




**Wildlife
Conservation
Society**



Shifting Perspectives: Using the Problem-Solving Approach to Improve Our Understanding of Wildlife Trafficking

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Summary

- Introduction to the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- Define wildlife trafficking
- Case Study – Trafficking of Malaysian tigers to Viet Nam
- Setting up Tiger Problem Solving Team



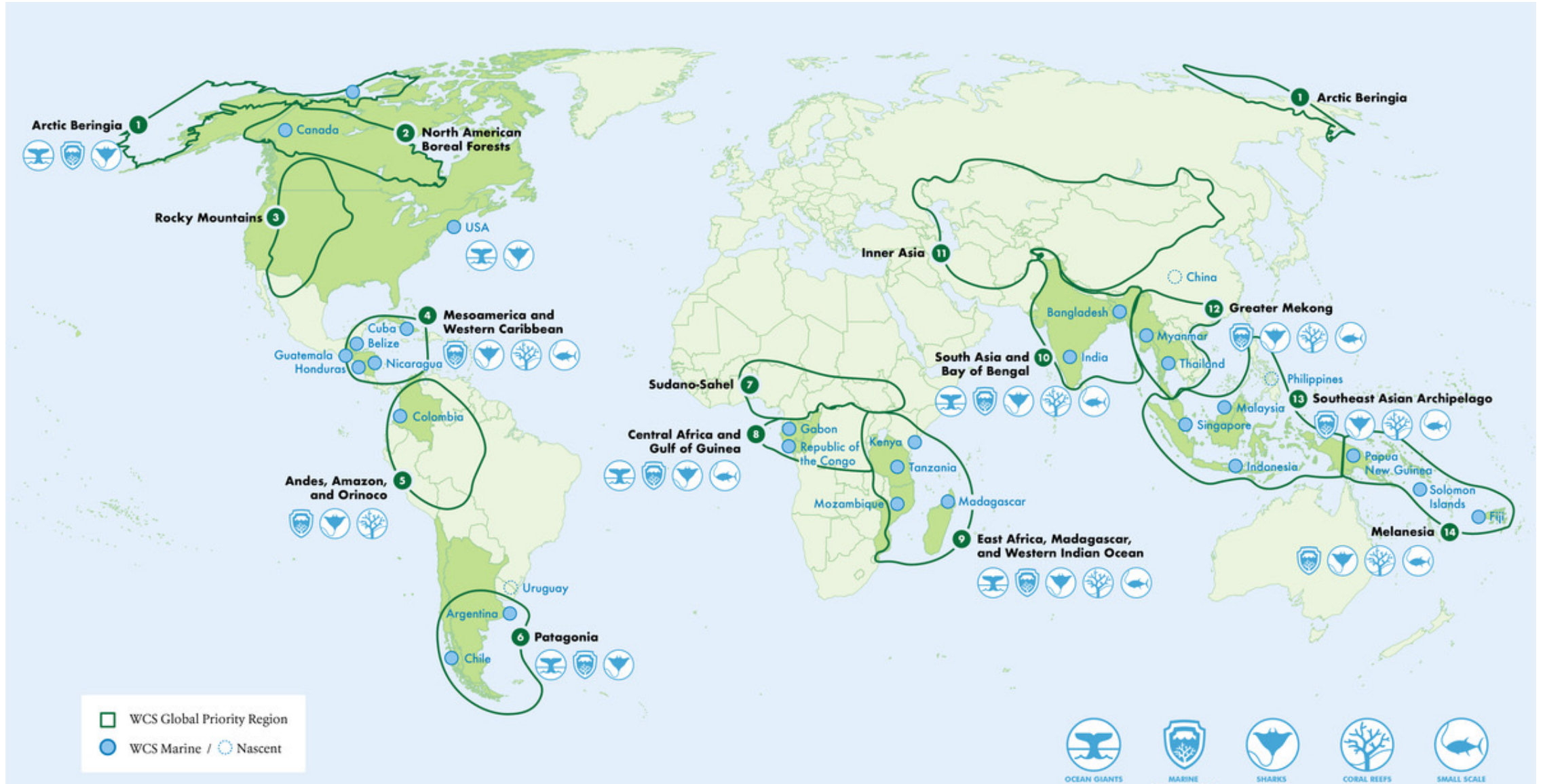


**CENTRAL
PARK ZOO**



Prospect Park Zoo
A Wildlife Conservation Society Park

WCS Global Conservation Program



WCS Counter Wildlife Trafficking Program



- CWT programs in 32 countries along major trafficking supply chains
- 200 dedicated, full-time CWT staff
- Locally-led programs working in partnership with over 500 government agencies and 150 NGO's, CSOs, or media agencies

Wildlife trafficking is any illegal use of wildlife that includes an element of commercial trade, usually for **economic profit**



The illegal supply (including commercially driven hunting, killing, capture, collection), sale, purchase (online and physical), transport, import, export, processing, stockpiling or consumption of wild fauna and flora (including their parts, products, and derivatives), in contravention of sub-national, national, or international laws, regulations, agreements, or treaties.

