

HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL™



Volume 13 ■ July 2007 ■ Issue 2

A New Future for the Royal Pride

Our last appeal to you was for the rescue, release and future safety of six lions (The Royal Pride) wild caught for a canned hunt in South Africa. The lions are now safe in the care of SanWild Wildlife Sanctuary, a 6,000 hectare refuge which is already home to 4,500 rehabilitated wild animals.

The safety of the animals within this reserve, including the Royal Pride, is dependant on vigilant anti poaching patrols. When the reserve was initially started, poaching was rife on the old farms that were bought to create the refuge. Slowly but surely a small but dedicated group of rangers started making headway and managed to get poaching under control.

As more land was added to the reserve it became necessary to appoint more individuals to be trained as rangers. With a promised donation more rangers were appointed and trained and the increased personnel on the

ground resulted in a total eradication of poaching. If the patrols are not kept vigilant poaching will increase dramatically within a very short period of time.

Sadly the donor who undertook to cover the costs of the rangers started defaulting on his payments to the point where they were forced to lay off some of the rangers. This was devastating to the morale of the staff and a threat to the animals they were committed to protecting.

With the donation from HSI, SanWild has fed and cared for the lions while they await release into the reserve, re-appointed the rangers that had been laid off and brought hope to a small group, whose courage and dedication to the wildlife of SanWild can only be described as heroic.

Many thanks to all our supporters who gave so generously to this project. ■



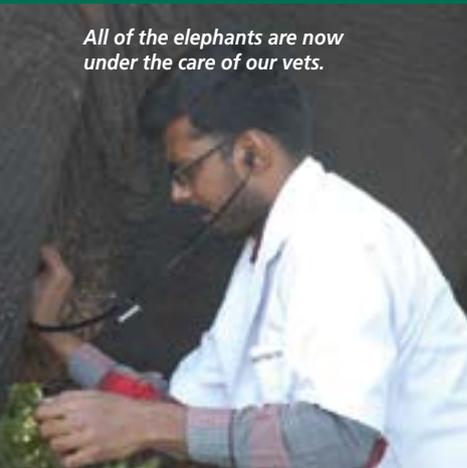
Removing snares from warthog burrows.



Prince and Queen.

Delhi Elephant Update

All of the elephants are now under the care of our vets.



For those many members who gave so generously to help the street elephants of Delhi we thought you would like an update on the program designed to bring about change to their lives of misery.

All the captive elephants in Delhi are now under the care of Wildlife SOS, our project partners in India. The vets have treated the elephants for many ailments including gastro-intestinal and abdominal disorders, nutritional deficiencies, malnutrition and digestive problems, and many are undergoing treatment for "rotten feet" and capped elbows.

For the present Wildlife SOS is providing ongoing veterinary care through the means of a mobile treatment van that was purchased through the generous contributions of HSI supporters. Your donations have also provided training for the mahouts and the micro chipping of all the captive elephants in Delhi, with the aim to track elephants and monitor their working hours and their general health.

Wildlife SOS are currently planning the construction of an Elephant Hospital and Rescue Centre on the banks of the river Yamuna, which will provide a place for retirement, convalescence and medical care for

Continued page 3

Message from the Directors

Our first job as always is to thank you for your extremely generous response to our latest appeal. This time of course it was to help the lions at the SanWild Wildlife Sanctuary in South Africa, and to pay for the employment of more rangers to protect all the animals on the sanctuary. It is deservedly our front page story.

A large amount of HSI's time has been taken up these last few months in negotiations with the Federal Government over the proper expenditure of the \$200 million allocated by the Commonwealth for the Global Initiative on Forests and Climate. We are working with colleague conservation organisations to convince the Government of the need to spend that money quickly to protect the remaining tropical rainforests in Indonesia and other countries in the region (page 6).

