

Sept 1 – November 30, 2006

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New Chinese law aimed at curbing tiger trade

A new law aimed at combating illegal wildlife trade in China went into effect Sept 1, 2006, which according to TRAFFIC, WWF and other environmental groups will enhance China's ability to combat the import and export of endangered wildlife species.

The new law is aimed at complementing an already existing domestic ban in China on the trade in endangered wildlife species including tiger parts and their derivatives. Since the country's 1993 ban, tiger bone, for example, has been removed from the list of ingredients in official Chinese pharmacopoeia, all legal manufacturing of medicines containing tiger bone has been stopped, and all stocks of existing medicines containing tiger bone have been locked away under government seal. Reputable traditional Chinese medicine experts support this ban and use substitute ingredients that meet the medical needs of their patients.

Environmental groups hope that as China's new wildlife law comes into effect, the tiger trade ban will also remain in place.

'Any resumption in legal domestic trade of tiger parts could be the final act that drives the tiger towards extinction,' says Dr Susan Lieberman, Director of WWF's Global Species Programme. 'That is why we call up on the Chinese government to retain and reinforce its important trade ban.'

'If the ban were lifted, it would undo all the excellent work the Chinese government has done over the past 12 years,' Dr Lieberman added.

WWF, together with TRAFFIC, Conservation International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Save the Tiger Fund and the Wildlife Conservation Society, have sent an open letter to China's Premier Wen Jiabao to ensure that the ban remains in place.

For the full story see: http://www.panda.org/news_facts/newsroom/index.cfm?uNewsID=79660

Traditional Chinese medicine experts speak against captive breeding of tigers

Traditional Chinese medicine experts from China's top universities, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and traditional medicine associations spoke out against the captive breeding of tigers as a means of conservation.

Supported by TRAFFIC, over 40 experts gathered at the East China Normal University in Shanghai to discuss the conservation and sustainable use of medicinal wildlife resources, with particular focus on the possible re-opening of the domestic tiger trade in China.

The Chinese government is now considering legalizing limited trade in products from its tiger farms for use in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM). Such action would revoke a ban that has been in place since 1993. Conservationists believe that such a move could cause a catastrophic increase in poaching of wild tigers.

'Captive breeding centers such as the Hengdao River Breeding Center*, established in 1986, were set up for commercial purposes,' said Dr Yang Qisen of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, 'However, when the Chinese government banned trade of tigers in 1993, the center claimed their aim was to conserve wild tigers. I believe conserving wild animals by captive breeding is not possible. Many areas of China no longer have suitable habitat for tigers, such as for the South China tiger.'

Another participant, Dr Ma Qiang of the Chinese Academy of Forestry stated that if China reopened its trade in tiger products, 'it would not be possible to distinguish whether tiger products were from captive sources or from the wild. This could stimulate more poaching of wild tigers, and result in devastating consequences for the world's remaining wild tiger population.'

Prof. Zhou Caiquan of West China Normal University believes that the use of tiger bone is not necessary, 'TCM practitioners have found that bones from sailong, a kind of mole found in the Tibetan Plateau, is more effective than tiger bones. This effective substitute could make the TCM tiger trade obsolete.'

At the meeting, TCM experts and wildlife scientists made similar cases against the captive breeding of musk deer as well as freshwater turtles, two other endangered species widely used in TCM.

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Amur tiger. © WWF-Canon / Vladimir FILONOV

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sustainability. The aim is to give all members of China's traditional medicine community the information they need to achieve the common goal of sustainable use. The recent workshop marks the 7th meeting of TMAG.

WWF, TRAFFIC lay foundation for the conservation of tigers, leopards in China

Home to the Amur, Bengal, Indo-Chinese and the China tiger, China has a major role to play in the survival of the world's tigers and leopards. In addition to being home to small populations of tigers (approximately 40 individuals) and leopards (snow leopards and common leopards), China is also the world's major market and consumer of products made from tigers and leopards.

To address illegal wildlife trade and promote further conservation measures for tigers and other Asian big cats, over 20 Chinese government experts and decision-makers from China's State Forestry Administration, CITES Management Authority, Chinese Wildlife Conservation Association, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and international conservation experts recently came together in Beijing to lay the foundation for a new and comprehensive WWF/TRAFFIC strategy in China to benefit the conservation of tigers and leopards both within China's borders and globally. Participants agreed that urgent measures are needed in China to protect wild tigers and leopards in China and beyond.

As a result of the workshop, major conservation issues of Asian big cats were identified and the foundation was laid for establishing a comprehensive network on Asian big cat conservation in China—both for fieldwork and on wildlife trade issues. Geographically, the major areas of focus for habitat work are the Amur-Heilong region in northeast China, and the Tibetan Plateau region. This marks WWF/TRAFFIC's first comprehensive conservation

What is CITES?

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. 169 countries are members of CITES, with China joining in 1981.

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Currently TRAFFIC and WWF's Asian big cat work includes protecting the Amur tiger habitat in northeast China, and curbing illegal wildlife trade of Asian big cat parts through market research and working with enforcers and other government decision-makers.

'Tigers and leopards are under increasing threat,' said Professor Xu Hongfa, TRAFFIC East Asia China program director, 'This gathering of key government decision-makers and experts to develop a country-wide strategy for China gives new hope for the survival of tigers and leopards not only in China but other tiger range countries.'

In the last part of the twentieth century, China went from one of the range countries with the largest wild tiger population (approximately 4,000 in the 1950s) to the range state with the smallest. 'WWF International looks forward to working cooperatively with all our partners (government, NGOs, scientists) in China and around the world to meet the serious conservation challenges facing tigers today,' said Dr Susan Lieberman, Director of WWF International's Global Species Programme, 'How we deal with not only the habitat issues, but the trade demand and enforcement issues in China, will determine the future of tigers in the wild across Asia.'

Strengthening law enforcement capacity to combat the illegal trade of Asian big cats in southwest China

A TRAFFIC workshop aimed at addressing the illegal trade of Asian big cats through promoting the enforcement of CITES regulations in southwest China took place on November 28-29, 2006, in Dujiangyan, Sichuan province.

Over 30 participants attended the workshop, including front-line policemen, market monitoring officers, customs enforcers, and officers from local forestry bureaus. Staff from the following organizations took part – the China National CITES Management Authority, the Anti-Smuggling Bureau of China Customs, Conservation International, the Forestry Public Security Bureau of the SFA and the State Administration for Industry & Commerce from Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu, and Qinghai provinces and the Tibetan Autonomous Region.

