

ROBIN DES BOIS

ON the TRAIL

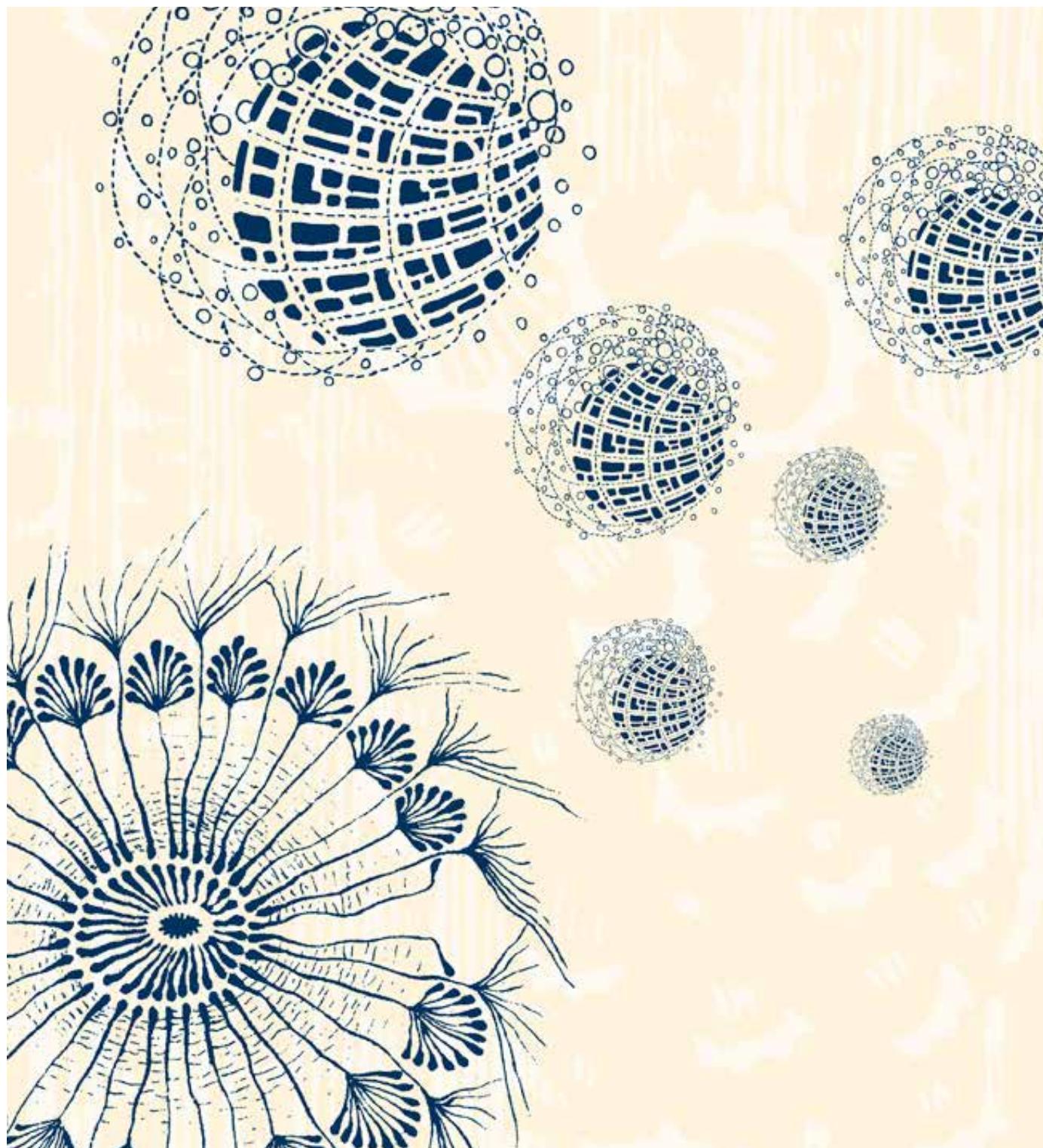
The defaunation bulletin

Quarterly information and analysis report on animal poaching and smuggling

n°22. Events from the 1th July to the 30 of September 2018

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Original version in French





“On the Trail”, the defaunation magazine, aims to get out of the drip of daily news to draw up every three months an organized and analyzed survey of poaching, smuggling and worldwide market of animal species protected by national laws and international conventions.

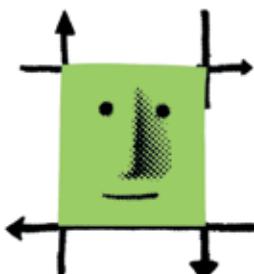
“On the Trail” highlights the new weapons of plunderers, the new modus operandi of smugglers, rumours intended to attract humans consumers of animals and their by-products. “On the Trail” gathers and disseminates feedback from institutions, individuals and NGOs that fight against poaching and smuggling. End to end, the “On the Trail” are the biological, social, ethnological, police, customs, legal and financial chronicle of poaching and other conflicts between humanity and animality.

Previous issues in English

<http://www.robindesbois.org/en/a-la-trace-bulletin-dinformation-et-danalyses-sur-le-braconnage-et-la-contrebande/>

Previous issues in French

<http://www.robindesbois.org/a-la-trace-bulletin-dinformation-et-danalyses-sur-le-braconnage-et-la-contrebande/>



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Dear readers,

We asked you for your opinions and suggestions. We would like to thank all those - about fifty correspondents to date - who have taken the time and liberty to reply to our letter.

Your feedback confirms that «On the Trail» is appreciated by those in customs, ministries, universities, national parks, and CITES bodies who analyze and are trying to slow down wildlife trafficking, habitat destruction and corruption.

«On the Trail» is also appreciated by national and international NGOs.

Our readers perceive «On the Trail» as a transversal knowledge tool («it is important to see what is happening elsewhere»), a training tool, a synthesis and decision-making aid.

To date, comments have been received primarily from Southern Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, North America, Europe, Oceania and even less so from Asia and South America.

Some of you tell us that reading «On the Trail» can lead to a certain «depression». By its very nature, the world of poaching and smuggling is a cruel place. On the other hand, we note with wonder that everywhere and always there is a worldwide unflagging resistance and this is, for us, an antidote to discouragement.

Your suggestions are studied in detail and will be taken into account as far as possible.

CITES Appendices

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. **182 Member States**

Appendix I : species threatened with extinction. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances and under import and export permits.

Appendix II : export permit required in order to avoid utilization incompatible with the species survival. Import permit if required by national law.

Appendix III : species that are protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade. In the case of trade from a State that included the species in Appendix III, an export permit of that State is required.

Seahorses

Seahorses (*Hippocampus spp.*) are listed under CITES Appendix II.

EUROPE

GERMANY

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 13, 2018	Munich Airport	Seizure	53 dried seahorses (250g).	From Viet Nam. In a traveller's luggage.

Corals



ASIA

CHINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 14, 2018	Qingdao	Seizure	30 necklaces and bracelets in "red coral" beads (336.3g).	In a postal parcel.
August 26, 2018	Checkpoint of the Nam Thi river, Viet Nam border	Seizure	2 fragments of "red coral" (450g).	In a Chinese traveller's luggage.
September 10, 2018	Hangzhou	Seizure	4 jewels in "red coral" (45g).	In a postal parcel.

INDIA

August 11, 2018	Bangalore	Seizure / Arrest	130 corals (order Alcyonacea).	Police raid in the objects of worship store run by Madhukumar (29 years old) at the RMC market. Pretrial detention of the suspect. Corals harvested in the Bay of Bengal. Used in decoration, alternative medicine, as lucky charms.
September 29, 2018	Dum Dum, West Bengal State	Seizure / Arrest	20 live corals (<i>Goniopora</i> spp., <i>Favites</i> spp., <i>Sympyllia</i> spp.). Race against the clock, to be released within 48 hours or they die.	Upendranath Goswami (26 years old) was looking to sell them to aquarists. Coming from Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu (2000 km).

THAILAND

July 17, 2018	Bangkok	Seizure	38 corals from Scleractinia order, 18 from Alcyonacea order.	Raid at the Chatuchak market on the stalls of Supattra Sa Kaam (24 years old), Sikharin Siriboon (30 years old) and on stand B539 in the absence of the owner.
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EUROPE

ITALY

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
End September 2018	Naples international airport	Seizure	7 corals <i>Catalaphyllia</i> spp., <i>Caulastraea</i> spp. and <i>Goniopora</i> spp.	In the luggage of one Italian traveller from the Bahamas.

NETHERLANDS

End September 2018	Netherlands	Seizure	Corals.	In the luggage of 2 French passengers from Tanzania.
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Abalones

Haliotis spp.



AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	VALUE	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 11, 2018	Humansdorp	Sentence	475 abalones (50 kg).	5400 US\$ (108 US\$/kg)	Edwin Wait (51 years old) released on bail of 215 US\$. Riaan Smit (49 years old) stays in prison.
July 18, 2018	Table View, Swellendam and Melbosstrand	Seizure / Arrest	- Table View: 3150 abalones, - Swellendam: 1633 abalones, - Melbosstrand: 908 abalones.	- 53,100 US\$, - 21,200 US\$, - 8900 US\$.	- 2 suspects, 22 and 27 years old, - 2 suspects, 58 and 64 years old, - 1 suspect 22 years old (5 runaways).
July 18, 2018	Milnerton and Cape Town	Seizure / Arrest	- Milnerton: 4297 abalones, - Cape Town: 74 abalones.	- 18,000 US\$, - 1000 US\$.	- 1 Chinese national (about 20 years old), - 2 arrests.
July 20, 2018	Cape Town	Seizure / Arrest	More than 8266 abalones, 12 mobile phones and drying equipment.	325,000 US\$	4 suspects between 29 and 42 years old.
July 20, 2018	Cape Town	Seizure / Arrest	A "big quantity of abalones".	-	2 men 50 and 39 years old, 1 woman 36 years old.
July 24, 2018	Strand	Seizure / Arrest	5030 abalones.	72,000 US\$	Hidden under tarpaulins in the back of the car. 1 man (39 years old).
July 26, 2018	Plumstead	Seizure / Arrest	Near 20,000 abalones	144,000 US\$	3 men, 24, 28 and 39 years old.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	VALUE	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 1, 2018	Goodwood	Seizure / Arrest	1522 shucked abalones in plastic bags in the trunk and behind the seats of a car.	57,600 US\$	1 man 23 years old.
August 9, 2018	Milnerton	Seizure / Arrest	37 bags full of abalones in 2 cars.	-	3 arrests.
August 2018	Somerset West	Seizure / Arrest	Fresh and dried abalones.	190,000 US\$	Arrest of Ibrahem Abdalla Atieh Alnaimat, Shen Hongyu and Tu Dugn. Release of the first under bail (11,400 US\$). Detention on suspicion for the other two.



South Africa, August 9, 2018, Milnerton



South Africa, August 12, Cape Town

August 12, 2018	Cape Town	Arrest	Dismantling of 2 drying workshops.	Abalones' worth: 410,000 US\$ and 720,000 US\$	One 20-year-old Chinese national and a 30-year-old Zimbabwean.
August 2018	Oliver Reginald Tambo International Airport	Seizure	60 kg in 1 package declared "personal effects".	137,000 US\$, 2280 US\$/kg	Destination Hong Kong.
August 26, 2018	Winburg	Seizure / Arrest	350kg of abalones in plastic bags in a bakkie.	36,980 US\$	On the road between Cape Town and Johannesburg. One 32-year-old suspect arrested, 1 runaway accomplice.
September 8, 2018	Cape Town	Seizure / Arrest	A "large quantity" of abalones.	20,620 US\$	1 arrest.
September 12, 2018	Cape Town	Seizure / Arrest	2064 abalones in a fake car compartment, in fake speakers, then in a clandestine drying workshop.	70,000 US\$	1 arrest.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	VALUE	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 13, 2018	Cape Town	Seizure / Arrest	Seizures in 2 cars, one house and one workshop for processing and packaging fresh, dry and shelled abalones, cash, mobile phones, drying equipment.	Global value: 310,000 US\$.	4 arrests. Actions of the canine squad and the DAFF (Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries).
September 19, 2018	Port Elizabeth	Sentence	Abalones' poaching.	Global Profit: 2 millions US\$	Operation "Little Rhino". 20 years in prison for Morne Blignaut (48), arrested in 2016. Verdict pending for his five accomplices.

ASIA

CHINA

September 13, 2018	Man Kam To checkpoint between Hong Kong and Mainland China	Seizure / Arrest	316 kg dried abalones in 2 cars.	240,000 US\$, 760 US\$ per kilo	4 arrests : 2 drivers (a woman 53 years old and a man 32 years old) and 2 other passengers (2 men, 20 and 49 years old), released on bail.
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Giant Clams, Conches, Mediterranean Slipper Lobsters and Noble Pen Shells

ASIA

CHINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Mid-July 2018	Kunming Changshui international airport	Seizure	1 giant clam, 5.36 kg (Tridacnidae, Appendix II).	In a luggage from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
July 22 and 29, 2018	Gongbei frontier post from Macao.	Seizure	- 4 giant clams (4,272 g) and 2 worked giant clams (160g), Tridacnidae, Appendix II, - 1 conch <i>Cassis cornuta</i> (1,444 g).	2 seizures in passengers' luggage.
August 24, 2018	Zhanjiang	Seizure	2 half-shells of giant clams (3.46 kg), Tridacnidae, Appendix II.	In the luggage of 1 Chinese passenger from Cambodia.
August 28, 2018	Xiamen Gaoqi international airport	Seizure	1 giant clam (Tridacnidae, Appendix II).	In the luggage of 1 Chinese traveller from Papua New Guinea, via Hong Kong.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 5, 2018	Dongxing	Seizure	26 giant clams (Tridacnidae, Appendix II).	146,350 US\$.

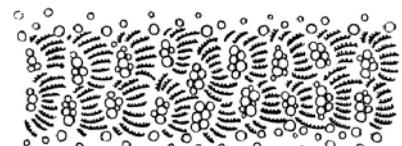
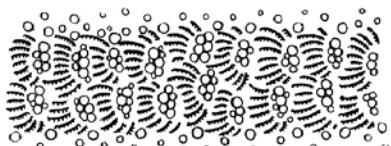
SRI LANKA

August 11, 2018	Puttalam District	Seizure / Arrest	1960 conches (genus <i>Strombus</i>).	1 single arrest.
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EUROPE

ITALY

July 17, 2018	Archipelago di La Maddalena National Park	Seizure / Arrest	2 Mediterranean slipper lobsters <i>Scyllarides latus</i> .	Sicilian "Champion" of apnea fishing, member of the FIPSAS (Federazione Italiana Pesca Sportiva e Attività Subacquee).
August 28, 2018	Protected Natural Marine Area of Capo Carbonara	Seizure / Arrest	1 40-cm long noble pen shell <i>Pinna nobilis</i> .	1 "tourist" diver-plunderer from Piedmont.
September 26, 2018	Olbia port	Seizure	1 noble pen shell <i>Pinna nobilis</i> .	Arrest of 1 tourist.



Sea Cucumbers

Class Holothuroidea. *Isostichopus fuscus* is listed under CITES Appendix III in Ecuador.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 17, 2018	San Diego	Sentence	Sea cucumber trafficking between Mexico, the United States of America and Asia (total value US\$ 17.5 million). See "On the Trail" no. 17 p.6.	Blessings Inc. and its owner David Mayorquin (41 years old): 973,490 US\$ in damages for the Lacey Act Rewards Fund and the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Fund. Blessings, Inc.: 237,879 US\$ in additional fine. David Mayorquin: 40,000 US\$ in compensation to the Mexican government. No fine for Ramon Mayorquin (77 years old).

MEXICO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 2, 2018	Mexico city international airport	Seizure	137 sea cucumbers <i>Isostichopus fuscus</i> (3.205 kg). In a postal parcel.	Bound for Portland, Oregon (USA)
September 2, 2018	Ensenada	Seizure	172 <i>Isostichopus fuscus</i> aboard the <i>Ana I.</i>	3 fishermen.

NICARAGUA

August 26, 2018	Puerto Cabezas	Death	Illegal underwater diving.	Deadly drowning of Lester Williams, a 38-year-old poacher.
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ASIA

CHINA

July 16, 2018	Xiamen Gaoqi international airport	Seizure	49.6 kg of semi-dried sea cucumbers.	In the luggage of a Chinese national coming from Vancouver.
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INDIA

July 20, 2018	At sea, between Vedhalai and raikayarpattinam	Seizure / Arrest	1190 kg of dried sea cucumbers. Wrapped in 26 bags.	On a tip-off, interception of 1 boat bound for Sri Lanka. 2 sailors, P. Malaiyandi (39 years old) and S. Kasim Mohamed (32 years old) placed in custody.
September 17, 2018	Off Mandapam	Seizure	Around 150 kg sea cucumbers in 8 bags. 1 boat.	Escape of the crew.

SRI LANKA

July 9, 2018	Off Point Pedro	Seizure / Arrest	30 sea cucumbers, 5 crafts.	15 arrests.
July 17, 2018	In the Mandaitivu lagoon area	Seizure / Arrest	210 sea cucumbers, 2 crafts.	14 arrests.
September 14, 2018	Rodhapadu, Puttalam district	Seizure / Arrest	1480.5 kg dried sea cucumbers, 3 crafts.	6 arrests.

Sea Urchins

EUROPE

FRANCE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS
September 12, 2018	Off cape Senetosa, Corsica	Seizure	336 sea urchins <i>Paracentrotus lividus</i> poached, the survivors were released into the sea. 1 pleasure craft.

ITALY

July 23, 2018	Marine Protected area of Plemmirio	Seizure	1000 sea urchins, immediately released into the sea. Poaching by 2 divers. Seizure of equipment.
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Fishes

AFRICA

MOROCCO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Early July	Mohammed V international airport	Seizure	78 kg glass eels (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i> , Appendix II), or 156,000 glass eels.	Bound for Doha. In plastic bags, in the luggage of 3 travellers

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

September 22, 2018	Off shore	Seizure	Around 2 t blue sharks (<i>Prionace glauca</i>) and cut-out fins.	Aboard the tuna boat <i>Vema</i> , operated by Spanish-Senegalese interests. Usual port of landing: Walvis Bay, Namibia. Joint operation by the maritime authorities and Sea Shepherd.
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Early July, Mohammed V international airport, Morocco



July 14, 2018, Manaus International Airport – Eduardo Gomes, Brazil

AMERICA

BRAZIL

July 6, 2018	Tefé, 500 km upstream from Manaus	Seizure / Arrest	363 kg arapaima (<i>Arapaima gigas</i> , Appendix II).	6 Arrests. At the confluence of the Tefé and Amazon rivers. For sale in 2 markets.
July 14, 2018	Manaus International Airport – Eduardo Gomes	Seizure / Arrest	550 fishes for aquarists.	In plastic bags in 2 suitcases. Bound for Tabatinga at the border with Colombia. Suspicion of international traffic. 2 arrests.
July 18, 2018	São Félix do Araguaia	Seizure / Arrest	More than 80 kg fish (<i>Arapaima gigas</i> , Appendix II, <i>Pseudoplatystoma fasciatum</i> and <i>Cichla ocellaris</i>). 1 freezer.	In a restaurant. Indictment of the manager (48 years old) for poaching protected fish with prohibited means.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 23, 2018	Manaus Port	Seizure / Arrest	800 kg of arapaima (<i>Arapaima gigas</i> , Appendix II).	Manuel Claudio Silva: 7600 US\$ fine. In the hold of the <i>Barão do Juruá</i> .
Early August 2018	Icaraíma	Seizure / Arrest	58.66 kg fishes, mainly arapaima (<i>Arapaima gigas</i> , Appendix II) under the authorized size.	1 arrest. Fishing, marketing and transport of arapaima are allowed under strict size and seasonality conditions.

COLOMBIA

August 23, 2018	Guadalajara de Buga	Seizure	400 exogen fishes and shrimps for aquarists, including <i>Epalzeorhynchos frenatum</i> , <i>Pangio kuhlii</i> and <i>Neocaridina davidi</i> .	5 to 40 US\$ a fish. At the bus station. 1 Ecuadorian from Cali, bound for the department of Quindío. In 16 plastic bags allotted in several suitcases in the luggage compartment of one line coach.
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MEXICO

Early August 2018	Mexico city international airport	Seizure	21 "aphrodisiac" totoaba swim bladders (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> , Appendix I).	From Mazatlán and bound for China. In a postal parcel.
August 8, 2018	Mexico city international airport	Seizure	16 totoaba swim bladders (1.27 kg, <i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> , Appendix I) and 6.25 kg swim bladders of one unidentified fish species.	Bound for New York, USA. In a postal parcel. Global seizure in Mexico of 806 swim bladders since the beginning of the year.
Mid-September 2018	San Felipe	Arrest	Suspicion of totoaba swim bladders (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> , Appendix I) trafficking in the port of San Felipe.	Wanted by the police. Oscar "N", aka El Parra, supposed to be a traffic kingpin. Arrest warrant issued in January 2018 for homicide. Also involved in drug trafficking. Carlos Eduardo "N" and Edgar Alejandro "N", his bodyguards.

PERU

July 5, 2018	Iquitos, Maynas Province	Seizure	199 zebra pleco (<i>Hypancistrus zebra</i> , Appendix III in Brazil), fishes for aquarists.	30,000 US\$ on the international market. A man travelling from Santa Rosa to Iquitos aboard a passenger ship, the <i>MF Golfinho VI</i> , on the Amazon. In plastic bags full of water inside a red suitcase.
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ASIA
CHINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early August 2018	Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Border with Viet Nam	Arrest	International traffic in totoaba swim bladders (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> , Appendix I). 434 swim bladders (80kg) between April 1, 2018 and June 13, 2018.	Retail price: 8000 US\$/kg. Departure: Gulf of California (Mexico). Transit in Viet Nam. A father and his son. They would be members of a network responsible for smuggling 2621 other swim bladders.
September 20, 2018	Hong Kong	Good news	No more shark fins on the menu in the Maxim's restaurant chain as of 2020.	40 to 90 US\$ the shark fin dish. WildAid calls Paramount Catering, Lei Garden, Fulum to do the same.
September 22, 2018	Hong Kong international airport	Seizure	1.9 kg dried totoaba swim bladders (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> , Appendix I)	38,220 US\$, 20,100 US\$/kg. In a parcel from Los Angeles. Over 10 times more expensive than the current black market quotation of ivory.

INDIA

August 28, 2018	Orang national park	Seizure / Arrest	1 barca snakehead (<i>Channa barca</i>) of 1 kg.	145 US\$ for a 100g portion. Jiabur Rahman.
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September 1, 2018	Sewri and Veraval	Seizure / Arrest	8 t fins from around 16,000 sharks.	636,000 US\$. Arrests in 2 warehouses of the Global Impex Trading Company of Sarafat Ali, owner of the company, his brother Hameed Sultan, director R. Ahmed Asik and warehouse manager R. Shivaraman. Shipment bound for Hong Kong and Singapore. One container en route to Hong Kong has been recalled. Suspicion about 3 previous shipments. Fishing off Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
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INDONESIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 2, 2018	Sabang	Sentence	Illegal fishing. STS-50: 8 flags in 4 years, Russian owner, partly based in South Korea.	Ultimate seizure of the pirate ship STS-50 with all its equipment and fishing gear. Sentence of the captain to a fine of 13,900 US\$ or, failing payment, to 4 months' imprisonment. See "On the Trail" no. 21 p.11.

MALAYSIA

End August	Off the coast of Sabah State	Seizure	5 t of marine animals, including 230 tiger sharks (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>).	Operation of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency. On 3 foreign trawlers. Vietnamese crews. Sharks kept alive for unknown reasons in freshwater tanks converted to "aquariums".
September 4, 2018	Malaysia	Seizure	4 t shark fins.	In a container loaded in Chennai (India) and bound for Hong Kong. This seizure follows the raid on warehouses in India on the 1st. Declared as "dried ray skin".

TAIWAN

September 5, 2018	Kaohsiung	Seizure	30 t of silky shark meat (<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> , Appendix II).	Onboard the <i>Jin-chang 6</i> .
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EUROPE

FRANCE

September 4, 2018	Nantes	Sentence	Glass eels poaching (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i> , Appendix II).	6 sentences : - 2 months in prison and confiscation of fishing gear. - 2 months suspended prison and exclusion from the professional fishermen's association for 1 year. - 2000 € fine and seizure of equipment. - For 3 other poachers, a fine of 600 € each and seizure of the equipment. In total 3800€ of damages to the 5 plaintiffs, including Robin des Bois, for moral and ecological damages. See "On the Trail" no. 21 p.11.
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IRELAND

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 1, 2018	150 nautical miles south of Mizen Head	Seizure / Arrest	1.25 t shark fins, 164 t blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>) and 98 kg mako shark (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>).	Arrest of <i>Virxen da Blanca</i> . Charges against the captain for finning at sea. A 335,000 € surety is required for the release of the boat. On September 10, she was in the Azores. Contestation by the Spanish ship-owner: unavoidable cutting off of the anal fin to facilitate the evisceration of sharks.



Burela Port (Galicia, Spain), Jun 20, 2016

ITALY

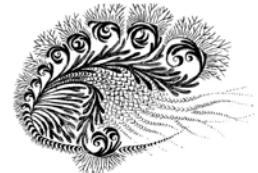
July 3, 2018	Siderno	Seizure / Arrest	86 kg of Atlantic bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) and 20 kg of swordfish (<i>Xiphias Gladius</i>) onboard a pleasure boat.	Fine of nearly 39,400 US\$. Fish given to charities.
Early September 2018	1 nautical mile off Torre del Greco	Seizure	3 Atlantic bluefin tunas (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>), buoys and a net. 1 survivor released into the sea, donation of the 2 dead to charity.	Coast guard intervention.

RUSSIA

Early July 2018	Khabarovsk	Sentence	Poaching and transport of sturgeon. In June 2017, 312 sturgeon fillets and 209 half litre plastic boxes filled with black caviar.	83,720 US\$. 1 former police officer, 47 years old: 3.5 years in jail. 2 accomplices: respectively 1 year and 1 year and 2 months in jail.
Early July 2018	Astrakhan Oblast	Seizure / Arrest	8 dead sturgeons and 5kg of black caviar (Acipenseridae, Appendix I or II).	Fish and eggs found "by accident" in the reeds by the poaching brothers.
End July 2018	Nizhni-Novgorod	Sentence	Attempt to sell 250 g of black caviar (Acipenseridae, Appendix I or II).	160 US\$ 640 US\$ per kilo. 1 arrest in June 2017, 140 hours of compulsory work.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
End July 2018	Komsomolsk-on-Amur	Seizure / Arrest	20 kg of black caviar (Acipenseridae, Appendix I or II).	7380 US\$ (370 US\$/kg). A 34-year-old railway man.
Early August 2018	Komsomolsk-on-Amur	Seizure / Arrest	40 kg of Kaluga black caviar (<i>Huso dauricus</i> , Appendix II).	1 male, 27 years old. In 80 half litre plastic boxes.
Mid-September 2018	Krasnoyarsk	Seizure / Arrest	More than 1 t of sturgeon and more than 50 kg of black caviar (Acipenseridae, Appendix I or II).	FSB operation. Caught red-handed. Partial dismantling of 1 caviar gang. Poaching in Yenissei river, transport by river, sale planned to tourists.

Marine Mammals



ASIA

CHINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Mid July 2018	Xiamen Gaoqi international airport	Seizure	100 seal genitalias (Phocidae).	In the luggage of a Canadian national coming from Vancouver.

JAPAN

August 2018	North-West Pacific	Whaling	43 Minke whales (<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> , Appendix I with reservation from Japan) and 134 Sei whales (<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i> , Appendix I with reservation from Japan) harpooned during the yearly "scientific mission".	By the whaling ships <i>Nisshin Maru</i> , <i>Yushin Maru</i> and <i>Yushin Maru n°3</i> . Use of the full quota (see "On the Trail" no. 21 p.15).
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EUROPE

ICELAND

Mid July 2018	Hvalfjordur fjord	Whaling	One blue whale in the Hvalur company slipway according to NGOs, one hybrid blue whale/fin whale according to the whalers and a forensic laboratory.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 30, 2018	Iceland	Whaling	Closure of the annual Minke whaling (<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> , Appendix I with reservation from Iceland) in the coastal waters. 6 specimens caught out of a 262 quota.	Disastrous economic situation for the whaling company IP-Utgerd Ltd.
End September 2018	Iceland	Whaling	Closure of fin whaling (<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> , Appendix I with reservation from Iceland) off Iceland: 146 in the bag hunt including 1 dozen pregnant females and at least 2 "hybrids" blue whale/fin whale.	

NETHERLANDS

Mid July 2018	Netherlands	Seizure	1 whale vertebra.	From Mexico.
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UNITED KINGDOM

July 29, 2018	United Kingdom	Good news	Removal from the Thomas Cook travel agency's catalogue of two water parks, SeaWorld, in Florida, and Loro Parque in Tenerife, starting next summer.
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OCEANIA

NEW ZEALAND

July 24, 2018	Dargaville	Poaching	1 leopard seal (<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>) shot dead at close range on the beach.	4 young people aged 15 to 16 suspected.
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Hydrurga leptonyx

Marine Turtles

Marine turtles (families Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae) are listed under CITES Appendix I, including Ridley sea turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*), green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), Hawksbill sea turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Kemp's Ridley turtles (*Lepidochelys kempii*), loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) and leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*).

AFRICA

MAYOTTE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 2018	Papani and Charifou beaches, Department of Mayotte	Poaching	Chronic poaching of sea turtles.	Testimonies from villagers: pierced eggs, bowels found on the beach, mutilated shells, traces of arribada on the beaches - no departure marks.
August 18, 2018	Mayotte	Seizure / Sentencing	1 150 kg green turtle (subsequently released).	Transport at the back of 1 seized car. 5 arrests and 4 sentences: 6 months to 1 year in prison, fine of 1000€ for one and 2400€ to be paid jointly to the plaintiff.
September 6, 2018	Mayotte	Poaching	1 turtle.	Cut in half, eviscerated. Wreath of eggs on the Moya beach supposed to be "surveyed". Meat: 40€/kg on site.

