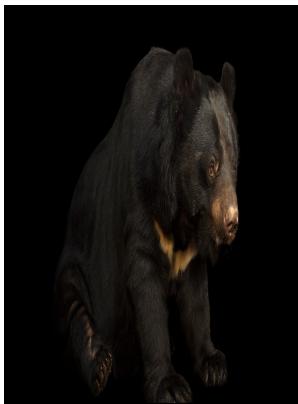


# Asian trade in bears and bear parts

World Wildlife Fund, Traffic USA - Unbearable: The Illegal Trade in Asian Bear Species



Description: -

- Bear trade -- Asia. Asian trade in bears and bear parts

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## Illegal bear bile trade rampant in Asia

Significant numbers of gall bladders, commonly used as traditional medicine were also seized.

## Unbearable: The Illegal Trade in Asian Bear Species

Representatives from the eight South Asian countries-- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka--came together at the , endorsed the SAWEN Statute and updated their collaborative roadmap for the next six years to fight wildlife crimes in South Asia.

## Brought to Bear: an Analysis of Seizures across Asia

About TRAFFIC TRAFFIC is a leading non-governmental organisation working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development whose mission is to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature. Today there are still 3,410 bears on farms in Vietnam. Between 2000-2011, over 6,000 bear paws were seized on route to China, equating to at least 1,500 individual bears, the majority of which were Brown bears from Russia, destined for the luxury meat trade.

## Unbearable: The Illegal Trade in Asian Bear Species

They haven't outlawed bear galls. This strong cultural heritage relating to bears has allowed a renewed or continued interest in bears in Asian countries. In 2005, the Vietnamese government committed to slowly phase out bear farming.

## Animal Wellness Action Says the Global Trade in Bear Parts Must End

This is evidenced by a rescue group which found twenty percent of their bears missing limbs from traps. The active ingredient in bear bile is ursodeoxycholic acid UDCA , which is more abundant in the bile of bears than in any other mammal.

## Pills, Powders, Vials & Flakes: The bear bile trade in Asia

Asiatic Black Bears predominant in this trade and Sun Bears are both listed in Appendix I of Convention on International Trade in Endangered

Species of Wild Fauna and Flora CITES which prohibits international commercial trade in the species, its parts and derivatives. Regulations commonly flouted Domestic trade of bear bile is legal under strict regulation within mainland China and Japan but is illegal in Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. Conditions are so poor, and the bears so frequently in pain, that some are allegedly fitted with vests to prevent them from harming themselves out of desperation.

### **What drives illegal trade in Asian bears**

They also noted that it was difficult to determine the origin of the bear products, as some shopkeepers claimed the origin was American bears, with others claiming Chinese or Russian bears. The demand for bear parts and derivatives is not just confined to Asia.

### **Animal Wellness Action Says the Global Trade in Bear Parts Must End**

The first organization of its kind in the animal protection movement, the Center encourages businesses to honor their social responsibilities in a culture where consumers, investors, and other key stakeholders abhor cruelty and the degradation of the environment and embrace innovation as a means of eliminating both. These animals were probably meant to be trained as dancing bears.

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