

Wildlife Protection Law of the PRC (2022 Version)

[BY CHINA LAW TRANSLATE ON 2022/12/31](#)

Promulgation Date: 2022-12-30

Title: Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China

Document Number:

Expiration date:

Promulgating Entities: Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

Source of text:

<http://www.npc.gov.cn/npc/c30834/202212/77cc070369d94dd09270fb9c0f52cbd0.shtml>

(Adopted at the 4th session of the Standing Committee of the 7th National People's Congress on November 8, 1988; amended for the first time at the 11th session of the Standing Committee of the 10th National People's Congress in accordance with the "Decision on Amending the 'Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China' on August 28, 2004; and amended for the second time at the 10th session of the Standing Committee of the 11th National People's Congress in accordance with the "Decision on Amending Some Laws" on August 27, 2009; revised at the 21st session of the Standing Committee of the 12th National People's Congress on July 2, 2016; amended for the third time at the 6th session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress in accordance with the "Decision on Amendment the 'Wildlife Protection Law' and 14 Other Laws" on October 26, 2018; and revised for the second time at the 38th session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People's Congress on December 30, 2022)

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Chapter I: General Provisions

Article 1: This Law is formulated so as to protect wildlife, to rescue rare and endangered wildlife, to preserve biodiversity and ecological balance, to advance the construction of an ecological civilization, and to promote a harmonious coexistence with nature.

Article 2: This Law applies to the protection of wildlife and related activities within the territory of the People's Republic of China and other waters under its jurisdiction.

Wildlife protected under this Law refers to rare and endangered terrestrial and aquatic wildlife as well as terrestrial wildlife having important ecological, scientific and social value.

"Wildlife and the products thereof" as provided for in this Law refers to the entirety (including ova and eggs), parts, and derivatives of wildlife.

The provisions of the "Fisheries Law of the P.R.C." and other relevant laws shall apply to the conservation of aquatic wildlife other than rare and endangered aquatic wildlife.

Article 3: Wildlife resources belong to the State.

The State protects the lawful rights and interests of organizations and individuals lawfully engaging in scientific research, artificial breeding, or other wildlife protection or related activities.

Article 4: The State is to strengthen protection and restoration of important ecological systems, implement the principles of prioritized protection, regulated use, and strict oversight of wildlife; encourage and support the performance of scientific research on and use of wildlife; adhere to the notion of an ecological civilization, and promote green development.

Article 5: The State protects of Wildlife and their habitats. People's governments at the county level or above shall draft protection plans and measures for the protection of wildlife and their habitats, and include the expenses for protection of wildlife in their budgets.

The State encourages citizens, legal persons, and other organizations participate in activities for the protection of wildlife and support the public interest area of wild animal protection through methods such as making donations, funding and volunteer service.

Wildlife habitats as provided for by this Law refers to important areas for wild populations of wildlife to live and breed.

Article 6: All organizations and individuals have an obligation to protect wildlife and their habitats. It is forbidden to illegally hunt, transport, or trade in wild animals, and it is forbidden to destroy the habitats of wild animals.

The societal public is to strengthen their awareness of ecological protections and the preservation of public safety, prevent the spread of wildlife-borne infectious diseases, reject the illegal consumption of wildlife, and foster a scientific, healthy, and civilized lifestyle.

All organizations and individuals have the right to report illegal conduct in violation of this law, and the departments of people's governments at the county level or above in charge of wildlife protection and other relevant departments which receive reports shall promptly handle them in accordance with law.

Article 7: The forestry, grasslands, and fishery departments under the State Council take charge of the national conservation work of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, respectively.

Local people's governments at the county level and above are responsible for overseeing efforts on the conservation of wildlife in their respective administrative regions, and their departments for the administration of forestry and grasslands, and for fisheries are to be respectively responsible for overseeing the conservation of terrestrial and aquatic wildlife in their respective administrative regions.

The relevant departments of people's governments at the county level or above are responsible for efforts related to the protection of wildlife in accordance with their division of labor and duties.

Article 8: People's governments at all levels shall strengthen publicity, education, and awareness-raising efforts about the protection of wildlife; encourage and support local mass autonomous organizations, social organizations, enterprises, public institutions, nonprofit organizations, and volunteers in carrying out publicity activities about laws and regulations on the protection of wildlife and information on ecological protection; and organize and carry out training for workers on laws, regulations, and specialized knowledge, and disclose information on wildlife protection and management in accordance with law.

The administrative departments of education, and schools, shall conduct education for students on wildlife protection and knowledge.

News media shall carry out publicity on laws, regulations, and knowledge about wildlife protection, and supervise public opinion on illegal conduct in accordance with law.

Article 9: People's governments at the county level or above are to give commendations and awards in accordance with state provisions to organizations and individuals making significant achievements in wildlife protection and scientific research.

Chapter II: Protection of Wildlife and their Habitats

Article 10: The State carries out wildlife protection differentiated by category and level.

