

TRAFFIC



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

February 2023

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Beijing Capital International Airport Customs Seized a Nautilus Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 3 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Beijing Capital International Airport Customs

Location: Beijing Capital International Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)

Species: One Nautilus (*Nautilus* spp.), weight 235 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The items were seized and transferred to the anti-smuggling department for further disposal.

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 157 Dried Seahorses Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 4 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: 157 dried Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.), individual length about 15 cm, total weight 1077 g, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Four Giant Clam Products and 44 Dried Seahorses Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 4 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs
Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: Two Giant Clam (*Tridacnidae* spp.), bead bracelets and two pendants, total weight 415 g, Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II; 44 dried Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.), total weight 100 g, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

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Tianjin Postal Customs Seized Two Ivory Painting Scroll Heads in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 4 February 2023
Seizure Date: 29 January 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Tianjin Postal Customs
Location: Tianjin
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: Two Ivory painting scroll heads, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Shenzhen Baoan Airport Customs Seized 1,277 Dried Seahorses Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 4 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Baoan Airport Customs
Location: Guangdong Province Shenzhen Baoan Airport
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)
Species: 1,277 dried Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

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Guangzhou Postal Customs Seized 19 Ivory Products in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 4 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Customs Postal
Location: Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: 19 Ivory products, including bead bracelets, bead necklaces and Buddha statues, net weight 870 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Shanghai Pudong International Airport Customs Seized One Ivory Vase Carried in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 4 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shanghai Pudong International Airport Customs

Location: Shanghai Pudong International Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: One Ivory vase, weight 217.6 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Wuhan Postal Customs Seized One Ivory Folding Fan in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 6 February 2023

Seizure Date: 19 January 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs

Location: Wuhan, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: One Ivory folding fan, gross weight 100 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Beijing Capital International Airport Customs Seized 3.037 kg Desert-broomrape Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 6 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Beijing Capital International Airport Customs
Location: Beijing Capital Airport
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)
Species: Desert-broomrape (*Cistanche deserticola*), 1 bag, total weight 3.037 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

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Shanhaiguan Customs Seized 309 g Ivory piano patches in a Secondhand Upright Piano



News Release Date: 7 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Shanhaiguan Customs
Location: Shanghai
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: Ivory piano patches, 309 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Freight (second-hand upright piano)
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Tianjin Postal Customs Seized Ten Cactus Products in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 7 February 2023

Seizure Date: 30 January 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Tianjin Postal Customs

Location: Tianjin

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)

Species: Ten Cactuses (Cactaceae spp.) decorations, weight about 4 kg, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as "daily necessities")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport Customs Seized 6 Giant Clam Bead Necklaces Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 8 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport Customs

Location: Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Six Giant Clam (Tridacnidae spp.) bead necklaces, total weight 457.46 g, Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Nanjing Lukou Airport Customs Seized Four Crocodile Skin-leather Belts Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 8 February 2023

Seizure Date: 2 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Nanjing Lukou Airport Customs

Location: Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)

Species: Crocodile (*CROCODYLIA* spp.) leather belts, 4, weight about 1.35 kg, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Wuhan Tianhe Airport Customs Seized Two Stone Corals Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 8 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Tianhe Airport Customs

Location: Wuhan Tianhe Airport, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)

Species: Two Stony Corals (*Scleractinia* spp.), weight 383 g, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Changsha Postal Customs Seized Three Ivory Products in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 11 February 2023

Seizure Date: 9 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Changsha Postal Customs

Location: Changsha City, Hunan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Three Ivory craft ornaments, weight 1047 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as "glass cup, cigarette holder", placed in a small box with bubble bag wrapping)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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



News Release Date: 15 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: Four Ivory bangles, two ivory fang-shaped pendants, total weight about 200 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Wrapped in a blue plastic bag and loaded into an electronic rice cooker)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The items have been further processed.

