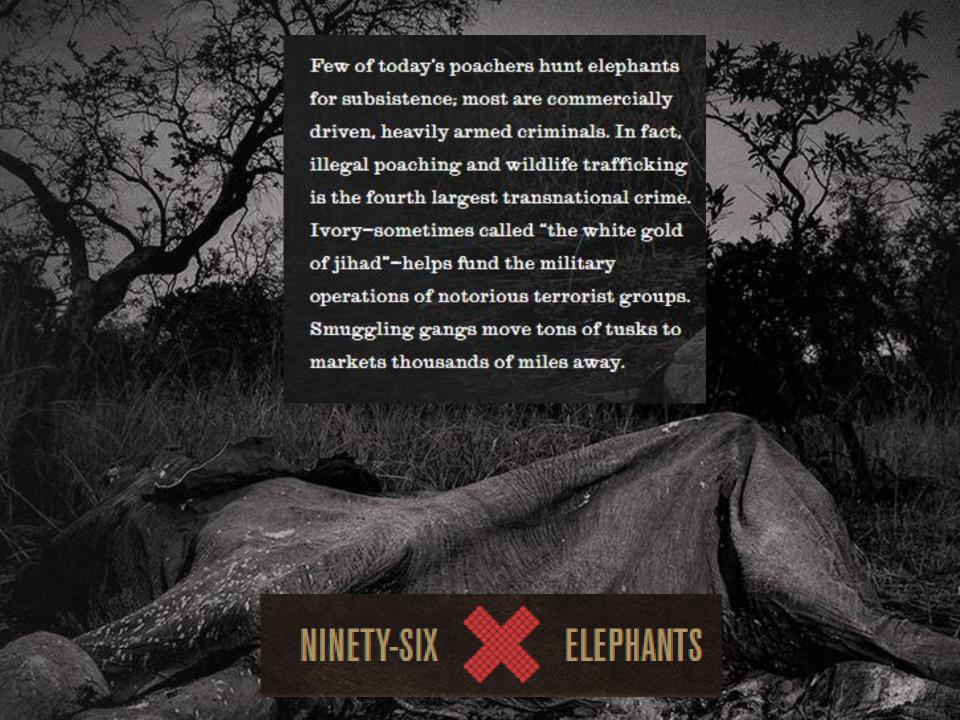
## PARTNERING WITH DOD TO COMBAT WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

Heidi Kretser, Ph.D.

Senior Conservation Scientist
Wildlife Conservation Society
hkretser@wcs.org







#### **NDAA 2015**

SEC. 1014. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY FOR JOINT TASK FORCES <u>SUPPORTING</u>

<u>LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES CONDUCTING</u>

<u>ACTIVITIES TO COUNTER TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED</u>

<u>CRIME</u> TO SUPPORT LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

CONDUCTING COUNTER-TERRORISM ACTIVITIES.

Including the trafficking of money, human trafficking, illicit financial flows, illegal trade in natural resources and wildlife, trade in illegal drugs and weapons, and other forms of illegal means determined by the Secretary of Defense.











### **WCS-MILITARY PARTNERSHIP**



#### **TODAY'S TALK**

 WCS and Conservation in Conflict Zones

- Wildlife Trade Projects to Date
  - Training Program
  - Mobile App

 Future Military Opportunities with NDAA 2015



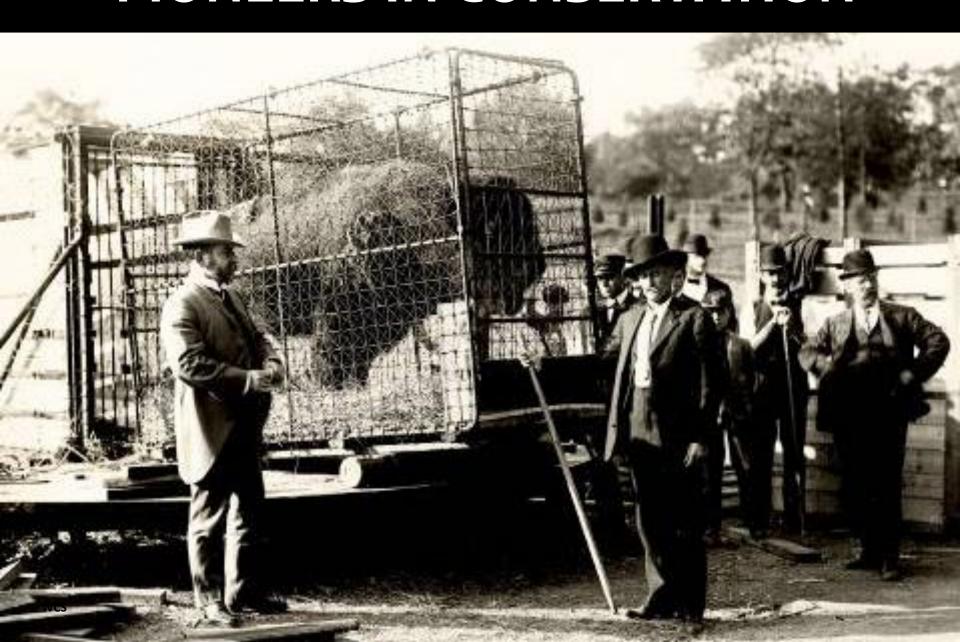
#### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY



