



SUMMARY OF TIGER FARMING TIMELINE - updated September 2019

Year	Milestones
1949	China has an estimated 4,000 wild tigers at founding of the People's Republic of China.
1950s	Government offers bounty for killing tigers.
1977	Government cancels bounty after dramatic decrease in tiger numbers noticed.
1981	China accedes to CITES.
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government establishes conservation-breeding program for rare South China tiger in Chongqing Zoo. • US zoos ship Siberian tigers to zoos in China.
1985	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China Crude Drugs Company announces national scarcity of wild animals and plants used in traditional medicine, including tigers. • US zoos ship more Siberian tigers to China.
1986	China's first commercial tiger farm is established in Heilongjiang Province with support from Ministry of Forestry.
1987	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITES adds Siberian tiger to Appendix I, banning all international commercial trade in tigers and their parts and products. • Chinese National Pharmaceutical Bureau gives Beijing Pharmaceutical Company remit to utilize tiger farming to solve shortage of tiger bones. • Indian authorities apprehend poachers with tiger skeletons.
1989	<i>Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protections of Wildlife</i> comes into effect, encouraging breeding, "domestication" and use of endangered species.
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India and Nepal report poachers killing tigers for bones to smuggle into China. • Manager of Heilongjiang farm says he will seek CITES' permission to sell tiger bones and skins internationally to finance expansion of tiger breeding.
1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing amounts of tiger bone seized in India and Nepal en route to China. • Manager of Heilongjiang farm shows off ledger with growing number of buyers ordering tiger bones and skins.
1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation breeding of South China tiger at Chongqing Zoo stopped due to cut in government funding. • China seeks CITES registration for Heilongjiang farm to allow trade in tiger parts and products internationally but withdraws proposal before Parties vote. • NGO lawyers petition US government to bring trade sanctions against China for its domestic trade in tiger bone because it undermines CITES' trade ban.

1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiger specialists sound alarm at poaching crisis in India, Nepal and Russia driven by demand for bones to make traditional Chinese medicines. • CITES Standing Committee notes “deep concern” over poaching of wild tigers for their bones. • US government and CITES threaten trade sanctions against China for legal domestic tiger trade that is fueling poaching, smuggling and illegal international trade. • China’s State Council issues notification banning domestic trade in tiger bones and removes tiger bone from traditional medicine pharmacopeia. • CITES Standing Committee orders China to secure all stocks of tiger bones and derivatives, and then sends missions to inspect compliance. • New York Zoological Society issues statement against tiger farming, dismissing it as no more than a “business venture”. • Captive-breeding facility that will become China’s largest tiger farm is established in Guangxi Province.
1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIME Magazine cover pronounces wild tigers “Doomed!” due to high demand for tiger bone used in traditional Chinese medicine. • United States and CITES drop threats of trade sanctions against China, citing improved control of domestic tiger-bone trade. • CITES adopts first tiger resolution, calling on Parties to voluntarily prohibit domestic trade in tiger parts and derivatives to stem international poaching and illegal trade. • Government agencies in China give Heilongjiang tigerfarm funding to sustain its tiger-breeding operations.
1996	Provincial government permits Heilongjiang tiger farm to open Siberian Tiger Park to support expansion of tiger breeding.
1997	Government officials deny visas to Chinese nationals registered for TRAFFIC’s Hong Kong symposium on substitutes for tiger bone in medicine.
1998	New tiger farm is established in China’s Liaoning Province.
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guangxi Province tiger farm’s population reaches 171. • Evidence of a massive resurgence in illegal trade in tiger and leopard skins from India and Nepal into China.
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second tiger farm in Liaoning Province is established. • Indian authorities seize 4 tiger, 74 leopard and 221 otter skins, along with tiger and leopard bones and thousands of claws in Khaga, Uttar Pradesh.
2001	Former fashion executive founds project to send South China tigers from the Shanghai Zoo to South Africa for “rewilding” and eventual release into wild in China.
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of China’s tiger farms reaches at least 600. • Sino-Thai business venture establishes farm in China’s Hainan Province with stated goal of breeding more than 200,000 tigers.
2003	State Forestry Administration issues notification announcing a marking scheme for legal trade in “labeled “wildlife parts and products.
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Forestry Administration issues notification extending marking scheme to allow Guangxi Province tiger farm’s distillery to sell “bone-strengthening” wine. • Traders in China describe increasing demand among Chinese buyers for tiger skins to decorate sofas.
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiger population in China’s farms reaches 2,000. • State Forestry Administration official tells Smithsonian tiger specialist that China will lift its tiger-bone trade ban, while Chinese media report tiger-bone wine to be legalized. • Hailin Hengdaohezi Siberian Tiger Liquor Industry Co., Ltd opens distillery, claiming to use “resources” of nearby Heilongjiang tiger-breeding center. • Shenyang Zoo begins tiger-bone wine production, and Hunan Sanhong Biotechnology Company assesses feasibility of launching tiger-bone wine production. • State Forestry Administration denies the lifting of tiger-bone trade ban imminent, however, its notification extends marking scheme to captive-bred tigers. • Spike in tiger poaching and disclosure that India’s Sariska Tiger Reserve has no tigers prompt tiger specialists to ask whether there is a future for wild tigers. • EIA and Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI) document the dangerous scale of trade in Asian big cat skins used to adorn traditional Tibetan costumes.
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of China’s tiger farms tops 4,000. • China Youth Daily reports tiger skeletons soaking in vats of alcohol and sale of tiger-bone wine at Guangxi Province farm’s distillery.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies in Beijing says tiger-bone wine is not a medicine and manufacturing and sales should be stopped. • Tibetans burn tiger and leopard skins after religious leaders appeal for an end to their use. • EIA and WPSI document dramatic drop in Tibetan use of Asian big cat skins.
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of tigers on China's farms reaches 5,000, surpassing number in wild. • Chinese officials remind CITES Secretariat that 1993 tiger-trade ban applies to tiger bones but not to tiger skins. • State Forestry Administration issues notification extending marking scheme to allow tiger skins and products from registered breeding facilities to enter trade. • Staff at Guangxi tiger farm tell CITES Secretariat, US diplomat and media the "bone-strengthening" wine they sell in tiger-shaped bottles is made from tiger bones. • State Forestry Administration issues notification extending marking scheme to allow Siberian Tiger Park distillery to sell "bone-strengthening wine" beginning in 2008. • State Forestry Administration tells CITES its tiger farms can supply the legal trade in tiger-bone trade and "fur" it is actively considering. • CITES CoP approves Decision stating tiger farming should be phased out and tigers should not be bred for trade, including domestic trade, in their parts and products. • EIA and WPSI document further reduction in Tibetan use of tiger skins.
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India learns its Panna Tiger Reserve has lost all of its tigers to poachers. • State Forestry Administration officials say they are unable to implement the CITES Decision to phase out tiger farms. • EIA and WPSI find Tibetan demand for Asian big cat skins is further reduced.
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese CITES official publishes article outlining strategy to gain international support for registering China's tiger farms to allow international trade. • State Forestry Administration issues notification calling for crack down on illegal tiger trade and tighter control of living tigers, dead tigers and tiger parts held on farms. • EIA and WPSI document continuing trade in skins of wild tigers, leopards and snow leopards to feed into Chinese market for luxury home décor.
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Forestry Administration tells CITES Parties China has 6,000 tigers on farms and China's laws encourage the captive breeding and use of tigers products. • CITES Parties reiterate Decision that tiger farming should be phased out and tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and products.
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat of tiger farming is absent from agenda of tiger summit hosted by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin in Russia, but China's Premier Wen Jiabao calls for end to tiger trade. • EIA and WPSI document continuing trade in skins of leopards and smaller wild cats and also leopard bone in China.
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CITES Standing Committee asks relevant Parties to report progress in phasing out tiger farming, but China does not do so. • China's state news agency announces 91 births at Siberian Tiger Park, bringing park's tiger population to 1,097. • EIA and WPSI document continuing trade in Asian big cat skins, bones and other parts in China.
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China's State Forestry Administration submits report to CITES CoP that discusses illegal tiger trade but does not address China's legal trade in tiger products nor phasing out of tiger farms. • The body parts of 16 tigers and 9 leopards seized in India and Nepal in the first six weeks of 2013.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner of a Zoo in Thailand is implicated in investigations by Thailand's Anti-Money Laundering Office into a network suspected of trafficking rosewood, pangolins and tigers • CITES Standing Committee urges Parties to develop and implement regulatory controls for breeding facilities to prevent illegal trade.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golden Triangle Economic Zone in Laos openly selling tiger bone wine along with a host of illegal wildlife products including tiger skins. Employee states intention is to make wine for export to China.

