



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

September 2020

Please note these are unofficial translations made for the benefit of non-Chinese readers. TRAFFIC is not responsible for the accuracy of their content and it is not recommended any of the information they contain is used without checking against the original Chinese text.

The Case of Illegal Trade of Tortoise was pronounced in Jiangsu



News Release Date: 23 Sept. 2020

Sentencing Date: 17 Aug. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Police in multiple locations

Location: Yangzhou, Jiangsu

Detection method: Tip Off

Species: 16 radiated tortoise (*Astrochelys Radiata*); African Spurred Tortoise (*Centrochelys sulcata*), Hermann's Tortoise (*Testudo hermanni*), Leopard Tortoise (*Stigmochelys pardalis*), 9 in total

Way of Transport: Express

Reason for seizure: Illegal trade

Estimated value: Sale price over 110 thousand CNY

Number of offenders: 17

Nationality: Chinese

Case progress: Sentenced (Ban's case is particularly serious and was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and fined 100,000 yuan according to law; Zhang and other 16 defendants were sentenced to three years' imprisonment for the crime of illegally purchasing precious and endangered wild animals. Probation is applicable to detention and fines. On August 30, Ban refused to accept the judgment of the first instance and filed an appeal. Currently, the second instance of the case is under trial.)

[Read More](#)

Police of Chongzuo (Guangxi) Unearthed Tremendous Illegal Transportation of Endangered Animal Products



News Release Date: 23 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: Early August 2020

Law enforcement authority: Chongzuo Border Management Detachment

Location: Highway Police stand in Customary Check Point in Chongzuo, Guangxi

Detection method: Targeting inspection

Species: 6 bags of Pangolin Scales; 2 pieces of Tiger-bone; 19 pieces of Tiger teeth; 7 pieces of bear gall; 6 rhino products; 171 ivory products; 20 pieces of bezoar and 2 bottle of alcohol made with Tiger pennies. (Further investigation found another 12 ivory products.)

Way of Transport: by caravan (the goods are hidden in the trunk)

Reason for seizure: Illegal transport

Number of offenders: 3

Nationality: Chinese

Case progress: Case transferred to local forestry police

[Read More](#)

Customs Seized Smuggling Seahorse Products in Postal Mail



News Release Date: 8 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 6 Aug. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Post Office, Guangzhou Customs

Location: Mail Center

Detection method: routine inspection (x-ray)

Species: 2 bags of seahorse products

Way of Transport: inbound mail (declared product as "dry food")

Country of export: Malaysia

Reason for seizure: Trafficking

Case progress: Under further investigation

[Read More](#)

Xiamen Customs Found Smuggling Sandalwood in Mail



News Release Date: 9 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 4 Sept. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Xiamen Post Office Customs

Location: Mail Center of Xiamen Post Office

Detection method: routine inspection (x-ray)

Species: Red sandalwood (*Pterocarpus santalinus* L.f.), 161 cubic, 23.826 kg

Way of Transport: Inbound express (falsely reported as "children's building blocks")

Reason for seizure: Trafficking

Case progress: Under further investigation

[Read More](#)

Gongbei Customs Seized Endangered Wood Log in Cargo Channel



News Release Date: 10 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 8 Sept. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Zhongshan Port Customs Office of Gongbei Customs

Location: Zhongshan Port, Guangdong Province

Detection method: on-site inspection

Species: *Dalbergia* spp., log segments 17.24 tones

Way of Transport: freight channel (mixed with other species)

Country of export: Indonesia

Reason for seizure: Trafficking

Case progress: Under further investigation

[Read More](#)

Zhengzhou Customs discovered Three Hundred of Butterfly Specimen in an import Mail



News Release Date: 11 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 2 Sept. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Zhengzhou Post Office Customs

Location: Zhengzhou Mail Center

Detection method: Routine inspection (x-ray)

Species: Swallowtail Butterfly (*Papilionidae* spp.), specimen, 300 pieces.

