

March 2008

### Feature

## Decision on 80 Illegal Bears May Determine Fate of Vietnam's Endangered Wildlife

To enforce the law or not to enforce the law. This is the question that will determine the future of not just 80 bears in Quang Ninh province, but that of some of Vietnam's most critically endangered species.

The story starts with a struggle to bring an end to the illegal trade in bears. After the implementation of Decision 02 on the captive management of bears in 2005, all of the estimated 4,000 wild bears in captivity in Vietnam were registered and tagged with a small microchip to uniquely identify each one. The idea was to freeze the bear trade in place, registering existing bears, and preventing any new bears from entering into the trade. After the registration cut-off date of February 28, 2005, any unregistered bear found at a farm or in the trade would be declared illegal and the owner prosecuted. Regulation 47 of June 2006 specifically reinforces this in item 4 of Article 2, stating that unregistered bears are to be confiscated by the authorities.

In principle, registering captive bears and preventing new bears from entering into the trade was a good idea. However, a lack of effective monitoring of bear farms by the authorities combined with concerted efforts by bear farmers to avoid and circumvent laws has resulted in a dire situation that threatens to undermine the rule of law. This could have disastrous consequences for the future not only of our bears, but also our tigers, and all other endangered wildlife.

The case of the 80 bears begins in late July 2007, when 27 unregistered bear cubs were discovered in a bear farm in Ha Tay province. Initial efforts to inspect the farm did little more than alert the bear farmers as to the suspicions of the functional authorities, and when they finally returned to the farm fully prepared to take action, the bear cubs had disappeared. A subsequent investigation led police to Quang Ninh province where they discovered an additional 80 illegal and unregistered bears at six farms in the province. However, even now, the bears still remain in the possession of these farmers and no one has been prosecuted for buying the bears in the first place (a criminal offense).

The provincial authorities now await a decision from the central government on how to deal with the case. What makes this case important is that it is not just about the lives of 80 bears, but about the strength of the law. It represents a test of the authorities' commitment to enforcing laws that were developed for

a purpose; to serve the public good and to ensure that bears and other endangered wildlife are not extinguished from our landscape for the benefit of a few profit-driven individuals.

Indeed, how the authorities decide on the fate of these 80 bears has the potential to either make or break efforts to protect endangered species in Vietnam for years to come.



More than 100 unregistered bears in Quang Ninh province await a final decision from the authorities that will either open the door to continued trade of wild bears or mark a turning point in efforts to end it.

*Photo by ENV*

Lets imagine the outcome of this important case:

The authorities decide to register the illegal bears in place. The message is clear. Decision 02 and Regulation 47 is essentially meaningless. Illegal owners of wildlife need only to register their animals when confronted with their violations. No punishment is administered. There is nothing to deter others from buying more endangered wildlife and keeping it illegally on farms. One year from now, there will be 80 more bears discovered, unregistered and illegal. And after that, 80 more bears. Then 80 more bears, and so on

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Empty cages await bears at a new bear rescue facility at Tam Dao National Park. The facility, administered by the Animals Asia Foundation, was completed in March, and is prepared to receive all 80 illegal bears should be confiscated in Quang Ninh. *Photo by ENV*

until there are no more bears in the wild left to put in farms. Respect for the law is undermined. Criminals prevail. Tiger farmers and people keeping gibbons, langurs, leopards, and other endangered wildlife continue to buy, sell, and keep these animals in violation of the law.

The other option is that the authorities confiscate the 80 illegal bears, sending a strong and clear message to bear farmers and others keeping wildlife. The law is upheld. Violate the law at your own risk. If you are caught, you will face punishment. There is no exception. Nobody can help or protect you from the law. Respect the law or face the consequences.

Undoubtedly, all bear farmers will take notice. So will tiger farmers and others keeping wildlife illegally. Violators will turn in illegal animals to avoid punishment. Other criminals will be forced to operate in secret, always threatened by the possibility of exposure and prosecution. While bears and tigers may still face pressure from hunters, crime is suppressed and the risks become greater for criminals. Wildlife is better protected. The public good is served.

The law is intended to protect endangered species so that they do not disappear. It is time that we sent a clear message to criminals who buy and sell wildlife in violation of the law that their behavior is unacceptable, and that they engage in illegal activities at the expense of the people, our children, and our future.