The State carries out key protection of rare and endangered wildlife. Wildlife under key national protection are classified as grade-1 and grade-2 protected wildlife. A directory of wildlife under key national protection is to be published by the wildlife protection departments under the State Council after a scientific hearing and assessment have been organized and it has been reported to the State Council for approval.

The wildlife protection departments under the State Council are to formulate and publish the directory of terrestrial wildlife having important ecological, scientific and social value after soliciting the opinions of relevant departments such as for agriculture and rural affairs, natural resources, science and technology, ecology and the environment, and health, and organizing scientific hearings and assessments.

Wildlife under key local protection refers to wildlife under key protection by the provinces, autonomous regions and directly governed municipalities other than wildlife under key national protection. The directories of wildlife under local key conservation are to be drafted and published by the people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions, and directly governed municipalities after organizing scientific hearings and assessments and soliciting opinions from the State Council department for the protection of wildlife.

Scientific hearings and assessments on the directory provided for in this article shall be organized every five years, with adjustments made on the basis of the assessment, and prompt adjustments may also be made as needed for the protection of wildlife.

Article 11: The wildlife protection departments of people's governments at the county level or above shall strengthen the use of information technology, periodically organize or entrust relevant scientific establishments to conduct investigations, monitor and assess wildlife and their habitats, and create and complete archives of wildlife and their habitats.

The investigation, monitoring, and assessment of wildlife and their habitats shall include the following content:

- (1) Wildlife distribution regions, population numbers, and structures;
- (2) the area and ecological circumstances of wildlife habitats;
- (3) the area and ecological circumstances of wildlife habitats;
- (4) Other content requiring investigation, monitoring and assessment, such as wildlife' artificial breeding conditions.

Article 12: The wildlife protection departments under the State Council shall collaborate with relevant departments of the State Council to determine and publish the directory of important wildlife habitats according to surveys and monitoring and assessment results on the statuses of wildlife and their habitats.

The wildlife protection departments under the State Council shall collaborate with relevant departments of the State Council to determine and publish the directory of important wildlife habitats according to surveys, monitoring, and assessment results on the statuses of wildlife and their habitats. Where there is no capacity for the demarcation of nature preserves, people's governments at the county level or above may protect wildlife by employing measures such as designating areas or time periods in which hunting (fishing) is forbidden.

Prohibit or limit acts disturbing or threatening the proliferation of wildlife habitats, such as introducing alien species, creating a homogeneous ecosystem, or overusing pesticides in nature preserves.

Nature preserves are to be demarcated and managed in accordance with relevant legal provisions, and the departments for the protection of wildlife are to strengthen the protection of wildlife and their habitats in accordance with law.

Article 13: When preparing plans related to development and usage, people's governments at the county level or above and their relevant departments shall fully consider the need to protect wildlife and their habitats, shall analyze and assess the overall impact that the implementation of plans might have on the protection of wildlife and their habitats, and shall avoid or mitigate the potential adverse consequences of the implementation of plans.

Projects that laws and regulations provide must not be established in nature preserves are prohibited. Sites and routes for construction projects such as for airports, railways, roads, waterways, waterworks, hydro-power, wind power, solar power, cofferdams, and sea reclamation shall avoid nature preserves, important habitats, and migration breeding migration paths of wildlife; but where it is truly impossible to avoid, the projects shall build wildlife passages, fish passage facilities and other measures to eliminate or mitigate the adverse impact on wildlife.

Where a construction project might affect nature preserves, other protected areas or the migration and breeding migration paths of wildlife, the department reviewing the environmental impact

assessment documents shall solicit comments from the wildlife protection departments under the State Council when examining and approving the environmental impact assessment documents for projects involving wildlife under key national protection, and shall solicit comments from the departments of wildlife protection for relevant people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions or directly governed municipalities, when examining and approving the environmental impact assessment documents for projects involving wildlife under key local protection.

Article 14: All levels of wildlife protection department shall monitor the impact of the environment on wildlife, and when it is discovered that the environment has caused harm to wildlife, they shall promptly investigate and address it in conjunction with relevant departments.

Article 15: Where wildlife under key national or local protection and terrestrial animals that have important ecological, scientific, or social are threatened by emergencies such as natural disasters or major environmental pollution incidents, the local people's governments shall take emergency rescue measures in a timely manner.

The State is to strengthen capacity for sheltering and rescuing wildlife. People's governments at the county level or above and relevant administrative agencies shall organize and carry out efforts to shelter and rescue wildlife in accordance with relevant national provisions and strengthen regulation and guidance for social organizations carrying out efforts to shelter and rescue wildlife.

As actually needed for the shelter and care of wildlife, shelter and rescue institutions shall establish venues for shelter and rescue equipped with corresponding professional and technical personnel, rescue tools, equipment and medicines, and so forth.

It is forbidden to sell and purchase wildlife and the products thereof in the name of sheltering and rescue.

Article 16: The "PRC Law on the Prevention of Zoonotic Diseases" and other relevant laws and regulations are to be applied in wildlife illness pathogen monitoring, quarantine, and the prevention and control of zoonotic diseases.