TIGER FARMING TIMELINE

Year	# Wild Tigers in Asia	# Wild Tigers in China	# Tigers in China's Farms	Event	Description
1949		4,000 ¹	0	China is home to an estimated 4,000 wild tigers when the People's Republic of China is founded. ²	There is still "substantial evidence" of wild tigers into the 20th century. "By then pushed into remote (mountainous) regions... tigers were hunted for their skins, their bones, and other body parts believed to have medicinal purposes." ³
1950s				Government offers bounty for killing tigers. ⁴	The tiger "became the target of large-scale government 'anti-pest' campaigns promulgated by Chairman Mao Zedong's 'Great Leap Forward'." ⁵
1981	8,000 ⁶			China accedes to CITES. ⁷	
1983		150-200 ⁸	0	US zoos ship eight live tigers to zoos in China. ⁹	
1984		200 ¹⁰	0	Tiger bones for the manufacturing of traditional Chinese medicines become hard to obtain in China. ¹¹ China establishes conservation-breeding program for South China tigers in Chongqing Zoo, overseen by National Environmental Protection Agency. ¹²	Heavy poaching of wild Siberian tigers in Northeast China may mean population estimate of 150 is too high. ¹³ "To save this precious subspecies from doom, the only hope lies in working out a well-planned captive-breeding program," says Beijing Zoo advisor. ¹⁴
1986		50-80 ¹⁵	8-13 ^{16, 17}	Ministry of Forestry "concentrates" all Siberian tigers from United States, intended for conservation breeding, on fur farm in Heilongjiang Province to establish Hengdaohezi Breeding Centre of Felidae Animals, China's first tiger farm, a Government-funded operation to breed tigers for profit, primarily to supply bones for medical use. ^{18, 19, 20} South China tiger declared near extinction. ²¹	The tigers from the USA intended for conservation breeding are diverted for other purposes as Government provides funding and guidance for scheme to breed tigers for profit, primarily to supply bones for medical use. ^{22, 23, 24} "During this period evidence of wild tigers... was scattered and seldom confirmed." ²⁵
1987		32-42 ²⁶	21-33 ^{27, 28}	Chinese National Pharmaceutical Bureau gives Beijing Pharmaceutical Company remit to plan tiger farm to solve shortage of tiger bones ²⁹ .	
1989			50-56 ^{30, 31}	China's law on the protection of wildlife comes into effect. ³² Fifteen tiger cubs born at Hengdaohezi Breeding Centre of Felidae Animals, bringing total to around 50. ³³ Indian authorities arrest poacher in Rajasthan who claims	Gives wild tigers "Category 1" protection and encourages wildlife farming and utilization. From 1985-1989, the Ministry of Forestry and other government agencies spend US\$1,333,350 to finance and manage this progenitor of China's tiger farming industry. ³⁴

Year	# Wild Tigers in Asia	# Wild Tigers in China	# Tigers in China's Farms	Event	Description
				to have sent skeletons of 18 tigers to China. ³⁵	
1991			74 ³⁶	Sacks of tiger bones are seized in India and Nepal en route over the Himalayas into Tibet for the Chinese market. ³⁷	"The quest for bones for China medicine is the root of... poaching of tigers in Nepal and Northern India." Nepal has never before had "serious tiger poaching before" in its flagship Chitwan National Park. ³⁸
1992			62-82 ³⁹ , 40	China asks CITES CoP8 for registration of the Hengdaohezi Breeding Centre of Felidae Animals ⁴¹ in order to trade bones and skins internationally to pay for the facility's running costs. Lawyers for WWF and the National Wildlife Federation submit petition asking US Government to impose trade sanctions against China for its domestic trade in tiger (and rhino) parts and products. ⁴²	China argues farms' trade would not hurt wild tigers because their numbers are so low they are hard for poachers to find, but withdraws proposal amid concerns from CITES Parties and NGOs that sale of farmed parts and derivatives will stimulate and provide cover for trafficking in wild tigers. ⁴³ US law (Pelly Amendment) allows imposition of trade restrictions against foreign countries whose nationals engage in trade that undermines international programs to protect endangered species, in this case CITES. ⁴⁴
1993			96-413 ⁴⁵ , ⁴⁶ , 47	India's flagship Ranthambore Tiger Reserve loses more than half of its tigers to poaching for bones. ⁴⁸ China's State Council issues Notification stopping all trade in/use of tiger bone and removes it from official pharmacopeia. ⁴⁹ What will become Xionsen Bear and Tiger Mountain Village, China's largest tiger farm, is established in Guangxi Province. ⁵⁰	Tiger expert Fateh Rathore Singh deems the situation in Ranthambore a "massacre". ⁵¹ Forbids all trade of tiger bone and rhino horn, including selling, buying, and transport. Products produced before the ban went into effect are also required to be sealed and banned from trade. Researchers from Northeast Forestry University and the People's Liberation Army University of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry help businessman Zhou Weisen become China's most prolific tiger breeder. ⁵²
1994	4,600-7,700 ⁵³	20-100 ⁵⁴	85+ ⁵⁵	China notes its continued tiger-breeding operation at CITES CoP9, where Parties adopt first tiger resolution, asking Parties to prohibit domestic trade in tiger parts and derivatives. ⁵⁶ , ⁵⁷	Noting that, despite inclusion of the species in Appendix I, illegal trade in tiger specimens has escalated, and could lead to extinction in the wild..." the Conference of the Parties "urges" all Parties to consider "voluntarily prohibiting internal trade in tigers and tiger parts and derivatives." ⁵⁸
1997				Government officials deny visas to Chinese nationals registered for TRAFFIC's Hong Kong symposium on substitutes for tiger bone in medicine. ⁵⁹	
1998	5,000-7,000 ⁶⁰		171 ⁶¹ , ⁶²	New tiger farm established in Shenyang, Liaoning Province. ⁶³	
1999				CITES technical delegation visits China, which claims to have at least 944 kg of tiger bone and 48 whole tiger skeletons secured, while farms are producing about 200	The mission's report cautioned, "farming would provide an opportunity for laundering wild-caught specimens that would simply accelerate and/or assist current poaching and illicit trade." ⁶⁴