As if to prove the point further, as we finished this article

**Protect Our Endangered Wildlife!**

**People that buy, sell, or trade wildlife in violation of the law are criminals**

**Wildlife crime is a CRIME!**

**Make an example of criminals and violators**

**If you are not part of the solution, you may be part of the problem.**

on the 80 bears, authorities in Quang Ninh province reported the discovery of another 20 bears that were illegally transferred to one of the six farmers that is currently the target of investigation. Do the farmer's view the law so lightly that they dare acquire additional illegal bears while they are under investigation? Despite Decision 02 and Regulation 47, evidently the trade will continue, unless we put an end to it here and NOW by enforcing the law and making an example out of those that feel that the law does not apply to them.

## **Zero Tolerance on Bear Crimes; Only Way to End Bear Farming and Trade**

If we want to end the trade in bears, we need only to aggressively enforce the law. Bear traders will quickly disappear, or at least be reduced to a handful of criminals operating underground, always at risk of being apprehended by the authorities. Zero tolerance means setting the acceptable level of crime at zero, meaning that no violation of the law, no matter how small, goes unpunished.

We have sometimes heard representatives of functional agencies comment that they feel sorry for bear farmers because managing and feeding captive bears can be expensive. If the owners are not allowed to sell bear bile, how can they afford to keep the bears???

It should be remembered that it was the owners who illegally purchased the bears in the first place. Had they not violated the law, they would not be in this position today. Feel sorry for them? Perhaps we should feel sorry for heroin traffickers too when their stash is confiscated? People make choices. Sometimes they are bad choices. Hopefully, lessons are learned from these mistakes and others have the opportunity to observe and avoid the same mistakes. By allowing bear owners to continue to sell bile, we allow for the problem to continue and send a message to all criminals, as well as the next

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generation of lawbreakers, that the law is not really a requirement, but a suggestion. Take, for example, the issue of wearing motorcycle helmets. Most people, despite their knowledge of the dangers, would prefer to go without. However, the law requires people to wear their helmets. Thus, with enforcement of the law, and zero tolerance by police, nearly everyone on the road wears a helmet, except for a small number of offenders, who will hopefully be caught and caught again, until they finally do comply with the law. Laws protecting bears are no different than laws requiring people to wear motorcycle helmets on the road. When enforced rigorously, we can succeed and bring an end to the problem. In this case, the issue is protecting an endangered species, threatened by commercial exploitation.

According to existing laws, the following legislation applies to bears, which are listed in Group 1B of Decree 32:

- It is illegal to possess a bear that is not registered with the Forest Protection Department. Registration had to be completed prior to February 28, 2005. This is to prevent new bears from being hunted and brought into the trade.
- It is illegal to exploit bile from bears, including registered bears.

- It is illegal to advertise or sell bear bile, bear paws, organs, meat, claws, or other parts of any bear, including from a registered bear.
- It is illegal to transfer a registered bear from one location to another, even within the same province, without a permit from the Forest Protection Department.

If we enforce the law, bear farming in Vietnam will end. Let's set our sights on "zero tolerance" and bring an end to illegal bear farming in Vietnam. Enforce the law, every bear counts!

## Spring is coming....Customs and Border Police take note.

The Spring is prime hunting season for bear cubs. It is at this time of the year when new cubs are born, the mother bears shot in the forest, and the cubs collected and sold into the bear trade. We can expect traders to attempt to bring bear cubs into Vietnam overland from neighboring Laos and Cambodia. Please urgently report border incidents involving bears to the appropriate provincial Forest Protection Department or contact the National Forest Crime Task Force of the Forest Protection Department.

## Crime Statistics

The ENV Wildlife Crimes Monitoring Unit has logged a total of 1104 cases between January 1, 2005 to March 13, 2008

Period	Trade seizures	Selling	Advertising	Possession/display	Other	Total *
January 2008	20	46	2	18	0	86
February 2008	6	9	1	6	4	26
March 2008	5	3	1	3	0	12
Total 2008	31	58	4	27	4	124
<b>Total 2005–2008</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1104</b>

\* These statistics represent only a small fraction of the active trade in wildlife in Vietnam, and only account for those cases that are reported to ENV.



# Crime Log: January - March 2008

## Trade Seizures January/ March 2008

**Quang Nam:** FPD officers confiscated 546.4 kg of wildlife from two residents' houses in Thang Binh District. The wildlife included monitor lizards, Chinese water dragons, Indochinese rat snakes, civets, bamboo rats, Chinese soft-shell turtles, porcupines, common and Indochinese rat snakes, and 66 kg of wild pig meat. The animals were released at the Phu Ninh protective forest while the pig meat and dead animals were incinerated. (WCU Ref. Case 960, 961)

**Hanoi:** The FPD, working in cooperation with the Noi Bai airport customs department, inspected and confiscated more than one ton of common rat snakes that were being smuggled into Vietnam on an airplane from Thailand. Many of the snakes were already dead at the time of the discovery and no one has claimed ownership of the cargo (WCU Ref. Case 1026).