AMERICA

MEXICO

July 19, 2018	Between Pinotepa Nacional and Salina Cruz	Seizure	More than 200 eggs.	Escape of the trafficker as the police approach. In a bag thrown out.
August 2018	Santiago Astata	Seizure / Arrest	30,000 Ridley's turtle eggs. In garbage bags and fertilizer bags inside 2 cars.	5 arrests on the highway to Salina Cruz.
August 2018	San Pedro Huamelula	Seizure / Arrest	35,441 Ridley's turtle eggs.	3 arrests following a routine road check.
August 2018	Santa María Colotepec	Other bad news	300 dead Ridley turtles in an abandoned fishing net.	Tuna fishermen suspected. 113 turtles in the sanctuary of Puerto Arista.
August 29, 2018	Between Tapanatepec, Tuxtla Gutiérrez and Tonala	Seizure / Arrest	1968 turtle eggs in one coach and 100 on sale on the public thoroughfare.	Alaín M., 45 years and Laureno R.
September 11, 2018	Oaxaca	Seizure	2200 Ridley's turtle eggs. In three bags.	Poacher unknown.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 23, 2018	Tecomán	Seizure	6292 Ridley's turtle eggs. In 4 cardboard boxes inside the luggage compartment.	Departure of the bus: Michoacán. To Tecomán (400 km). PROFEPA filed a complaint.
September 24, 2018	Santa María Tonameca	Seizure	800 eggs and 6 fins (30 kg of meat) of Ridley's turtle in 2 bags left on the beach.	Too late for artificial incubation. Burying on site.
September 30, 2018	San Pedro Huamelula	Seizure	2200 Ridley's turtle eggs in 2 abandoned bags on the beach.	Too late for artificial incubation. Burying on site.



August 2018, San Pedro Huamelula, Mexico

NICARAGUA

Early August 2018	San Juan del Sur	Poaching	Take of Pacific Ridley turtles on their arrival on the beach. After laying in captivity, skinning on the spot, sale of meat and eggs.	4 arrests.
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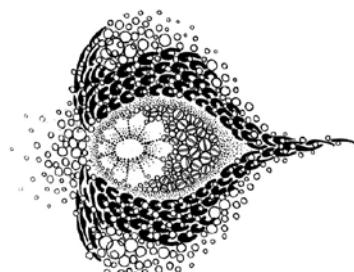
SALVADOR

September 2018	San Alfredo, La Libertad Department	Seizure / Arrest	122 eggs.	Misael Córdova Avilés, 22 years old.
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ASIA

SRI LANKA

August 20, 2018	Near Arippu	Seizure / Arrest	22 kg of sea turtle meat, 5 nets, 1 dinghy.	2 arrests.
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Various Marine Species

AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 2018	Mozambique	Seizure / Arrest	A large quantity of seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp., Appendix II) and shark fins.	1 Chinese national about to return to his country.

AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

July 2018	United States of America	Good news	By-catches of vaquitas (<i>Phocoena sinus</i> , Appendix I) in Mexican fishermen's gillnets targeting totoabas (<i>Totoaba macdonaldi</i> , Appendix I) in the Sea of Cortez.	Ruling of the United States Court of International Trade ordering the government to enact legislation banning the import from Mexico of seafood products caught with gillnets.
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MEXICO

July 19, 2018	Mexico city international airport	Seizure / Sentence	81 seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp., Appendix II) in 2 bags, 2 bags of sea cucumbers and 2 others of swim bladders.	Strong sea smell from 1 suitcase. A Chinese citizen coming from Belize. Destination Shanghai. Sentence of 2 years' imprisonment commuted to a fine of 7000 US\$.
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ASIA

CHINA

July 5, 2018	Hong Kong	Seizure	100 kg shark fins officially declared but suspected of having been cut off protected species and 220 kg of dried and undeclared sea cucumbers. Total value: 44,600 US\$.	In a shipping container. From Dubai (United Arab Emirates).
September 2018	Xiamen	Seizure	662 nautilus (Nautilidae, Appendix II), 2.8 t corals. Total value: 878,140 US\$.	Decoration business. 2 seizures in May revealed by customs in September.

SRI LANKA

July 3, 2018	Off Point Pedro	Seizure / Arrest	1084 sea cucumbers, 2 conches (genus <i>Strombus</i>), 2 crafts.	6 arrests.
July 11, 2018	Panayeddipiti Sea Area, South East Coast	Seizure / Arrest	35 sea cucumbers and 36 conches (genus <i>Strombus</i>), 2 crafts and fishing gear.	6 arrests.

EUROPE

GERMANY

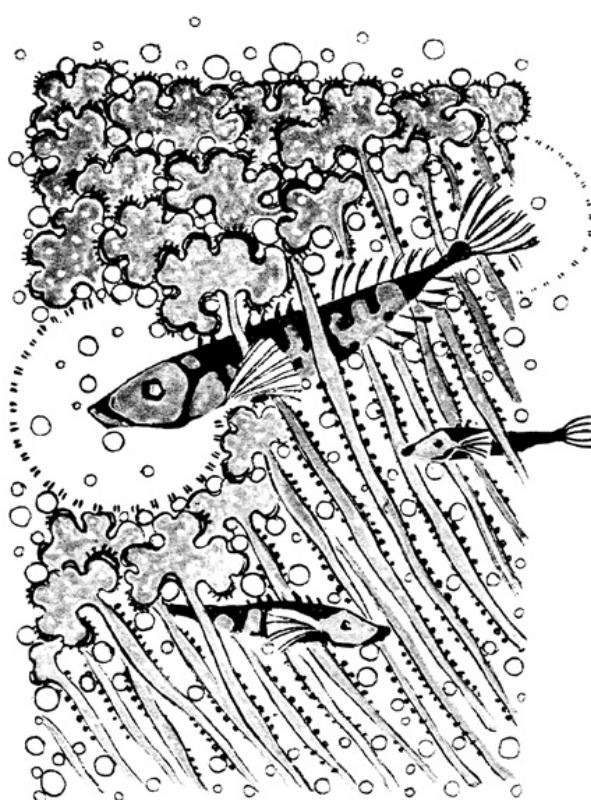
DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 2018	Rosenheim	Good news	Destruction by crushing of 2500 corals, conches and true conches (nearly 1t), from the Customs' seizures at Munich Airport.	

FRANCE

July 11, 2018	Marseille	Sentence	Illegal fishing in the Calanques National Park of sea urchins, corbs, groupers, basses. Sale to private individuals, shellfish sellers and restaurants at prices of 6 US\$ per dozen sea urchins, 17 US\$ per kilo of grouper, corb and bass, 2 to 3 times less expensive than the legal market.	Stéphane Avedissian, 40 years old, professional fisherman, David Rogliano: 18 months suspended prison and 3 years probation. 2 other defendants: 15 months suspended prison and 3 years probation. Damages for NGOs that have filed civil claims (from 2300 to 11,500 US\$). No prosecution for the receivers.
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NETHERLANDS

July 2018	Rotterdam	Seizure	16 corals and 2 giant clams (Tridacnidae, Appendix II).	In a merchant ship.
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Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles

AFRICA

MADAGASCAR

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Mid-August 2018	Fianarantsoa	Seizure	79 spider tortoises (<i>Pyxis arachnoides</i> , Appendix I).	During a roadside check. Release after first aid.

AMERICA

BRAZIL

July 2018	Cantão State Park	Seizure	128 tortoises and a 1-km long net.	In hidden bags on the banks of the Rio Araguaia waiting for the traffickers to pick them up. Conviction in 2017 for similar offences (300 turtles) to a fine of 495,100 US\$.
July 2018	Jutaí	Seizure	About 220 tortoises.	Operation "Tabuleiros" since July 16. Were to be sold on the markets of Manaus (750 km) for human consumption. Released into their natural habitat. Suspects fleeing at the approach of the police.
August 27, 2018	São Cristóvão	Seizure	202 red-footed tortoises (<i>Chelonoidis carbonarius</i> , Appendix II) including 2 dead.	

ECUADOR

September 27, 2018	Galápagos National Park, Isabela Island	Theft	123 Galapagos giant tortoises (<i>Chelonoidis niger</i> , Appendix I) in a breeding center.	Aged from 1 to 6 years (between 6 and 30 cm and between 200 g and 2 kg). Probably intended for the pet market. Ecuador's alert to all CITES member countries.
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

July 10, 2018	Philadelphia	Indictment	Poaching and selling of more than 3500 diamondback terrapins (<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i> , Appendix II).	David Sommers, 62 years old. Poaching in New Jersey. Selling in Pennsylvania and in Canada.
July 23, 2018	Los Angeles	Sentence	Attempt to smuggle 10 spotted turtles (<i>Clemmys guttata</i> , Appendix II) and 14 box turtles. See "On the Trail" no. 21 p.20.	Huaqian Qu and Renfeng Gao, China Eastern Airlines crew, sentenced to a fine of US\$5500 each, to leave the country within 3 days.

MEXICO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 6, 2018	Mérida	Sentence	35 turtles, box turtles and turtles of the genus <i>Rhinoclemmys</i> and <i>Kinosternon</i> (<i>Testudinidae</i> spp. Appendix II).	Sale on social networks. Fine: 11,200 US\$.
July 6, 2018	Cuernavaca	Seizure	5 African Spurred Tortoise (<i>Centrochelys sulcata</i> , Appendix II), thirsty, malnourished, almost abandoned. 1 female, 4 males.	At a private home. Species native to the African Sahel. Adult weight: up to 60kg for females, 100kg for males.

ASIA

CAMBODIA

August 5, 2018	Chambak, Takéo Province	Seizure	6 turtles.	In a bag on the back of a motorcycle. Wildlife Alliance Ranger Patrol.
August 19, 2018	Trapeang Rung	Seizure	7 turtles.	Aboard a boat. Spotted by a Wildlife Alliance Patrol. Arrest of 1 man and release on a written commitment not to do it again.

CHINA

July 11, 2018	Gongbei port of entry, border with Macau	Seizure	1 African spurred tortoise (<i>Centrochelys sulcata</i> , Appendix II) of 11.4 kg.	In a private car from Macau.
August 8, 2018	Qingdao cruise port	Seizure	3 alligator snapping turtles (<i>Macrochelys temminckii</i> , Appendix III in the United States) alive.	In the luggage of a passenger on landing.

INDIA

July 4, 2018	Petrapole, border with Bangladesh	Seizure / Arrest	21 Indian softshell turtles (<i>Nilssonia gangetica</i> , Appendix I).	In a jute bag. From Uttar Pradesh. Srikanta Halder (37), Arbind Kumar (40) and the sponsor "businessman".
July 26, 2018	Tiruchirappalli international airport	Seizure	Several baby turtles with a total weight of 12.4 kg.	In the luggage of 1 passenger (who fled) from Colombo on a Sri Lanka Airlines flight.
August 5, 2018	Visakhapatnam	Seizure	1125 specimens.	Theft of eggs from natural environments and artificial incubation for 50 days. Planned destinations: Singapore and Malaysia via Kolkata and Bangladesh.
August 12, 2018	Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh State	Seizure / Arrest	11 black softshell turtles (<i>Nilssonia nigricans</i> , Appendix I) from 2 to 4 kg.	Narayan Ved (35 years old), conveyor from Uttar Pradesh to West Bengal. Paid 30 US\$ for transport.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 13, 2018	Thane	Justice	Sale of turtles of protected species.	Joint action by the Forest Services and the Wildlife Welfare Association. Police custody of Salim Khan (23 years old) and Shah Alam Shaikh (38 years old) at the head of 2 aquarium shops.
August 14, 2018	Sagar, State of Madhya Pradesh	Justice	Suspicion of trafficking in several hundred red-crowned roofed turtles (<i>Batagur kachuga</i> , Appendix II) and money laundering. See "On the Trail" no. 19 p.21.	Request for extradition by Thailand of Manivannan Murugesan, a Singaporean national, identified since 2012 as an international turtle trafficker. Currently in prison in India.
August 18, 2018	Kolkata	Arrest	Repeated smuggling of Indian star tortoises (<i>Geochelone elegans</i> , Appendix II) and black pond turtles (<i>Geoclemys hamiltonii</i> , Appendix I).	Arrest of Tapas Basak, aka Rony, taking advantage of his bail to engage in trafficking again via Bangladesh.
September 4, 2018	Chennai	Seizure / Arrest	43 Assam roofed turtles (<i>Kachuga sylhetensis</i> , Appendix II).	On arrival of a train from the North-East, intervention of the DRI (Directorate of Revenue Intelligence). Captured in the Brahmaputra basin. Lodging for survivors at the Vandalur Zoo.
September 5, 2018	Mumbai	Seizure / Arrest	523 Indian star tortoises (<i>Geochelone elegans</i> , Appendix II).	Arrest of a woman at the Lokmanya Tilak railway terminal. From Andhra Pradesh to Mumbai.



July 26, 2018, Tiruchirappalli International Airport, India



September 5, 2018, Mumbai, India

September 8, 2018	Chennai	Seizure	44 Assam roofed turtles (<i>Kachuga sylhetensis</i> , Appendix II), subsequently entrusted to the Chennai Zoo.	Heading for Sri Lanka.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 17, 2018	Aligarh	Seizure	50 turtles (Indian black turtles, <i>Melanochelys trijuga</i> , Appendix II and Indian roofed turtles, <i>Pangshura tecta</i> , Appendix I).	Bomb alert aboard the Kalka Mail: tracking of 1 suspicious package by a traveller. Intervention of bomb disposal experts at Aligahr station. In the package, turtles.
September 29, 2018	Kanpur	Seizure / Arrest	750 turtles, later released into the Ganges river.	In 2 bags. Mohammad Waseem.

INDONESIA

August 29, 2018	Boven Digoel Regency	Good news	Back to their country of origin, Papua, Indonesia, for 596 pig-nosed turtles (<i>Carettochelys insculpta</i> , Appendix II).	Seized in January 2018 from the hand luggage of an Indonesian passenger on a flight from Jakarta to Hong Kong. Fine: 2550 US\$.
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THAILAND

August 23, 2018	Bangkok	Seizure	Dozens, at least.	Seizure at the airport of 2 suitcases filled with turtles from Madagascar. Finger pointed at the private company in charge of security at Ivato airport (Madagascar).
September 12, 2018	Bangkok	Good news	Rescue of 2 pig-nosed turtles (<i>Carettochelys insculpta</i> , Appendix II), exogen in Thailand.	Owned by an individual in central Bangkok, fed dog food and salad leaves, harbored for life by Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand.



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EUROPE

SPAIN

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	QUANTITY / DETAILS / VALUE
July 2, 2018	Valencia and Alicante Provinces	Seizure	80 specimens in the province of Valencia and 46 in the province of Alicante, for a total of 126 turtles for sale, including 2 protected species (Greek turtle, <i>Testudo graeca</i> , Appendix I and Hermann's tortoise, <i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix II) and 1 invasive species (red-eared slider, <i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>). 4 people heard, 3 indicted.
End August 2018	Balearic Islands	Seizure	Operation Coahuila. More than 750 eggs and 1100 turtles, including 44 Chinese red-necked pond turtles (<i>Mauremys nigricans</i> , Appendix II), 38 crevice tortoises (<i>Malacochersus tornieri</i> , Appendix II), 36 Chinese three-striped box turtles (<i>Cuora trifasciata</i> , Appendix II), 31 Chinese box turtles (<i>Cuora flavomarginata</i> , Appendix II), 25 Pan's box turtles (<i>Cuora pani</i> , Appendix II), 21 keel-backed turtles (<i>Cuora mouhotii</i> , Appendix II), 10 Annam leaf turtles (<i>Mauremys annamensis</i> , Appendix II), 8 Kleinmann's tortoises (<i>Testudo kleinmanni</i> , Appendix I), 7 yellow-headed box turtles (<i>Cuora aurocapita</i> ta, Appendix II), 5 Leyte pond turtles (<i>Siebenrockiella leytensis</i> , Appendix II), 4 bog turtles (<i>Glyptemys muhlenbergii</i> , Appendix I), 4 radiated tortoises (<i>Astrochelys radiata</i> , Appendix I) and 1 coahuila turtle (<i>Terrapene coahuila</i> , Appendix I). Total value: 600,000 € (700,000 US\$). 3 questionings and 3 in custody. Start of the operation in February 2017. A pet shop in Barcelona was used as a cover.



FRANCE

Mid-September 2018	Ajaccio	Poaching	56 Hermann's tortoises (<i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix I) stolen from the A Cupulatta animal park.
September 13, 2018	Arles	Seizure	80 Hermann's tortoises (<i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix I) and 7 Greek turtles (<i>Testudo graeca</i> , Appendix II) in poor condition. ONCFS intervention. In a private individual's apartment and cellar.

ITALY

July 22, 2018	Porto Cesareo	Seizure	7 Hermann's tortoises (<i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix I). At one private home.
Early August 2018	Milan	Good news	16 Hermann's tortoises (<i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix I) discarded in a box in a city park, given to the care of ENPA (Ente Nazionale Protezione Animali).

Snakes

AFRICA

KENYA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 16, 2018	Machakos	Sentence	Illegal detention of 10 African python skins (<i>Python sebae</i> , Appendix II).	Peter Mutuku Nzikoi: 7 years in prison or a fine of 19,700 US\$.

AMERICA

BOLIVIA

Early September 2018	Santa Cruz Department	Seizure / Arrest	20 cascabel rattlesnakes (<i>Crotalus durissus</i> , Appendix III in Honduras).	1 catcher recruited by 1 Chinese expatriate.
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BRAZIL

September 28, 2018	Recife	Seizure / Sentence	2 boas constrictors (<i>Boa constrictor</i> , Appendix II).	1 arrest.
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COLOMBIA

July 5, 2018	Bogotá	Seizure	1 reticulated python (<i>Python reticulatus</i> , Appendix II).	In a postal parcel at the sorting office. Bogota, wildlife terminal: 5 packages in 1 week with a wildlife specimen inside. 5 wild animals rescued daily in the streets according to the Ministry of Environment.
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Early September 2018	La Macarena	Seizure / Arrest	1 boa constrictor (<i>Boa constrictor</i> , Appendix II). 3 m long, 15 kg.	Flagrante delicto of skinning, 1 arrest.
Mid-September 2018	Bogotá	Good news	1 boa constrictor (<i>Boa constrictor</i> , Appendix II).	Salitre bus station. One boa escaped from the wildlife traffic on the rise in the capital. Wrapped up in the motor of a coach.

ECUADOR

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 19, 2018	Near San Jacinto del Búa	Seizure / Arrest	8 boas constrictors (<i>Boa constrictor</i> , Appendix II) alive (6 adults and 2 youngsters), 18.6 kg of meat in 406 bits dipped in alcohol, 5.45 kg of fresh meat and 16 skins.	1 arrest in flagrante delicto. Clandestine trade in boas based on superstitions. 5 to 10 US\$ per bit of meat.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

July 8, 2018	Miami international airport	Seizure	1 live python (<i>Pythonidae</i> spp., Appendix I ou II).	Inside an external hard drive in a passenger's luggage. Destination: Barbados.
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ASIA

CHINA

September 29, 2018	Suzhou	Seizure	1 albino Burmese python (<i>Python bivittatus</i> , Appendix II).	In a postal parcel.
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INDIA

August 7, 2018	Mathura	Seizure	14 cobras (Elapidae), 4 colubrids (Colubridae), 3 Indian sand boas (<i>Eryx johnii</i> , Appendix II). Subjected to the mistreatment and mutilation of snake "charmers".	Raid from the Forest Department with the NGO Wildlife SOS around the Shree Krishna Temple. Snakes are taken care of by the NGO.
August 12, 2018	Malegaon	Seizure / Arrest	1 Indian sand boa (<i>Eryx johnii</i> , Appendix II).	Abhijeet Jadhav (28 years old).
August 27, 2018	Navi Mumbai	Seizure / Arrest	1 Indian sand boa (<i>Eryx johnii</i> , Appendix II), 1.10 m long and weighing 2.5 kg.	Ganesh Patil (25 years old), Nilesh Baing (34 years old) and Avishkar Mhatre (27 years old) at Panvel bus station. From Pen. Selling price: 21,850 US\$.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 29, 2018	Krishna District, State of Andhra Pradesh	Other bad news	23 venomous snakes killed, 47 non-venomous released.	Beat hunting of snakes by Yanadi tribesmen. Daily salary of the catchers, 9 US\$. Snake and bite proliferation after floods. Unilateral initiative of communities blamed by the Department of Wildlife. Call to order.
September 8, 2018	Dwarka	Seizure / Arrest	1 Indian sand boa (<i>Eryx johnii</i> , Appendix II), 1 car, 1 phone.	Snehal Prabhakar Kharat (52), Anand Mhaske (47), Abidkhan Patan (50) and Kshitiz Tulshiram Patil.
September 25, 2018	Moradabad	Seizure / Arrest	1 3-kg Indian sand boa (<i>Eryx johnii</i> , Appendix II).	In a bag. Destination planned: Mumbai. Sakib, Noman and Azeem under questioning.

EUROPE

SPAIN

Mid-July 2018	La Laguna, Canary Islands	Seizure	1 boa constrictor (<i>Boa constrictor</i> , Appendix II).	For sale in a pet store. Prohibited since March 2018.
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Sauria

AMERICA

MEXICO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Mid-August 2018	San Pedro Huamelula	Seizure / Arrest	49 iguanas of the genus <i>Ctenosaura</i> (4 species at CITES) and green iguanas (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II).	In 2 cardboard boxes. 1 suspect in a line bus from El Coyul to Salina Cruz.



August 28, 2018	Tijuana international airport	Seizure	80 green iguanas (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II).	In 2 boxes of 30 cm x 40 cm. 40 specimens per box. Origin: Mexico City.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 9, 2018	Protected natural area of the gorges of the Santiago and Verde rivers	Seizure / Arrest	18 green iguanas (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II).	In a backpack. One arrest.

PARAGUAY

July 25, 2018	Paraguay	Sentence	Exhibition on Facebook of the skinning of 1 Argentine black and white tegu (<i>Salvator merianae</i> , Appendix II) still alive.	Julián Orquiola: 70,000 US\$ fine.
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ASIA

INDIA

July 22, 2018	Greater Noida	Arrest	Lynching of 1 Bengal monitor lizard (<i>Varanus bengalensis</i> , Appendix I) and exhibition on social networks.	Dhirendra Kumar Gupta, Sunil Singh, Devendra and Rakesh Sahani charged with, among other offences, cruelty to animals.
September 1, 2018	Near Kurseong	Seizure / Arrest	5 geckos (genus <i>Gekko</i>).	Amar Sarkar (54), trying to smuggle them into Nepal.
September 26, 2018	Chikmagalur	Seizure / Arrest	49 hemipenis of monitor lizards (<i>Varanus</i> spp., Appendix I or II), mobile phones, vehicles and various equipment. See "On the Trail" no.17 p.24.	Shahid, Naushad, Kema and Sudha. It is not eatable, it is displayed in the house to attract opulence and maintain health.



September 26, 2018, Chikmagalur, India



Ghumot

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September 30, 2018	Bandora, Goa State	Good news	Use of monitor lizards skins (<i>Varanus</i> spp., Appendix I or II) to cover ghumots, percussion instruments.	Following a complaint from a resident, the organizer of the "Ghumat Arti Contest" was reminded by the Deputy Forest Conservator that monitor lizards are protected by law and that goat skin has the same acoustic properties as monitor skin.
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INDONESIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 10, 2018	Sentani international airport	Seizure	1 living monitor lizard (<i>Varanus</i> spp., Appendix I or II).	In a pierced pipe, declared as "clothing".



OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July, August and September 2018	Melbourne & Sydney	Seizure	More than 110 Australian endemic saurians seized during 20 operations (8 Seizures in July, 8 in August, 4 in September). Among them: shingleback lizards (<i>Tiliqua rugosa</i>), Eastern Pilbara spiny-tailed skink (<i>Egernia ephippolata</i>), eastern spiny-tailed gecko (<i>Strophurus williamsi</i>), blue tongue skinks (<i>Siliqua</i> spp.) and gidgee skink (<i>Egernia stokesii</i>).	Review of the Australian Border Force over the last 3 months. In postal parcels reported as "toys, clothing and shoes for children or babies, school bags, bags of chips, cereal boxes". Bound for China, firstly Hong Kong, Indonesia and Russia.

Crocodilians

AFRICA

BURUNDI

September 18, 2018	Rusizi National Park	Good news	1 adult crocodile, victim of a poaching attempt, taken care of by the OBPE (Office Burundais pour la Protection de l'Environnement).	Healed then released into Lake Tanganyika. A first in the country.
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AMERICA

MEXICO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 02, 2018	San Pedro Garza García, State of Nuevo León	Seizure	1 Morelet's crocodile (<i>Crocodylus moreletii</i> , Appendix I) 27 cm long.	Sent from Pachuca de Soto, Hidalgo State. In a package at FedEx.
August 21, 2018	Acapulco	Seizure	1 young American crocodile (<i>Crocodylus acutus</i> , Appendix I) 70 cm long.	At a private home.

ASIA

INDIA

August 15, 2018	Kendrapara District	Other bad news	Lynching of 1 young albino saltwater crocodile (<i>Crocodylus porosus</i> , Appendix I), 1.7 m long.	Arrested by forest rangers.
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INDONESIA

July 14, 2018	Klamalu	Lynching	292 saltwater crocodiles (<i>Crocodylus porosus</i> , Appendix I) and New Guinea crocodiles (<i>Crocodylus novaeguineae</i> , Appendix I) were slaughtered to the last in a commercial and conservation breeding farm.	Retaliation of several hundred villagers after the death of one woman snapped up by a crocodile while harvesting in the farm's area.
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Various Reptile Species

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Mid-September 2018	North West Province	Seizure / Arrest	3 flap-necked chameleons (<i>Chamaeleo dilepis</i> , Appendix II) and 1 Leopard tortoise (<i>Stigmochelys pardalis</i> , Appendix II). Arrest of two repeat offenders.
Mid-September 2018	North West Province	Seizure / Arrest	Snakes, turtles and other animals. A new raid on the wide flea market of cruelty and looting on the road to Sun City (see "On the Trail" no. 11 p.91). 5 arrests.
September 27, 2018	Rustenburg	Sentence	Roadside sale of one chameleon and one tortoise in January 2018. Phemelo Kwele: 6 months in prison or a fine of 420 US\$.

AMERICA

ARGENTINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 25, 2018	Castelar, Province of Buenos Aires	Seizure / Arrest	4 boas (<i>Boidae</i> spp., Appendix I or II), 1 green iguana (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II), 11 plastic boxes and cages. Sale on Facebook. Arrest of a 34-year-old man also involved in bird trafficking.



MEXICO

Early August 2018	Tijuana International Airport	Seizure	10 Morelet's crocodiles (<i>Crocodylus moreletii</i> , Appendix I) and 1 emerald tree boa (<i>Corallus caninus</i> , Appendix II). Parcels from Mexico City. In the mailroom sector.
August 3, 2018	State of Tlaxcala	Good news	Burning of a seizure made in April 2017 in El Carmen Tequexquitla: 7 Mexican spinytail iguana skins (<i>Ctenosaura pectinata</i>), 41 skins and 191 eggs of green iguana (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II), 4 skinned iguanas, 1 American crocodile skin (<i>Crocodylus acutus</i> , Appendix I) and 1 skinned specimen, 1 snake skin, 12 turtle eggs, 1 stuffed Manta ray (<i>Manta birostris</i> , Appendix II) and 1 skinned raccoon.
August 28, 2018	Mexico	Seizure / Arrest	74 turtles, 23 crocodiles, 13 green iguanas (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II), 1 snake and 20 fish. On the Morelos market. Arrest of a 36-year-old male.
September 5, 2018	Mexico	Sentence	Illegal detention of 130 green iguanas (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II), 5 Morelet's crocodiles (<i>Crocodylus moreletii</i> , Appendix I) and 37 turtles in June 2017 (see "On the Trail" No. 17 p.27). 1 year in prison, suspension of civil and political rights, fine and damages.

ASIA

CAMBODIA

August 7, 2018	Preah Netr Preah District	Seizure / Arrest	207 turtles, including at least 10 live soft-shell turtles (Trionychidae), 17 two-banded monitor lizard heads (<i>Varanus salvator</i> , Appendix II) with a total weight of 96 kg. Ban Pharak (28 years old) and Yan Yeng (39 years old). From Thailand to Siem Reap.
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CHINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 27, 2018	Man Kam To control post between Hong Kong and mainland China	Seizure / Arrest	Among others: 881 lizards, 39 turtles, 36 snakes. In a truck heading to mainland China. Value: 19,200 US\$. Release of the driver (64 years old) on bail.

EUROPE

SPAIN

July 17, 2018	Cornellà de Llobregat	Seizure / Arrest	20 live animals, mostly reptiles: 1 rattlesnake and other snakes, 1 Komodo dragon (<i>Varanus komodoensis</i> , Appendix I) with one paw and tail cut out and 1 scorpion. Farmed mice used to feed the reptiles. 1 male, 43 y/o, arrested. According to Europol, first discovery of a Komodo in illegal captivity within the European Union. Theft of a Komodo dragon from the crocodile farm of Pierrelatte, France, see "On the Trail" no. 11 p. 17.
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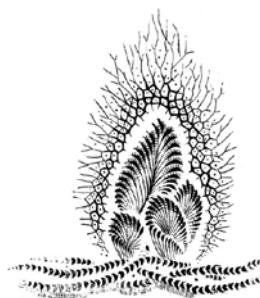
FRANCE

End September 2018	Montauban	Justice	21 snakes including 7 boas, 8 pythons and 1 monitor lizard left abandoned in dreadful conditions. Start of the trial for the owner of the reptiles who was in prison at the time of the incident.
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OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA

August 31, 2018	Sydney	Sentence	Between May 2015 and February 2016, an attempt was made to export 12 pygmy spiny-tailed skink (<i>Egernia depressa</i>) to South Korea, 4 shingleback lizards (<i>Tiliqua rugosa</i>) to Indonesia and to import 11 green tree pythons (<i>Morelia viridis</i> , Appendix II), 3 emerald monitors (<i>Varanus prasinus</i> , Appendix II), 6 <i>Varanus macraei</i> (Appendix II) and 10 mangrove monitors (<i>Varanus indicus</i> , Appendix II) from Indonesia. By postal parcel, in thermos or wrapped in napkins inside plastic bags. Neil Andrew Simpson: 23 months in prison, released on September 4 for good behaviour after 1 year and 11 months of pre-trial detention.
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Amphibians

AMERICA

BOLIVIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
End August 2018	El Alto	Seizure	One young Titicaca water frog (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i> , Appendix I).	One street vendor.