Since the article on the establishment of HSI's Wildlife Land Trust (WLT) in our last newsletter, we have had the enormous pleasure of signing up five inaugural sanctuary owners: three in NSW, one in Tasmania and one in Queensland. We sincerely hope that there will be many,

many more. There is a standing invitation to all HSI supporters who may have a property, no matter how small, to join the growing WLT (see back page).

HSI staff have been traveling a lot lately, with the International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in Alaska and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) meeting in Holland. We held off the Japanese attempts to renew commercial whaling as usual, but they plan to continue their "scientific whaling" in the summer in Antarctica. HSI is back in court against the Japanese whaling company Kyodo, in July (page 5).

CITES was a mixed blessing, with a tremendous win on whales, foiling Japanese attempts to review all protective listings; a further nine year moratorium on ivory trade (though with agreement for a one-off sale of some existing stocks) and the listing and trade ban on six species of highly endangered sawfish (most of which occur in Australia). One Australian species of sawfish was listed but with trade permitted, thanks to the appalling intervention of the Australian Government (see page 8). And

finally on a good news note, the very beautiful primate, the Slow Loris, was also banned from trade. You may have seen these lovely animals for sale in markets in Indonesia.

We also invite you once again to attend HSI's Art Show in Sydney on September 10th, where we hope to raise monies to fund more wildlife protection programs in Africa and South East Asia (page 9). We very much hope that we can meet with many HSI members at the Art Show, and we thank you all as always for your unstinting support for the protection of animals and their environments across Australia and across the world.

Best wishes

Michael and Verna

PS A final but important matter is to remind you that your help is most certainly needed in writing to the two major political parties seeking conservation election commitments, and we are especially keen to see your replies (page 3).

Join us at the 2007 Extinction Denied Art Exhibition

"Flightless" by artist Simon Collins.



Our "Extinction Denied" art exhibition is on again this September so please mark your calendar and join us to help celebrate a future for all animals.

The opening night will be held on Monday the 10th September from 6pm to 8pm. The Arthouse Hotel, 275 Pitt St Sydney, has kindly donated their fabulous venue once again for this important fundraiser. The proceeds from the exhibition will go towards our animal protection campaigns.

The exhibition will remain at the Arthouse till October the 13th so if you can't make it to the opening night you are more than welcome to view the works anytime during the following month. Opening hours 11am till late Monday to Friday - 5pm till late Saturday - closed Sunday.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the fabulous, talented and dedicated artists that make this event possible.

Gav Barbey, Terezka Beck, Matthew Carney, Robyn Caughlan, Carla Cescon, Shaun Clark, Stephen Coburn, Robyn Collier, Simon Collins, Lucy Culliton, Marguerite Derricourt, Linda Dri-Parker, Xavier Ghazi, Gabriel Ghazi, Mike Golding, Peter Griffen, Hannah Hall, Ash Hemsall, Michael Herford, Jimmy Pike, Vic Maloney, Abbey McCulloch, Diablo Mode, Reg Mombassa, Joanne Mulcahy, Nafisa Naomi, Stuart Rex, Mary Shackman, Geraldine Simmons, Mark Sofilas, Lisa Stamos, Grant Whiteley, Hugh Whittaker, Cleo Wilkinson.

TO RSVP - space is limited but entry is free - please call our office on (02)99731728 or email cornelia@hsi.org.au. Hope to see you there. ■



Elephant Village proposed land.

sick and infirm elephants.

They are also continuing their anti poaching work to help ensure no new elephants are trapped for the captive elephant industry. As a long term goal, Wildlife SOS envisions the end of trafficking and the use in entertainment of the Indian elephant.

Many thanks to our many supporters who have helped make this program happen. ■



Vets at work in India.

Urgent Federal Election Action Required

As the campaign heats up between the various political parties in the lead up to the next Federal election at the end of the year, it is of paramount importance that we let both the Government and Opposition know our environmental concerns.

While we have given them a long list of policy requests, the following items are of particular concern to HSI. We would very much like you to take the time in the next few weeks to sit down and convey these election requests to the leaders of both major parties.

