

TRAFFIC



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

March 2023

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Hangzhou Qianjiang Customs Seized 8 Ivory Jewelry and 46 Red Coral Jewelry in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 1 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Qianjiang Customs

Location: Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 8 Ivory jewelries, gross weight 121.21 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II; 46 Red coral (*Coralliidae* spp.) jewelries, gross weight 262.53 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES III (only four endemic species in China)

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized One Horned Helmet Shell Carried by an Inbound Passengers



News Release Date: 2 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: One Horned Helmet (*Cassis cornuta*), weight 890 g, Class II of National Protected Species

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (No declaration channel)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case has been further processed.

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Shanghai Pudong Airport Customs Seized 18 Ivory Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 3 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shanghai Pudong International Airport Customs

Location: Shanghai Pudong International Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 18 Ivory products, including an ivory bodhisattva statue, an ivory bangle, 2 black color ivory bangles, 11 wooden color ivory bangles and 3 white color ivory bangles, total weight 1 kg, 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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Shenzhen Luohu Customs Seized 21 Live Stony Corals Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 4 March 2023

Seizure Date: 10 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Luohu Customs
Location: Luohu Port, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 21 live Stony Corals (*Scleractinia* spp.), weight 1396.36 g, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (hidden in a plastic bag in the backpack contained 12 water-containing bags, each bag containing 1-2 corals)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Shenzhen Xijiulong Station Customs Seized 67 Pieces of Shark Fins Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 6 March 2023

Forensic Result Date: 4 February 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Xijiulong Station Customs

Location: Xijiulong Port, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 67 pieces of Shark fins, total weight 5.705 kg, including Great Hammerhead (*Sphyrna mokarran*), CITES II; Scalloped Hammerhead (*Sphyrna lewini*), CITES II; Shortfin Mako Shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), CITES II; Sawfish (Pristidae spp.), CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Dalian Postal Customs Seized 1.26 kg of Go Stones Made of Giant Clams in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 7 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Dalian Postal Customs

Location: Dalian, Liaoning Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Giant Clam (Tridacnidae spp.) Go Stones, total weight 1.26 kg, Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)



Jinan Postal Customs Seized One Horned Helmet in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 8 March 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Jinan Postal Customs
Location: Jinan, Shandong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: One Horned Helmet (*Cassis cornuta*), weight 1.04 kg, Class II of National Protected Species
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Hangzhou Qianjiang Customs Seized a Queen Conch in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 9 March 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Qianjiang Customs
Location: Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: A Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*), weight 1,375 g, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Four Stony Corals Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 10 March 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs
Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Risk Control Directive (Machine Inspection)
Species: Four Stony Corals (*Scleractinia* spp.), weight 2.79 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (No declaration channel)
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1
Case Progress: The case has been further processed

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Nanning Fangcheng Customs Seized Two Stony Corals Carried by an Inbound Crew Member



News Release Date: 19 March 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Fangcheng Customs
Location: Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region
Detection Method: Routine Examination
Species: Two Stony Corals (*Scleractinia* spp.), weight 1.315 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Crew Member's Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

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Wuhan Postal Customs Seized About 136 Ivory Mahjong Tiles and Several Ivory Chips in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 19 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs

Location: Wuhan, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: About 136 Ivory mahjong tiles and several ivory Chips, about weight 2260 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

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Changsha Postal Customs Seized One Pair of Ivory Painting Scroll Heads in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 19 March 2023

Seizure Date: 10 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Changsha Postal Customs

Location: Changsha, Hunan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: One pair of Ivory painting scroll heads, total weight 55.4 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Gongbei Zhakou Customs Seized Four Live Aldabra Giant Tortoises



News Release Date: 21 March 2023

Seizure Date: 1 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Zhakou Customs

Location: Gongbei Port, Zhuhai, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Four live Aldabra Giant Tortoise (*Aldabrachelys gigantea*), CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Carry-on Luggage ("Non-declaration channel"), hidden in a cookies box in taker-bag

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Nationality: Macau SAR, China

Case Progress: The case has been further processed.

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Nanjing Lukou Airport Customs Seized Three Hawksbill Sea Turtle Shell Decorative Paintings Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 23 March 2023

Seizure Date: 16 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Nanjing Lukou Airport Customs

Location: Nanjing Lukou Airport, Jiangsu Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Three Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) shell decorative paintings, gross weight 830 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Carry-on Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Items have been seized and waited for further processing.