#### WCS LIVING INSTITUTIONS



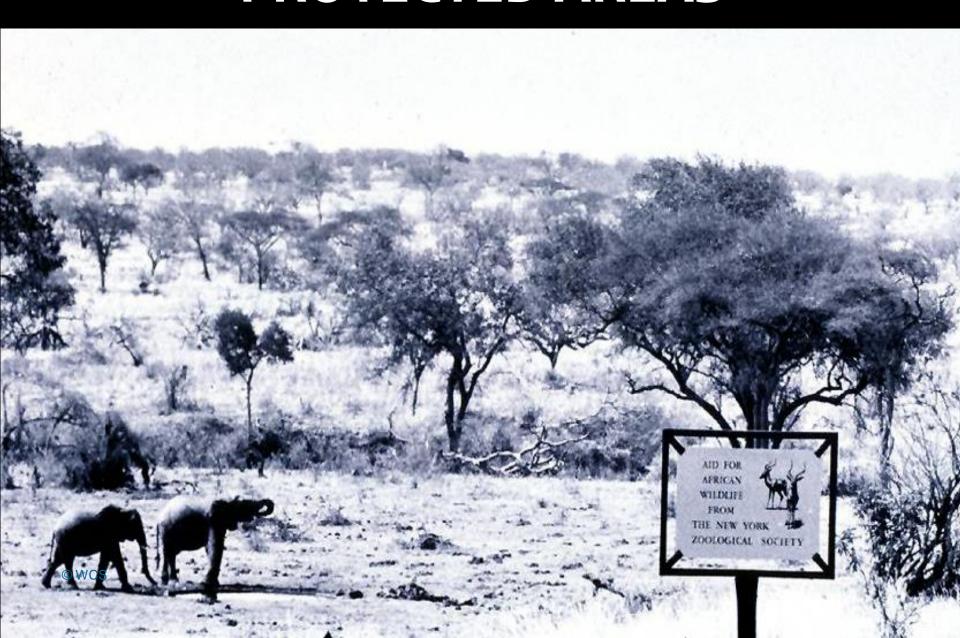
## PIONEERS IN CONSERVATION



## FIELD BIOLOGY



## PROTECTED AREAS











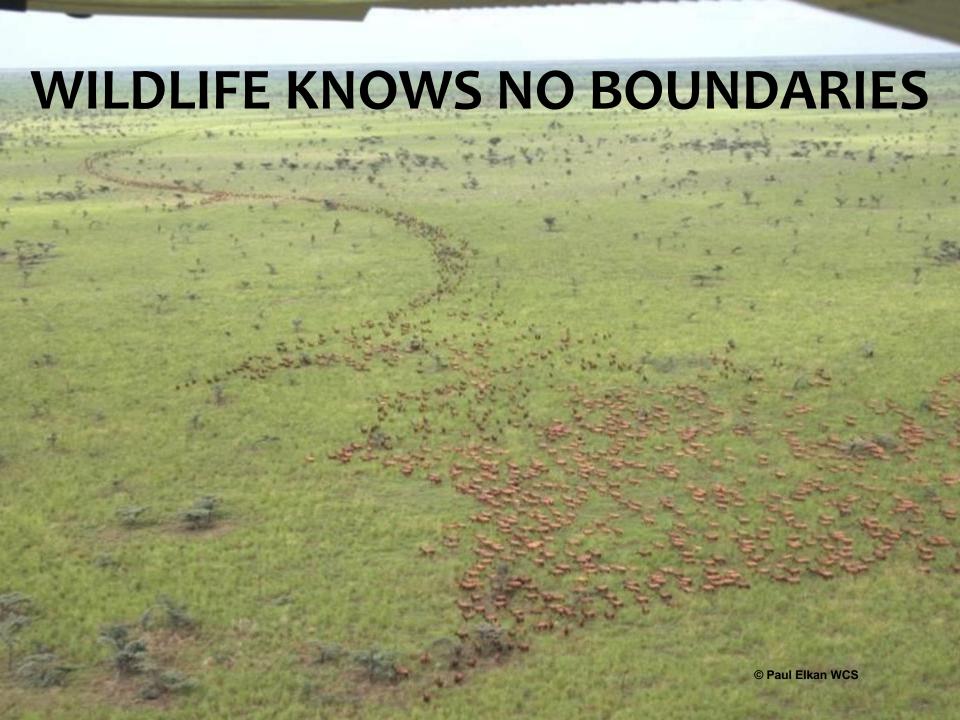




#### **GLOBAL PRESENCE**

65 countries 500+ projects 3,000+ field staff





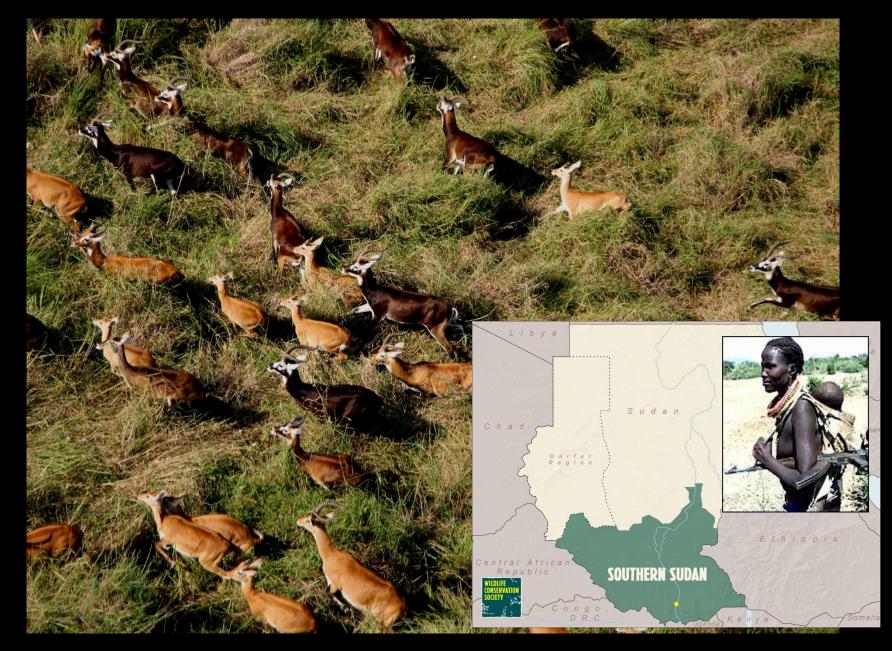
#### WCS IN THE ALBERTINE RIFT



## WCS IN RWANDA



## WCS IN SOUTH SUDAN



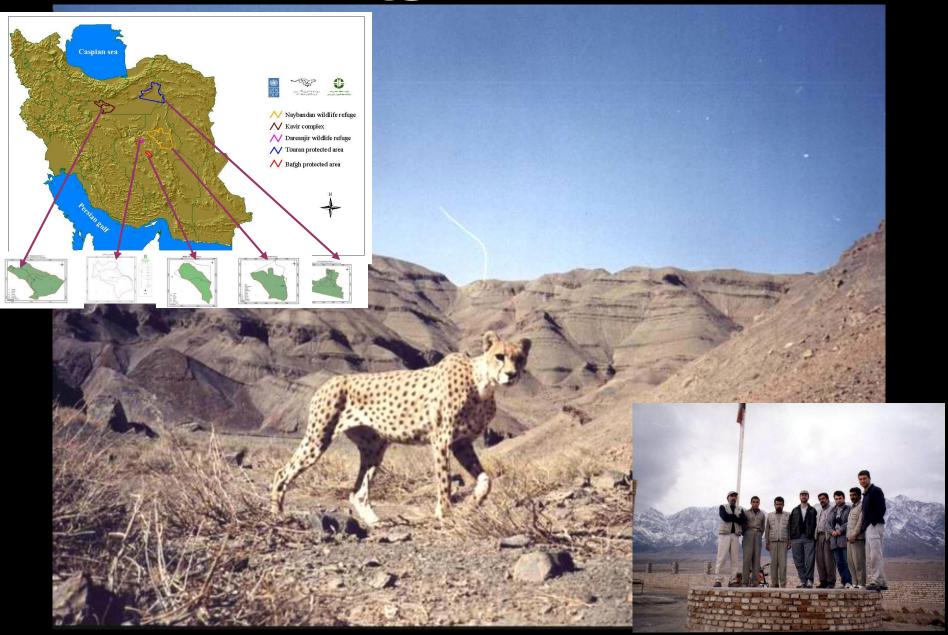
## WCS IN GUATEMALA



## WCS IN MYANMAR



## WCS IN IRAN



## WCS IN AFGHANISTAN





## BIODIVERSITY IN AFGHANISTAN



















### UNKNOWN STATUS OF MOST SPECIES



Caracal



lbex



Indian smooth-coated otter



Stone marten





Eurasian wolf



Brown bear



Houbara bustard



Honey badger



Corsac fox

#### THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY





OVERGRAZING



© Steve Evans

HABITAT LOSS

WAR

#### THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY



**HABITAT LOSS** 

WAR