Letters should be sent to the Prime Minister John Howard, Kevin Rudd MP, Leader of the Opposition, Malcolm Turnbull MP, Minister for Environment and Water Resources, Peter Garrett MP, Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Environment & Heritage, all c/o Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600. Make sure you ask them to reply specifically to your election requests. ■

ASK THEM TO:

- Protect all of Australia's wild and least disturbed rivers by including them in the *National Heritage List*.
- Establish a \$10 billion "*National Biodiversity Program*" over 5 years, guided by a strengthened *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999*, and agreed national priorities.
- Fully implement the "*National Biodiversity and Climate Change Action Plan*" and renewal of the "*National Biodiversity Hotspots Program*".
- Ensure the renewal of the Regional Natural Heritage Program (RNHP) protecting wildlife and habitats in South East Asia and the South Pacific allocating \$20 million over 3 years.
- Match the RNHP with a program for South East Asia and the South Pacific that provides grants for climate change and biodiversity adaptation programs (\$20 million over 3 years).
- In cooperation with other regional governments and NGOs help provide resources and expertise to Indonesia to effectively implement "avoided deforestation/climate change programs" fully recognised in any new post Kyoto carbon trading schemes.
- Introduce a National Animal Welfare Act.
- Urgently negotiate with the Indonesian Government to mitigate the effect of the production of palm oil (for biofuels) that are contributing to the destruction of tropical forest and the burning of peat forests, subsequently emitting massive amounts of carbon dioxide. Also investigate any perverse subsidies being paid under Kyoto CDMs (Clean Development Mechanisms) which also result in the destruction of tropical forests.
- Introduce a "*Tropical Forest Conservation Act*", similar to the law in the United States, as a means of instigating an Australian "Debt for Nature Swap Program" in Asia and the Pacific, in order to provide conservation finance in the region; and establish a mandatory certification and labeling systems (and prohibitions) in relation to the import of tropical timbers, palm oil and other tropical forest products.
- Investigate further international initiatives to protect Antarctica and list the Australian Antarctic Territory and its Whale Sanctuary under the National Heritage list.
- Develop a long-term regional strategy to ensure Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and other relevant fora, implement mandatory regimes to prevent incidental wildlife bycatch and minimise ecosystem impacts.

Many thanks for your help and please send your replies back to us as soon as you can.

HSI takes on Australia's Biggest Fishery in Legal Action

HSI's latest legal action is to challenge the largest fishery in Australia, the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF), which extends from Queensland around the east and south coast to Western Australia. As with all fisheries that export product, the SESSF obtained export approval from the Minister for Environment by demonstrating to his satisfaction its environmental sustainability.

HSI is challenging this sustainability assessment, and seeking to impose stronger conditions on the export approval that will allow the recovery of overfished species and protect other marine wildlife. The key issues in the fishery have been the focus of ongoing HSI campaigns in recent years.

Eastern gemfish, orange roughy and school

shark have been chronically overfished for many years; Harrison's dogfish is caught as bycatch and its very survival as a species is now in serious jeopardy as a result; Fur seals and sea lions are caught and entangled in trawl nets in various ways, and seabirds, especially albatross are caught in both trawl and longline hook fishing operations. The case is to be heard in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. ■

HSI success – shark habitat protected



Image courtesy of Peter Le Gras.

After more than 5 years of campaigning by HSI to secure protection for the critically endangered grey nurse shark, the Australian Government finally announced in May a 300

hectare Reserve at one of the key aggregations sites, in Commonwealth waters off northern New South Wales. The Cod Grounds Commonwealth Marine Reserve providing a 1000m no-take sanctuary area, where all forms of commercial and recreational fishing will be banned, came into effect on the 28th May 2007. This reserve

protects the second, and final, grey nurse shark critical habitat site in Commonwealth waters. Lobby efforts will continue to secure similar protection for the 18 critical habitat sites in NSW waters and the 4 in QLD waters.