PERU

August 14, 2018	Desaguadero. Border with Bolivia	Seizure	32 live Titicaca water frogs (<i>Telmatobius culeus</i> , Appendix I).	In a trade fair. About to be killed, pressed and sold as an "energy drink", understand aphrodisiac. See "On the Trail" n°18 p.28.
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Insects and Arachnids

AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 16, 2018	Metuchen	Arrest	Illegal import and sale on Facebook of emperor scorpions (<i>Pandinus imperator</i> , Annex II), centipedes, spiders, mantises, from Cameroon and Tanzania between 2015 and July 2018, with at least 1 transit through France.	Włodzimie Lapkiewicz, 29 years old, multiple repeat offenders. Last package designated as "plush toys for my friends' future baby". 70 US\$ the scorpion, 2 spiders for 25 US\$, between 15 and 60 US\$ the centipede.

MEXICO

August 14, 2018	Mexico	Seizure	4 dead Mexican redrump tarantulas (<i>Brachypelma vagans</i> , Appendix II).	On the grill, in the restaurant "Méjico en el Paladar", San Juan Market.
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ASIA

SINGAPORE

Early August 2018	Singapore	Sentence	Import and breeding of tarantulas.	Tam Jiaming fined 9400 US\$. See "On the Trail" no. 20 p. 33.
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Birds



AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 11, 2018	Kruger national park	Good news	1 African white-backed vulture (<i>Gyps africanus</i> , Appendix II) released.	Rope tied around the legs.

GUINEA

September 5, 2018	Guinea	Seizure	2 Senegal parrots (<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i> , Appendix II).	Hearing of Mamadi Kéita. Formal commitment to acknowledge the offence and not to repeat it.
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September 5, 2018, Guinea



August 6, 2018, Pichanal, Argentina

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AMERICA

ARGENTINA

August 6, 2018	Pichanal	Seizure	4 toucans (family Ramphastidae).	In 2 polypropylene bags, in the back of the car. 1 man and 1 woman.
September 29, 2018	San Fernando, Buenos Aires Province	Seizure	10 monk parakeets (<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i> , Appendix II) in a precarious state.	Feathers dyed with a chemical to make them "more exotic" and more expensive to sell.

BRAZIL

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 4, 2018	Rio Claro, Etat de São Paulo	Seizure / Arrest	5 yellow-bellied seedeaters (3 alive and 2 dead) (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>), 2 red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), 3 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), 1 ultramarine grosbeak (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>) and 4 kg of six-banded armadillo meat (<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i>).	On the Wilson Finardi Highway (SP-191). One arrest after a chase.
July 6, 2018	Teresina	Seizure / Arrest	1 cacholote (genus <i>Pseudoseisura</i>), 1 red-cowled cardinal (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), 3 lined seedeaters (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>), weapons with deleted numbers and ammunition.	Italo Ferreira da Cruz arrested.
Early July 2018	Curitiba Metropolitan Area	Seizure	93 birds : parrots (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I or II), passerines (genus <i>Turdus</i>), rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>) and green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>).	11 arrests in pet shops and at private homes as part of a global operation against illegal captivity.
July 9, 2018	Rondonópolis	Seizure / Arrest	7 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 1 parrot (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I ou II), 4 cages, 1 trap, 1 gun.	1 arrest.
July 10, 2018	Nossa Senhora das Dores, State of Sergipe	Seizure	4 birds, including dont des double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), rufous-bellied thrushes (<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>) and yellow-bellied seedeaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>).	In a forsaken house. Behavior still wild. Freshly caught.
July 14, 2018	Pombal	Seizure	5 red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), 2 campo troupial (<i>Icterus jamacaii</i>), 2 grey pileated finches (<i>Coryphospingus pileatus</i>), 3 white-throated seedeaters (<i>Sporophila albogularis</i>), 1 scaled dove (<i>Columbina squammata</i>), 1 copper seedeater (<i>Sporophila bouvreuil</i>) and 1 rufous-bellied thrush (<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>).	Manoel do Bonfim M. Silva, 54 years old. Subsequent summoning to court.
July 16, 2018	Esopinosa, State of Minas Gerais	Seizure / Arrest	10 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), 6 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 2 yellow-bellied seedeaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>), 1 red-pileated finch (<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>) and 1 double-collared seedeater (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>).	Three men in a car on the MG-122 road. From Passos (Minas Gerais State) to Valente (Bahia State).

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 18, 2018	Between Quatis and Porto Real	Seizure / Arrest	70 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>) and 9 cages.	Road check: 5 men interrogated on minutes and released.
July 18, 2018	Balneário Camboriú	Seizure	4 double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>) and 2 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>).	
July 20, 2018	São Miguel do Tocantins	Seizure	5 chestnut-bellied seed finches (<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>), released immediately.	
Between July 24 and 28, 2018	Senhor do Bonfim	Seizure	Almost 500 birds : cardinal-tanagers (genus <i>Paroaria</i>), ultramarine grosbeaks (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), parrots and parakeets (Psittacidae, Appendix I ou II), double-collared seed-eaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), passerines (family Turdidae) and chopi blackbirds (<i>Gnorimopsar chopi</i>).	
July 25, 2018	Aracaju	Seizure	1 blue-fronted amazon (<i>Amazona aestiva</i> , Appendix II), 5 red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), 1 yellow-bellied seedeater (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>) and 1 bananaquit (<i>Coereba flaveola</i>). Rescue of 1 Western barn owl (<i>Tyto alba</i> , Appendix II) by children on the street.	
July 25, 2018	São José do Rio Preto	Seizure / Sentence	70 birds including 2 great-bellied seed finches (<i>Oryzoborus maximiliani</i>).	Fine: 12,133 US\$.
July 27, 2018	Maruim	Seizure	25 birds including 4 tanagers (genus <i>Thraupis</i>), 2 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 2 copper seedeaters (<i>Sporophila bouvreuil</i>), 3 lined seedeaters (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>), 3 yellow-bellied seed-eaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>), 1 double-collared seedeater (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 3 passerines (family Turdidae), 1 campo troupial (<i>Icterus jamaicensis</i>) and 1 ultramarine grosbeak (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>).	Repeated offence. Birds caught in the last 2 months. All released in a protected area.
July 30, 2018	Río de Janeiro	Seizure	4 birds including 1 ara (<i>Ara</i> spp., Appendix I ou II) stressed and plucked.	Sara Diwojra Cukierman, 70 years old, double charge of illegal possession of animals and ill-treatment.
July 31, 2018	Assis Chateaubriand	Seizure / Arrest	52 wild birds, ultramarine grosbeaks (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), lined seedeaters (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>), red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), Brazilian tanagers (<i>Ramphocelus bresilius</i>), rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>) and chestnut-bellied seed finches (<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>). 3 arrests. Fines.	

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
End July 2018	Caixas do Sul	Seizure	45 birds : cardinal-tanagers (genus <i>Paroaria</i>), ultramarine grosbeaks (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), diademed tanagers (<i>Stephanophorus diadematus</i>) and green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>). Release of most of them, handover of the others to the local Centro de Triagem de Animais Silvestres (Cetas).	At three so-called breeders. Falsification of rings and registers.
August 1, 2018	Jardim Alegre	Seizure	2 lined seedeaters (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>), 1 green-winged saltator (<i>Saltator similis</i>), 1 saffron finch (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 1 red-pileated finch (<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>), 1 trap and 4 cages.	At 1 private home. Minutes and release.
August 2, 2018	Montes Claros	Seizure / Arrest	53 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>).	Road check on the BR-135. Purchase: 9.6 US\$ each in Jaiba (Minas Gerais), sale: 100 US\$ in Rio de Janeiro, Salvador de Bahia or Sao Paulo. 2 arrests.
August 3, 2018	Manaus	Seizure / Sentence	1 black-bellied whistling-duck (<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i> , Appendix III in Honduras), 2 Razor-billed curassow (<i>Mitu tuberosum</i>), 1 Russet-backed oropendola (<i>Psarocolius angustifrons</i>), 2 red-billed toucans (<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i> , Appendix II), 1 parrot (<i>Psittacidae</i> , Appendix I or II), 2 white-eyed conures (<i>Aratinga leucophthalma</i> , Appendix II), 1 blue-headed parrot (<i>Pionus menstruus</i> , Appendix II) and 1 hawk-headed parrot (<i>Deroptyus accipitrinus</i> , Appendix II).	One man, fine: 8,100 US\$ for illegal trade in protected birds.
August 8, 2018	Campo Belo, State of Minas Gerais	Seizure	49 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), 10 traps and 4 cages.	Five men, repeat offenders.
August 9, 2018	São Pedro da Aldeia	Seizure / Arrest	6 double-collared seed-eaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 4 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 4 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), 2 parrots (<i>Pionus spp.</i> , Appendix II), 5 blue-black grassquits (<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>) and 19 traps.	Arrest of 1 individual (61 years old).
August 17, 2018	Caruaru and Garanhuns	Seizure	89 birds, including 3 seriemas (family Cariamidae), 1 blue-fronted amazon (<i>Amazona aestiva</i> , Appendix II) and 1 chachalaca (genus <i>Ortalis</i>). 40 cages.	

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 17, 2018	Jundiaí	Seizure / Arrest	Almost 100 birds including double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>) and rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>). 20 cages.	2 arrests.
August 19, 2018	Conselheiro Lafaiete	Seizure / Sentence	Capture and selling of pionus parrots (<i>Pionus</i> spp., Appendix II).	1 woman, fine: 20,000 US\$.
August 22, 2018	Viana, State of Espírito Santo	Seizure	500 birds, yellow-bellied seedeaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>), white-throated seedeaters (<i>Sporophila albogularis</i>), campo troupial (<i>Icterus jamacaii</i>), rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>), red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>) and 10 turtles.	Police check on the BR-101. Seizure inside a Chevrolet crossover, in crates, covered with a white sheet. Purchased less than 0,50€ each in Cruz das Almas and Santo Estevão for resale in Rio de Janeiro.
September 1, 2018	Between Itaipé and Betim	Seizure	35 birds : yellow-bellied seedeaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>), ultramarine grosbeaks (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>) and rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>).	1 60-year-old man, in a coach on the BR-116, bound for Belo Horizonte bus station. Was to receive 72 US\$ on arrival as middleman.
September 8, 2018	Itatiaia	Seizure / Arrest	1 double-collared seedeater (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 1 ultramarine grosbeak (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), 3 hooded siskins (<i>Spinus magellanicus</i>) and 2 <i>Amandava</i> .	Operation "Aegis" against traffic on motorways. A 34-year-old male. In one suitcase on board a coach. Departure from São Paulo and destination Mantena, in Minas Gerais (1000 km).
September 10, 2018	Campos dos Goytacazes	Seizure	1 parrot (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I ou II), 1 rifle and ammunition.	Information on the Linha Verde. At 1 private home.
September 10, 2018	Planaltina, Etat de Goiás	Seizure	23 birds : chestnut-bellied seed finches (<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>), saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), violaceous euphonias (<i>Euphonia violacea</i>), rufous-bellied thrushes (<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>), Yellow-chevroned parakeets (<i>Brotogeris chiriri</i> , Appendix II) and green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>).	In 4 private properties. Illegal captivity.
Mid-September 2018	Ivinhema and Novo Horizonte do Sul	Seizure / Arrest	116 parrot nestlings (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I ou II) in 2 operations.	Purchased on average 20 US\$ in farms, sold between 120 and 145 US\$ in São Paulo. As part of a network of collectors, gatherers and distributors, 3 arrests including one repeat offender.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 15, 2018	Glória do Goitá	Seizure / Arrest	53 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>) and 140 bags of charcoal.	1 arrest. Release of birds in view.
September 16, 2018	Espinosa, State of Minas Gerais	Seizure / Arrest	187 wild birds including parrots (<i>Aratinga</i> spp., Appendix II) and Hyacinth Macaws (<i>Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus</i> , Appendix I).	12 boxes in the trunk. 2 arrests. Paid 121 US\$ for the delivery. Unidentified recipient.



September 18, 2018	São João da Boa Vista	Seizure / Sentence	7 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 2 pale-breasted thrushes (<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>), 2 double-collared seed-eaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>) and 1 red-pileated finch (<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>). Released in the wild.	1 man, fine 1454 US\$.
September 19, 2018	State of Pernambuco	Seizure / Arrest	14 parrots (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I ou II).	Available for sale on social networks 145 US\$ each. Jefferson Souza de Moraes.
September 22, 2018	Itu, State of São Paulo	Seizure	2 blue and yellow macaw nestlings (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix II) and 1 blue-fronted amazon nestlings (<i>Amazona aestiva</i> , Appendix II).	In a cardboard box on board a motorcycle. Questioning of a 27-year-old male.
September 22, 2018	Uberlândia	Seizure / Sentence	2 parrots (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I or II), 2 chestnut-bellied seed finches (<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>), 1 ultramarine grosbeak (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), 1 white-eyed conure (<i>Aratinga leucophthalma</i> , Appendix II) and 9 turtles (<i>Chelonoidis carbonarius</i> or <i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> , Appendix II).	1 woman, fine: 6680 US\$.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 24, 2018	Itabaiana	Seizure	248 birds including yellow-bellied seedeaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>), ultramarine grosbeaks (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), parrots (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I ou II), macaws (<i>Ara</i> spp., Appendix I ou II) and 3 turtles (<i>Chelonoidis carbonarius</i> or <i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> , Appendix II).	On the market. Runaway vendors.
September 26, 2018	Araraquara	Seizure	217 wild birds, including parrots (<i>Amazona</i> spp., Appendix I ou II), saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>) and yellow-bellied seedeaters (<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>).	A 44-year-old male checked on SP-310 by the traffic police. Questioned and released pending the trial.
September 26, 2018	Santa Gertrudes	Seizure / Sentence	6 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 1 hooded siskin (<i>Spinus magellanicus</i>), 2 double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 1 rufous-collared sparrow (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>) and 1 lined seedeater (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>).	At a private home. Fine: 1163 US\$.
September 26, 2018	Rio das Ostras	Seizure / Sentence	8 double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 7 blue-black grassquits (<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>), 5 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 4 buffy-fronted seedeaters (<i>Sporophila frontalis</i>), 1 trap and 10 cages.	A man. Fine : 2900 US\$.
September 27, 2018	Alegre, State of Espírito Santo	Seizure	30 double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 3 green-winged saltators (<i>Saltator similis</i>), 2 rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>), 1 campo troupial (<i>Icterus jamacaii</i>) and 1 blue-black grassquit (<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>).	
September 28, 2018	Recife	Seizure / Sentence	1 blue-fronted amazon nestling (<i>Amazona aestiva</i> , Appendix II).	For sale on WhatsApp 123 US\$. Kaio César Gomes Soares fined 2475 US\$.



COLOMBIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 3, 2018	Ibagué	Seizure / Arrest	2 spectacled parrotlets (<i>Forpus conspicillatus</i> , Appendix II).	Thanks to the nose of Batman, a German shepherd. A woman, in the bus station, bound for the northwest of the country.
August 2018	Bogotá	Seizure	3 rufous-collared sparrows (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>), 7 saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), 2 parakeets (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II), 1 owl (<i>Athene</i> spp., Appendix II), 1 Ruddy-breasted seedeater (<i>Sporophila minuta</i>) and 1 shiny cowbird (<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>).	In one house. Questioning of the occupant.

ECUADOR

Early July 2018	Guayaquil	Sentence	Illegal detention of 1 green-winged macaw (<i>Ara chloropterus</i> , Appendix II), 1 blue and yellow macaw (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix II) and 2 mealy amazons (<i>Amazona farinosa</i> , Appendix II).	1 year in prison and a fine of 1544 US\$. In 2014, another sentence for deadly shooting at one condor: 6 months in prison and fined 5000 US\$.
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mid-July 2018	South Dakota State	Sentence	Trade and smuggling of 35 species of protected birds or parts thereof, in particular bald eagles (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> , Appendix II) and golden eagles (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> , Appendix II). Birds from all continents except Antarctica.	Operation "Dakota Flyer". Sales in pawnshops in 5 Midwestern States or on the Internet. Sentences between March and July 2018 of 19 people, including 12 men, 5 women and 2 pawnshops. Sentences: up to 6 months' jail, up to 2 years' probation, and/or up to 6 months' house arrest; restitution to the National Wildlife Foundation ranging from 900 US\$ to 20,000 US\$, special assessment to the Federal Crime Victims Fund ranging from 10 to 125 US\$, fines up to 5,000 US\$.
From July 23 to August 10, 2018	State of Florida	Sentence	Charges with trapping and smuggling more than 400 migratory birds within the United States from Cuba. See "On the Trail" no. 21 p.33.	07/23: Hovary Muniz, 15 months in prison 07/30: Juan Carlos Rodriguez, 6 months in prison 08/10: Miguel Loureiro, 9 months in prison



MEXICO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 4, 2018	Jojutla	Seizure	2 scarlet macaws (<i>Ara macao</i> , Appendix I), 3 military macaws (<i>Ara militaris</i> , Appendix I), 1 blue and yellow macaw (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix II) and 4 salmon-crested cockatoo (<i>Cacatua moluccensis</i> , Appendix I).	Displayed in a lounge and garden's hotel. Inquiry after the manager.
July 9, 2018	Apodaca	Seizure	1 military macaw (<i>Ara militaris</i> , Appendix I), 1 scarlet macaw (<i>Ara macao</i> , Appendix I) and 1 blue and yellow macaw (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix II).	Administrative procedure towards the "owner".
July 12, 2018	Villa de Álvarez	Seizure	3 orange-fronted parakeets (<i>Aratinga canicularis</i> , Appendix II) and 1 black-throated magpie-jay (<i>Calocitta colliei</i>).	Released far from the city.
July 15, 2018	Santiago	Seizure	13 housefinches (<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>), 1 northern cardinal (<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>), 4 clay-colored thrushes (<i>Turdus grayi</i>) and 1 altamira oriole (<i>Icterus gularis</i>).	On the Los Cavazos open air market. Released into the wild.
July 16, 2018	Mexico city international airport	Seizure	27 dehydrated and injured songbirds and ornamental birds: 6 black-headed grosbeaks (<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>), 6 elegant euphonias (<i>Euphonia elegans</i>), 5 large hooded beaks (<i>Hesperiphona abeillei</i>), 4 yellow-faced grassquits (<i>Tiaris olivaceus</i>), 2 northern mockingbirds (<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>), 2 russet-crowned motmots (<i>Momotus mexicanus</i>), 1 trans-volcanic jay (<i>Aphelocoma ultramarina</i>), 1 lesser goldfinch (<i>Spinus psaltria</i>).	9 cardboard boxes in a suitcase. Already 4 dead at the outset. Value: 200 to 500€ per bird. 1 Mexican. Bound for Paris, France.
August 5, 2018	Coquimatlán	Seizure	166 songbirds and ornamental birds, including 162 exogenous birds that will not be released : slate-colored solitaires (<i>Myadestes unicolor</i>), brown-backed solitaires (<i>Myadestes occidentalis</i>), alexandrine parakeets (<i>Psittacula eupatria</i> , Appendix II), northern mockingbirds (<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>), rose-ringed parakeets (<i>Psittacula krameri</i>), plum headed parakeets (<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i> , Appendix II), red-rumped parrots (<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i> , Appendix II), cockatiels (<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>), scarlet-chested parrots (<i>Neophema splendida</i> , Appendix II), golden-mantled rosellas (<i>Platycercus eximius</i> , Appendix II), rosyfaced lovebirds (<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>) and Fischer's lovebirds (<i>Agapornis fischeri</i> , Appendix II).	
August 11, 2018	Mexico city	Seizure	2 collared aracaris (<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>), 2 white-fronted amazons (<i>Amazona albifrons</i> , Appendix II), 1 mealy amazon (<i>Amazona farinosa</i> , Appendix II), 1 emerald toucanet (<i>Aulacorhynchus prasinus</i>) and 1 orange-fronted conure (<i>Aratinga canicularis</i> , Appendix II).	

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 27, 2018	Mexico city	Sentence	Detention in march 2017 of 2 blue-headed parrots (<i>Pionus menstruus</i> , Appendix II), 1 red-lored amazon (<i>Amazona autumnalis</i> , Appendix II) and 1 green-cheeked amazon (<i>Amazona viridigenalis</i> , Appendix I).	1 year in prison, 4960 US\$ in damages, suspension of civil rights.

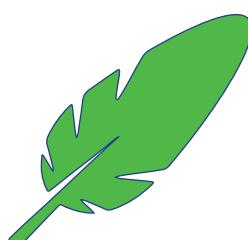
ASIA

CHINA

July 6, 2018	Shanghai	Seizure	38.6 kg of swallow bird nests, or about 3000 nests.	55 boxes in the luggage of a passenger arriving from Indonesia.
Early August 2018	Shaanxi Province	good news	Release into Hanzhong Reserve of 28 injured, neglected and cared of Japanese Crested Ibis (<i>Nipponia nippon</i> , Appendix I) chicks.	
End September 2018	Shenyang Taoxian international airport	Seizure	10 boxes of swallow nests, total weight: 8.8 kg, or about 700 nests.	In the luggage of 1 traveller from Thailand.

INDIA

July 6, 2018	Chinnakanmanpatti	Seizure / Arrest	Peacock feathers, legs and meat (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II or <i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan), snare traps, electric lamps and 1 handmade rifle.	Palanichamy (60 years old), money lender on the vegetable market and Babu (55 years old), in flagrante delicto of cutting up and plucking peacocks.
July 15, 2018	Jankalyan Nagar	Arrest	Poaching or attempted poaching of flamingos (<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> , Appendix II).	Five men arrested for carrying a prohibited weapon. Evidence: shots taken by an eye witness with weapons in hand when approaching birds.
July 27, 2018	Jogulamba Gadwal and Nagarkurnool Districts	Other bad news	24 peacocks (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II or <i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan) found dead.	Suspicion of poisoning by seeds treated with pesticides. Autopsy in progress.
August 4, 2018	Madurai District	Other bad news	Poisoning of 47 peacocks (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II or <i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan).	"Those who had poisoned the peacocks will be arrested as these birds are protected under the wild life protection Act. The punishment for killing them is up to seven years of imprisonment".



DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 8, 2018	Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary	Poaching	4 flamingos (<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> , Appendix II) including 1 seriously injured, 1 western swamphen (<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>), 1 painted stork (<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>) seriously injured.	For meat and feathers. Arrest of Vahanbhai Kamsubhai, escape of 3 accomplices. A first in the sanctuary: kite poaching with lines coated with crushed glass. An alternative to nets. Injury to birds in their flight to escape. A scheme already used in the Saurashtra sanctuary to trap common cranes. See "On the Trail" no. 12 p.30 and no. 8 p.25.
September 4, 2018	Arachalur	Poaching	5 peacocks (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II or <i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan) including 3 adult males.	Suspicion of retaliation for crop damage. Burial of carcasses after autopsy.
September 6, 2018	Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary	Seizure / Arrest	40 birds, including 27 dead.	Arrest of Odha Hakabhai. 4 runaway accomplices. Poaching as often happens in the RAMSAR site (120 km ²). Only 5 guards.
September 9, 2018	Jammu	Seizure / Arrest	30 alexandrine parakeets (<i>Psittacula eupatria</i> , Appendix II).	2 traffickers arriving from Pendjab by coach.
September 15, 2018	District de Parbhani	Seizure / Arrest	600 parrots or parakeets (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II).	In 4 metal cages on the roof of the coach. Deepak (20 years old), on board the Pilibhit-Delhi bus line. Birds trapped around Pilibhit, sale planned in Delhi.
September 16, 2018	Kothimangalm, State of Tamil Nadu	Seizure / Arrest	Dead egrets (genus <i>Egretta</i>) and black-crowned night herons (<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>).	3 poachers in custody.
September 26, 2018	Gagodar	Arrest	Poisoning of 15 male peacocks (<i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan), 15 females and about 40 pigeons.	12 day laborers from West Bengal working on the upkeep of the Narmada canal. Rumor about the ability of peacock feather powder to cure hiccups.

INDONESIA

August 18, 2018	Gunung Leuser national Park	Seizure / Arrest	55 birds, 50 of which were released, 3 kept as evidence and 2 died. 6 cages, 9 nets.	Transport in 54 canvas bags. 3 hunters: SS (51 years old), L (36 years old) and H (33 years old).
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IRAN

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 2018	Dargaz	Seizure / Arrest	1 saker falcon (<i>Falco cher-rug</i> , Appendix II) with pierced eyes, 1 hunting arsenal, skins, 1 stuffed duck.	Several suspects arrested. Falcons hunting (Barbary falcon, saker falcon, kestrel, goshawks, lanner falcon) is punishable by a fine of up to 14,300 US\$. Their breeding and trafficking are punishable by 3 years in prison and a fine of up to 470 US\$. Average selling price of 1 falcon: 11,900 US\$ in the Persian Gulf.

PHILIPPINES

July 11, 2018	Quezon	Seizure	76 common hill minas (<i>Gracula religiosa</i> , Appendix II), 125 blue-naped parrots (<i>Tanygnathus lucionensis</i> , Appendix II), 1 Palawan hornbill (<i>Anthracoceros marchei</i> , Appendix II).	Escape of Joseph Quintayo while deserting his 5-year-old son on the spot. Placement of the child in the city's social centre.
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SINGAPORE

July 18, 2018	Singapore	Sentence	Attempted import of a black hornbill nestling (<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i> , Appendix II) in May 2018.	Origin: Malaysia. Hidden in a paper bag, in the front box of a 2-wheel vehicle registered in Malaysia. Syed Muhammad Bin Syed Hassan and Mohammed Bin Ali: 2930 US\$ fine each.
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THAILAND

July 25, 2018	Mueang and Pak Tho Districts	Seizure / Arrest	49 birds including 36 yellow-throated bulbuls (<i>Pycnonotus xantholaemus</i>).	Sale on Facebook 380 US\$. Questioning of a trafficker's family: Nettinee Taweewan, Mana Bunnag and his wife Mintra Thanyang.
August 9, 2018	Taling Chan	Seizure	11 cages containing birds.	Shipping of birds in the luggage compartment of scheduled coaches. Search of Arporn Khamsuk's house (45 years old). Said to be in connection with a wildlife trader on the Internet.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 30, 2018	Khlong Luang District	Seizure	About forty protected birds.	Sale on the Internet. Search and seizure.
September 12, 2018	Bangkok	Seizure / Arrest	22 songbirds and multicolored birds of 6 protected species.	Sale on Facebook. Harikalla, arrested with birds on him and in his hotel room, waiting for a buyer.

VIET NAM

September 29, 2018	Vung Tau	Seizure	1 crested hawk-eagle (<i>Spizaetus cirratus</i> , Appendix II). Subsequently transferred to Cat Tien National Park.	At roost on a motorcycle in the backyard of a sushi bar.
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EUROPE

GERMANY

August 2, 2018	Stuttgart airport	Seizure	1 grey parrot (<i>Psittacus erithacus</i> , Appendix I).	Brought from Turkey in moving boxes.
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BELGIUM

End July, 2018	Verviers	Poaching	Destruction of about twenty swallow nests hung on an annex of the Town Hall.	City employees fallen under suspicion.
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FRANCE

July 5, 2018	Pau	Sentence	Poaching of finches and ortolans. Violent attack on LPO (Ligue de Protection des Oiseaux) activists, in particular Allain Bougrain Dubourg, president of the association.	On appeal, sentence of the "shovel man" and his brother to a fine of 400 € for violence and 1700 € of damages to the activists of the LPO and a television team for breaking of equipment. See "On the Trail" n°17 p. 38.
End July, 2018	La Charité sur Loire	Seizure	8 live European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) and cages, subsequently released.	Selling price: between 80 and 200 € per bird.
August 21, 2018	Vendée Department	Sentence	1 little grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>) and 2 Eurasian coots (<i>Fulica atra</i>).	Opening of waterfowl hunting in the marshes. 10 offences including shooting of a protected bird, shooting of 2 during prohibited hunting period, filling of water bodies during periods of water use restrictions and unauthorized work in wetlands.
September 2018	Sarrians	Poaching	The only Egyptian vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i> , Appendix II) born in the Drôme sub-division this year found wounded by shot pellets in the Vaucluse sub-division (about 60 km).	In care in 1 LPO clinic.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 23, 2018	Pyrénées-Orientales Department	Seizure / Sentence	1 little bustard (<i>Tetrax tetrax</i> , Appendix II) killed.	The hunter: "When I was about to shoot, I didn't know what it was".