'Participants said they were unaware of the crisis facing many endangered species,' said Yang Qin, Program Coordinator for the TRAFFIC East Asia China Program, 'The workshop helped them understand how their work is key to stopping illegal wildlife trade.'

Mr. Meng Xianlin, Director of CNMA, gave a general introduction of CITES and how China implements this international treaty. His presentation emphasized illegal trade in tiger and leopard skins, as well as ivory. TRAFFIC introduced the results of a recent survey on tiger and leopard bone products of 27 pharmacies and wholesale markets throughout China.

'Before the workshop, I had little knowledge on species identification and relevant national laws, as well as little support from other organizations to help us effectively implement monitoring methods,' said one participant from the State Administration for Industry & Commerce, 'The workshop provided

some easy and practical training, and the chance for better cooperation with other stakeholders in the future.'



Workshop participants learn to identify leopard skins. © TRAFFIC East Asia - China

Building wildlife law enforcement capacity in Yunnan province

On September 11-12, 2006, TRAFFIC, the China CITES Management Authority Kunming Office (Yunnan province) and the Kunming Customs Bureau jointly organized the 'CITES enforcement workshop for Kunming customs officers.'

James Compton and Pat Cheng of TRAFFIC Southeast Asia gave a presentation to introduce CITES, permit management, identification, and the status of wildlife trade in Southeast Asia. Prof. Xu Hongfa of TRAFFIC East Asia China Programme presented on CITES Appendix I & II and the status of endangered species in China. The director of the China CITES Management Authority Kunming office gave presentations on CITES enforcement in China and import and export regulations on wildlife trade. Finally, a species identification course on mammals, birds, plants and amphibians was given, along with a field visit to the Kunming Zoological Institute Museum.

TRAFFIC participates in GFTN China annual meeting and helps produce documentary on the timber trade

The Global Forest & Trade Network (GFTN) China, WWF's initiative to eliminate illegal logging and improve the management of valuable and threatened forests, held their annual meeting in Shanghai on November 6-9, 2006.

At the meeting, WWF announced the recent publication of *Keep it Legal*, a new WWF manual aimed at helping buyers of timber forest products to avoid purchasing wood and wood products made from illegally logged timber. The manual will be translated into Chinese in 2007. WWF also introduced two new CFTN (China Forest and Trade Network) members.

Liu Xueyan of TRAFFIC gave an introduction to TRAFFIC's work to promote legal standards that GFTN members must adhere to.



TRAFFIC helped produce a BBC report on the timber trade, which aired in 140 countries. ©Liu Xueyan

Before the meeting, TRAFFIC helped produce video footage in the Shanghai area on GFTN as part of BBC's *Earth Report*. The video includes an interview with the Anxin Flooring Co. Ltd., a key GFTN member, as well as a visit to SCA, an international consumer goods and paper company. This was followed up with documenting the 'timber trail' – tracing timber from logs to saw-wood to

In Brief

TRAFFIC-WWF/IUCN Wildlife Trade Meeting -

TRAFFIC's Annual conference was held in Beijing September 4-7, 2006. In addition to strengthening the delivery of the TRAFFIC Programme worldwide, the challenges and opportunities at a global scale of China's wildlife trade was highlighted at the conference. Over 50 members of the global TRAFFIC network, along with participants from WWF, IUCN and Beijing-based NGOs, took part.

On November 7-8, 2006, Shelley Clarke, fisheries consultant for TRAFFIC East Asia, took part in the "International Shark Dialogue," a meeting in Beijing on the shark fin trade, co-sponsored by WildAid and the China Fisheries Administration. Other members of the panel included Sarah Fowler (IUCN) and John Stevens (CSIRO, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation).

A TRAFFIC photo-essay – *Traveling Smart* –

What to watch out for when buying wildlife souvenirs - to raise awareness amongst tourists against consuming illegal wildlife products appeared in the September 2006 issue of Air China's in-flight magazine, *Wings of China*. The full photo-essay can be viewed at (bottom of left-hand column):

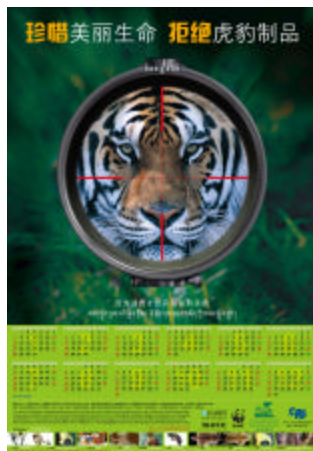
<http://www.wwfchina.org/english/loca.php?loca=3>



boards – at one of China's largest ports for transporting timber, Nan Pu Port in Zhejiang Province. Finally, TRAFFIC and WWF called on B&Q in Shanghai, where TRAFFIC conducted a survey of B&Q customers to learn more about consumer demand in China for FSC products.

The video *Timber Futures*, an episode of BBC's *Earth Report*, aired December 2-4, 2006, in over 140 countries, reaching nearly 260 million homes worldwide and around one million hotel bedrooms in 200 countries. To view the trailer, see: <http://www.forestandtradeasia.org>

New Publications



A joint Conservation International, TRAFFIC, WWF, IFAW and CITES poster and calendar aimed at raising awareness on tiger conservation amongst Tibetan communities in Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Tibet was published in December 2006. 30,000 copies of the poster will be distributed in these regions.

Upcoming reports

A TRAFFIC report on the development of China's *Taxus* industry (Chinese with English summaries) is scheduled for publication in Feb 2007.

Taming the Tiger Trade: China's Markets for Wild and Captive Tiger Products Since the 1993 Domestic Trade Ban (English with Chinese summaries) is scheduled for publication in March-April 2007

Wildlife trade trends in China

85 Indian python skins seized by Chinese customs officials

On October 10, Guangdong Huangpu customs reportedly seized at least 10,000 snake skins on board a cargo ship. Among these skins, 85 Indian python (*Python molurus*) skins were found. Indian python is listed in CITES Appendix I and as a National First-class Protected Wildlife in China. This is China's largest ever seizure of snake skins. (Note: A TRAFFIC expert later identified the seizure, based on the photo below, as *P. reticulatus*, a CITES Appendix II listed species (not *Python molurus*).