**Hanoi:** In early January, Hanoi Environmental Police uncovered a wildlife trade ring in Hanoi following the confiscation of two live tigers from a vehicle in Hanoi. Police went on to raid the trader's house in Ha Tay, recovering parts from five more tigers in addition to a range of wildlife products including rhino horns, elephant tusks, and bear paws. The tigers were transferred to Soc Son Rescue Center and the trader and her accomplices are being criminally prosecuted (WCU Ref. Case 994).



Two tigers confiscated in early January from a trader in Hanoi. A subsequent raid of the trader's home by environmental police resulted in the discovery of parts from five more tigers, in addition to a variety of other wildlife products. *Photo by ENV*

**Hanoi:** The Environmental Police working in cooperation with the Hanoi FPD confiscated a leopard cat, four civets and 13 brush-tailed porcupines from the Nam Hai restaurant in Hanoi. All the confiscated animals were transferred to the Soc Son Rescue Center. The restaurant has been openly selling wildlife for several years and has been the target of local efforts to gain owner compliance with the law. (WCU Ref. Case 329B)

**Binh Dinh:** Tuy Phuoc district FPD working in

cooperation with police inspected a resident's house in Phuoc Loc commune of Tuy Phuoc district and confiscated 15 common palm civets and two brush-tailed porcupines. (WCU Ref. Case 1006)



One of 15 common palm civets confiscated in January by rangers from a resident's house in Binh Dinh province.

*Photo by Tuy Phuoc FPD*

**Lam Dong:** The FPD raided several houses in Dam Rong district after receiving reports that local residents there were keeping and selling wildlife. Rangers confiscated a range of wildlife including 13 kg of dried macaque bones and meat; 6 kg of deer meat; 14 kg of lesser mouse-deer meat, 18 kg of wild pig meat, 10 kg of common barking deer meat; as well as two macaques, brush-tailed porcupines, leopard cats, bamboo rats, and civets. The two macaques were turned over to Bi Doup Nui Ba National Park and the bush-meat was incinerated. The subjects were fined a total of 9,891,000 VND. (WCU Ref. Case 995, 996, 998)

**Ha Tinh:** Police in Huong Son district discovered 277 kg of pangolins abandoned on the side of the road, apparently awaiting shipment. The police noted that the trader had escaped. (WCU Ref. Case 993)

**Quang Binh:** Environmental Police confiscated a shipment of 154 kg of wildlife including two pangolins, two turtles, two wild pigs, a Malayan porcupine, 18 brush-tailed porcupines and two snakes. Most of the animals were dead and were later incinerated by FPD. The owner of the shipment was fined 30 million VND. (WCU Ref. Case 1032)

**Ho Chi Minh:** Customs at Tan Son Nhat International Airport in Ho Chi Minh seized five pieces of rhino horn weighing 17.66 kg from the suitcase of a passenger arriving on a flight from Singapore. The rhino horns reportedly originated in Africa. (WCU Ref. Case 990)

**Ho Chi Minh:** Forest Rangers and Environmental Police raided a resident's house in Binh Thanh District and confiscated 24 masked palm civets weighing a total of 57.7 kg and 10 kg of wild pig meat. All of the

civets were released into the Can Gio Nature Reserve while the wild pig meat was incinerated. The subjects were issued a total fine of 7.8 million VND. (WCU Ref. Case 1060)

**Lam Dong:** Rangers from Bidoup-Nui Ba National Park in cooperation with rangers from Chu Yang Sin National Park discovered 269 kg of wildlife meat including sambar deer, wild pig, civets, common barking deer and macaques from nine hunters within the national park. All the wildlife meat was incinerated and the subjects are pending punishment. (WCU Ref. Case 1075)

**Quang Nam:** The Quang Nam FPD confiscated three baby leopard cats from a local resident in Dien Ban District. The cats were reportedly trapped by the resident in the forest near his house. The leopard cats were subsequently turned over to Song Thanh Nature Reserve. (WCU Ref. Case 1074)