ITALY

July 2018	Rome and Sabina Region	Seizure	More than 50 birds belonging to protected species, including European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), serins (<i>Serinus serinus</i>) and 15 European rollers (<i>Coracias garrulus</i>).	Operation "Ali Azzurre".
July 26, 2018	Carpi	Seizure	2 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) and 1 calandra lark (<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>) in cages.	At 1 private home.
August 18, 2018	Misterbianco	Seizure	110 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) including 2 dead without tagging.	Packed in 3 plastic boxes in the back of a car. Hidden under empty cages. Value: 5000 € in the whole or 45€ per bird. Questioning of the pet shops director. Survivors released the same day in the open country.
End August 2018	Favara	Seizure / Arrest	29 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), later released into the wild.	5 arrests at the agricultural fair.
September 1, 2018	Castiglione della Pescaia	Poaching	Opening of the hunt: 1 short-toed eagle (<i>Circaetus gallicus</i> , Appendix II).	Found shot to the ground. Feeds on snakes. Sexual maturity at 7 years old. One egg per clutch, uncertain hatching.
Early September 2018	Villapiana	Seizure / Arrest	3 seizures: 10, 7 and 11 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>).	3 arrests.
September 10, 2018	Cagliari	Seizure	35 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), later released into the wild.	In a cage, inside the trunk of a tourist's car on his way to Naples, hot spot for the goldfinch big business. Value: 10,000€, 280€ per bird.
September 2018	Latium Region	Seizure / Arrest	More than 50 protected birds, including 15 European rollers (<i>Coracias garrulus</i>), hawfinches (<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>), European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), serins (<i>Serinus serinus</i>), kestrels (<i>Falco spp.</i> , Appendix I or II) and western jackdaws (<i>Corvus monedula</i>). Some of them still young.	Value: 500 € one European roller, 200 to 300 € one kestrel, 150 € one hawfinch, 30 to 80 € one elegant goldfinch. Joint operation of CITES and Europol carabinieri. 2 arrests. Destination planned: Netherlands, Germany, Belgium.
September 16, 2018	Palermo	Seizure / Arrest	51 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) and 6 serins (<i>Serinus serinus</i>), later released into the wild.	Arrest of 3 peddlers at the Ballaro market.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 2018	Tarento	Seizure	1 common kestrel (<i>Falco tinnunculus</i> , Appendix II) in 1 cage, ammunition, 1 homemade bomb, 1 firearm, 2 wild power connections dating back 20 years, 1 knife 25 cm long.	Jumble at the junk shop. Owner's vanishing.



September 2018	Palermo and Lercara Friddi	Seizure / Arrest	26 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), in 1 barn and on 1 balcony.	During 2 operations, TS (51 years old, repeat offender) and CF (50 years old).
End September 2018	Somma Vesuviana, Campania Region	Seizure	3 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) in an aviary and several dead common teals (<i>Anas crecca</i>).	In 2 operations.
End September 2018	Ravenna	Sentence	5 African sacred ibises (<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>) killed with a gun in 2015.	1500 € fine and refunding of legal costs to 4 NGOs including WWF and Liberia Caccia.

PORUGAL

July 16, 2018	Albergaria-a-Velha	Seizure	7 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), 5 grey parrots (<i>Psittacus erithacus</i> , Appendix I), 4 Eurasian siskins (<i>Spinus spinus</i>), 2 green-winged macaws (<i>Ara chloropterus</i> , Appendix II), 1 galah (<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i> , Appendix II) and 2 parrots (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II).	In a clandestine dog breeding.
August 5, 2018	Porto	Seizure / Arrest	210 birds: European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>), passerines (family Fringillidae) and common waxbills (<i>Estrilda astrild</i>).	2 arrests, during at the Bird Fair.

UNITED KINGDOM

August 15, 2018	Workington	Sentence	Intentional nest disturbance of a pair of ospreys (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i> , Appendix II).	Paul Barnes, 58 years old: 393 US\$ fine, 2623 US\$ court costs and 40 US\$ damages. Farmer and guide on a reserve.
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Pangolins

The four African pangolin species (*Manis gigantea*, *M. temminckii*, *M. tetradactyla*, *M. tricuspidis*) et the four Asian species (*Manis crassicaudata*, *M. culionensis*, *M. javanica* and *M. pentadactyla*) are listed under CITES Appendix I.



AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early July 2018	Johannesburg	Good news	1 adult male Temminck pangolin.	Recovered from the hands of poachers, cared of and released.
Early July 2018	Hoedspruit	Seizure / Arrest	1 pangolin.	Throwned down from the window during the car chase. One arrests, 2 fugitives.
August 1, 2018	Rustenburg	Seizure / Arrest	1 male pangolin.	In a plastic bag in a taxi. Expected selling price: 1,500 US\$. Surprise Moyani Nkomezulu (25 years old) and Tlhobogang Daniel Mantsho (34 years old) released on bail of 2,500 US\$.
Mid-September 2018	Centurion, Gauteng Province	Seizure	Seizure of a female pangolin.	Treatment of pneumonia by Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital. Recovered and freed 15 days later Favorable follow-up.
September 2018	Pretoria	Seizure / Arrest	1 live adult pangolin	Wrapped in a wire mesh, in a bag, in the trunk of a vehicle. 17,000 US\$ on the global black market according to a Pretorian media. 4 arrests.

CAMEROON

August 18, 2018	Douala	Seizure / Arrest	718 kg of scales.	Dismantling of 1 international network, 6 arrests including 2 Central African nationals, 3 on the run after their previous release on bail. Scales collection from hunters-gatherers in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, exfiltration in Nigeria via Cameroon. Alleged smuggling into Viet Nam.
September 2018	Akwa	Seizure / Arrest	400kg of pangolin scales.	4 arrests.
September 2018	Yaoundé	Seizure / Arrest	270kg of pangolin scales	4 people stopped, including 1 police officer. Delivery of bribes amouting to 710 US\$ to "facilitate" the transport from the south of the country.

COTE D'IVOIRE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 23, 2018	Abidjan	Sentence	3000 kg of pangolin scales. 	In 63 bags, in July of 2017 (See "On the Trail" n°18 p.37). Value on the local market: 78,000 US\$ (26 US\$/kg). Yao Kouassi Sébastien, Angha Agnan Joseph, Assi Seka Jocelin, Kanga Raymond: 12 months in jail and a 530 US\$ fine each at first instance.

NIGERIA

August 2018	Satellite Town, State of Lagos	Seizure	17 bags of scales (738 kg).	In the flat of one Chinese national. Value on the Asian market: 570,000 US\$ (770 US\$/kg).
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REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

July 19, 2018	Republic of the Congo	Arrest	1.8 tons of pangolin scales.	According to Freeland, arrests of 5 scales traffickers caught in the act on June 28th at the border of the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo : Zhang Ming Yang, Chinese, Emmanuel Agbo, Aboubalar Nasiru and John Paul Obiakor, Nigerians and Ted Allan Otta Obongui, Congolese. They are linked to Kaba Mamadi, Guinean, a leader in wildlife traffic. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.44.
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ZIMBABWE

July 2018	Zimunya, Manicaland Province	Other bad news	Bonus of 10,000 US\$ offered by the Chinese beaters for a living specimen.	Elders' advocacy for pangolins, (harakabvuka in local dialect), in the Mongabay newspaper: "For us, pangolin is more than just an animal ; it is part of our culture."
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August 22, 2018	Zimbabwe	Seizure	Rescue of 1 female pangolin her left hind paw being cut off by a trap.	Prognosis engaged.
August 28, 2018	Bulawayo	Seizure / Arrest	1 female pangolin weighing 4 kg.	Value: 5,000 US\$. Stephen Moyo (78 years old), Sipho Mbulawa (42 years old), Fundile Moyo (33 years old) and Mehluli Ngwenya (32 years old).

ASIA
CAMBODIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 11, 2018	Koh Kong Province	Seizure	1 pangolin weighing 4.8 kg in full health	Wildlife Alliance rangers patrol met a man on a motorcycle who dropped a bag and fled into the forest.
August 23, 2018	Cardamom Chain, Koh Kong Province	Seizure	1 living young pangolin, 1 motorcycle.	In a plastic bag. Wildlife Alliance rangers patrolled at night. Spotting of a poaching's campsite.

CHINA

July 2018	China	Good news	Pangolin considered as an ingredient for traditional Chinese medicine is going to be removed from schoolbooks.	
July 17, 2018	Daluo border crossing, Menghai County. Border with Myanmar	Seizure	1 adult Sunda pangolin weighing 6.8 kgs, 1.3 m.	In a polystyrene box, in an off-road car. Released 3 days later into the wild.
July 20, 2018	Hong Kong	Seizure	7.1 tons of pangolin scales	In 284 bags containing officially "plastic raw materials." 450,000 US\$ (63 US\$/kg). From Nigeria, to Guangdong province.
August 7, 2018	Yanping District	Good news	1 pangolin of 40 cm and weighing 1.3 kg. 	Released into the wild after being recovered by the police on the side of a motorway tunnel.
July and August 2018	Canton	Seizure	7.26 tons of pangolin scales, during 3 successive seizures in July and August (2.26 + 2.6 + 2.3), or 12,000 to 18,000 poached pangolins.	In 3 maritime containers loaded with "granite". 50 US\$/kg in Africa, 820 US\$/kg in China. 4 suspects arrested: Liang, Liu, Wu and Du (30 to 40 years old).
August 30, 2018	Macao	Seizure / Arrest	100 kg of pangolin scales.	In 90 packages wrapped in cooking foil, in 4 suitcases. 1 resident of Hong Kong on arrival at Macao.
September 4, 2018	Nanning	Seizure	4 live pangolins.	In the trunk of a car that was registered abroad. Driver ran away.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 19, 2018	Fangcheng-gang	Seizure	16 live pangolins.	Hidden in a car. Probable origin: Viet Nam.



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INDIA

July 6, 2018	Maligaon	Seizure / Arrest	1 living pangolin.	3 arrests.
August 25, 2018	Sundergarh District	Seizure / Arrest	1 adult pangolin.	Radhesyam Yada and Herot Xalxo by the forest rangers. In their broken down SUV. 3 accomplices escaped.
September 4, 2018	Halugudde	Arrest		Following a multi-month investigation by the Shivamogga Wildlife Division, gang break-up. 2 brothers, Uttamsab and Rajabhakshi, and "Ganesh" and "Krishna" were arrested. Involvement of more than 50 families of nomadic hunter-gatherers. Bringing to light of several opulent bank accounts from international traffic.

MALAYSIA

July 2, 2018	Bukit Kayu Hitam, main border crossing between Malaysia and Thailand	Seizure / Arrest	65 live pangolins, weighing from 3 to 10 kg per individual.	In bags inside the trunk of a car. Meat: 62 US\$/kg, Scales: 495 US\$/kg, Total value: 18,500 US\$. 1 ex-military, 57 years old, in charge of transport from Jitra to Viet Nam or China. Payed 445 US\$ for the trip.
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NEPAL

August 27, 2018	Bhameshwor	Seizure / Arrest	The skin and scales of 1 pangolin.	Killed 2 years ago according to Hom Bahadur Thapa (53 years old).
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THAILAND

August 25, 2018	Border of Malaysia-Thailand	Seizure / Arrest	162 live pangolins and 10 kg of scales.	By Thai customs officials on a line coach registered in Malaysia with no passengers other than pangolins. In the Penang Province (Malaysia). Destination provided for: Sado, Songkhla Province (Thailand).
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VIET NAM

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 1, 2018	Cuc Phuong National Park	Good news	Release by Save Wildlife Viet Nam of 25 pangolins.	Rescued from trafficking and taken care of by the NGO.
July 9, 2018	Terminal Ferry of Mě Sờ, Van Giang District	Seizure	116 pangolins weighing a total of 530 kg.	The driver of the SUV smashed into two police cars and then fled on foot.
July 15, 2018	Hai Phong	Seizure	2 wounded and weakened pangolins found by police in a park.	Locked in a bag inside a box. Collected by Save Viet Nam's Wildlife.
July 18, 2018	Noi Bai International Airport, Hanoï	Seizure	More than 300 kg of scales in 9 bags.	In a package from Nigeria. Destination: a man called Luong Thi Canh, but no clear address.
July 31, 2018	Hội An	Seizure	4 frozen pangolins (total weight 20.5 kg).	In a minibus towards Tam Ky. Zhang Xuan Bao's questioning.
September 6, 2018	Mong Cai	Saisie / Arrestation	121 live pangolins, 21 dead scaled pangolins, 7kg of scales. 6 cars, 10 motorcycles.	Search of a warehouse belonging to Pham Van Tuan in the hamlet of Cau Voi. Discovery of a big traffic of pangolins bound for neighbouring China.
September 12, 2018	Đức Trọng District	Saisie / Arrestation	2 live pangolins, one 3.4 kg, the other 1.2 kg. Released into the forest afterwards.	Interception by the police after 1 road accident. At the time of purchase 416 US\$, at the time of sale: 472 US\$ according to the accused, Nguyen Van Quan (49 years old).



July 1, 2018
Cuc Phuong National Park, Viet Nam



September 12, 2018, Đức Trọng District, Viet Nam

Pangolins and Elephants



AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
End of August 2018	KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga and Limpopo Provinces	Seizure / Arrest	1 live pangolin, elephant tusks, 1 prohibited weapon, ammunition, poaching tools and a car.	Operation coordinated by Rhino Team 9.28 questionings.

GABON

August 2, 2018	Lambaréne	Sentence	Illegal detention of 2 ivory tips, an elephant tail and pangolin scales.	Imenou Franck: 12 months in prison and 360 US\$ of fine. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.48.
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DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

September 30, 2018	Nsele Valley Park, Kinshasa Province	Good news		Burning of about 1 ton of ivory and about 1 ton of pangolin scales. Release of 5 grey parrots by President Joseph Kabila in front of several officials and ambassadors.
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ASIA

CHINA

Mid-August 2018	Shanghai-Pudong International Airport	Seizure	13.4 kg of pangolin scales, 140 g of worked ivories and the skin of 1 python.	In the bags of an arriving passenger.
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INDIA

July 2, 2018	Tarikere	Seizure / Arrest	4 kg of elephant tusks, 16 kg of deer antlers, 11 kg of pangolin scales.	Shivamogga Satish, Basavanna and his brother Ravi snared by forest rangers posing as buyers. Two members of the group escaped.
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VIET NAM

September 28, 2018	Noi Bai International Airport, Hanoi	Seizure	805 kg of pangolins scales in 20 parcels and 193 kg of ivory cut into slices in 4 packages.	Seizure by customs on arrival of a Turkish Airlines flight. Shippers: GMJ International Logisticsmakia & Cathage Import and Export Ltd. from Kano in Nigeria. Receivers: Nbc Viet Nam Development Company Limited & Vamc Ieco Ltd Thou, in the Son Son District.
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See also the chapter "Rhino and Elephants", seizure in Angola at the end of July.

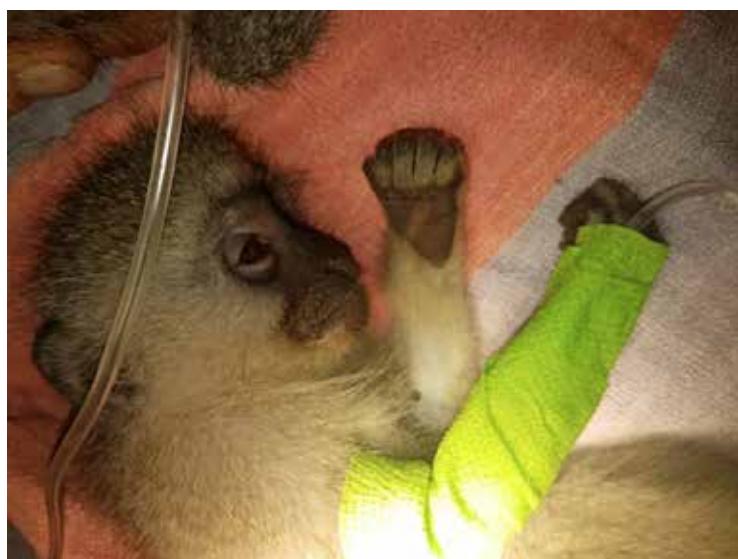
Primates

Gorilla (Gorilla spp.), chimpanzee (Pan spp.), orangutan (Pongo spp.) are listed in CITES Appendix I. Macaques (Macaca spp.) are in Appendix II except the lion-tailed macaque (*Macaca silenus*) and the Barbary macaque (*Macaca sylvanus*) listed in Appendix I.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Early July 2018	Constantia, Cape Town, Western Cape Province	Other bad news	Baboons (<i>Papio</i> spp., Appendix II) hunting. Accused of always finding a trick to infiltrate plantations.	7 in 1 year, since hunting licences were issued to 2 farms.
End July 2018	Beaufort West	Good news	1 female baboon (<i>Papio</i> spp., Appendix II).	Aged 8 weeks or so. Lone, hungry and thirsty, transported to a rehabilitation centre in Gauteng through a solidarity network.
August 12, 2018	Salt Rock, KwaZulu-Natal Province	Poaching	1 monkey about 10 months old dead, 2 other monkeys about 2.5 years old and 10 months at the point of death in a landfill.	Poisoned by 1 pesticide of the Temik type. Reward of 70 US\$ promised by a resident for any information allowing to identify the culprit.



August 12, 2018, Salt Rock, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa



September 28, 2018, Monrovia, Liberia

© Liberia Chimpanzee Rescue

CAMEROON

July 2018	Douala	Seizure / Arrest	Attempt to sell 1 baby chimpanzee.	Concealed in a cardboard box inside a cage, at the back of a bike. 2 arrests.
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LIBERIA

September 28, 2018	Monrovia	Seizure / Arrest	1 young female chimpanzee.	Liberia Chimpanzee Rescue operation. Attempted sale on the street. 1 arrest.
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REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 3, 2018	Dolisie	Seizure	A male gorilla about 15 years old out of its cage.	Gave the alert himself by running away and causing panic in the communities. Transfer to the dedicated shelter of Tchimpounga. Police custody of Colonel Ikounga Rémy aka Ayayos prosecuted for illegal possession of a highly protected species.

AMERICA

BRAZIL

July 19, 2018	Santa Cruz do Sul, State of Rio Grande do Sul	Seizure	1 capuchin monkey (<i>Cebus</i> spp., Appendix II), 1 cockatiel (<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>).
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COLOMBIA

August 2018	Bogotá	Seizure	1 18-month-old male white-fronted capuchin (<i>Cebus albifrons</i> , Appendix II), captive since the age of 2 months. Unlikely to be released.	According to the Ministry of Environment, global seizure of 3000 wild animals converted into pets since the beginning of the year.
September 5, 2018	Bogotá	Seizure	1 female white-faced capuchin (<i>Cebus capucinus</i> , Appendix II), about 30 years old, kept captive for 26 years and 1 abandoned Douroucouli (<i>Aotus</i> spp., Appendix II) wandering in the streets.	Operation "Libres y en casa". Transferred to the Institute for Animal Welfare and Protection.

PERU

July 31, 2018	Castilla district, Piura province	Good News	1 young male white-fronted capuchin (<i>Cebus albifrons</i> , Appendix II)	With a neck chain on the run for 3 days on the rooftops before entering a house. Release considered after quarantine. A highly sought-after species as a pet.
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SALVADOR

July 5, 2018	Conchagua	Seizure	2 female spider monkeys (<i>Ateles</i> spp., Appendix I or II) and 1 adult male in very poor condition.	Chained and housed in an old circus trailer. Belonging to Circo Real Italiano. Ban on animals in circuses since 2013.
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CHINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 5, 2018	Jiangsu Province	Seizure	Seizure of 17 monkeys from 17 private individuals.	Origin: a clandestine breeding in Henan. Between 900 and 1660 US\$ per animal. Out of 36 monkeys aged 3-4 months recently sold, 20 died due to long-distance delivery, malnutrition or an inadequate living environment. 35 arrests, buyers and sellers.
July 31, 2018	Jinghong	Good News	Rescue of a baby Assam macaque.	On sale on the street, entrusted to the forest police.
September 27, 2018	Nanyang, borderpost to Myanmar.	Seizure	1 slow loris (<i>Nycticebus coucang</i> , Appendix I).	In a cat cage in the back of a car.

INDONESIA - ORANGUTANS

July 1, 2018	Wajok Hilir	Exfiltration	Evacuation of an orangutan.	From the village to a sanctuary.
July 2, 2018	Tanjung Hanau	Poaching	1 male, about 20 years old, screened with 7 bullets, slashed, 1 finger cut, string marks on the legs.	In the irrigation canal of the palm oil company "PT Wana Sawit Subur Lestari". Two suspects arrested.
July 3, 2018	Sangatta	Sentence	Poaching of an orangutan (130 bullets).	For each of the 4 accused: 7 months in prison, a fine of 3470 US\$ and an additional 2 months in prison in case of non-payment. See "On the Trail" no. 21 p.52.
July 10, 2018	Kampong Baro, Aceh Province	Seizure	Fatimah, young female orangutan.	Released after 6 years of captivity in the home of a retired soldier.
July 2018	Nyaru Menteng Orangutan Reintroduction Centre	Good news	11 adult orangutans and 2 babies.	Release in Bukit Baka Bukit Raya National Park.
July 12, 2018	Buntok	Sentence	Poaching and beheading of an orangutan.	For the two accused, Mulyadi bin Landes and Tamorang bin Ribin: 6 months in prison and a 34 US\$ fine. See "On the Trail" no. 20 p.58.
July 14, 2018	Kuala Satong	Exfiltration	2 orangutans (1 female about 35 years old and 1 baby about 10 months old).	Cornered on the edge of oil palm plantations. Habitats fragmented by clearing fires. Transfer to the mountains of Gunung Palung.



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July 1, 2018, Wajok Hilir, Indonesia



© ISTIMEWA

July 28, 2018, Tanjung Pasar,
Muara Pawan District, Indonesia



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VISTA & VEE



NANDA &
ANANDA

July 2018, Nyaru Menteng Orangutan Reintroduction Centre, Indonesia

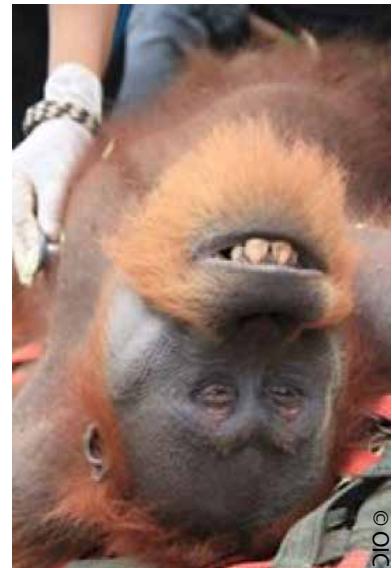


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July 10, 2018, Kampong Baro,
Aceh Province, Indonesia



August 3, 2018, Geulagang Gajah,
Indonesia



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August 18, 2018,
Tanjung Glumpang, Indonesia



© Sabah Wildlife Department

September 11, 2018, Kinabatangan River,
Sandakan District, Indonesia

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 17, 2018	Batu Mbelin	Good news	Transfer to the SOCP (Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Program) rescue center of 1 female 15-20 year old and her 4-5 year old male baby.	Illegally housed in the Pematang Siantar Zoo after having been caught in Dairi Regency.
July 27, 2018	Le Jerneh, Aceh Province	Exfiltration	1 male orangutan about 30 years old.	Removed from an oil palm plantation and released into a forest.
July 28, 2018	Tanjung Pasar, Muara Pawan District	Good news	1 baby orangutan brought to a rescue centre.	Removed from an oil palm plantation by IAR (International Animal Rescue) Indonesia and BKSDA (Balai Konservasi Sumber Daya Alam, Nature Protection Agency).
August 3, 2018	Geulagang Gajah, Southwest Aceh Regency	Exfiltration	1 female orangutan about 15 years old.	Removed from an oil palm plantation by the Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Program (SOCP) and the local BKSDA branch.
August 16, 2018	Kabupaten de Seruyan	Arrest	Shots fired at an orangutan in a cage then stabbed to death.	In an oil palm plantation.
August 17, 2018	Namo Unggas, Batang Serangan	Exfiltration	1 male about 15 years old (40 kg).	Sedated, removed from an oil palm plantation. Released the same day.
August 18, 2018	Tanjung Glumpang	Exfiltration	1 male orangutan about 25 years old.	Removed from an oil palm plantation, transferred to the Leuser Mountains.
September 1, 2018	Pulo Tiga, Tamiang Hulu District	Exfiltration	1 male orangutan about 60 years old.	Removed from a plantation, transferred to the Leuser Mountains after light tranquilization.
September 11, 2018	Kinabatangan River, Sandakan District	Poaching	1 female orangutan, about 30 years old.	Drifting in the river, three bullets, several wounds to the abdomen, shoulder and foot.
September 17, 2018	Kumai	Poaching	1 30-year-old male orangutan, 65 kg.	Evacuated from an acacia plantation. 1 bullet 1 cm in diameter extracted from his right hand. Prognosis positive.
September 19, 2018	Indonesia	Other	Suspension of oil palm planting licence allocations for 3 years.	Mitigated NGO satisfaction, Walhi's (Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia - Indonesian Forum for the Environment) claims to a 25-year moratorium.
September 29, 2018	Pulo Tiga, Tamiang Hulu District	Exfiltration	1 female orangutan about 25 years old (35kg).	Transferred from 1 plantation to Leuser Forest.

MALAYSIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 13, 2018	Malaysia	Seizure / Arrest	3 Sumatran orangutan babies.	Sale via the Internet. 1 arrest.

THAILAND

August 15, 2018	Ko Naka Yai Island	Seizure / Arrest	2 slow lorises (<i>Nycticebus coucang</i> , Appendix I).	Job: making people showing off with lorises. From 1 to 3 US\$ per photo. Exploitation on the tourist beach by Nattapon Kensing (26 years old), repeat offender. Police hearing on animal cruelty.
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EUROPE

SPAIN

July 11, 2018	Carcabuey	Seizure	1 male white-tufted-ear marmoset (<i>Callithrix jacchus</i> , Appendix II).
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FRANCE

July 13, 2018	Mervent	Theft	1 Goeldi's marmoset (<i>Callimico goeldii</i> , Appendix I) aged around 11 years.	Burglary at Natur'zoo.
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Vicuñas, *Vicugna vicugna*, Appendix II

AMERICA

PERU

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early July 2018	Pampamarca District	Poaching	12 skinned vicuñas.	On the high plateaus at an altitude of more than 4500 m.
August 29, 2018	Ojherani, Puno District. Border with Bolivia.	Seizure	16 skins with bullet holes.	
July 11, 2018	Pichacani District	Seizure	1 young.	Attached to the roof of a house. Not really a pet, rather livestock with annual sale of the wool.



© SERFOR

Felines

LEOPARDS

Leopards (*Panthera pardus*) are listed under CITES Appendix I.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 12, 2018	South Africa	Other bad news	2018 leopard hunting quotas: 5 in the Limpopo province and 2 in KwaZulu-Natal, only males older than 7 years. In 2016, quota: 0.	Risks of mistakes in the sex and age of the victims.

GABON

July 12, 2018	Koulamoutou	Sentence	Commercialization of 2 skins.	Oumsaoré Noufou (Burkinabé): 1 year in prison and 320 US\$ in fines. Henri Mounianguui, his accomplice: 6 months in prison and 180 US\$ in fines. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.56.
End of July 2018	Libreville	Sentence	Transportation and detention of 5 teeth and 2 bones.	Lin Jianhuan or Li Jianhua, Chinese and 53 years old, arrested in February 2018: 3 months in prison of which one suspended and 180 US\$ in fines. Sentence already served in pre-trial detention. So he was released.
Early August 2018	Lambaréne	Seizure / Arrest	2 skins and 1 skull.	Houily Mockea Endecko and Mamba Gabin, arrested while trying to sell them.
August 6, 2018	Tchibanga and Malounga	Seizure / Arrest	2 skins.	3 arrests: Auguste Paga, salesman recruited by Jean-Christian Mbaki Ditengo and Mamadou Kéita, skin owners.

GUINEA

July 26, 2018	Kankan	Seizure / Arrest / Sentence	1 skin.	Mamoudou Diabaté, 27 years old, convicted for 10 US\$ in fines and 5530 US\$ damages for detention, transport and trade of a protected species.
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ZAMBIA

July 2018	Chikanta	Seizure / Arrest	Illegal detention of 1 skin.	Value: 720 US\$. Louis Munyama, healer.
Early August 2018	Lusaka	Sentence	Illegal detention of 2 skins.	Scholastica Chisimba: 5 years in prison.

INDIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 12, 2018	Alipurduat District	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin, 2.04 m long, from head to tail.	Prakash Toppo (22 years old) and Sushil Tigga (23 years old) caught by SSB (Sashastra Seema Bal).
July 12, 2018	Talao Pali	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin.	Value: more than 14,500 US\$. Sellers: one unemployed and one minor.
July 16, 2018	Kamareddy District	Good news	1 young female of less than a year old.	Spotted by a shepherd in a trap. Wounded at the right front paw. Cared of in the Nehru Zoological Park. No release in view.
July 25, 2018	Mysore	Lynching	1 leopard of about a year old.	Slaughtering and then a parade in the city with selfimania. Removal of the skin. Alibi for the lynching unknown.
July 28, 2018	Patewa	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin, teeth and the jaw. 1 bow, arrows and 2 knives.	Anjan Singh, Mithlesh Bariha and Lalit Dhruv, looking for customers in the Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary.



July 12, 2018, Alipurduat District, India



July 30, 2018, Begur, India

July 30, 2018	Begur	Good news	1 leopard trapped.	Lightning intervention by rangers, anaesthesia, caging and evacuation at Mysore Zoo. Whew, lynching avoided.
August 4, 2018	Amreli District	Arrest	3 poisoned leopards lying on the roadside.	Poisoned carcass of a dog to bait felines. Bhupat Ravji Mathasuria, employed by farmers to protect their fields.
August 5, 2018	Purani Ubali, State of Rajasthan	Lynching	1 leopard.	Lynching with stones despite the on hand anaesthesia by the rescue team on the point to extract the victim from the ambush.

