

TRAFFIC



CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

May 2021

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Urumqi Yining Customs seized 908 g of American ginseng from inbound mail



News Release Date: 3 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Yining Customs

Location: Yining Post Office, Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region

Detection method: Routine Examination

Species: American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) 908 g

Transport Method: Inbound mail

Country of export: U.S.A

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Return to U.S.A

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Guangzhou Customs seized lawn bowls made from African blackwood and ivory in inbound mail



News Release Date: 4 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Postal Customs

Location: Guangzhou Post Office, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Four lawn bowls; black rosewood (*Dalbergia melanoxylon*), about 5.15 kg; 45 g of ivory products

Transport Method: Inbound mail

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Under further investigation

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs seized ivory products from inbound passenger's luggage



News Release Date: 6 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Baiyun Airport, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 17 ivory products (rings, beads, bracelets, combs, tusk segments etc.), about 473.1 g

Transport Method: Inbound passengers' luggage (worn on hand, concealed inside the audio equipment and hairdressing tool box)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Number of offenders: One

Case progress: Under further investigation

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Huangdao Customs seized ivory, bekko, python skin, rosewood and other products from imported goods



News Release Date: 7 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Huangdao Customs

Location: Huangdao Customs, Qingdao City, Shandong Province

Detection method: On-site inspection

Species: Four ivory products (necklace, scroll etc.), five *bekko* (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) jewellery, one python (*Python bivittatus*) skin sanxian, seven wooden chairs and table made from *Dalbergia spp.*

Transport Method: imported goods (declared as general trade, hidden among other goods)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Under further process according to relevant regulations

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Chongqing Jiangbei Airport Customs seized red coral products from inbound passenger's luggage



News Release Date: 8 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Chongqing Jiangbei Airport Customs

Location: Chongqing Jiangbei Airport, Chongqing City

Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Six strings of red coral beads, nine red coral pendants, total weight 117 g

Transport Method: inbound passenger's check-in luggage

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Number of offenders: One

Case progress: Under further process according to regulations

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Chongqing Port Customs seized ivory products from imported goods



News Release Date: 11 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Chongqing Port Customs

Location: Chongqing Port Customs, Chongqing City

Detection method: On-site inspection

Species: Ivory piano key patch 258 g

Transport Method: Imported goods (second-hand piano key patch)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Case has been handed over to anti-smuggling division.

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs caught two people smuggling giant clams on the same flight



News Release Date: 12 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: More than 7000 g of beads, ornaments and other Tridacninae products (suspect 1); 4100 g of beads, necklaces and other Tridacninae products (suspect 2)

Transport Method: Inbound passenger's carry-on luggage

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Number of offenders: Two

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Nansan Customs seized an ivory product



News Release Date: 13 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Nansan Customs

Location: Inbound traveler channel, Nansan port, Lincang City, Yunnan Province

Detection method: Routine Examination

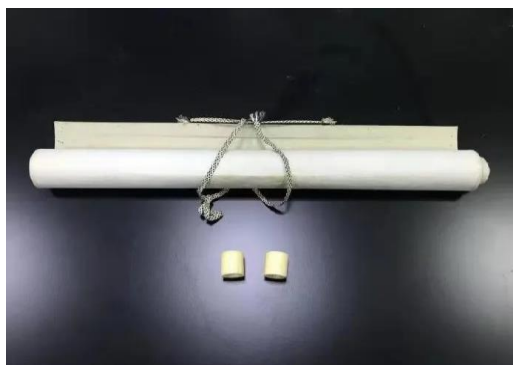
Species: One ivory product, 70.8 g

Transport Method: carried by inbound traveler

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

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Guangzhou Postal Customs seized illegally imported painting scrolls with ivory head



News Release Date: 13 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Postal Customs
Location: Guangzhou post office, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province
Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: Two ivory painting scroll heads
Transport Method: Mail (declared as 'Painting', installed as the scroll head)
Reason for seizure: Smuggling

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Daxie Customs seized ivory piano



News Release Date: 13 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Daxie Customs
Location: Daxie Customs, Ningbo City, Zhejiang Province
Detection method: On-site Inspection
Species: Ivory key piano, weight 179.5 g
Transport Method: Freight (declared as old tables and other old furniture)
Reason for seizure: Smuggling

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Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs seized in total 440 g of ivory products



News Release Date: 13 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs
Location: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport, Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province
Detection method: Routine Examination
Species: Five ivory products, total weight 440 g
Transport Method: Inbound passengers' luggage
Reason for seizure: Smuggling
Number of offenders: Four
Case progress: Case has been handed over to anti-smuggling division.