# WHAT ARE WILDLIFE TRADE PRODUCTS?









## WHAT ARE WILDLIFE TRADE PRODUCTS?



## WHAT ARE WILDLIFE TRADE PRODUCTS?





### INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE TRADE

Sustainable use of flora and fauna is possible when it is subject to regulation and monitoring.

#### Quotas



#### **Trophy Hunting**



## UNREGULATED TRADE CAN HAVE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES...

#### **Invasive Species**

#### **Disease transmission**



Ebola, SARS, Avian Flu, AIDS, Monkeypox



#### **Extinction Risk**



#### **Unethical treatment**



#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE = BIG BUSINESS

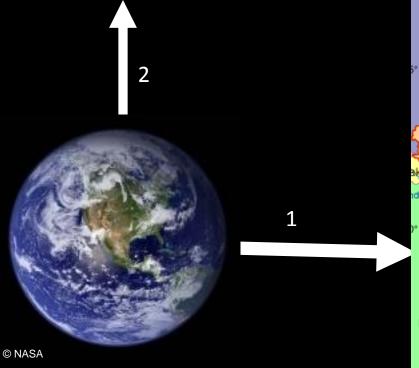


\$USD 18.25 Billion **Estimated** Illegal Trade \$USD 73 Billion Legal Animal Trade \$USD 182 Billion

**Economist 2008** 

#### New Hampshire Washington Massachusetts Maine Montana North Dakota Minnesota Oregon Wisconsin Idaho South Dakota New York Michigan Wyoming Rhode Island Pennsylvania Nebraska Connecticut Nevada Utah columited States Virginia California Kentucky North Carolina West Virginia Tennessee Oklahoma Arizona Arkansas South New Mexico Carolina Alabama Texas Louisiana Alaska Florida Hawaii