LEOPARDS - FOLLOWED

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early August 2018	Kharghar	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin.	Value: 29,000 US\$. Ashrap Chipolkar (52 years old), in charge of the transport between Dapoli and Kalyan, 160km.
9 August 2018	Adilabad District	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin.	Hidden in a cupboard. Ramakrishna Narvate (62 years old) and his nephew Pradeep Narvate (32 years old).
August 15, 2018	Galipore, Hassan District	Poaching	1 male of about 7 years old, shot to death by a bullet through the head.	In a field.
August 21, 2018	Haldwani	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin.	Hayat Singh (31 years old) and Mahaveer Bisht (29 years old).
September 5, 2018	Mankarai	Poaching	1 female, paws and head off. 3 years old or so.	Cremation in forest.
September 13, 2018	Ghat, Pithoragarh District	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin, 2.45 m long. About 5 years old.	Keshav Ram in custody.
September 15, 2018	Suntikoppa	Poaching	1 male between 7 and 8 years old.	Died in a trap for wild boars.
September 24, 2018	Palakkad District	Poaching	1 leopard breathing his last in a metal trap.	In a plantation of rubber trees. Died during transfer to the Thrissur Zoo.

IRAN

September 18, 2018	Ramhormoz	Seizure / Arrest	Attempted marketing of a cub aged 3 months as a pet	3 suspects arrested.
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September 18, 2018, Ramhormoz, Iran



August 3, 2018, Pokhara, Nepal

NEPAL

August 3, 2018	Pokhara	Seizure / Arrest	2 skins.	Gyanendra Century (23 years old), Debendra Rasaili (23 years old) and Jhalak Chantyal (25 years old), looking for a buyer.
August 22, 2018	Dolakha District	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin, 1.8 m long, 0.8 m wide.	Narad Sunuwar, president of a forest community, Pradeep Gajmer and Bed Bahadur Sunuwar, looking for a buyer.
September 5, 2018	Aathabis	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin.	Nabin Dhamala (19 years old).

CHEETAHS

Cheetahs (*Acinonyx jubatus*) are listed under CITES Appendix I.

AFRICA

SOMALIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 5 and 28, 2018	Berbera District	Seizure / Arrest / Sentence	6 cheetahs of 3 to 7 months old. August 28, 2 other seizures in the Hargeisa region.	2 dealers : 3 years in prison and 300 US\$ in fines each.

ASIA

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Mid-August 2018	Dubai	Other bad news	Exhibition of a cheetah on Instagram to publicize a new restaurant.	Cost of one cub: 10 to 20,000 US\$. Search for the owner and letter of the beast. Since 2016, prohibition on private individuals from keeping wild animals.
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LIONS

African lions (*Panthera leo*) are listed under CITES Appendix II, Indian lions (*Panthera leo persica*) under Appendix I.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

Mid-July 2018	South Africa	Other bad news	Permit export growth. 2017/2018 Season: 800 skeletons. 2018/2019 Season : 1,500 with or without the skull.	One of the last decisions of Edna Molewa. 3,500 wild lions in South Africa according to officials. 7,000 in captivity in 260 enclosures. Main opportunities: trade for traditional medicine, trophy hunting, and exhibition in the enclosures.
July 2018	Kruger National Park	Poaching	Ravaging traps: - 2 male lions. - 1 hyena. - 1 rescued hyena - Escape of a leopard with a metallic cable around his neck.	Burning of "Shabeni lions'"s bodies by the poachers. Concern for the cubs of the pride.
End of July 2018	Vaalwater	Other bad news	6 deaths.	Among the 33 circus lions from South America, 6 died in the "sanctuary" (Emoya Big Cat sanctuary) where they found refuge, including 2 by poaching. The NGO ADI (Animal Defenders International), based in the US, wants to move them to a safer place. See "On the Trail" n°17 p.62.
August 9, 2018	Kruger National Park	Poaching	1 lion.	Intervention by rangers and veterinarians of the Park. Wriggled out of a metallic snare and nursed.
August 26, 2018	Letsitele	Poaching	3 dead lions.	2 with paws and heads off in their enclosures. Autopsy and manhunt in progress.

LIONS - FOLLOWED

EGYPT

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 2018	Abouzabel	Seizure	5 lions, 3 females and 2 males.	Smuggling from South Africa. Caged in one warehouse in waiting for an illegal outlet. Transfer to the Giza zoo thereafter.

KENYA

End of July 2018	Amboseli National Park	Good news	1 lion extracted from a trap and cared of.	Rescued by DSWT.
End of September 2018	Mapaasha, Kajiado County	Poaching	2 lions killed, including 1 stripped of his skin.	Retaliation of breeders and skin trade.

MOZAMBIQUE

September 8, 2018	Zambezi Delta	Poaching / Arrest	1 lion.	One among 24 lions that were transferred from South Africa early August killed in a jaw trap. 1 poacher arrested.
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NAMIBIA

End of July 2018	Anabeb Reserve	Poaching	1 lion poisoned.	What happened to her 3 or 4 cubs? Outrage of the NGO Namibian Lions Killed in HWC (Human-Wildlife Conflict) over the absence of judicial prosecutions after successive poisonings.
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ZAMBIA

Early August 2018	Lusaka	Sentence	Illegal detention of 1 lion skin.	Beatrice Lupazula: 5 years in prison.
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EUROPE

SPAIN

Mid-August 2018	Autonomous Community of Catalonia	Seizure	1 specimen stuffed.	On sale online for 5,995 € (7009 US\$). Reportedly hunted in Namibia in the 1990s. Hearing of a woman, who would have inherited it from her step-father.
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TIGERS

Tigers (*Panthera tigris*) are listed under CITES Appendix I.

AMERICA**MEXICO**

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 2, 2018	Villagrán, State of Guanajuato	Seizure	1 female close to 2 years old (100 kg).	Abandoned in a private property.
August 7, 2018	Baca, State of Yucatán	Seizure	1 male and 1 female.	Detained in the Rancho Santa María.
August 19, 2018	Mexicali	Seizure	1 male about 1.5 years old (120 kg).	Origin unknown, chained in unsanitary housing. Handed over to the PIMVS (Predio e Instalacion que Maneja Vida Silvestre) of the city.

ASIA**CHINA**

July 2018	Nanjing	Seizure	1 tiger skull (840 g).
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INDIA

July 1, 2018	Jaipur	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin to be certified, 15 claws mounted on silver jewelry, counterfeit money, foreign currency, antiques from unknown origin.	Arrest of Ajeeet Kumar Gokhru in the jewelry district. July 11, arrests of his accomplices Rajesh Bhonlse and Gajanand Panwar.
July 11, 2018	Chalsa	Seizure / Arrest	2 canines about 10 cm long.	Value: 1,400 US\$ per canine. Forest custody of 14 days for the 2 men - Prem Nath Tanti (37 years old) and Dipak Mahali (41 years old) - and a woman - Raina Khatun (45 years old), in charge of the convoying. 1 fugitive. From Bhutan to China, via Nepal.
July 18, 2018	Satkosia Tiger Reserve	Transfer interrupted	Suspension of the reintroduction of 6 tigers in the reserve. Disappearance of the first male released early July.	Villager's demonstration and open threats of poaching.
July 22, 2018	Alwar District	Seizure / Arrest	Bones and teeth of a large feline at the bottom of a well with other parts of animals.	Value: 1,450 US\$ per canine. Concern after the disappearance of the tigress ST5 from the next Sariska Tiger Reserve. Escape of 4 brothers, including 2 ex-military and 1 ex-wildlife conservation officer.

TIGERS - FOLLOWED

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 25, 2018	Lakhandur	Sentence	Poaching and escape.	Kuttu alias Rahul Gulabsingh Gondthakur (34 years old): 2 years in enhanced criminal detention and 14.5 US\$ in fines for his escape on 01/21/2016 during a transfer to the Bhandara tribunal, charged with poaching of Rashtrapati, one of the largest tigers in the Nagzira wildlife sanctuary. The skin of Rashtrapati would be one of five sold by Sarju serving his sentence at the central prison of Nagpur. See "On the Trail" n°7 p.53, n°8 p.49, n°12 p.56, n°15 p.63, n°17 p.59 and 60 and n°18 p.55.
August 1, 2018	Karapura	Poaching	1 male of 7 years old.	Electrocuted by an illegal fence, torn claws. Body weighted with stones in a backwater.
August 3, 2018	Usripur	Arrest	Illegal detention of 150 bone fragments of a tiger and 14 claws.	Arrest of Devidas Kumre belonging to the "tiger fishers" gang, on the run since the seizure in June 2017. See "On the Trail" n°17 p.6 and n°18 p.54-55.
September 18, 2018	Kotagiri	Sentence	A tiger, about 8 years old, said to have killed a buffalo and poisoned on June 20, 2014.	K. Thimmaiyan (60 years old): 3 years in prison and fines of 148 US\$ and 3 additional months in prison in case of non-payment.
September 18, 2018	District de Shimla	Seizure	2 tiger skins.	1 questioning.
September 22, 2018	Amravati	Acquittal	Poaching of a female tiger in March 2013.	Acquittal of Bhajan Hotel Dhurve and Prakash Bisan Chavan, alias Shiri (35 years old), arrested on denunciation from an accomplice who was carrying bird traps, artisanal bombs and a knife.

INDONESIA

July 22, 2018	Jambi	Seizure / Arrest	The skin and bones of a young tiger from Sumatra.	At the back of the vehicle, in a crate with chemicals for the process of bones and skin. Two men.
End of September 2018	Riau Province	Poaching / Arrest	1 tigress from Sumatra, around 3.5-5 years old, who was to give birth two weeks later, fatally wounded by a trap around her abdomen. Confirmation from the autopsy that 2 cubs were about to be born.	For "trapping wild pigs". Intervention by BKSDA. 1 arrest, E., a security guard in a palm oil plantation.

VIET NAM

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 5, 2018	Cần Thơ	Seizure / Arrest	2 tigers stuffed. Compressed air guns, flashlights.	Pre-trial detention of Vo Tan Hung (53 years old), underground taxidermist and possible poacher. Delayed announcement for the needs of the inquiry.

EUROPE

CZECH REPUBLIC

July 16, 2018	Czech Republic	Seizure / Arrest	Following 12 searches, seizure of a dead tiger, 4 skins and 10 tiger claws, a frozen beaver and a kingfisher.	Tiger breeding by Ludvik Berousek, 67 years old ; processing of corpses into tiger soup and tiger wine by a Czech accomplice (35 years old) ; sold in the Czech Republic, in the United States and in Viet Nam by a Vietnamese man (56 years old), former circus owner. Value: 4,500 to 6,700 US\$ for the tiger, 2,300 to 4,500 US\$ for the skin.
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ONCILLAS

Oncillas (*Leopardus tigrinus*) are listed under Appendix I.



AMERICA

NICARAGUA

Early September 2018	Bonanza	Seizure	1 young female.	Unlikely to be released because already permeated by domestication.
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MARGAYS

Margay (*Leopardus wiedii*) are listed under Appendix I.

AMERICA

BRAZIL

End of August 2018	Manaus International Airport	Seizure / Arrest	1 skin.	In the suitcase of a deputy lieutenant of the Rio de Janeiro military police. Heading to Rio de Janeiro.
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GUATEMALA

July 3, 2018	Totonicapán Department	Voluntary surrender	1 adult in poor health.
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© Conap

JAGUARS

Jaguars (*Panthera onca*) are listed under CITES Appendix I.

AMERICA

MEXICO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 6, 2018	Espita, State of Yucatán	Sentence	Poaching of a jaguar trade of some parts.	2 poachers and the buyer. Fines: 5,000 US\$ each.
August 9, 2018	Ciudad Sahagún	Seizure / Arrest	2 skins and 2,150 US\$ in cash.	In a car. 1 man, age of 33 years old.
August 31, 2018	Tulum	Seizure	1 female of about a year old.	Would have been "found" by the owner in the mountain.
September 2018	Jesus Carranza	Poaching	1 young female (70 kg, 121 cm long) with canines 4 cm long, fatally wounded by a bullet next to the left eye.	Spotted at home by the police.



August 9, 2018, Ciudad Sahagún, Mexico



August 31, 2018, Tulum, Mexico

EUROPE

GERMANY

September 16, 2018	Leipzig International Airport	Seizure	A jaguar skin with a skull and parts of unidentified animals: hoof, jaw fragment, feathers.	In a postal parcel from Venezuela to Spain. Declared as "handcrafted items".
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PUMAS

Pumas (*Puma concolor*) are listed under CITES Appendix II.

AMERICA

ARGENTINA

Early July 2018	Cerro Colorado	Seizure	1 female about 6 months old.	Kept in captivity near the Natural Cultural Reserve. 1 rope around the neck.
Early July 2018	Josefina, Province de Santa Fe	Seizure	1 puma wounded by bullets to the head.	Rescued in a decayed house. One arrest.

BRAZIL

August 17, 2018	State of Santa Catarina	Seizure / Sentence	2 jaguars, a mother and cub, tracked by dogs until exhaustion. 2 deaths and one decapitation.	Images put on social media by the barbarians. Fines : 180,274 US\$.
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VARIOUS SPECIES FELINES

AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 1, 2018	Sherman	Sentence	Trafficking of skulls and other parts of lions and tigers, from the US to Asia.	Arongkron "Paul" Malasukum, 42 years old: 9 months in prison then 1 year of probation. See "On the Trail" n°19 p.74.

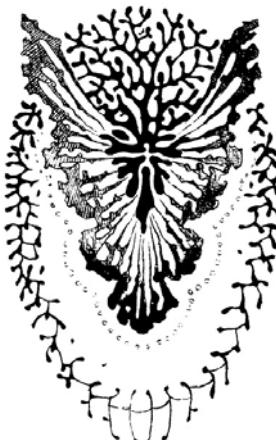
MEXICO

July 6, 2018	Valladolid, State of Yucatán	Sentence	5 jaguar skins and 1 ocelot skin.	In an inn. Manager fined 5,300 US\$.
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ASIA

INDIA

July 11, 2018	Shirdi	Seizure / Arrest	1 tiger skin and 33 lion claws. 12 counterfeit coins.	Poaching with the help of tribes who were rewarded with cereals, cooking oil and other foodstuffs. Questioning of Vikki Rajesh Bhosle and Ravi Gajanand Panwar, sellers of rosaries (rudrakshas), semi-precious stones and parts of protected wild animals close to the Sai Baba Mandir temple.
July 16, 2018	Balaghat District	Seizure / Arrest	1 tiger skin, 1 leopard skin, 1 jungle cat skin.	Felines killed by poisoned preys. Sellers: Birju alias Virendra Purram Sarjit Singh, Salik Ukey, Santosh Bhalavi, Heeralal Maravi, aged from 30 to 50.
September 4, 2018	State of Uttarakhand	Poaching	Deaths in 2 years and 6 months of 40 tigers and 272 leopards in the State.	Start of the preliminary investigation of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on the supposed complicity of forest rangers with poachers and this for 5 years.



Wolves and Indian Wild Dogs

Wolves (*Canis lupus*) are listed under CITES Appendix II except the populations of Bhutan, India, Nepal and Pakistan listed under Appendix I.

EUROPE

FRANCE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 8, 2018	Port de Castet, Ossau Valley	Poaching	Illegal wolf beat. Empty-handed.
August 16, 2018	Les Estables	Other bad news	Illegal wolf beat by the union "Coordination Rurale 48". Empty-handed. Willingness of sheep breeders to take the place of the State authorities and masters of the wolf hunt to "eradicate" wolves.
August 25, 2018	Villard-de-Lans	Poaching	Shooting of a grey wolf said to be prowling around one herd. Legitimacy of the shooting recognized by the State authorities.

ASIA

VIET NAM

August 11, 2018	Cardamom Chain, Koh Kong Province	Poaching	An Indian Wild Dog (<i>Cuon alpinus</i> , Appendix II) freed from a trap. As part of a trap removal campaign by the Wildlife Alliance.
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Bears and Red Pandas

AMERICA

CANADA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 18, 2018	Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, Laval, la Mauricie and Côte-Nord Regions.	Seizure / Arrest	Several hundred gall bladders and carcasses of black bears (<i>Ursus americanus</i> , Appendix II) as well as other furry animals, weapons, traps and vehicles.	Operation "Pochette". More than 60 people charged with trafficking in gall bladders, illegal trapping, and hunting with prohibited gear.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Early August 2018	Esther Island	Arrest	A female black bear (<i>Ursus americanus</i> , Appendix II) and her 2 cubs shot to death.	Andrew Renner, 41 years old, and his sons Owen Renner, 18 years old, arrested thanks to a video caught in April by a camera shooting the bears' motions. Prohibition in most of Alaska of killing black bears followed by their cubs.
September 24, 2018	Yellowstone National Park, States of Wyoming and Idaho	Good news	Cancellation of the license to hunt 22 brown bears (<i>Ursus arctos</i> , Appendix II).	Back again of the brown bears in and around the park on the endangered animals list as a result of a court order. Willingness of hunters and official services to appeal.

ASIA
INDIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 14, 2018	Agra	Good news	Sanitary repatriation. 1000 km by ambulance from Nepal to the rehab center in Agra for Rangila, sloth bear (<i>Melursus ursinus</i> , Appendix I) male, that belonged to a bear trainer.	Operation led by Wildlife SOS Team, India, with the help from the Nepalese government and the Jane Goodall Institute. Smuggling into Nepal from Rangila with his fellow sufferer Sridevi in December 2017. Death of Sridevi in the Katmandu zoo.
September 26, 2018	Jaigaon, Border of Bhutan/India	Seizure / Arrest	900 g of Asian black bear bile (<i>Ursus thibetanus</i> , Appendix I) in 3 plastic bags.	In the diapers of an infant who was sleeping on the accomplice's lap. T. T. Namgyal and Lolo, Bhutanese. Escape of the accomplice with the child.

IRAN

Early July 2018	Ahar	Poaching	1 adult brown bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i> , Appendix II).	Reported by the NGO IEW (Iran Environment and Wildlife Watch).
August 7, 2018	Masal	Poaching	Discovery of a male bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i> , Appendix II) of 1.5 years old, wounded by a bullet at the throat, about two months earlier, with a fracture in the jaw, alive but dying.	Intensive care in a veterinary clinic in Tehran. Unlikely survival.
September 2018	Arasbaran Reserve	Poaching	1 adult brown bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i> , Appendix II) found in the forest with the right front paw cut off, the bone bare.	Emergency transport to Tabriz, died some minutes later.

NEPAL

September 4, 2018	Kathmandu	Seizure / Arrest	5 red panda skins (<i>Ailurus fulgens</i> , Appendix I). 1 motorcycle.	Sukra Rai and Ajit Basnet.
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VIET NAM

July 15, 2018	Vinh Linh District	Seizure	8 Malayan sun bear claws (<i>Helarctos malayanus</i> , Appendix I).	Sale on Facebook. Seizure at the time of delivery to a buyer.
September 7, 2018	Thanh Hóa	Seizure	2 bear paws soaking in 12 liters of alcohol.	Sale on Facebook. Questioning of a couple.



EUROPE

GERMANY

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 20, 2018	Franz-Josef-Strauß Airport in Munich	Seizure	1 skull	By postal parcel, declared as "decoration items". From Canada to Bulgaria.

NORWAY

July 28, 2018	Svalbard	Poaching	1 polar bear (<i>Ursus maritimus</i> , Appendix II) killed.	By a crewman of the <i>MS Bremen</i> from the German company Hapag-Lloyd Cruises.
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NETHERLANDS

Early August 2018	Netherlands	Seizure	20 vials of "medicine" with bear bile.	In 2 golden color boxes in the belongings of a traveler from China.
September 2018	Netherlands	Seizure	1 bear claw.	In the luggage of a traveler from Thailand.

Hippopotamuses

Hippopotamuses (*Hippopotamus amphibius*), are listed under CITES Appendix II.

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
September 6, 2018	iSimangaliso Wetland Park	Poaching	Death of 1 male. Spotted several weeks ago with a wire trap around his neck. Impossible to capture on land.	Death despite a perilous free-ing from a tour boat.

ZAMBIA

Mid-July 2018	Luangwa Valley, North, Central and East Provinces	Other bad news	Hunting of 5 hippos for 14,000 US\$, possibility to export teeth, 250 hippos per year until 2022.	Hunting promotion by Umlico Safaris based in South Africa, a subcontractor of Mabwe Adventures Limited, which was awarded the contract issued by the ZAWA (Zambian Wildlife Authority) in 2015. Call for tenders contested by the LSA (Luangwa Safari Association) and allegedly tainted by a "donation" of 8,100 US\$ to ZAWA. See "On the Trail" no. 13 p.67 and no. 21 p.72.
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Giraffes

AFRICA

KENYA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	NATURE / QUANTITE / MOTIF DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Early July 2018	Laikipia County	Poaching	Rescue of 1 adult male giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>) injured in the left front paw by a wire trap.



MOZAMBIQUE

Early August 2018	Maputo reserve	Poaching	A male giraffe (<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>) about 4 years old, extracted from a jaw trap, the right front paw hit to the bone. Operation by the veterinary doctor Joao Amleida.
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Deer

AMERICA

ARGENTINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
End July 2018	Mercedes Department, Corrientes Province	Seizure / Arrest	Marsh deer meat (<i>Blastocerus dichotomus</i> , Appendix I) and weapons.	In one hilux toyota. Highway 40. 3 men (39, 35 and 23 years old).

MEXICO

July 6, 2018	Valladolid, State of Yucatán	Sentence	3 white-tailed deer skins (<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> , <i>Odocoileus virginianus mayensis</i> , Appendix III in Guatemala).	1 tanner, fine: 5200 US\$.
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ASIA

CHINA

August 2, 2018	Shenyang Taoxian International Airport	Seizure	The antlers of a sika deer (1kg - <i>Cervus nippon</i>).	
September 18, 2018	Yinchuan	Seizure	2 Thorold's deer antlers (<i>Przewalskium albirostre</i>) carved and engraved.	In a package from the United States of America, declared as "carved stone". Thorold's deer is endemic to the Tibetan plateaus.

INDIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
August 5, 2018	Ponmudi	Poaching	1 sambar (<i>Rusa unicolor</i>).	Barbecue with friends. 3 police officers - Sub-Inspector Ayoob Khan and S. Rajeev and Vinod - suspended from duty and on the run; 1 postman, Manu (46), in custody. Seizure of the police jeep used by the gang claimed by the forest rangers.
September 12, 2018	Ladti, Uttar Pradesh State	Seizure / Sentence	1 chital (<i>Axis axis</i>) skinned.	Shanti Devi, village chief: fine of 1400 US\$. Said she didn't know she was cooking protected animal meat. Surendra Kumar, her husband: on the run.
September 23, 2018	Coimbatore District	Poaching / Arrest	1 male chital (<i>Axis axis</i>). 2 rifles, 2 mopeds.	Flagrante delicto for J. Arul, J. Durai, J. Krishnan, J. Velusamy and G. Suren.
September 25, 2018	Shahpura	Death/ Poaching	Poaching of 1 chital (<i>Axis axis</i>).	Suicide by hanging of Fuhup Singh in the premises of the forest administration where he was detained with 3 accomplices.
September 25, 2018	Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Uttar Pradesh State	Poaching / Arrest	1 chital antlers (<i>Axis axis</i>).	Navraj, a Nepalese national, known for trafficking in leopard skins in Nepal and India.

EUROPE

FRANCE

End of September	Compiègne Forest (80 km North of Paris), Oise Department	Poaching	At least 3 deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>).	Night poaching and beheading. The stuffed heads with antlers would sell for around 2000 €.
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Rhinoceroses

The white rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum* and black rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis* ranging in Africa are listed in Appendix I, except for the white rhinoceros populations of Swaziland and South Africa which are listed in Appendix II for trade of live animals and hunting trophies.

The 3 Asian rhinoceros species are in Appendix I: *Rhinoceros unicornis*, *Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*, *Rhinoceros sondaicus*.

EASTERN AFRICA

KENYA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Mid-July 2018	Tsavo East National Park	Other bad news	In July, the death of 11 black rhinos transferred from Nairobi and Nakuru parks (400 and 500 km to the south).	2 deaths occurred during transfer. 8 were due to high salinity of the water in their new habitat. The last one, when in a state of vulnerability, was fatally attacked by lions. All 20 horns are safe. Stirs in KWS (6 suspended agents) and WWF co-responsible for the relocation.
July 31, 2018	Lake Nakuru National Park	Poaching	1 male black rhinoceros (about 12 years old) killed, his 2 horns have been cut off.	Aden Abdi Mata, alleged poacher, later arrested at Archers Post in possession of a firearm and 6 worked ivories. Pending his trial, release on 5,000 US\$ bail and 5,000 US\$ surety.

MOZAMBIQUE

August 22, 2018	Sabie Game Park	Arrest	Attempted poaching of rhinoceros	1 arrest. Seizure of 1 firearm with silencer, ammunition, axe, 2 pairs of shoes to blur footprints and food for several days.
Early September 2018	Limpopo National Park	Poaching / Arrest	2 rhinos killed at night in Kruger Park (South Africa).	Manhunt to Mozambique (60 km) and arrest of the 2 suspected poachers thanks to the new digital communication tools shared by rangers from South Africa and Mozambique. Brought before the court.

ZAMBIA

Mid-July 2018	Lusaka, Lusaka Province	Justice	Illegal possession of 32.5 kg of rhino horns.	Confirmation on appeal of the conviction of 3 Chinese (Wan Qian, Huang Qingzhon and He Qingmao), and acquittal of 2 Zambians (Lovemore Kamwendo and Oberty Simwanjata). See "On the Trail" n°19 p.83.
End of September 2018	Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park	Poaching	2 white rhinos	1 horn found a week later.

ZIMBABWE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 9, 2018	Save Valley Conservancy	Sentence	Attempted poaching in January 2018	Godfrey Makechemu (47 years old), Ignatius Maiga (30 years old), Farai Chauno (27 years old), Celestino Shate (35 years old): 9 years in prison. Save Valley Conservancy was defended by Prisca Daka, a member of Speak out for Animals (SOFA).
Mid-July 2018	Bulawayo	Sentence	Murder of 1 ranger with a Remington 870 express magnum and use of traps.	Bino Ndou (42 years old): 15 years in prison. See "On the Trail" n°17 p.73.
August 28, 2018	Bubye Valley Reserve	Arrest	Attempted poaching of rhinos	Celestine Shate, Faso Moyo and Godfrey Makechemu, who was on bail for poaching at the time.
September 15, 2018	Bubye Valley Reserve	Death/ Poaching	 Poaching of rhinos, seizure of one .303 rifle equipped with sights and silencer.	1 poacher, Ndabezinhle Majajama, 44 year old teacher, killed in a shooting incident, 1 accomplice escaped.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

July 2, 2018	Pilanesberg National Park	Seizure / Arrest	3 pairs of rhino horns, 1 rifle, 1 axe, 1 Mazda pick-up truck	Arnelo Mhlanga, 39 years old. 2 runaways.
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Early July 2018	Pretoria	Justice	Poaching 	<p>Groenewald case. Dismissal of the Nardus Rossouw's request aiming to cancel the proceeding due to overtime appearance period.</p> <p>A professional hunter, he is the only one to remain in prison since 2010. His bail was revoked.</p> <p>Protraction of the investigation due to the accused and lawyer maneuvers according to the court. See "On the Trail" n°21 p. 74.</p>
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 4, 2018	Kimberley	Seizure / Arrest	Possession of rhino horns	3 suspects arrested, between the ages of 27 and 47.
July 7, 2018	Shamwari Reserve	Poaching	1 female and her calf, horns torn off.	10 since the beginning of the year in the Eastern Cape province. Killed by firearm.
Mid-July 2018	Eastern Border of Kruger National Park	Seizure / Arrest	Weapons, ammunition, axes and poaching equipment.	Night arrest of 3 poachers due to Annie's nose, member of the canine brigade, who followed the trails. Successful even though the poachers wore socks over the shoes to hide the footprints.
Mid-July 2018	South Africa	Poaching	Poaching and smuggling of rhino horns	"Wanted": Wang Yanping (53 years), Lin Quingsheng (50 years), Sun Bin (31 years). Notice issued by the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) Forensic Investigations.



July 14, 2018	Nelspruit, Mpumalanga Province	Justice	Petrus Sydney Mabuza, alias "Mr. Big", involved in the poaching of at least 6 rhinos, released on bail for 19,000 US\$.	Under obligation to report to the police station every Friday and to report his movements to the police. According to the NGO Saving the Wild, jubilation in the streets of Hazyview, his hometown. See "On the Trail" n°21 p. 77.
July 19, 2018	Kruger National Park	Murder	1 ranger.	Skirmish with poachers. Respect Mathebula - "Etlela hi kurhula" (Rest in peace).



