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AUGUST 2020

ENDANGERED BY TRADE

THE ONGOING ILLEGAL PANGOLIN TRADE IN THE PHILIPPINES

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TRAFFIC REPORT

ENDANGERED BY TRADE THE ONGOING ILLEGAL PANGOLIN TRADE IN THE PHILIPPINES

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SEIZURES OF PHILIPPINE PANGOLIN

FROM 2000 – 2019



740
Individuals



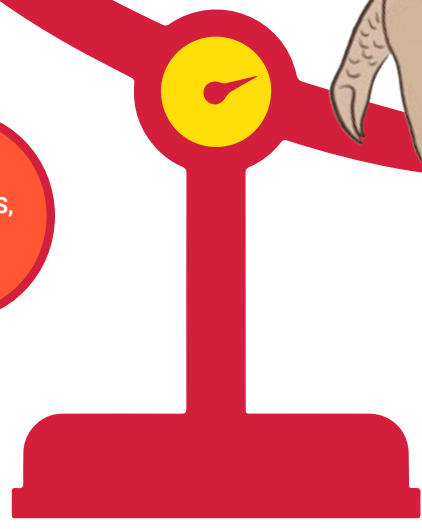
2,008.41 KG
SCALES
= **6,820**
INDIVIDUALS

74
WHOLE
PANGOLINS

6,894
Individuals

323
PANGOLINS,
LIVE & DEAD

417
PANGOLINS,
BASED ON
MEAT &
SCALES



2000–2017



2018–2019



854.1KG
scales officially
seized in Cagayan
de Oro City in 2018



18
PANGOLIN INDIVIDUALS
WERE RESCUED/RETRIEVED
FROM VARIOUS SPOTS
NEAR/IN MANILA



1,154.31KG
SCALES WAS THE
LARGEST SEIZURE
AND OCCURRED IN
PALAWAN IN
SEPTEMBER 2019

The Philippine Pangolin *Manis culionensis* has the most limited range of all pangolins, occurring exclusively in Palawan faunal region. The species is listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). It is classified as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List.







Executive Summary

It is conservatively estimated that 895,000 pangolins from Asia and Africa were trafficked internationally in the last two decades. The endemic Philippine Pangolin *Manis culionensis*, known locally as *balintong*, occurs in the Palawan faunal region and has the most restricted range among the eight pangolin species, with a decreasing population trend. The species has been considered protected and prohibited from any form of hunting, possession or trade in the Philippines since 2004. Penalties for violations under the *Republic Act No. 9147 of 2001* range from two to 12 years of imprisonment and/or PHP5000–1,000,000 (USD98–19,698) in fines. All international commercial trade of wild specimens has been banned since 2000, while the species was listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 2017. In December 2019, the species was globally assessed as Critically Endangered by the IUCN, a reflection of its severely threatened status. Despite national legislations and international trade regulations protecting the Philippine Pangolin, poaching and illegal trade continue.

Over the two decades from 2000–2019, an estimated equivalent of 7,634 Philippine Pangolins were documented to have been confiscated from trafficking and illegal trade (confirmed and suspected) in the Philippines, with a nine-fold increase recorded in just 2018–2019, compared to the previous 18 years. Seizure records from 2000–2017 documented 38 incidents, with no cases recorded in 2000. This involved 323 whole Philippine Pangolins (live and dead) and an estimated 417 individuals based

on seized meat and scales, collectively equivalent to 740 Philippine Pangolins seized during this period. Aside from seizures of Philippine Pangolins, authorities also confiscated over 10 tonnes of frozen Sunda Pangolin *Manis javanica* from a vessel that crashed into the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park in 2013, carrying 2,870 pangolins. Sunda Pangolin does not occur in the Philippines.

In the most recent period from 2018–2019, a total of 28 incidents comprising seizures (10 incidents) and retrievals (18 incidents) of individual pangolins took place, involving an estimated 6,894 pangolins. Seizures comprised two incidents involving 2,008.41 kg of pangolin scales (equivalent to an estimated 6,820 Philippine pangolins) and eight incidents involving 56 whole pangolins (live and dead). The largest seizure occurred in September 2019 involving 1154.31 kg of pangolin scales that was seized in Palawan. The unprecedented 18 retrieval incidents were documented approximately 600 km away from the natural range of the Philippine Pangolin, illustrating the ability of traffickers to smuggle the species out of Palawan Province with ease—14 of the 18 pangolins died during the rehabilitation period. The location where the animals were found in Metro Manila and nearby provinces and feedback from government sources point to these animals being escapees from traffickers' and/or buyers' facilities for wild meat consumption. Ad hoc surveys conducted by TRAFFIC between 2018 and 2019 in four cities—Manila, Makati, Pasay, and Parañaque—found at least five restaurants in the Metro Manila area offered pangolin meat off-the-menu and on a pre-order basis. Incidental observations of traditional Chinese medicine stores in Manila City in October 2019 documented three stores offering pills—manufactured in China—claiming to contain pangolin derivatives.