(Source:

http://news.sina.com.cn/c/p/2006-10-10/064911194839_shtm)



Photo ©Liao Keqiang

53 pangolins seized at Guangxi-Guangdong province border

On November 19, 2006, local policemen seized 53 pangolins from a car when it crossed the border from Guangxi province into Guangdong province. Policemen discovered 53 pangolins packed in a bag in the trunk of the car, among which 14 were dead. The surviving pangolins have been sent to the Guangxi Endangered Wild Animals Aid Center. The smugglers escaped. Forestry experts told reporters that the car's exhaust fumes caused the death of the 14 pangolins. The original source of the pangolins is unknown. Source: Xinhua Net,

<http://www.cwca.org.cn/Article/ShowArticle.asp?ArticleID=2242>

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TRAFFIC promotes the sustainable use of traditional Chinese medicine in panda habitat

The Minshan Mountains in China's Sichuan province, home to half of the world's pandas - is one of the world's most biologically rich areas. This area is the habitat of over 5,000 plant species – amounting to three-fourths of all of China's medicinal plant species – that are used



in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM). The Minshan Mountains are one of WWF's top global priorities for biodiversity conservation.

The Minshan Mountains are also home to almost 300,000 people, many of whom live in poverty. The collection and sale of species used as traditional medicines is an important source of income. This collection can disturb panda habitat, however, and has also caused the extinction of local populations of some species of medicinal plants, such as Szechwan

Lovage Rhizome (*Rhizoma Chuanxiong*), Eucommia Bark (*Cortex Eucommiae*).



Szechwan Lovage Rhizome (*Rhizoma Chuanxiong*)
© Sichuan Institute of Chinese Materia Medica



Eucommia Bark (*Cortex Eucommiae*)
© Sichuan Institute of Chinese Materia Medica

The long-term conservation of the Minshan Mountains requires better management of the collection of species used as traditional medicine, protecting both biodiversity and local livelihoods. TRAFFIC East Asia, WWF China's Sichuan field office, and the Sichuan office of the China CITES Management Authority have joined forces to address this issue. A recent workshop addressing the topic resulted in an action plan to move forward with biodiversity

conservation in the Minshan Mountains. Key results include collecting the various opinion from stakeholders, analyzing the current conservation status of Minshan Mountains and providing the constructive solutions on the conflict of conservation and livelihood. Just as important, it furthered the exchange of information and stakeholder involvement the conservation and sustainable use of wild medicinal plants.

Combining forces is the most effective way of ensuring that biodiversity and people will peacefully co-exist in the Minshan Mountains.

TRAFFIC-East Asia, China Programme-Update

- **Bulletin on China's illegal wildlife trade and TCM trade**

TRAFFIC East Asia's China Programme will publish its first bulletin in July 2005. This bulletin is aimed at Chinese-speaking audiences who are concerned about the effects of trade to wildlife, will help shed light on wild animals and plants that are endangered due to the illegal wildlife trade or use in traditional Chinese medicine. The first edition of the bulletin will contain information on the current status of and conservation measures for species such as *taxus* (yew), musk deer, rhino and freshwater turtles.

- **Textbook being developed for traditional Chinese medicine universities**

A new textbook focusing on the conservation and sustainable use of China's endangered and rare medicinal resources is being developed by experts from the Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, the Second Military Medical University, the East China Normal University, the Shanghai Medical College, and Fudan University. This project is led by Xu Hongfa, TRAFFIC's China Wildlife Trade Programme Coordinator, and is supported by the Disney Conservation Fund. The textbook will improve the

awareness of teachers and students on who best to protect endangered species used in traditional Chinese medicines.

The book in both Chinese and English. The next step, to begin in July 2005, will be to have expert view before final publication.

- **TRAFFIC East Asia, China programme develops strategy for Minshan Mountains**

On 10th January 2005, the internal meeting of PPPP (Panda, People and Plants Project) was held in Beijing. TRAFFIC East Asia and WWF's Species and Forest programme attended the meeting and discussed the project schedule. A follow-up workshop to discuss strategies for the sustainable use and conservation of species collected as traditional medicine in the Minshan Mountains was held 22nd to 24th March, and sponsored by WWF Germany.

Numerous stakeholders joined in this discussion, including the Sichuan Forestry Bureau, the Sichuan Institute of Chinese Traditional Medicine, the Di'ao medicine group (a TCM company) and Conservation International. Presentations included background on the wealth of traditional medicine resources in the Minshan Mountains (by H.F. Xu, TRAFFIC East Asia), the potential to use international guidelines for the collection of

medicinal plants in the Minshan Mountains (by S. Honnef, WWF Germany), and the way in which conservation of traditional medicines fits into the broader conservation programme for the Minshan Mountains as a whole (by L. Ling, WWF China).

Workshop participants offered a diverse set of viewpoints. In the coming months, the workshop results will be synthesized into a comprehensive strategy on the conservation of species collected as traditional medicines in the Minshan Mountains, to be implemented by TRAFFIC East Asia, China programme.



PPPP workshop in Chengdu © TRAFFIC-East Asia

● **ETIS training finished successfully**

ETIS, the Elephant Trade Information System, helps protect elephants by providing customs officials with a centralized database about illegal trade. A training course given by TRAFFIC East Asia, China programme on ETIS was held in Nanning, Guangxi province on 14-15 March 2005. This was part of a larger meeting, organized by the China CITES Management Authority and including the Nanning (of Guangxi province) Customs Department and the Guangxi Forestry Bureau. TRAFFIC's Luan Xiaofeng then gave a presentation focused on the implementation of ETIS.

The aim of the ETIS training was to improve conservation awareness of customs staff and to strengthen their enforcement capacity, especially with regard to their identification and capacity to check for species listed in CITES Appendices.

Previous ETIS trainings were held in Beijing, Shanghai and Nanning in 2004 and early 2005.

New Staff:

In March 2005, Luan Xiaofeng joined TRAFFIC East Asia's China Programme as a Wildlife Trade Enforcement Assistance Officer. Dr. Luan has recently completed post-graduate study in conservation biology at Chinese Academy of Forestry. He will work with China's CITES Management Authority and other partners, using trade monitoring and trade surveys as tools to effectively target law enforcement with regard to wildlife trade.

