

TRAFFIC



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

May 2023

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Shenzhen Huanggang Customs Seized 26 kg Thresher Shark Fins Carried by 4 Inbound Passengers



News Release Date: 1 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Huanggang Customs

Location: Futian Port, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Thresher Shark (*Alopias spp.*) fin, 26 kg, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Wrap with black plastic paper)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 4

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Bay Customs Seized One Live Axolotl Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 3 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Bay Customs

Location: Shenzhen, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 1 Live Axolotl (*Ambystoma mexicanum*), about 20 cm long, about weight 150 g, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage ("hidden in a small container with water")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been transferred to the disposition department.

[Read more](#)

Xiamen Postal Customs Seized 48.37 g Philippine Pangolin Scales in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 7 May 2023
Forensic Result Date: 6 May 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Xiamen Postal Customs
Location: Xiamen, Fujian Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: Philippine pangolin (*Manis culionensis*) scales, net weight 48.37g, CITES I
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Wrapped in tin foil, hidden in 3 men's underwear)
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Bay Customs Seized 2 Ivory Carvings Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 7 May 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Bay Customs
Location: Shenzhen, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: 2 Ivory Carvings, total weight 2.06 kg, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1
Case Progress: The case has been transferred to the customs anti-smuggling department for further process.

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Postal Customs Seized 44 Red Coral Products in Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 8 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Postal Customs

Location: Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 44 Red Coral (*Coralliidae* spp.) jewelry (necklaces, earrings) and raw branches, net weight 432.2 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES III (only four species distributed in China)

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (Declared as "Essen, Makeup remover")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Nanning Wuxu Airport Customs Seized 12 Crocodile Belts, Weight 3 kg



News Release Date: 9 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Nanning Wuxu Airport Customs

Location: Nanning Wuxu Airport, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Examination (CT scan)

Species: 12 Crocodile (*Crocodylidae* spp.) belts, weight 3 kg, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The case has been handled in accordance with the regulations.

[Read more](#)

Wuhan Postal Customs Seized an Umbrella with Ivory Handle and a Hawksbill Turtle Folding Fan in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 10 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wuhan Postal Customs

Location: Wuhan, Hubei Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Manual review of documents)

Species: One umbrella with Ivory handle, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II; one Hawksbill Sea Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) folding fan, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Xiamen Airport Customs Seized 22 Crocodile Skin Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 12 May 2023

Forensic Result Date: 11 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Xiamen Airport Customs

Location: Xiamen Airport, Fujian Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Crocodile (Crocodylidae spp.) skin products, including 10 belts, 2 waist purses and 10 Keychains, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)



Tianjin Dongjiang Customs Seized 400 kg African Cherry Powdered Extract in Export Freight



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Seizure Date: 28 April 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Tianjin Dongjiang Customs

Location: Tianjin

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: African cherry (*Prunus africana*) powdered extract, 400 kg, CITES II

Transport Method: Export Freight

Country of Export: China

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: Because the enterprise cannot provide the "Endangered Species Export Permit" certificate, the goods will not be exported.

[Read more](#)

Yiwu Customs Seized 327 Ivory Painting Scroll Head in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Yiwu Customs

Location: Yiwu, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 327 Ivory painting scroll heads, weight 6.47 kg, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Fuzhou Changle Airport Customs Seized Three Hawksbill Turtle Bangles, Four Giant Clam Shells and Five Coral Products



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Fuzhou Changle Airport Customs

Location: Fuzhou Changle Airport, Fujian Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Three Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) bangles, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I; four Giant Clam (*Tridacnidae* spp.) shells, Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II; one *Tubipora musica* skeleton, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II; four Organ pipe coral (*Isis reticulata*) beads bracelets, Class II of National Protected Species; total 1.088 kg

Transport Method: Inbound Flight

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 13 Stony Coral Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 13 Stony Coral (*Scleractinia* spp.), 4.1 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)



Guangzhou Customs Seized 887 Dried Seahorse in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Customs

Location: Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 887 Dried Seahorse (*Hippocampus spp.*), weight 3.6 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Shekou Customs Seized One Stony Coral Products