Challenges of Wildlife Trafficking

- Represents a number of activities across multiple jurisdictions
- Limited coordination and cooperation between agencies at domestic and international levels
- Often low levels of political will
- Low level of understanding about the individual problems that make up wildlife trafficking



Tiger Trafficking

- The global tiger population approximately 4,000 remaining in the wild are listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List.
- Peninsula Malaysia is home to an estimated 150 tigers under increasing cumulative pressures from poaching, loss of prey as well as habitat degradation.
- These pressures represent acute threats in the Endau-Rompin landscape in the south of Malaysia.



TIGERS AND PARTS IN TRADE

JANUARY 2000 - JUNE 2022

3,377

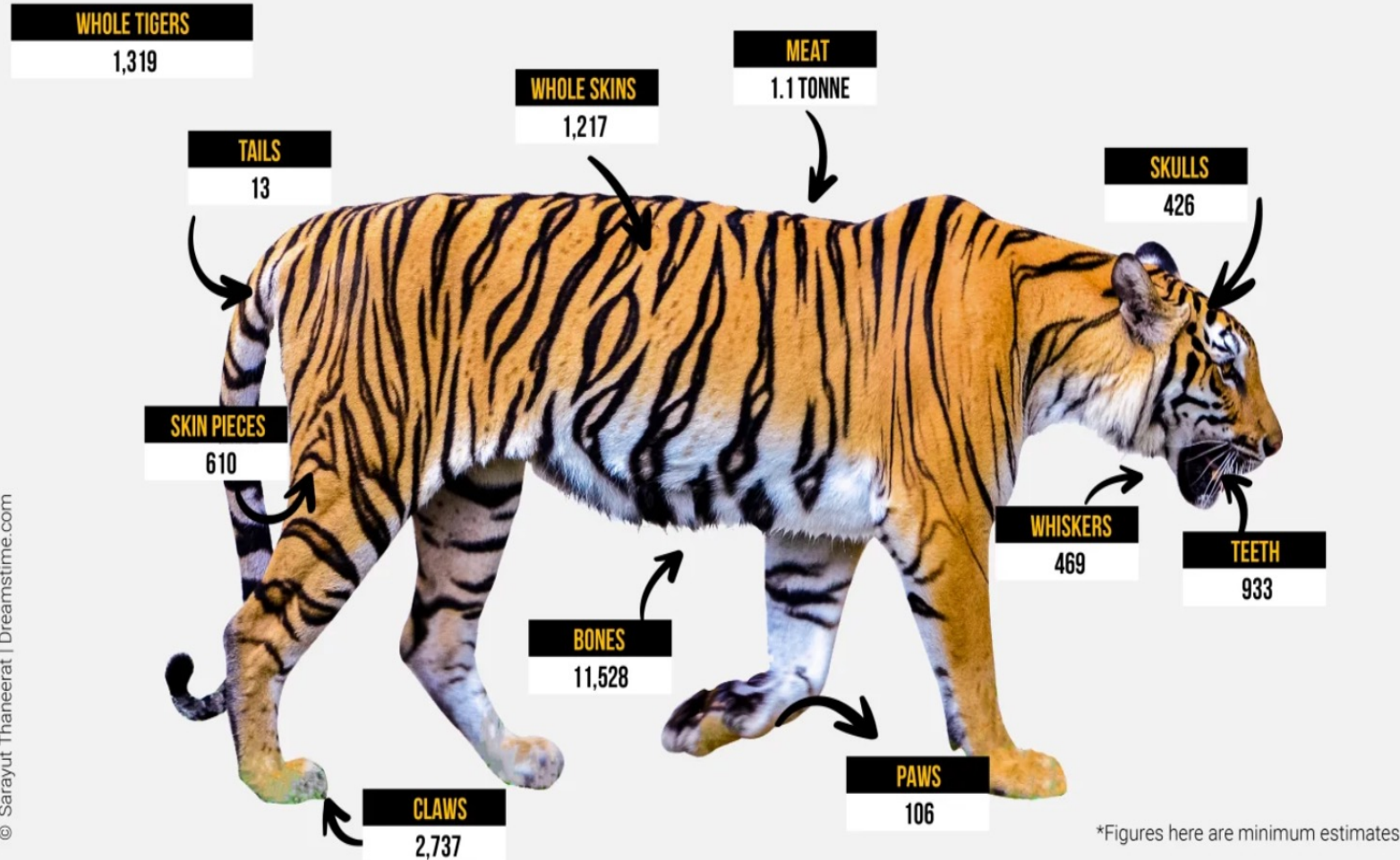
tigers confiscated

2,205

seizure incidents

150

average number of
tigers seized a year



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Source: Skin and Bones: Tiger Trafficking Analysis from January 2000 – June 2022

