Latest CITES Postings and Notifications

- The Secretariat distributed information about outputs from the CITES trade database, the use of the CITES logo, and the format for the submission of annual reports (CITES Notifications 2011/005/018/019)
- The Secretariat informed Parties that it has been requested to include in the Register of operations that breed Appendix-I animal species in captivity for commercial purposes information concerning three captive-breeding operations for golden dragon fish (Scleropages formosus), one in Indonesia and two in Malaysia. The operations will be included in the Secretariat’s Register on 10 April 2011, 17 April 2011 and 9 May 2011 respectively, unless the Secretariat receives an objection from a Party and such objection is not withdrawn before these dates (CITES Notifications 2011/006/008/013)
- The Secretariat informed Parties that Estonia and Malta filed reservations to the Appendix III listing of three fox subspecies (Vulpes vulpes grifithi, Vulpes vulpes montana, Vulpes vulpes pusilus), three weasel species (Mustela altaica, Mustela kathiah, Mustela sibirica), and one ermine subspecies (Mustela erminea ferganae) (CITES Notifications 2011/007/011)
- The Secretariat informed Parties that Paraguay has partially lifted its voluntary moratorium on trade in CITES species (CITES Notification 2011/009)
- The Secretariat informed Parties that the recommendation to suspend trade with Djibouti for failure to provide information relevant to the status of Asian big cats in the wild, their conservation, and trade controls in place, must submit this information to the Secretariat by 29 April 2011 for consideration at the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee (CITES Notification 2011/014)
- The Secretariat asked Parties to submit information about the humphead wrasse for consideration at the next Standing Committee meeting, as provided in Decision 15.86 by 29 April 2011 (CITES Notification 2011/015)
- The Secretariat asked Parties to share translations of the CITES provisions in languages other than French, English and Spanish to allow the posting of a link to these translations on the CITES website (CITES Notification 2011/016)

Important CITES Dates

- 18-21 April 2011: 19th meeting of the CITES Plants Committee, Geneva, Switzerland
- 19 May 2011: Deadline for the submission of documents for consideration at the 25th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee
- 16 June 2011: Deadline for the submission of documents for consideration at the 61st meeting of the CITES Standing Committee
- 18-22 July 2011: 25th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee, Geneva, Switzerland

Largest Seizure of Endangered Ape Parts In Years

The Africa Regional Bureau of the Species Survival Network (SSN) uses this issue of CITES Afrique to congratulate the government of Gabon for the seizure of 13 great ape heads, 32 great ape hands, 12 leopard skins, a portion of a lion skin, and 5 elephant tails. This seizure, which includes the biggest global seizure of endangered ape parts in ten years, sends a clear message to traffickers in the region. It serves as a stark reminder of the volume of endangered wildlife in illegal trade. We also provide information about the alarming increase of rhinoceros poaching in South Africa and the results of a recent elephant census in Tsavo National Park, Kenya.

Please let us know if we can assist you in your efforts to protect wildlife. Thank you for your work.

Will Travers, Shelley Waterland and Alice Stroud, SSN Africa Regional Bureau
Rhinoceros horn in some of their traditional medicine.

Rhino horns can be found and purchased in the form of pills, medicinal balls and powder. The following manufacturers have been found to use rhinoceros horn in pills with tiger bone, musk, gastrodia, rhinoceros horn and silencers, making poachers very difficult to catch and arrest.

There are only 4,240 black rhinoceros (Diceros bicornis) and 11,600 Near Threatened southern white rhinoceros (Ceratotherium simum simum) left in Africa today. 90% of the total southern white rhino population and 40% of the total black rhino population lives in South Africa.

Rising demand in Vietnam and China has driven the black market price of powdered rhino horn as high as US$50,000 per kilogram, roughly equal to the street price for cocaine in the UK according to SSN member Care for the Wild International. In September 2010, the British government placed restrictions on the export of antique rhino horn objects and trophies out of concern that a loophole in CITES. The United Pharmaceutical Manufactory

SSN is deeply concerned about the increase in rhinoceros poaching, and urges CITES Parties to return all populations of southern white rhino to CITES Appendix I and to adopt domestic measures ensuring that rhino horn is not exported for purposes in violation of CITES.

2010 Saw Highest Number of Rhinoceros Deaths Ever Recorded for South Africa

Rhino poaching in South Africa hit its highest recorded level in 2010, with a reported 333 rhinos killed. This is almost triple the figure for 2009 and included the deaths of ten black rhino (Diceros bicornis), listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of threatened species. Kruger National Park, which contains South Africa’s largest white and black rhino populations, was hit hardest, with 146 reported rhino deaths. This is despite the increased efforts of South Africa’s specialist police unit which arrested 162 poachers during 2010 and shot and killed a further five early in 2011.