Year	# Wild Tigers in Asia	# Wild Tigers in China	# Tigers in China's Farms	Event	Description
				tiger cubs annually. ⁶⁵ Massive resurgence in illegal trade in tiger and leopard skins from India and Nepal into China. ⁶⁶	
2002			600+ ⁶⁷	CITES CoP12 approves Resolution 12.5. ⁶⁸ Thailand's Sri Racha Tiger Zoo ships 100 tigers to Hainan in Sino-Thai venture to create world's largest tiger farm. ^{69, 70} Owner of a tiger 'zoo' in Ubon Ratchathani , Thailand and contemporary politician reports that up to 200 tiger cubs from unregulated breeders annually are shipped across the Mekong River to China. ⁷¹ Muang Thong tiger farm in Laos is established, with an initial stock of 20 breeding tigers, reportedly originating from Taiwan. ⁷²	Resolution urges Parties and non-Parties with captive-breeding operations to prevent parts and products from those facilities entering illegal trade and also recommends awareness programmes to eliminate illegal trade in and use of Asian big cat skins, bones and derivatives. ⁷³ Thai government finds Natural Resource and Environment Ministry official wrong in approving the export for commercial tiger farming. ⁷⁴
2003				State Forestry Administration issues Forestry Protection Notification 2003 No. 3 for a "pilot marking scheme" for legal trade in wildlife products. ⁷⁵ Thirty-one tiger skins and 581 leopard skins seized at Sangsang in Tibet.	Such "markings" are given to approved enterprises and/or their wildlife products, which will then be allowed for transportation and trade. Additional notices will expand this scheme to include trade in skins from captive-bred tigers and "bone-strengthening wine" sold at tiger farms and purported by sellers to be made with tiger bone.

2004				<p>State Forestry Administration issues Forestry Protection Notification 2004 No. 6, extending marking scheme to allow Xiongsen Bear and Tiger Mountain Village distillery to sell “bone-strengthening wine.”⁷⁶</p> <p>Sariska Tiger Reserve has no more tigers due to poaching for skins and bones.⁷⁷</p> <p>Tiger skins are used to decorate sofas: trader tells EIA investigators of market in luxury home décor among wealthy Chinese.⁷⁸</p> <p>In Thailand, police stop a known tiger dealer en route to Laos with a tiger carcass in his vehicle. On bail for a previous offence related to a wildlife processing operation, he is arrested and bailed, after which he subsequently disappears.⁷⁹</p>	<p>Xiongsen sales personnel will state their “bone-strengthening” wine is made with tiger bones.^{80, 81, 82}</p>
2005			3,000 ⁸³	<p>Forestry Protection Notification 2005 No. 139 announces terms of pilot project for use of bones from captive-bred tigers in medicine.⁸⁴</p> <p>Hailin Hengdaohezi Siberian Tiger Liquor Industry Co., Ltd, is founded near Siberian Tiger Park.⁸⁵</p> <p>EIA and WPSI document the dangerous scale of demand for skins used to decorate traditional Tibetan costumes.</p>	<p>While EIA has not been able to access this notification, its title indicates that it concerns “a pilot project to enable the use of captive-bred tiger bone in medicine”.</p> <p>The company’s “bone-strengthening tonic wine” depends on “resource advantages [sic] the largest Siberian tiger breeding base in the world”.⁸⁶</p> <p>Investigators are offered the skins of three tigers, 170 leopard skins and 60 snow leopard skins, and document hundreds of people wearing costumes decorated with tiger skins.⁸⁷</p>

Year	# Wild Tigers in Asia	# Wild Tigers in China	# Tigers in China's Farms	Event	Description
2006			4,000+ ⁸⁸	<p><i>China Youth Daily</i> reports tiger skeletons seen soaking in alcohol and tiger-bone wine for sale at Xiongson farm's distillery, to which China's State Forestry Administration contributed nearly US\$1 million for its development.⁸⁹</p> <p>World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (WFCMS), associated with China's State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine, says tiger-bone wine is not a medicine and manufacturing and sales should be stopped.⁹⁰</p> <p>EIA and WPSI document further reduction in Tibetan use of tiger skins.</p>	<p>Tiger bone wine has re-emerged on the market in China, despite a ban on the trade. "Amazingly, the company's sale of these products has been approved by the State Forestry Administration..."⁹¹. Xiongson's "Cellar Number One has a storage capacity of... 3 million liters of wine.... Of the 1,000 containers there in 2006, 400 contained tiger parts."⁹²</p> <p>WFCMS propose to Save The Tiger Fund a "road show" of Chinese medicine specialists traversing China to dissuade public interest in tiger-bone wine.</p> <p>Tibetans burn tiger and leopard skins after religious leaders appeal for an end to their use.⁹³</p>
2007	3,000-5,000 ⁹⁴		5,000+ ⁹⁵	<p>State Forestry Administration issues notification extending marking scheme to allow tiger skins and products from registered breeding facilities to enter trade.⁹⁶</p> <p>China tells CITES CoP14 its tiger farms can provide a "steady foundation" for resumption of legal trade in tiger bones and "fur".⁹⁷</p> <p>CITES CoP14 approves Decision 14.69 against tiger farming and breeding tigers for trade in their parts and products.⁹⁸</p>	<p>Notice No. 206 requests "investigation, verification and registration" of the origin of tiger and leopard pelts and the products thereof. It defines "legal origin" as "owned prior to the implementation of Wildlife Protection Law of China, legally bred, or sourced via other legal means". From January 1 2008, those registered to be from legal origin are allowed to apply for a "marking" to enter trade.</p> <p>"By the end of 2006, the captive population of tigers in China exceeded 5,000 animals with a capacity to reproduce 800-1,000 cubs annually." The SFA asserts that CITES Decision 14.69 against tiger farming for commercial purposes interferes with "Parties' sovereignty" and goes against China's wildlife protection law, which encourages "active domestication and breeding of and rational exploitation and utilization of wildlife."^{99, 100}</p>
2008				<p>The "Gallup" of China's survey organization polls six major Chinese cities and finds a majority of people believes parts and products from wild tigers are more effective and more desirable than those from farmed tigers.¹⁰¹</p> <p>Three Gorges Animal World in Hubei Province was reported to secretly kill its Siberian tigers and selling its body parts. The zoo was also alleged to produce and sell tiger bone wine. Questions were raised about the dubious involvement of Liu Xianxin, Chief of Yichang City Forestry</p>	

Year	# Wild Tigers in Asia	# Wild Tigers in China	# Tigers in China's Farms	Event	Description
				<p>Bureau, who was also the zoo's vice-chairman, and one of the zoo's investors, Zhou Weisen, the owner of Xionsen Bear and Tiger Village.¹⁰²</p> <p>Care for the Wild International (CWI) releases a report which documents illegal exchanges of tigers between Thailand's Tiger Temple (Wat Pha Luang Ta Bua) and Laos' Muang Thong Tiger Farm.¹⁰³</p>	<p>CWI find that by 2008, at least 12 tigers have been shipped across international borders without the necessary permits – in contravention of CITES.¹⁰⁴</p>
2009	3,200 ¹⁰⁵			<p>Wan Ziming of China's CITES Management Authority publishes article outlining a strategy to build support for international trade in parts and products from farmed tigers.¹⁰⁶</p> <p>EIA documents continuing trade in skins of wild tigers, leopards and snow leopards to feed into Chinese market for luxury home décor.¹⁰⁷</p> <p>The Yichang Intermediate People's Court in Hubei Province sentenced the former boss of Three Gorges Animal World, Wang Zhuyi, to 18 years in prison for crimes related to selling protected animals.¹⁰⁸</p> <p>Laos' Muang Thong Tiger Farm has over 250 tigers¹⁰⁹ and a media profile reports the farm's intention to breed tigers "for export in the future."¹¹⁰</p>	