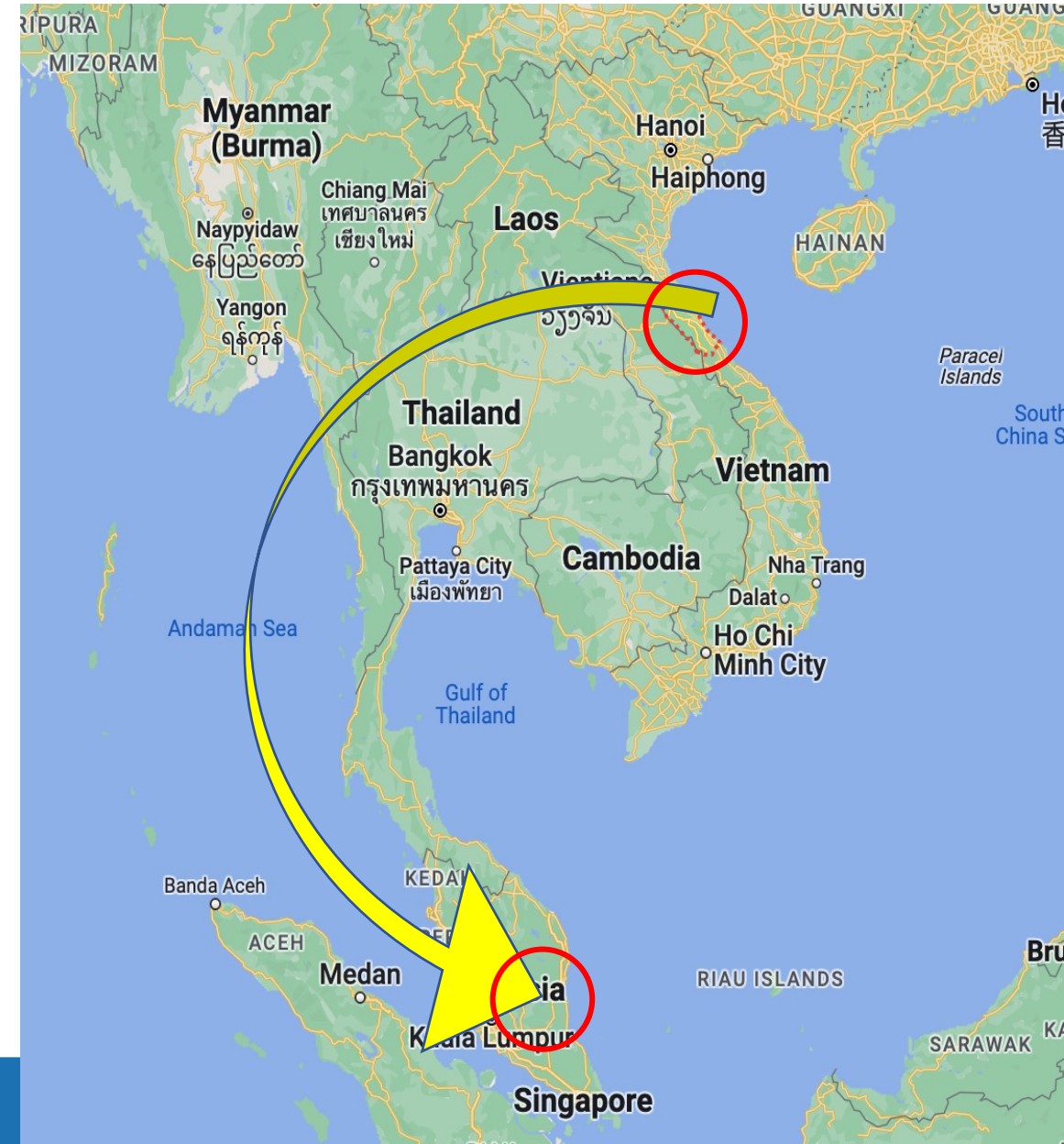
Source - Traffic



Tiger Trafficking Supply Chain - *Hunters*

Poacher Recruitment

- Tiger poaching for international trade occurs in different protected areas within Malaysia
- Skilled forest poachers from Viet Nam have been arrested in Malaysia
- Poachers recruited from a small region in Vietnam – Quang Binh



Tiger Trafficking Supply Chain - *Poaching*

Tiger poaching

- Poaching occurs within the PA
- Often deep forest – thick terrain, hard to patrol
- Can be active in the forest for weeks
- Set snares to trap tiger



Tiger Trafficking Supply Chain - *Processing*

Processing of tiger parts

- Can be processed in the forest
- Often processed in an offsite facility
- Processing can take 3-4 days

