

TRAFFIC



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

November 2023

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Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport Customs Seized 30 Ivory Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 2 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Risk Control, Machine Inspection

Species: Six ivory bangles, three ivory fang-shaped pendants, three ivory beads bracelets, two ivory cigarette holders, fourteen ivory beads, one ivory beads necklace, one bracelet with two ivory beads, total weight 730 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Hidden in milk powder cans; No declaration channel)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1 (male)

Case Progress: The case has been further processed.

[Read more](#)

Shanghai Pudong International Airport Customs Seized a Box of Reeves's Pheasant Feathers Products in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 5 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shanghai Pudong International Airport Customs

Location: Shanghai Pudong International Airport
Detection Method: Routine Inspection

Species: A box of Reeves's pheasant (*Symaticus reevesii*) tail feathers dyed products, about over 1 meter, total 700 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The seizures have been handed over to the relevant departments for follow-up disposal.

[Read more](#)



Shenzhen Postal Customs Seized 10 Asian Water Monitor Skins in a Transit Parcel



News Release Date: 7 November 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Postal Customs
Location: Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)
Species: 10 Asian Water Monitor (*Varanus salvator*) skins, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Transit Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Hohhot Baita International Airport Customs Seized Four Ivory Painting Scroll Heads in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 9 November 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Hohhot Baita International Airport Customs
Location: Hohhot Baita International Airport, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region
Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)
Species: Four (two pairs) ivory painting scroll heads, total 120 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Case Progress: The case has been handed over to the relevant departments for disposal.

[Read more](#)

Huanggang Customs Seized Seven Live Leopard Tortoises Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 12 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Huanggang Customs

Location: Huanggang Port, Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)

Species: Seven live Leopard Tortoises (*Stigmochelys pardalis*), CITES II

Transport Method: Concealed on Inbound Passenger (Hidden in pants pockets)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1 (male)

Case Progress: The case has been handed over to the relevant departments for disposal.

[Read more](#)

Chongqing Postal Customs Seized One Tiger Tooth Pendant in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 14 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Chongqing Postal Customs

Location: Chongqing City

Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)

Species: One Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) tooth pendant, 87.2 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Hidden in a plastic statue and wrapped in layers of tin foil)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Penglai Customs Seized Two Stony Corals Carried by Inbound Crew of an International Ship



News Release Date: 16 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Penglai Customs

Location: Penglai City, Shandong Province

Detection Method: Routine Inspection

Species: Two Stony Corals (*Scleractinia* spp.), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Crew Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: Customs has temporarily seized the above items in accordance with the law for further disposal.

[Read more](#)

Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport Customs Seized Three Queen Conches Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 19 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Chongqing Jiangbei International Airport Customs

Location: Chongqing City

Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)

Species: Three Queen Conches (*Strombus gigas*), total 2.5 kg, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Taiyuan Wusu International Airport Customs Seized 15 Saiga Horns in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 22 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Taiyuan Wusu International Airport Customs

Location: Taiyuan Wusu International Airport, Shanxi Province

Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)

Species: Fifteen Saiga (*Saiga tatarica*) horns, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II (zero quota)

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Wrapped in tin foil)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Manzhouli Shibali Customs Seized Five Saiga Horns Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 23 November 2023

Seizure Date: 18 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Manzhouli Shibali Customs

Location: Manzhouli Port, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Inspection

Species: Five Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica*) horns, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II (zero quota); six jade bracelets

Transport Method: Concealed on inbound passenger (Hidden in pants pockets, wrapped tape around the lower back and abdomen)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Zhakou Customs Seized 157 Stripe-necked Musk Turtles, 103 Razor-backed Musk Turtles, 97 Loggerhead Musk Turtles and 97 Eastern Mud Turtles Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 27 November 2023

Seizure Date: 31 October 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Zhakou Customs

Location: Gongbei Port, Zhuhai City, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Inspection

Species: CITES II Live animals, including 157 Stripe-necked Musk Turtles (*Sternotherus minor peltifer*); 103 Razor-backed Musk Turtles (*S. carinatus*); 97 Loggerhead Musk Turtles (*S. minor*); 97 Eastern Mud Turtles (*Kinosternon subrubrum*)

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Carry-on Luggage (Non-declaration channel; Wrapped in six clear mesh bags; Hidden in a black crossbody bag and pants pockets)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been handed over to the relevant departments for disposal.