2010		40-50 ¹¹¹	6,000 ^{112, 113}	<p>The CITES Secretariat reports evidence of “leakage” of tiger products from tiger farms in South East Asia.¹¹⁴ Undercover journalists visit Muang Thong tiger farm in Laos and obtain testimony from workers about cross-border tiger trade to Vietnam.¹¹⁵</p> <p>State Forestry Administration distributes brochures at CITES CoP15 saying, “China’s legislation encourages the captive breeding of endangered animals including tigers” and that the number of tigers on China’s farms has increased by 1,000 since CITES’ 2007 decision calling for the phasing out tiger farms.^{116, 117}</p> <p>State Forestry Administration participates in World Bank’s Global Tiger Initiative, promising to fight “illegal” trade and “illegal” demand, noting it has “a permit system for activities concerning” farmed tigers^{118, 119, 120}</p> <p>Tiger farming is not discussed at Vladimir Putin’s “tiger summit” in Russia, but Premier Wen Jiabao calls for end to tiger trade in his speech to heads of state.¹²¹</p> <p>Shenyang Zoo closes down March 2010.¹²²</p> <p>Siberian Tiger Park in Harbin was reported to have over RMB 100 million worth of tiger carcasses in storage. Its owner Wang Ligang is ‘gambling’ on the day the government lifts the ban on tiger bone use and actively lobbies the government to adopt his ‘utilise tiger to save the tiger’ strategy.¹²³</p>	<p>“Captive-breeding of tigers is occurring in several range States but many of these facilities appear to be owned and operated in a manner that would conflict with the goals expressed in Decision 14.69. Intelligence suggesting that tigers, or their parts and derivatives, from some of these facilities entering illegal commercial trade is growing.”</p> <p>“All activities of the existing tiger farms are in line with Chinese laws...More than 200 (work) units are engaged in tiger domestication and reproduction, up to 6,000 tigers are held in captivity, and the annual breeding capacity is over 1,000.” Document reveals Xiongsen tiger farm subsidiary Xiongsen Wine Industries Co. Ltd.</p> <p>State Forestry Administration is inspecting tiger breeding facilities and markets, and employing a “special label system and standardized packages with official seal to enhance monitoring of tiger skins and storages of tiger bone from breeding facilities.”</p> <p>At Russian “tiger summit,” Premier Wen Jiabao specifically mentions ending “tiger trade” rather than specifying only “illegal trade.”</p>
------	--	----------------------	---------------------------	--	---

Year	# Wild Tigers in Asia	# Wild Tigers in China	# Tigers in China's Farms	Event	Description
				<p>Laos' National Tiger Action Plan states that "tiger farms don't support wild tiger conservation" and asserts that "the potential threat to wild tigers caused by tiger farms is very high"¹²⁴</p> <p>Education for Nature - Vietnam (ENV) conducts investigations into Vietnamese tiger facilities, finding that three tiger farmers are involved in illegally trading live tigers or selling off the remains of tigers that had reportedly died on their farms.^{125, 126}</p>	ENV find that five facilities have obtained their original tigers illegally ¹²⁷ and that most tigers seized in trade in Vietnam appear to have been sourced from major tiger farming operations in Laos. ¹²⁸
2011	3200-4,000 ¹²⁹			<p>Beijing auction house Googut makes public offering of more than 400 bottles of tiger-bone wine.¹³⁰</p> <p>The arrest of a man who sold a tiger cub to undercover police leads to a raid on Star Tiger Zoo in Thailand's Chaiphum Province, owned by a suspected illegal wildlife dealer.¹³¹ Forensic tests later prove two tiger cubs are not the offspring of the tiger at the farm¹³² but the origin of the cubs is not identified and the owner is not prosecuted.¹³³</p> <p>Owner of Thanh Canh Tourism Park in Vietnam is convicted in connection with illegal tiger trade, along with fourteen others.¹³⁴</p>	"On the day of the auction, the security bureau of the State Forestry Administration ordered Googut to halt the auction of tiger bone wine." ¹³⁵
2012		40-50 ¹³⁶		<p>CITES Standing Committee asks Secretariat to issue a Notification to "stress" the need for relevant Parties to report on phasing out intensive tiger breeding operations.^{137, 138}</p> <p>In Thailand, provincial police conduct a routine check and intercept a consignment of sixteen tiger cubs on the highway towards Laos. The vehicle is believed to be one of three such consignments.¹³⁹</p> <p>In Yunnan, authorities arrest four people and seize tiger bone, leopard bone, 12,090 bottles of tiger bone wine bottles and 18,660 bottles of leopard bone wine.¹⁴⁰</p>	<p>The Secretariat submits a report for CITES CoP16 stating that, "Owing to the serious threat of extinction of some populations of tigers, the Secretariat believes this subject should continue to be an agenda item at each regular meeting of the Standing Committee."¹⁴¹</p> <p>At least 69 suspected-captive source tigers are seized during 2012, which is 40% of the total tigers seized that year.¹⁴²</p>

2013			<p>China's report on Asian big cats to CITES CoP16 addresses "illegal" tiger trade and says parts of captive-bred tigers are "strictly regulated."¹⁴³</p> <p>The compound of the director of notorious Laos-based Xaysavang Import-Export Company is said to contain tigers, bears, lizards and pangolins.¹⁴⁴</p>	<p>"... parts coming from captive bred tigers are strictly regulated," "labeled" and "monitored" to "prevent the captive bred tiger parts from entering the illegal trade from or through such facilities."¹⁴⁵</p>
2014			<p>The owner of Star Tiger Zoo is implicated in investigations by Thailand's Anti-Money Laundering Office into a network suspected of trafficking tigers, rosewood and pangolins.¹⁴⁶</p> <p>Laos' Muang Thong tiger farm has approximately 400 tigers.¹⁴⁷</p> <p>The findings of a report provided for CITES Standing Committee include that illegal trade in specimens sourced from captive tigers has increased and China's oversight of privately held stocks of tiger specimens in captive tiger facilities may not be sufficient to guarantee the security of such stocks.¹⁴⁸</p> <p>CITES Secretariat clarifies the continued validity of Decision 14.69, which states that tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and products and calls for the phasing out of tiger farms.¹⁴⁹</p> <p>At the 65th Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC65), China admits to allowing legal sale of tiger skins sourced from captive tigers.¹⁵⁶</p>	<p>CITES Standing Committee urges Parties to develop and implement regulatory controls for Asian big cat breeding facilities to prevent illegal trade, including oversight of any international trade to ensure non-commercial purposes, and monitored destruction of the specimens that die in captivity.¹⁵⁰</p>