© SANParks



Respect Mathebula

July 21, 2018	Johannesbourg	Other bad news	Air transfer of 5 rhinos to China (Shanghai), via Madagascar and Istanbul.	On a Turkish Airlines Cargo flight. Stuck at Tambo airport for three days before leaving Africa.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 24, 2018	Pilanesberg National Park	Good news	Rescue of one orphan.	No information on the mother.
July 26, 2018	Kruger National Park	Justice	Suspension of an SIU (Special Investigation Unit) investigator.	Rabelani Ndou, suspected of poaching in the park.
July 26, 2018	Great Fish River Natural Reserve	Poaching	A young black rhino found dead and dehorned.	Since the beginning of the year, 11 cases of poaching reported in the Eastern Cape province.
July 31, 2018	Between Peddie and Grahams-town	Arrest	Suspicion of rhino poaching	OPERATION FULL MOON Francis Chitiyo, Trymore Chauke, Misheck Chauke, Simba Masingo, Nhamo Muyambo and Abraham Moyane, all from Zimbabwe, between 25 and 30 years old, in possession of weapons, ammunition, money, knives, in 2 cars. Bail denied.
July 2018	Local Municipality of Lephalale, Waterberg District, Limpopo Province	Seizure / Arrest	Calibre .375 with silencers, ammunition, butcher knives, phones...	Socks over the shoes to hide the footprints. Attempted poaching. 3 arrested.
Early August 2018	Tala Manzi Reserve	Poaching	2 rhinos poached in 2 days.	7 cases of poaching in 4 years.
August 2, 2018	Saselamani	Sentence	Poaching in Kruger Park in 2014.	Joseph Molapo and Sebastian Mbhombhi: 15 and a half years in prison. See "On the Trail" n°7 p.66.
Early August 2018	South Africa	Poaching	Lhétabo, female rhinoceros about 6 years old.	Healed from a gunshot wound and fracture to the right front knee. Intervention by Saving the Survivors. Prognosis reserved.
Mid-August 2018	Kruger National Park	Poaching	2 dehorned rhino bodies, including 1 female, 1 km away.	1 orphan.
August 21, 2018	Kruger National Park	Poaching	1 rhino.	Poaching warning thanks to circling of vultures. The fourth in two weeks.
August 25, 2018	Kruger National Park	Arrest	Intrusion of a shady car in the Park. Seizure of 1 high-caliber rifle, ammunition and all the poaching gear.	Arrest of Absalom Manyike, SanParks agent (South African National Parks) since 2014. 3 accomplices on the run.
End of August 2018	Richards Bay	Justice	August 26, 2009, blatant offence of transporting 2 horns. Suspicion of poaching.	Arrest warrant for Muntugokwakhe Khoza, 49 years old, released on bail. No longer responding to court summons.
August 28, 2018	Thulama-hashe	Sentence	Poaching of rhinos in Kruger Park in 2014.	Joao Langa (48 years old), Mozambican, 18 years in prison.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 6, 2018	KwaZulu-Natal Province	Poaching	Poaching and dehorning a female white rhinoceros of about 20 years old. A gunshot wound to the shoulder for her 6-year-old child.	On-site care and transfer to an orphanage. 90 rhino poachings in the province since the beginning of the year. Decreasing compared to last year.
September 11, 2018	Pretoria	Other bad news	Organization of at least 50 fake games hunting for the export of trophies, including horns. Shooting of at least 26 rhinos, and horns smuggling into Asia by tens of kilos.	Incredible granting of hunting licenses to Thai prostitutes. After a 40-year prison sentence, a reduction to 30 years at second instance, then a reduction to 13 years on appeal, Chumlong Lemtongthai was released after 6 years and sent back to Thailand. See "On the Trail" n°2 p.47 and n°6 p.68.
September 11, 2018	Paulpietersburg	Arrest	Poaching of 1 pregnant female	As a preventive measure, she has been dehorned to avoid poaching. 4 arrests. Suspected of having poached a mother and her calf three weeks earlier.
September 14, 2018	South Africa	Poaching	"Spartacus", male black rhinoceros	Death as a result of 1 gunshot wound to the left front paw with a broken humerus bone, dating back July. Despite the "Saving the Survivors" care.
Mid-September 2018	Hluhluwe-Umfolozi, Acornhoek Reserve and Phalaborwa	Seizure / Arrest	1 rhinoceros horn, bones of lions, prohibited weapons, silencers, ammunition, and other poaching equipment.	Rhino 9 team operation. 27 arrests.
Mid-September 2018	Mpumalanga Province	Arrest	Rhino poaching and horn smuggling.	Breaking news! Arrests in several places of Mr. Big, birth name Petrus Mabuza (released on bail in July), 3 ex-police officers, a female member of the Acornhoek Stock Theft Unit and Big Joe (birth name Joe Nyalunga) who has been released on bail and awaiting trial since 2012. Hawks intervention in cooperation with Counter intelligence, SANParks, the Department of Environmental Affairs, the National Prosecution Authorities, SARS Debt and Customs. La Totale ! See "On the Trail" n°12 p.69, n°21 p.77 and the event of July 14, 2018 in South Africa above.
September 20, 2018	Standerton	Seizure / Arrest	20 rhino horns	Value: 522,390 US\$. 2 suspects arrested (41 and 55 years old), released on bail of 2130 US\$.
September 28, 2018	Sun City	Arrest	Suspicion of rhino poaching. Seizure of 1 heavy weapon with silencer, ammunition, axes and fleshing knives and 3 mobile phones.	Road check: 3 arrests. Driver escaped.
September 30, 2018	East London	Arrest	Suspicion of poaching	3 suspects arrested (between 28 and 50 years old) with a typical poaching kit.

BOTSWANA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 19, 2018	Botswana	Justice	International trafficking of rhino horns	Release on bail of Dumisani Moyo in question ("On the Trail" n°21 p.78). Summons to appear before the Francistown court after an appeal by the prosecutor. In a camera hearing. Release on bail confirmed at the end. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.78.
End of July 2018	Ghanzi District	Poaching	Poaching of 1 female, death of her calf from hunger and distress.	Second poaching case in the district since the beginning of the year.
August 18, 2018	Okavango Delta	Poaching	1 white rhinoceros brutally dehorned.	Discovered by a patrol joining the DWNP (Department of Wildlife and National Parks), NGOs and soldiers.
September 3, 2018	Okavango Delta	Poaching	5 white rhinos in 3 months.	Spotted by Elephant Without Border aerial survey.

NAMIBIA

September 1, 2018	Namibia	Other bad news	Storage of rhino horns in the State vaults. Weights and values not disclosed for "security reasons".	No to the destruction of the stock. Officials wish to obtain authorization from CITES to sell it.
September 13, 2018	Divundu	Seizure / Arrest	3 rhino horns.	In their white BMW. Liebolo Erick Manja (31 years old) and Aldrian Masule Musisanyani (41 years old).

CENTRAL AFRICA

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Early September 2018	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Delocalization	Reintroduction of at least 8 rhinos into a 15,000 ha reserve of which name has not been revealed for safety reasons.	Directed by Wildlife Vets Namibia.
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ASIA

See also page 121, 50 horns seized in Malaysia on 13 August 2018.

CHINA

July 2018	Banmen, Jiangxi Province	Seizure / Arrest	A 5.5 kg horn and, it's a first in "On the Trail", 121 slices of skin (272 kg).	In 2 off-road cars. 4 suspects.
Mid-August 2018	Dongxing border crossing, border with Viet Nam	Seizure	1 piece of rhino horn 298.2 g.	Hidden in an umbrella. Questioning of 1 Vietnamese suspect.

INDIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 22, 2018	Kachomari Sonari	Seizure / Arrest	Attempted poaching of rhinos in Orang National Park. Seizure of two .303 rifles, 2 loaders, 1 silencer, 4 cartridges, one pistol a 1 loader.	Nur Hussain alias Lengra (age 50), Abul Hussain (age 45), 2 villagers, who housed and provided logistical support to Daniel Yephthomi (age 28) and Alobo Kipa (age 23), snipers. 6 rhinos poached since the beginning of the year in the park.
August 5, 2018	Orang National Park, Assam State	Justice	Release of the young Ikramul Hussain Rahman (12 years old), who was held as a "bond" for 2 months by a gang of traffickers for the loan of a rifle. 303.	Arrest of his father Noor Zamal Rahman and two accomplices, Sadikul Islam and Niyamat Ali, who would poach in the park. Running away of the "pawn" lenders presumed to be members of the Nagas tribe. If the poaching was successful, they would have bought the horn(s) under the terms of the "contract".
August 8, 2018	Sootea	Arrest	Attempted poach in May 2018	Saidul Islam alias Borbabu, a repeat offender.
August 29, 2018	Rongagara	Seizure / Arrest	1 horn	Attempted sale after poaching. Fazar Ali, Abdul Kadir and Azizul Haque.

JAPAN

September 8, 2018	Hiroshima Zoo	Other bad news	Death of 1 rhino. Death of Hana, 52 years old, the oldest rhinoceros in captivity. She arrived from Kenya at Hiroshima zoo at 5 years old on July 14, 1971, 26 years after the nuclear bomb, when the fatal leukemia rate was still high among the survivors. Hana gave birth to 10 black rhinos sold in zoos around the world.
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TURKEY

August 7, 2018	Istanbul Ataturk Airport	Seizure	9 rhino horns	Value: 245,000 US\$. From South Africa. The passenger ran away leaving his luggage.
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VIET NAM

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 2018	Hanoi	Seizure / Arrest	100 g of horns	Joint operation by the police and the NGO Education for Nature - Viet Nam. 1 arrest.



July 13, 2018	Tan Son Nhat Airport / Ho Chi Minh City	Seizure / Arrest	12 horns with a total weight of 7.2 kg.	Hidden in cartons of powdered milk, in other food packaging and clothes. A Vietnamese citizen, V.X.D, 41 years old, on arrival of one Emirates flight from Angola via Dubai.
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EUROPE

CZECH REPUBLIC

Mid-July 2018	Prague	Sentence	Smuggling of 24 rhino horns between Africa, Czech Republic, and Asia. See "On the Trail" n°2 p.44.	Declared value: 3.85 million €. One of the 16 accused, Mao Nguyen Hue, to 2 years suspended in prison and a fine of 26,730 US\$. Acquittal of 15 others.
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Rhinos and Elephants

AFRICA

ANGOLA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
End of August 2018	International Airport and Sao Paulo district, Luanda	Seizure / Arrest	- 27 pieces of rhino horns (20kg), - 535 kg raw ivory, 263 kg of worked ivory, 895 kg of pangolin scales, 10 kg medicinal plants.	- At the airport in toy, lamp, and dried fruits packaging, - In the Sao Paulo district, in 2 illegal workshops. 5 Vietnamese covered by temporary work visas. Smuggling to Asia.

ZIMBABWE

September 21, 2018	Hurungwe District	Death / Arrest		Elephant and rhinoceros poaching Artwell Siyonda, 22 years old, killed in a firing with rangers, 2 others arrested.
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AMERICA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

August 14, 2018	State of Illinois	Good news	Enactment of the law prohibiting the importation and trade of ivory and of rhinoceros horns in Illinois, 9th State with anti-rhino and anti-ivory rules.	71% of the population in favour of the law. According to the Animal Welfare Institute, there were more than 1000 seizures of ivory between 2010 and 2015 in Chicago.
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ASIA

CHINA

July 13, 2018	Hong Kong	Sentence	Smuggling of rhinoceros horns and elephant ivory from South Africa.	Liu Xin jail time doubled on appeal: 4 months closed. See. "On the Trail" n°21 p.81.
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LAOS

September 18, 2018	Xaysettha District, Vientiane Province	Seizure / Arrest	Alleged pieces from ivory and rhino horns and diverse parts of animals, including patches of elephants and rhinoceros skin. Total weight: 13.5 kg.	Search and seizure by the DCNEC (Department of Combating Natural Resource and Environmental Crime) in a furniture store. Second seizure of rhino skin in this "On the Trail" issue. See the chapter Rhino, China, July 2018.
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VIET NAM

August 27, 2018	Hanoi	Sentence	Theft of customs seizures: 240 kg of ivory and 6.1 kg rhinoceros' horns, replaced by plastic and wooden imitations.	Pham Minh Hoang, director of Hanoi Customs Warehouse, and Tran Trong Cuong, customs officials: 16 years in prison. Hoang Van Dien, reseller: 2 years in prison. See "On the Trail" n°18 p.81.
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Elephants

The African elephant, *Loxodonta africana*, is listed in CITES Appendix I, except populations from South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe which are in Appendix II. The Asian elephant, *Elephas maximus*, is listed in Appendix I.

EASTERN AFRICA

KENYA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Mid-July 2018	Mombasa	Justice	Seizure of 2 baby elephant tusks weighing 500g each and 2 buffalo horns.	Value: 7,000 US\$. Luwani Katana Maina, Samson Katana, Thoya Katana, arrested on August 26, 2017. Ongoing investigation: a scientific expert succeeded to establish that a tusk of 500g is definitely from a baby elephant !
Mid-July 2018	North-East Nairobi	Seizure / Arrest	Several tusks and heroin.	Joseph Wanjohi alias Muthi, drug baron. His family has been involved in drug trafficking since 2009.
Mid-July 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	Hugo: male, about 50 years old, wounded by arrows, taken care of by the DSWT and KWS mobile veterinary unit.	Conflict with farmers.



July 23, 2018	Tsavo East National Park	Poaching	1 male elephant about 45 years old treated for 2 wounds by poisoned arrows.	Joint intervention by KWS (Kenya Wildlife Service) and DSWT (David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust).
August 2, 2018	Mombasa	Justice	Ivory trafficking – Tudor case (314 tusks, 2152 kg). See "On the Trail" n°15 p.88.	New judicial dead end. Cancellation of the conviction of Feisal Ali Mohammed for 20 years in prison. Released after 5 years in prison. No one is therefore responsible for this stock seized in a garage next to Mombasa harbor, and ready to be exported. The prosecution could make an appeal.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early August 2018	Olarro Conservancy, Narok County	Poaching	Death of a male.	Aimed at twice by spears. Cutting off of the tusks under the KWS survey.
August 5, 2018	Mtito Andei, Makueni County	Seizure / Arrest	11 sections of tusks.	Road check on the Nairobi-Mombasa highway. Tusks cut-up to ease the transport. Value: 13,700 US\$. Samuel Mwongela (33 years old) and Otieno Okumu (71 years old).
August 5, 2018	Malili, Makueni County	Seizure / Arrest	7 tusks (234 kg) of super tuskers.	Joseph Kimilu arrested on the Nairobi-Mombasa highway, export port. Value: 459,800 US\$, 1,900 US\$/kg. Research of a mysterious Italian sponsor.



August 7, 2018	Komwoma, Migori County. Border with Tanzania	Seizure / Arrest	6 sections of tusks (39 kg).	Value: 38,000 US\$, 970 US\$/kg. Edward Otieno Masinde and Charles Ogoro, Tanzanians.
August 16, 2018	Tsavo Conservation Zone	Poaching	2 elephants wounded by artisanal arrows and limping.	Intervention and care from a mixed team of DSWT and KWS.



DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 20, 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	Oloropilé, male of 45 years old, wounded at the front right paw by a lance.	Cared of by Elephant Aware, David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and KWS. Anaesthesia. Iodine. Green clay. Anti-inflammatories. Antibiotics. Favorable prognosis by Dr Limo.
August 20, 2018	Jomo-Kenyatta International Airport	Seizure / Arrest	2 bangles made of ivory (150 g).	Bangles covered with fabric and used as bag handles. Zhang Ninighua, Chinese and 52 years old, in transit from Nigeria to Guangzhou.



August 21, 2018	Milgis, Samburu County	Poaching	1 adult male elephant hit by 2 arrows in the front right paw.	Hematoma, infection and limp. Cared of by David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and Kenya Wildlife Trust.
August 22, 2018	Olkuruto, Narok County	Seizure / Arrest	21 kg of ivory.	1 arrest.
August 26, 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	1 female elephant nursing, about 45 years old, cared of 3 wounds by arrows and followed by a baby elephant aged about 9 months.	Favorable prognosis. Conflict between one herd (about 10 members) and farmers. Anaesthesia, antibiotics, anti-inflammatories.
End of August 2018	Tsavo East National Park	Poaching	1 young male elephant cared of 2 wounds by arrows.	Intervention by DSWT and KWS. Duration between anaesthesia and the awakening by antidote: 1h. Favorable prognosis.
August 29, 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	A one-year or so baby elephant freed from a collar entangled between his jaws and wrapped around his head.	Intervention by DSWT and KWS. He joined his mother in the distance. Favorable prognosis.



DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 31, 2018	On the edge of the Olarro Conservancy, Narok County	Poaching	1 male elephant of 25-30 years old.	Fatal wound by a lance to the abdomen. Removal of the tusks by the KWS.



August 31, 2018, Narok County, Kenya



September 2, 2018, Njabini, Kenya

September 1, 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	Trap. 1 baby elephant.	Mother kept at distance. Anaesthesia. Disinfection. Antibiotics. Anti-inflammatories. Prognosis reserved.
September 2, 2018	Njabini	Seizure / Arrest	23 kg of raw material, 9 tusks.	Bedford Njeru, Edward Ciengo and Muteti Kiema arrested in a gasoline station. Meeting with police in plain clothes for transaction.
September 6, 2018	On the edge of Tsavo East National Park	Poaching	1 young male wounded by a trap at the front left paw.	Operation by veterinarians of DSWT.
September 2018	Near Kibwezi	Seizure	9 tusks (24 kg).	In bags on board a public minibus. Operation Big Life Foundation and KWS.
September 2018	Kambu	Seizure / Arrest	36 kg raw ivory.	2 arrests.
September 15, 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	1 nursing female dead, tusks intact.	Hit by a lance. No news from the calf.
September 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	1 male elephant cared of a wound by a lance.	Operation by DSWT and KWS.
September 22, 2018	Masai Mara National Reserve	Poaching	Poisoned arrows.	Need to turn the victim lying on the injured side over and to move the matriarch away who remained obstinately at the scene.
September 2018	Kirimon Sector	Poaching	1 elephant killed.	1 poacher on the run. Local media states that he is "White" and that if he had been "Black", the poaching would have had more stir.

MALAWI

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Mid-July 2018	Mzimba	Sentence	Detention and attempted marketing of 8 tusks cut up in 2.	Value: 45,000 US\$. Eliza Mtonga (25 years old) and Gideon Ngwenya (37 years old), Zambians: 4 years in prison with hard labor, Richard Phiri (47 years old), Zambian: 1 year suspended.
August 11, 2018	Liwonde	Arrest	Suspicion of poaching in the Thuma Reserve. Seizure of a firearm and unpermitted ammunition.	Police custody of Richard Ndemanga and Thomson Wahwa.
September 27, 2018	Liwonde National Park	Poaching	1 baby elephant extracted from a metal trap and cared of.	Reported by a tourist. Intervention by Wildlife Emergency Response Unit.

MOZAMBIQUE

July 22, 2018	Niassa Province	Theft / Arrest	217 stolen ivory tips in the warehouses of the forest and wildlife services.	3 civil servants arrested, including the head of forest and wildlife services.
September 2018	Pemba	Sentence	Bid to sell 11 tusks (31.8 kg).	Américo Daniel, 40 years old: 8 years in prison.
Mid-September 2018	Tete	Seizure / Arrest	29 tusks or sections of tusks.	Arrest of Adido Marcelino, 32 years old. Supposedly mere commercial middleman paid 82 US\$ for his work and to be in "high rank people service". A first in the province.
September 2018	Maputo	Seizure / Arrest	3 tusks.	In a vehicle. Police custody of Bernardo Armando and Mateus Nununes.
End of September 2018	Macossa District	Seizure / Arrest	2 tusks.	2 arrests. 500 US\$ / tusk.

UGANDA

August 8, 2018	Entebbe International Airport	Seizure / Arrest	1 raw or worked ivory.	Bought in a store held by a Chinese expat. A Chinese national in connection with the SinoHydro Corporation company in charge of the hydroelectric power station building in the district of Kiryandongo. Pending boarding for China.
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TANZANIA

August 15, 2018	Serengeti District	Sentence	Elephant poaching in the Serengeti Park and possession of 2 tusks in January 2017.	Value: 14,580 US\$. Paul Ryoba, Petro Mikwabe and Yagara Mang'era: 20 years in prison. Mwita Masero, Joseph Masero and George Samwel: discharged.
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ZAMBIA

July 27, 2018	Chipata	Sentence	Illegal possession of 2 tusks (6.6 kg).	Howard Nyirenda: 5 years in prison.
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ZIMBABWE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 2, 2018	Hwange National Park	Seizure	13 tusks (172kg), dried elephant and buffalo meat, phones, Zambian identity cards.	Bivouac. Escape of 6 poachers.



August 2018	Zambezi National Park	Arrest	Attempted elephant poaching.	Poisoned oranges with cyanide. 2 arrests. Discovery at home of cyanide and copper wire. Liable to some months in prison for illegal possession of cyanide... and 10 years in prison for theft of copper wire. Released on 50 US\$ bail each.
August 20, 2018	Zambezi National Park	Poaching	1 young elephant noticed for a few months with a metal trap at the knee.	Anaesthesia, care and disinfection. Prognosis uncertain.
September 2, 2018	Zambezi National Park	Death/ Arrest 	Poaching of several elephants.	A Zambian poacher killed, Patrick Nkane, in a firing with ZimParks rangers. 2 others wounded and cared of at Victoria Falls and Bulawayo under safekeeping.
September 11, 2018	Chipinge	Arrest / Sentence	Illegal possession of 2 tusks (15.4 kg).	Juliet Simango, cattle keeper, 7 years in prison closed. Value: 3852.50 US\$, 250 US\$/kg. She would have "collected" them from an elephant that died naturally.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 22, 2018	Kruger National Park	Arrest	Attempted poaching.	One poacher wounded by a harassed elephant.
July 26, 2018	South Africa	Poaching	Titan, male elephant of about 12 years old, wounded to bone by the cable of a trap.	Released and cared of by Saving the Survivors.
September 12, 2018	Midrand	Seizure / Arrest	1 tusk, 2 cars.	3 arrests. The same day, 3 years jail and 14,200 US\$ in fines to Jan Adriaan van Vuuren for illegal possession of 35 cycadales. See "On the Trail" n°12 p.86.
Mid-September 2018	Kruger National Park	Poaching	1 male elephant, the cable of the trap around the trunk. Could not drink anymore.	Anaesthesia from helicopter, cable rooted out, waking thanks to antidote. Favorable prognosis. Wildlife at Risk (WAR) sounds the alarm on trap cruelty and indignation from the tourists' side.
September 13, 2018	Kruger National Park	Poaching	1 baby elephant released and cared of from a trap at the back left paw.	Anaesthesia of the mother who did not want to move away from her baby. Extraction from metal trap. Favorable prognosis.



July 26, 2018, South Africa



September 13, 2018, Kruger Park, South Africa

BOTSWANA

July 2018	Botswana	Other bad news	Launch by the government under pressure of the hunting sector of a national consultation to possibly reconsider the prohibition of hunting elephants being in effect since 2014.	On the initiative of Kostantinos Markus, deputy of the town of Maun East. According to him, outside the parks and reserves, there are about 237,000 elephants. Botswana covers 581,726 km ² and has a human population of 2.2 million. According to the last census, there are 130,000 elephants in Botswana.
July 2018	Linyanti Swamps	Poaching	50 more or less fresh carcasses in the 100 km ² of swamps.	"We are finding poached elephants everywhere" according to Nic Proust from Bush 24.
Mid-July 2018	Near Nata, Central Province	Other bad news	Disclosure of a confidential stock of tusks. Would have been gathered by the anti-poaching patrols of DISS (Directorate of Intelligence and Security Services) and would essentially come from elephants that died naturally. DISS at odds with the executive power. See "On the Trail" n°17 p.96.	

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early August 2018	North-West District	Poaching	1 male elephant about 40 years old shot down 2 days earlier under the full moon. Half the skull torn off to remove the tusks.	2 weeks earlier, another elephant spotted, the spine sectioned and the tusks rooted out.
September 3, 2018	Okavango Delta	Poaching	87 carcasses spotted by Elephant Without Border from its Cessna 206 from early July to late August. Only 9 in 2014.	"The poachers are now turning their guns to Botswana. We have the world's largest elephant population and it's open season for poachers." Elephants would fall under the bullets of poachers without borders from Zambia, Angola, Namibia and Zimbabwe.
September 4, 2018	Okavango Delta	Poaching	Government denial.	Most elephants would have died naturally or as a result of retaliation after conflicts with local populations. There would be no connection between this so-called poaching outburst and the demilitarisation of anti-poaching patrols decided by the new government last May.
September 18, 2018	Francistown	Seizure / Arrest	2 elephant tusks.	In the trunk of a teacher's car.

NAMIBIA

September 15, 2018	Katima Mulilo	Seizure / Arrest	10 elephant tusks.	In a fake compartment in the back of a car. Car race, police shooting in the air, stopping of the vehicle. Questioning of a security agent (43 years old).
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September 2018	Namibia	Other bad news	70 t of ivory in the State vaults, 30 t legal (natural death and culling) and 40 t illegal (seizure).	No to the destruction of the stock. Officials wish to obtain authorization from CITES to sell it. 2018 estimated value: 8.9 million US\$ 128 US\$/kg; 2008: auction sale at 157 US\$/kg. 2017: 750 to 850 US\$/kg on the black market.
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WESTERN AFRICA

BENIN

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 10, 2018	Parakou	Sentence	Trafficking of 4kg of ivory	- 3 to 2 years in prison, - 2 others to 12 months suspended, - 880 US\$ in fines and 25,000 US\$ for damages to be paid jointly.
July 17, 2018	Cotonou	Sentence	Attempted to sell 4 tusks (6kg).	6 to 2 months jail, 90 US\$ in fines each and 8,800 US\$ in damages to be paid jointly. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.89.
July 23, 2018	Ouidah	Sentence	Attempted marketing of 2 tusks.	Conviction by the court of first instance of the "king" of a village and 5 accomplices to 2 years in prison and to pay jointly 880 US\$ in fine and 17,500 US\$ in damages. Arrest warrant for the six due to their absence at the bar.
August 14, 2018	Kandi	Seizure / Arrest	8 baby elephant tusks (20 kg).	3 arrests.
September 26, 2018	Cotonou	Seizure / Arrest	2 sections of tusks(14 kg).	1 arrest.

CENTRAL AFRICA

ANGOLA

July 2018	Kwan-do-Kubango Province	Sentence	Seizure of 84 tusks, in other words, the killing 42 elephants between January 2017 and June 2018.	4 poachers (Angolan, Namibian et Zambian): 5 years in prison each.
August 9, 2018	Luiana National Park, at the border of Namibia	Poaching	At least one elephant seriously injured by bursts of AK-47. Finished off.	Alert around midnight from tourists awakened by the elephants in distress. Cooperation being strengthened between Angola and Namibia to control poaching in the Quito and Okavango rivers.

CAMEROON

Mid-September 2018	Bertoua	Sentence	Trafficking of 160 ivory tips.	On appeal : Zacharie Daouda and Aboubakar Ibrahim, 15 years in prison each (3 months in first instance), 24,950 US\$ in fines and 451,840 US\$ in damages. See "On the Trail" n°16 p.80.
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GABON

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 5, 2018	Makokou	Sentence	Poaching of 2 elephants and smuggling 26,5 kg of ivory	Mahamat Saleh and Lucien Kangala: 6 months in prison and 180 US\$ in fines each. See "On the Trail" n°19 p.102.
July 5, 2018	Makokou	Sentence	Possession, transport and sale of ivory.	André Jessy Mbela Blaise Ekouakandou, Aruna Touré and Ndo Thierry: 6 months in prison and 180 US\$ in fines each. See "On the Trail" n°19 p.102.
July 5, 2018	Makokou	Sentence	Possession, transport and sale of 4 tusks.	Akono Jean-Benoît, Nolo Bernard and Mouamouélé Landry: 6 months in prison and 180 US\$ in fines each. See "On the Trail" n°19 p.102.
July 5, 2018	Makokou	Sentence	Possession, transport and sale of 11 tusks and 2 pieces of ivory.	Eboth Joli, Egouanebe Dieudonné and Malonda Bindza: 6 months in prison and 180 US\$ in fines. See "On the Trail" n°19 p.102.
July 12, 2018	Tchibanga	Sentence	Poaching and smuggling of ivory.	- Banse Benjamin (Burkinabé), Rodrigue Mihindou and Jean-Félix Mouity: charged with hunt, possession, transport and trade of trophies of fully protected species to 6 months in prison and 880 US\$ in fines each and 17,700 US\$ damages to be paid jointly to the State. - Chinedu Amos, Malonda Donatien and Bakita Dembelé: 6 months in prison each and 17,700 US\$ damages to be paid jointly to the State. See "On the Trail" n°20 p.97 et n°21 p.90.
July 12, 2018	Koulamoutou	Sentence	Sale of a pair of tusks.	Prince Ongoto: 6 months in prison, 350 US\$ in fines and 880 US\$ damages to be paid to the State. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.90.
July 19, 2018	Mouila	Sentence	Possession, transport and attempted sale of 2 ivory tips, 26 elephant hairs, and 2 leopard teeth.	Manfou-Ma-Ibouangue: 3 months in prison including 1 suspended, 44 US\$ in fines and 88 US\$ damages to be paid to the State. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.70.
End of July 2018	Haut-Ogooué Province	Sentence	- Sale of 16 ivory tips, - Sale of 2 tusks.	- Diawara Hame, Korokosse Ibrahima and Traoré Macancir: 6 months in prison, 880 US\$ in fines and 8830 US\$ in damages. Korokosse Gagny, convicted of attempted corruption: 1 year in prison and 90 US\$ in fines. - Mohamed Kokari and Hugues Nkongo: 6 months in prison and 440 US\$ in fines.
End of July 2018	Libreville	Sentence	Possession, transport and sale of ivory.	Ndong Gustave: 3 months in prison. His sentence having already been served in pre-trial detention, he is released. See "On the Trail" n°20 p.96.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
End of July 2018	Libreville	Sentence	Possession, transport and sale of 2 tusks and one elephant tail.	Lengouma Kere, Ulrich Mouélé and Rostand Oyabi: 3 months and 12 days in prison. His sentence was already served in pre-trial detention, he is released.
End of July 2018	Libreville	Sentence	Trafficking of 27 tusks in all (13 tips + 32 sections) in February 2018.	Nouhou Adamou and Keita Oumar: 6 months in prison closed, 5,400 US\$ in fines. Issouma Ila and Keita Ousmane: released. Cf. "On the Trail" n°20 p.97.
Early August 2018	Lambaréne	Seizure / Arrest	2 ivory tips in 6 sections (11 kg).	3 arrests: Jules Magui, seller recruited by Roméo Tondene and Briolle Pindjinobé, ivory holders. Supposedly inherited from a deceased grandfather.
Early August 2018	Oyem	Sentence	Trafficking more than 6 tusks in total in April and June 2018.	Nzamba Serge, Sissoko Birame, Cissé Mamadou (or Mamadou), Jean-François Eka-zama: 3 months in prison for possession and transport of ivory. Acquittal for the sale offence. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.90 et 91.
August 5, 2018	Makouké	Seizure / Arrest	2 ivory tips.	Intervention by the Lambaréne police supported by Conservation Justice. Guy Roger Tanga wanted to sell them to Jules Magui who was arrested 2 days earlier.
August 9, 2018	Lambaréne	Sentence	Sale of 5 tips.	Jean-Christian N'Tchango, or Tchango: 6 months in prison including 1 suspended, 180 US\$ in fines and 1800 US\$ in damages. See "On the Trail" n°20 p.98.
September 9, 2018	Makokou	Seizure / Arrest	4 sections of tusks.	400 US\$ the lot purchased by 2 poachers. 2 Senegalese citizens : Seydou Kéita, presented as the owner of the "goods", and Ibrahim Bah, presented as the "negotiator".
September 13, 2018	Fougamou	Seizure / Arrest	2 ivory tips.	Intervention by the B2 brigade. Arrested Beyeme Agilys and Ndougou Chérubin in the act of attempting to sale, then Mihindou Désiré, sponsor and father of Ndougou.
End of September 2018	Gabon	Seizure / Arrest	6 tusks.	1 Senegalese trafficker.
September 25, 2018	Franceville and Doumiae, Haut-Ogooué Province	Seizure / Arrest	2 tusks cut in 6 sections, a caliber 12 rifle, 5 ammunition.	Serial arrests: Maixant Leboussi and Serge Ndjalipris in the act of attempting trade, then Wilfried Ngabelegué, a sale middleman, then the occasional transporter and the poacher at the end.