Article 17: The State is to strengthen the protection of wildlife genetic resources and conduct rescue and protection of endangered wildlife.

The departments for wildlife protection under the State Council shall collaborate with relevant departments of the State Council to formulate plans for the protection and utilization of genetic resources of wildlife, build the national ark of genetic wildlife resources, and implement major protection for genetic resources of rare and endangered wildlife originating from China.

Article 18: Based on actual circumstances and need, relevant local people's governments shall establish facilities for isolated protection, set up safety alert signs, and so forth, to prevent harm that might be caused by wildlife.

Based on inspections, monitoring, and assessments of wildlife and their habitats, the departments for the protection of wildlife of people's governments at the county level or above may employ population control measures such as off-site protection or hunting of species whose population clearly exceeds the environmental capacity, to ensure the safety of persons and property, ecological security, and agricultural protection. Wildlife that is hunted and captured under population adjustment controls is to be addressed and comprehensively utilized in accordance with relevant state provisions. The specific measures for population adjustment controls are to be formulated by the department for the protection of wildlife under the State Council in conjunction with relevant State Council departments.

Article 19: Where human casualties or the loss of crops or other property are caused by the protection of wildlife whose protection is provided for in this law, the local people's government will give compensation. Specific measures are to be formulated by provincial, autonomous region, or directly governed municipality people's governments. Relevant local people's governments may urge insurance agencies to carry out insurance services for compensation for harm caused by wildlife.

The central finance will follow relevant national provisions to assist relevant people's governments to take measures to prevent and control hazards created by wildlife under national key protection and other terrestrial wildlife that causes serious harm, and subsidize necessary expenses. Specific measures are to be formulated by State Council finance department in conjunction with the State Council department in charge of wildlife protection.

In emergency situations where wildlife endangers human safety and measures are employed that harm the wildlife, legal responsibility is not borne in accordance with law.

Chapter III: Wildlife Management

Article 20: It is prohibited to hunt, or to engage in other activities obstructing the lives and breeding of wildlife, in nature preserves or within areas forbidding hunting (fishing) or during periods when hunting (fishing) is prohibited, except as otherwise provided by laws and regulations.

During wildlife migration and breeding periods, hunting is prohibited and other activities obstructing the lives and breeding of wildlife are strictly limited within migration and breeding channels outside the areas set forth in the preceding paragraph. The people's governments at the county level or above or other departments in charge of wildlife protection shall provide for and publish content on the scope of migration and breeding paths and the activities obstructing the lives and breeding of wildlife.

Article 21: The hunting or killing of wildlife under national key protection is prohibited.

Where it is necessary to hunt wildlife under level-1 national conservation for the purpose of scientific research, population control, epidemiology and disease monitoring, or for other special reasons, a special hunting license shall be applied for from the authorities supervising wildlife conservation under the State Council; where it is necessary to hunt wildlife under level-2 national conservation, a special hunting license shall be applied for from the authorities supervising wildlife conservation for provincial, autonomous region, or directly governed municipality people's governments;

Article 22: Where hunting terrestrial wildlife that has important value for the ecology, science, or society, or wildlife under key local protections, hunting licenses approved and issued by the competent departments for wildlife protection of people's governments at the county level or above shall be obtained in accordance with law, and hunting quotas and limits shall be observed.

Article 23: Hunters shall hunt wildlife in strict accordance with the types, quantities, limits, places, tools, methods, and time periods specified on the special hunting permit or hunting

license. After a hunting operation is completed, the hunting situation shall be filed with the wildlife protection department that issued the special hunting license or hunting license. The specific measures are to be formulated by the competent department of wildlife protection under the State Council. Professional bodies and individuals are to undertake the hunting of wildlife under key national protection, and areas with the capacity may have professional bodies carry out the orderly hunting of terrestrial animals that have important ecological, scientific, or social value.

When hunting with a gun, a gun license issued by the public security organs shall be obtained in accordance with law.

Article 24: The use of poisons, explosives, electronic shocks or electronic trap devices, as well as snares, bear traps, bird nets, makeshift guns, single-shot firearms, and other such tools in hunting, is prohibited, and it is also prohibited to hunt by methods such as hunting with nighttime lighting, guerrilla-style hunting, destroying nests, using fire, smoke or nets, except where net hunting or electric hunting is truly necessary for species protection, scientific research, and breeding operations.

Forbidden hunting tools and methods other than those set forth in the preceding paragraph shall be determined and published by the local people's governments at the county level or above.

Article 25: Management by category and level is to be implemented for the artificial breeding of wildlife to strictly protect and scientifically use wildlife resources. The State supports the artificial breeding of wildlife under national key protection by relevant scientific research institutes for the purpose of preservation.

A license system is to be implemented for the artificial breeding of wild animals under key national protection. Artificial breeding of wildlife under national key protection shall be done upon approval by the departments for wildlife protection of people's governments for provinces, autonomous regions or directly governed municipalities, and an artificial breeding license shall be obtained, unless organs permitted by the State Council.