[Read more](#)

Yinchuan Hedong International Airport Customs Seized One Giant Clam Shell Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 28 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Yinchuan Hedong International Airport Customs

Location: Yinchuan Hedong International Airport, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Inspection (CT Scan)

Species: One Giant Clam (*Tridacna gigas*) shell, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Country of Export: United Arab Emirates (Dubai)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1 (male)

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Wuhan Postal Customs Seized a Parasol with Ivory Handle in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 30 November 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs
Location: Wuhan City, Hubei Province
Detection Method: Routine Inspection
Species: One parasol with ivory handle, about 200 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Fuzhou Changle International Airport Customs Seized One Ivory Figurine Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 30 November 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Fuzhou Changle International Airport Customs
Location: Fuzhou Changle International Airport, Fujian Province
Detection Method: Routine Inspection (Machine Inspection)
Species: One ivory figurine, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Check-in Luggage (Wrapped in layers of bubble wraps)
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1
Case Progress: The on-site customs officer immediately detained seizures and sent to a professional institution for identification.

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Xingshan County Public Security Bureau of Hubei Province Seized 238 Wild Animals, and Arrested 19 Suspects



News Release Date: 3 November 2023

Seizure Date: 9 September 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Xingshan County Public Security Bureau, Yichang City, Hubei Province

Location: Yiling District, Xingshan County and Zigui County, Yichang City, Hubei Province, Henan Province and Guizhou Province

Detection Method: Tip Off, Investigation

Species: 173 died protected wild animals, including Small Indian Civet (*Viverricula indica*), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES III; Chinese Goral (*Naemorhedus griseus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I; Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I/II; and some wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; 22 live Rhesus Macaques (*Macaca mulatta*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II; 43 live snakes, including King Ratsnake (*Elaphe carinata*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value (wild population only); Cantor's Rat Snake (*Ptyas dhumnades*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value

Transport Method: Vehicles (Hidden in home and macaque breeding farm)

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (seized 11 shot guns and 10 hunting traps) and illegal trade

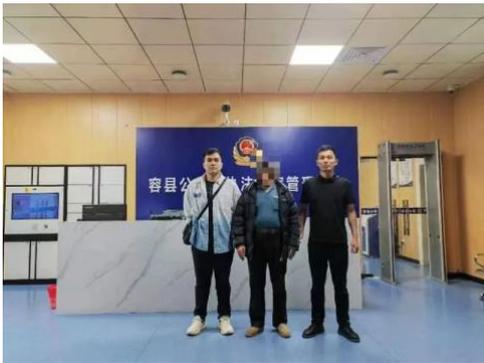
Estimated Value: Nearly CNY 1 million (the purchase price per macaque ranges from CNY 3,000 to 10,000)

Number of Offenders: 19 (The acquirer, Cao, is mainly engaged in providing captive-bred macaques to pharmaceutical companies for experimental use)

Case Progress: All 19 suspects were arrested and brought to justice. All 22 live macaques were recovered and kept in the Dalaoling Nature Reserve in Yichang City. On 13 September, the police released 43 snakes after evidence was collected. Some macaques in good physical condition were released by the police on 25 October.

[Read more](#)

Shuangliao Municipal Public Security Bureau, Jilin Province Cracked a Case of Illegal Trade in Pangolin Scales, and Arrested at Least Two Suspects



News Release Date: 3 November 2023

Seizure Date: Early August 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Liaoxi Police Station and Food, Environmental and Drug Investigation Brigade of Shuangliao Municipal Public Security Bureau, Jilin Province

Location: Shuangliao City, Siping City, Jilin Province

Detection Method: Buyer Voluntarily Reported, Investigation

Species: Malayan Pangolin (*Manis javanica*) scales, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I; Tree Pangolin (*M. tricuspis*) scales, CITES I

Reason for Seizure: Illegal trade (Online)

Number of Offenders: At least 2 people, including the seller, Wang, is a fugitive and chased by the public security agency online on suspicion of harming endangered wild animals)

Case Progress: The suspects have been taken criminal compulsory measures in accordance with the law.