2015			<p>In 2014 and 2015, EIA and ENV document the open sale of wildlife in Chinatown of the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone (GT SEZ) in Laos. Derivatives include elephant ivory, pangolin, tiger skins and helmeted hornbill. The GT SEZ also houses live tigers and bears and the hotel brochure promotes its own brand of tiger bone wine, whilst purported tiger bone wine in bottles is on sale and openly displayed in tanks.¹⁵¹</p> <p>In China, the Director of Sanhong announces plans to expand to 500 tigers along with plans to build an international hunting ground.¹⁵² Meanwhile, Nanfang Property Investment Group announce their plan of building the largest tiger park in Asia at Zhenhu, with a projected 1,500-2,000 tigers.¹⁵³</p> <p>China reports to CITES that it does not have the capacity to monitor legal trade in captive tiger specimens.¹⁵⁷</p>	<p>GT SEZ is part-owned by Hong Kong-registered Kings Romans Group (KRG) and the Laotian Government. The Chef at one of the restaurants claimed that senior management in the KRG are responsible for overseeing the manufacture of tiger bone wine at the GT SEZ. The live animal keeper revealed he had previously worked as a breeder at Xiongsen and Yunnan Wild Animal Park in China before being head-hunted by KRG. He further described a tiger breeding expansion plan with the aim of producing 500 tigers within three years and up to 1,000 tigers in the long term to produce tiger bone wine for consumption at the GT SEZ and for export to China.¹⁵⁴</p> <p>In March, reports emerge that authorities conduct a raid and appear to dispose of some wildlife items, but provide no details of follow-up domestic investigations or international liaison. The Vice Chairman of the GT SEZ Board states it was possible the foreign owners of the four restaurants might not be familiar with the zone's wildlife regulations.¹⁵⁵</p> <p>"It's beyond China's capacity to obtain the total trade volume data of the various species which includes the possession volume".¹⁵⁷</p>
2016	<4,000	7-50	<p>China's National People's Congress passes a revised version of its Wildlife Protection Law, which continues to allow commercial breeding and trade in protected species.¹⁵⁸</p> <p>The 17th CITES Conference of the Parties adopts a strong way forward to address tiger farming.</p> <p>50 tigers are poached or recovered from trade in India, the highest figure since 2001.¹⁶⁰</p>	<p>The revised law continues to allow commercial breeding and trade in protected wildlife species through a 'special marking' permit system administered by the State Forestry Administration. The specific species to which this permit system applies are to be determined by inclusion on a list drawn up by the SFA.¹⁵⁸</p> <p>Parties reaffirm CITES Decision 14.69, including that "tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and products", and agrees to review "ambiguities and inconsistencies" with regard to captive breeding of tigers, subject to available resources.¹⁵⁹ At the meeting, China proposed 'retiring' Decision 14.69, but no other party supported this.</p>
2017			<p>A resolution to phase out tiger farming and trade is submitted at the annual plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), by CPPCC delegate and artist Yuan Xikun.¹⁶¹</p>	<p>Resolution text contains six recommendations, including to "close existing facilities engaged in or suspected to be engaged in commercial tiger breeding, destroy carcasses stored in the facilities, and prohibit establishment of new facilities".¹⁶¹</p>

2018			6,057 ¹⁶⁴	<p>CITES Secretariat identifies China as a country with facilities of concern in terms of excessive numbers of tigers and/or trade in tiger parts and derivatives.¹⁶²</p> <p>China's State Council issues Notification No. 36, 2018, which repeals the 1993 ban on trade in tiger and rhino products, and permits trade in tiger and rhino derivatives from captive sources for medicinal purposes.¹⁶³ Subsequent statements from government representatives indicate that the implementation of the notification has been delayed (but not reversed).</p>	<p>36 facilities of concern are identified in China, more than any other country.¹⁶²</p> <p>Subsequent statements at press conferences from a representative of the State Council in November 2018¹⁶⁵ and from the National Forestry and Grasslands Administration in December 2018¹⁶⁶ claim that the implementation of Notification No. 36 has been postponed, and in the meantime "three strict bans" remain in place, prohibiting the import, export, sale, purchase, transport or use in medicine of tiger bone or rhino horn. Despite this, Notification No. 36 continues to be listed on the State Council website as valid policy, without qualification.</p>
2019	~4,000			<p>A document issued by the Shaanxi Provincial Government appears to implement Notification No. 36 (2018). The document is subsequently taken offline.¹⁶⁷</p> <p>In a submission to CITES CoP18, China confirms that trade in tiger skins and leopard skins is permitted. The submission also refers to the (repealed) 1993 notification, and ongoing "three strict bans".¹⁶⁸</p> <p>CITES CoP18 adopts amendments to Resolution 12.5 (Rev. CoP17), recommending the closure of legal domestic markets for Asian big cat specimens.</p>	<p>The Shaanxi Government documents makes no reference to a delay in implementation of Notification No. 36 (2018) or 'three strict bans' stating instead that permits to sell tiger and rhino products can be applied for in "special circumstances".</p> <p>The amendment adopted reads, "all Parties in whose jurisdiction there is a legal domestic market for specimens of tiger and other Asian big cats species that is contributing to poaching or illegal trade, take all necessary legislative, regulatory and enforcement measures to close their domestic markets for commercial trade in tiger and other Asian big cat specimens".</p>



Environmental Investigation Agency (UK)

62-63 Upper Street
London, N1 0NY
T: +44 (0)207 3547960
E: ukinfo@eia-international.org
<http://www.eia-international.org/>

Environmental Investigation Agency (US)

PO Box 53343
Washington, DC 20009
T: +1 202 4836621
E: info@eia-global.org
<http://www.eia-global.org/>

References

- ¹ *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ² *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ³ Marks, Robert B. (Sept. 2003), *Asian Tigers* (prepared for the International Symposium on World System History and Global Environmental Change, Lund University, Sweden).
- ⁴ Nowell, Kristin and Ling Xu (TRAFFIC East Asia, 2007), *Taming the Tiger Trade: China's Markets for Wild and Captive Tiger Products Since the 1993 Domestic Trade Ban*.
- ⁵ Ronald Tilson *et al.* (Jan. 2004), *Dramatic decline of wild South China tigers Panthera tigris amoyensis: field survey of priority tiger reserves*, in *Oryx*, Volume 38, Jan. 2004
- ⁶ Alexander, C. (Dec. 2011), *The Cry For The Tiger* (National Geographic Magazine), <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2011/12/tigers/alexander-text>
- ⁷ List of Contracting CITES Parties, <http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/parties/chronolo.php>.
- ⁸ *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ⁹ CITES Trade Database, <http://www.cites.org/eng/resources/trade.shtml>.
- ¹⁰ *Cat News*, No. 1, July 1984.
- ¹¹ *Cat News*, No. 1, July 1984.
- ¹² *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ¹³ *Cat News*, No. 1, July 1984.
- ¹⁴ *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ¹⁵ *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ¹⁶ *Cat News*, No. 17, September 1992.
- ¹⁷ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ¹⁸ *Cat News*, No. 7, Aug. 1987.
- ¹⁹ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ²⁰ *Cat News*, No. 17, September 1992.
- ²¹ *Cat News*, No. 5, August 1986.
- ²² *Cat News*, No. 7, Aug. 1987.
- ²³ CITES Management Authority of China (2007), *Key Position and General Introduction on Tiger Conservation in China* (CITES CoP14 delegation white paper).
- ²⁴ CITES Secretariat (2007), *Report on the Verification and Assessment Mission to China*, CITES CoP14 Doc. 52 Annex 7, <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/14/doc/E14-52A07.pdf>.
- ²⁵ Ronald Tilson *et al.* (Jan. 2004), *Dramatic decline of wild South China tigers Panthera tigris amoyensis: field survey of priority tiger reserves*, in *Oryx*, Volume 38, Jan. 2004.
- ²⁶ *Cat News*, No. 6, Feb. 1987.
- ²⁷ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ²⁸ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ²⁹ *Cat News*, No. 7, Aug. 1987.
- ³⁰ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.

