

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



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CONSERVATION OF AND ILLEGAL TRADE IN ASIAN PANGOLINS IN VIET NAM

This information document has been prepared by the Secretariat at the request of Viet Nam^{*}, in relation to agenda item 27 on *Enforcement matters*.

^{*} *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Conservation of and illegal trade in Asian pangolins in Viet Nam

Submitted by the Viet Nam CITES Management Authority

1. This document has been submitted by Viet Nam, in relation to agenda item 27.1 on enforcement matters, specifically relating to Pangolins.
2. Viet Nam welcomes the report of the Secretariat and the recommendations to increase efforts to combat trafficking of pangolins. Viet Nam remains concerned of this illegal trade and, in response has initiated a number of actions to address this issue that we share with other parties and observers in this Information Document. Viet Nam believes greater efforts are needed and suggest Parties consider the current CITES listing of both Asian and African species of Pangolin be strengthened as preparations for proposals to CoP17 begin.
3. Viet Nam is home to two species of Pangolin, *Manis pentadactyla* distributed primarily in Northern provinces and *Manis javanica* found primarily in Southern provinces¹.
4. Both species are protected under Decree 160/2013/NĐ-CP issued by the Government on criteria, list and management of endangered species as species of ‘priority protection’ that prohibits hunting, trading, and transport of Pangolins, their parts and derivatives. Violations are treated as a crime under the Penal Code of Vietnam and may be punished from 6 months to 7 years in jail, fined up to US\$25,000, and removal of business operating licenses.
5. A conservation program for pangolins located in Cuc Phuong National Park of the Viet Nam Administration of Forestry (VNFOREST) leads a number of field studies, conservation breeding, awareness and enforcement support for Pangolins in the country with the support of international donors and state budget. For example, this Program has collaborated on captive research², issued husbandry guidelines³ for rehabilitating Pangolins seized from the illegal wildlife trade and recently completed radio-telemetry field studies investigating the release of rehabilitated Pangolins back to the wild.
6. In December 2013, at the 4th bi-lateral dialogue between Viet Nam and Indonesia on wildlife crime enforcement, both Parties agreed upon the formation of a Joint Task Force to Combat Pangolin Trafficking. A ToR for this task force is being drafted and we hope to raise funds to operationalize this task force.
7. We attach as an Appendix a summary of seizures of Pangolins made by Vietnamese authorities in the period 2010-2013 that highlights the efforts and scale of this trade.

¹ Newton P, Nguyen TV, Robertson S, and Bell D. 2008. Pangolins in peril: using local hunters’ knowledge to conserve elusive species in Vietnam. *Endangered Species Research* 6:41-53.

² Challender DWS. et al. (2011). Time-Budgets and Activity Patterns of Captive Sunda Pangolins (*Manis javanica*). *Zoo Biology* 29 : 1–13

³ Nguyen, V. T, Clark, V. L and Tran. Q. P. (in prep). *Husbandry Manual for Sunda Pangolin, Manis javanica (Desmarest, 1822) Carnivore and Pangolin Conservation Program, Cuc Phuong National Park. Vietnam.*

Annex 1: Seizures of Pangolins made in Viet Nam in the period 2010-2013

Date of seizure	Location of seizure	Province/City	Seized by	Amount of pangolins (individual or kg)	Origin of shipment (If confirmed)
12-May-10	Hai Phong port	Hai Phong	Hai Phong customs department		Indonesia
28-Jul-10	Lao Bao International border gate - Huong Hoa district, Quang Tri province	Quang Tri	Quang Tri economic police		Laos
13-Aug-10	Hanoi St, Linh Trung commune, Thu Duc district, HCMC	HCM City	N/A	13 individuals (over 76kg)	
27-Sep-10	Yen Thanh commune, Uong Bi district	Quang Ninh	Uong Bi police	about 100 individuals	
03-Nov-10	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh environment police	51 individuals (about 100kg)	
19-Nov-10	Thanh Hoa	Thanh Hoa	N/A	6 individuals (28kg)	
18-Jan-11	Km03, National road 8A, Duc Thuan commune, Hong Linh district, Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh	economic police and FPD	2 individuals (over 7kg)	Laos
17-Jan-11	Cha Lo border gate	Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh provincial police	3kg	Laos
20-Jan-11	No 179/13/1 Phan Chu Trinh St., Buon Ma Thuot City	Dak Lak	Buon Ma Thuot police	1 individual (3,5kg)	
24-Mar-11	National road 1A, Ky Anh district, Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh	economic police	14 individuals (50kg)	Laos & Malaysia
08-Jul-11	km205, Hai Lang commune, Tien Yen district, Quang Ninh province	Quang Ninh	transportation police	83 individuals (424 kg)	
10-Aug-11	Nam Phu commune	Thai Binh	Thai Binh border guard	12 individuals (60kg)	
30-Aug-11	National road 1, Lim commune, Tien Du district, Bac Ninh	Bac Ninh	Bac Ninh environment police	500kg	
06-Nov-11	Lang Son	Lang Son	Lang Son transportation police	450kg	
05-Dec-11	Cau Treo international border gate	Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh customs department	11 individuals (50kg)	
11-Dec-11	National Road 8A, Duc Long commune, Duc Tho District	Ha Tinh	PC36	106 individuals (nearly 400kg)	
13-Dec-12	Phap Van - Cau Gie highway, Phu Xuyen District	Hanoi	Hanoi environment police	56 individuals (254kg)	
15-Dec-11	Tao Xuyen commune, Hoang Hoa district	Thanh Hoa	Thanh Hoa economic police	439kg	
28-Dec-11	Tro's home in Van Gia commune, Van Ninh district, Khanh Hoa	Khanh Hoa	Khanh Hoa environment police	40kg (including pangolins and other wildlife)	
30-Dec-11	Cau Treo international border gate, Huong Son district	Ha Tinh	Cau Treo customs department	70 individuals (over 300kg)	
04-Jan-12	Bac Son commune, Bim Son	Thanh Hoa	Thanh Hoa provincial police	10 individuals (52kg)	