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shekou Customs

Location: Shenzhen, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: One Stony Coral (*Scleractinia spp.*) products, 2 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Eight Giant Clam Jewelry Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Five Giant Clam (*Tridacnidae* spp.) beads bracelets and three pendants, total 1.27 kg, Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Two Horned Helmet Shells and One Whole Stony Coral Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Two Horned Helmet (*Cassis cornuta*) shells, weight 2.4 kg, Class II of National Protected Species; 1 Whole Stony Coral (*Scleractinia* spp.), weight 0.9 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 22 Stony Corals in Two Inbound Passengers' Luggage



News Release Date: 13 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 22 Stony Corals (Scleractinia spp.), 1.185 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 2

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Bao'An Airport Customs Seized 10 Reticulated Python Skins in Inbound Freight



News Release Date: 16 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs

Location: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 10 Reticulated Python (*Malayopython reticulatus*) skins, about 3.5 m long and 0.4 m wide, total weight 3.5 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Freight

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case has been transferred to the customs disposal department for processing.

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Huanggang Customs Seized 230 Sun Parakeet Eggs Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 18 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Huanggang Customs

Location: Futian Port, Shenzhen, Guangdong

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 230 Sun Parakeet (*Aratinga solstitialis*) eggs, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Hidden in a tin box, wrapped in napkins and cotton)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Eight Adult Eurasian Otter Furs Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 18 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Eight adult Eurasian otter (*Lutra lutra*) furs, weight 2.15 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Qingdao Jiaodong Airport Customs Seized 48 Pieces of Ivory, Hawksbill Turtle, Red Coral, and Hardy Rosewood Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 19 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Qingdao Jiaodong Airport Customs

Location: Qingdao Jiaodong Airport, Shandong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Ivory products, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II; Hawksbill Sea Turtle specimen (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I; Red Coral products (*Coralliidae* spp.), Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II/III; Hardy rosewood (*Dalbergia hupeana*) products, CITES II; total 48 pieces, weight 5.423 kg

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Hohhot Baita Airport Customs Seized 46 Wolf Teeth in Two Inbound Parcels



News Release Date: 22 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Hohhot Baita Airport Customs

Location: Hohhot Baita Airport, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 46 Wolf (*Canis lupus*) teeth, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Gongbei Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Customs Seized One Young Giant Clam and Two Horse Hoof Clams Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 25 May 2023

Forensic Result Date: 18 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Gongbei Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Customs

Location: Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Highway Port, Zhuhai, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: One Giant Clam (*Tridacna gigas*) juvenile shell, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II; two Horse Hoof Clams (*Hippopus hippopus*) shells, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been further disposed of as required.

[Read more](#)

Wenzhou Customs Seized Saiga Antelopes in Six Inbound Parcels



News Release Date: 27 May 2023

Seizure Date: 21 April 2023- 8 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Wenzhou Customs

Location: Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Risk Control Directive

Species: Six parcels of Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica*) horns, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (5 of 6 parcels were declared as "overcoat")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Suzhou Customs Seized Two Pairs of Ivory Painting Scroll Heads in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 28 May 2023
Forensic Result Date: 15 May 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Suzhou Customs
Location: Suzhou, Jiangsu Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: Two pairs of Ivory painting scroll heads, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Parcel
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 18 Ivory Jewelry Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 28 May 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs
Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: Three Ivory Bangles, three Ivory beads bracelets and twelve Ivory fang-shaped pendants, total 350 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Wrapped in tin foil and hidden in two pairs of shoes)
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Nanjing Lukou Airport Customs Seized One Stony Coral Products Carried by a Passenger



News Release Date: 28 May 2023
Forensic Result Date: 18 May 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Nanjing Lukou Airport Customs
Location: Nanjing Lukou Airport, Jiangsu Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: One Stony Coral (Scleractinia spp.) product, weight 3.15 kg, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Bao'An Airport Customs Seized Two Giant Clam Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 25 May 2023
Law Enforcement Authority: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs
Location: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport, Guangdong Province
Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)
Species: Two Giant Clam (Tridacnidae spp.) shells, weight 3.944 kg, Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II
Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage
Reason for Seizure: Smuggling
Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 20 Stony Coral Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 28 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Risk Control Directive (X-ray)

Species: 20 Stony Coral (*Scleractinia* spp.) products, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Wrapped in a black plastic bag)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Dongxing Customs Seized 17 Ivory Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 28 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Dongxing Customs

Location: Dongxing Port, Fangchenggang, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 17 Ivory products, weight 1.63 kg, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger Luggage (Hidden under a divider within a red wooden tank that is sealed at the bottom)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)