So far this year, from January–March 2020, four new cases have been recorded. This includes 20 Philippine Pangolins confiscated from a trafficker in Palawan, as well as three more retrieval incidents. These incidents reinforce the continued pressure pangolins face in the Philippines. Indication of demand in the black market appears closely connected to the wild meat trade. Given the already threatened status of the rare Philippine Pangolin and its occurrence in such a small natural range, authorities are urged to allocate additional resources to investigate poaching, illegal trade, and trafficking thoroughly to mitigate these threats, including demand in the Philippines. The availability of medicines claiming to contain pangolin derivatives also requires urgent attention and action. On-the-ground protection of pangolins in Palawan and other recommendations in line with the 2018 *Conservation Planning Workshop for the Philippine Pangolin* should be implemented. This must include monitoring and enforcement at entry and exit points on Palawan and Luzon islands, investigations, prosecution and conviction of offenders to safeguard an already imperiled species from further illegal activities.

Five restaurants in Metro Manila
offered pangolin meat



Introduction

The eight extant pangolins of Asia and Africa are known collectively as the most trafficked wild mammal in the world due to the high demand for their skin, scales, and meat (Schoppe and Cruz, 2009; Heinrich *et al.*, 2017). Based on seizure records, it was conservatively estimated that 895,000 pangolins were trafficked internationally in the last two decades (Challender *et al.*, 2020). The endemic Philippine Pangolin (Fig. 1) occurs in Palawan faunal region and has the most restricted range among the eight species (Schoppe *et al.*, 2019). Previously considered a subspecies of the Sunda Pangolin *Manis javanica*, the Philippine Pangolin was listed in Appendix II of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) with a zero quota from 2000, along with other Asian pangolin species. In October 2016 at the 17th Conference of the Parties to CITES, the Philippines and the United States submitted a proposal (CoP17 Prop. 10) to transfer the Philippine Pangolin from CITES Appendix II to Appendix I. The proposal was approved and went into effect on 2nd January 2017. To address the ongoing threats to the Philippine Pangolin, a Conservation Planning Workshop attended by key stakeholders to develop a 25-year conservation action plan was held in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan Province on 11–13th April 2018. In December 2019, the species was assessed globally as Critically Endangered with its primary threat from poaching and illegal trade, both for domestic and international purposes (Schoppe *et al.*, 2019).

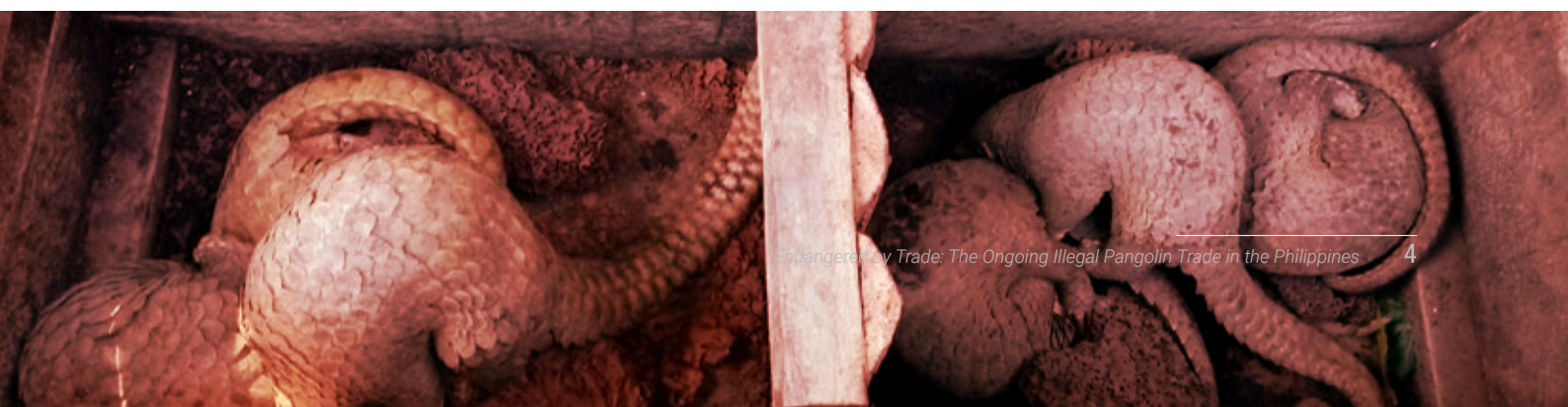
Figure 1. The endemic Philippine Pangolin