# LARGEST CONSUMERS IN THE WORLD





## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

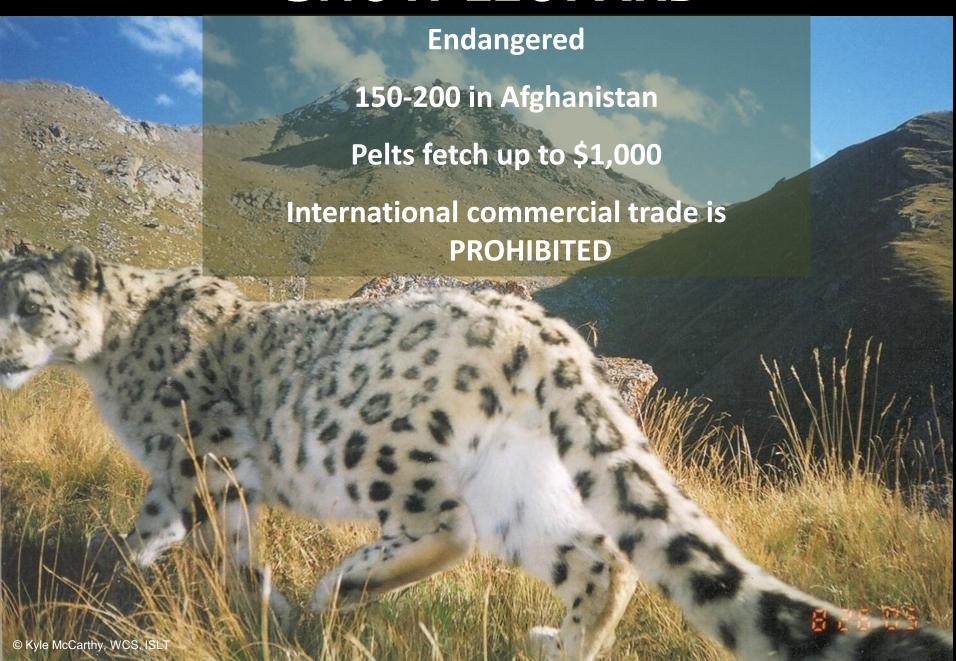
#### Value provides Incentive to Overharvest







## **SNOW LEOPARD**





#### WHAT GOVERNS WILDLIFE TRADE?



- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- ✓ Afghanistan is a signatory
  - Presidential decree
  - Environment Law 2006
- ✓ US is a signatory
  - Endangered Species Act, Lacey Act, USDA

U.S. Military wherever they are, also must abide

## WITH THREATENED SPECIES, WILDLIFE TRADE IS A CRIME



#### A CRIME ANYOME CAN COMMIT



## Former U.S. Defense Attaché at the American Embassy

#### The Price of Ivory

Articles in this
series explore how
the surge in
poaching in Africa
both feeds off and fuels instability
on the continent.

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The traveler's identity was the surprising part: David McNevin, who served as a defense attaché at the American Embassy here. His arrest meant that a former official of a government dedicated to stopping the poaching that has threatened the very existence of Kenya's elephants was engaged in ivory trading himself.

E-MAIL

SHARE

PRINT

REPRINTS

YEARS A
SLAVE

WATCH THE TRAILER

The timing of the arrest was particularly incongruous. On the same day, July 1, that Mr. McNevin was arraigned, President Obama was in neighboring Tanzania <u>pledging an</u> <u>additional \$10 million in aid</u> to help halt wildlife trafficking

### TRADE IN AFGHANISTAN

Unable to control wildlife trade.

Military and foreign aid workers unknowingly contribute to the problem.



Bagram Bazaar

## WILDLIFE PRODUCTS WIDELY AVAILABLE



## WILDLIFE PRODUCTS WIDELY AVAILABLE



## WCS-MILITARY ENGAGEMENT



## TRAINING IN THEATER



## MILITARY POLICE TRAINING



### PROTECT SOLDIERS BY LIMITING SUPPLY



Illegal wildlife export may lead to fines of up to \$250,000 & imprisonment

### **DEMAND STILL EXISTS**

- Fort Drum Survey
- > 40% had purchased wildlife products or knew someone who did
- 12% had heard of CITES
- Mostly furs (Kretser et al. 2012)

#### U.S. Military Personnel's Experiences with Wildlife and Wildlife Products

This survey has been prepared by the Wildlife Conservation Society, a United States based international 501c3 non-profit organization operating from its flagship headquarters the Bronx Zoo.

This questionnaire explores the familiarity and encounters with the potential sale or consumption of wildlife products by United States military personnel who have been stationed overseas. If you have not been stationed overseas for the U.S. Military, you do not need to



### **DOD INTEREST & SUPPORT**

5 contracts since2009

\$400K investment

 Systematic approach to outreach and training



## **ON THE ROAD**



### TRAINING MATERIALS

- Smart Cards/Pocket Cards
- DA Form 4856
- **Training Fact Sheet**



-General Order 1-R-2 -Defense Travel Regulation 4500.9-R:3

You are not exempt! Military personnel are not exempt from these laws and can faces fines for violating them: up to \$250,000, 20 years in prison, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice.





#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Advise Soldiers to avoid purchasing items from on-base or off-base vendors selling wildlife items.

Do not purchase any items containing wildlife. Local vendors are not monitored and proper identification of legal wildlife parts is difficult.

Even if the vendors say a product is ok, it might contain pieces of threatened or endangered wildlife. Purchasing such an item is breaking the law.