Rhino horn is in high demand on the black market due to its use in traditional Asian medicine to treat various ailments such as headaches, fevers, rheumatism and gout, and a more recent belief in Vietnam that it can cure cancer. Poachers are increasingly using highly specialized equipment to track and slaughter rhinos, including helicopters, veterinary tranquilizers and silencers, making poachers very difficult to catch and arrest.

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Populations of rhinos in other African countries also are being affected by poaching for illegal trade. Seven black rhinos were killed in southern Zimbabwe in December and January alone according to Parks and Wildlife Director General Vitalis Chidenga. Indian one-horned rhinos (Rhinoceros unicornis) are also being targeted, particularly in their stronghold of Kaziranga National Park in Assam; horns from poached rhinos are often smuggled across India’s poorly-patrolled border with Myanmar.

SSN is deeply concerned about the increase in rhinoceros poaching, and urges CITES Parties to return all populations of southern white rhino to CITES Appendix I and to adopt domestic measures ensuring that rhino horn is not exported for purposes in violation of CITES.

![Poached rhinoceros © SAPS](image)

<table>
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<th>Chinese manufacturers of pills</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lanzhou Fo CI Pharmaceutical Factory</td>
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<td>The United Pharmaceutical Manufactory</td>
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<td>Tientsin Drug Manufactory</td>
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<td>Sichuan Chengdu Traditional Pharmaceutical Factory</td>
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<td>Tsinan Peoples Medicine Works</td>
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<td>Kwangchow Pharmaceutical Industry Co (acne-sweeping pill)</td>
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<td>The United Pharmaceutical Manufactory</td>
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<td>China Sichuan Provincial Pharmaceutical Works (laryngitis pills)</td>
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<td>Ma Pak Leung Co Ltd</td>
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<th>Chinese manufacturers of medicinal balls</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beijing Tong Ren Tang Second Pharmaceutical Factory</td>
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<td>Hung Chi Tang Pharmaceutical Works</td>
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<td>Tsinan Peoples Medicine Works</td>
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<td>Yun Nan-Feng Chong Pharmaceutical Factory</td>
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<td>Tung Jen Tang (Bezoar antifebrile pills)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wuchou Drug Manufactory</td>
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<td>Nanking Drug Manufactory</td>
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<th>Chinese manufacturer of powder</th>
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<td>The United Pharmaceutical Manufactory</td>
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Be on the lookout for traditional medicine containing rhinoceros horn!

Rhinoceros horns can be found and purchased in the form of pills, medicinal balls and powder. The following manufacturers have been found to use rhinoceros horn in some of their traditional medicine.

Product name: Da Huo Luo Dan
Manufacturer: Lanzhou Fo CI Pharmaceutical Factory, China
Content: pills with tiger bone, musk, gastrodia, rhinoceros horn

Product name: Niu Huang Ching Hsin Wan
Manufacturer: Wuchou Drug Manufactory, China
Content: medicine balls with rhinoceros horn powder, musk

Product name: ShiHa Yeguang Wan
Manufacturer: The United Pharmaceutical Manufactory, China
Content: pills with orchid, saiga antelope horn, rhinoceros horn, bear bile

Product name: only in Chinese characters
Manufacturer: not written in English on the packaging
Content: rhinoceros horn, tiger bone

Product name: ShiHu Yeguang Wan
Manufacturer: The United Pharmaceutical Manufactory, China
Content: pills with orchid, saiga antelope horn, rhinoceros horn, bear bile

Product name: Tsu Hsueh
Manufacturer: Beijing Tong Ren Tang, China
Content: powder with musk, rhinoceros horn, saiga antelope horn

Unprecedented Seizure of Wildlife Products in Gabon

An early January raid led by authorities from Gabon’s Water, Forestry and Defense Ministries, with the help of various environmental groups, led to the unprecedented seizure in Libreville of one gorilla head, 12 chimpanzee heads, 2 gorilla hands, 30 chimpanzee hands, 12 leopard skins, a portion of a lion skin, and 5 elephant tails. Four suspects from Nigeria and one from Benin were arrested and charged with illegally dealing in wildlife parts, and are facing a sentence of up to six months in jail. SSN member Conservation Justice played an instrumental role in the seizure, which sends a strong message to wildlife traffickers and poachers in the region that illegal trade will not be tolerated. This case, which involved traffickers from different parts of Africa and the seizure of wildlife products from species non-native to Gabon (lions), demonstrates that highly organized transboundary wildlife trafficking rings are operating in Africa and that the challenge of wildlife law enforcement is extremely complex for CITES Parties.

Gabon is home to a high diversity of wildlife, including the Critically Endangered Western lowland gorilla (Gorilla gorilla) and nearly 200 other mammal species (Earth Trends 2003). National parks and protected areas make up around one tenth of the country (Ibidem). SSN warmly congratulates the Gabonese authorities for their unprecedented success and for their commitment to the eradication of illegal wildlife trade.