Aside from the global assessments by IUCN, Philippine authorities also conducted regional- and national-level threat assessments. The Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) assessed the species as Critically Endangered in 2015 (PCSD, 2015). In July 2019, due to the ongoing extensive illegal exploitation, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) uplisted the threat status of the Philippine Pangolin from Vulnerable to Endangered, under the Philippine threatened terrestrial fauna assessment (DENR, 2019; Gonzalez *et al.*, 2018). The *Republic Act No. 9147/ Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001* considers species listed in CITES Appendix I as Critically Endangered for prosecutorial purposes (Anon, 2004). The law stipulates the corresponding penalties for committing illegal acts on Critically Endangered species (Table 1).

Table 1. Penalties for committing violations on Critically Endangered species under the Republic Act No. 9147.

Violation	Penalty
Killing and destroying wildlife species	6 to 12 years of imprisonment and/or fine of PHP 100,000 to 1,000,000 (USD1,970 to USD19,698).
Inflicting injury which cripples and/or impairs the reproductive system of wildlife species	4 to 6 years of imprisonment and/or fine of PHP50,000 to 500,000 (USD985 to 9,849).
Trading of wildlife	2 to 4 years of imprisonment and/or fine of PHP5,000 to 300,000 (USD98 to 5,909).
Collecting, hunting or possessing wildlife, their by-products and derivatives	2 to 4 years of imprisonment and fine of PHP30,000 to 300,000 (USD591 to 5,909).
Maltreating and/or inflicting other injuries not covered by the preceding paragraph	6 months to 1 year of imprisonment and fine of PHP50,000 to 100,000 (USD985 to 1,970).
Transporting of wildlife	6 months to 1 year of imprisonment and fine of PHP50,000 to 100,000 (USD985 to 1,970).



Despite national legislations and international trade regulation providing protection to the Philippine Pangolin, poaching and trafficking continue. Seizure data analysis from 2000–2017 documented 38 cases involving an estimated 667 (Gomez and Sy, 2018) to 740 (based on estimation method in this study: see methodology section below), with no incidents recorded in 2000. Additionally, over 10 tonnes of frozen Sunda Pangolins involving 2,870 animals were confiscated from a Chinese vessel that crashed into protected coral reefs at the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park in 2013 (Gomez and Sy, 2018). In the last two years, several incidents of individual pangolins found roaming the streets of the National Capital Region (NCR; also known as Metro Manila) and nearby provinces, and arrests of pangolin traffickers have been reported in the news (Anon, 2018; Fabro, 2019; Felipe, 2018; Giron, 2019; TRAFFIC, 2018). This study aimed to provide an updated status of illegal pangolin trade in the country over two decades since 2000, including a curious surge in pangolin seizures and retrieval incidents in the Philippines in 2018 and 2019.

Methodology

Seizure records were requested from the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the DENR and PCSD Staff (PCSDS) covering the period of 2018–2019. Supplementary data were also collated from various sources including selected regional DENR offices, Manila Zoo, open source media, rescue centres, and private individuals involved in pangolin retrieval (i.e. rescue of pangolins found roaming the streets of Metro Manila and nearby provinces) incidents and rehabilitation. In the absence of robust data on Philippine Pangolin dry scale weight per animal, the average of two measurements were used to estimate the minimum number of Philippine Pangolins involved in this assessment. In March 2020, dry scale weight of 0.228 kg for an estimated 3 kg Philippine Pangolin was calculated (Sy *et al.*, unpubl. data). As this was for a young animal, an estimate of 0.361 kg of scales per animal following Zhou *et al.* (2012) for the Sunda Pangolin was also considered, as this is presumed to be the closest value to the Philippine Pangolin due to similarity in size. Averaging the juvenile Philippine Pangolin and the Zhou *et al.* (2012) calculation, an estimated 0.2945 kg per pangolin was used in this analysis. The result of analysis of this dataset should not be considered as absolute trafficking trends or volumes in the Philippines, given that the true scale of illegal trade and trafficking is considered to be higher than the actual rate of detection. While seizure records are a mark of wildlife trafficking, there are numerous variables that influence crime occurrence, detection and reporting effort which may potentially cause



10 tonnes / 2,870 Sunda Pangolins
were seized from a vessel that crashed into coral reefs at the
Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park in 2013

bias in analysis results. Taking stock of such factors, it is worth noting in this case that the research is focused on a range-restricted species in a single country, where government reporting of seizures is generally timely and public.

