



China's Wildlife Enforcement News Digest (August 2016)

Yunnan man sentenced to 15 years for smuggling tiger skin and rhino horn

2016-08-03, Kunming, Yunnan Province – The suspect Wang, who work in South Africa, arrived at Kunming Changshui Airport from South Africa Kimberly Airport on February 6, 2015. However, the customs seized one piece of Indochinese tiger skin (worth USD 73,846), 8 rhino horn (worth USD 371,230), 11 ivory hand beads and 4 loose beads (total of USD 12,032) from his suitcase, worth a total of USD 459,878. According to this fact, Kunming Intermediate Court sentenced him to prison for 15 years in jail with a confiscation of all personal property and the wildlife products for smuggling endangered species products. [Read More](#)

Henan province yields large illicit wildlife trade seizure via WeChat



2016-08-05, Xuchang, Henan Province - In Nov. 2015, Xuchang Forest Public Security Bureau, Henan Province, received the intelligence that someone was selling ivory products through WeChat. After further investigation, on

Dec. 27th, the suspects Liu and Zhang was arrested and a total of 1513 items of ivory products, including necklaces, bracelets, carvings etc. were uncovered from Zhang's room. Besides, 2026 pieces of express waybills called great attention from the officers. Provincial forest public security bureau set up "12*17" task force involved in provincial, city and county levels of forest public security police. More than 400 suspects from 31 provinces engaged with this seizure and, 21 main suspects were arrested. In addition, 204.5 kg of ivory products and 17 kg of rhino horn products were confiscated, worth CNY 12.76 million (USD 1.96 million) in total. At present, the 7 suspects, Zhang, Wang, Lei etc. have been transferred to prosecution. The rest of the suspects are under supplementary investigation. Over 400 clues teasing out from this case has been sent to the forest public security organs all over the country for further investigation.

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Xi'an man sentenced for illegally reselling endangered species products

2016-08-12, Xi'an, Shaanxi Province – Liu from Chang'an District engaged in collectables business for a long time. During April to July, 2015, Liu illegally trade rhino horn and ivory products worth CNY 189 168 (USD 29,103) for multiple times without any permit. At the end of July, 2015, Liu was detained by the first branch of Shaanxi Forest Police. Recently, Chang'an District court sentenced Liu to 6 years 3 months in prison, with a fine of CNY 10, 000 (USD 1538), and confiscating all illegal goods. [Read More](#)



276 suspected ivory products seized from a Hong Kong passenger

2016-08-12, Shenzhen Guangdong Province - On the evening of July 28, a Hong Kong woman was intercepted by customs when entry Luohu Port. The customs officers checked her baggage through the X-ray machine, and found a suspicious express bag in the shopping bag. Eventually, the customs officers seized 276 pieces of suspected ivory products, weighing 7 kg in total. [Read More](#)

A passenger smuggling 6 pieces of saiga horns was caught



2016-08-12, Shantou, Guangdong Province - Recently the airport office of Shantou Customs detected 6 saiga horns through the X-ray machine from a young Chinese passenger's luggage. He arrived from Singapore to Jieyang by the flight 3K823. [Read More](#)

Man arrested for selling tiger teeth and bones through WeChat

2016-08-14, Yanji, Jilin Province - on May 16, 2016, Yanji forest police arrested the suspect Jin, who was reported

to sell tiger products in Dongming Market. The police seized 1 piece of tiger bone and 4 tiger teeth. In early August, police seized 28 tiger and leopard teeth in total, 54 pieces of Asian black bear bone, 2 musks, worth CNY 122 550 (USD 18,854) totally. At the trial, Jin admitted the fact that he traded endangered species products with Huang, Li, Zhang, Jiang, Li and others. At present, Jin has been arrested. Huang, Li, Zhang, Jiang, and Li are awaiting trial. [Read More](#)

Suspects sentenced for illegally trading ivory products through WeChat

2016-08-17, Tangshan, Hebei Province - On Apr. 22, 2015, the defendant Yang was caught for taking drugs. When searching his room, the police found large amounts of raw ivory and ivory products. According to the clues, the police officers found that Yang hired Zhong to processed ivory products for him. Yang used WeChat to release ivory products pictures, to contact buyers for sales, and used Alipay or e-bank to complete payment transactions, then delivered the ivory products to the buyer by express. Ruan, Tian and other defendants contacted with Yang and bought ivory products through WeChat. The ivory products found in Yang's dwelling, weighed 10.945 kg, worth CNY 456 045 (USD70,160). Recently, Tangshan Lunan court sentenced Yang to 10 years and 2 months imprisonment, fine of CNY 200 000 (USD 30,769); sentenced the defendant Zhong a criminal detention for three months, fine of CNY 6000 (USD923); sentenced Ruan for three months and probation of six months, fine of CNY 2000 (USD 308); sentenced the defendant Tian to three months, suspended for six months, fine of CNY 1000 (USD 154). [Read More](#)