Recent Elephant Census Shows Potential Impact of Elephant Poaching in Kenya

An aerial census was conducted early February in Tsavo National Park, Kenya’s largest elephant sanctuary. Nine aircraft with GPS technology covered 46,437 km² and counted elephants, buffalos, giraffes, wild dogs, rhinoceros, elands, lions and large birds such as ostriches. Preliminary results show that the elephant population grew from 11,696 elephants in 2008 to 12,572 elephants in 2011, a 2 percent increase. However, the population growth rate has been cut in half: a 2008 census had recorded a 4 percent increase in the elephant population as compared to a 2005 census. The slowdown in elephant population growth concerns Kenyan authorities, who fear that this might indicate that poaching for elephant ivory is having an impact on the Tsavo elephant population. During the census, seven fresh, 41 recent and 295 old elephant carcasses were found in the area, a vivid reminder of the reality of poaching activities in the field. In recent months, Kenya has arrested several individuals trafficking ivory through Nairobi airport to Asian countries. Demand for ivory mainly comes from Asia, where it is used to carve elaborate ornamental objects.

SSN warmly congratulates the Kenyan authorities for closely monitoring their elephant populations, and encourages the CITES community to continue providing assistance to the Kenyan authorities in their fight against poaching and illegal ivory trade.

Capacity-building corner

Useful publications:

Useful websites:
♦ <http://www.rhinos-irf.org/afrsg/> African Rhino Specialist Group, IUCN Species Survival Commission

Please contact the SSN Africa Regional Bureau if you need help with translation.
SSN Member of the Month: Animal Defenders International (ADI)

Organization Profile:
President: Jan Creamer
Date of Creation: 1990
Mission Statement: Working towards the suppression of all forms of cruelty to animals and the alleviation of their suffering, and protecting animals and the environment
Offices Located in: United Kingdom; United States; Colombia
Focus of Projects in Africa: Captive wild animal rescues, funding of rescue centers for ex-laboratory primates and ex-circus animals and funding of lawsuits
Website: http://www.ad-international.org/adi_world/

Project of Regional Interest: Operation Lion Ark
In a series of seizures throughout Bolivia, ADI worked with the Bolivian authorities to remove African lions from eight circuses. The actions were taken to enforce Bolivia’s Law 4040, which bans the use of animals in circuses. This marks the first time a ban and evacuation of circus animals has happened anywhere in the world. With 25 lions now in their care, including three cubs and some that were extremely malnourished, ADI is nursing the animals back to full health before they can be airlifted and permanently rehomed in the U.S. In February, ADI’s ‘Operation Lion Ark’ will continue supporting the lions’ care for the duration of their lives. ‘Operation Lion Ark’ will be the biggest rescue and airlift of lions ever seen in the world.

Contact Information:
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Fax: +44 (0) 20 7828 2179,
Email: jancreamer@ad-international.org

CITES Protected Species of the Month

Tree fern (Cyathea camerooniana) included in CITES Appendix II @ J. Jangoux

- **Name:** Tree fern; fougère arborescente (no common name) (Cyathea camerooniana)
- **CITES listing:** Appendix II
- **CITES export quotas:** No export quotes reported for 2010 (see <http://www.cites.org/common/quotas/2010/ExportQuotas2010.pdf>)
- **CITES trade levels (WCMC Trade Database 2010):** Trade data not available at the time of writing
- **IUCN category:** Not assessed
- **Threats:** Deforestation; use for traditional fencing and building materials
- **Range States:** Angola; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Equatorial Guinea; United Republic of Tanzania; Cameroon; Liberia; Ghana; Sierra Leone; Uganda; Gabon
- **Useful resources:** M. F. Large and J. E. Braggins, *Tree Ferns*, Timber Press 2004

West African Red Colobus (Procolobus badius) listed in CITES Appendix II @ R. Stummlerlaufen

- **Name:** West African red colobus; colobe Bai (Procolobus badius)
- **CITES listing:** Appendix II
- **CITES export quotas:** No export quotas reported for 2010 (See: http://www.cites.org/common/quotas/2010/ExportQuotas2010.pdf)
- **CITES trade levels (WCMC Trade Database 2010):** Between 1975 and 2010, 2 skeletons of *Procolobus badius* spp. were exported and 4 bone pieces, 1 bone product, 1 carving, 5 g of hair, 20 hair, 19 live animals, 5 skeletons, 3 skins, 102 skulls, 235 g of specimens, 83 specimens, 2 teeth and 2 trophies of *Procolobus badius* were exported. Main exporters were Ivory Coast and Guinea. Main importers were China, Japan and Australia
- **IUCN category:** Endangered
- **Threats:** Habitat loss; subsistence and commercial hunting
- **Range States:** Côte d’Ivoire; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Liberia; Senegal; Sierra Leone