TRAFFIC researchers also conducted ad hoc surveys and informal interviews with restaurant workers in four cities—Manila, Makati, Pasay, and Parañaque in the National Capital Region (NCR)—between 2018 and 2019 to determine the availability of pangolin meat in restaurants. The NCR was chosen since it is the centre of wildlife trade in the Philippines (Sy, in prep.). An exchange rate of USD1 = PHP50.7667 was used in this report (www.oanda.com; 17th January 2020).

Results and Discussion

A total of 28 incidents comprising retrievals (18 incidents) of individual pangolins and seizures (10 incidents) took place from 2018–2019 (Fig. 2). All retrieval incidents occurred approximately 600 km away from the natural range of the Philippine Pangolin, on Luzon in the National Capital Region (NCR; n = 12 incidents), Pampanga Province (n = 3), and one incident each in the provinces of Bataan, Batangas, and Cavite (Annex 1). Several of these incidents occurred within days of each other. A total of 18 live Philippine Pangolins were retrieved from 9th January 2018 to 17th December 2019—14 of them died, one animal escaped while awaiting transfer to a rescue facility, and three others were successfully repatriated to Palawan. Based on the location where the animals were found in Metro Manila and nearby provinces, as well as from deliberations with the government, the animals are suspected to be escapees from traffickers' and/or buyers' facilities before being slaughtered for food. The observation of Philippine Pangolins on Luzon illustrates clearly the ability of traffickers to smuggle the species out of Palawan Province and most likely represents only a small percent of smuggled pangolins.



18 live
Philippine Pangolins
were retrieved from
January 2018–December 2019
14 died