● **International investigation team surveys China's ivory trade**

An investigation team consisting of the CITES Secretariat, World Customs officials, and TRAFFIC's regional office for

East and Southern Africa was in Beijing on 6-12 March 2005, to survey China's enforcement of regulations concerning the trade in ivory.

The team conducted investigations in I

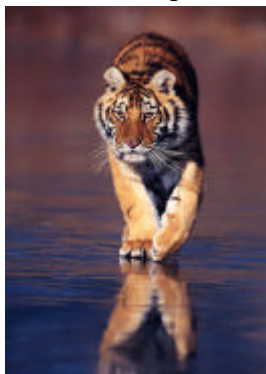
Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou and Guangzhou.

Hot Topics

- **Regulation banning the use of rhino horn and tiger bone in medicine**

In 1993, China's State Council banned the rhino and tiger trades. It stipulated:

1. The prohibition of the import and export of anything that includes rhino horn and tiger bone.
2. The prohibition of the selling, purchasing, transportation, and shipping of rhino horn and tiger bone.
3. The prohibition of using rhino horn and tiger bone in medicine. It also encouraged research on the substitutions for of rhino horn and tiger bone, as well as the criminal prosecution of anyone breaking these new regulations.



© WWF - KLEIN & HUBERT emphasize enforcement of the illicit trade of tiger bone products in China.

In 2001, China's Ministry of Public Security issued a 'Notice on the cracking down of smuggling and the illegal trade of tiger bone and Other Products' to

- **Illegal ivory products trade on the internet**

The internet has proven to be a new marketing channel for illegal ivory. This on-line trade is growing due to a lack of effective tracking measures and governmental management regulations. Research by TRAFFIC East Asia has found that eBay is the most used website

for the ivory products trade, both for English and Chinese websites.



Chinese
Ancient Tusk
Ivory Carving
Pencil Holder
Starting
bid:USD558
Item location:
Shanghai, China
Shipping to :
Worldwide

eBay's English website has more than 1000 ivory products advertised per day for example. Among these, the goods were specified as antiques, art, jewelry and decorated items. Most sellers were in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Beijing, but the goods are sold worldwide. Sellers were also based in the US, UK, Japan and Canada. At the same time, Over 300 ivory products were advertised in eBay's Chinese website. Most products were made from African ivory.

Although some of this trade may be legal – such as ivory from mammoth tusks – a large portion is likely to be illegal for international trade. To address this problem, the China CITES Management Authority has recently prohibited the sale of ivory on websites in China. TRAFFIC East Asia will continue to monitor the situation of ivory and other wildlife traded on the internet through a grant recently received from the Rufford Foundation.

- **Five Governmental Departments Issued the Notice of Strengthening Musk Deer and Bear Conservation and Management of Using in Medicine**

On 23 December 2004, China's State Forestry Administration, the Ministry of Health, the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, the State Food

and Drug Administration, and the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine issued a joint '*Notice for Strengthening Musk Deer and Bear Conservation and Use in Medicine.*' The notice stipulated that all products containing wild musk and bear gallbladder must be labeled with a stamp named the 'special label of China wild animals trade management' before entering into the market starting from 1 July 2005.

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Strengthening law enforcement capacity to combat the illegal trade of Asian big cats in southwest China

A TRAFFIC workshop aimed at addressing the illegal trade of Asian big cats through promoting the enforcement of CITES regulations in southwest China took place on November 28-29, 2006, in Dujiangyan, Sichuan province.

Over 30 participants attended the workshop, including front-line policemen, market monitoring officers, customs enforcers, and officers from local forestry bureaus. Staff from the following organizations took part – the China National CITES Management Authority, the Anti-Smuggling Bureau of China Customs, Conservation International, the Forestry Public Security Bureau of the SFA and the State Administration for Industry & Commerce from Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu, and Qinghai provinces and the Tibetan Autonomous Region.

'Participants said they were unaware of the crisis facing many endangered species,' said Yang Qin, Program Coordinator for the TRAFFIC East Asia China Program, 'The workshop helped them understand how their work is key to stopping illegal wildlife trade.'

Mr. Meng Xianlin, Director of CNMA, gave a general introduction of CITES and how China implements this international treaty. His presentation emphasized illegal trade in tiger and leopard skins, as well as ivory. TRAFFIC introduced the results of a recent survey on tiger and leopard bone products of 27 pharmacies and wholesale markets throughout China.

'Before the workshop, I had little knowledge on species identification and relevant national laws, as well as little support from other organizations to help us effectively implement monitoring methods,' said one participant from the State Administration for Industry & Commerce, 'The workshop provided

some easy and practical training, and the chance for better cooperation with other stakeholders in the future.'



Workshop participants learn to identify leopard skins. © TRAFFIC East Asia - China

Building wildlife law enforcement capacity in Yunnan province

On September 11-12, 2006, TRAFFIC, the China CITES Management Authority Kunming Office (Yunnan province) and the Kunming Customs Bureau jointly organized the 'CITES enforcement workshop for Kunming customs officers.'

James Compton and Pat Cheng of TRAFFIC Southeast Asia gave a presentation to introduce CITES, permit management, identification, and the status of wildlife trade in Southeast Asia. Prof. Xu Hongfa of TRAFFIC East Asia China Programme presented on CITES Appendix I & II and the status of endangered species in China. The director of the China CITES Management Authority Kunming office gave presentations on CITES enforcement in China and import and export regulations on wildlife trade. Finally, a species identification course on mammals, birds, plants and amphibians was given, along with a field visit to the Kunming Zoological Institute Museum.

TRAFFIC participates in GFTN China annual meeting and helps produce documentary on the timber trade

The Global Forest & Trade Network (GFTN) China, WWF's initiative to eliminate illegal logging and improve the management of valuable and threatened forests, held their annual meeting in Shanghai on November 6-9, 2006.

At the meeting, WWF announced the recent publication of *Keep it Legal*, a new WWF manual aimed at helping buyers of timber forest products to avoid purchasing wood and wood products made from illegally logged timber. The manual will be translated into Chinese in 2007. WWF also introduced two new CFTN (China Forest and Trade Network) members.

Liu Xueyan of TRAFFIC gave an introduction to TRAFFIC's work to promote legal standards that GFTN members must adhere to.



