horses



from Philippines to Jinjiang City, Fujian Province. She was intercepted when arriving at Jinjiang Airport. Recently, the suspect Zhang was sentenced to 10 months in jail. [Read More](#)

**Fangchenggang seizes 16 monitor lizards and 32 pangolins**



**Xinmin.cn, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On the early morning of May 10<sup>th</sup>, during patrolling, Qindong Highway Police in Fangchenggang, Guangxi Province discovered 16 monitor lizards and 32 pangolins in a car with a fake army number plate. The case has been transferred to the local Forest Police for further investigation. [Read More](#)

**Fujian intercepts red corals**



**Chinadaily.com.cn, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On May 12<sup>th</sup>, Ningde Border Police of Fujian Province seized 38kg of red coral products in Xiapu County and arrested 5 suspects. According to the primary verification, the products are worth over CNY10 million (USD1.59 million). [Read More](#)

**Men charged for online trade of bear paws**



**Hexun.com, May 14<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On October 10<sup>th</sup> 2009, the defendant Ye in Guangdong sold 2 bear paws to Liang in Beijing through the Internet. Now, Liang has been sentenced to 1 year in jail with a fine of CNY1000 (USD150) while Ye's sentence result would be announced in another day. [Read More](#)



### Luohu Customs seizes 230kg Red Sanders in a month



**Jisi.gov.cn, May 14<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Since April 2013, Luohu Customs of Shenzhen have seized 24 red sander smuggling cases and a total of 231kg of red sander. The seizure increased 4 times year-on-year. All confiscated red sander products are Buddha beads.

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### 145kg of agarwood intercepted by Gongbei Customs



**Customs.gov.cn, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On the morning of May 8<sup>th</sup>, Hengqin Office of Gongbei Customs discovered 145kg of agarwood from the bottom compartment of a truck, which was originally declared empty. Further investigation is ongoing. [Read More](#)

### Black Coral intercepted in Nansha

**Aqsiq.gov.cn, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Recently, Nansha Inspection and Quarantine Bureau of Guangdong Province confiscated a shipment from Madagascar, which is declared as Black Coral. Black coral has been listed in the CITES Appendix II, so it is illegal to import without the permits from CITES Management Authority. Currently, this case has been filed for further investigation. [Read More](#)

### Shanghai Customs seizes ivory products



**Customs.gov.cn, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Recently, Shanghai Customs seized ivory pipes, chopsticks and other ivory products in a luggage shipped by sea. [Read More](#)

### Dalian Airport Customs seizes 367 ivory products



**Xinhuanet.com, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On April 1<sup>st</sup>, Dalian Airport Customs confiscated 367 ivory products and other six endangered species products in 11 luggages belonging to four Chinese passengers. They took the flight CZ620 from Nagoya, Japan to Dalian, Liaoning Province. The suspect Zhao confessed that part of the ivory products were purchased in Japanese markets and part were given by his friend as gifts. Dalian Customs anti-smuggling department has detained the suspects and transferred the case to the local procuratorate. [Read More](#)

**Duoma Border Police confiscates endangered species skins**

**Chinatibetnews.com, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On the early morning of April 29<sup>th</sup>, Duoma checkpoint of Ali Border Police intercepted a truck, which attempted to escape for inspection. A total of 102 Tibetan antelope skins and 3 skulls were confiscated. Four suspects have been detained and further investigation is ongoing.

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**2 men jailed in Tianjin for smuggling 45 tons of red sanders**

**Customs.gov.cn, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Recently, Tianjin Second Intermediate Court sentenced China's largest endangered wild flora smuggling case. The defendant, Mr.Wang, was sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison for smuggling 44.93 tons of red sanders. Another defendant Fan was sentenced to 2 years in jail, with a suspension for 3 years. [Read More](#)



### Anti-smuggling focus on wildlife crime enhanced in China's Guangxi Province

**People.com.cn, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Wildlife law enforcement agencies in Guangxi Province met last month to review their efforts to crack-down on smuggling of endangered wildlife in 2012, as well as to align their collaboration in 2013. Supported by TRAFFIC, the meeting brought together all members of Guangxi Provincial Inter-agency CITES Enforcement Coordination Group (PICE-CG), which was established in June 2012. From October to December 2012, a joint operation targeting cross-border smuggling and illegal trade in endangered species was carried by the Guangxi PICE-CG member agencies. The two-month action led to a total of 112 wildlife seizures and the arrest of 114 suspects. Over 17,300 wild animals including pangolins, hawksbill turtles, monitor lizards and crocodiles were confiscated while wildlife products such as 2,242 items of ivory and rhino horns were also seized. More than 3,000 items of hunting equipment, including guns, were confiscated. [Read More](#)