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Jimo Customs seized three ivory products



News Release Date: 13 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Jimo Customs
Location: Jimo Customs, Qingdao City, Shandong Province
Detection method: Routine Examination
Species: Three ivory bangles, total weight 126 g
Transport Method: Inbound mail (declared as a pair of sneakers, hidden inside the handbag)
Reason for seizure: Smuggling

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Guangzhou Postal Customs seized ivory products



News Release Date: 13 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Postal Office
Location: Guangzhou post office, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province
Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)
Species: Ivory painting scroll, 58 g
Transport Method: Inbound mail (declared as 'Paintings', installed with ivory scroll)
Reason for seizure: Smuggling

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Dongxing Customs seized an ivory bracelet

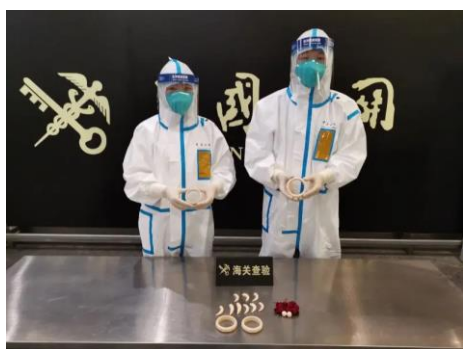


News Release Date: 13 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Dongxing Customs
Location: Dongxing Port, Fangchenggang City, Guangxi Province
Detection method: Routine Examination
Species: One ivory bracelet, 15.68 g
Transport Method: Inbound passenger's carry-on luggage
Reason for seizure: Smuggling
Number of offenders: One

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Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport Customs seized ivory products from inbound passengers' luggage



News Release Date: 14 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport Customs
Location: Hangzhou Xiaoshan Airport, Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province
Detection method: Routine Examination (machine inspection)
Species: Four ivory bangles, nine ivory pendants, nine ivory beads, total weight 313.91 g
Transport Method: Inbound passengers' luggage (concealed in the pocket of woolen sleeve, wrapped with multiple layers of tin foil and concealed in book)
Reason for seizure: Smuggling
Number of offenders: Four
Case progress: Items are temporarily detained and handed over to relevant divisions for identification.

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Nanning Customs handed over 1.247 tonne of endangered species products to the forestry department



News Release Date: 15 May 2021
Handover Date: 10 May
Handover authority: Dongxing Customs
Recipient authority: Fangchenggang Forestry Bureau
Handover content: Elephant tusks and ivory products, over 733 kg; elephant skin, 75.8 kg; pangolin scales, 40.7 kg

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Shenzhen Baoan Airport Customs seized ivory and crocodile skin products



News Release Date: 20 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs

Location: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport, Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination

Species: Ivory products, 190 g; crocodile skin products, 2.52 kg; elephant skin products, 406 g

Transport Method: Inbound passenger's luggage

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Handed over for further investigation

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Shuikou Customs Anti-smuggling Division seized 20 tonnes of rosewood logs



News Release Date: 21 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Shuikou Customs Anti-smuggling Division

Location: Shuikou Town, Longzhou County, Chongzuo City, Guangxi Province

Detection method: Routine Examination

Species: 20 tonnes of rosewood logs, mainly *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and *Dalbergia odorifera*

Transport Method: Truck (Hidden in the middle of the truck, the boot is filled with banana packaging boxes as disguise of transporting fruit)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Estimated value: About 1.2million CNY

Number of offenders: Two

Case progress: Under further investigation

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Shenyang Xiantao Airport Customs seized ivory products from inbound passenger's luggage