	district				
27-Feb-12	National Road 10, Nguyen Giap Commune, Tu Ky district, Hai Duong province	Hai Duong	Hai Duong provincial police	154 individuals (445kg)	
08-Mar-12	Hung Vuong JSC's warehouse, Mong Cai	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh environment police	1,200kg	
14-Mar-12	National Road 1A, Quang Xuong district	Thanh Hoa	Thanh Hoa FPD	41kg	
21-Mar-13	Son's warehouse, Ka long commune, Mong Cai	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh police	5 tonnes including pangolins	
10-Apr-12	Quang Xuong commune, Quang Xuong district	Thanh Hoa	Thanh Hoa FPD	4 individuals (25kg)	
22-Apr-12	Km 445, Nghi Long commune, Nghi Loc district, Nghe An	Nghe An	Nghe An environment police	304kg	
03-Jun-12	Hanoi Train station	Hanoi	Hanoi police	204kg	
30-May-13	National Road 1A	Thanh Hoa	Thanh Hoa FPD	152.5kg (including pangolins)	
19-Jun-13	National Road 10, Luu Kiem commune, Thuy Nguyen district	Hai Phong	Ben Binh transportation police	81 individuals (over 300kg)	
22-Oct-13	National Road 8A, Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh FPD	39 individuals (212.5kg)	
26-Dec-13	National Road 8A, Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh	Ha Tinh FPD and Huong Son district police	100 individuals (450kg)	
16-Jan-13	Phap Van - Cau Gie highway, Thuong Tin district, Hanoi	Hanoi	Hanoi police	263kg of pangolin scale	Laos
27-Jan-13	Ninh-Linh St., Son Giang Commune, Huong Son dist, Ha Tinh province	Ha Tinh	district economic police	100kg	
27-Feb-13	Km127+200, 1A National road, Van Trung commune, Viet Yen district, Bac Giang province	Bac Giang	provincial transportation police	5 individuals (23kg)	
31-Mar-13	Minh Thanh commune, Quang Yen District, Quang Ninh province	Quang Ninh	provincial transportation police	200kg	
25-Apr-13	Lao Bao International border gate - Quang Tri	Quang Tri	Quang Tri Customs Department	N/A	Laos
17-May-13	Bai Chay bridge toll booth	Quang Ninh	Ha Long environment police	23 individuals (80kg)	
28-May-13	Gia Loc district	Hai Duong	Gia Loc district police and FPD	39 individuals (178kg)	
24-Jun-13	Hung's warehouse in Mong Cai district	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh provincial economic police and FPD	57 individuals (375kg)	
17-Jul-13	Tien Yen district	Quang Ninh	Tien Yen district police	96 individual (347kg)	
17-Jul-13	Hai Ha district	Quang Ninh	Hai Ha district police	62 individuals (280kg)	
18-Jul-13	Integrated control station Km15 - Dan Tien dock (Mong Cai)	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh environment police	75 individuals (348.6kg)	
01-Aug-13	Hai Phong port Customs Department, region I	Hai Phong	Hai Phong port Customs Department, region I	6.2 tonnes	Indonesia

14-Aug-13	Hai Hoa commune, Mong Cai, Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh Customs Department and environment police	14 individuals (105kg)	
03-Jul-13	Hanoi	Hanoi		4 individuals (12kg)	
03-Jul-13	Hanoi	Hanoi		6 individuals (25kg)	
03-Jul-13	Hanoi	Hanoi		14 individuals (63kg)	
30-Aug-13	Yen Lenh bridge, Hung Yen city	Hung Yen	Hung Yen economic police	104 Chinese pangolins (233kg)	
01-Oct-13	Integrated control station Km15 - Dan Tien dock (Mong Cai)	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh Customs Department and environment police	44 individuals (261kg)	
23-Sep-13	Hai Phong port	Hai Phong	Hai Phong customs department	3,040kg of pangolins(without scale) & 990kg pangolin scale	
11-Oct-13	Hai Phong port	Hai Phong	Hai Phong customs department	5,900kg of pangolins (without scale)	
22-Oct-13	1 National road, Dong Hoa district, Phu Yen	Phu Yen	Phu Yen transportation police	49 individuals (255.8kg)	
31-Oct-13	Cau Rac bridge toll booth	Ha Tinh	Cam Xuyen district police	25 individuals (nearly 100kg)	
04-Nov-13	Car No7, Train No SE6	Nghe An	Vinh Forest Police Department	50kg	
03-Dec-13	Integrated control station Km15 - Dan Tien dock (Mong Cai)	Quang Ninh	Quang Ninh Customs Department and environment police	124 individuals (487kg)	