### HK\$60m of contraband seized from ship



**Chinacourt.org, May 19<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Customs officers made their biggest seizure in five years from a commercial vessel in the Pearl River Delta after finding HK\$60 million (USD11.9million) in contraband goods. The haul included branded electronics worth HK\$59.1 million and 200kg of endangered-species products including ivory, pangolin scales and dried sea horse with a total value of HK\$900,000 (USD178,571).

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### Customs seizes 719 smuggled antelope horns



**People.com.cn, May 21<sup>st</sup> 2013-** On 12th May, Customs of Alashankou, Urumqi detected 719 smuggled Saiga horns on the train numbered K9796 from Kazakhstan. All four suspects have been detained. [Read More](#)

### Guangxi confiscated 5.5 tons of snakes and tortoises along China and Viet Nam borders

**Xinhuanet.com, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013-** On the afternoon of 19<sup>th</sup> May, Guangxi Border Police found 89 boxes of



snakes and 24 boxes of tortoises in a truck in Dongxing City along China and Viet Nam borders. The truck was heading for Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong Province. The truck driver, a man surnamed He, claimed that he was hired by a man in Dongxing to transport the cargo to Guangzhou. However, neither he nor Li, the owner of the animals, was able to provide legitimate permit for transporting these animals. All confiscations have been handed over to local forestry authorities. [Read More](#)

#### **15-year imprisonment for smuggling 7.7 tons of ivory**

**Jisi.gov.cn, May 22nd 2013-** Within six months, the suspect Chen smuggled 7.7 tons of ivory from Africa to Fujian Province, China. The Customs seized a total of five batches of 2,154 whole elephant tusks or segments, worth 377 million RMB (around 60 million USD). Finally, he was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

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#### **Luohu Customs seizes 30 crocodile skins**



**Jisi.gov.cn, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Recently, Luohu Customs seized 30 entire dyed crocodile skins, weighing 7kg. According to the identification, the specie belongs to the CITES Appendix II. [Read More](#)

#### **Fangchenggang intercepts nine hawksbill specimens and over 100 live turtles and tortoises**



**Cnr.cn, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup>, during routine inspection at Hengjing checkpoint, Fangchenggang Border Police intercepted a bus coming from Dongxing to Qinzhou. The police discovered 9 hawksbill specimens in a suspicious paper box. At night on the same day at the same checkpoint, police seized another 99 Giant Asian Pond turtles, 3 big-headed turtles, and 4 Indochinese box turtles in a car coming from Dongxing to Nanning. Its transportation permit expired two months ago. Further investigation for both seizures is ongoing.

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### Huanggang Customs seizes Nautilus



**Jisi.gov.cn, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Huanggang Port of Guangdong Province intercepted a Chinese passenger who carried 3 Nautilus, weighing about 350g each. The Nautilus were found by the X-ray machine. The passenger claimed that he bought them in East Timor and was about to keep them as collections. [Read More](#)

intercepted a van during routine inspection and 4 ivory tusks, weighing 11.45kg were seized. Since the driver could not offer any transportation permit, he was arrested. [Read More](#)

### Shanghai Customs confiscates entire anaconda skins



**Customs.gov.cn, May 28<sup>th</sup> 2013-** Recently, the post office branch of Shanghai Customs seized 2 anaconda skins from a parcel from Southeast Asia. The skin reaches 7m long. [Read More](#)

### Fangchenggang detects four ivory tusks



**Xinhuanet.com, May 27<sup>th</sup> 2013-** On the night of 24<sup>th</sup>, At Najun Checkpoint of Fangchenggang, Border Police

### Shekou Port seizes 12kg of sea horse







**Customs.gov.cn, May 31<sup>st</sup> 2013-** On May 24<sup>th</sup>, Shekou Customs of Shenzhen discovered 4 bags of dry sea horses, weighing 12kg. The confiscation was

discovered by X-Ray machine. The sea horses were concealed in a luggage carried by an African passenger. Further investigation is ongoing. [Read More](#)

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