-
- ³¹ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ³² Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Wildlife (1989, amended in 2004), <http://www.china.org.cn/english/environment/34349.htm>.
- ³³ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ³⁴ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ³⁵ *Cat News*, No. 13, July 1990.
- ³⁶ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ³⁷ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ³⁸ *Cat News*, No. 15, July 1991.
- ³⁹ *Cat News*, No. 17, September 1992.
- ⁴⁰ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ⁴¹ CITES CoP8 Doc. 8.39 (Rev.) (1992) Proposals to Register the First Commercial Captive-Breeding Operation for an Appendix I Animal Species
- ⁴² Steve Charnovitz (1994), *Environmental Trade Sanctions and the GATT: Analysis of the Pelly Amendment on Foreign Environmental Practices*, in American University International Law Review, Volume 9, Issue 3, Article 3, 1994.
- ⁴³ CITES CoP8 Committee I Summary Record (1992), <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/08/E-Com-I.pdf>.
- ⁴⁴ Pelly Amendment to the U.S. Fisherman's Protective Act of 1967, 22 U.S.C. § 1978, as amended by Pub. L. No. 95-376, 92 Stat. 714 (Sept. 18, 1978), <http://www.fws.gov/international/laws-treaties-agreements/us-conservation-laws/pelly-amendment.html>.
- ⁴⁵ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ⁴⁶ CITES Secretariat (2007), *Report on the Verification and Assessment Mission to China*, CITES CoP14 Doc. 52 Annex 7, <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/14/doc/E14-52A07.pdf>.
- ⁴⁷ Anon. (Sept. 6, 1999), *Profile: From Snake Trapper to Wildlife Protector* (Xinhua Press Agency), <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/50years/celebrities/19990910C109.html>.
- ⁴⁸ *Cat News*, No. 18, March 1993.
- ⁴⁹ *Circular of the State Council on Banning the Trade of Rhinoceros Horn and Tiger Bone* (May 29, 1993), <http://www.asianlii.org/cn/legis/cen/laws/cotscobtorhatb696/>.
- ⁵⁰ *The current Situation of Tiger Breeding and the Facing Difficulties of the Guilin Xiongse Tigers and Bears Mountain village* (2007), CITES CoP14 Doc. 52 Annex 8, <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/14/doc/E14-52A08.pdf>.
- ⁵¹ Geoffery C. Ward (1993), *Tiger-Wallah: Encounters with the Men Who Tried to Save the Greatest of the Great Cats* (HarperCollins Publishers Inc., New York).
- ⁵² Anon. (Sept. 6, 1999), *Profile: From Snake Trapper to Wildlife Protector* (Xinhua Press Agency), <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/50years/celebrities/19990910C109.html>.
- ⁵³ *Cat News*, No. 19, Sept. 1993.
- ⁵⁴ *Cat News*, No. 20, April 1994.
- ⁵⁵ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ⁵⁶ CITES Res. Conf. 9.13, *Conservation of and Trade in Tigers*, <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/09/E9-Res.pdf>
- ⁵⁷ CITES Doc. 9.29 (1994), *Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention: Trade in Tiger Specimens*, http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/09/doc/E9-Doc-29_29-4.pdf.
- ⁵⁸ CITES Res. Conf. 9.13, *Conservation of and Trade in Tigers*, <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/09/E9-Res.pdf>
- ⁵⁹ Personal communication to J.A. Mills, then director of TRAFFIC East Asia (1997).
- ⁶⁰ IUCN Red List, <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/15955/0>.
- ⁶¹ Conrad, Kirsten (Feb. 2000), *Safety in Numbers: Review of the Breeding Center for Felidae at Hengdaohezi*.
- ⁶² Anon. (Sept. 6, 1999), *Profile: From Snake Trapper to Wildlife Protector* (Xinhua Press Agency), <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/50years/celebrities/19990910C109.html>.
- ⁶³ IFAW (May 2007), *Made in China – Farming Tigers to Extinction*.
- ⁶⁴ *Report of the CITES Tiger Missions Technical Team*, Doc. SC 42.10.4 (1999).
- ⁶⁵ *Report of the CITES Tiger Missions Technical Team*, Doc. SC 42.10.4 (1999).
- ⁶⁶ EIA-WPSI (2004), *Tiger Skin Trail*.
- ⁶⁷ Nowell, Kristin and Ling Xu (TRAFFIC East Asia, 2007), *Taming the Tiger Trade: China's Markets for Wild and Captive Tiger Products Since the 1993 Domestic Trade Ban*.
- ⁶⁸ CITES Res. Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP 15), *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species*, <http://www.cites.org/eng/res/12/12-05.php>.
- ⁶⁹ Cao, Desheng (May 13, 2004), *Thai tigers safe and sound in Hainan* (China Daily), http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2004-05/13/content_330516.htm.
- ⁷⁰ The Nation (May 4, 2004), *Intelligence Panel: OK for tiger export deemed 'an offence'*, <http://www.nationmultimedia.com/home/INTELLIGENCE-PANEL-OK-for-tiger-export-deemed-an-o-98229.html>.
- ⁷¹ Recorded interview with Chuvit Pitakpornpanlop. EIA.
- ⁷² Lao PDR. 2010. National Tiger Action Plan for Lao PDR 2010-2020. <http://www.globaltigerforum.com/country/laopdr.pdf>
- ⁷³ CITES Res. Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP 15), *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species*, <http://www.cites.org/eng/res/12/12-05.php>.
- ⁷⁴ Anon. (May 4, 2004), *Intelligence Panel: OK for tiger export deemed 'an offence'* (The Nation, Thailand)
- ⁷⁵ China Wildlife Utilization and Marking System, <http://www.cnwm.org.cn>.