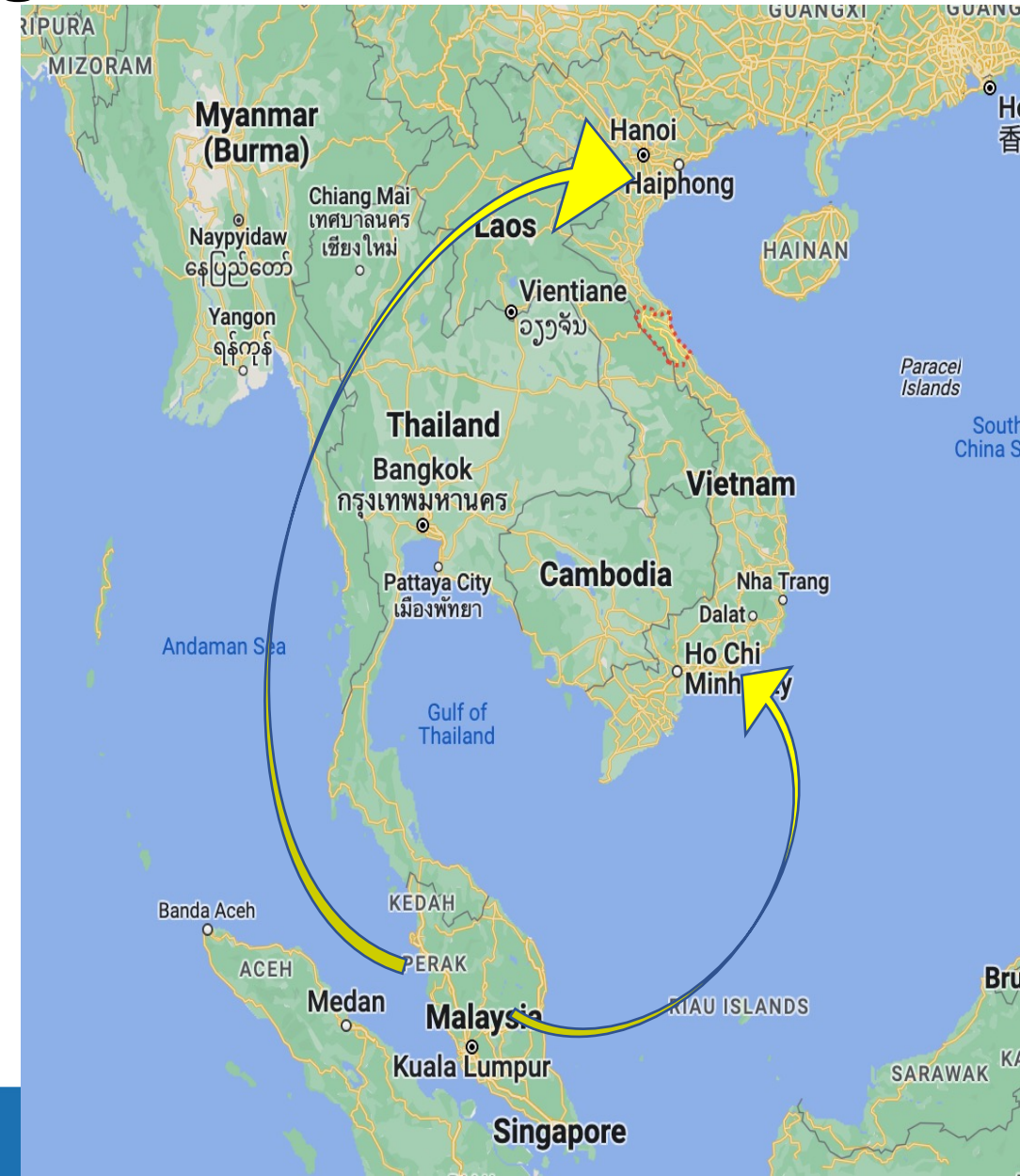


Tiger Body Parts Seized In Tamil Nadu By Wildlife SOS And WCCB - Wildlife SOS

Tiger Trafficking Supply Chain - *Trafficking*

Trafficking tiger products

- Tiger products are generally trafficked to Vietnam and China
- Modes of trafficking include air, sea and land
- Most tiger products are concealable



Tiger Trafficking Supply Chain - *Consumption*

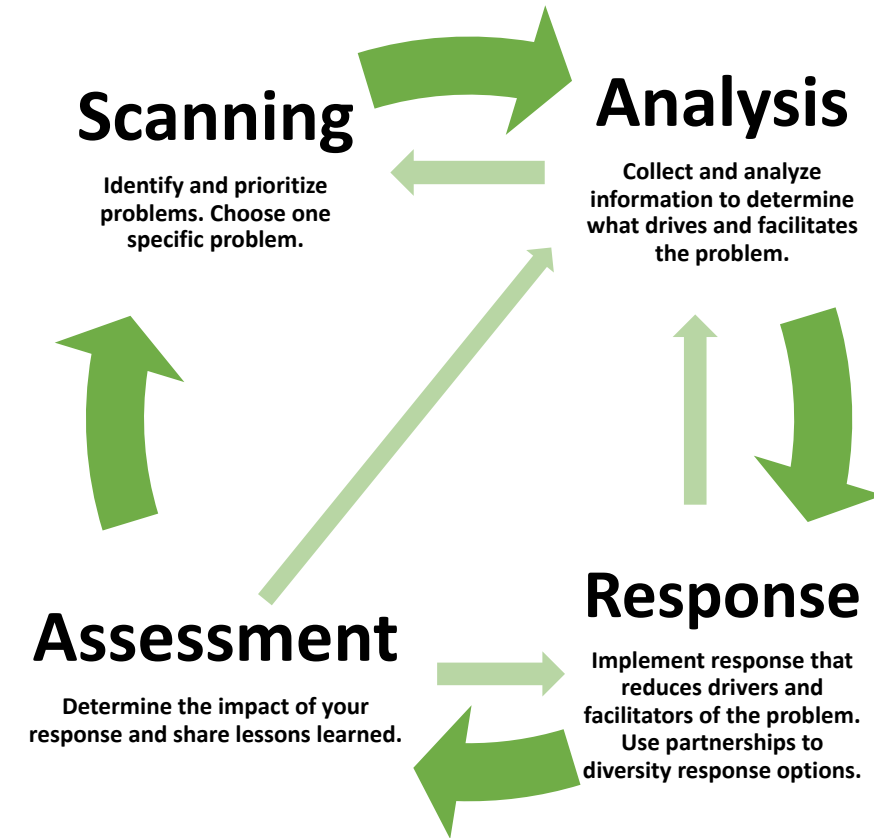
Sale and consumption of tiger products

- Used in traditional medicine and as luxury items
- Tiger bone wine – wine infused with tiger bone or parts
- Tiger bone glue – made by boiling down tiger bone into a sap like substance
- Tiger skin – ornamental hides



Setting up a Tiger Problem Solving Team

- Initial multi-agency problem-solving workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, March 2023
- Applied the SARA model to the tiger trafficking issue
 - 55 Steps POP Guide
- Tiger Problem Solving Team -
 - Recruitment of Vietnamese hunters
 - Poaching in Malaysia by Vietnamese hunters
 - Processing of tiger body parts
 - Trafficking of body parts - to Vietnam and China



The SARA Process

Next Steps – normalizing the problem-solving approach

- Tiger Problem Solving Team workshop - September
- Foundational training – **LEAD Ranger ‘Problem Profile’** course
- Latin America – October Jaguar trafficking workshop
- Training WCS CWT analysts to approach their problems using the **SARA** model
 - Defining problems
 - Analysis techniques
 - Responses - SCP



Q & A