Way of Transport: inbound mail (declared as "souvenir")

Country of export: Indonesia

Reason for seizure: Trafficking

Case progress: items seized and waiting for subsequent processing

[Read More](#)

Xingshan Forestry Police Successfully Detected Illegal felling of National Protected Plant



News Release Date: 7 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 7 April 2020

Law enforcement authority: Forest Police of Xingshan County, Hubei Province

Location: A village in Xingshan County, Hubei Province

Detection method: Tip off

Species: 7 *Taxus chinensis*

Reason for seizure: illegal harvest

Number of offenders: 1

Nationality: Chinese

Case progress: Prosecution

[Read More](#)

Xining Court Pronounced the Judgment of a Smuggling Case of Endangered Animal Products



News Release Date: 17 Sept. 2020

Sentencing Date: 7 March 2020

Law enforcement authority: Lhasa Customs

Location: Lhasa, Tibet Autonomous Region, Zhengzhou, Henan Province

Species: defendant Hu: 400 pieces of ivory products, 26.865 kg in total; defendant Ma: 108 pieces of lion bones, 4 pieces of lion teeth, 2.72kg ivory products, 26.26 kg pangolin scales, 1.1 pieces of tiger skins.

Way of Transport: Inbound and domestic express (Purchased from overseas through Wechat business, sold in China for profit)

Reason for seizure: Trafficking, illegal trade

Estimated value: CNY 5,971,460

Number of offenders: 2

Nationality: Chinese

Case progress: Sentenced (Defendant Ma: 12 years imprisonment, confiscation of personal property 631,701.86 yuan; Defendant Hu: 11 years imprisonment, and confiscation of personal property 200,000 yuan. The seized items involved in the case shall be confiscated according to law and turned over to the state treasury)

[Read More](#)

Hunan and Guangdong Forestry Police Jointly Cracked a Trans-Provincial Illegal Wildlife Trade Case



News Release Date: 22 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 13 Feb. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Forest Police of Jianghua Yao Autonomous County, Yongzhou, Hunan, and Forest Police of Lianzhou City, Guangdong Province

Location: Shops in Mashi Township, Hunan Province, Lianzhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Tip off, case investigation

Species: 2 frozen silver pheasant (*Lophuranycthemera*), 22 other birds, 10 other wild animals including Eurasian sparrow hawk (*Accipiter nisus*) found by police; several big-headed turtle (*Platysternon megacephalum*) and silver pheasant sold which admitted by suspects.

Reason for seizure: illegal hunting, illegal trade

Estimated value: over seven million CNY

Number of offenders: 17

Nationality: Chinese

Case progress: At stages of arrest and prosecution

[Read More](#)

Putuo (Shanghai) Police Successfully Cracked A Case of Illegal Endangered Reptiles Trade



News Release Date: 2 Sept. 2020

Seizure Date: 4 Aug. 2020

Law enforcement authority: Dongxin Road Police Station, Shanghai Putuo Public Security Bureau

Location: A community on Gudi Road, Baoshan District

Detection method: clues handed over by Jiangsu Yangzhou police

Species: 16 Ball Python (*Python regius*) and 2 *Boa constrictor*.

Reason for seizure: Illegal trade (purchased and bred, then sold through the Internet)

Number of offenders: 2

Nationality: Chinese

Case progress: criminal compulsory measures

[Read More](#)

Yunnan Forestry Police Has Filed 1389 Criminal Cases Related to Wildlife and Arrested Over A Thousand of Suspects During This Year



Release Date: 2 Sept. 2020 (* Number of Cases counted from 1 Jan. 2020 to the release date)