[Read more](#)

Tianjin Postal Customs Seized Four Chambered Nautilus in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 15 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Tianjin Postal Customs

Location: Tianjin

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)

Species: Four Chambered Nautilus (*Nautilus pompilius*), weight 53 g, 54 g, 103 g and 189 g respectively, total weight 399 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as “tableware”)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Wuhan Tianhe Airport Customs Seized Four Red Coral Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 19 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Tianhe Airport Customs

Location: Wuhan Tianhe Airport, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Four Red Coral (*Coralliidae* spp.) beads necklaces, weight 259 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES III

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Hong Kong SAR – Zhu Hai – Macao SAR Bridge Customs Seized Four Python Skin Erhu in an Export Freight



News Release Date: 20 February 2023
Foresnisc Result Date: 14 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: The Customs of the Hong Kong SAR - Zhu Hai - Macau SAR Bridge
Location: The Hong Kong SAR – Zhu Hai - Macao SAR Bridge Port, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: Four Erhu made of Python (*Python bivittatus*) skin, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Export Freight
Country of Export: China
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Wuhan Postal Customs Seized 500 g Oceanic Whitetip Shark Fins in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 21 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs
Location: Wuhan, Hubei Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)
Species: Oceanic Whitetip Shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) fin, 500 g, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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The Fuzhou Changle Airport Customs Uncovered 7 Cases and Seized 32 Hawksbill Sea Turtle Shell Products Carried by Inbound Passengers



News Release Date: 24 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Fuzhou Changle Airport Customs

Location: Fujian Province Fuzhou Changle Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) shell, 29 bangles, 3 combs, total weight 464 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Wuhan Postal Customs Seized a Set of Ivory Mahjong Tiles and Chips in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 25 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs

Location: Wuhan, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: 136 pieces of ivory mahjong tiles and several ivory chips, total weight about 3200 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Wuhan Postal Customs Seized Six Ivory Painting Scroll Heads in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 26 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs

Location: Wuhan, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: Six Ivory painting scroll heads, weight about 110.8 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Kunming Hekou Customs Seized Eight Ivory Bangles Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 26 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Hekou Customs

Location: Nanxi River Travel Inspection Channel at Hekou Port, Kunming City, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Eight Ivory bangles, total weight 230.65 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Nanchang Yichun Customs Seized 30 Pairs of Ivory Chopsticks, 20 Ivory Bead Necklaces and 32 Ivory Beads



News Release Date: 26 February 2023
Seizure Date: 15 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Nanchang Yichun Customs
Location: Yichun City, Jiangxi Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: 30 pairs of ivory chopsticks, 20 Ivory bead necklaces, 32 Ivory beads (0.6 cm in diameter), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Baoan Airport Customs Seized Three Ivory Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 26 February 2023
Seizure Date: 16 January 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Baoan Airport Customs
Location: Guangdong Province Shenzhen Baoan Airport
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)
Species: Two ivory bangles, one Ivory block, total net weight 206 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

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Jinan Postal Customs Seized One Hawksbill Turtle Folding Fan in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 26 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Jinan Postal Customs
Location: Shandong Jinan
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: One Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) folding fan, 1, total 134.64 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as "Other beauty supply")
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Beijing Daxing International Airport Customs Seized Five Musk Sacs Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 27 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Beijing Daxing International Airport Customs
Location: Beijing Daxing International Airport
Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)
Species: Five musk sacs (*Moschus* spp.), total net weight 96.7 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

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Guangzhou Nansha Customs Seized 15 Fragrant Rosewood Furniture in the Inbound Passenger Check-in Luggage



News Release Date: 28 February 2023
Seizure Date: 20 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Nansha Customs
Location: Nansha District, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-Ray)
Species: 15 Fragrant Rosewood (*Dalbergia odorifera*) furniture, total weight about 190 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Check-in Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Chongqing Wuxi Police Cracked a Case of Cross-Regional Illegal Hunting, Purchase and Sale of Wild Animals



News Release Date: 2 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Chongqing Municipal Forest Police Patrol and Wuxi Police
Location: Wuxi County, Chongqing
Detection Method: Investigation
Species: 1,020 dead wild animals weighing more than 1,000 kg, including Tufted deer (*Elaphodus cephalophus*), Class II of National Protected Species; Chinese goral (*Naemorhedus griseus*) Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I; Golden Pheasant (*Chrysolophus pictus*), Class II of National Protected Species
Transport Method: Bus and freight
Reason for Seizure: Illegal Hunting, Acquisition, Sale and Transportation (seized 2 firearms and nail guns, and more than 530 pieces of Illegal Hunting tools such as steel ball bullets, electric shock equipment, leg-hold traps, and snare traps)
Estimated Value: More than 1 million CNY
Number of Offenders: 13
Case Progress: The two suspects have been taken criminal compulsory measures, and the cases are being further processed.