**Dak Lak:** Rangers from Chu Yang Sin National Park arrested a local resident in Krong Bong District who was caught in possession of 45 kg of serow meat. The serow meat was later incinerated and the subject will be criminally prosecuted. (WCU Ref. Case 1003)

*Note: The serow (Capricornis sumatraensis) is listed as fully protected under Group 1B of Decree 32.*

**Ha Tay:** Environmental Police confiscated 88 jars of king cobra wine, four jars of monitor lizard wine, and four jars of tockay wine from a truck Phuc Tho district. The police reportedly intend to prosecute the subject. (WCU Ref. Case 1065)

**Hai Phong:** Customs authorities in Hai Phong Port discovered two shipments containing more than 21 tons of slaughtered pangolins, in addition to nearly 900 kg of pangolin scales, as they were being offloaded from a ship originating in Jakarta, Indonesia. The shipment was to be received by a Vietnamese company and reportedly smuggled onward to China. (WCU Ref. Case 1090, 1100)

**Ha Tay:** Environmental police confiscated nine leopard cats, nine macaques, and more than 100 kg of frozen cobra, python, rat snakes, kraits and brush-tailed porcupines from a private home in My Duc district. The surviving animals were transferred to Soc Son Rescue Center and the police intend to prosecute the trader. (WCU Ref. Case 1096)

**Dak Nong:** Police and forest rangers confiscated the body of a black-shanked douc langur and two gibbons from a Tay

ethnic minority person in Tuy Duc District. The animals were reportedly purchased from some local residents to use for medicinal bone glue production. (WCU Ref. Case 1008)

**Dak Lak:** Wildlife protection officers from Buon Ma Thuot City raided a house and found an elephant being butchered to produce medicinal glue from bone. Further investigation revealed that the elephant had been part of a circus and had died of natural causes. (WCU Ref. Case 1092)

*Note: Elephants are protected under group 1B of Decree 32. Possession or sale of elephants or their parts, regardless of origin, is a crime.*

**Thanh Hoa:** Mobile police confiscated 16 kg of pangolins from a motorbike in Thanh Hoa City. The shipment originated from Ha Tinh Province and was reportedly to be sold to buyers in Thanh Hoa City. (WCU Ref. Case 1103)

**Tuyen Quang:** Environmental Police in cooperation with the Chiem Hoa District FPD raided a private house in Chiem Hoa District and confiscated a frozen tiger. The tiger was reportedly bought from Ha Tay Province and was being kept at the resident's house awaiting sale. The house owner and sale broker are being detained by police pending prosecution. (WCU Ref. Case 1105)

**Thanh Hoa:** The bodies of two dead tigers that had been kept by a local resident in Tho Xuan District were destroyed by authorities in a public burning. The tigers were two of seven being illegally kept by the owner, who reportedly intends to turn over the remaining tigers to authorities when suitable facilities become available. (WCU Ref. Case 1063)



Authorities in Thanh Hoa oversee the burning of two tiger carcasses recovered from a resident in Tho Xuan district. In this case, Thanh Hoa authorities set a positive example for other provinces to follow in properly disposing of the tigers rather than allowing the parts to be sold off (a violation of the law).

*Photo by ENV*



# Public Participation in Stopping Wildlife Crime: January - March 2008

The following cases involving public participation in efforts to stop the wildlife trade occurred or were resolved during the first three months of 2008:

**Hanoi:** A local resident contacted the ENV Wildlife Crime Hotline to voluntarily turn over a loris. The loris was then transferred to the Endangered Primate Rescue Center at Cuc Phuong National Park. (WCU Ref. Case 991)



A Hanoi man turns over a loris to the ENV Wildlife Crime Unit in February. *Photo by ENV*

**Note:** ENV does not encourage people to buy wildlife in the hopes of “saving it”. While the individual animal that is purchased might be quite lucky to be rescued, the money paid to the vendor will be used to buy more wildlife, putting into danger many more animals in the future that will be captured to meet the “demand” created by your purchase. If you see wildlife in the trade, contact the ENV Wildlife Crime Hotline. We will do our best to have the animal confiscated without payment, and ensure that the vendor is punished in accordance with the law. This form of action is best for the individual animal concerned, and most importantly, it contributes to protecting animals in the wild.