Artificial breeding of terrestrial animals with important ecological, scientific, or social value shall be filed with the departments in charge of protecting wildlife for people's governments at the county level or above.

The artificial breeding of wildlife shall use artificially bred filial generations as the breed source, and create species genealogies, breeding archives, and individual data. Where wild breed source is needed for the purpose of protecting species, the relevant provisions of this law on hunting of animals shall be obeyed.

"Artificially bred filial generation" as used in this Law refers to filial generations where both the parents and the individuals were born under artificial controls.

The specific management measures for the management of artificial breeding of wildlife are to be drafted by the wildlife protection departments under the State Council.

Article 26: The artificial breeding of wildlife shall be beneficial to the protection of the species and its scientific research, and must not illegally hunt wildlife or destroy wild population resources; and it shall be ensured that there is necessary movement space and conditions of living, breeding, health and sanitation for wildlife in accordance to their behaviors, ensure the concerned party has sites, facilities, and technologies suitable to the breeding purpose, types and development scale, and comply with relevant technical standards and disease prevention requirements, and must not mistreat wildlife.

The wildlife protection departments of people's governments at the provincial level or above may organize and carry out efforts to return wildlife under national key protection to the wild, as needed by that wildlife.

Where artificially bred wild animals other than those specified in the preceding paragraph are released into the wild environment, the provisions of this Law on the administration of released wild animals shall apply.

Article 27: Safety measures shall be employed in the artificial breeding of wildlife to prevent the animals from harming people or escaping. Where wildlife in artificial breeding harms others, endangers public safety, or destroys the ecology, legal responsibility shall be borne by breeders, managers, and other such persons in accordance with law.

Article 28: The sale, purchase, or use of wildlife under national key protection, and the products thereof, is prohibited.

Where it is necessary to sell, purchase or use wildlife under national key protection, and the products thereof, for the purpose of scientific research, artificial breeding, public exhibition or performance, protection of cultural relics or for other special circumstances, it shall be upon approval from the departments for protection of wildlife of the people's governments of provinces, autonomous regions or directly governed municipalities, and a special marker shall be obtained and used in accordance with provisions to ensure tracking, except where the State Council has other provisions for the permitted organ.

Where terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, and social value or wildlife under local key protection and their derivative products are sold or used, proof of their lawful origins such as from hunting, artificial breeding, or import/export shall be provided, or a special marker obtained.

Implementation measures regarding the scope and administration of special markers for wildlife under national key protection and terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value and the products thereof are to be provided for by the wildlife protection departments under the State Council.

Where wildlife provided for in paragraph two or three of this article is sold, a quarantine inspection certificate shall also be attached in accordance with law.

Safety management measures shall be employed for the use of wildlife to conduct public exhibitions and demonstrations, and the health of the wildlife is to be ensured, with specific measures to be formulated by the department for the protection of wildlife under the State Council in conjunction with relevant State Council departments.

Article 29: For wildlife under national key protection or terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value, where artificial breeding technologies are mature and stable, after scientific hearings and assessments on the merits, the wildlife shall be put on the directory of wildlife for artificial breeding, which is to be formulated by the wildlife protection departments under the State Council and adjusted at appropriate times. For wildlife listed in the directory and the products thereof, an artificial breeding license of filing may be used to directly obtain the special mark in accordance with the annual breeding volume approved by the provincial, autonomous region, or directly governed municipality people's governments' departments for the protection of wildlife or the departments they authorize, and the special marker may be used to sell and use them, ensuring that they are traceable.

When adjusting the directory of wildlife under national key protection and terrestrial animals with important ecological, scientific, or social value, as provided in Article 10 of this Law, artificial [captive] populations of wildlife for which artificial breeding technologies are mature and stable, as provided in the preceding paragraph, may be de-listed from the directory on the basis of wild population protection conditions, and differential management measures may be employed for wild and artificial populations, but assisted breeding permits or filings and special markers shall be obtained in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 25 of this Law and of the first paragraph of this Article.

After scientific debate and assessment, artificially bred populations of terrestrial animals that meet the requirements of article 12 of the Animal Husbandry Law of the PRC may be included in the directory of livestock and poultry genetic resources.

Article 30: Use of wildlife and the products thereof shall be primarily from artificially bred populations, shall be beneficial to the cultivation of wild populations, shall comply with the requirements of establishing an ecological civilization, shall respect social mores, and shall comply with laws, regulations, and relevant national provisions.

Where wildlife and the products thereof are traded and utilized as medicines and the like, the "PRC Law on the Administration of Medicines" and other related laws and regulations shall also be obeyed.

Article 31: It is prohibited to consume wildlife under key national protection and terrestrial animals protected by the state that have important ecological, scientific or social value, and other terrestrial wildlife.

The hunting, trading, or transport of wildlife provided for in the preceding paragraph that is naturally grown and bred in the wild, for the purpose of consumption, is prohibited.

It is prohibited to produce or trade in food made from wildlife and the products thereof provided for in the first paragraph of this article.

