

TRAFFIC



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

February 2026

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Xiamen Airport Customs Seized One African Savannah Elephant Ivory Item Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 2 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Xiamen Airport Customs

Location: Xiamen Gaoqi International Airport, Fujian Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: African Savannah Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*), one piece of ivory ornament, 1,076 g. CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger's Luggage (no declaration channel)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Hong Kong Customs Seized Consignment of Suspected Live Endangered Lizards



News Release Date: 3 February 2026

Seizure Date: 2 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Hong Kong Customs

Location: Shenzhen Bay Control Point

Detection Method: Arrivals Inspection

Species: A shipment of live lizards, suspected to be CITES-listed species

Transport Method: Inside the truck (wrapped in cloth)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case was handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up action.

[Read more](#)

Nansan Customs Seized 24 Wildlife Products Concealed in an Inbound Vehicle



News Release Date: 4 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Nansan Customs

Location: Nansan Port, Zhenkang County, Lincang City, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: 24 wildlife products, 2.25 kg in total, including Asian Elephant (*Elephas maximus*), two pieces of skin, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I; Tiger (*Panthera tigris*), two furs, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I; 20 pieces of bones from Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Clouded Leopard (*Neofelis nebulosa*) and Sun Bear (*Helarctos malayanus*), all listed as National Class I Protected Species and CITES I, and Asian Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), National Class II Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Vehicle (concealed in a hidden compartment near the right rear wheel bumper)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been transferred to

Daxing Airport Customs Seized 13 Wildlife Products Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 9 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Daxing Airport Customs

Location: Beijing Daxing International Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 13 wildlife products: eight Ivory bangles, 205 g, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I/II; four Crocodile (*Crocodylia* spp.) skin bags, 1,898 g, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I/II; one Python (*Python bivittatus*) skin bag, 868 g, National Class II Protected Species, CITES II

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger's Luggage

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The above items have been handed over to the relevant follow-up department for disposal.

[Read more](#)



Tianjin Postal Customs Seized 489 g of Ivory Products in an Inbound Mail



News Release Date: 14 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Tianjin Postal Customs

Location: Tianjin City

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Ivory scroll heads, gross weight 489 g, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I/II.

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel (declared as "tapestry")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Urumqi Tianshan Airport Customs Seized Five Bear Paws Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 15 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Urumqi Tianshan Airport Customs

Location: Urumqi Tianshan International Airport, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Bear (Ursidae spp.), 5 pieces of paws, total 4.5 kg, National Class I/II Protected Species, CITES I/II; 7.8 kg of other animal tissues

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger's Luggage (no declaration channel; wrapped in plastic bags and layers of clothing)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been transferred to the relevant follow-up department for further processing.

[Read more](#)

Meilan Airport Customs Seized 1.96 kg of Malayan Pangolin Scales and Powder Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 22 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Haikou Meilan Airport Customs

Location: Haikou Meilan International Airport, Hainan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Malayan Pangolin (*Manis javanica*), 1.96 kg of scales, including 1.54 kg of pieces and 0.42 kg of powder, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger's Luggage (no declaration channel)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The on-site customs authorities has initiated a case and taken legal enforcement actions in accordance with the law.

[Read more](#)

Urumqi Tianshan Airport Customs Seized 79 Pieces of Indian Pangolin Scales Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 23 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Urumqi Tianshan Airport Customs

Location: Urumqi Tianshan International Airport, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*), 79 pieces of scales, total 152 g, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger's Checked Luggage (no declaration channel)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

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Beijing Capital Airport Customs Seized One Leopard Cat Fur Patchwork Coat in an Inbound Express Shipment



News Release Date: 24 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Beijing Capital Airport Customs

Location: Beijing Capital International Airport

Detection Method: Routine Examination

Species: Leopard Cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*), one fur patchwork coat (from at least 15 individuals), National Class II Protected Species CITES I/II

Transport Method: Inbound Express (declared as "coat" and "shawl")

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case has been transferred to the Customs Anti-Smuggling Bureau for further handling.

[Read more](#)

Suzhou Customs Seized 34 Pieces of Endangered Wildlife Products in an Inbound Parcel



News Release Date: 25 February 2026

Seizure Date: 6 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Suzhou Customs

Location: Suzhou, Jiangsu Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (Machine Inspection)

Species: 284 g of wildlife jewelry (bracelets, necklaces, earrings), including 15 ivory products, Class I National Protected Species, CITES I/II; One Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) shell product, National Class I Protected Species, CITES I; One Stony Corals (SCLERACTINIAS spp.) product, National Class II Protected Species, CITES II; 17 Red Corals (Coralliidae spp.) products, National Class I Protected Species, CITES III (four species endemic to China)

Transport Method: Inbound Parcel

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: Customs has temporarily detained the mail item.

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Hong Kong Customs Seized Five Live Suspected Endangered Lizards



News Release Date: 26 February 2026

Seizure Date: 26 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Hong Kong Customs

Location: Shenzhen Bay Control Point

Detection Method: Arrivals Inspection

Species: 5 live lizards, suspected CITES listed species

Transport Method: Inside the truck (concealed within high-heeled boots)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Case Progress: The case was handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up action.