**Ho Chi Minh:** The FPD inspected a private house in District 9 and confiscated a gibbon, thanks to a tip to the Wildlife Crime Hotline by a Ho Chi Minh City resident. The gibbon was transferred to the Cu Chi Rescue Center. (WCU Ref. Case 1015)

**Hai Phong:** Five civets were confiscated from a restaurant in Hai Phong after student volunteers from ENV's Wildlife Volunteer Network inspected the restaurant and reported the crime to the FPD. All five civets were later transferred to the Small Carnivore

Conservation Program (SCP) at Cuc Phuong National Park. (WCU Ref. Case 1009)

**Hanoi:** Three turtles including a *Ocadia sinensis*, a *Callagur borneoensis* and a *Hieremys annandalii* were voluntarily turned over to the Cuc Phuong Turtle Conservation Center by two university professors in Hanoi. The turtles were reportedly caught in Hoan Kiem Lake by residents living near the lake when they went ashore, and were turned into the university (WCU Ref. Case 1077, 1078)

**Note:** *Batagur (Callagur) borneoensis* is a critically endangered species that is native to coastal rivers in Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand (but not to Vietnam). This is the first known case in which this species has been found in the trade in Vietnam.

**Khanh Hoa:** Five shops in Nha Trang stopped selling stuffed marine turtles following a series of inspections by the Khanh Hoa FPD. The crimes were first reported to FPD by ENV after a survey carried out with assistance from Wildlife Volunteer Network members from a local university in late November. (WCU Ref. Case 905, 906, 907, 908, 909)



A green turtle mounted on the wall of a shop in Nha Trang city. Khanh Hoa rangers later inspected seven shops that were selling marine turtles and required owners to remove all of the turtles. *Photo by ENV*

**Ha Tay:** A company operating under the Defense Ministry voluntarily turned over a Malayan sun bear to Ha Tay authorities. The bear had been kept at the company for four years and was transferred to the Soc Son Rescue Center. (WCU Ref. Case 997)

**Gia Lai:** After receiving information from an ENV monitoring officer, the An Khe town FPD confiscated 15 kg of wildlife meat including 5 kg of civet meat, 10 kg of wild pig meat and 2 kg of snakes from a wildlife

trader's house. The animal meat was incinerated and the snakes were released into a local forest. The FPD issued an administrative fine of 1.7 million VND to the trader. (WCU Ref. Case 1011)

**Thanh Hoa:** The Cam Thuy FPD inspected a shop within the Suoi Ca Tourism Area after being tipped-off by a foreigner, and confiscated four stuffed civets and three stuffed squirrels that were on display for sale. The shop owner was fined 800,000 VND. (WCU Ref. Case 1017)

**Hai Phong:** A local policeman voluntarily turned over a Rhesus macaque to Cat Ba National Park after having kept it in captivity for some time. The macaque is pending transfer to Soc Son Rescue Center. (WCU Ref. Case 1031)

**Ho Chi Minh:** The Cu Chi authorities shut down a gift shop within the Cu Chi Tunnels which was reportedly selling snake wine after a foreign visitor reported the violation. (WCU Ref. Case 1072)

**Hanoi:** The mobile ranger team inspected a restaurant in Dong Da District and confiscated five live bamboo rats. The animals were placed at the Soc Son Rescue Center and the restaurant owner was fined about 200,000 VND. (WCU Ref. Case 1002)

**Hanoi:** A popular restaurant voluntarily stopped selling bear bile following monitoring and subsequent discussions with the WCU. (WCU Ref. Case 934)

**Dong Nai:** After more than half of a year of attempting to deal with this highly political case, the Dong Nai provincial FPD successfully confiscated three gibbons from a restaurant in Thong Nhat District. The gibbons, currently being held at FPD headquarters, will be

transferred to facilities at Cat Tien National Park later this year. The gibbon case was first reported to the Wildlife Crime Hotline in mid 2007 by a Ho Chi Minh resident. (WCU Ref. Case 565)



One of three yellow-cheeked gibbons that were being kept at a restaurant in Dong Nai province. All three gibbons were recently transferred to the FPD by the restaurant owner.

*Photo by ENV*

## Photo Gallery



A king cobra in wine at a shop in Hanoi. King cobras (*Ophiophagus hannah*) are protected under Group 1B of Decree 32.

*Photo by ENV*



A sun bear at one of a handful of government-run or supported bear rescue centers.

*Photo by ENV*



A man in the popular Bac Ha market in Lao Cai province offers a loris for sale to tourists. The tourist market has repeatedly been the source of wildlife crime cases involving lorises, leopard cat skins, and other products made from wildlife.