World elephant day: let's stop the ivory trade



2016-08-18, Beijing - On August 12, 2016, the 5th World Elephant Day, in Beijing, WWF and TRAFFIC called for a total ban of ivory trade. At the press conference, WWF/TRAFFIC released main points and policy recommendations of an ongoing study "A Ban on commercial ivory trade in china: A feasibility Study". Main aim of the study is to provide technical references for Chinese government to introduce policies of commercial domestic ivory trade ban. [Read More](#)

Man sentenced for smuggling 7 pangolins

2016-08-18, Fangchenggang, Guangxi Province - On the afternoon of Apr. 1st, police of Nasuo Border Checkpoint seized 7 pangolins from the defendant Deng's motorcycle, when he was passing Nasuo high school, Fangcheng district. On August 17, the Fangcheng court sentenced Deng to prison for two years, fine of CNY 3000 (USD 462) for illegal transporting endangered wildlife. [Read More](#)

Antique shop sells ivory, bear teeth and rhino horns

2016-08-24, Zhongshan, Guangdong Province – Zhao

Qian, born in 1989, has inherited his father's Antique shop a few years ago. In June, 2015, a lot of modern ivory products, hippopotamus tooth products, bear teeth, black rhino horns, antelope horns and hornbill helmets were found in the shop, worth more than CNY 640 000 (USD 100,000) totally. Police also find 3 notebooks with the price of wildlife products. Zhao Qian said the rhino horns, the Saiga antelope horns and two pieces of ivory products were hereditary or bought decade years ago. Other products were delivered by other guests. The guests came to the shop and asked Zhao Qian to buy ivory carving. If feeling the price is right, she will buy them for reselling. On August 23, Zhongshan intermediate court sentenced Zhao Qian to 10 years in prison, fines of CNY 100 000 (USD 15,348). [Read More](#)

Man caught after two years for smuggling ivory products



2016-08-25, Shenzhen, Guangdong Province – On 25th and 29th July, 2014, Gongbei Customs found 24 and 32 pieces of ivory hidden in vases from two EMS parcels respectively from Japan, and the total net weight is 3076 grams. Finally, the suspect Xie was caught by anti-smuggling police at Tianjin Customs after absconding two years. [Read More](#)



242 smuggled *Platysternon megacephalum* seized in Yunnan



2016-08-26, Menghai, Yunnan Province - On the evening of August 21st, Menghai forest police received the intelligence that Daluo Border Police caught a man who was transporting 242 *Platysternon megacephalum*. Receiving the report, Menghai forest police immediately organized police rushed to the scene. The case is under further investigation. [Read More](#)

Two men transport Pangolin scales to other province

2016-08-28, Meizhou, Guangdong Province – Early July 2016, Liu asked Ye to contact buyer to sell pangolin scales at CNY 2000 (USD 308) per kilogram. On 26th July, 2016, Liu and Ye drove from Heyuan to Longyan to deliver pangolin scales. Via Fuguang public security checkpoint in Jiailin county, they were found to hide 133.5 kg pangolin scales in the trunk, worth CNY 89 178 (USD 13,720). On August 23, two Suspects Liu and Ye were arrested by Jiailin county procuratorate for illegal transporting and selling endangered wildlife products. [Read More](#)

A Zoo in Jiangsu Province secretly transporting 3 white tigers



2016-08-28, Huzhou, Zhejiang Province – On Aug. 15th, the Yancheng Wild Animal World of Jiangsu Province (located in Changzhou), transported 3 white Bengal tiger cubs to other place by car without any permit. However, they were caught in Huzhou, Zhejiang province. The Zoo claimed that the cubs were sent to Xiamen, Fujian Province for treatment because of stomach problems, and one of four cubs had died before. However, the supervision department found that the four new-born tigers have not been registered as required. More suspiciously, the Zoo has never released the disposition of tiger’s dead corpse. [Read More](#)

Shijiazhuang customs yields an ivory smuggling seizure





2016-08-30, Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province - In July, Shijiazhuang customs anti-smuggling department got a clue from Beijing customs that the recent a few suspicious packages would arrive from Tokyo to Langfang, Hebei province, label name "gongyipin (artcrafts)", "guwan (antiques)" etc. Shijiazhuang customs anti-smuggling office quickly set up "7.25" special task group. On 27 July, the investigators arrested the suspects Wang and Sun at one express point in Langfang. Eventually, police seized 101.4 kg ivory products, 0.7 kg red coral products, worth about CNY 4 million (USD 0.62 million) from two locations. [Read More](#)

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