Evaluation standards methods for valuation of terrestrial wildlife and wildlife products (consultation draft)

Article 1. These evaluation standards and methods are formulated for the purposes of regulating the valuation of lawfully seized catches, terrestrial wildlife and wildlife products, and providing unified evaluation standards and methods to ensure the objectivity and fairness of the valuations, in accordance with Article 56 of the Wildlife Protection Law of the People’s Republic of China.

Article 2. These evaluation standards and methods are for use in the valuation of catches, terrestrial wildlife or wildlife products lawfully seized by forestry departments under the people’s government at county level and above.

The catches, terrestrial wildlife and wildlife products referred to in these evaluation standards refer to:
1) terrestrial wildlife under special state protection and the products thereof;
2) terrestrial wildlife under special local protection and the products thereof;
3) terrestrial wildlife of important ecological, scientific or social value and the products thereof;
4) terrestrial wildlife imported from other countries (included species listed on Appendices I, II and III of CITES or other terrestrial species imported from other countries) and the products thereof.

Article 3. The State Forestry Administration is responsible for the formulation, publishing and adjustment of the list of benchmark values for catches, terrestrial wildlife and wildlife products.

Article 4. Valuation standards for catches and terrestrial wildlife (including live and dead specimens) are calculated by multiplying the benchmark value by an appropriate number of times for that type of animal: Terrestrial species under first-class state protection are valued at 10 times the benchmark value for that type of animal; terrestrial species under second-class state protection are valued at 5 times the benchmark value for that type of animal; terrestrial species under special local protection are valued at 2 times the benchmark value for that type of animal; terrestrial species of important ecological, scientific or social value are valued at the benchmark value for that type of animal.

Where wildlife imported from other countries is confirmed as a species under special state protection, valuation is based on the benchmark valuation for species under special state protection.

Article 5. The State Forestry Administration shall amend the list of benchmark
values of catches and terrestrial wildlife every five years, based on amendments to lists of species under special state protection and CITES appendices.

Article 6. For animal parts which have a special utilization value or major body parts that caused the death of the wildlife, the valuation standard will be 80% that of the benchmark standard for that type of animal. Valuation standards for other parts shall be 20% of the benchmark standard for that type of animal. Body parts with special utilization value or that caused the death of the animal shall be determined by the forestry department under the people’s government of the province, autonomous region or municipality.

Article 7. Where terrestrial wildlife species or wildlife products have values set by the state, they shall be valued according to these values. Where there is no such state-set value, they shall be valued according to market values.

In cases of illegal activity involving wildlife and where there is a sales price for catches, terrestrial wildlife and wildlife products, the values shall be based on these sales prices, except where the sale price is below the state-set, market or benchmark value.

Article 8. Valuation standards for captive-bred terrestrial wildlife and the products thereof shall be valued at 50% of the standards set out in Articles 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Article 9. Valuation standards for species listed on CITES Appendix I, II or III, and other wildlife imported from other countries and the products thereof shall, at the point of entry and exit, be based upon valuation standards for wildlife under special state and local protection and wildlife of special ecological, scientific and social value as set out in Articles 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Article 10. Valuation standards for species listed on CITES Appendices I, II and III that are not naturally distributed in China and are not included on the valuation standards list under Article 4 shall be published in a timely manner by the State Forestry Administration, in accordance with changes to the CITES appendices. Prior to the publication of these standards, valuation may refer to standards for congener species. If the species has no taxonomic congener, valuation may refer to standards for species in the same family. If there are no species in the same taxonomic family, valuation may refer to standards for species in the same taxonomic order.

Article 11. The total value of different wildlife parts from a single individual animal seized in a single case of illegal activity may not exceed the value for an individual animal of that type.
Article 12. Values of catches, terrestrial wildlife and wildlife products shall be determined by the forestry department responsible for handling cases of illegal activity involving wildlife, based on these evaluation standards and methods. Where the value cannot be determined or the person involved in illegal activity has an objection, a professional third-party agency may be jointly commissioned to check and ratify the valuation.

Article 13. These evaluation standards and methods shall come into force on XX 2017.