PHILIPPINE PANGOLIN SEIZURES IN 2018–2019

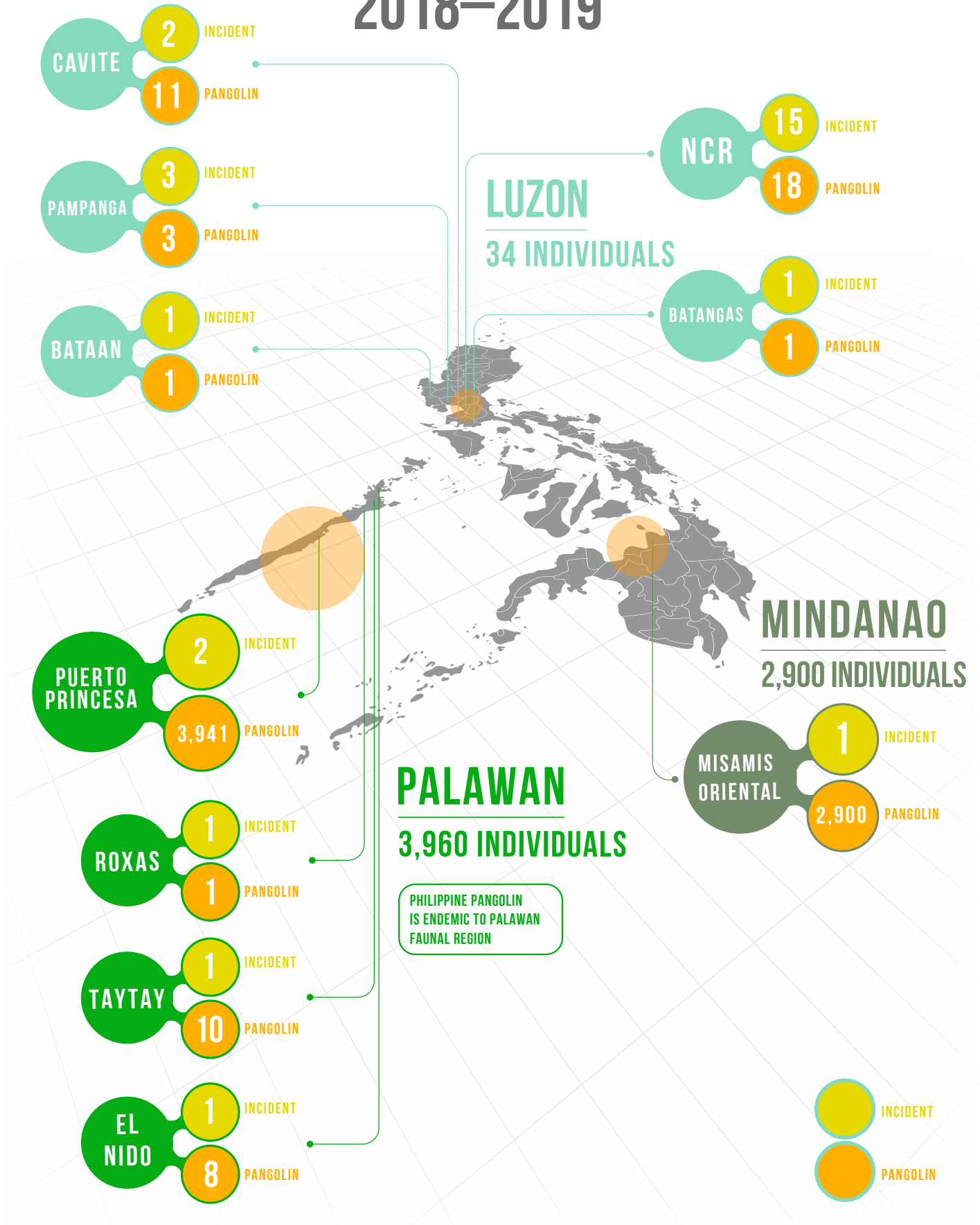


Figure 2. Philippine pangolin seizures in 2018–2019

The 10 seizure incidents involved 34 live and 22 dead pangolins as well as 2008.41 kg of pangolin scales. The two cases of pangolin scale seizures stood out in particular. In August 2017, based on a tip-off, the DENR inspected two 40-foot containers declared as rattan in Cagayan de Oro City, Minsamis Oriental Province, Mindanao Island. The intended route of the containers was from the Mindanao Container Terminal, Misamis Oriental to Huangpu, Guangdong, China. The shipment was inspected on the basis of the expiry date of a permit for the declared 30,000 rattan poles. Upon inspection, authorities found 854.1 kg of pangolin scales (Fig. 3). The contraband was officially seized after the adjudication process was concluded in May 2018 and a criminal complaint was filed by the government against the shipper. The court case is still ongoing as of April 2020.

Figure 3: Confiscated pangolin scales in Cagayan de Oro City in 2017, reportedly heading to Guangdong, China





In the second case, the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Command (AFP-WESCOM) in cooperation with the DENR and PCSDS, conducted a raid in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan and seized wildlife parts including 1154.31 kg of pangolin scales on 27th September 2019 (DENR 4-B, unpubl. data; Formoso, 2019). A mainland Chinese national who was known to Palawan wildlife authorities for several years was implicated in the seizure (Taboada, 2019). The scales were confirmed to be from the Philippine Pangolin based on a molecular study (E. Lorenzo, pers. comm. to EYS, March 2020), which makes it the biggest haul concerning the Philippine Pangolin in the country in the last 20 years. If the scales seized in Cagayan de Oro City were also from the Philippine Pangolin, the total weight from the two seizure incidents represents approximately 6,820 individual pangolins. The previous largest seizure incident of pangolin scales involved 95 kg in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan Province in 2012 (PCSDS, unpubl. data).

Ad hoc market surveys and interviews conducted by TRAFFIC researchers in the cities of Manila, Makati, Pasay, and Parañaque in 2018 and 2019 documented five restaurants offering pangolin meat off-the-menu and on a pre-order basis (Fig. 4). Conversations with contacts and restaurant workers pointed to mainland Chinese nationals who are looking to consume wild meat and reportedly willing to pay the high asking price as the primary consumer of pangolins in the Philippines. This, combined with the live pangolins retrieved in the city suggests that illegal consumption of pangolins in the NCR may be more commonly occurring than documented so far. This requires in-depth investigations, in line also with the influx of gambling-related foreign visitors and workers to Luzon in recent years (Lucas, 2019; Zaugg, 2020) and its likely correlation to wild meat consumption and demand, including for pangolins.

Figure 4. A foreign national residing in the Philippines posted photos of pangolin soup she apparently consumed in the Philippines in 2019. Chinese characters translate to “Pangolin soup~ apparently good for the health.”



Incidental observations of traditional Chinese medicine stores in Manila City in October 2019 documented three stores offering pills manufactured in China claiming to contain pangolin derivatives (Fig. 5a). The Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires producers and importers to register manufactured food and medicines before they can be sold legally. An inquiry to determine if the product is registered with the FDA was sent on 26th May 2020, but no official reply had been received as of 22nd July 2020. Further investigation is required regarding the veracity of this medication, as it could also point to illegal imports into the Philippines. One of these stores also had a pangolin taxidermy on display in plain view, which also requires a permit to possess (Fig. 5b).



Three stores in Manila City offered pangolin-based medicine

Figure 5a. Imported “Armadillo antipyretic pills” apparently contained pangolin derivatives. Although described as “armadillo,” the Chinese characters and illustration refer to pangolin.



Figure 5b. A pangolin taxidermy in a traditional Chinese medicine store in Manila City.



