



EAGLE

November 2020
EAGLE Network

Wildlife Law Enforcement Briefing

- ✓ *3 wildlife traffickers arrested in two countries*
- ✓ *A notorious and longtime parrot trafficker arrested in Cameroon*
- ✓ *An ivory trafficker arrested with 5 tusks in Gabon*
- ✓ *An ivory trafficker arrested with 13 pieces of elephant ivory in Gabon*



Summary

3 wildlife traffickers were arrested in two countries.

A notorious and longtime parrot trafficker was arrested in Cameroon following the arrest of two parrot traffickers in September. After evading justice for several weeks, he was finally arrested when leaving his home early morning. His arrest followed the arrests of a seller illegally selling African Grey Parrots and a second trafficker at his residence where the parrots were hidden. They both revealed the identity of the supplier of the parrots, after which the examining judge issued an arrest warrant for this significant trafficker, who had been involved in the illegal parrot business in the country for decades.



A notorious and longtime parrot trafficker was arrested in Cameroon

An ivory trafficker arrested with 5 tusks, cut in 15 pieces, in Gabon. The trafficker of Malian nationality was arrested in the act in the capital city. He remains in jail awaiting trial.

An ivory trafficker arrested with 13 pieces of elephant ivory in Gabon. We still don't know why the ivory was covered with the black material. In the past some



An ivory trafficker arrested with 13 pieces of elephant ivory in Gabon.

paint on contraband has been used as a black magic protection for the traffickers - that didn't work so well for them as they were jailed. A shotgun was seized in the trafficker's house.

Cameroon – LAGA

- A notorious and longtime parrot trafficker arrested following the arrest of two parrot traffickers in September. After evading justice for several weeks, he was finally arrested when leaving his home early morning. His arrest followed the arrests of a seller illegally selling African Grey Parrots and a second trafficker at his residence where the parrots were hidden. They both revealed the identity of the supplier of the parrots, after which the examining judge issued an arrest warrant for this significant trafficker, who had been involved in the illegal parrot business in the country for decades.
- The Deputy Director held a meeting with a wildlife law enforcement expert assisting a conservation project around the Mt. Cameroon reserve.
- He also met with the new project manager of the Tikki Hywood Foundation, who recently arrived the country.
- The Deputy Director participated at a meeting aimed at relaunching the activities of the Cameroon Pangolin Working Group that ceased following the advent of the novel coronavirus.
- The Deputy Director held a Zoom presentation titled Parrot Trafficking in Cameroon; an Insight into the Illegal Trade during a virtual workshop organized by the World Parrot Trust together with the Nigerian CITES Management Authority and the Nigerian Conservation Foundation. The workshop was primarily focused on disseminating information from recent research in Nigeria into the status and threats to Grey parrots including (but not limited to) the threat of trade.



Congo – PALF

- The Coordinator and the Legal Team held a series of meetings with authorities, including several Departmental directors of Water and Forest, several State Counsels and others.

Gabon – AALF

- An ivory trafficker arrested with 5 tusks, cut in 15 pieces. The trafficker of Malian nationality was arrested in the act in the capital city. He remains in jail awaiting trial.
- An ivory trafficker arrested with 13 pieces of elephant ivory in the South of the country. We still don't know why the ivory was covered with the black material. In the past some paint on contra-



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An ivory trafficker arrested with 13 pieces of elephant ivory

band has been used as a black magic protection for the traffickers - that didn't work so well for them as they were jailed. A shotgun was seized in the trafficker's house.

- An ivory trafficker was sentenced to 2 years in jail. He was arrested in October this year with 4 tusks.
- 3 ivory traffickers were prosecuted, two of them sentenced to 2 years in jail, one to 6 months. They were arrested in September with 6 tusks.
- Another three ivory traffickers, arrested in August this year, were sentenced to two years in jail.
- 3 ivory traffickers, arrested in September this year with 6 tusks, were sentenced to 2 years in jail.
- The Director met with several authorities and partners: the Minister of Environment, UNODC representative in Libreville, EU officers and Ambassador, General Director of Wildlife and Protected

Areas, General Prosecutor of Appeal Court in Libreville, Technical Director of National Parks, EC-CEAS (CEEAC) Commissioner for Environment

- The Legal team held a series of meetings with high authorities including the Director General of Wildlife and Protected Areas, the Anti-poaching Director, the Provincial Directors of Water and Forests, several State Counsels and Judges, Judicial Police Officers and others.
- The Activities Coordinator held a meeting with the head of the wildlife brigade of Ndangui and the Wildlife Manager of the Precious Woods-CEB forest company.
- He also held a meeting with the State Counsel of the Court of First Instance of Mouila to plan organization of the training workshop for Judicial Police Officers.

Togo – EAGLE Togo

- The Assistant Coordinator held a meeting with the Deputy Director of the Central Office for the Repression of Illicit Drug Traffic and Money Laundering (OCRTIDB). They discussed possibilities for better collaboration in investigations.
- The Assistant Coordinator met with the Director of the DCPJ-Interpol to discuss how to collaborate

and evolve on investigations for important leads in Togo.

- The Assistant Coordinator also held meetings with the Deputy Regional Director of Environment of Kara and the public prosecutor at Kara Magistrates' Court to discuss the case of KOMNA Baba et al.

Senegal – EAGLE Senegal

- An intense recruitment of investigators, legal advisors and a media officer took place in November

and will continue in December. One legal advisor and an investigator started their test period.

Benin – AALF-B

4 ivory traffickers were sentenced to one year in jail. They were arrested in October with 6 tusks.

- The Legal Team held a series of meetings with high authorities, including several State Counsels and their secretaries, the Legal Officer of the W Park Directorate, the Legal Officer of the Forestry

Inspectorate of Donga, the representation of the forestry administration, the Legal Officer of the Borgou Forest Inspectorate, the Secretary of the Registry of the Supreme Court, the Legal Officer of the General Directorate of Water, Forests and Hunting and others.

Côte d'Ivoire – EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire

- The Coordinator and the Assistant Coordinator met with the OIPR, the Ivorian administration in charge of the management of the parks and reserves, to discuss collaboration between EAGLE-Côte d'Ivoire and OIPR.
- An intense recruiting continued and an online investigator, two legal advisors and a media officer started their test period this month.

Burkina Faso - EAGLE Burkina Faso

- An investigator became a member of the team as he finished his test period in November.
- The Coordinator held meetings with officials from the Ministry of the Environment to follow up the case of the 11 ivory points seized in October 2020.

THE EAGLE Network

EAGLE: Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement, is a network of members across Africa, who are replicating effectively a program and operational model to undertake wildlife law enforcement, which is based on the LAGA-Cameroon model, trailed, practiced and tested since 2003. The EAGLE Network currently operates in nine African countries and keeps expanding.

The over-arching objective of the EAGLE Network is: *Developing civic activism and collaborating with governments and civil society to improve the application of national and international environmental legislation, through a program of activities: investigations, arrests, prosecutions and publicity. Through this, EAGLE aims to generate a strong deterrent against the illegal*

trade in wildlife, timber and related criminal activities, including corruption.

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