Zhakou Customs Seized 13 Live Leopard Tortoises and Two Live Red-Footed Tortoises Carried by a Passenger



News Release Date: 31 May 2023

Seizure Date: 14 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Zhakou Customs

Location: Gongbei Port, Zhuhai City, Guangdong Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 13 live Leopard tortoises (*Stigmochelys pardalis*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II; 2 live Red-footed tortoises (*Chelonoidis carbonarius*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Passenger Luggage (Hidden in a bag, socks, plastic bags)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

[Read more](#)

Mengzi Municipal Police Bureau Seized 58 Live Chinese Hwamei and a Suspect Was Arrested



News Release Date: 27 March 2023

Seizure Date: 21 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Mengzi Municipal Police Bureau

Location: A hotel in the Jinhua Road, the District of the Mengzi Municipal Police Bureau, Yunnan Province; a market in Mengzi

Detection Method: Investigation + Case Clue

Species: 58 Live Chinese hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal sales

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The suspect Li has been taken criminal compulsory measures by the Municipal Police Bureau in accordance with law. The 58 seized live Chinese Hwamei have been transferred to the Forestry and Grassland Bureau of Mengzi City, and the case is being further processed.

[Read more](#)

Forest Police Patrol of Liangdang County Seized 271 Wild *Cymbidium Faberi*, and Four Suspects Were Arrested



News Release Date: 9 May 2023

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

Location: Liangdang County, Longnan City, Gansu Province

Detection Method: Case Clue

Species: 271 *Cymbidium faberi*, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Vehicle

Reason for Seizure: Illegal harvest

Number of Offenders: 4

Case Progress: The four suspects have been taken compulsory measures by the Liangdang County Police Bureau in accordance with the law, and the case has been further handled.

[Read more](#)

Yunnan Provincial Police Bureau Seized 440 *Paramichelia Baillonii* and 7 Suspects



News Release Date: 9 May 2023

Seizure Date: 18 August 2022

Law Enforcement Authority: Yunnan Provincial Police Bureau, Lincang Municipal Police Bureau, and Gengma, Dai and Wa Autonomous County Police Bureau

Location: State-owned Forest in Lancang River Nature Reserve, Gengma, Dai and Wa Autonomous County, Lincang City, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: Special law enforcement operation

Species: 440 *Paramichelia baillonii*, Class II of National Protected Species

Reason for Seizure: Illegal logging, Illegal sales

Number of Offenders: 7

Case Progress: The 7 suspects have been arrested, and the investigation and evidence collection have been completed.

[Read more](#)

Food, Drug and Environmental Crime Investigation Patrol of Nangan Police Sub-Bureau in Changchun Seized Four Hawksbill Turtle Ring-Shaped Pendants, One Visayan Hornbill Beak and One Hornbill Skull Beads



News Release Date: 17 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Food, Drug and Environmental Crime Investigation Patrol, Cyber Security Brigade, Criminal Police Brigade, and Taoyuan Road Police Station of Nangan District Police Sub-bureau in Changchun City

Location: A community in Nangan District, Changchun City, Jilin Province (suspect's home)

Detection Method: Intelligence lead

Species: Four Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) ring-shaped pendants, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I; 1 Visayan hornbill (*Penelopides panini*) beak and 1 skull beads, Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal purchases (flea market), Illegal sales (online)

Estimated Value: More than CNY 400,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The suspect Jing was taken criminal compulsory measures by police, and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Lingxiu Police Station of Shishi Municipal Police Bureau Seized 4 Leopard Cats and Arrested a Suspect



News Release Date: 23 May 2023

Seizure Date: 15 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Lingxiu Police Station of Shishi Municipal Police Bureau in Fujian Province

Location: The residence of the criminal suspect in Shishi City, Fujian Province

Detection Method: Tip off

Species: 12 Leopard cats (*Prionailurus bengalensis*) (A total of 12 were purchased, 4 were seized, 2 were sold, and 6 died of illness) Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal purchases, Illegal sales (online)

Estimated Value: More than CNY 20, 000 (The purchases price of 12 Leopard cat)

Number of Offenders: 1

Nationality: China

Case Progress: Suspect Cai was criminally detained in accordance with the law, and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)