[Read more](#)

Cangyuan Customs Seized 138.95 g of Indian Pangolin Scales Carried by an Inbound Passenger



News Release Date: 27 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Cangyuan Customs

Location: Yonghe Port, Cangyuan Va Autonomous County, Lincang City, Yunnan Province

Detection Method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*)

scales, 2 bags, total 138.95 g, National Class I

Protected Species protected species, CITES I

Transport Method: Inbound Passenger's Carry-on Luggage (wrapped in a plastic bag and hidden under the armpit inside the undershirt)

Reason for Seizure: Smuggling

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The case has been placed on file for administrative investigation and disposal.

[Read more](#)

Panjin Police Seized Six Tortoises and 45 Lizards and Arrested Two Suspects



News Release Date: 6 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Panjin Public Security Bureau, Dawa Branch, Environment, Food and Drug Crime Investigation Brigade

Location: Panjin, Liaoning Province

Detection Method: Public Tip-off

Species: Six Tortoises (*Testudinidae* spp.), National Class I Protected Species, CITES I/II; 45 Lizards (*SAURIA* spp.), National Class II Protected Species according to the identification.

Reason for Seizure: Illegal captive breeding, purchase and sale

Number of Offenders: 2

Case Progress: The two suspects have been subjected to criminal compulsory measures by the public security authorities in accordance with the law. All seized wildlife has been safely transferred to the Liaoning Provincial Wildlife Protection Center for proper placement. The case remains under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Sangri County Police Seized 17 Bags of Roseroot and Arrested One Suspect



News Release Date: 5 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Sangri County Public Security Bureau, Dagu Convenience Police Station

Location: Sangri County, Shannan City, Tibet Autonomous Region

Detection Method: Routine Patrol

Species: Roseroot (*Rhodiola rosea*), 17 bags, National Class II Protected Species, CITES II.

Transport Method: SUV (hidden in the trunk)

Reason for Seizure: Illegal harvest and transport

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The seized plants have been taken into custody, and the case clues have been transferred to the Sangri County Forestry and Grassland Bureau for investigation and handling.

[Read more](#)



Shanghai Railway Transport Primary Court Sentenced a Case of Illegal Capture of Eurasian Goshawk and One Person Convicted

Judgment Date: 30 December 2025

Judicial Authority: Shanghai Railway Transport Procuratorate;

Shanghai Railway Transport Primary Court

Location: Jing'an District, Shanghai

Species: Eurasian Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), one Live subadult individual, National Class II Protected Species, CITES II

Detection Method: Public Tip-off

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting/capture

Estimated Value: CNY 25,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The defendant was convicted of the crime of harming precious and endangered wildlife and sentenced to eight months' imprisonment and a fine of CNY 3,000 (prepaid).

[Read more](#)

Muli Tibetan Primary People's Court Sentenced a Case of Illegal Hunting and Purchase of Protected Animals and One Person Convicted

Verdict Release Date: 6 February 2026

Judgment Date: 6 January 2026

Judicial Authority: Muli Tibetan Autonomous County People's Procuratorate of Sichuan Province;

Muli Tibetan Primary People's Court

Species: Chinese Goral (*Naemorhedus griseus*), two carcasses, National Class II Protected Species, CITES I; Tufted Deer (*Elaphodus cephalophus*), one set of organs (heart, liver, lungs), National Class II Protected Species; Asian Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), one cub carcass, National Class II Protected Species, CITES I

Reason for Seizure: Illegal hunting and purchase

Estimated Value: CNY 155,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: 1) The defendant was convicted of the crime of harming precious and endangered wildlife and sentenced to two years and six months' imprisonment, with a three-year suspended sentence, and fined CNY 5,000 (paid). 2) The following items were confiscated for destruction according to law: two hunting tool sets, one animal trap, one steel snare; one bucket of suspected bear cub limbs and organs stored in a white plastic bucket; and three buckets of suspected bharal limbs and organs stored in one glass jar and two white plastic buckets.

[Read more](#)



Linzi Primary People's Court Sentenced a Case of Illegal Purchase and Sale of Skylarks and One Person Fined

Verdict Release Date: 5 February 2026

Judgment Date: 15 January 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Linzi District Resource Bureau of Zibo City, Shandong Province

Judicial Authority: Linzi Primary People's Court

Location: Linzi District, Zibo City, Shandong Province

Species: Eurasian skylark (*Alauda arvensis*), 10 individuals (nine live; one status unknown), National Class II Protected Species

Reason for Seizure: Illegal purchase and sale

Estimated Value: CNY 15,000

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Confiscation of nine illegally purchased skylarks with fine of CNY 30,000.