Live by the motto: Leave Wildlife in the Wild when you are shopping overseas. Spread the word about this issue. isit www.wcswildlifetrade.org/military

to learn more about illegal wildlife trade.

#### LEAVE WILDLIFE IN THE WILD







Leopards, wolves, owls, wild cats, bears, and snakes are some of the awe-inspiring creatures found in Afghanistan and Iraq. International laws protect these animals because they are threatened or endangered due to years of conflict, habitat loss, and hunting. Wildlife products made from these animals are illegal

Trade in illegal wildlife products is associated with trade in illegal arms, drugs, and may fuel corruption and support insurgencies. When you buy an item, more animals will be killed to meet demand and your money may end up in the hands of those you are fighting against!



#### For use of this form, see FM 22-100; the proponent agency is TRADOC DATA REQUIRED BY THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 5 USC 301, Departmental Regulations; 10 USC 3013, Secretary of the Army and E.O. 9397 (SSN) PRINCIPAL PURPOSE To assist leaders in conducting and recording counseling data pertaining to subordinate ROUTINE USES: For subordinate leader development IAW FM 22-100. Leaders should use this form as necessary Disclosure is voluntary DISCLOSURE PART I - ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

includes the leader's facts and observations prior to the counseling

#### PART III - SUMMARY OF COUNSELING

Complete this section during or immediately subsequent to cou

Wildlife products include all items made from wild animals or parts of wild animals. This includes, but is not limited to: fur coats, hats, blankets and rugs; pelts, skins, hides, and leathered items; taxidermy or stuffed wildlife; antiers, horns, shells, ivory, bone, feathers, claws, or teeth; meat products or medicines derived from wildlife, and any other animal product trophy items.

In Alphanistan those items, especially fure, are widely available for purchase as no management mechanisms exist to control the trade of threstened an endangent edge-circle. Once you purchase the item the damages it does, more minuths will be kulled to meet demand and the mosey may red up in either hands of those you are fighting against. Trade in itlegal wildlife grants has been associated with trade in itlegal arms and drugs. Increasing evidence suggests the profits of itlegal wildlife trade support insurgencies and full corruption. Do not support the enempt "us., Increasing evidence suggests the profits of itlegal wildlife trade support insurgencies and full corruption. Do not support the enempt "us.".

Laws:

I. The Conservation on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fanna and Flora (CITES-pronounced like cities but with a long T sound): Regulates informational trade in animals and plants. As of 2009, 175 countries have ratified this including the United States and

2. U.S. Endangered Species Act: Forbids federal agencies from carrying out actions that 'jeopardize the continued existence of' threatened and endangered species, including species not found in the U.S.

3. Lacey Act: States all U.S. citizens must abide by all wildlife laws of the country they are in as well as U.S. laws when they are out of the co

Military personnel are NOT exempt from these laws and can face stiff penalties (up to \$250,000 and 20 years in prison) for violating these laws

General Order 1-B: 2. Prohibited Activities, i. Adopting as gets or mascots, caring for, or feeding any type of domestic or wild animal.

Furthermore - Soldiers may be subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice for violating the following DoD rules:

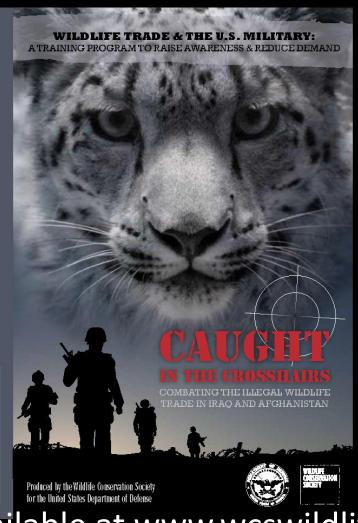
Defense Travel Regulation 6500-98: A Agricultural Restrictions and Prohibitions; at J. Animal and Poultry Products. United States Department of Agricultural Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHSI) restricts entry of animals, postarly, beth's eggs, with blot forthers, poultry products and hyproducts, and mirral products and byproducts, to include ment extracts, secretions (including milk and cheese), untanned hides, untanned skins, wood, hati, bone, and homes. (There are no USDA APHSI restrictions on animal rephies that are full-finished for display.) There are, ever, US Fish and Wildlife Service restrictions and prohibitions on the importation of mounted birds and animals, including elephant ivory,

USCENTCOM REG 600-10: Appendix E; USCENTCOM PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED ITEMS LIST Prohibits the possession or shipment of Animals: Live, Dead or Parts. It also enforces restrictions inflicted by USDA, APHIS, and CITES

This form will be destroyed upon: reassignment (other than rehabilitative transfers), separation at ETS, or upon retirement. For separation requirements and notification of loss of benefits/consequences see local directives and AR 635-200

Available at www.wcswildlifetrade.org/military

## TRAINING MATERIALS







Available at www.wcswildlifetrade.org/military

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- 20,000 direct contacts pre deployment
- 1,500 direct contacts in theater
- 7,200+ views on YouTube
- Training packets to 130 installations
- AFRICOM, CENTCOM, PACCOM, SOUTHCOM
- US Army Africa
- Joint Environmental Considerations during Deployment Operations

## FIELD CHALLENGE



### **ENFORCEMENT NEED**

A tool to provide animal part recognition, species ID, and case reporting



## ENFORCEMENT TOOLS MOBILE APP TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIMES







#### **APP OBJECTIVES**

Phase I: Support military police to identify potentially illegal animal species parts in wildlife trade products