- ⁷⁶ SFA Notice No. 2 of 2003, http://www.forestry.gov.cn/portal/main/govfile/13/govfile_1076.html.
- ⁷⁷ Pillai, Sridevi (June 5, 2005), Spot the tiger (The Hindu, India), <http://www.hindu.com/mag/2005/06/05/stories/2005060500090100.htm>.
- ⁷⁸ EIA-WPSI (2004), Tiger Skin Trail.
- ⁷⁹ S. Galster, T. Redford, W. Schaedla, 2010. *Partnering to Stop Poaching: Developing Cross-Sector Responses to Wildlife Poaching*, in R. Tilson and P. Nyhus, *Tigers of the World*. Second Edition.
- ⁸⁰ Watts, J. (Aug. 25, 2011), US diplomat posed as Korean tourist in undercover visit to China tiger farm (The Guardian), <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2011/aug/25/us-diplomat-china-tiger-farm> ,
- ⁸¹ Nowell, K. and Xu, Ling. (2007). Taming the tiger trade: China's markets for wild and captive tiger products since the 1993 domestic trade ban. TRAFFIC East Asia.
- ⁸² Zhang Kejia (Nov. 16, 2006), *China's trade in tiger bones*, <https://www.chinadialogue.net/article/552-China-s-trade-in-tiger-bones>
- ⁸³ CITES SC53 Summary Report (2005), <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/53/sum/E53-SumRec.pdf>.
- ⁸⁴ Shanghai Landscaping and Amenity Bureau (Nov. 2011), *Concerning the Stockpile Audit of Marked Rare and Endangered Wildlife and Its Products*, <http://lhrs.sh.gov.cn/Front/BanshiDT/index.html?par1=3&par2=295&applyType=0285&businessFlag=2>.
- ⁸⁵ Website of the Hailin Hengdaohezi Siberian Tiger Liquor Industry Co., <http://nw03182.chinaw3.com/wine/en/company.asp>.
- ⁸⁶ Website of the Hailin Hengdaohezi Siberian Tiger Liquor Industry Co., <http://nw03182.chinaw3.com/wine/en/company.asp>.
- ⁸⁷ EIA-WPSI (2006), Skinning the Cat.
- ⁸⁸ Nowell, Kristin and Ling Xu (TRAFFIC East Asia, 2007), *Taming the Tiger Trade: China's Markets for Wild and Captive Tiger Products Since the 1993 Domestic Trade Ban*.
- ⁸⁹ Zhang Kejia (Nov. 16, 2006), *China's trade in tiger bones*, <http://www.chinadialogue.net/article/show/single/en/552-China-s-trade-in-tiger-bones>.
- ⁹⁰ Jiang Zaiseng, Personal communications to Lixin Huang and J. Mills
- ⁹¹ Zhang Kejia (Nov. 16, 2006), *China's trade in tiger bones*, <https://www.chinadialogue.net/article/552-China-s-trade-in-tiger-bones>
- ⁹² IFAW (May 2007), *Made in China – Farming Tigers to Extinction*.
- ⁹³ EIA-WPSI (2006), Skinning the Cat.
- ⁹⁴ Dinerstein, E., Loucks, et al., (2007), *The fate of wild tigers*, Bioscience 57(6): 508-514 (2007).
- ⁹⁵ CITES Management Authority of China (2007), *Key Position and General Introduction on Tiger Conservation in China* (CITES CoP14 delegation white paper).
- ⁹⁶ State Forestry Administration and State Ethnic Affairs Commission (2007), 2007 Notice No. 206, http://www.forestry.gov.cn/portal/main/govfile/13/govfile_1092.html.
- ⁹⁷ CITES Management Authority of China (2007), Report on Implementing Resolution Conf.12.5 of CITES, CITES CoP14 Doc. 52 Annex 1, <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/14/doc/E14-52A01.pdf>.
- ⁹⁸ CITES Decision 14.69, http://www.cites.org/eng/dec/valid15/14_66-68-69_15-70.php.
- ⁹⁹ CITES Management Authority of China (2007), *Key Position and General Introduction on Tiger Conservation in China* (CITES CoP14 delegation white paper).
- ¹⁰⁰ CITES Management Authority of China (2007), Report on Implementing Resolution Conf.12.5 of CITES, CITES CoP14 Doc. 52 Annex 1, <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/14/doc/E14-52A01.pdf>.
- ¹⁰¹ Gratwicke, Brian, et al. (July 2008), *Attitudes Toward Consumption and Conservation of Tigers in China*, in PLoS ONE, Volume 3, Issue 7, July 2008.
- ¹⁰² Zhu, C.X. (April 22, 2008), *Hubei Yichang Safari Park is suspected to trade Tiger* (Beijing News), <http://review.jcrb.com/200804/ca701483.htm>.
- ¹⁰³ Care for the Wild International. 2008. Exploiting the tiger: Illegal Trade, Animal Cruelty and Tourists at Risk at the Tiger Temple. http://www.careforthewild.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/tigertemplereport08_final_v11.pdf
- ¹⁰⁴ Care for the Wild International. 2008. Exploiting the tiger: Illegal Trade, Animal Cruelty and Tourists at Risk at the Tiger Temple. http://www.careforthewild.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/tigertemplereport08_final_v11.pdf
- ¹⁰⁵ IUCN Red List, <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/15955/0>.
- ¹⁰⁶ Wan, Ziming (Feb. 2009), *Can tiger bones of Captive-Bred Tigers Be Used in Medicine?* (Big Nature Magazine).
- ¹⁰⁷ EIA (2009). Deadly Game of Cat and Mouse.
- ¹⁰⁸ Zhou, S.J. (Jan. 5, 2009), *The result of the Amur Tiger killing in Yichang of Hubei: the boss was sentenced to 18 years in prison* (Taihai News), <http://news.sina.com.cn/c/2009-01-05/052816977325.shtml>.
- ¹⁰⁹ Lao PDR. 2010. National Tiger Action Plan for Lao PDR 2010-2020. <http://www.globaltigerforum.com/country/laopdr.pdf>
- ¹¹⁰ Target. August 2009. Lao PDR business people do tiger farming for export, pp. 42-43.
- ¹¹¹ Anon. (2011), *Global Tiger Recovery Program: Conference Document for Endorsement*, <http://www.globaltigerinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/Global-Tiger-Recovery-Program-Nov-4.pdf>.
- ¹¹² China CITES Management Authority (2010), *Tiger's Conservation in China* (brochure distributed by China's CITES Management Authority at CITES CoP15).
- ¹¹³ Anon. (March 12, 2010), *11 Siberian tigers 'starve to death in China zoo'*, <http://english.sina.com/life/p/2010/0312/308611.html>.
- ¹¹⁴ CITES CoP15 Summary Record (2010), <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/15/sum/E15-Com-II-Rec10.pdf>.
- ¹¹⁵ VietNamNet. Breaking into Southeast Asia's largest "tiger den". April 12, 2010
- ¹¹⁶ China CITES Management Authority (2010), *Tiger's Conservation in China* (brochure distributed by China's CITES Management Authority at CITES CoP15).
- ¹¹⁷ CITES Management Authority of China (2010), *Comments on CoP14 Doc. 43.2* (brochure).
- ¹¹⁸ *China GTRP Implementation Priorities in 2011* (April 2011 GTRP Delhi Workshop).