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Beijing Daxing International Airport Customs Seized 46 Pieces of Eurasian Otter Furs Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 24 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Beijing Daxing International Airport Customs

Location: Beijing Daxing International Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 46 Eurasian Otter (*Lutra lutra*) furs, gross weight 14.34 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (wrapped and packed by white plastic film)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Three Red Coral Beads Necklaces in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 28 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Three Red coral (*Coralliidae* spp.) beads necklaces, weight 67.88 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES III (only four endemic species in China)

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as "jewelry: stone beads necklaces")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case has been further processed

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 167.84 g Agarwood Products in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 28 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Risk Control Directive (Machine Inspection)

Species: Three Agarwood (*Aquilaria* spp.) beads bracelets and 3 boxes of wood pieces, total weight 167.84 g, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as “jewelry: wood bead bracelets”)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case has been further processed.

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Customs Seized 19 Cactus in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 29 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Customs

Location: Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 19 Cactus (*Cactaceae* spp.), including living rock cactus (*Ariocarpus fissuratus*), CITES I; tamaulipas living rock cactus (*Ariocarpus agavoides*), CITES I; golden barrel cactus (*Echinocactus grusonii*), CITES II; large barrel-shaped cactus (*Ferocactus* spp.), CITES II; *Copiapoa cinerea*, CITES II, etc.

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as “tea leaves” Wrapped in white piece of paper)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case has been further processed.

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Chongqing Port Customs Seized 7.4 tons of Spikenard in an Export Freight



News Release Date: 31 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Chongqing Port Customs

Location: Chongqing

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Spikenard (*Nardostachys jatamansi*), weight 7.4 tons, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Export Freight (Declared as "Spikenard (*Nardostachys jatamansi*)")

Country of Export: China

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: Seized goods has been processed in accordance with the procedure.

[Read more](#)

Putian Police Of Fujian Province Cracked a Case Of Harming Endangered Wild Animals, Arrested Four Suspects and Seized 47 Chinese Hwamei



News Release Date: 20 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Putian Police

Location: Huazhong Village, Huangshi Town, Licheng District, Putian City, Fujian Province

Detection Method: Intelligence lead

Species: 47 Chinese Hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*), Class II of National Protected Species

Reason for Seizure: Illegal acquisition, sale

Estimated Value: CNY 235,000

Number of Offenders: 4

Case Progress: The criminal suspect was taken criminal compulsory measures by the Putian police. All the seized Chinese Hwamei have been released into the wild.

[Read more](#)

Forest Police Detachment Of Suizhou Police Bureau, Hubei Province Cracked a Case Of Illegal Orchids Harvesting



News Release Date: 31 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Forest Police Detachment of Suizhou Police Bureau

Location: Suizhou, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Online Routine Examination

Species: 48 Orchids (*Cymbidium* spp.), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal harvest

Number of Offenders: 2

[Read more](#)

Forest Police Brigade Of Yunxi County Police Bureau, Hubei Province Cracked a Case Of Poaching



News Release Date: 27 March 2023

Seizure Date: 10 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Forest Police Brigade of Yunxi County Police Bureau

Location: Jiahe Town, Yunxi County, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Intelligence lead

Species: Chinese goral (*Naemorhedus griseus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I; Bornean Red Muntjac (*Mantiacus Muntjak*) or Chinese Muntjac (*M. reevesi*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; Masked Palm Civet (*Paguma larvata*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value, CITES III.

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (for the purpose of food consumption, more than 10 snares)

Estimated Value: More than CNY 200,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been further processed.

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Danfeng County People's Court Of Shaanxi Province Sentenced a Case Of Illegal Harvesting and Selling *Cymbidium Faberi*



袁某某危害国家重点保护植物罪刑事一审判决书

案由: 其他刑事案由: 危害国家重点保护植物罪

News Release Date: 16 March 2023

Sentencing Date: 16 February 2023

Judicial Authority: Danfeng County People's Court of Shaanxi Province and Danfeng County People's Procuratorate of Shaanxi Province

Location: Danfeng County, Shaanxi Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: *Cymbidium Faberi*, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Number of Offenders: 1 (Defendant Yuan, male, born on 23 July 1975, Han nationality, primary school education, living in Danfeng County, farmer)

Case Progress:

1. Defendant Yuan committed the crime of harming national protected plants and was sentenced to one month's detention and fined CNY 3,000 (the term of imprisonment is calculated from the date of execution of the judgment. If a person is detained before the execution of a judgment, one day of detention shall be reduced by one day of the sentence; The penalty has been paid);
2. Illegal gains of CNY 230 shall be recovered in accordance with law and turned over to the state treasury;
3. The tools of committing crime shall be confiscated in accordance with law.