The battle to secure sanctuary protection for the grey nurse shark has now been taken to the courts with HSI financially supporting the NSW Nature Conservation Council's (NCC) legal challenge to increase protection of grey nurse sharks in key habitats along the NSW coast (under the *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999*). In April, the NCC launched a court case in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) against a decision by the former Federal Minister for the Environment to approve the Ocean Trap and Line Fishery (OTLF) as a Wildlife Trade Operation, due to the impact

ACTION NEEDED:

Write to the **NSW Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water, The Hon. Phil Koperberg MP, PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232**, and the **Qld Minister for Environment and Multiculturalism, The Hon. Lindy Nelson-Carr MP, PO Box 15155, City East QLD 4002**, calling on them to protect the further 18 grey nurse shark critical habitat sites in NSW State waters, and 4 in Qld State waters, in 1500m no-take sanctuary zones.

Please send your replies to us.

of commercial and recreational fishing which operates in the vicinity of grey nurse shark critical habitat sites. ■



The David McGill Memorial Fund

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of David McGill, a long time friend of HSI. He was tragically lost to us in the storms in Sydney this June at the young age of 29. Because of David's belief in the work of HSI his family arranged for donations to HSI in lieu of flowers.

We are establishing the David McGill Memorial Fund which will give an annual grant to an animal project that we know would be close to his heart. We will all miss your smiling face and hearty laugh David, but your memory will live on at HSI through your gift to the animals. ■

Whales Win at the 2007 International Whaling Commission Meeting



Image courtesy of Tracey Shelton.

The conservation block of countries returned to power at this meeting and were able to resoundingly quell the doubts relating to the moratorium that were cast at the meeting last year. To this end a resolution was passed which reaffirmed the IWC's supreme authority over whale conservation, and also effectively stonewalled Japan's attempts to weaken the whaling moratorium through the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), which was meeting immediately after the IWC. Japan proposed that all great whales should be downgraded under CITES and their trade restrictions loosened. This would then pave the way for a gradual release of the moratorium. The IWC responded unequivocally, warning CITES that any downgrading could have serious consequences for the world's whale populations.

activity, a claim which was easily disproved because of the commercial marketing of its products.

The Commission also passed a resolution deploring Japan's continued reliance on lethal scientific research, even though it remains powerless to prevent the 'research' hunts from continuing. Australia and New Zealand both objected strongly to the inclusion of the endangered and iconic humpback whale in the Southern Ocean hunt. Japan responded by offering a 'deal' by which the humpbacks in the Southern Ocean would be spared in return for allowing the coastal whaling previously mentioned to commence. Australia and New Zealand held their ground and upheld the principle of resisting all commercial whale hunts.

This year's meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) resulted in a convincing win for whale conservation and a major step backwards for the pro-whaling block led by Japan. However, as has been the case during the entire 21 years of the commercial whaling moratorium, the loophole allowing scientific research studies to kill whales continues to enable Japan's annual whale hunt in both Antarctica and the Northern Pacific.

This year's meeting saw the triennial provision of quotas for Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling – whaling activity which derives from cultural and subsistence needs and the products of which are not sold commercially. These were awarded, as in previous years, to aboriginal communities in the United States, Denmark, the Russian Federation and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Japan attempted to cast its ongoing proposal for small-type coastal whaling as an aboriginal

Japan's long-term 'scientific' hunt in the Southern Ocean, JARPA II, will continue next year, with approximately 1035 whales scheduled to be killed including 50 humpbacks and 50 fin whales. HSI estimates that over 900 of these will be killed in the Australian Whale Sanctuary, in breach of Commonwealth law. To stop this happening we will be back in Federal Court on 24th July seeking an injunction to stop the Japanese whaling company conducting the hunt. ■

Help HSI by distributing our Brochures. Do you have a business?



A great way for HSI to reach more people across Australia is through the distribution of our brochures.