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 4, 2018	Pokola	Seizure / Arrest	9 tusks.	Mahamad Abdou, Cameroonian, unfavorably known by the police: 2 years in prison suspended. Pokola, trafficking hub in Central Africa.

ASIA

CHINA

July 1, 2018	Shang-hai-Pudong International Airport	Seizure	3 worked ivories (3.82 kg).	In 3 luggage.
July 2, 2018	Hong Kong	Seizure / Arrest	277 kg of ivory. 	Value: 353,000 US\$ or 1.275 US\$/kg. Joint operation of Hong Kong customs and continental Chinese authorities. Following a seizure of 47 kg of ivory and the arrest of 6 people on June 25 in mainland China. Arrests of eight people aged 22 to 60 years old in a warehouse.
End of August 2018	Shang-hai-Pudong International Airport	Seizure	A fan with ivory blades.	
September 2018	Luohu District	Seizure	2 statuettes (1.3 kg).	20 seizures since the beginning of the year: corals, bear parts, agarwood, Coraciidae birds and worked ivories.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

July 3, 2018	Dubai International Airport	Seizure	1849 pieces of ivory in different sizes and forms (slices, blocks ...).	In a shoe shipment. Painted black. From East Africa and in transit to Eastern Asia.
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INDIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 2018	Pandalur	Other bad news	2 adults and 1 child.	Fatal wounds due to explosives hidden in fruits.
July 8, 2018	Bangalore, State of Karnataka	Seizure / Arrest	Attempt to sell 2 tusks (21 kg in all).	The tusks were in a car, the trio was waiting for the buyer. K Karunakara Poojari (68 years old and retired forest conservation assistant) and 3 accomplices. Poojari had an exclusive permit to possess tusks. He did not have the right to sell them.
July 13, 2018	Hubballi (Hubli)	Seizure / Arrest	1 tusk.	Value: More than 14,500 US\$. In a car. Bastyav Alez Siddi (38 years old), Manjunath Laxman Jomannavar (43 years old) and Jailani Goususab Garag (35 years old).
July 18, 2018	Siliguri, State of West Bengal	Seizure / Arrest	6 pieces of ivory (9.9kg).	From Nepal. 2 arrests by the DRI (Directorate of Revenue Intelligence).
July 18, 2018	Siliguri	Seizure / Arrest	2 tusks cut up in 6 pieces. 9.9 kg in all.	To fit into food packaging. Value: 270 to 1,370 US\$/kg on the grey market. Padum Bahadur Baidya (40 years old) and Kishore Kumar Rai (45 years old) at the bus stop in Tenzing Norgay. From Nepal.
August 9, 2018	State of Uttarakhand	Seizure	7 domesticated elephants, exhausted, some blind.	Running in unworthy conditions. Transfer at night, on foot, between 7pm and 2am to avoid traffic jams and gatherings, to a "preserved area" where they would be cared of by State mahouts and the forest rangers.
August 16, 2018	Nuagaon	Good news	1 young elephant of 7 or so.	Saved from drowning in a canal by villagers.
August 27, 2018	Alapakkam	Seizure / Arrest	2 tusks.	Questioning of 3 men on a motorcycle: Prakash (35 years old), Silambarasan (27 years old) and Kolunji (33 years old). 2 accomplices searched.
August 29, 2018	Amangarh Tiger Reserve	Poaching	A 35-year-old dead elephant, 2 bullet strikes and marks of blows at the head and neck.	Fate of the tusks unknown.
September 2, 2018	Bijnor District	Arrest	Poaching of an elephant in April, on-site butchering and scattered burial of the remains.	Shooting error. Mohammad Aslam, Virasat, Shaukat and Nasir were targeting a male to rob his tusks. They killed a female. 15 other people heard by the court.
September 3, 2018	Anthiyur Forest	Poaching	1 male, 35 years old, electrocuted.	Kothandaraman (56 years old), wanted for illegally installing the electric fence.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 4, 2018	Biswanath District	Poaching	1 female, 20 years old and pregnant, electrocuted.	By an electric fence around the refinery workers' illegal settlements. Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (See "On the Trail" n°14 p. 90).
September 7, 2018	Bannerghatta National Park	Poaching	A male, 40-45 years old, electrocuted.	Fence with illegal connection to the power line. In a wild fauna corridor encroached by farmers and dwellers.
September 16, 2018	Dehradun	Poaching	1 elephant of about 45 years old, tusks torn off. Died of a "heart attack" after the autopsy, no apparent wounds.	Arrest 10 days later of 4 peasants who had buried the 2 cut up tusks in 6 pieces in waiting to sell them.
September 19, 2018	Bolangir District	Poaching	An elephant electrocuted, theft of his tusks.	On a cable pulled from a 11,000V power line.
September 23, 2018	Sidhi District	Poaching	Death of an elephant by poison, also a cow and a dog.	Probable retaliation. The victim being part of a herd of 5 accused of fruit pinching, crop spoiling and homicide. The 4 survivors are taken in hand by the rangers.
September 24, 2018	Erode District	Seizure / Arrest	1 pair of tusks.	Subramani, Ravi, Perumal and Dhurai alias Mathan arrested. 2 on the run. Supposed tusks origin: a nomad camp near Anthiyur.
September 26, 2018	Deogarh District	Poaching	1 male elephant, 25 to 30 years old, decapitated.	Tusks stolen.

INDONESIA

July 12, 2018	Jambo Reuhat	Poaching	Death of one female, about 10 years old, by poison in a plantation of palm oil.	Third violent elephant death in the same plantation since 2015.
September 2018	Saree, Kabupaten of Aceh Besar	Poaching	Death of Amirah, female of about 15 months, after 4 months of intensive care.	Extracted from a trap and taken care of by the veterinarians and care takers of the Saree elephant shelter. Buried on site.



MALAYSIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 16, 2018	Lahad Datu	Other bad news	1 young male fatally wounded by a trap at the paw.	In a palm oil plantation. 8 deaths since the beginning of the year in the State of Sabah.
July 23, 2018	State of Sabah	Poaching	1 pygmy elephant shot to death.	For revenge. Reportedly destroyed crops. Less than 1,500 pygmy elephants in the Borneo Island.
July 23, 2018	State of Sabah	Poaching	1 pygmy elephant, about 4 years old.	Shot and killed by villagers following the alleged destruction of 1 individual's crops. 18 pygmy elephants killed in the Malayan part of Borneo since April 1, 2018.
July 26, 2018	Sungai Taliwas Reserve, State of Sabah	Poaching	1 young male, 2 years old, wounded and isolated.	Caught by a trap at the front right paw.

MYANMAR

July 21, 2018	Singu, Mandalay Region	Poaching	1 elephant, about 40 years old.	A poisoned arrow shot by a percussion rifle. The 7 th in 2 years.
July 24, 2018	Singu, Mandalay Region	Poaching	1 elephant, about 40 years old. No amputation.	Poisoned arrow. 7 poaches in 2 years.

SRI LANKA

Early August 2018	Kilinochchi District	Seizure / Arrest	2 tusks, 1.37 m and 1.22 m	2 arrests. One yesterday or today super tusker or two ?
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September 2018	Dematagoda	Seizure / Arrest	4 gajamuthu or "elephant pearls", calcifications forming at the root of the tusks. See "On the Trail" n°19 p.112.	1 man, 21 years old, also in possession of heroin.
September 26, 2018	Anuradhapura District	Other bad news	1 elephant wounded.	By a pyrotechnic device launched by the forest rangers with the intention to move him away after extracting him from an irrigation tank in which he had gotten stuck.

TAIWAN

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 13, 2018	Taiwan	Good news	Prohibition of the sale of ivory from January 2020.	Maximum penalty of 5 years in prison and 49,000 US\$ a fine in the event of an offence.

THAILAND

September 14, 2018	Bang Phli District	Other bad news	1 domesticated, male elephant, 10 years old, electrocuted.	Strolling through the city with 2 mahouts for begging, the elephant falls into a ditch. Electrocution by a restaurant sign. The 2 mahouts charged with cruelty to the animals and not respecting the ban on riding elephants in the city.
September 25, 2018	Nonthaburi	Seizure	7 tusks, total weight of 46 kg.	Search by the Yiaw Dong Special Unit of the National Parks Department. Investigation and DNA test in progress. Immediate indictment of the owner of the premises for possession of 44 boards of protected woods.
September 25, 2018	Pak Kret	Seizure	6 raw tusks weighing 3.68 kg, 3.44 kg, 13.42 kg, 13.56 kg, 5.27 kg et 5.13 kg and one worked ivory in the form of a crocodile weighing 710 g.	Senya Wongsire Rojkul (58 years old). At home.

VIET NAM

July 30, 2018	Buon Ma Thuot	Seizure / Arrest	1.6 kg of ivory jewelry (bangles, necklaces, rings, ...).	Arrest of the seller, Nguyen Thanh Phuong. Previous seizure of 10.9 kg in June 2018 in Dak Lak.
August 17, 2018	Nhi Khe	Seizure / Arrest	- 92 kg worked ivories, - 87 kg worked ivories.	- Nguyen Huu Tien (35 years old), - Le Chi Thuan (58 years old).

EUROPE

GERMANY

August 13, 2018	Hamburg	Seizure / Sentence	78 ivory objects (des bangles, towel rings, netsukes, ...).	In the home of an 80-year-old man, who had worked in Africa and made at least one trip to Hong Kong. Sold on the Internet. Fine of 1500€.
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BELGIUM

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 12, 2018	Belgium	Voluntary surrender	300 kg raw and worked ivories.	"Get your teeth out" campaign from May 15 to August 12, 2018 by the Ministry of Public Health. The ivories were later destroyed by fire.

FRANCE

August 26, 2018	Dijon	Seizure	13 worked ivories for sale on a flea market.	Intervention by the ONCFS (Office national de la chasse et de la faune sauvage/ National Hunting and Wildlife Office).
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ITALY

End of August 2018	Tarente	Seizure / Arrest	22 worked ivories. Unknown origin.	In all: 11,700 US\$. Sold online, without required documents. 1 arrest.
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PORTUGAL

July 2018	Guimarães, Gaia, Marco de Canaveses, Leiria and Alcanena	Seizure	5 tusks, 1 elephant paw and 1 hippopotamus tooth.	Value: 13,241 US\$. Sold online.
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UNITED KINGDOM

Early July 2018	United Kingdom	Good news	Public consultation to extend the restriction of ivory trade to all animals bearing ivory.	Narwhals, hippos, walruses, mammoths, ...
July 19, 2018	Northamptonshire County	Arrest	Illegal sale of ivory.	Arrest warrant (identity not published).

OCEANIA

NEW ZEALAND

July 26, 2018	Auckland Airport	Seizure	50 ivory piano keys from the late 19 th century.	Introduced from the United Kingdom without prior authorisation by an English cardiology professor recruited by a New Zealand hospital. Implication of the British logistics company. "It's vandalism," says one New-Zealander parliamentarian.
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Other Mammals

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 21, 2018	Thula Thula Reserve	Death/Seizure / Arrest	 One antelope impala (<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>) and one nyala (<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>), weapons, and poaching equipment.	One poacher killed, another wounded. 6 arrests, at least one man on the run. Their main focus was probably the elephant herds.
July 24, 2018	Gauteng Province	Other bad news	The army cavalry is starving. 94 horses died of hunger in the "care" of the SAASIC unit (South African Army Special Infantry Capability).	25 horses finished off. 69 transferred to a large farm under the good care of the NSPCA.

KENYA

August 28, 2018	Olerai Conservation Zone, Kajiado County	Poaching	A zebra caught in a trap.	Rescued and cared of by David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust and Kenya Wildlife Trust.
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ZAMBIA

End of August 2018	Liuwa Plain National Park	Poaching	1 female hyena (Hyaenidae family).	"343" alias Betty, released from a trap and cared of. Reunited with her two puppies in the den. Prognosis optimistic.
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AMERICA

BOLIVIA

July 20, 2018	Desaguadero. Border with Peru.	Seizure / Arrest	4 armadillos (Dasypodidae family).	Price to buy one in Peru : 220 US\$. Price to resell in Bolivia: 2000 US\$. To be sacrificed during religious rituals. Questioning of a 35-year-old woman.
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BRAZIL

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
Early July 2018	Barra do Garças	Seizure / Arrest	A dead paca (<i>Cuniculus paca</i> , Appendix III in Honduras), 2 shotguns and 14 ammunition.	2 men (39 and 41 years old).
September 25, 2018	Rondonópolis	Seizure / Arrest	Several collared peccary carcasses (<i>Pecari tajacu</i> , Appendix II).	2 arrested in a hunting shed.

COLOMBIA

Early September 2018	Castilla la Nueva	Seizure / Arrest	Remains of a dead capybara (<i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i>).	3 questionings.
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SALVADOR

September 2018	San Francisco Menéndez	Arrest	Flagrant offence of transporting 1 paca shot down (<i>Cuniculus paca</i> , Appendix III in Honduras), with one paw off in the El Impossible National Park.	Jeremías Bladimir Mendoza Moya, 19 years old.
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ASIA

CAMBODIA

August 29, 2018	Koh Kong Province	Poaching	1 civet (Viverridae family) dead in a trap.	Picked out by a patrol from Wildlife Alliance. Removal of 23 traps.
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CHINA

July 25, 2018	Guiyang Longdongbao International Airport	Seizure	11 addax or antelope horns with spotted noses (9.76 kg - <i>Addax nasomaculatus</i> , Appendix I).	Sanded and painted to be used as musical instruments. In the luggage of 10 passengers.
September 2018	Xiamen	Seizure	214 sugar gliders (<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>).	In nets around the calves. Pet business. Seizure in two steps. From Australia.



INDIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 5, 2018	Nagpur	Sentence	Poaching of a Saladang (<i>Bos gaurus</i> , Appendix I) in the Melghat Tiger Reserve in July 2017.	Sonu Iwane (50 years old): 3 years in prison, 725 US\$ in fines or 6 months in prison for non-payment. 11 accomplices on the run.
July 17, 2018	Bhopal	Justice	Release denied.	4 forest rangers accused of letting go off blackbuck poachers (<i>Antilope cervicapra</i> , Appendix III in Népal and in Pakistan) in September 2017. 1 forest ranger in pre-trial detention, 3 others on the run.
August 15, 2018	Pachamalai Forest	Seizure / Arrest	1 female Sri Lankan spotted chevrotain (<i>Moschiola meminna</i>).	Questioning by the forest rangers of T. Chandramohan.
September 15, 2018	Chandapara	Seizure / Arrest	5 civet carcasses (Viverridae family).	6 arrests that Saturday night. The forest rangers had been informed by members of Zero Hunting Alliance. Midnapore, See "On the Trail" n° 13 p.108.
September, 30, 2018	Sherkot	Seizure / Arrest	56,000 mongoose hair brushes (genus <i>Herpestes</i>) and 145 of skins, so more than 10,000 mongooses.	Simultaneous raids in 3 workshops of fabrication of mongoose hair brushes. Arrests of 6 workers, Mohammad Sajid, Usman, Baburam, Mohammad Arif, Mohammad Sadab and Mohammad Yunus. Flight of workshop owners, Mohammad Vali, Salam, Mohammad Sadab and Furkan Ansari. Sherkot is the historic center of the manufacturing of brushes for watercolorists. Children are employed in the workshops as well. See "On the Trail" n°18 p.110.

IRAN

Early July 2018	Malayer	Arrest	Poaching of a wild goat (<i>Capra hircus aegagrus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan).	1 arrest.
August 13, 2018	Lar National Park	Seizure / Arrest	1 ibex (genus <i>Capra</i>), about 3 years old, skinned, 1 rifle, and ammunition.	Immediate fine of 2,380 US\$ for the 3 poachers brought before the court.
August 14, 2018	Protected Zones of Qamsar and Barzok	Seizure / Arrest	1 ibex (genus <i>Capra</i>) butchered, 1 rifles, knife weapons, cameras and portable phones.	Fine of 2,380 US\$ for the 3 poachers brought before the court.
August 18, 2018	Raz and Jargalan Districts	Arrest	1 hyena (Hyaenidae family) slaughtered.	3 arrests 15 days after the act, thanks to a photo of poaching posted on social media.
September 3, 2018	Bamou National Park	Sentence	Poaching of ibexes (genre <i>Capra</i>).	Immediate fines of 4,760 US\$ and presentation at court.

THAILAND

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI
July 13, 2018	Bangkok	Seizure	3 otters (Lutrinae subfamily, Appendix I or II).	At Pichet Rojaramornaranon (38 years old) home following an information on the green line 1362 of the National Parks Department, Wildlife and Plant Conservation or "Wildhawk".
September 13, 2018	Bangkok	Seizure / Arrest	1 young female otter (Lutrinae subfamily, Appendix I or II).	Sold on the Internet. In a cardboard box filled with torn up paper. Thana Pangang (33 years), waiting for the buyer in a service station.

EUROPE

FRANCE

September 17, 2018	Ifs	Seizure / Arrest	13 hedgehogs (<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>).	Including one still in the mouth of the poacher's dog. Questioning by the canine brigade of Caen city.
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ITALY

September 30, 2018	Villagrande Strisaili	Seizure / Arrest	1 European mouflon (<i>Ovis aries musimon</i>).	9 arrests.
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Multi-Species

AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 10, 2018	Hoedspruit, Zebediela and Mokopane, Limpopo province	Seizure / Arrest	Suspicion of poaching. Seizure of 6 fire arms, ammunitions, food supplies, 1 axe, 1 knife, and 3 vehicles.	12 men in custody, from 23 to 44 years old: 4 at Hoedspruit, 6 at Zebediela, 2 at Mokopane.
July 15, 2018	Loskop Dam Natural Reserve	Death/ Poaching	 1 rifle with silencer, poaching tools.	Firing. 2 poachers killed. 1 ranger wounded.

GUINEA

July 20, 2018	Guinea	Good news	Adoption by the Parliament of the new wildlife protection code.	Sanctions increased from 1 year in prison maximum to 5 years and fines from 16 US\$ to 5,500 US\$. Waiting for enactment by the President Alpha Condé.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
End of September 2018	Guinea	Arrest	Dismantling of an illegal hunting reserve with elephants, bongos (<i>Tragelaphus eurycerus</i>), hippopotamuses, leopards in sights. Seizure of trophies and fire arms.	2 arrests including Carlos Bustamante, Spanish national, also involved in drug trafficking.

NAMIBIA

Early July 2018	Namibia	Other bad news	Suspension of the ban to publish on social media "selfies" with trophies.	Pending an ethical code to market hunting trophies drafted by the "hunters' fraternity" and submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism. According to NAPHA (Namibian Professional Hunting Association) trophy selfies are doping hunting business.
August 2, 2018	Windhoek	Justice	Illegal possession of elephant, rhino, leopard, and cheetah trophies.	Lai Yau Ruan (80 years old): pleads not guilty. Bail extended to July. See "On the Trail" n°20 p.115.
August 3, 2018	Grootfontein	Seizure / Arrest	1 python skin, 6 pangolin skins and 1 live pangolin. 2 rifles.	Value: 28,800 US\$. 6 suspects arrested, including 1 police officer and 1 conservation officer.

NIGERIA

July and August 2018	Yankari National Park	Arrest / Sentence	Poaching of wild animals.	Rangers deployment: Ishyaku Moh'd, repeat offender: 6 months in prison. Musa Alh. Ruwa, Abdullahi Ibrahim and Ishyaku Abdullahi: 3 months in prison.
July and August 2018	Yankari National Park	Arrest / Sentence	Poaching of wild animals.	Rangers deployment: Ali Sabo, Abel Sabo, Ciroma Usman and Yila Buba: 3 months in prison.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

First half of 2018	Chinko Natural Reserve	Poaching/ seizure	Dismembered bodies of oribi antelopes (<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>) and duikers (Cephalophinae subfamily), dozens of chimpanzees, buffered warthogs, 2 bongo skulls (<i>Tragelaphus eurycerus</i>) and a snake skin, notably.	Firing with poachers supposedly South Sudanese militia members. Destruction by the guards of the carcasses and remains found in the hastily abandoned camp.
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DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO / ZIMBABWE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early September 2018	Democratic Republic of the Congo / Zimbabwe	Delocalization	<p>Transfer project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 white rhinos from Chivero Lake Park, Kyle Recreational Park, and Matopos National Park in Zimbabwe to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. - Okapis (<i>Okapia johnstoni</i>) and gorillas (<i>Gorilla spp.</i>, Appendix I) from the DRC to Zimbabwe (Nyanga Natural Park). 	<p>Exchange of protected species considered between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zimbabwe. Huge risk for everyone, especially for the okapis and the gorillas.</p>

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

August 2018	Department of the Cuvette	Arrest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poaching of an elephant and a gorilla (<i>Gorilla spp.</i>, Appendix I) with a machine gun, - Purchase and attempted sale of 16 kg of ivory. 	<p>Value: 855 US\$ (53 US\$/kg). Henry Roland Botata on the hunt, Florida Kaba on the sale.</p> <p>"I slaughtered a gorilla that I smoked and used the other parts of the fresh meat for my crocodile traps. I left the camp leaving crocodile traps in the water... that's when I was able to shoot down a small elephant."</p>
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TUNISIA

July 1, 2018	Tunis	Seizure	<p>One hundred songbirds (including elegant European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>)), European greenfinches (<i>Chloris chloris</i>)), 1 booted eagle (<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>, Appendix II), 1 Bonelli's eagle (<i>Hieraetus fasciatus</i>, Appendix II), thirty turtles (including common tortoises (<i>Testudo graeca</i>, Appendix II), and chameleons...</p>	<p>By the police and the forest brigade on the "Moncef Bey" market, the "market of shame" according to the NGO "Les amis des oiseaux" ("Friends of Birds").</p>
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AMERICA
ARGENTINA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 5, 2018	Cordoba	Seizure	4 parrots (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II), 130 skins, 249 wild animal trophies. 2 cages, 1 net and 18 traps.	After a complaint for conjugal violence.
Early July 2018	Tostado, Santa Fe Province	Seizure	2 dead otters and 2 dead capybaras (<i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i>), fire arms, des knives and torches.	In a Ford F-100 and a boat in tow. One questioning.
July 5, 2018	Perito Moreno	Seizure	2 guanacos carcasses (<i>Lama guanicoe</i> , Appendix II) and a fox, 2 hunting dogs, 1 rifle, 1 pistol.	In a Toyota Hilux. Route 39. 3 people : 2 adults and one minor.
July 2018	Santiago del Estero	Seizure	400 birds, tortoises and lizards: Argentine black and white tegus (<i>Salvator merianae</i> , Appendix II), ultramarine grosbeaks (<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>), golden-billed Salators (<i>Saltator aurantiirostris</i>), saffron finches (<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>), double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), paroarias (genus <i>Paroaria</i>), red pileated finches (<i>Coryphospingus cucullatus</i>), black-crested finches (<i>Lophospingus pusillus</i>) and yellow-bellied sliders (<i>Trachemys scripta scripta</i>).	On sale on the Mercado Armonía in the center of the city and at Maco in the outskirts.
Mid-August 2018	Near Buchardo	Seize / Arrest	4 armadillos (Dasypodidae family), 2 big hairy armadillos (<i>Chaetophractus villosus</i>), 1 otter and 2 catfish. Traps, knives, rifles, Ford Fiesta car.	2 arrests.

BOLIVIA

August 14, 2018	Copacabana and Cochabamba	Seizure	230 animals' parts: Darwin's rhea feathers (<i>Pterocnemia pennata</i> , Appendix I or II), charangoes (musical instrument) in armadillo shells, boar teeth, chinchilla tails (Chinchillidae family), belts made of viper skin, crocodile and feline, anteaters' tongues in amulet and one armadillo (family Dasypodidae).	Between August 14 and 16. During the religious festivities of Urkupiña, on the occasion of the Assumption.
August 24, 2018	Santa Cruz Department	Seizure / Arrest	8 rheas (<i>Rhea</i> spp., Appendix I or II), 4 turtles and 2 toucans (Ramphastidae family).	In cardboard boxes in a bus under the naming "chicken". 2 arrests.

BRAZIL

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
Early July 2018	Quixeramobim	Seizure / Arrest	Seizures twice over : cactus conures (<i>Aratinga cactorum</i> , Appendix II), red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), sooty-capped bush tanagers (<i>Chlorospingus pileatus</i>), great-billed seed finches (<i>Oryzoborus maximiliani</i>), armadillos (family Dasypodidae) all living. 4 rifles and ammunition.	5 arrests. 2 released on bail of 82 and 246 US\$.
August 9, 2018	São José do Egito	Seizure / Sentence	All held in a farm: 1 red-billed toucan (<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i> , Appendix II), 2 scarlet macaw (<i>Ara macao</i> , Appendix I), 1 common caracara (<i>Caracara plancus</i> , Appendix II), 1 blue and gold macaw (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix II), 1 tufted capuchin (<i>Cebus apella</i> , Appendix II), 1 guan (genus <i>Penelope</i>), 6 New World doves (<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>), 2 red-cowled cardinals (<i>Paroaria dominicana</i>), 2 red-footed tortoises (<i>Chelonoidis carbonarius</i> ou <i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> , Appendix II), 2 seriemas (Cariamidae family), 2 six-banded armadillos (<i>Euphractus sexcinctu</i>), 1 picazuro pigeon (<i>Patagioenas picazuro</i>), 1 dove (genus <i>Leptotila</i>).	 One man : 6060 US\$ in fines.
August 13, 2018	Barra do Garças	Seizure / Arrest	45 kg of muscovy duck meat (<i>Cairina moschata</i>), collared peccary (<i>Pecari tajacu</i> , Appendix II), red-winged tinamou (<i>Rhynchosciurus rufescens</i>) and six-banded armadillo (<i>Euphractus sexcinctus</i>) and more than 230 ammunition.	1 arrest.
August 15, 2018	Apucarana	Seizure	2 corn snakes (<i>Pantherophis guttatus</i>), 1 tufted capuchin (<i>Cebus apella/Sapajus apella</i> , Appendix II), 1 mottled owl (<i>Strix virgata</i> , Appendix II), 1 double-collared seedeater (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>) and 1 lizard (<i>Teius teyou</i>).	Sold on the Internet.
August 2018	Itaberaba	Seizure	609 live birds, turtles and snakes. With cages, traps, and 13 rifles.	Police checks on the highway from August 21 to 29, 2018.
August 2018	Londrina	Seizure / Arrest	3 tufted capuchin (<i>Cebus apella</i> , synonym of <i>Sapajus apella</i> , Appendix II) and 1 boa constrictor (<i>Boa constrictor</i> , Appendix II).	In a cage and a shoebox. 3 arrests including a repeat offender.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 4, 2018	Uberlândia	Seizure / Sentence	1 deer skull with antlers and 1 giant armadillo paw (<i>Priodontes maximus</i> , Appendix I).	1 female, fines: 969 US\$.
Early September 2018	Santarém, State of Pará	Seizure	1 South American coati (<i>Nasua nasua</i> , Appendix III in Uruguay) and 1 tufted capuchin chained (<i>Cebus apella</i> , synonym of <i>Sapajus apella</i> , Appendix II), 1 chestnut-bellied seed finch (<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>) in a cage.	Maria Dalva Gonçalves.



September 8, 2018	Campo Belo do Sul	Seizure / Arrest	Trophies of pumas (<i>Puma concolor</i> , Appendix II) and boars, skins of other wild animals, weapons and ammunition.	1 questioning.
September 14, 2018	Carira	Seizure / Arrest	77 wild birds and 5 red-footed tortoise (<i>Chelonoidis carbonarius</i> , Appendix II).	11 questionings.
September 26, 2018	Guaraqueçaba	Seizure / Arrest	1 caiman (<i>Caiman</i> spp., Appendix I or II), 10 double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), 2 plain parakeets (<i>Brotogeris tirica</i> , Appendix II), 1 buffy-fronted seedeater (<i>Sporophila frontalis</i>), 1 lined seedeater (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>) and 1 green-winged saltator (<i>Saltator similis</i>). Traps, sling-shots, 10 bows, armadillo nets, and 14 cages.	Parade through the village with a caiman body. 4 questionings. One on the run.

COLOMBIA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 30, 2018	Guarujá	Seizure / Sentence	24 birds including chopi blackbirds (<i>Gnorimopsar chopi</i>), 1 Andean sparrow (<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>), tanagers (genus <i>Thraupis</i>), double-collared seedeaters (<i>Sporophila caerulescens</i>), lined seedeaters (<i>Sporophila lineola</i>), 4 red-footed tortoises (<i>Chelonoidis carbonarius</i> , Appendix II), 7 traps and 21 cages.	Operation "Fauna Livre" ("Fauna Free"). 1 man, fines: 6,800 US\$.
July 11, 2018	Tuluá	Seizure	2 spectacled caimans (<i>Caiman crocodilus</i> , Appendix I or II), 1 male and 1 female (30 and 18 kg), 2 parrots (<i>Ara</i> spp., Appendix I or II).	
Mid-July 2018	Sitionuevo	Seizure / Arrest	13 Colombian sliders (<i>Trachemys callirostris</i>), 19 spectacled caimans (<i>Caiman crocodilus</i> , Appendix I or II), 2 capybaras (<i>Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris</i>) and 1 yellow headed parrot (<i>Amazona oratrix</i> , Appendix I).	Selling of meat and mangrove charcoal in the Barranquilla markets. 7 arrests. Hard hit for the "Chigüiros" group (capybaras).
End of July 2018	Facatativá	Seizure	4 cotton headed tamarin (<i>Saguinus oedipus</i> , Appendix I), 1 adult and 3 children, and 1 oncilla (<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i> , Appendix I).	In a bus. To Bogota.