A previous study from 2017–2018 indicated that the prices for live or frozen (Fig. 6) and cooked pangolin were PHP10,000 (USD197) and PHP14,000 (USD276) per animal, respectively (Gomez and Sy, 2018). However, a minimum two-fold increase in price has taken place since in Metro Manila, ranging from PHP10,000–20,000 (USD197–394) for live or frozen pangolins and a cooked pangolin dish for PHP30,000–40,000 (USD591–788). Middlemen in Palawan Province have also increased their buying price of live pangolins from poachers to PHP1,500–2,000/kg (USD29.5–39.4/kg) (Sy, unpubl. data; V. de los Angeles, pers. comm. to EYS, January 2020). The price increases could potentially be due to a dwindling population and a steady demand in the country or elsewhere. Although naturally elusive, a recently-concluded field study by the Katala Foundation found only 17 wild Philippine Pangolin individuals—these were detected from 12 separate field expeditions in a 200-hectare study plot in the Victoria-Anepahan Mountain Range in Palawan (S. Schoppe, unpubl. data; Enano, 2020). Similar ground surveys by Katala Foundation in the past from 2013–2014, found a higher number of pangolins (Enano, 2020).

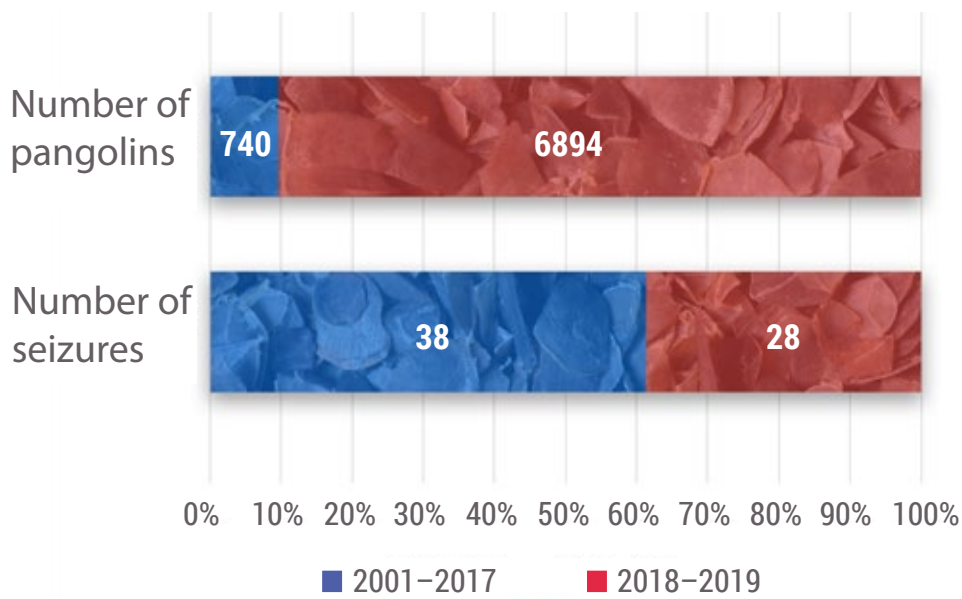
Figure 6. Frozen Philippine Pangolins intended for the wild meat black market were seized in Palawan on 28th July 2018.



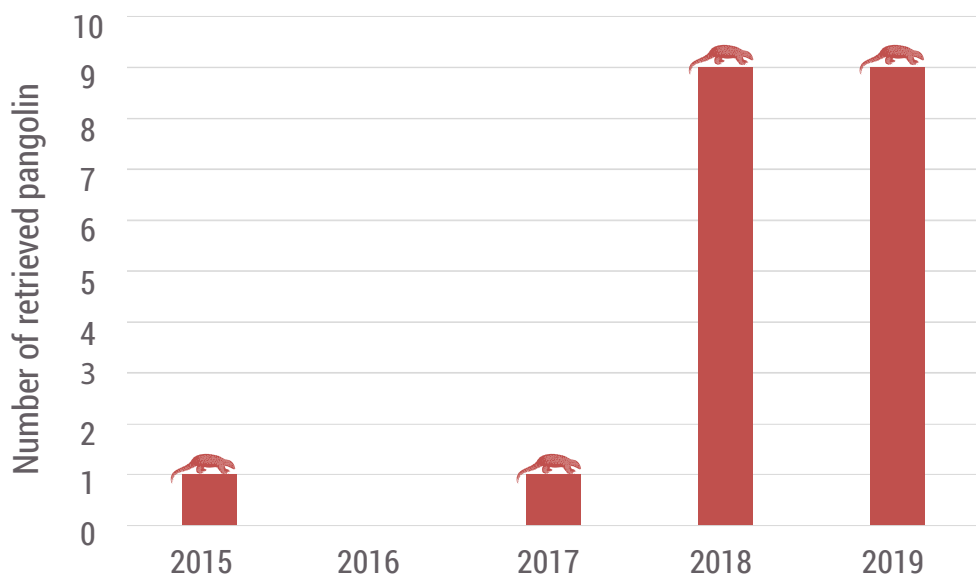
When comparing Philippine Pangolin seizure information in the last two years (2018–2019) to previous years, from 2000–2017 (Gomez and Sy, 2018), a clear increase in documented illegal activity has occurred since, particularly in the number of equivalent pangolins involved (Fig 7a). Equally, there has been a significant increase in the number of Philippine Pangolin retrieval cases in the last two years