It is prohibited to illegally purchase for use as food any wildlife and the products thereof provided for in the first paragraph of this article.

Article 32: The publication of advertisements for the sale, purchase, or use of wildlife, or for prohibited hunting tools, is prohibited. The publication of advertisements for the illegal sale, purchase or use of wildlife products is prohibited.

Article 33: It is prohibited for online platforms, commercial goods markets, restaurants, and so forth to provide display, transaction, or consumer services for the illegal sale, purchase, use as food, or use of wildlife and the products thereof or of prohibited hunting gear.

Article 34: Transport, carriage, or delivery across county lines of wildlife under national key protection, and the products thereof, or of wildlife removed from the directory of wildlife under national key protection in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 29 of this law, and the products of that wildlife, shall be through the possession or attachment of copies of permits and approval documents, or the use of special markers that comply with articles 21, 25, 28, or 29 of this Law.

Where transporting, carrying, or delivering terrestrial wildlife with ecological, scientific, or social importance, and wildlife under local key protection or wildlife removed from the directory of terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 29 of this law across county boundaries, proofs or special markets of its lawful origins, such as from hunting, artificial breeding, or import-export, shall be carried.

Where transporting, carrying, or delivering wildlife provided for in the preceding two paragraphs across country boundaries, quarantine inspection services shall also be attached in accordance with the "PRC Law on the Prevention of Animal Disease".

Where enterprises such as for railways, roads, waterways, civil aviation, postal services, or express delivery, consign, carry or deliver wildlife and the products thereof, they shall check the relevant certificates, copies of documents or special markers, and must not transport or deliver those that do not meet the requirements.

Article 35: Departments for the protection of wildlife in people's governments at the county level or above shall conduct regulation, oversight, and management of activities using wildlife and the products thereof such as scientific research, artificial breeding, and public displays and performances.

Departments for market oversight and management, customs, railways, roadways, water transport, civil aviation, or post, shall conduct oversight inspections of activities such as the trade, use, transport, carrying, and delivery of wildlife and the products thereof.

The state is to establish coordination mechanisms for joint wildlife law enforcement work led by the competent departments of forestry and grassland and for fisheries under the State Council with relevant departments cooperating. The local people's governments shall establish corresponding coordination mechanisms for joint law enforcement.

The departments for wildlife protection and other departments with duties of wildlife protection oversight and inspection of people's governments at the county level or above shall transfer leads on crimes to the organs with authority for criminal or non-criminal investigation authority.

Where in the course of handling cases of wildlife protection crimes, public security organs, people's procuratorates, or people's courts find that there the facts do not show a crime, or that the crime is clearly minor, and it is not necessary to pursue criminal responsibility but an administrative punishment should be given, they shall promptly transfer the case to the departments for wildlife protection or other departments with wildlife protection duties of people's governments at the county level or above, and the relevant departments shall handle it in accordance with law.

Article 36: The departments for wildlife protection of people's governments at the county level or above and other departments with duties on the protection of wildlife may employ the following measures when performing their duties as provided in this law:

- (1) To enter places related to violations of wildlife protection management and conduct on-scene inspections and investigations;
- (2) To conduct inspections, testing, or sampling on wildlife to collect evidence;
- (3) Accessing or reproducing relevant documents or materials and sealing documents or materials that might be removed, destroyed, concealed or tampered with;

(4) Sealing or seizing wildlife or the products thereof that do not have proofs of lawful origin; sealing or seizing tools, equipment, or items suspected of involvement with the illegal hunting of wildlife or the illegal purchase, sale, processing, or transport of wildlife and the products thereof.

Article 37: The directory of wildlife, or the products thereof, for which trade is prohibited or limited by international conventions to which the People's Republic of China has acceded to or participates in, is to be drafted, adjusted and published by the the management bodies for the import and export of endangered species.

Where wildlife or their products included in the list in the preceding paragraph are imported or exported, or where wildlife under national key conservation or their products are exported, it shall be upon the approval from the State Council departments for the protection of wildlife or the State Council, and obtain an import or export permit issued by the national agency for the administration of import and export of endangered species. Customs is to handle entry and exit quarantine inspections based on the import/export permit certificates and handle other customs procedures in accordance with law.

The export of wildlife species involving confidential science and technology shall be handled in accordance with relevant provisions of the State Council.

Upon verification and approval from the State Council departments for the protection of wildlife, the wildlife included in paragraph 1's directory is to be managed in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Law.

Article 38: It is prohibited to provide genetic resources from our country's unique wildlife to foreign institutions and personnel. When carrying out international scientific research collaboration, approvals shall be obtained in accordance with law; our country's scientific research institutions, schools of higher learning, enterprises, and their personnel shall substantively participate in the research; a national benefit-sharing agreement is to be put forward in accordance provisions, and our nation's laws, administrative regulations are to be obeyed.

Article 39: The State is to organize and carry out international cooperation and communication on wildlife protection and related law enforcement activities; strengthen coordination with neighboring nations, and protect wildlife migration routes; establish mechanisms for

coordinating departments to prevent and combat the smuggling and illegal trade of wildlife and the products thereof, and to carry out actions to prevent and combat the smuggling and illegal trade of wildlife and the products thereof.