Mid-August 2018	Cali	Seizure	1 jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i> , Appendix I) at a photographer's house, 1 macaw (<i>Ara</i> spp., Appendix I or II) kept by an "Adventure park", 1 sloth bear (<i>Melursus ursinus</i> , Appendix I) at a private individual's house and 1 spider monkey (<i>Ateles</i> spp., Appendix I or II) at another's house.
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ECUADOR

Early July 2018	Orellana Province	Seizure	11 forest tortoises (<i>Chelonoidis denticulatus</i> , Appendix II), 2 toadhead turtle (<i>Mesoclemmys gibba</i>) and a mealy parrot (<i>Amazona farinosa</i> , Appendix II).	Saved from captivity, transferred to the ZooCoca for the diagnosis and care. 44 wild animal seizures since the beginning of the year. Release into the wild of 11.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 4, 2018	Loreto	Seizure	9 traditional American Indian headbands, 8 made of oncilla skin (<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i> , Appendix I) and 1 made of Guatemalan red brocket skin (<i>Mazama americana</i>), 1 Guatemalan red brocket skull and 1 oncilla skull.	In a craft store.
July 22, 2018	Cantón Putumayo	Seizure	Bushmeat : 8.6 kg of paca (<i>Cuniculus paca</i> , Appendix III in Honduras), 18.1 kg of white-lipped peccary (<i>Tayassu pecari</i> , Appendix II) and 7.7 kg of spectacled caimans (<i>Caiman crocodilus</i> , Appendix II).	In one Cooperativa Petrolera bus. The owner was not identified.
July 22, 2018	El Yurumí Civil Society Reserve, Puerto López	Good news	Pedagogical day for the local population.  © Suministrada	After seizure and quarantine, release in a 555 ha reserve of 60 animals who were victims of trafficking: 5 common squirrel monkeys (<i>Saimiri sciureus</i> , Appendix II), anacondas (<i>Eunectes</i> spp., Appendix II), rainbow boas (<i>Epicrates maurus</i> , Appendix II), spectacled caimans (<i>Caiman crocodilus</i> , Appendix II), brown-throated conures (<i>Aratinga pertinax</i> , Appendix II), forest foxes (<i>Cerdocyon thous</i> , Appendix II), oncillas (<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i> , Appendix I) and tamanduas (genus <i>Tamandua</i>).
Early August 2018	Sucumbios Province	Sentence	1 common wooly monkey (<i>Lagothrix lagotricha</i> , Appendix II), 2 orange-winged parrot (<i>Amazona amazonica</i> , Appendix II), 1 tartaruga (<i>Podocnemis expansa</i> , Appendix II), 1 d'Orbigny's slider (<i>Trachemys dorbigni</i>).	1.5 years in prison, 4,136 US\$ in damages for the benefit of the Environment and a fine of 1,544 US\$.
September 24, 2018	Sucumbíos Province	Sentence	Carriage of a female black caiman (<i>Melanosuchus niger</i> , Appendix II) of 3.5 m and the body of a young male of 1.5 m, 1 peccary (<i>Tayassuidae</i> , Appendix II) and 76 fishes.	Hunting and fishing in the Cuyabeno Reserve. Luis F. and Luis O.: 3 years in prison closed, between 4 and 10 "salarios basicos unificados" ("unified basic wages"). 1,544 to 3,860 US\$ of fines and 7,000 US\$ in damages.

MEXICO

July 6, 2018	Durango	Seizure	1 lilac-crowned amazon (<i>Amazona finschi</i> , Appendix I), 1 red-lored amazon (<i>Amazona autumnalis</i> , Appendix II) and 1 collared peccary (<i>Pecari tajacu</i>), mistreated and poorly housed.	Illegal trade.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 29, 2018	Tecámac	Seizure	1 bay-winged hawk (<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i> , Appendix II), 1 green parakeets (<i>Aratinga holochlora</i> , Appendix II) and 1 southern caracara (<i>Caracara plancus</i> , Appendix II), all alive. 1 golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> , Appendix II), 1 white-tailed deer (<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> , <i>Odocoileus virginianus mayensis</i> , Appendix III in Guatemala) and 1 American bison (<i>Bison bison</i>).	At a taxidermist's workshop.
July 29, 2018	Tarímbaro	Seizure	2 tigers (<i>Panthera tigris</i> , Appendix I) and 1 silver pheasant (<i>Lophura nycthemera</i>), all illegal.	In the PIMVS (Predios o Instalaciones que Manejan Vida Silvestre) Quinta Santa María.
August 17, 2018	San Pedro Tlaquepaque	Seizure	1 baby mantled howling monkey (<i>Alouatta palliata</i> , Appendix I) and 2 young keel-billed toucans (<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i> , Appendix II).	In 2 cardboard boxes at the bus station.



August 19, 2018	Mexico city	Seizure	13 live white-tailed deer (<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> , <i>Odocoileus virginianus mayensis</i> , Appendix III in Guatemala) and 18 stuffed animals: 1 whiskered screech-owl (<i>Otus trichopsis</i> , Appendix II), 1 American kestrel (<i>Falco sparverius</i> , Appendix II), 1 great horned owl (<i>Bubo virginianus</i> , Appendix II), 4 white-tailed deer, 1 raccoon (<i>Procyon lotor</i>), 1 gray fox (<i>Urocyon cinereoargentatus</i>), 1 giant pocket gopher (<i>Orthogeomys grandis</i>), 1 ring-tailed cat (<i>Bassariscus astutus</i>), 1 acorn woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>), 1 long-tailed wood partridge (<i>Dendrortyx macroura</i>), 2 Virginia opossums (<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>), 1 white-throated magpie-jay (<i>Calocitta formosa</i>) and 2 Mexican pigmy rattlesnakes (<i>Crotalus ravus</i>).	In a zoo and an underground museum.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 16, 2018	Tepotzotlán	Seizure	3 skins and 1 head of a jaguar (<i>Panthera onca</i> , Appendix I) decorated with parrot feathers (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II), 1 ocelot skin (<i>Leopardus pardalis</i> , Appendix I) decorated with snake cascabels (genus <i>Crotalus</i>), 1 keel-billed toucan helmet (<i>Ramphastos sulfuratus</i> , Appendix II), 1 leather handbag with crocodile leather inlays (<i>Crocodylus</i> spp., Appendix I or II), tambourines, maracas, and rattles.	To the destination of Tijuana. Costumes and instruments for traditional dancers in parcels from parcel delivery service Castores.

PARAGUAY

August 18, 2018	Tapyta Caazapa Natural Reserve, Caazapá Department	Death	2 rangers killed. 	Firing during a routine patrol, Rumildo Toledo González, 36 years old, died instantly, Artemio Villalba, 51 years old, died 13 days after the ambush.
September 22, 2018	Asuncion	Seizure	Fledglings including monk parakeets (<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i> , Appendix II) and blue-crowned parakeets (<i>Aratinga acuticaudata</i> , Appendix II) and 1 monkey.	

PERU

July 5, 2018	Puno and Junín regions	Seizure	2 blue-headed parrots (<i>Pionus menstruus</i> , Appendix II), 1 Rio Napo tamarin (<i>Saguinus fuscicollis</i> , Appendix II) and 1 white-fronted capuchin (<i>Cebus albifrons</i> , Appendix II).	
July 19, 2018	La Victoria District, Lima Province	Seizure / Arrest	134 live toads (genus <i>Telmatobius</i>), 441 frogs and 855 animal parts and byproducts: <i>Rhinella limensis</i> , anacondas (<i>Eunectes murinus</i> , Appendix II), snakes, lizards, colpeo foxes, felines (jaguar, puma and margay), spectacled bear (<i>Tremarctos ornatus</i> , Appendix I), white-tailed deer (<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i> , <i>Odocoileus virginianus mayensis</i> , Appendix III in Guatemala).	As bones, beverages, and trophies. For traditional medicine and Shamanism. 5 questionings in the Hierba Santa II gallery.
Mid-September 2018	Miraflores, Arequipa Province	Seizure	1 black-faced black spider monkey (<i>Ateles chamek</i> , Appendix II) and 1 blue-and-gold macaw (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix I or II).	Andrés Avelino Cáceres, fruit merchant.

SALVADOR

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 25, 2018	San Salvador	Seizure / Arrest	12 common iguanas (<i>Iguana iguana</i> , Appendix II), 1 psittacidae (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II), 1 Pacific parakeets (<i>Aratinga strenua</i> , Appendix II), 9 orange-chinned parakeets (<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i> , Appendix II) and turtle eggs.	To the Central mercado of San Salvador and the outskirts. Hearing of Carmen Lara, egg seller.



August 25 2018, San Salvador



August 6, 2018, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka, Bangladesh

ASIA

BANGLADESH

August 6, 2018	Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka	Seizure	170 lovebirds pairs (genus <i>Agapornis</i> , some listed under CITES), 3 young psittacidae pairs (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II), 3 cockatoo pairs (Cacatuidae, Appendix I or II), 10 psittacidae pairs (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II), 5 canary-winged parakeets pairs (<i>Brotogeris versicolurus</i> , Appendix II), 3 peacock pairs (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II), 3 blue-and-gold macaw pairs (<i>Ara ararauna</i> , Appendix II), 2 budgerigar pairs (<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>), 2 lemurs and 4 common marmosets (<i>Callithrix jacchus</i> , Appendix II).	Value: 52,500 US\$. Seizure by customs on information of incoming cargo from South Africa. Importers: Infobizz Inn based in South Goran, BD Innovative Livestocks in Bhatara and Sajib Enterprise in Uttara.
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CAMBODIA

July 10, 2018	Santuk District	Seizure / Sentence	9 civets and 5 kg of live geckos. Total weight: 23 kg. 0.12 m ³ of wood from protected tree.	In a van. Teng Tai: 4,000 US\$ in fines, released on a promise not to traffic again.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 26, 2018	Phnom Penh	Seizure / Sentence	3 pairs of Saladang horns (<i>Bos gaurus</i> , Appendix I), 1 pair of sambar deer antlers (<i>Rusa unicolor</i>), 1 pair of banteng horns (<i>Bos javanicus</i>), more than 100 green peacock feathers (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II).	In a furniture store. Fines of 6,980 US\$.
August 8, 2018	Sen Morom	Seizure / Sentence	- 52.7 kg of wild animal meat including Malayan porcupine meat (<i>Hystrix brachyura</i>) and 1 live turtle. - 15 kg of wild animal guts including Malayan porcupine stomachs.	Fines for Saom Kim Sang (29 years old) and Saing Vuthy (29 years old). Burning of the meat.
August 23, 2018	Phnom Tnout Wildlife Sanctuary, Sangkum Thmei District	Seizure / Sentence	2.128 m ³ illegal logging, 2 chainsaws, 2 handmade rifles, 80 bullets, electric fishing gear.	Patrol of Wildlife Alliance. 5 arrests. 5 to 10 years in prison.
August 30, 2018	Batheay District	Seizure / Arrest	Bushmeat - 3 wild animal species.	Sold along road 6 by Chuob Chin (38 years old). Released on written agreement not to reoffend.

CHINA

July 2, 2018	China	Other bad news	Worked ivories, tiger bone, shelves made of pangolin scales and 120 g of bear bile.	Sold on the Internet. 300 US\$ for 120 g of bear bile. Some "merchandises" could be fake. Investigation of a journalist.
July 6, 2018	Yunnan Province	Seizure / Arrest	Pangolin skin and scales, muntjac antlers (genus <i>Muntiacus</i>), porcupine quills, bharal horns (<i>Pseudois nayaur</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan), elephant skin and gallbladders. 9 kg in total.	In a car. 1 arrest. From: Burma.
End of July 2018	Ningbo Lishe International Airport	Seizure	46 ivory bangles, necklaces, and earrings. One month earlier: 13 ivory billiard cues.	From Taiwan.
August 2018	Fuyang	Seizure / Arrest	- 7 live pangolins, 40 frozen pangolins - 3 bear paws.	Value: 240 US\$ /kg, 1,460 US\$ for a "convivial dish". Dismantling of a smuggling network of pangolins for sale at restaurants, 20 suspects heard.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
June-August 2018	Hong Kong	Seizure / Arrest	Operation "Defender", conducted from June 18 to August 25. 7 tons of pangolin scales (see chapter Pangolins), 10 live turtles, 5 live lizards, 85 live frogs, 317 kg of dried seahorses, 1.5 kg of coral, 25 kg of worked ivories, 63 t of wood, 6 t of American ginseng.... 82 people heard.	Value: 2.42 millions US\$. Examples of modus operandi: in a sea container, in socks, in cereals. Declared as "shoes", "toys" and "chocolate". 
End of August 2018	Longshan County	Seizure	2 pangolins, 80 kg of snakes, frogs, 1 masked palm civet (<i>Paguma larvata</i> , Appendix III in India), 1 black muntjac (<i>Muntiacus crinifrons</i> , Appendix I), 1 boar, bamboo rats, dead or alive.	30 agents mobilized throughout the xian.
September 14, 2018	Zhanjiang, Shenzhen, Maoming, Guangdong Province	Seizure	About 401 tons, including 794 nautilus (<i>Nautilus</i> spp., Appendix II), 1 feline skin (probably a lioness), 43 African python skins (<i>Python sebae</i> , Appendix II), 2.23 tons of black coral (order Antipatharia, Appendix II), 7 leopard skins (<i>Panthera pardus</i> , Appendix I), 1 lizard, 117,674 queen conchs (<i>Strombus gigas</i> , Appendix II), 26,327 tiger cowries (<i>Cypraea tigris</i>), 1612 horned helmet (<i>Cassis cornuta</i>), 1 green turtle (<i>Chelonia mydas</i> , Appendix I), tiger shark skins (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>), shark fins, sea cucumbers.	Operation "8.01". Estimated global value: 470 million Yuan, 68.8 million US\$. Dismantling of 3 gangs skilled in wildlife trafficking and one gang in waste trafficking. 

INDIA

July 11, 2018	Guwahati	Justice	New charges for money laundering.	Against the former divisional forest officer Mahat Chandra Talukdar convicted to 5 years in prison in December 2017 (See "On the Trail" n°19 p.111) for trafficking endangered species. See also "On the Trail" n°13 p.73.
August 4, 2018	Tiruchirappalli International Airport	Seizure / Arrest	Snakes, scorpions, turtles and geckos.	In the luggage of 2 passengers from Kuala Lumpur on a Malindo Air flight.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 6, 2018	Nagpur	Justice	Financing illegal fishing, possession of tiger parts, poaching of green peacocks (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II or <i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan).	Bail denied for Vijay Gedam, member of the "tiger fishermen" gang. See "On the Trail" n°21 p.65.
August 21, 2018	Tiruchirappalli	Sentence	Poaching.	A jointly 1415 US\$ fine to 5 men for poaching in the Upper Anaicut Forest Reserve.
August 23, 2018	Manas National Park	Seizure / Arrest	1 handmade rifle, explosives, ammunition and poaching gear.	Arrest at 6 in the morning by a joint patrol of SSB/ Department of Forests of Tipu Daimari (35 years old), Tarla Boro (25 years old), Temwn Basumatary (27 years old) and Anilal Muchahary (40 years old).
4 September 2018	Kaprada	Seizure / Arrest	2 live blackbucks aged 2 or so (<i>Antilope cervicapra</i> , Appendix III in Nepal and in Pakistan). 2 blackbuck horns, 6 psittacidae (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II).	Arshad Illyas Khan (31 years old) in custody.
September 4, 2018	Coimbatore	Good news	Open burning of 108 protected animal parts. Seizures accumulated over several years. 	Including female elephant teeth, the skin and claws of a leopard, the antlers of a spotted deer (<i>Axis axis</i>), gaurs horns and trophies (<i>Bos gaurus</i> , Appendix I). Possible donation of male elephant tusks to a future "Museum of Wildlife".
September 14, 2018	Amravati District	Arrest	1 porcupine (family Hystricidae), 1 sambar deer (<i>Rusa unicolor</i>), 1 honey badger (<i>Mellivora capensis</i> , Appendix III in Botswana).	Arrest of Sanu Tatu Darsimbe (45 years old), leader of a group of poachers from the Korku ethnic group spotted August 8 in the Melghat Tiger Reserve.
September 15, 2018	Ranchi	Seizure / Arrest	About 50 animal parts including tiger and bear claws, pieces of ivory, bear skin, owl skulls, peacock feathers (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II or <i>Pavo cristatus</i> , Appendix III in Pakistan), and lizard skeletons	Police and forest rangers raided a household goods store. Arrested the owner, Vijay Kumar Gupta, his employee, the owner of another store, Vishwanath Murarka.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 16, 2018	Nameri Tiger Reserve	Death	 1 forest ranger killed. 	Fatal electrocution of Biren Chandra Deka (50 years old) in an illegal electric fence installed to kill "vermin". Several other cases in the district among the civilian population; 12 elephants between 2012 and 2017.
September 17, 2018	Jaipur	Seizure / Arrest	4 monitors, 1 porcupine quills (Hystricidae family), 2 owl claws, coral.	3 arrests including Suresh Maheshwari.

IRAN

July 27, 2018	Oal'eh Ganj County, Kerman Province	Death	 1 ranger killed. 	Mehdi Ahmadi Nik, ranger, killed in a chase with poachers.
Early August 2018	Ravar	Death	 1 ranger killed. 	Ali Khajavi, shot to death while trying to arrest 3 poachers, one of which was arrested. 163 rangers killed since 1979 and the rise of the Islamic Republic.
August 25, 2018	Lar National Park	Seizure / Arrest	Ibex, partridge, pheasants, mallard ducks,... taxidermy, freshly hunted ibexes, meat, weapons and ammunitions, photos of hunting ibexes, camping equipment.	3 arrests for poaching and illegal taxidermy. Deal in the mountains for years.

LAOS

July 5, 2018	Oudomxay Province	Seizure	More than 200 kg of wildlife meat (pangolin, civet, muntjac, monitors, and squirrels ...) and live animals.	To sell in the markets in the Xay and Lar districts. Burning of the meat and release of the animals in a protected area.
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MALAYSIA

July 4, 2018	Kuala Lipis	Seizure / Arrest	2 Malayan tiger skins, 10 patches of tiger skin, 1 clouded leopard skin (<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i> , Appendix I), 7 bear teeth, 20 bear claws, southern serow tails and horns (<i>Capricornis sumatraensis</i> , Appendix I), boar teeth, python skin and meat.	Value: 124,000 US\$. Arrest of 6 Vietnamese workers including two women taken into custody.
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DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 12, 2018	Taman Johor Jaya and Ulu Tiram	Seizure / Arrest	13.8 kg and 23.5 kg of bones, skulls, digestive organs, genital organs, of tigers, bears, porcupines (Hystricidae family), banteng (<i>Bos javanicus</i>), southern serow (<i>Capricornis sumatraensis</i> , Appendix I).	Value: 247,370 US\$. 5 suspects (from 29 to 72 years old). Probable destination: China.
August 13, 2018	Kuala Lumpur International Airport Freight Section	Seizure	- 50 rhinoceros horns (116 kg), - 200kg of bones, corresponding to 9 animals - tigers, bears and/or leopards.	Value: - 12 million US\$ (103,500 US\$/kg) - 120,900 US\$ (600 US\$/kg). Shipment from Africa and to the destination of Viet Nam.
September 21, 2018	Off the Langkawi Archipelago	Seizure / Arrest	Seizure of more than 400 animals still alive, including 2 young orangutans (<i>Pongo spp.</i> , Appendix I), 2 albino foxes, 2 birds-of-paradise (Paradisaeidae family, Appendix II), 2 white cockatoos (<i>Cacatua alba</i> , Appendix II), 2 electus parrots (<i>Eclectus roratus</i> , Appendix II), 21 pink-cheeked parakeets (<i>Psittacula longicauda</i> , Appendix II), 1 female argus pheasant (<i>Argusianus argus</i> , Appendix II), 48 salt-water crocodiles (<i>Crocodylus porosus</i> , Appendix II), 355 sugar gliders (<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>).	In 39 packages and cages. Value: more than 120,000 US\$ on the pet market. Boarding of a small commercial vessel from Sumatra Island, Indonesia, and to the destination of Thailand. Arrests of 3 Indonesian sailors.



PHILIPPINES

July 28, 2018	Puerto Princesa	Seizure / Arrest	21 frozen pangolins scales, 16 sea turtles (1 green turtle, 15 hawksbill sea turtles - <i>Chelonia mydas</i> and <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> , Appendix I) disemboweled, 1 firearm.	In the truck, also with an unlicensed .38 caliber Joshue A. Calinog, driver.
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THAILAND

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 16, 2018	Rayong Province	Good news	105 animals rescued: primates including 1 white-handed gibbon (<i>Hylobates lar</i> , Appendix I), 1 boar, 2 porcupines (Hystricidae family), 1 Asian palm civet (<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i> , Appendix III in Inde), 1 peacock (<i>Pavo muticus</i> , Appendix II), more than 50 turtles and birds, all in bad physical condition.	Inability of monks to care of offered animals or abandoned by the faithful. collective rescue in a Buddhist temple, thanks to an intervention by Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand.
September 7, 2018	Bangkok	Seizure	About forty birds of 22 different species and 16 trophies of deer and bovidae.	In a private home.

TURKEY

Early July 2018	Istanbul	Good news	Closing of a cafe that exhibited animals, including a young lion of a year old or so in a glass cage, 1 crocodile (Crocodylidae, Appendix I or II), 1 flamingo (<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> , Appendix II), and psittacidae (Psittacidae, Appendix I or II).	Announced by the NGO, HAYTAP (Hayvan Hakları Federasyonu). Transfer of the animals in refuges or protected areas.
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VIET NAM

July 7, 2018	Bien Hoa	Seizure	1 female pangolin about 5 kg, her new born in a cage and 13 other animals exhibited in a pub.	Value: 480 US\$ for the pangolin.
July 16, 2018	Cat Tien National Park	Poaching / Arrest	1 pangolin (4.5kg), 1 monitor (1.9kg), 1 boar (13kg) and 1 coucal (genus <i>Centropus</i>).	Nguyen Van Hiep (36 years old), arrested by forest rangers.
August 2, 2018	Hô-Chi-Minh-City	Good news	Wildlife Law Conference.	Discussion between the magistrates and the NGO WildAid. Between 2015 and 2017, commissions of several hundred offences. Only 8 convictions to 3 years in prison or more and 96 of less than 3 years. Suspension or acquittal for all other cases.
August 10, 2018	Nam Giang District	Seizure	3 live pangolins, 2 cut weasels, 32 kg boar meat.	Police patrol on the national route 14D. Checking a van, Ford Transit, driven by Nguyen Thanh Quoc (30 years old).
September 21, 2018	Dien Bien District	Sentence	Trafficking of 27 big-headed turtles (total weight 10.5 kg - <i>Platysternon megacephalum</i> , Appendix I) and 4 Himalayan black bears paws (total weight 13 kg - <i>Ursus thibetanus</i> , Appendix I).	Cao Xuan Nai arrested on April 2, 2018 closed by the Tay Trang border post with Laos: 10 years in prison.

GERMANY

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 14, 2018	Ulm, Baden-Wurttemberg	Seizure	Sea urchins, starfish, fish, snakes, seahorses (<i>Hippocampus</i> spp., Appendix II) and dried lizards.	In a postal parcel from Russia. According to the receiver, the sender advised him to soak the dried animal's parts in bottles filled with vodka. The potion would have beneficial properties for back pain.
August 25, 2018	Hanovre-Langenhagen International Airport	Seizure	1 chimpanzee skull (<i>Pan</i> spp., Appendix I) and 1 antelope horn.	In a traveler's suitcase from Namibia.

SPAIN

Early July 2018	Salvaterra de Miño, border with Portugal	Seizure	More than 150 stuffed animals or parts in a warehouse: snow leopard (<i>Uncia uncia</i> , Appendix I), African lion, tiger, giraffe, 11 elephant tusks (including some carved), trophies of deer, religious art, archeological antiques, and ancient weapons.	Operation Hiposacro, launched in May, after identifying a hippopotamus's paws and a turtle for sale on the Internet. Arrest and release of the alleged manager, double nationality: French and Spanish.
August 24, 2018	Carboneras	Other bad news	Attempted commercialization of 17 worked ivories and 7 necklaces in "red coral".	One person heard by the courts.
August 2018	Seville	Seizure	Trophies of polar bears (<i>Ursus maritimus</i> , Appendix II), American black bears (<i>Ursus americanus</i> , Appendix II), gray wolves (<i>Canis lupus</i> , Appendix II), lynx (<i>Lynx</i> spp., Appendix I or II), American bison (<i>Bison bison</i>), leopards (<i>Panthera pardus</i> , Appendix I), pumas (<i>Puma concolor</i> , Appendix II) and hawksbill sea turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> , Appendix I), worked ivory, 1 a bottle holder in a rhino paw, 1 ashtray made with hippopotamus paw (<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> , Appendix II), coral and conchs.	In a private individual's garage. 

FRANCE

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
July 4, 2018	Museum of Natural History, Paris	Good news	A dozen of rhinoceros horns, skins of pythons, zebras, polar bears (<i>Ursus maritimus</i> , Appendix II), ivories, turtle shells, monkey skulls ...	Destruction of animal parts seized by ONCFS (Office national de la chasse and de la faune sauvage) and by customs.



August 2018	Yonne Department	Seizure / Arrest	292 worked ivories, 2 sawshark rostrums (Pristiophoridae family), 1 lion skull, 1 sea turtle shell, teeth of a sperm whale (<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> , Appendix I) and of hippopotamus (<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> , Appendix II), 8 jaw traps.	Action by the ONCFS. Questioning of 32 exhibitors, half of whom professionals, on 3 flea markets in the Yonne sub-division (Sens, Aillant-Sur-Tholon and Mézilles). 31 judicial procedures, 54 offences and 1 fine.
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ITALY

Early July 2018	Caserte and Naples Provinces	Seizure	- 18 protected birds, 14 Hermann's tortoises (<i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix II), 4 Tibet owls (<i>Athene noctua</i> , Appendix II), 1 carrion crow (<i>Corvus corone</i>), 1 scops owl (<i>Otus scops</i> , Appendix II), - 37 birds including European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) and Italian sparrows (<i>Passer italiae</i>), - 20 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) in 13 wood and iron cages.	Kept in 2 private homes and in one store. Immediate release of most birds.
August 5, 2018	Palermo	Seizure	More than 100 European goldfinches (<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>) and 4 Sicilian pond turtles (<i>Emys trinacris</i>).	Raid by Carabinieri in the Ballero market, a trafficking hotspot. See "On the Trail" n°16 p.36, n°17 p. 39, n°18 p.12 & 36, n°20 p.49.

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
September 2018	Pescara	Seizure / Arrest	1 ball python (<i>Python regius</i> , Appendix II) and 3 Hermann's tortoises (<i>Testudo hermanni</i> , Appendix II), in a hut. 6 empty bird cages.	Sold on the Internet. 1 man, 21 years old.

UNITED KINGDOM

August 2, 2018	Yate	Sentence	Stuffed animals looking like antiques including a European otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i> , Appendix I), a European sparrowhawk (<i>Accipiter nisus</i> , Appendix II), a common buzzard (<i>Buteo buteo</i> , Appendix II), an eagle owl (<i>Bubo bubo</i> , Appendix II), a goshawk (<i>Accipiter gentilis</i> , Appendix II).	Purchased trophies from Poland via specialized websites. Unjustified systematic datation as ante-1947. Sold via eBay. Jacek Oleksiak (42 years old), from Poland: 100 hours of unpaid community service over 12 months and 220 US\$ in fines.
September 20, 2018	Croydon	Sentence	For sale, clothes and fashion accessories made of skins (leopard, snow leopard, clouded leopard, ocelot, wolf, and lynx) on eBay. 24 seizures (coats, scarves, hats). Clearly recent and unknown origin.	Timothy Norris, 40 years old, convicted to 200 hours of unpaid community service.

SWITZERLAND

September 21, 2018	Zurich International Airport	Seizure	6 kg of wildlife meat: crocodile (Crocodylidae, Appendix I or II), pangolin and porcupine (Hystricidae family).	In the luggage of a Cameroonian, 43 years old. From Cameroon via Brussels.
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Donkeys

The African wild ass *Equus africanus* is listed under CITES Appendix I. The domesticated form *Equus asinus* was excluded from this listing.

The Indian wild ass *Equus hemionus khur* and the Mongolian wild ass *Equus hemionus hemionus* are listed under CITES Appendix I. The kiang *Equus kiang* and the Asian wild ass *Equus hemionus* are listed under CITES Appendix II.

AFRICA

BOTSWANA

DATE	PLACE(S)	CATEGORY	TYPE / QUANTITY / GROUNDS	DETAILS / MODUS OPERANDI / VALUE
August 22, 2018	Francistown	Arrest	Implicated in the death of 500 donkeys near Francistown.	Arrest of Lei Jen, Chinese citizen. Had been charged with cruelty towards animals and theoretically expelled from Botswana in 2017. See "On the Trail" n°18 p. 121.

KENYA

End of August 2018	Abakore	Seizure	17 donkeys in a truck to the slaughterhouse in Naivasha.	Theft suspected in the Habaswein area.
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MAIN SOURCES

Sources are available on request by email to contact@robindesbois.org indicating the "On the Trail" issue number, chapter, country and date of the event.

Robin des Bois especially thanks the Species Survival Network and the NGO Save the Elephants.

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