Forest Police Patrol of Guiyang Police Bureau Cracked a Case of Illegal Hunting, Acquisition, Transportation and Sale of 494 Chinese Hwamei and Arrested 62 Suspects

News Release Date: 24 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Forest Police Patrol of Guiyang Police Bureau

Detection Method: Investigation

Species: 494 Chinese hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II; two Silver-eared Mesia (*Leiothrix* spp.), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II; one Yellow-throated bunting (*Emberiza elegans*), the wildlife with important ecological, scientific and social value; 99

Vinous-throated parrotbills (*Sinosuthora webbiana*)

Transport Method: Shipped by courier after sale

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (snares and traps), purchases, transportation, sales (online)

Estimated Value: More than CNY 2,500,000

Number of Offenders: 62

[Read more](#)

Suichuan County Police Bureau Cracked the Case of Illegal of Phoebe Zhennan Logging, and Arrested Four Suspects



News Release Date: 5 May 2023

Seizure Date: 14 April 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Suichuan County Police Bureau

Location: A shrine in Hengshi Village, Xinjiang Township, Suichuan County, Jiangxi Province (location of logging); a private house in Liuyang City, Hunan Province (hiding and seizure location)

Detection Method: Tip off

Species: Phoebe zhennan, Class II of National Protected Species

Reason for Seizure: Illegal logging

Number of Offenders: 4

Case Progress: People involved in the case have been criminally detained in accordance with the law

[Read more](#)

Xiaoshan Municipal Police Bureau Seized 61 Wildlife Birds, Including Six Live Owls, and Arrested One Suspect



News Release Date: 5 May 2023

Seizure Date: 2 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Food, Drug and Environmental Crime Investigation Patrol and Nanyang Police Station of Xiaoshan City, Zhejiang Province

Location: A villager's home in Nanyang District, Xiaoshan City, Zhejiang Province

Detection Method: Police home visit

Species: 61 wild birds, including 6 live Owls (*Strigiformes* spp.), Class I/II of National Protected Species, CITES II; 5 Doves (*Columbidae* spp.) (four live, one dead); 50 Orioles (*Oriolus* spp.) and Crows (*Corvus* spp.)

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (two snares), sales, food consumption

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Suspect Wu has been taken criminal compulsory measures by the Xiaoshan police in accordance with the law on suspicion of harming precious and endangered wild animals; The case is being further processed; Wild birds such as live owls have been handed over to wildlife rescue agencies.

[Read more](#)

Tonghai County Police Bureau, Yunnan Province Seized More Than 450 Pangolins Scales, and Arrested One Suspect



News Release Date: 10 May 2023

Seizure Date: 6 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Food, Drug and Environmental Crime Investigation Patrol of Tonghai County Police Bureau

Location: Longpeng Town, Shiping County, Honghe Prefecture, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: Investigation

Species: More than 450 Pangolins (*Manis* spp.) scales, net weight more than 3500 g, Class I of National Protected Species, CITES I

Reason for Seizure: Illegal purchases, Illegal sales

Estimated Value: More than CNY 70,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Further investigation is ongoing.

[Read more](#)

Huize County Police Bureau of Qujing City, Yunnan Province, Seized 13.64 kg Giant Pangolin Scales, and Arrested One Suspect



News Release Date: 18 May 2023

Seizure Date: 29 March 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Huize County Police Bureau of Qujing City, Yunnan Province

Location: Nagu Town, Huize County, Qujing City, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: Tip off

Species: 13.64 kg Giant pangolin (*Manis gigantea*) scales, CITES I

Reason for Seizure: Illegal purchases, Illegal sales

Estimated Value: More than CNY 320,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Suspect was detained by police in accordance with the law, and the case is being further processed.

[Read more](#)

Tunchang County Police Bureau, Hainan Province, Seized Two Keeled Box Turtle, and Arrested One Suspect



News Release Date: 29 May 2023

Law Enforcement Authority: Tunchang County Police Bureau

Location: Tunchang County, Hainan Province

Detection Method: Special law enforcement operation

Species: Two Keeled box turtle (*Cuora mouhotii*), Class II of National Protected Species (Wild populations only), CITES II

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (4 iron cages and 8 steel traps)

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Suspect Pang has been taken criminal compulsory measures by the Tunchang police in accordance with the law, and the case is being further processed.