Article 40: The introduction of wildlife species from outside the mainland territory of China shall be upon approval of the wildlife protection departments under the State Council. The introduction from outside mainland China of wildlife species included in the directory provided for in paragraph 1 of Article 37 of this Law, shall obtain permits and import-export certificates in accordance with law. Customs is to handle entry quarantine on the basis of import approval documents or import/export permit certificates and handle other customs procedures in accordance with law.

Where wildlife species from outside the mainland are introduced, safe and reliable prevention measures shall be adopted to prevent them from entering the wild environment and avoid causing harm to ecological systems; they must not be illegally released or abandoned, and where it is truly necessary to release them into the wild, relevant laws and regulations shall be complied with.

Where it is found that wildlife from outside the mainland are causing harm to ecological systems, the departments for the protection of wildlife and other relevant departments of people's governments at the county level or above shall employ corresponding safety and control measures.

Article 41: The State Council department for the protection of wildlife shall collaborate with relevant State Council departments to strengthen regulation and guidance on the release of wildlife. Any organization or individual releasing wildlife to the wild shall choose a local species fit for survival in the wild at the release site, must not disturb the normal lives and production local residents, and must avoid causing harm to the ecosystem. The specific measures are to be formulated by the competent department of wildlife protection under the State Council. Where the casual release of wildlife causes physical or property harm to others, or endangers the ecosystem, legal responsibility is borne in accordance with law.

Article 42: The fabrication, modification, sale, transfer or leasing of special hunting permits, hunting licenses, artificial breeding permits, or special markers; or approval documents for the sale, purchase or use of wildlife under national key protection, and the products thereof, or import/export permits approval documents and so forth.

The distribution of permits, special markers, and approval documents provided for in the preceding paragraph shall be disclosed in accordance with law.

Article 43: Foreigners conducting field surveys or producing films or videos in the wild on wildlife under national key protection within this nation shall first obtain the approval of the departments for the protection of wildlife of people's governments of the relevant provinces, autonomous regions, or directly-governed municipalities or entities authorized by them, and shall follow relevant laws and regulations.

Article 44: Based on actual conditions, provincial, autonomous region, or directly governed municipality people's congresses or their Standing Committees may draft measures for the management measures such as for wildlife under key local protection.

Chapter IV: Legal Responsibility

Article 45: Where departments for the protection of wildlife or other relevant departments do not make administrative approval decisions in accordance with law, do not lawfully address illegal activities that are discovered or reports they receive on illegal activities, or abuse their authority, derelict their duties, distort the law for personal gain, or conduct other acts of not fulfilling duties in accordance with Law, the directly responsible managers and other directly responsible personnel are to be sanctioned in accordance with law; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 46: Where the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 12 or paragraph 2 of Article 13 of this law are violated, the relevant laws and regulations are followed to give punishment.

Article 47: Where the provisions of paragraph 4 of Article 15 of this Law are violated by trading in wildlife and the products thereof in the name of caring for them, the departments for protection of wildlife of people's governments at the county level or above will confiscate the wildlife, their products, and any unlawful gains, and may concurrently impose a fine of between two and twenty times the value of the wildlife and the products thereof, and enter information on the illegality in the social credit record, and release it publicly; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 48: In any of the following situations, where articles 20, 21, paragraph 1 of article 23, or paragraph 1 of article 24 of this Law are violated, the departments for the protection of wildlife and coastguard of people's governments at the county level or above, and the bodies for the management of the relevant nature preserves are to confiscate the hunting spoils, hunting tools, and unlawful gains in accordance with their duties and division of labor, cancel special hunting permits, and give a concurrent fine of between 2 and 20 times the value of the hunting spoils, or where there are no hunting spoils or their value is less than 5000 RMB, give a concurrent fine of between 10,000 and 100,000 RMB; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

(1) Hunting wildlife under national key protection in nature preserves or in areas or at times where hunting (fishing) is prohibited.

(2) Hunting or killing wildlife under key national protection without obtaining special hunting permits or in violation of the provisions of special hunting permits;

(3) Using prohibited tools or methods to hunt wildlife under key national protection.

Where paragraph 1 of article 23 of this Law is violated by a failure to file with the departments for the protection of wildlife regarding hunting circumstances, the department for the protection of wildlife that issued the special hunting license is to order that corrections be made in a set period of time, and where corrections are not made in time, give a fine of between 10,000 and 100,000 RMB; and where circumstances are serious, revoke the special hunting licenses or hunting licenses.