Phase II: Facilitate recognition of potentially illegal items by broader military community

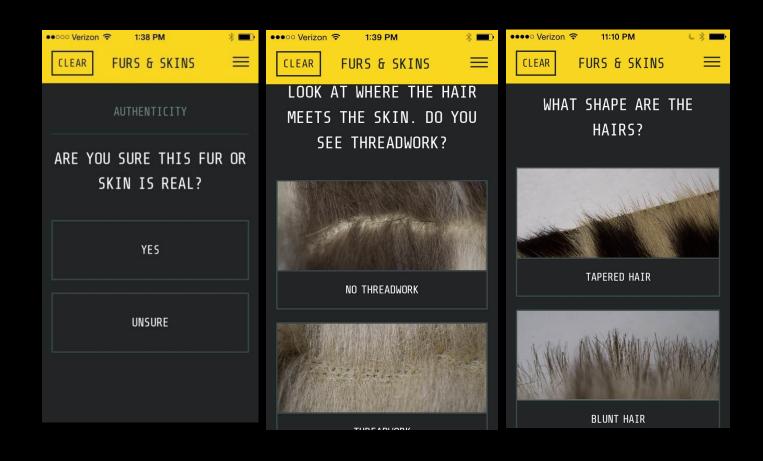
Phase III: Document the supply chain for broader action against illegal wildlife trade

#### **APP FUNCTIONS: OPTIONS**

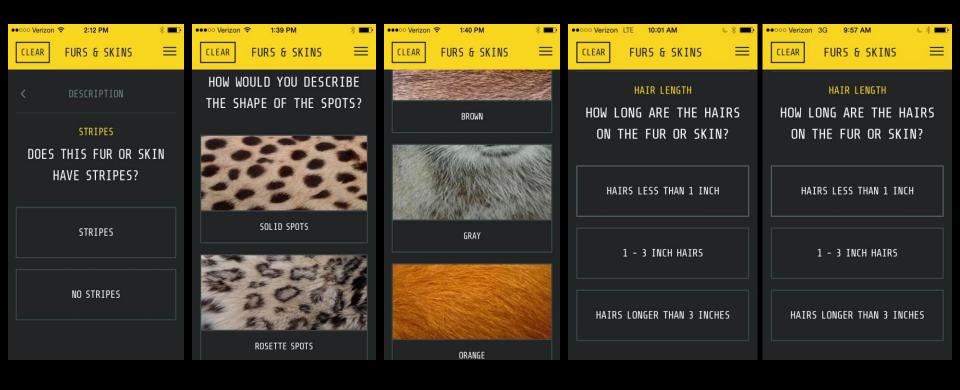


- Furs & Skins real vs. fake and most comprehensive with species ID
- Horns, Antlers, Tusks real vs. fake, some species ID
- Shells and Scales real vs. fake
- Birds commonly traded species
- Feedback