[Read more](#)

Hunchun Forest Area Primary Court Sentenced a Case of Illegal Sale of Tiger Teeth and One Person Convicted

Verdict Release Date: 6 February 2026

Judgment Date: 20 January 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Changbai Mountain Public Security Bureau

Judicial Authority: Baihe Forest District People's Procuratorate of Jilin Province; Hunchun Forest Area Primary Court

Location: Erdao Baihe Town, Antu County, Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture, Jilin Province

Species: Tiger (*Panthera tigris*), two pieces of canine teeth, National Class I Protected Species protected species, CITES I

Reason for Seizure: Illegal sale

Estimated Value: CNY 50,000 (sale price)

Number of Offender: 1

Case Progress: The defendant was convicted of the crime of harming precious and endangered wildlife and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine of CNY 10,000. The two tiger teeth transferred with the case were confiscated according to law. Illegal proceeds of CNY 50,000 were recovered from the defendant and turned over to the state treasury.

[Read more](#)

Jinxiu Yao Primary People's Court Sentenced a Case of Illegal Harvest and Sale of Protected Plant and One Person Convicted

Verdict Release Date: 6 February 2026

Judgment Date: 26 December 2025

Judicial Authority: Jinxiu Yao Autonomous County People's Procuratorate of Guangxi Province; Jinxiu Yao Primary People's Court of Guangxi Province

Location: Longwei Village, Sanjiao Township, Jinxiu Yao Autonomous County, Guangxi Province

Species: 35 Mule's foot ferns (*Angiopteris* spp.) and three Golden bean kumquats (*Fortunella venosa*), both are National Class II Protected Species

Reason for Seizure: Illegal harvest and sale (via the Pinduoduo platform)

Estimated Value: CNY 1,856.18 (illegal proceeds)

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: The defendant was convicted of the crime of harming nationally protected plants and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with a two-year suspended sentence, and fined CNY 3,000. Illegal proceeds of CNY 1,856.18 were confiscated and turned over to the state treasury.

[Read more](#)

Man sentenced to 24 months' imprisonment for smuggling rhino horns



Verdict Release Date: 29 February 2026

Judgment Date: 29 February 2026

Law Enforcement Authority: Hongkong Customs

Judicial Authority: Hongkong District Court

Location: Hong Kong International Airport

Species: Rhino horn slices, 41 pieces, total weight 7.7 kg

Detection Method: Inspection

Transport Method: Airplane

Country of Export: Bangladesh

Reason for Seizure: Illegal Import of Endangered Species Products

Estimated Value: Three million Hong Kong dollars

Number of Offenders: 1

Case Progress: Sentenced to 24 months' imprisonment.

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Cameron

- [Mega-seizure of illegal wildlife trafficked from Cameroon to Nigeria catalyses rapid international action](#)

India

- [Exotic Animals Smuggled From Bangkok Seized at Pune Airport, One Monkey Found Dead](#)

Indonesia

- [An Indonesian man was sentenced to two years in prison by the Medan District Court for trafficking sun bear specimens](#)
- [Customs in North Sumatra, Indonesia, Seizes 1,984 Smuggled Monitor Lizard Skins](#)
- [Indonesian Quarantine Officers Seize 70 Kilograms of Illegally Transported Python Meat](#)
- [Indonesian law enforcement officers seized hundreds endemic species—including tree kangaroos—aboard a passenger vessel](#)
- [The Forestry Department in Medan, Indonesia, has successfully intercepted a case of leopard cat trafficking](#)
- [Bali International Airport in Indonesia Seizes 202 Smuggled Reptiles, Including Ball Pythons](#)

Malaysia

- [An unloaded bird hell](#)
- [Semporna resort in the soup for serving pangolin dishes](#)
- [Save honey bear cubs, fangs: Two arrested in Lahad Datu](#)
- [Major tortoise smuggling syndicate crippled in Perlis plantation raid](#)

Nigeria

- [Customs Zone D seizes smuggled 15,300 litres of petrol, car, pangolins](#)
- [Customs intercepts 4 live Pangolins in Ogun](#)

Philippines

- [Shark fins seized at Taytay port over lack of permits](#)

South Africa

- [Vietnamese national arrested at Cape Town International Airport over rhino horns](#)

Spain



- [Illegal animal trafficking: 15 dead pangolins seized from suitcase at Madrid-Barajas airport](#)

Thailand

- [Two men caught hunting protected wildlife in Salawin National Park](#)
- [Vietnamese arrested in Bangkok for allegedly smuggling rhino horns to Laos](#)
- [Thailand's Suvarnabhumi International Airport Seizes Smuggled Live Water Monitors and Possums from Flight Arriving from the Philippines](#)
- [Thailand's Suvarnabhumi International Airport Intercepts Flight Bound for Mumbai Smuggling Live Langurs](#)
- [Manipur: Two arrested, 24 Ibex rescued in wildlife smuggling bust](#)

Uganda

- [Ivory Trafficker Arrested In Nwoya](#)

United States of America

- [Elephant ivory carvings seized by federal inspectors at Hartsfield-Jackson airport](#)

Viet Nam

- [Police indict 2 men over illegal tiger bone paste operation in Vietnam](#)
- [Vietnamese restaurant charged with buying endangered pangolin to cook for diners](#)