[Read more](#)

Daofu County Public Security Bureau, Sichuan Province Cracked a Case of Poaching Forest Musk Deer, and Arrested Two Suspects



News Release Date: 18 October 2023

Seizure Date: 15 October 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wari Police Station and Forest Police Brigade of Daofu County Public Security Bureau, Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province

Hunting Location: In a forest area of Luosuma Village, Jiaskong Township, Daofu County, Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province

Detection Method: Routine Patrol

Species: One female Chinese Forest Musk Deer (*Moschus berezovskii*) (has been skinned and dismembered, and 9.2 kg meat products and 1 deer skin were seized), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (more than 30 homemade hunting snares)

Number of Offenders: 2

Nationality: Chinese (1 from Xiaojin County, Aba Prefecture, Sichuan Province; 1 from Luohuma Village)

Case Progress: The case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Baokang County Public Security Bureau, Hubei Province Seized a Dead Père David's Deer, Three Dead Chinese Goral and a Dead Greater Hog Badger, and Arrested Two Suspects



News Release Date: 14 November 2023

Seizure Date: 14 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Xiema Police Station of Baokang County Public Security Bureau, Xiangyang City, Hubei Province

Location: Xiema Town, Baokang County, Xiangyang City, Hubei Province (Hunting location: Yujialing area of the town)

Detection Method: Case Clue, Investigation

Species: Dead animals, including one Père David's deer (*Elaphurus davidianus*), Class II of National Protected Species; three Chinese Goral (*Naemorhedus griseus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I; one Greater Hog Badger (*Arctonyx collaris*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting for consumption (seizure of 6 traps, 1 battery, 7 rolls of barbed wire)

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The two criminal suspects have been taken criminal compulsory measures in accordance with the law, and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Liaocheng Public Security Bureau Dujiaqu Branch of Shandong Province Seized 90 Wild Birds and Arrested Two Suspects



News Release Date: 26 November 2023

Seizure Date: 11 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Dujiaqu Branch of Liaocheng Public Security Bureau, Shandong Province

Location: Liaocheng City, Shandong Province

Detection Method: Case Clue, Investigation

Species: 90 wild birds, including eight dead Siberian Rubythroat (*Calliope calliope*), Class II of National Protected Species, and Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES III; and 82 other protected live birds, including Eurasian Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES III; Siberian Rubythroat and bluethroat; Chinese hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II; Chestnut-flanked White-eye (*Zosterops erythropleurus*), Class II of National Protected Species; Red-billed Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; Japanese grosbeak (*Eophona personata*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value

Transport Method: Express

Reason for Seizure: Illegal acquisition and sale (Market)

Estimated Value: More than CNY 100,000

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The two suspects have been taken criminal compulsory measures in accordance with the law, and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Food, Drug and Environmental Investigation Brigade of Shanghai Public Security Bureau and Shanghai Forestry Administration Jointly Cracked a Large-scale, Illegal Wildlife Trade Case, Seized Over 1,400 Protected Wild Animals, and Arrested 23 Suspects



News Release Date: 26 November 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Food, Environmental and Drug Investigation Brigade of Shanghai Public Security Bureau, Shanghai Forestry Department

Location: Shanghai City

Detection Method: Investigation

Species: Over 100 Class I and over 1300 Class II of National Protected Wild Animals, including Russian tortoise (*Testudo horsfieldii*), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II; Burmese Star Tortoise (*Geochelone platynota*), CITES I; Pancake Tortoise (*Malacochersus tornieri*), CITES I; Ball Python (*Python regius*), CITES II; Burmese Python (*Python bivittatus*), CITES II; Savannah Monitor (*Varanus exanthematicus*), CITES II; Argentine Black and White Tegu (*Salvator merianae*), CITES II. A total of more than 3,000 national protected wild animals have been illegally traded.