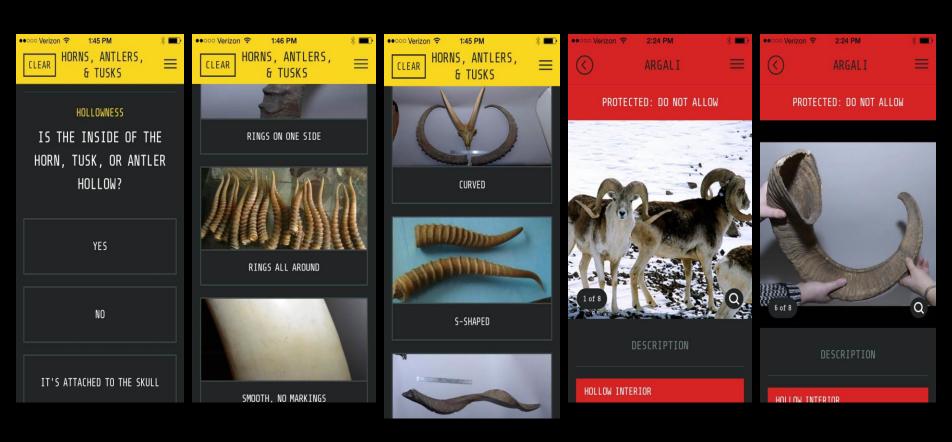
### **APP FUNCTIONS: REAL OR FAKE?**



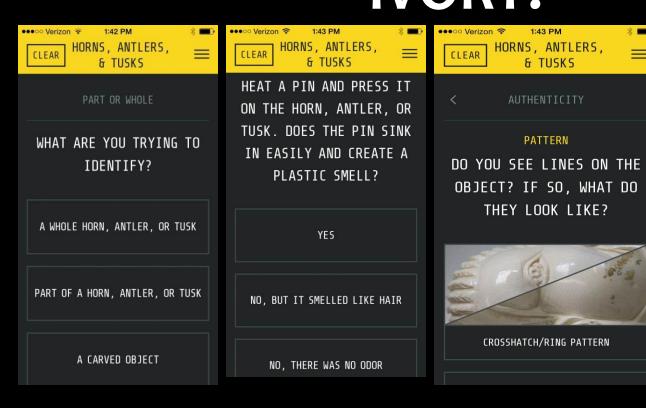
## APP FUNCTIONS: FUR DIAGNOSTICS

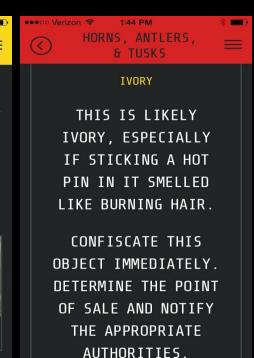


## APP FUNCTIONS: HORNS, ANTLERS & TUSKS

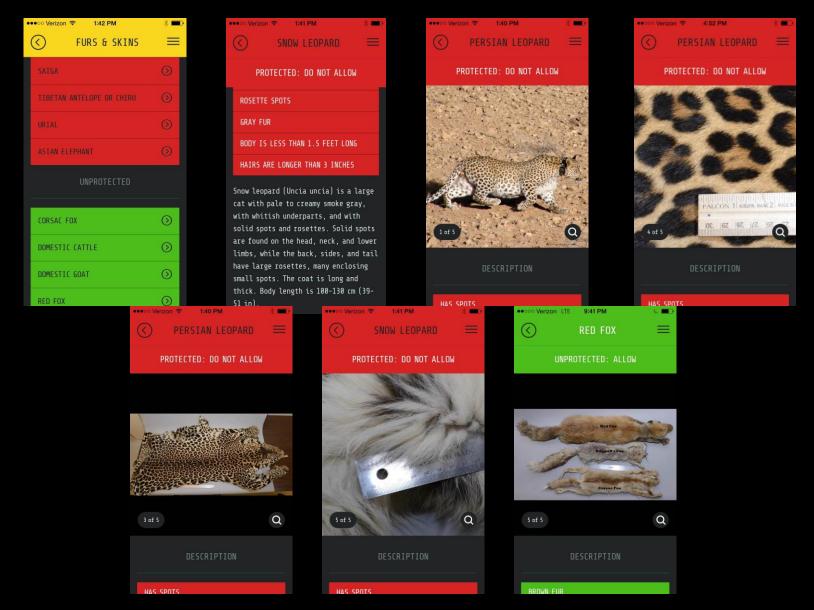


## APP FUNCTIONS: REAL OR FAKE IVORY?





### **APP FUNCTIONS – PICK A MATCH**

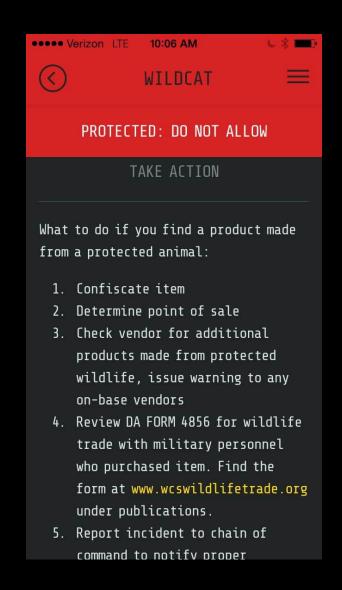


#### APP FUNCTIONS – TAKE ACTION

Steps to follow within DoD

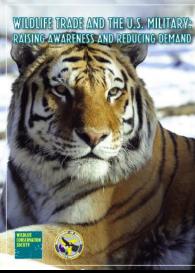
 Expansion needed to include Geolocation and Ask the Expert functions

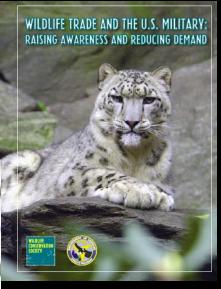
 Eventually should link to a central database



## TRAINING PACKETS









Around the World, wildlife populations are declining yet you can find and buy products made from threatened or endangered species

WINDLIFE TRADE AND THE U.S. MILITARY: RAISING AWARENESS AND REDUCING DEMAND



Around the World, Wildlife populations are declining yet you can find and buy products made from threatened or endangered species

Penaltics are high for breaking wildlife trade laws, up to \$250,000 fine and prison time.

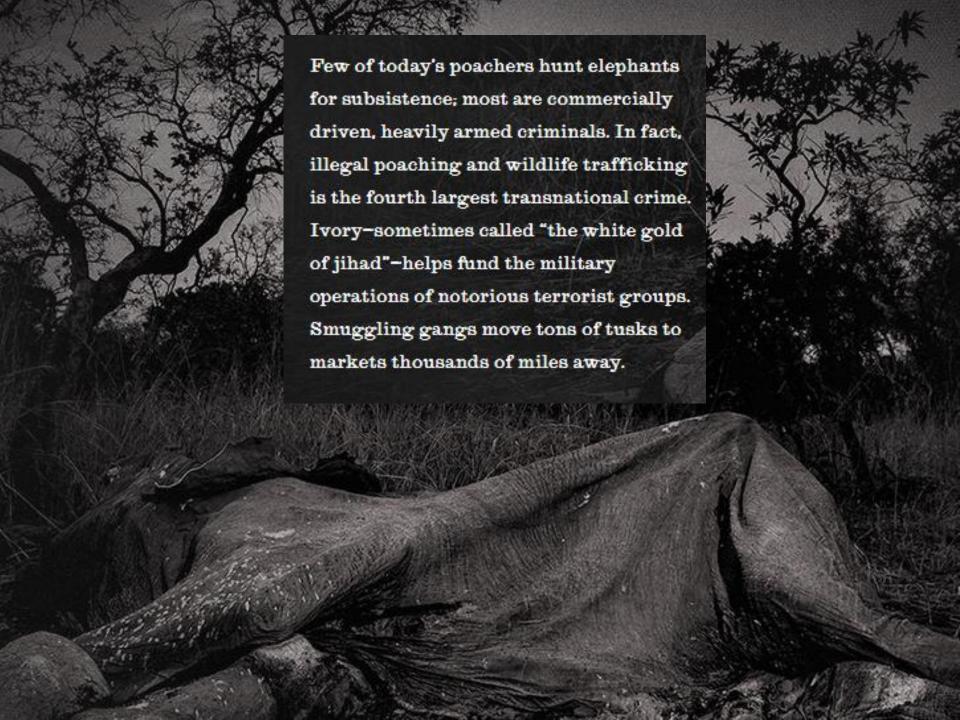
Purchase alternative items such as hand-crafted carpets, jewelry,