[Read more](#)



The Rugao Court in Jiangsu Province, Publicly Heard the Case of Illegal Hunting, Acquisition, Transportation, and Sale of 1,263 Chinese Hwamei and Four Defendants Were Sentenced



News Release Date: 26 May 2023

Sentencing Date: 22 May 2023

Judicial Authority: Rugao Court in Jiangsu Province

Location: Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture, Hunan Province

Detection Method: Tip off

Species: 1,263 Chinese hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*), Class II of National Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Courier, truck delivery

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting (Electronic bird trap and snares), illegal purchases, illegal sales (Kuaishou, TikTok, WeChat Moment), transportation

Estimated Value: More than CNY 6,000,000

Number of Offenders: 4

Case Progress: The Rugao Court rendered a first-instance judgment on the spot, and the defendants Jia, Liang, Fu and Li were sentenced to fixed-term imprisonment ranging from one year and nine months to five years and six months, respectively, and fined between CNY 10,000 and CNY 100,000.

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Hong Kong SAR

Hong Kong Customs seizes live turtles and lizards suspected to be endangered species



Hong Kong Customs yesterday (May 14) seized 18 live turtles and three live lizards suspected to be endangered species with an estimated market value of about \$160,000 at Hong Kong International Airport. This is the first smuggling case of live endangered species involving a passenger detected by Customs this year after the full resumption of normal travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland as well as other parts of the world.

Customs officers yesterday afternoon conducted customs clearance on a male passenger who arrived in Hong Kong from Bangkok, Thailand, at the airport. The batch of live turtles and live lizards suspected to be endangered species were found packed around his outer thighs. The 27-year-old man was subsequently arrested.

The case has been handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up action.

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 an imprisonment for 10 years.

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Hong Kong Customs detects three smuggling cases involving river trade vessel and ocean-going vessels



Hong Kong Customs mounted a special enforcement operation codenamed "Clear Sky" from mid-April to mid-May and detected a smuggling case involving a river trade vessel and two smuggling cases involving ocean-going vessels. A large batch of suspected smuggled goods, including suspected scheduled dried shark fins, suspected controlled medicines and used electronic products, with a total estimated market value of about \$200 million was seized.

In the first case, Customs discovered that criminals intended to use a river trade vessel to smuggle goods to Macao in mid-April. Through intelligence exchange, Customs successfully identified four containers suspected to be used to carry smuggled goods. The four containers were originally scheduled to be shipped from Hong Kong to Macao, but were requested en route to be returned to Hong Kong. Customs officers then inspected the four containers upon their arrival in Hong Kong in early May and found about five tonnes of suspected scheduled dried shark fins and a batch of suspected controlled medicines in two of the containers. The estimated market value was about \$21 million and \$1 million respectively.

Later, Customs detected the second and third case in early May. Through intelligence analysis and risk assessment, Customs discovered that criminals intended to use ocean-going vessels to smuggle goods to Malaysia. Customs then formulated strategic enforcement operations. Two ocean-going vessels preparing to depart from Hong Kong to Klang, Malaysia, were successfully identified.

Customs officers identified for inspection 31 containers, declared as carrying copper, aluminium or plastic materials, on board the two vessels on May 3 and 10 and found inside 25 containers a large batch of suspected smuggled used electronic products, including set-top boxes, routers, servers, vehicle parts, and batteries. The total estimated market value was about \$178 million.



After follow-up investigations, Customs officers arrested six persons, consisting of three men and three women aged between 33 and 53, suspected to be connected with the above-mentioned three cases.

Investigations are ongoing. The six arrested persons have been released on bail pending further investigation and the likelihood of further arrests is not ruled out.

Customs is the primary agency responsible for the suppression of smuggling activities and has all along been combating various smuggling activities proactively at the forefront. Customs will keep up its enforcement action and continue to fiercely combat sea smuggling activities through proactive risk management and intelligence-based enforcement strategies, along with mounting targeted anti-smuggling operations at suitable times to land a solid blow against relevant activities.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years. Moreover, any person who imports or exports pharmaceutical products and medicines without a valid licence commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for two years.

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.

Under the Waste Disposal Ordinance, it is an offence for anyone to import or export hazardous waste without obtaining a valid permit beforehand. First-time offenders are liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and six months' imprisonment. For subsequent offences, offenders are liable to a fine of \$500,000 and two years' imprisonment.

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