TRAFFIC helped produce a BBC report on the timber trade, which aired in 140 countries. ©Liu Xueyan

Before the meeting, TRAFFIC helped produce video footage in the Shanghai area on GFTN as part of BBC's *Earth Report*. The video includes an interview with the Anxin Flooring Co. Ltd., a key GFTN member, as well as a visit to SCA, an international consumer goods and paper company. This was followed up with documenting the 'timber trail' – tracing timber from logs to saw-wood to

In Brief

TRAFFIC-WWF/IUCN Wildlife Trade Meeting -

TRAFFIC's Annual conference was held in Beijing September 4-7, 2006. In addition to strengthening the delivery of the TRAFFIC Programme worldwide, the challenges and opportunities at a global scale of China's wildlife trade was highlighted at the conference. Over 50 members of the global TRAFFIC network, along with participants from WWF, IUCN and Beijing-based NGOs, took part.

On November 7-8, 2006, Shelley Clarke, fisheries consultant for TRAFFIC East Asia, took part in the "International Shark Dialogue," a meeting in Beijing on the shark fin trade, co-sponsored by WildAid and the China Fisheries Administration. Other members of the panel included Sarah Fowler (IUCN) and John Stevens (CSIRO, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation).

A TRAFFIC photo-essay – *Traveling Smart* –

What to watch out for when buying wildlife souvenirs - to raise awareness amongst tourists against consuming illegal wildlife products appeared in the September 2006 issue of Air China's in-flight magazine, *Wings of China*. The full photo-essay can be viewed at (bottom of left-hand column):

<http://www.wwfchina.org/english/loca.php?loca=3>



boards – at one of China's largest ports for transporting timber, Nan Pu Port in Zhejiang Province. Finally, TRAFFIC and WWF called on B&Q in Shanghai, where TRAFFIC conducted a survey of B&Q customers to learn more about consumer demand in China for FSC products.

The video *Timber Futures*, an episode of BBC's *Earth Report*, aired December 2-4, 2006, in over 140 countries, reaching nearly 260 million homes worldwide and around one million hotel bedrooms in 200 countries. To view the trailer, see: <http://www.forestandtradeasia.org>

New Publications



A joint Conservation International, TRAFFIC, WWF, IFAW and CITES poster and calendar aimed at raising awareness on tiger conservation amongst Tibetan communities in Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Tibet was published in December 2006. 30,000 copies of the poster will be distributed in these regions.

Upcoming reports

A TRAFFIC report on the development of China's *Taxus* industry (Chinese with English summaries) is scheduled for publication in Feb 2007.

Taming the Tiger Trade: China's Markets for Wild and Captive Tiger Products Since the 1993 Domestic Trade Ban (English with Chinese summaries) is scheduled for publication in March-April 2007

Wildlife trade trends in China

85 Indian python skins seized by Chinese customs officials

On October 10, Guangdong Huangpu customs reportedly seized at least 10,000 snake skins on board a cargo ship. Among these skins, 85 Indian python (*Python molurus*) skins were found. Indian python is listed in CITES Appendix I and as a National First-class Protected Wildlife in China. This is China's largest ever seizure of snake skins. (Note: A TRAFFIC expert later identified the seizure, based on the photo below, as *P. reticulatus*, a CITES Appendix II listed species (not *Python molurus*).

(Source:

http://news.sina.com.cn/c/l/p/2006-10-10/064911194839_shtm)



Photo ©Liao Keqiang

53 pangolins seized at Guangxi-Guangdong province border

On November 19, 2006, local policemen seized 53 pangolins from a car when it crossed the border from Guangxi province into Guangdong province. Policemen discovered 53 pangolins packed in a bag in the trunk of the car, among which 14 were dead. The surviving pangolins have been sent to the Guangxi Endangered Wild Animals Aid Center. The smugglers escaped. Forestry experts told reporters that the car's exhaust fumes caused the death of the 14 pangolins. The original source of the pangolins is unknown. Source: Xinhua Net,

<http://www.cwca.org.cn/Article/ShowArticle.asp?ArticleID=2242>

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中国穿山甲资源现状及保护对策

The Status and Conservation of Pangolins in China

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Wu Shibao, Ma Guangzhi, South China Normal University

Abstract:

This article describes the use of pangolins in China, changes to its wild population, sources of stockpiles, and causes of population decline in recent years. Pangolins are used primarily as a food and medicinal ingredient in Tradition Chinese Medicine. It is a prized resource, a solid demand for which has led to its rapid decline. A large number of pangolins are smuggled from Southeast Asia every year, and its continued existence is threatened by its overexploitation, habitat loss and its low breeding rate. This warrants immediate conservation action. Suggestions to this end include an immediate ban on their use; carrying out scientific research on population monitoring; increasing funds to protect any remaining wild pangolins; establishing pangolin protected areas; and finding food and medicinal application substitutes.



穿山甲是鳞甲目 (Pholidota) 鳞鲤科 (Manidae) 穿山甲属 (Manis) 动物总称, 全球现存7种, 亚洲3种, 非洲4种。产于亚洲的3种穿山甲在我国均有

分布, 即中国穿山甲 (*M. pentadactyla*)、印度穿山甲 (*M. crassicaudata*) 和马来穿山甲 (*M. javanica*)。中国穿山甲在我国主要分布在长江以南各省, 被列入国家二级保护动物, CITES附录II和IUCN红色名录。印度穿山甲和马来穿山甲仅分布于云南局部地区, 列入CITES附录II和IUCN红色名录, 后者是我国最新发现的兽类。

在3种穿山甲中, 中国穿山甲在我国分布最广, 地理分布范围历史变化不大, 除了江苏省最大可能已经绝迹外(产地猎人已有30余年未见其踪迹), 其它各省均有分布, 但该物种的生态分布范围在不断缩小, 分布面积大大下降, 种群被分割成小种群, 呈岛屿状。