News Release Date: 21 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Shenyang Xiantao Airport Customs

Location: Shenyang Xiantao Airport, Shenyang City, Liaoning Province

Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: 68 ivory products, gross weight 1.66 kg

Transport Method: Inbound passenger's luggage (The ivory beads are disguised as lollipops with chocolate coating, and as wood products using black paint hidden in the wine bottle packaging)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Number of offenders: One

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Xiamen Customs cracked down a smuggling case of rhino horns



News Release Date: 21 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Xiamen Customs Anti-smuggling Bureau

Location: A small cargo ship at sea, Fujian Province

Detection method: Tip-off, investigation

Species: 145 rhino horns (110 whole horns, 35 cut pieces), total weight 250 kg

Transport Method: Cargo ship (packed in the black nylon duffel bags in the dry and uncoiled auxiliary oil tank of the engine room, a total of 14 bags)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Estimated value: 100 million CNY

Case progress: Prosecution, waiting for the verdict

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Shanghai Customs Anti-smuggling Bureau seized ten ivory products



News Release Date: 22 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Shanghai Custom Anti-smuggling Bureau

Location: Shanghai

Detection method: Routine Examination

Species: 10 ivory accessories (necklaces, bangles etc.), net weight 375 g

Transport Method: Inbound express (declared as a 'base metal buckle')

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Case filed for investigation

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Harbin Customs Anti-smuggling Bureau cracked down a case of smuggling endangered species products



News Release Date: 22 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Harbin Customs Anti-smuggling Bureau

Location: Suspect's garage, apartment, basement, etc., Harbin City, Heilongjiang Province

Detection method: Tip-off, investigation

Species: 200 saiga horns (*saiga tatarica*), 212 pieces of tiger bones (*Panthera tigris*)

Transport Method: Inbound train

Country of export: Russia

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Number of offenders: One

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Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs seized ivory, giant clam, black coral and bear tooth products



News Release Date: 24 May 2021
Law enforcement authority: Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs
Location: Shenzhen Baoan Airport, Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province
Detection method: Routine Examination
Species: 19 wildlife products, total weight 621 g, ivory bracelet 537 g, giant clam product 45 g, bear tooth product 29 g, black coral product 10 g
Transport Method: Inbound passenger's luggage
Reason for seizure: Smuggling
Case progress: Handed over for further investigation

[Read more](#)

Shenzhen Customs seized 1265 Scleractinia corals at Wenjindu Port



News Release Date: 28 May 2021
Seizure Date: 19 April 2021
Law enforcement authority: Shenzhen Customs
Location: Wenjindu Port, Shenzhen Customs, Guangdong Province
Detection method: On-site inspection
Species: 1265 Scleractinia corals
Transport Method: Outbound goods
Country of export: China
Reason for seizure: Smuggling
Number of offenders: Four
Case progress: Three suspects have been arrested and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Guangzhou Customs knocked down 16 'parallel trader gangs' that smuggled bird's nests, cordyceps and other high-value commodities



News Release Date: 29 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Anti-smuggling Bureaux of Guangzhou and Shenzhen

Location: A warehouse in a high-end residential area, Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Tip-off, big data analysis

Species: bird's nest, fish maw, caterpillar fungus (*Ophiocordyceps sinensis*), American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), etc. (number unspecified)

Transport Method: hidden on human bodies and in luggage, smuggled through land port; hidden on small ships to and from Hong Kong and Macau and high-powered speed boats, smuggled through Pearl River Estuary; sold online in mainland China

Country/region of export: Hong Kong SAR, China

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Estimated value: 1.5 billion CNY

Number of offenders: Sixteen gangs

Case progress: Under further investigation

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Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs seized nearly 25 kg of red coral



News Release Date: 29 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

Location: Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination (X-ray)

Species: Red coral products, about 24.5 kg

Transport Method: Inbound passenger's carry-on luggage

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Number of offenders: One

Case progress: Under further investigation

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Urumqi Customs Anti-smuggling Bureau seized 2,530 Saiga horns worth 200 million CNY