Article 49: In any of the following situations, where articles 20, 22, paragraph 1 of article 23, or paragraph 1 of article 24 of this Law are violated, the departments for the protection of wildlife of people's governments at the county level or above and the bodies for the management of the relevant nature preserves are to confiscate the hunting spoils, hunting tools, and unlawful gains in accordance with their duties and division of labor, cancel hunting permits, and give a concurrent fine of between 1 and 10 times the value of the hunting spoils, or where there are no hunting spoils or their value is less than 2000 RMB, give a concurrent fine of between 2000 and 20,000 RMB; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

(1) Hunting terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value, or wildlife under key local protection in nature preserves or in areas or at times when hunting (fishing) is prohibited;

(2) Catching terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value, or wildlife under key local protection without obtaining hunting permits or in violation of the provisions of hunting permits;

(3) Using prohibited tools or methods to catch terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value, or wildlife under key local protection.

Where article 20 or paragraph 1 of article 24 of this Law are violated by catching other terrestrial wildlife in nature preserves, areas where it is prohibited, or at times when it is prohibited, or using tools and methods that are prohibited, the departments for the protection of wildlife of people's governments at the county level or above and the bodies for the management of the relevant nature preserves are to confiscate the hunting spoils, hunting tools, and unlawful gains in accordance with their duties and division of labor, and give a concurrent fine of between 1 and 3 times the value of the hunting spoils, or where there are no hunting spoils or their value is less than 1,000 RMB, give a concurrent fine of between 1,000 and 3,000 RMB; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Where paragraph 2 of Article 23 of this Law is violated by hunting with a gun without obtaining a gun permit, constituting a violation of public security administration, the public security organs will give public security administrative sanctions in accordance with law; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 50: Where paragraph 2 of article 31 of this Law is violated by catching, trading in, or transporting wild-bred and raised wildlife under key national protection or terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value for the purpose of consumption as food, it is to be given a heavier punishment in accordance with articles 48, 49, and 52 of this Law.

Where paragraph 2 of article 31 of this law is violated by hunting animals that are naturally grown and bred in the wild, for the purpose of consumption; the department for the protection of wildlife for the local people's governments at the county level or above or the management bodies for nature preserves are to follow their duties and division of labor to confiscate the

hunting spoils, tools, and unlawful gains, and where circumstances are serious give a fine of between 1 and 5 times the value of hunting spoils, or where there are no hunting spoils, or their value is less than 2,000 RMB, give a fine of between 2,000 and 10,000 RMB; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Where paragraph 2 of article 31 of this Law is violated by trading or transporting other terrestrial wildlife that is naturally grown and bred in the wild, for the purpose of consumption as food, the departments for the protection of wildlife or for market oversight and management of local people's governments at the county level or above are to follow their duties and division of labor to confiscate the wildlife, where circumstances are serious give a fine of between 1 and 5 times their value; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 51: Where the third paragraph of article 25 of this Law is violated by failing to file for the artificial breeding of wildlife that has important ecological, scientific, or social value, or that has been removed from the directory of wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 29 of this Law, the departments for the protection of wildlife of county-level people's governments are to order that corrections be made in a set period of time, and where the corrections are not made in time, give a fine of between 500 and 2,000 RMB.

Where the third paragraph of article 25 of this Law is violated by failing to file for the artificial breeding of wildlife that has important ecological, scientific, or social value, or that has been removed from the directory of wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 29 of this Law, the departments for the protection of wildlife of county-level people's governments are to order that corrections be made in a set period of time, and where the corrections are not made in time, give a fine of between 500 and 2,000 RMB.

Article 52: Where paragraphs 1 or 2 of Article 28, paragraph 1 of Article 29, or paragraph 1 of Article 34 of this Law are violated by the sale, purchase, use, transport, carriage, or delivery of wildlife under national key protection, and the products thereof or wildlife and the products thereof removed from the directory of wildlife under key nation protection in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 29 of this Law, without approvals or without obtaining special markers or without using special markers as provided, or without carrying or attaching copies of the artificial breeding permit, approval documents, the departments for protection of wildlife and the departments for market administration of the people's government at the county level or above

are to follow their duties and division of labor to confiscate the wildlife and the products thereof and the unlawful gains, order the closure of illegal business venues, and impose a fine between two and twenty times the unlawful gains; where the circumstances are serious, revoke the artificial breeding licenses, withdraw the approval documents, and recollect the special markers; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Where paragraph 3 of article 28, paragraph 1 of article 29, or paragraph 2 of article 34 of this Law are violated by the sale, usage, transport, carriage, or delivery of terrestrial wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value, or wildlife under key local protections, or terrestrial wildlife that has been removed from the directory of wildlife with important ecological, scientific, or social value in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 29, and the products thereof, without having proof of their lawful origin or special markers, the departments for the protection of wildlife and for market oversight and management of people's governments at the county level or above are to follow their duties and division of labor to confiscate the wildlife and give a fine of between 1 and 10 times the value of the wildlife; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Where paragraph 4 of article 34 of this Law is violated by enterprises such as for railways, roadways, water transportation, civil aviation, post, or courier services not inspecting as provided or transporting and delivering wildlife and the products thereof, the relevant regulatory departments, such as for transportation, railway administration, civil aviation, and postal administration are to follow their duties and division of labor to confiscate any unlawful gains and give a fine of between 1 and 5 times their value; and cancel permits where the circumstances are serious.