*Photo by Tran Hung*



## In The Corner

### Paying hunters for wildlife

There have been a number of cases where hunters have been “compensated” for wildlife that has been confiscated or handed over to the authorities. This practice essentially means that people who have broken the law are being financially rewarded for having done so. In some cases, paying hunters for wildlife will result in continued hunting. At a minimum, the practice of compensating hunters and other small-time violators undermines the law by removing the deterrent value of punishment in cases where protected species are discovered in private hands.

When a protected species is found in the illegal possession of a hunter or trader, the animal should be confiscated without compensation. Local authorities might consider waiving punishment in cases where people voluntarily turn over protected animals, but money should never change hands. The message to the hunters and would-be violators should be clear “If you are caught with a protected species, you face the risk of punishment in accordance with the law. Consider yourself lucky if you are not prosecuted, and don't even *think* about asking for compensation.”

#### Consult your National Forest Protection Department

If you are having difficulties dealing with a case involving Group 1B protected species because the subject of the case seems to be protected in some way, or if you wish to report corruption relating to forest crimes, please contact the new National FPD Forest Crime Task Force for assistance.

## Regional Crime News

### Forensic Science Joins Fight Against Wildlife Crime!

Malaysian wildlife protection authorities have a new criminal forensic science laboratory to help them in the fight against wildlife crime, assisting them to identify wildlife products and prosecute violators. The new laboratory is establishing a DNA map for all known native species, which will allow authorities to identify, using just blood and tissue recovered from the crime scene, what the species is and where it originated. For example, if meat is confiscated from a restaurant, the new criminal lab will be able to identify exactly the species from a small sample of blood or tissue. If the species is listed as protected under Malaysian law, the restaurant owner will then be prosecuted. Source: *New Straight Times*

### Shoot to Kill Order

Indian authorities have authorized rangers to shoot rhino poachers on site in Kaziranga National Park after six one-horned rhinos were killed in early 2007. Poachers have been targeting the rhinos to take their horns which reportedly sell for as much as \$37,000/kg and are used in traditional medicine. Source: *Indian News Service*

### Tough Sentence for Tiger Crime

A Chinese man was sentenced to ten years in prison and received a 41 million VND fine (\$2,500 USD) for purchasing of a tiger skin at a market in Daqing city in early 2007. The tiger skin reportedly came from a south China tiger, listed as fully protected under Chinese wildlife law. Source: *Xinhua News*

### Marine Turtle Poachers Busted on High Seas

In late 2007, Philippine authorities stopped a Chinese fishing vessel and discovered more than 200 marine turtles inside, most of which were dead. The fishermen were charged with violating the Philippine Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act, under which marine turtles are listed as protected, and face fines of up to 340 million VND (\$21,500 USD) along with six-year jail terms. Source: *WWF Philippines*



## About the ENV Wildlife Crimes Monitoring Unit

Established in January of 2005, the ENV Wildlife Crimes Monitoring Unit runs the national Wildlife Crimes Hotline, a toll-free number that was established to provide a mechanism for the public to report wildlife crimes. Reports are quickly passed on to the appropriate functional agency by ENV, after which the monitoring unit tracks each case through to its conclusion with special attention focused on the disposal of the animals or animal parts, and the punishment administered to the perpetrator in each case. Sources are contacted and advised in detail as to the outcome of the case that he/she reported. Cases are then documented and filed, and recorded on ENV's Wildlife Crimes Database.

The main aims of the program are to:

- \* Encourage public participation and support in efforts to combat the illegal trade of wildlife
- \* Support enforcement efforts by government agencies
- \* Document crimes and identify factors that contribute to the wildlife trade

The ENV Wildlife Crimes Monitoring Unit is jointly funded by the Humane Society International, Conservation International, and The Whitley Fund for Nature.

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*Wildlife Crimes - Vietnam* is produced monthly by Education for Nature Vietnam in Vietnamese language and is distributed to Provincial People's Committees, functional agencies tasked with wildlife protection, and protected area managers and rangers in 64 provinces.

An English language version of the bulletin is also produced and distributed within the conservation community.

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### Your Voice and Ideas or Questions are Welcome!

If you have a question about some aspect of the wildlife trade, email us and we will do our best to find you an answer. Your question might also be selected for the community voice section of our monthly wildlife crimes radio show on the Voice of Vietnam. Email: [Hotline@fpt.vn](mailto:Hotline@fpt.vn)



### Stop Wildlife Crime

If you see wildlife in restaurants or other business establishments, contact your local authorities or the ENV Wildlife Crime Hotline

Hotline: **1800-1522** Email: **Hotline@fpt.vn**

**You** can make a difference!