www.weswildlifetrade.org/military



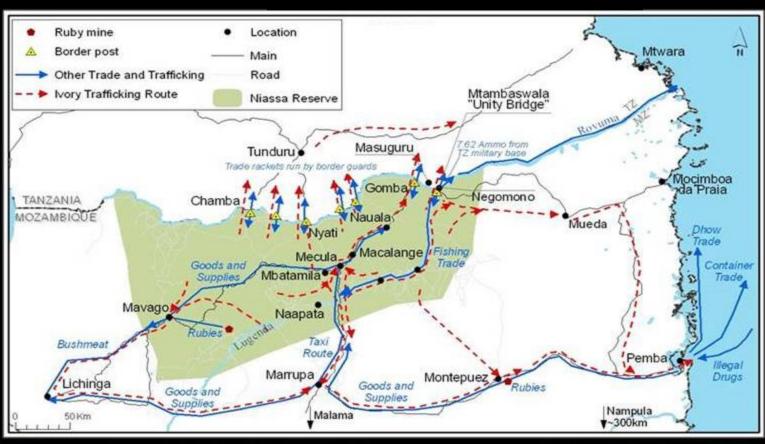
www.dodlegacy.org DoD Legacy Program Staff: Legacy@osd.mil



## EXECUTIVE ORDER & NATIONAL STRATEGY

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR COMBATING WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING FEBRUARY 2014

### **ORGANIZED CRIME**







Tanzania, aerialviev

Road to ldecide, the best quality road in Nisssa Reserve







Ivory trafficking networks in Northern Mozambique overlap with drug trafficking and other illicit networks, and exacerbate corruption, poor governance, and border insecurity.

#### REFURBISH MATERIALS

#### **Smart Cards/Pocket Cards**

#### **Business Cards**



#### IMPORTANT LAWS GOVERNING WILDLIFE TRADE

International and US Laws:

- -The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Hora (CFES)
- 4).5. Endangered Species Act. Liesy Act.

#### MILITARY REGULATIONS:

General Order + Biz Deferme Travel Regulation #500.9 R y

#### YOU ARE NOT EXEMPTE



#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

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Even if the vendors say a product is ok, it might contain pieces of threatened or endangered wildlife. Purchasing such an item is breaking the law.







#### WILDLIFE DIVERSITY IN AFRICA

Trade in plegal wildlife products is linked to to meet dentand and your money may and up to the hands of those you are flatting





IF YOU BUY PRODUCTS MADE OF SEA TURTLES OR OTHER WILDLIFE MATERIALS WHILE TRAVELING OVERSEAS, YOU ARE VIOLATING US, EU, AND INTERNATIONAL LAWS, AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PENALTIES, INCLUDING JAIL TIME. STOP ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE.

QUICKLY AND RELIABLY IDENTIFY ILLEGAL WILDLIFE PRODUCTS WITH WILDLIFE ALERT

FIND OUT MORE AT WWW.WCSWILDLIFETRADE.ORG/MILITARY





DOWNLOAD THE APP WILDLIFE ALERT wildlifealert.com







- Fur cours, bars, blankets and rugs Pelts, skins, bides and leather intms Taxidening or stuffed wildlife
- Trophy items such as antiers, homs, shells, mory, bone, feathers, claws or teeth
- Meat products or medicines made from wildlife parts

#### PURCHASE NIGH QUALITY ALTERNATIVE ITEMS AS SOUVENIRS FOR YOUR FAMILY AND TRIENDS:

- Hand-woven carpers and rugs Jewelry and bankets
- Other handcrafted irems

LIVELINOODS, REPRESENT LOCAL DRIVER AND ARE SAFE TO BRING INTO THE UNITED STATES

#### SUPPORT THE LOCAL ECONOMY, PROTECT WILDLIFE, PROTECT YOURSELF.









## **EXPANDING TO AFRICA**



### FUTURE MILITARY ENGAGEMENT

#### Internal

- New Website
- Deploy training materials more broadly (e.g., military police)
- Expand outreach materials (e.g., Africa and Asia Pacific)
- APO training
- App database

#### **External**

- Wildlife crimes & insurgencies
- Poaching hotspots
- Surveillance in danger zones
- Mil to Mil training
- Support of Law Enforcement - NDAA

### BENEFITS TO MILITARY

- 1) Support the NDAA to counter transnational crime
- 2) Support the National Strategy
- 3) Reduce organized crime related to wildlife, cultural antiquities, drugs, humans
- 4) Support compliance with U.S. and international laws
- 5) Contribute to the 'Winning Hearts and Minds' mission

## SUMMARY

- WCS works in countries of conflict
- U.S. military presence can contribute to conservation problems
- Systematic approach to address issue of wildlife trade in the military
- Innovative training partnership with DoD
- Many options for DoD engagement in combating wildlife crimes; NDAA

## THANK YOU