Article 53: Where paragraphs 1 or 4 of article 31 of this Law are violated by the consumption, or illegal purchase for the purpose of consumption of wildlife and the products thereof provided for in this law, the departments for the protection of wildlife or market administration of local people's governments at the county level or above are to follow their duties and division of labor to stop the illegal activity, confiscate the wildlife and the products thereof, give a fine of between 2 and 20 times their value; where other terrestrial wildlife and the products thereof are consumed or illegally purchased for the purpose of consumption, the departments for the protection of wildlife or market administration of local people's governments at the county level or above are to follow their duties and division of labor to stop the illegal activity, give criticism and education, and confiscate the wildlife and the products thereof, and where the circumstances are serious a concurrent fine of between 1 and 10 times their value; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Where paragraph 3 of Article 31 of this Law is violated by the production or trade in foods made using wildlife protected by this law and the products thereof, the departments for the protection of wildlife or for market administration of people's governments at the county level or above are to follow their duties and division of labor to order that the illegal activity be stopped, confiscate the wildlife and the products thereof as well as any unlawful gains, order that illegal business locations be shut down, and give a fine of between 15 and 30 times the value of unlawful gains; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law; where other wildlife and the products thereof are produced or traded in for use as food, criticism and education are to be given, and the wildlife and the products thereof and any unlawful gains are to be confiscated, and where the circumstances are serious, a concurrent fine of between 1 and 10 times their value is to be given; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 54: Where Article 32 of this Law is violated by the publication of advertisements for the illegal sale, purchase, or use of wildlife, and the products thereof, or for prohibited hunting tools, the person shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of the "PRC Advertising Law".

Article 55: Where Article 33 of this Law is violated by providing services such as for the display, trading, or purchases for the illegal sale, purchase, eating, or use of wildlife, or the products thereof, or for prohibited hunting tools, the departments for market administration people's governments at the county level or above are to order the illegal behavior stopped and corrected within a set period of time, confiscate unlawful gains, and will impose a fine of between two and ten times the unlawful gains; where there are no unlawful gains or they are less than 5,000 RMB, a fine of between 10,000 and 100,000 RMB is to be imposed; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 56: Where the provisions of Article 37 of this Law are violated by importing or exporting wildlife and the products thereof, customs, the public security organs and coast guard bodies are to handle it in accordance with laws, administrative regulations, and relevant national provisions; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 57: Where article 38 of this Law is violated by providing genetic resources from our country's unique wildlife to foreign institutions and personnel, the departments for the protection of wildlife for people's governments at the county level or above are to confiscate the wildlife and the products thereof and any unlawful gains, and give a fine of between 1 and 5 times the value of the wildlife and the products thereof; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 58: Where paragraph 2 of Article 41 of this Law is violated by releasing wildlife introduced from outside the mainland into the wild, the department for the protection of wildlife will order them recaptured by a certain time, and give a fine of between 10,000 and 100,000 RMB; where the time period for recapture is exceeded, the department for the protection of wildlife will recapture them in their stead or employ measures to reduce the impact, with the person ordered to recapture to bear all costs; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 59: Where paragraph 2 of Article 40 of this Law is violated by releasing or abandoning wildlife introduced from outside the mainland into the wild, the department for the protection of wildlife will order them recaptured by a certain time, and give a fine of between 10,000 and 100,000 RMB; where the time period for recapture is exceeded, the department for the protection of wildlife will recapture them in their stead or employ measures to reduce the impact, with the person ordered to recapture to bear all costs; and where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 60: Where paragraph 1 of Article 42 of this Law is violated by fabricating, modifying, selling, transferring, or leasing relevant certificates, special markers or approval documents; the departments of wildlife protection for people's governments at the county level or above will confiscate the illegal certificates, special markers or approval documents and unlawful gains, and impose a fine of between 50,000 to 500,000 RMB; where a public security administrative violation is constituted, the public security organs will give a public security administrative sanction in accordance with law; where a crime is constituted, criminal responsibility is pursued in accordance with law.

Article 61: Departments for the protection of wildlife and other departments and bodies with duties on the protection of wildlife for people's governments at the county level or above shall handle wildlife and the products thereof that have been confiscated in accordance with relevant provisions, with specific measures being drafted by the State Council department for the protection of wildlife in conjunction with other relevant departments of the State Council.

Article 62: The departments for the protection of wildlife of people's governments at the county level and above shall strengthen regulation and guidance of efforts on evaluation and value assessment of wildlife and the products thereof. The standards and methods for assessing the values of hunting spoils, wildlife, and the products thereof, as specified by this Law will be established by the wildlife protection departments under the State Council.

Article 63: With regards to conduct that destroys wildlife resources or the ecological environment or that harms the societal public interest, the relevant organs and organizations can file lawsuits at people's court following the legal regulations documented in "PRC Environment Law", "PRC Civil Procedure Law" and "PRC Administrative Procedure Law" etc.

Chapter V: Supplementary Provisions

Article 64: This Law is to take effect on May 1, 2023.