(2018–2019), compared to the previous three years (2015–2017) (Figure 7b), with occurrences in 2020 reinforcing a continued trend. From January–March 2020, four new cases have been recorded. This includes 20 Philippine Pangolins confiscated from a trafficker in Palawan (Figure 8), as well as three more retrieval incidents from January–March in the NCR and Zambales in Central Luzon. These incidents reinforce the continued pressure pangolins face in the Philippines.

Figure 7: a) Proportion of seizure incidents and equivalent number of Philippine Pangolins seized from 2018–2019, compared to previous years; b) number of Philippine Pangolins retrieved in the NCR and nearby provinces from 2015–2019



(a)



(b)

Figure 8. Poached pangolins in a trafficker's facility in El Nido, Palawan



Evidence of these seizures leading to successful apprehension of suspects and their prosecution is scarce. For example, in the 23rd January 2018 incident in Parañaque City, NCR, a mainland Chinese national attempted to claim the pangolin and offered a bribe to officials in the barangay (an administrative division). When barangay officials asked for proof of legal ownership, the suspect retracted his claim and immediately left the vicinity. On the evening of 9th March 2018, a suspect was observed offering a live pangolin for PHP10,000 (USD197) to a mainland Chinese buyer on a street in Manila City. A concerned individual confronted the person and confiscated the pangolin after a brief foot chase. The suspect was neither detained nor charged by the authority after claiming that she only found the pangolin on the street and intended to surrender it (R. Demelletes, Jr., pers. comm. to EYS, March 2018).

The first conviction of pangolin traffickers outside Palawan Province occurred when a trial court in Tagaytay City, Cavite Province convicted three traffickers on 18th July 2019. The three suspects were caught by the Philippine National Police (PNP) for illegally transporting 10 live pangolins at a check point on 28th June 2019. Three pangolins were repatriated to Palawan while seven died during the rehabilitation period. The traffickers pleaded guilty and were sentenced to three months imprisonment and a PHP20,000 (USD394) fine each (Cinco, 2019a). The maximum penalty for illegal transport of Critically Endangered wildlife is one-year imprisonment and PHP100,000 (USD1,970) fine. All three convicted traffickers were released from custody after paying the fine and being granted probation (Cinco, 2019b).

Conclusions and Recommendations

The more than nine-fold increase in Philippine Pangolin seizures in the last two years alone is alarming—an estimated 6,894 pangolins seized from 2018–2019, compared to the estimated 740 pangolins seized from the previous 18 years (2000–2017). While the factors and motivations that influence crime occurrence, detection and subsequent enforcement action would benefit from deeper examination, current data clearly shows evidence of a magnified volume of illegal trade in the more recent period, which is a cause for concern. This is particularly so for a Critically Endangered, rare, and range-restricted species that is already in decline in the wild. Despite national legislations in the Philippines and international trade regulation providing protection to all pangolin species from commercial trade, poaching and trafficking continue with no or little consequences to perpetrators. Insufficient allocation of resources and the lack of political will to prevent poaching and illegal transportation of pangolins from domestic and international sources, as well as a lack of investigations are the greatest challenges, allowing perpetrators to circumvent law enforcement efforts. In the small number of instances of successful prosecution and conviction, offenders were given minimal penalties, allowed to apply for probation, and avoid incarceration. The following recommendations are made, in line with outcomes from the *Conservation Planning Workshop for the Philippine Pangolin* in 2018, to address the ongoing illegal trade of pangolins in the country:

1. Greater on-site protection to prevent poaching of pangolins.
2. Higher vigilance at exit and entry points to prevent poached pangolins to reach intended black markets.
3. The illegal trade and consumption of pangolins for wild meat and traditional Chinese medicine require more in-depth investigations by the DENR and FDA.
4. Wildlife authorities (i.e. DENR, PCSD) are urged to allocate additional resources to investigate poaching, trafficking, and smuggling thoroughly to mitigate the illegal exploitation of pangolins in the Philippines, including to understand better demand and address it appropriately.
5. Individuals involved in poaching and trafficking of Critically Endangered species should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law to serve as a deterrent; foreign nationals who are caught trafficking or buying pangolins should be deported and barred from entering the country again by the Bureau of Immigration-Department of Justice.
6. Conservation groups and researchers should continue to monitor wildlife trade and enhance public awareness on wildlife trafficking and to discourage consumption. Priority high-risk pangolin consumers should be identified and appropriate Social and Behavioural Change Communications (SBCC) approaches should be developed to influence this group's purchasing and consumption behaviour.