Law Enforcement: Yunnan Forestry Police

Location: Yunnan Province

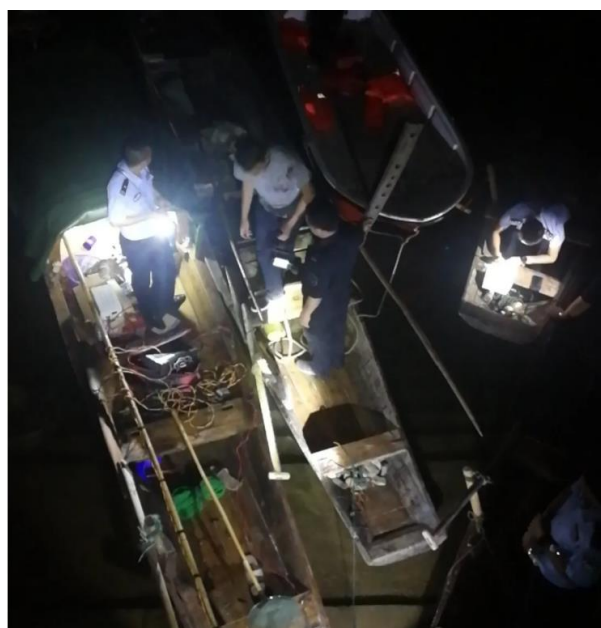
Number of Filed Case: 1389

Number of Offenders: 1194

Product Type and Quantity: Wild animal product: 8270 Pieces

[Read More](#)

Hunan Forestry Police Solved 747 cases during Kulun 2020 Taskforce



Release Date: 2 Sept. 2020 (* Number of Cases counted until the release date)

Taskforce: Kunlun 2020

Law Enforcement: Hunan Forestry Police

Location: Hunan Province

Number of Filed Case: 816 (*Including criminal case relevant to food, medicine, environment, intellectual property and wild animal)

Number of Solved Cases: 747

Number of Incoming Prosecution: 326

Number of Offenders: 735

Number of Criminal Gangs: 17

Product Type and Quantity: Wild Animal 3882 piece (including national protected animal 345 piece), wild animal product: 432kg

[Read More](#)



Hongkong SAR

Hong Kong customs seizes a ton of pangolin scales in biggest haul of year so far



1 ton of pangolin scales from Indonesia seized in Hong Kong—making it the biggest haul in the Special Administrative Region this year. The haul of 40 bags of critically endangered pangolin scales was bound for mainland China.

Some 13 kg of dried snake gall bladders were also found in a container that was declared as frozen fish with 1,000 bags of fish covering the wildlife contraband. Media reports that the pangolin scales and snake gall bladders was possibly meant for used in Chinese medicine. This was the Hong Kong Custom's second seizure of pangolin scales this year after a small quantity was confiscated earlier.

[Read More](#)



Malaysia

- [600 Golden Arowana seized in Kuala Lumpur International Airport.](#)
- [Perhilitan, PGA seize 1,978 birds worth almost RM300,000 in Op Khazanah between Jan-Sept](#)
- [Man charged with keeping 4 tarantulas in Punggol flat, importing 8 others](#)
- [Malaysian authorities continue to crackdown on illegal wildlife trade in an ongoing special operation.](#)

Vietnam

- [Poachers admit to authorities they used to harvest 3 tons of sea cucumber a day, but now its just 300kg...which still means trouble for sea cucumbers.](#)
- [African rhino horn smuggler charged in Viet Nam.](#)
- [Over 140 kg of frozen wildlife seized from two wildlife traders in Viet Nam.](#)
- [Endangered species turtles and tortoises keeper was placed under house arrest, in Dak Lak, Viet Nam.](#)

Indonesia

- [Three suspected ivory traders arrested in Lampung](#)
- [Two Indonesian suspects were arrested for trying to sell a slow loris and wildlife parts in West Sumatra.](#)
- [What wildlife are people keeping illegally in West Java?](#)
- [Eagles and falcons. These were some of the species retrieved from pet owners there](#)
- [Elephant carcass found in wild boar snare.](#)
- [Another attempt to smuggle an orangutan in Indonesia puts a soldier in jail.](#)
- [A man was arrested for keeping two sambar deer antlers and a serow head and horn in his house.](#)
- [Two baby gibbons were saved from being traded into online wildlife trade.](#)
- [Online wildlife trader snatched while trying to sell 22 parrots via a social media platform.](#)

Singapore

- [Two bird hobbyists fined for illegally catching wild birds in Singapore.](#)



United States

- [Endangered Primate Remains Found in Cincinnati Shipment](#)
- [Florida man gets federal probation for trafficking in water monitor lizards](#)

Australia

- [Customs destroys \\$26k alligator skin bag after woman failed to buy \\$70 permit](#)