- ¹¹⁹ Global Tiger Recovery Program Annex: *National Tiger Recovery Priorities – Great Efforts the Chinese Government Has Undertaken to Save Wild Tigers*.
- ¹²⁰ Anon. (2011), *Global Tiger Recovery Program: Conference Document for Endorsement*, <http://www.globaltigerinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/Global-Tiger-Recovery-Program-Nov-4.pdf>.
- ¹²¹ Premier Wen Jiabao (November 2010), Speech delivered at International Tiger Forum, St. Petersburg, Russia (unofficial transcript prepared by the Global Tiger Initiative), <http://www.globaltigerinitiative.org/2010/12/01/international-tiger-forum/>.
- ¹²² Connan, C. (March 18, 2010), *China's Shenyang Zoo closed after tigers starve to death* (The Independent, UK), <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/chinas-shenyang-zoo-closed-after-tigers-starve-to-death-1923154.html>.
- ¹²³ Li, H.L. (Feb. 11, 2010), *Northeast Tiger farm expects Tiger trade to be re-opened* (Southern Weekend), <http://news.sina.com.cn/c/sd/2010-0211/122719676390.shtml>.
- ¹²⁴ Lao PDR. 2010. National Tiger Action Plan for Lao PDR 2010-2020. <http://www.globaltigerforum.com/country/laopdr.pdf>
- ¹²⁵ Education For Nature – Vietnam (ENV). Major tiger farmer sentenced to imprisonment. March 25, 2011. http://envietnam.org/E_News/E_409/Statement-tiger-bust-Thanh-Canh-March-25-2011.pdf
- ¹²⁶ Education For Nature – Vietnam (ENV). 2010. Summary of Tiger Trade Investigation Findings, Vietnam 2010. Education for Nature - Vietnam, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- ¹²⁷ Education For Nature – Vietnam (ENV). Major tiger farmer sentenced to imprisonment. March 25, 2011. http://envietnam.org/E_News/E_409/Statement-tiger-bust-Thanh-Canh-March-25-2011.pdf
- ¹²⁸ Education For Nature – Vietnam (ENV). 2010. Summary of Tiger Trade Investigation Findings, Vietnam 2010. Education for Nature - Vietnam, Hanoi, Vietnam.
- ¹²⁹ IUCN Red List, <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/15955/0>.
- ¹³⁰ Watts, Jonathan (Dec. 6, 2011), *'It's really good stuff': undercover at a Chinese tiger bone wine auction* (The Guardian, UK), <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/blog/2011/dec/06/china-tiger-bone-wine-auction>
- ¹³¹ FREELAND. Thai Authorities Raid Zoo Owned by Suspected Tiger Trafficking Kingpin. July 14, 2011
- ¹³² FREELAND. DNA Evidence Leads to Bust of Private Zoo. April 05, 2012
- ¹³³ EIA. 2015. High Profit/Low Risk: Reversing the wildlife crime equation. <https://eia-international.org/report/high-profitlow-risk-reversing-the-wildlife-crime-equation>.
- ¹³⁴ Education For Nature – Vietnam (ENV). Major tiger farmer sentenced to imprisonment. March 25, 2011. http://envietnam.org/E_News/E_409/Statement-tiger-bust-Thanh-Canh-March-25-2011.pdf
- ¹³⁵ Watts, Jonathan (Dec. 6, 2011), *'It's really good stuff': undercover at a Chinese tiger bone wine auction* (The Guardian, UK), <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/blog/2011/dec/06/china-tiger-bone-wine-auction>. <https://eia-international.org/report/high-profitlow-risk-reversing-the-wildlife-crime-equation>
- ¹³⁶ China's National Tiger Recovery Plan to the Global Tiger Initiative (2010).
- ¹³⁷ CITES Secretariat (2012), *Conservation of and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species* (Notification 2012/054), <http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/2012/E054.pdf>.
- ¹³⁸ CITES SC62 Executive Summary (July 2012), <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/sc/62/sum/E62-ExSum06.pdf>.
- ¹³⁹ Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand (WFFT). 16 tiger cubs caught at routine check point. October 30, 2012. <http://www.wfft.org/tigers/16-tiger-cubs-caught-at-routine-check-point/>
- ¹⁴⁰ Yunnan Forest Police, About us. <http://www.ynsj.gov.cn/aboutus/event?page=4>
- ¹⁴¹ CITES Secretariat (Jan. 2013), *Report on Asian big cats*, CoP16 Doc. 50 (Rev. 1), <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-50.pdf>.
- ¹⁴² EIA-compiled records
- ¹⁴³ CITES Management Authority of China (Sept. 2012), CoP16 Doc. 50 (Rev. 1), Annex 3b, <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-50-A3b.pdf>.
- ¹⁴⁴ New York Times. In Trafficking of Wildlife, Out of Reach of the Law. March 03, 2013. http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/04/world/asia/notorious-figure-in-animal-smuggling-beyond-reach-in-laos.html?_r=0
- ¹⁴⁵ CITES Management Authority of China (Sept. 2012), CoP16 Doc. 50 (Rev. 1), Annex 3b, <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-50-A3b.pdf>.
- ¹⁴⁶ EIA. 2015. High Profit/Low Risk: Reversing the wildlife crime equation. <https://eia-international.org/report/high-profitlow-risk-reversing-the-wildlife-crime-equation>
- ¹⁴⁷ Ammann, K. Tiger Farming: an industry with a range of profit centers. March 2014. www.karlammann.com/docs/tiger-farming.docx
- ¹⁴⁸ Nowell, K. CAT and IUCN Cat Specialist Group and Pervushina, N. TRAFFIC. 2014. Review of implementation of Resolution Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) on conservation and trade in tigers and other Appendix-I Asian big cat species. CITES SC65 Doc. 38 Annex 1. https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/65/E-SC65-38-A01_0.pdf
- ¹⁴⁹ CITES Standing Committee 65. 2014. Summary Record. <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/sc/65/E-SC65-SumRec.pdf>
- ¹⁵⁰ CITES Standing Committee 65. 2014. Summary Record. <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/common/com/sc/65/E-SC65-SumRec.pdf>
- ¹⁵¹ EIA. 2015. Sin City: Illegal wildlife trade in Laos' Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone. <https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/EIA-Sin-City-FINAL-med-res.pdf>
- ¹⁵² Changsha Evening News. Changsha To Build Asia No. 1 Tiger Park, To Own 500 Tigers in The Future. January 12, 2015. <http://www.hn.chinanews.com/news/2015/0112/228493.html>
- ¹⁵³ http://www.taizhou.gov.cn/art/2015/2/6/art_24_407379.html
- ¹⁵⁴ EIA. 2015. Sin City: Illegal wildlife trade in Laos' Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone. <https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/EIA-Sin-City-FINAL-med-res.pdf>
- ¹⁵⁵ Lao National Television – English News Programme. Authorities in the Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone of Bokeo province close four restaurants after selling protected wildlife. March 31, 2015. Reports of date of enforcement activity vary. Available from: <https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=485943378223972&permPage=1>
- ¹⁵⁶ Singh Kadhka, N. 2014. China 'admits' trading in tiger skins (BBC News, July 12). Available from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-28258595>
- ¹⁵⁷ Questionnaire on the implementation of Recommendations (f) - (n) on Asian big cats, endorsed by the 65th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (SC65, Geneva, July 2014)
- ¹⁵⁸ EIA. 2018. China's Wildlife Protection Law. Available from: <https://eia-international.org/our-work/wildlife/tigers/tiger-farming/chinas-wildlife-protection-law/>
- ¹⁵⁹ CITES. 2016. Decisions of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in effect after its 17th meeting. Available from: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/dec/valid17/E17-Dec.pdf>
- ¹⁶⁰ Wildlife Protection Society of India. 2017. Tiger poaching statistics. Available from: <http://www.wpsi-india.org/statistics/index.php>
- ¹⁶¹ EIA. 2017. Tiger farming finally gets a hearing at top China meeting. Available from: <https://eia-international.org/tiger-farming-finally-gets-hearing-top-china-meeting>
- ¹⁶² CITES. 2018. Asian big cats (Felidae spp.), Report of the Secretariat. Available from: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/70/E-SC70-51.pdf>

¹⁶³ State Council of the People's Republic of China. 2018. Notification No. 36, 2018. Available from: http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/2018-10/29/content_5335423.htm

¹⁶⁴ CITES SC70 Doc. 51 Annex 2 (Rev. 1), Review of facilities keeping Asian big cats (Felidae spp.) in captivity. Available from: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/sc/70/E-SC70-51-A2-R1.pdf>

¹⁶⁵ China.org.cn. Full transcript: State Council Executive Deputy Secretary-General Ding Xuedong Answers Media Questions. Available from: http://www.china.org.cn/china/Off_the_Wire/2018-11/12/content_71941870.htm?from=groupmessage&isappinstalled=0

¹⁶⁶ Xinhua. 国新办就第三次石漠化监测成果有关情况举行发布会. Available from: <http://www.xinhuanet.com/talking/20181213z/>

¹⁶⁷ EIA. 2019. Chinese Government document signals decision to open tiger trade is quietly going ahead. Available from: <https://eia-international.org/news/chinese-government-document-signals-decision-to-open-tiger-trade-is-quietly-going-ahead/>

¹⁶⁸ CITES CoP18 Doc. 71.1 Annex 5. A report on the management of Asian big cat captive facilities in China pursuant to Secretariat Notification 2018/002 from China CITES Management Authority. Available from: <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/18/doc/E-CoP18-071-01.pdf>