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Annex 1

List of pangolin retrieval and seizure incidents in the Philippines in 2018–2019.

No	Date	Location	Quantity		Status	Action	Remarks
			Whole animal	Scales (kg)			
1	9-Jan-18	Pasay City, National Capital Region (NCR)	1		live	retrieval	Turned over to Manila Zoo on 10th Jan 2018 by a concerned individual; turned over to BMB on 16th Jan 2018; repatriated to Palawan.
2	15-Jan-18	Paranaque City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	A gravid pangolin in weak condition was turned over to Manila Zoo by an unidentified individual; it died the following day (16th Jan) and the body was disposed while the still born pup was preserved.
3	23-Jan-18	Paranaque City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Retrieved by a Barangay Vitalez official; turned over to DENR rescue centre; died during the rehabilitation period.
4	2-Mar-18	Pasay City, NCR	2		live	seizure	NBI seized two pangolins during a buy-bust operation; turned over to the DENR rescue centre; died during the rehabilitation period.
5	7-Mar-18	Manila City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Turned over to DENR rescue centre on 7th Mar 2018; died during the rehabilitation period.

6	9-Mar-18	Manila City, NCR	1		live	seizure	A concerned individual seized a pangolin from a trafficker; temporarily held at the Gandara police station; turned over to the DENR rescue centre on 10th Mar 2018; died during the rehabilitation period.
7	12-Mar-18	Caloocan City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Repatriated to Palawan.
8	12-Mar-18	Caloocan City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Died during the rehabilitation period.
9	13-Mar-18	Caloocan City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Died during the rehabilitation period.
10	16-Mar-18	Municipality of Silang, Cavite Province	1		live	retrieval	Golf club staff saw a pangolin in the property; an NGO retrieved the pangolin and turned it over to the DENR; died during the rehabilitation period.
11	18-Mar-18	Municipality of El Nido, Palawan	8		live	seizure	Released back in the wild.
12	22-Apr-18	Municipality of Roxas, Palawan Province	1		dead	seizure	A suspected trafficker with one dead pangolin was arrested.
13	10-May-18	Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental Province		854.1	scales	seizure	Criminal case is on-going.
14	28-Jul-18	Puerto Princesa City, Palawan Province	21		dead	seizure	The suspect was charged in court; the case was dismissed.
15	4-Sep-18	Muntinlupa City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Died during the rehabilitation period.

16	19-Oct-18	Municipality of Taytay, Palawan Province	10		live	seizure	Released back in the wild.
17	4-Jan-19	Manila City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Retrieved by the BMB on 10th Jan 2019; died during the rehabilitation period.
18	6-Feb-19	Pampanga Province	1		live	retrieval	Sent to Zoocobia for rehabilitation; died during the rehabilitation period.
19	26-Feb-19	Valenzuela City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Turned over to DENR rescue centre by a concerned citizen; died during the rehabilitation period.
20	4-Apr-19	Lubao, Pampanga Province	1		live	retrieval	Turned over to the BMB; died during the rehabilitation period.
21	7-May-19	Manila City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Turned over to DENR rescue centre by a concerned citizen; died during the rehabilitation period.
22	28-Jun-19	Tagaytay City, Cavite Province	10		live	seizure	Three individuals were repatriated to Palawan; seven died during the rehabilitation period.
23	27-Sep-19	Puerto Princesa City, Palawan		1154.31	scales	seizure	Biggest seizure in the Philippines to date.
24	2-Oct-19	Municipality of Calatagan, Batangas Province	1		live	retrieval	Escaped while awaiting transfer to a rescue centre.
25	8-Nov-19	Municipality of Orion, Bataan Province	1		live	retrieval	Brought to Wildlife in Need, Subic, Zambales; died during the rehabilitation period.

26	29-Nov-19	Paranaque City, NCR	3		live	seizure	Turned over to DENR rescue centre on 29th Nov 2019. Two individuals were repatriated and one individual died while in transit to Palawan.
27	16-Dec-19	Mandaluyong City, NCR	1		live	retrieval	Repatriated to Palawan.
28	17-Dec-19	Angeles City, Pampanga Province	1		live	retrieval	Retrieved on 21st Dec 2019; died during the rehabilitation period.
TOTAL			74	2008.41 kg			

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12	Marsha Posada-Ocampo/DENR
14	Voltaire Delos Angeles/CENRO-Taytay QRT



TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is a leading non-governmental organisation working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

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