下面就我国穿山甲的利用情况、资源现状及保护策略等进行简单的阐述, 以期相关部门保护工作的开展提供相应的科学依据。

一、穿山甲的利用及来源情况

利用

穿山甲的价值主要体现在药用、食用, 使用部位

分别为鳞甲和肉。目前, 国内药用和食用的穿山甲主要是中国穿山甲和马来穿山甲, 极少为印度穿山甲。

1. 药用

穿山甲的甲片是临床常用药之一, 自古至今就一直在使用。2002年9月, 在广西玉林中药材市场调查时了解到, 若这个市场放开经营, 每年至少能销售40吨生甲片。如果每头穿山甲的生甲片平均重为0.62kg, 那么40吨生甲片就相当于6.4516万头穿山甲。由于国内穿山甲已很难捕到, 其它各大中药材市场销售的甲片主要是从玉林中药材市场(约占60%)或从广西、云南边境集市上进货(约占40%)。照此计算, 我国药材市场每年约需10.7527万头穿山甲提供甲片。杨立群等(1994)估计我国每年约需11~15万头穿山甲才能够满足国内药材市场的需求。李文军(1998)对国内河北安国等几家大型中药材市场穿山甲甲片贸易情况调查发现穿山甲甲片年贸易量高达80~100吨(应该说这些市场集中了全国大部分穿山甲货源), 换算出活体穿山甲为12.9032~16.1290万头。综合这些资料, 估计全国每年药用穿山甲的需求量在10.5~16.5万头之间, 平均为13.5万头。

我国穿山甲甲片价格: 80年代初为人民币8~12元/kg, 90年代初期70~90元/kg, 中期110~130元/kg, 后期320~400元/kg, 2000年初420~450元/kg, 逐年上扬, 且涨幅越来越大。

2. 食用

我国华南地区, 尤其是广东及港澳地区喜食野生动物已有悠久的历史。改革开放以后, 吃野味的风气

更加盛行,并由广东蔓延到其它经济发达地区,再蔓延到全国。吃野味最猖獗的年代应是上世纪80年代末、90年代初,然后慢慢转入地下。穿山甲作为野味中的极品之一,一直是食客们追求的对象,究竟有多少穿山甲被食,谁也无法统计。图2、图3是森林公安机关查扣到的尚未宰杀食用的穿山甲的数量,表明穿山甲食用市场需求依然旺盛,且有增加的趋势。公安机关认为查扣的数量仅占经营数量的4%~5%,那么2002年广西南宁市穿山甲的食用量应是1.04~1.30万头,平均每天消费28.5~35.6头,印证了某媒体报道南宁市每年至少要吃掉1万头穿山甲的事实;同样也可以估计出2002年广东省茂名、湛江两市穿山甲的食用量应为0.260~0.325万头,以此估计2002年广东全省21个地级市穿山甲食用量为2.60~3.25万头,平均每个市每天消费3.4~4.2头。如果加上经济发达、食用野味较多的上海、北京、福建、浙江、江苏等省市,以及爱吃野味的海南和其它欠发达省(市、区)穿山甲的食用量,那么我国每年至少吃10万头穿山甲,也就是说每年至少需10万头穿山甲才能够满足全国食用市场的需求,如果完全放开经营可能需要15万头。

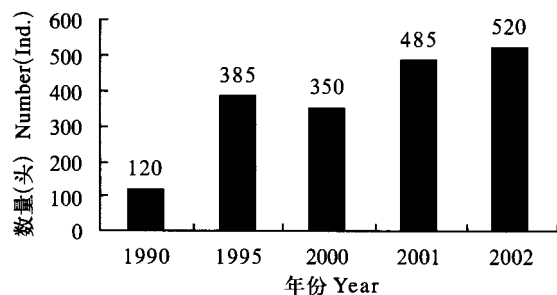


图2. 广西南宁市穿山甲查扣数量统计
Fig.2 The number of confiscated pangolins in Nanning, Guangxi

我国穿山甲活体价格:在海南,60、70年代仅2~3元/头,90年代开始转入地下交易;在广东,90年代初期40~80元/kg,中期160~240元/kg,后期420~680元/kg;在广西中越边境,见图1。

来源

上世纪80年代初,我国药用穿山甲主要靠自给,食用量也不大。改革开放后,人们的市场经济意识得到了增强,对穿山甲资源的利用迅速增长,特别是90年代初我国确立全面进入社会主义市场经济时期。进入90年代后,由于我国穿山甲资源消耗殆尽,而国内

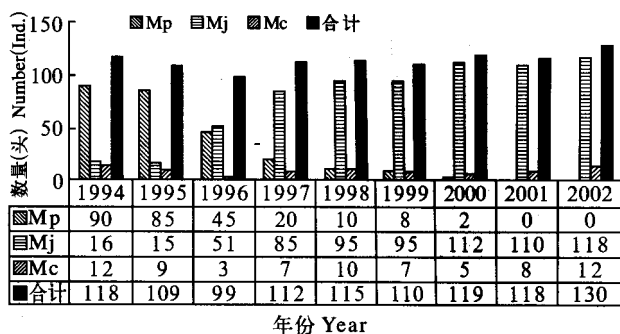


图3. 广东省湛江茂名穿山甲查扣数量统计
Fig.3 The number of confiscated pangolins in Zhanjiang and Maoming
Mp= 中国穿山甲, Mj= 马来穿山甲, Mc= 印度穿山甲

市场需求又特别大,跨国贩运穿山甲的利益特别可观,因此在巨大的经济利益驱使下,非法走私穿山甲活动便开始产生。东南亚国家的穿山甲通过广西、云南进入我国境内,并转运到广东、海南、福建等东南沿海省份,以及全国各地的各大中药材市场和宾馆酒楼销售。据徐龙辉等人(1994)的调查,1991年广西壮族自治区边境的穿山甲交易总数达6万多头,1992年为3万多头;范志勇报道(2000)每年约有2000头活体和500~800kg甲片从云南边境走私进入中国。走私的穿山甲是产于亚洲的3种,90年代初以中国穿山甲为主,90年代末以及进入20世纪后以马来穿山甲为主,主要是药用的甲片和食用的活体,但尚未发现非洲的4种穿山甲进入我国。目前我国食用和药用的穿山甲几乎全部是走私的,而且穿山甲走私活动至今仍未得到有效控制,主要原因是走私源头国的相关法律不健全,执法不严,增加了我国打击穿山甲走私的难度。

二、穿山甲的资源蕴藏量及变化

我国对野生穿山甲资源蕴藏量从未作过专项调查,但可从捕获量、甲片收购量、野外穿山甲洞穴数量等间接指标来估计穿山甲资源蕴藏量及其变化。历史上,福建、广东、广西、云南、贵州、湖南、海南、台湾是穿山甲资源大省。据广东省药材部门不完全统计,60年代前后,该省穿山甲年捕获量在20,000头以上,福建、湖南、广西、贵州、云南的年捕获量与广东相仿,六省年捕获量共约120,000头,其余产地年捕获量估计有50,000~60,000头。这样,60年代前后全国穿山甲年捕获量在170,000~180,000头,如