[Read more](#)



Forest Police Patrol of Chenggu County Police Bureau in Shaanxi Province Cracked a Case of Illegally Harvest Wild Orchids



News Release Date: 15 February 2023

Seizure Date: 29 January 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Forest Police Patrol of Chenggu County Police Bureau

Location: High-speed Railway Station in Chenggu County, Hanzhong City, Shaanxi Province

Detection Method: Intelligence Guide

Species: Orchids (*Cymbidium* spp.), 334, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Train

Reason for Seizure: Illegal Harvest

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The two suspects have been taken criminal compulsory measures.

[Read more](#)

Environment, Food, and Drug Investigation Brigade of Dongsheng Branch Cracked down a Case of Illegally Selling Cinereous Vulture Specimen



News Release Date: 15 February 2023

Seizure Date: 14 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Environment, Food, and Drug Investigation Brigade of Dongsheng Branch

Location: A Second-hand Furniture Market, Dongsheng District, Ordos City, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Investigation

Species: One Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*) specimen, about 120 cm long, wingspan up to 260 cm, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal Sale (Live Stream Platform)

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The two suspects have been taken criminal compulsory measures, and the cases are being further processed.

[Read more](#)

Jiashi County Police Bureau in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Cracked a Case of Illegally Hunting Black-tailed Gazelles



News Release Date: 21 February 2023
Seizure Date: 18 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Jiashi County Police Bureau in Kashgar Prefecture
Location: Xikel Gorge, Jiashi County, Kashgar Prefecture, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region
Detection Method: Tip off
Species: Black-tailed Gazelle (*Gazella subgutturosa*), 2 dead bodies, 2 furs, Class II of National Protected Species
Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (for food consumption purpose, hunting tools including leghold traps, snare traps)
Number of Offenders: 1
Case Progress: The case has been field for investigation.

[Read more](#)

Tongjiang Branch of Liangxi District Market Supervision Administration of Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province, Sentenced the Case of Illegally Selling Red Corals Products



News Release Date: 28 February 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Tongjiang Branch of Liangxi District Market Supervision Administration of Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province
Location: A Jewelry Store in Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province
Detection Method: Tip off
Species: Red Corals (*Coralliidae* spp.) rings, pendants, total 11 pieces (3 pieces were sold), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES III
Reason for Seizure: Illegal Sale (through a Jewelry store and WeChat)
Number of Offenders: 1
Case Progress: The items involved in the case and the illegal proceeds were confiscated, and the suspect was administratively fined.

[Read more](#)



Sichuan Province Higher People's Court Rendered a Second-instance Judgment in a Case Involving Harm to Endangered Wild Animals



News Release Date: 25 February 2023

Sentencing Date: 6 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Ya'an Police, Sichuan Province

Judicial Authority: Sichuan Province Higher People's Court

Location: Ya'an City, Sichuan Province

Detection Method: Intelligence Lead

Species: 18 Golden Snub-Nosed Monkey (*Rhinopithecus roxellana*), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I; 17 Red Panda (*Ailurus fulgens*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal Acquisition and Sale

Number of Offenders: 15

Case Progress: In June 2022, the Ya'an Intermediate People's Court in Sichuan Province rendered a first-instance judgment in the case in accordance with the law, and the defendant Li was sentenced to 14 years in prison, and defendant Ma was sentenced to 13 years and 6 months in prison. The remaining defendants were sentenced to prison terms ranging from three to eight years. On 6 February 2023, the Sichuan Provincial Higher People's Court rendered a second-instance judgment and upheld the original judgment.

[Read more](#)



Hong Kong SAR

Hong Kong Customs seizes over 1.2 tonnes of suspected scheduled dried shark fins (with photo)



On 17 February, Hong Kong Customs seized over 1.2 tonnes of suspected scheduled dried shark fins of endangered species with an estimated market value of about HK\$40 million at Hong Kong International Airport.

Through risk assessment, Customs officers inspected an air consignment arriving in Hong Kong from Mexico and found the batch of suspected scheduled shark fins inside.

The case was handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up investigation.

Under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting an endangered species without a licence is liable to a maximum fine of HK\$10 million and imprisonment for 10 years.

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Belgium

- [Six people arrested at Brussels Airport for smuggling endangered species](#)

Israel

- [Israeli police retrieve lion cub through social media posts](#)

Singapore

- [Trading firm director gets jail over import of nearly 1,800 elephant tusks into Singapore from Africa](#)

Viet Nam

- [Half a tonne of smuggled ivory seized in Hai Phong city](#)