News Release Date: 29 May 2021

Seizure Date: 13 March 2021, 15 March 2021

Law enforcement authority: Urumqi Customs Anti-smuggling Bureau, local public security and railway police of Xinjiang Yili Prefecture, Hefei Customs Anti-smuggling Division

Location: suspect's basement in a residential area in Horgos, Yili Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture, Xinjiang; suspect's apartment in a residential area in Qingshuihe Town, Yili Prefecture, Xinjiang; Haozhou City, Anhui Province

Detection method: Tip-off, investigation by special investigation team

Species: 2530 Saiga (*Saiga tatarica*) horns

Transport Method: Smuggled through Horgos Railway Port (hidden inside the locomotive engine compartment), logistics channels in China

Country of export: Kazakhstan

Reason for seizure: trafficking, illegal transport, illegal trade

Estimated value: 202.4 million CNY

Number of offenders: Fourteen

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Shajiaotou Customs seized pen made by mahogany and African Blackwood



News Release Date: 31 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Shatoujiao Customs

Location: Shatoujiao Port, Shenzhen City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination

Species: 401 Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) pens, 2955 African blackwood (*Dalbergia melanoxylon*) pens

Transport Method: Declaration as general export trade

Country of export: China

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Handed over to further investigation

[Read more](#)



Guangzhou Postal Customs seized Agarwood products from inbound mail



News Release Date: 31 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Guangzhou Postal Customs

Location: Guangzhou Post Office, Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Routine Examination (machine inspection)

Species: *Aquilaria sinensis*, 22.3 g

Transport Method: Inbound mail (declared as 'daily necessities', wrapped in plastic bag)

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

Case progress: Under further process

[Read more](#)

Nanjing Customs continuously seized four endangered species products



News Release Date: 31 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Taicang Customs

Location: Taicang port, Suzhou City, Jiangsu Province

Detection method: Routine Examination

Species: 2 ivory bracelets, 150 g; 2 red sandalwood carvings (*Pterocarpus indicus*), 150 g and 3.5 kg respectively

Transport Method: Inbound ship crew's luggage

Reason for seizure: Smuggling

[Read more](#)

Huichun Forest Police seized three leopard teeth



News Release Date: 11 May 2021

Seizure Date: 8 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Jilin Huichun Forest Police

Detection method: Investigation

Species: 3 leopard teeth

Reason for seizure: Illegal purchase (online purchase)

Number of offenders: One

Case progress: Suspect has been taken by compulsory measures, and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Suspects eating a giant triton snail imprisoned by Hainan Police



News Release Date: 12 May 2021

Seizure Date: 11 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Tanmen Coast Police Station, Qianghai Police

Detection method: Tip-off (reported from online platform user on 6 May 2021)

Species: 1 *Charonia tritonis*

Reason for seizure: Consuming national protected wildlife

Number of offenders: Three

Case progress: Suspects are under criminal detention, and the case is under further investigation.

[Read more](#)

Aksai Police Bureau cracked down a case of poaching a snow leopard



News Release Date: 25 May 2021

Seizure Date: 17 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Aksai County Police Bureau

Location: Suspect's apartment, Aksai County, Jiuquan City, Gansu Province

Detection method: Tip-off, investigation

Species: Snow leopard: one skin and skeleton

Reason for seizure: Poaching

Number of offenders: Two

Case progress: Suspects are under criminal detention, and the case is under further investigation.

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Meizhou Forest Police Bureau seized one Asian giant softshell turtle and 73 Yellow pond turtles

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News Release Date: 26 May 2021

Seizure Date: 18 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Meizhou Forest Police Bureau, Pingyuan and Fengshun Forest Police

Location: Suspect's farm in Xinpu Town, Jiaoling County, Meizhou City, Guangdong Province

Detection method: Investigation

Species: 1 Asian giant softshell turtle (*Pelochelys cantorii*), 22.9 kg; 73 Yellow pond turtles (*Mauremys mutica*)

Reason for seizure: Poaching and illegal trade

Estimated value: 1 *Pelochelys cantorii*'s purchase price is CNY 5038

Number of offenders: Six

Case progress: Suspects have been taken by criminal compulsory measures, animals are sent to Meizhou Wildlife Rescue Center and Meinan Rescue Station