Reason for Seizure: Cross-border smuggling, transportation, trafficking

Estimated Value: More than CNY 15,000,000 (cumulative amount)

Number of Offenders: 23

Case Progress: About 500 seized wild animals were sent to Shanghai Zoo for rehabilitation. More than 1,400 seized animals were properly housed in time.

[Read more](#)

The Yuanqu County People's Court of Shanxi Province Pronounced a Verdict on a Case of Poaching Two Forest Musk Deers to Obtain Musks, and Two People Were Sentenced

News Release Date: 16 November 2023

Sentencing Date: 18 October 2023

Judicial Authority: Yuanqu County People's Procuratorate, Yuanqu County People's Court

Location: In the scenic area of the Gucheng Wetland Park in Yuanqu County, Yuncheng City, Shanxi Province

Species: Two dead Chinese Forest Musk Deer (*Moschus berezovskii*) (a male and a female, abandoned after the musk was stolen), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Van

Reason for Seizure: Illegal Poaching (electronic fence)

Estimated Value: CNY 60,000

Number of Offenders: 3 (One of them is the staff of the Gucheng Wetland Park)

Case Progress: The Yuanqu County People's Court sentenced the three defendants to fixed-term imprisonment ranging from nine months to one year and a fine for the crime of harming endangered wild animals. At the same time, the three defendants were ordered to compensate for the loss of national wildlife resources, purchase equipment worth CNY 60,000 for the protection and treatment of wild animals, and hand them over to the Shanxi Gucheng Wetland Park for the treatment of wild animals and the observation and monitoring of migratory birds within the jurisdiction of Yuanqu County. After the verdict was announced, Jing Moumou and three others pleaded guilty and accepted the verdict in court and did not appeal.

[Read more](#)

The Beizhen Municipal Procuratorate, Liaoning Province Made Non-Prosecute Decision on the Case on Purchasing Wild Animal Skulls for Research Purpose



News Release Date: 23 November 2023

Seizure Date: July 2023

Judicial Authority: Beizhen Municipal Procuratorate, Liaoning Province

Species: Four Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) skulls, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I; 1 Lion (*Panthera leo*) skull, CITES I/II; 1 Fennec Fox (*Vulpes zerda*) skull, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal purchase (Online) for scientific research

Estimated Value: CNY 978,500

Number of Offenders: 3 (2 of them are handled in separate cases)

Case Progress: Huang took the initiative to return all the wildlife products involved in the case, and after fully hearing the opinions of all parties, the Beizhen Municipal Procuratorate decided not to prosecute Huang.

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America

- [Doc Antle, Owner of Myrtle Beach Safari, Pleads Guilty to Federal Wildlife Trafficking and Money Laundering Charges](#)

France

- [Bourg-Madame customs officers seize 104 turtles in a van](#)

Germany

- [Two kilograms of coral fragments were discovered by customs officers at the airport control unit of the main customs office](#)

India

- [Customs officers at Coimbatore airport seize exotic species smuggled from Singapore](#)

Indonesia

- [A defendant in the Sumatran orangutan trafficking case was sentenced to 1.5 years in prison and a fine of IDR 40 million](#)
- [6 people arrested for trying to smuggle young Komodo dragons in Labuan Bajo](#)

Portugal

- [30kg of eels, worth €200,000, seized at the airport](#)

Spain

- [Trafficking of protected species: seizure of 162 kg of live glass eels](#)

Thailand

- [Thai customs paws animal smuggling duo, 124 untamed treasures seized](#)
- [Police arrest gang skinning pythons for export in Phichit](#)
- [Officials from the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation have found illegal logs of wood worth about 33 million baht in a warehouse](#)

Vietnam

- [Vietnam jails ivory and rhino horn trafficker for 12 years](#)
- [The Police Department of Crime Investigation on corruption, economics, smuggling, and the environment has caught and temporarily detained 2 subjects who were illegally buying,](#)



[selling, storing, and transporting Large numbers of wild animals include pangolins, turtles and king cobras](#)

- [Prosecuting a woman who transported 11 snakes and pangolins](#)