[Read more](#)

People's Court Of Shangcheng County, Henan Province Publicly Pronounced a Case Of Illegally Harvesting Noble Orchid



News Release Date: 23 March 2023

Sentencing Date: 19 January 2023

Judicial Authority: People's Court of Shangcheng County, Henan Province

Location: Mountains and forests near Guandimiao Village, Suxianshi Township, Shangcheng County, Henan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: More than 200 Noble Orchid (*Cymbidium goeringii*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal harvest

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The defendant was sentenced to three years in prison, suspended for three years, and fined CNY 5,000.

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Gansu Province Qilian Mountain Forest District Court Openly Heard a Wildlife Poaching Case



News Release Date: 23 March 2023

Sentencing Date: 21 March 2023

Judicial Authority: Gansu Province Qilian Mountain Forest District Court

Location: Sanbagou area under the jurisdiction of the Kangle Nature Conservation Station of Qilian Mountain National Nature Reserve, Gansu Province (poaching site)

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: An Alpine Musk Deer (*Moschus chrysogaster*), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II; 3 Bharal (*Pseudois nayaur*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES III

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (for the purpose of food consumption; 1 small-caliber rifle, several bullets)

Estimated Value: CNY 105,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The defendant Cai was sentenced to three years' imprisonment, suspended for four years, and fined CNY 6,000, and ordered the defendant Cai to pay CNY 105,000 as compensation for the loss of national wildlife resources.

[Read more](#)

Beijing Yanqing District People's Court Concluded a Case of Illegal Wild Bird Catching by Nets



News Release Date: 29 March 2023

Sentencing Date: 19 September 2022

Judicial Authority: Beijing Yanqing District People's Court

Location: In the defendant's orchard in a village in Jingzhuang Town, Yanqing District, Beijing

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 11 Birds, including a Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) worth CNY 50,000, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II; 3 Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*) worth CNY 3,000, the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; a White-backed Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos*) worth CNY 1,000, the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; a Pacific Swift (*Apus pacificus*) worth CNY 300, the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; an Oriental Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus orientalis*) worth CNY 300, Class II of Beijing Protected Species; 2 Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*) worth CNY 600, the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; The species and protection level of the other two birds could not be determined, so the value was not calculated.

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting

Estimated Value: About CNY 55,200

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The defendant was sentenced to three years in prison, suspended for three years, and fined CNY 4,000

[Read more](#)

Qinghai Sanjiangyuan People's Procuratorate Prosecuted Two Cases Of Illegally Hunting And Selling Wild Yaks



News Release Date: 28 February 2023

Indictment Date: 27 February 2023

Judicial Authority: Qinghai Sanjiangyuan People's Procuratorate, Xining Railway Transportation Court

Location: Chahuma area, Hoh Xil, Qinghai Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 20 Wild Yaks (*Bos mutus*), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting and sale

Estimated Value: 6 million CNY

Number of Offenders: 8

Case Progress: Eight defendants were prosecuted in accordance with the law.

[Read more](#)

Hong Kong SAR

Hong Kong Customs detects two inbound smuggling cases of suspected scheduled endangered species



Hong Kong Customs detected two illegal import cases of suspected scheduled endangered species at Hong Kong International Airport on March 9. A total of about 270 kilograms of suspected scheduled dried fish maws and about 50kg of suspected scheduled dried shark fins, with an estimated market value of about \$300,000, were seized.

Through risk assessment, Customs on that day inspected two air consignments, both declared as carrying courier goods, arriving in Hong Kong from Bangladesh. Upon inspection, Customs officers first found a large batch of suspected scheduled dried fish maws of endangered species, mix-loaded with a large quantity of non-scheduled dried fish maws, in nine carton boxes inside the first consignment.

Later, when inspecting the second consignment, Customs officers further found a batch of suspected scheduled dried shark fins of endangered species, mix-loaded with a large quantity of non-scheduled dried fish maws, in a carton box.



Customs officers discovered during the investigation that the reported delivery addresses of the two batches of suspected scheduled endangered species were a warehouse in Sheung Shui and a dried seafood retail shop in Sheung Wan.

After a follow-up investigation, Customs officers mounted arrest operations on March 10 and 11 and arrested two men, aged 31 and 33, suspected to be connected with the cases, in Sheung Shui and Sheung Wan.

An investigation is ongoing and the two arrested men have been released on bail pending further 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 \$10 million and imprisonment for 10 years.

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Angola

- [Luanda: SIC arrests a poacher who settled in Quissama National Park and lived off the sale of the animals he has been slaughtering](#)

South Africa

- [Murderer And Rhino Poacher Sentenced To 24 Years Imprisonment](#)

Viet Nam

- [Seized in Vietnam Seven tons of Elephant Ivory from Angola](#)