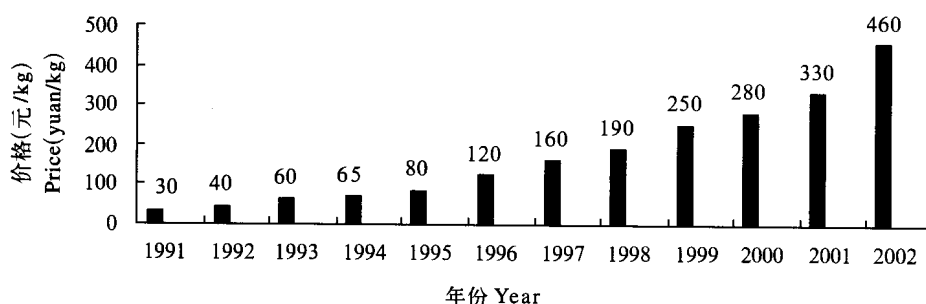
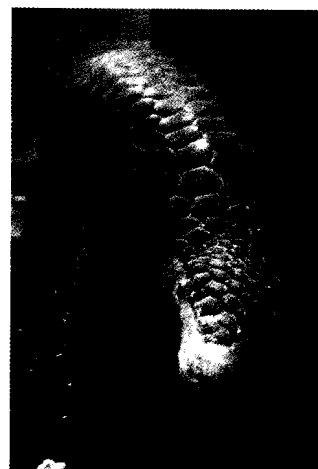


图1. 广西市场穿山甲活体价格
Fig.1 Market price of live pangolins in Guangxi

如果按照捕获量与资源量为1:5(即20%)的比例来估计60年代前后广东和全国穿山甲资源量,则分别为100,000头和850,000~900,000头。然而从80年代初期资源蕴藏量开始下降,尤其是最近10年递减最为剧烈。周冬良(1996)统计到1982~1994年间,福建省甲片收购量最高的年份是1990年,共4,029kg,假设这些甲片全部来自福建,并按1头穿山甲提供0.62千克甲片计算,那么曾经是穿山甲资源大省的福建在1990年的穿山甲年捕获量为6,498头,资源量估计在32,490头左右。可见,福建省穿山甲资源无论是蕴藏量还是年捕获量,都显著比60年代低,到了2000年只剩下了9,153头。据广东有关部门统计,80年代前,仅韶关一个地区甲片年收购量就达5,000kg(约需8,065头穿山甲提供),现在全省年收购量总计才几百kg(约需不到1000头穿山甲提供),多数地区已片甲难收。李文军等人(1998)1994年6月至7月在岭南广东车八岭保护区,24人·天,约35km²范围内,仅发现一处新鲜的穿山甲洞穴。我们通过“洞口记数法”估计2000年广东省穿山甲的资源量仅为8,409.30~2,0136.88头,与60年代相比资源量下降了79.68~91.59%。然而在历史上岭南是我国穿山甲资源数量最丰富的地区之一,最早在《本草纲目》里就有穿山甲“生湖广岭南”的记载。范志勇(2000)报道,浙江省近年穿山甲资源量估计不超过10,000头,广西约有1,180~3,550头,西南、华中和华南的一些地区仅残存一些。刘振河(1998)认为,就福建、广东、广西三地而言,原有的穿山甲产区,至少一半以上已极为罕见或濒临绝迹。笔者曾在广东、广西、云南、海南、四川、重庆对曾是穿山甲主要栖息地作了18天,行程68公里的调查,仅发现新鲜洞迹3处,表明野生

穿山甲已很难见,数量已十分稀少。根据上面的事实分析,笔者估计目前我国穿山甲资源蕴藏量最多不超过50,000~100,000头,与60年代相比,下降了88.8~94.12%,与刘振河的估计结果至少下降了80%相互印证。表2是全国陆生野生动物资源调查关于穿山甲数量的统计,缺海南、西藏、江苏、安徽、重庆5省(市、区)的资料,结果有穿山甲63,993头。我们认为即使加上这5个省(市、区)的资料,估计全国穿山甲资源量也不会超过100,000头,理由是江苏的穿山甲可能已绝迹;西藏穿山甲仅分布在芒康、察隅、门隅、洛隅等局部小范围地区,历史上数量就很少,估计不会超过1,000头;海南尽管是历史上穿山甲的主产区,但与其它主产区的省份相比,其面积小,也是全国穿山甲猎捕最严重的地区之一,根据我们现场调查估计,该省穿山甲的资源数量不会超过5,000头;安徽、重庆穿山甲历史上就少见,因是穿山甲分布的边缘地带,不属于穿山甲的主产区,估计野生数量也都不会超过5,000头。由于我们的估计结果(50,000~100,000头)与全国的普查结果十分一致,互相印证,说明这两种结果在很大程度上都是真实可信的。与当前穿山甲年需求量28.5万头(其中药用13.5万头,食用15万头)相比,表明我国穿山甲的供求矛盾、保护与利用矛盾已到了十分尖锐化的程度。

从数字上看,我国



穿山甲种群数量较大,这主要是由于该物种分布广的缘故。事实上各省穿山甲的生态密度已普遍较低,最低达0.001134头/平方公里(表2),与我们调查到的穿山甲在野外已十分难见的事实是一致的。如此低的种群密度,无法保证雌雄穿山甲有交配机会,提示该物种面临着较大的生存威胁。

表2 全国部分省(市、区)穿山甲密度与数量统计(2001年)

省份	数量($\times 10^3$ 头)	生态密度(头/平方公里)
1 浙江	6.300	0.056~0.390
2 福建	9.153	—
3 江西	27.500	0.1647
4 湖南	0.100	0.001134
5 湖北	2.6	0.1728
6 河南	3.000	—
7 广东	6.500	0.170~0.610
8 广西	0.990	0.043~0.430
9 四川	0.150	—
10 贵州	4.000	0.023
11 云南	1.700	—
合计	63.993	—