[Read more](#)

Xingcheng Forest Police cracked down a case of illegal bird catching



News Release Date: 28 May 2021

Seizure Date: 14 May 2021

Law enforcement authority: Xingcheng Forestry Police Patrol

Location: Wangbaotun, Wangbao Village, Dongxingzhuang County, Xingcheng City, Liaoning Province

Detection method: Intelligence

Species: 51 dead sparrows (*Passer montanus*), 12 live and 89 dead Chestnut-flanked White-eye (*Zosterops erythropleurus*), 5 live Pallas's rosefinch (*Carpodacus roseus*), 25 live Japanese grosbeak (*Eophona personata*), 22 dead Chinese bulbul (*Pycnonotus sinensis*), 4 dead doves *Streptopelia* spp., 1 dead bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*), 2 live Eurasian siskin (*Spinus spinus*)

Reason for seizure: Poaching

Number of offenders: One

Case progress: Suspect is under criminal detention and arrested; dead birds were detained, and live birds were released.

[Read more](#)

The verdict of first instance in the case of illegal trade in pangolin scales and saiga horns was made Beijing Xicheng Court



News Release Date: 18 May 2021

Judicial authority: Xicheng Court

Location: Beijing Sanhe Pharmaceutical Company

Species: 9 tonnes of purchased pangolin scales (more than 7.44 tonnes were sold); 968 kg of saiga horns (132.8 kg were sold)

Reason for seizure: Illegal purchase and sale

Estimated value: The total purpose price for pangolin scales is CNY 29.63 million and for saiga horn products is CNY 3.77 million; the total price for sold 7.44 tonnes of pangolin scales is more than CNY 45.31 million.

Number of offenders: Seven

Case progress: Beijing Sanhe Pharmaceutical Company was fined by CNY 2 million, 7 suspects were sentenced to prison ranging from 2-12 years, and fined between CNY 20,000-120,000.

[Read more](#)

Hong Kong SAR

Hong Kong Customs seizes largest batch of suspected scheduled wood logs in past five years



Hong Kong Customs seized about 211 tonnes of suspected scheduled wood logs of an endangered species with an estimated market value of about \$1.1 million from seven containers at the Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound and the Tsing Yi Customs Cargo Examination Compound between April 29 and May 5.

This is the largest seizure of suspected scheduled wood logs made by Customs in the past five years.

Through risk assessment, Customs officers selected seven containers that arrived in Hong Kong from Cambodia for inspection during the above-mentioned period. Upon inspection, the batch of suspected scheduled wood logs was found inside the containers.

The case was handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up investigation.

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India

- [Red sanders logs worth Rs 56 million seized in Chennai](#)
- [Pune railway police seize 279 African tortoises, 1,207 reptiles, 230 fish from two suspects](#)

Kenya

- [Busia-Uganda Military Officer Arrested at Kenya Border Town with three Elephant Tusks](#)

South Africa

- [Hawks swoop on man 'transporting elephant tusks' in Cape Town](#)
- [Over R9.9 million worth of abalone seized in Cape Town, two suspects arrested](#)
- [Six suspects arrested for possession of Abalone in St Francis Bay](#)

Angola

- [Polícia angolana detém sete caçadores furtivos que abatiam elefantes para tráfico de marfim na Huíla](#)
- [Angola-50-year-old man arrested in Bengo for ivory trafficking and elephant poacher](#)
- [Angola: Vietnamese National Arrested With 20 kg of Ivory](#)

Gabon

- [Gabon: Seized Five Elephant Tusks](#)

USA

- [Ivory tusk bracelet seized from traveler Detroit Metro Airport](#)

Australia

- [Hefty jail sentence for illegal export of reptiles](#)

Republic of Congo

- [Republic of Congo: Seized a leopard skin and a piece of ivory](#)

Côte d'Ivoire

- [Côte d'Ivoire: seized 110kg of pangolin scales](#)

Cameroon

- [Cameroon: Seized more than 70kg pangolin scales](#)