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stop illegal wildlife trafficking

Animals and plants are threatened by many forces, from loss of their habitats to harmful agricultural practices. Some species already have disappeared; others are endangered. Wildlife trafficking poses a very serious threat to the survival of dozens of species.

You can help protect threatened species by:

- Adopting an animal from a wildlife conservation group

- Volunteering to help in conservation
- Spreading the word about the threat from illegal wildlife trade
- Refusing to buy products made from endangered animals

Many species are in dramatic decline due to poaching and illegal trade in live animals and their body parts. For example, elephants are poached for ivory—one is killed every 15 minutes—tigers for their skins and bones, rhinos for their horns and sharks for their fins.

Poaching has pushed even protected species like the Sumatran tiger, Javan rhino, leatherback turtle and mountain gorilla to the brink of extinction.

With the loss of one species, entire ecosystems can falter, with dire consequences for other species, the environment and humans.

Animals on almost every continent are threatened by poaching and illegal wildlife trade. The United States is working with many countries worldwide to end poaching and reduce demand for illegally traded wildlife. The U.S. is also working with China and several African countries to protect elephants and other threatened species.

All of these creatures are seriously threatened by illegal wildlife trafficking:

1 African Elephant
2 Cheetah
3 Tibetan Antelope (Chiru)
4 Helmeted Hornbill
5 Slow Loris
6 Bengal Tiger
7 Gray Wolf
8 Canada Lynx
9 White Rhino
10 Cockatoo
11 Macaw
12 Rosewood Tree
13 Grizzly Bear
14 Saiga Antelope
15 Snow Leopard
16 Pangolin
17 Wild Orchids
18 River Otter
19 Sturgeon
20 Green Sea Turtle
21 Coral
22 White Shark
23 Queen Conch
24 Bluefin Tuna
25 Nile Crocodile

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