三、资源濒危原因分析

野生动物致危的因素较多,根据我们多年来掌握的情况及大量的实地考察,认为导致我国野生穿山甲濒危的因素主要有以下几个方面。

1. 猎捕利用过度

过度猎捕利用必然导致资源衰竭,是穿山甲资源濒危的主要原因之一,其机制是通过对种群结构破坏引起的。当外界干涉力量持续超过种群自身调节能力时,种群便开始逐渐衰退以致无法恢复。对穿山甲的捕捉主要集中在70年代后期至80年代末。广东省英德市石牯塘镇联山村,在这个时期,在该村方圆100km²范围内至少猎捕5,000~6,000头穿山甲,老猎手一般捕捉在百头以上,最少的也有10~30头,一般50头左右,可现在再也见不到穿山甲踪影了。

2. 栖息地破坏

栖息地遭受破坏是导致穿山甲资源濒危的又一重要因素。穿山甲主要栖息在亚高山及丘陵地带的阔叶林、针阔混交林及灌草丛的生境内,对生境选择极为

严格,对环境变化敏感,加上它又是狭食性的动物,只食蚁类,因而表现出对环境变化后特别差的适应能力,一旦其栖息地遭受破坏,就会在较短的时间内导致其种群数量迅速下降。栖息地遭受破坏的主要因素有毁林开荒、修建道路、矿产开发、森林采伐、森林资源开发、对采伐迹地不科学的造林恢复、人口快速增长造成的人类活动范围扩大以及环境污染等。这些因素造成了穿山甲栖息地的结构发生改变,面积退缩,呈岛屿化分布或丧失。

3. 穿山甲种群的自身因素

穿山甲进化程度低,是哺乳动物一支较为原始的类群。它的繁殖力低下,一般一胎一仔,每年一胎,因而种群数量增长缓慢。属于特化物种,对食物和隐蔽场所有着特殊的需要,仅食部分蚁类,需要生活在较为稳定的特定环境中,对新环境适应能力差,对环境变化敏感(这也是人工难于驯养的主要原因之一),难以通过调节自己的行为来适应环境的变化,是一种较为典型的K-对策者,一旦大量捕杀导致种群数量下降后就很难恢复,如果种群密度很低,就可能在某一地区绝迹。在自然界中穿山甲御敌能力差,对捕猎者几乎没有什么主动还击的行为,而是被动地防卫,如将头及四肢收藏在腹部,然后用宽厚且较长的尾巴覆盖其上,呈球状,静卧在原地,猎人只要将它捡起即可;有时也将鳞甲撑开对准猎人或捕猎者,但缺乏主动进攻性;有时穿山甲在遇到敌害时也会逃跑,但由于它是用前足背着地,所以这种逃跑的速度十分有限,很难逃脱猎人或捕猎者的追捕。另外,它大部分时间是在洞中度过的,猎人捕捉它,犹如瓮中捉鳖,只需挖洞、向洞内灌水或烟熏即可。

四、穿山甲的人工养殖

我国探索穿山甲人工试养技术,始于上世纪80年代。已有江西林科院、江西高安县林科所、湖南龙山县、贵州雷山县、广西平南野生动物养殖场、福建省林业厅、福建福清县穿山甲养殖场、上海动物园、台北市立动物园、广东湛江师范学院等单位做过这方面工作。虽然由于多方面原因没有取得最后成功,但积累了不少经验,初步找到了今后的主攻方向和要解决的关键技术问题:就是如何解决穿山甲的人工食物和养殖场所,以及肺炎病如何防治。人工饲养条件下穿

山甲通常养不了几天就会死亡,最多不超过1个月,绝大多数死于肺炎病(85.12%),主要是由于不适应人工食物和养殖场舍引起的。

五、保护穿山甲的建议

- 立即停止对野生穿山甲资源的利用;
- 迅速组织力量,开展资源清查;
- 积极开展穿山甲野外生物学研究,加大科技投入,依靠科技保护穿山甲资源;
- 建立穿山甲自然保护区,加强穿山甲栖息地的

保护,实施就地保护工程;

- 积极寻找药用穿山甲的代用品,少用或不用野生穿山甲;
- 积极创造条件,开展离体保护技术研究,保护穿山甲种群遗传多样性;
- 对查扣的穿山甲进行科学放生,开展放生成败性研究;
- 调整我国3种穿山甲的保护级别,全部列为国家一级保护动物;
- 建议尽快制订“保护中国野生穿山甲行动计划”。

简 讯

非洲新闻: 津巴布韦 40 头黑犀牛被偷猎

News from Africa : Forty Black Rhinos Poached in Zimbabwe



哈拉雷 / 约翰内斯 2007 年 5 月 5 日堡消息: 近 3 年来,超过 40 头濒危的黑犀牛在津巴

布韦的国家公园和私人狩猎动物保护区(private game reserves)内被偷猎。

世界自然基金会(WWF)津巴布韦哈拉雷办公室的 Melody Maunze 在接受官方先驱报采访时说: 津巴布韦的黑犀牛种群正在受到偷猎分子不断袭击。我们正在关注日益猖獗的偷猎活动,特别是发生在国家公园和保护区内的偷猎。没有严格的反偷猎机制,法庭也没有更具威慑性的处罚措施,这些都一直困扰着世界自然基金会及一起工作的环保工作者们。

自七年前一个有争议的土地改革政策的实施以来,津巴布韦一直为日益猖獗的偷猎活动所困扰。在这次土地改革中,政府强制接管了白人拥有的农场。这其中,很多农场内有私人设立的狩猎动物保护区。据先驱报的报道,地方的土地委员会正将一些野生动物保护区和大农场分割后分

配给农民种植。

WWF 的该名发言人说: 应当立即与定居在保护区内的社区合作,对当地的野生动植物采取有效的保护管理措施。

津巴布韦正遭受史无前例的经济危机,国家通货膨胀率已经超过最高纪录的 2200%。贫困的恶化也促使人们为了渡过危机而参与偷猎。

二十世纪八十年代,来自邻国赞比亚的偷猎者使得津巴布韦的黑犀牛种群濒临灭绝。在九十年代,为避开赞比亚偷猎者,许多黑犀牛被从赞比西河谷迁入了津巴布韦的私人领地内的禁猎区,然而现在黑犀牛却又成为本地人的猎物。

犀牛角在 中东地区是上等的匕首柄材料,也是许多亚洲传统医药的重要成分。

摘译自:

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(肖宇译,王晶琳校)