We currently have over 500 businesses who have offered to display and/or give out HSI brochures and also have a number of committed supporters who combine exercise with helping us by mail dropping our brochures while they walk. If you are interested in helping us spread the word on animal welfare and conservation, please contact our office on the free call **1800 333 737** or complete the coupon below.

Yes, Please send me(quantity) Counter Packs (50 brochures plus stand) to distribute locally.

Title First Name Last Name.....

Postal Address.....

State Postcode..... Contact Phone ().....

Email.....



Commonwealth Global Initiative on Forests and Climate

Deforestation and forest fires associated with land clearing in developing countries account for almost 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions. At the current rate of deforestation, up to 98% of forests in Sumatra and Borneo are likely to be destroyed by 2022. This has alarming consequences for global atmospheric CO₂, and the survival of massive numbers of mammals, birds and other wildlife.

While HSI recognises that many billions of dollars will be needed to deal effectively with deforestation, we welcomed the Australian Government announcement in March of the Global Initiative on Forests and Climate, committing \$200 million over five-years to kick-start a fund intended to prevent further destruction of forests in developing countries.

HSI meets with Minister

HSI held talks with the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Malcolm Turnbull, prior to the announcement, over the implementation of direct approaches and strategies to help reduce deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions and habitat destruction in Indonesia. HSI has also been lobbying for many years to have the

Commonwealth join the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), whose partners include the World Bank, Conservation International and the Government of Japan, and which led in part to the establishment of the Australian Government's Regional Natural Heritage Program (RNHP) - both programs targeting international forest conservation.

HSI is pleased that the Federal Government, in announcing this fund, has taken the lead in pioneering a global arrangement, supported by the USA and Indonesian governments, which will help developing countries to take action to stop this escalating environmental crisis. HSI has had subsequent talks with the Minister and Greg Hunt MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with Carbon Conservation, Fauna & Flora International and Wildlife Warriors Worldwide, about the implementation of the fund. ■

ACTION NEEDED:

Write to **Malcolm Turnbull, Minister for Environment & Water Resources, Greg Hunt MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Senator Eric Abetz, Minister for Forestry & Conservation, c/o Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600**, asking that they ensure that "avoided deforestation" is included as an agreed principle in all future national, regional and global "carbon trading arrangements".

Also ask that they immediately use the resources under the initiative to fund on-ground pilot projects in the Asia/Pacific region that will permanently protect large areas of tropical forests.

Please send your replies to us.

More wildlife habitats protected by HSI

HSI was pleased with the announcement in April that Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW south-western slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions, has been listed as an endangered

ecological community under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act. This community was nominated by HSI in December 2004, and the listing covers the remaining 236,000 hectares of this very important wildlife habitat in NSW. ■



Image courtesy of John Benson

List of Conservation & Animal Welfare Ministers

Federal:

- **Prime Minister**, The Honourable John Howard, MP (Fax 02 6273 4100) <http://www.pm.gov.au/contact/index.cfm>
- **Minister for the Environment and Water Resources**, (conservation issues) The Honourable Malcolm Turnbull, MP (Fax 02 6273 6101) Malcolm.Turnbull.MP@aph.gov.au
- **Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation**, Senator, The Honourable Eric Abetz (Fax 02 6273 7096) <http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/senators/homepages/contact.asp?id=N26>
- **Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry***, The Honourable Peter McGauran (Fax 02 6273 4120) Peter.McGauran.MP@aph.gov.au

Victoria:

- **VIC Premier**, The Honourable Steve Bracks (Fax 03 9651 5054) steve.bracks@parliament.vic.gov.au
- **Minister for Agriculture***, Mr Joe Helper (Fax 03 9658 4631) Joe.Helper@parliament.vic.gov.au
- **Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change**, The Honourable John Thwaites (Fax 03 9651 1188) John.Thwaites@parliament.vic.gov.au

New South Wales:

- **NSW Premier**, The Honourable Morris Iemma (Fax 02 9228 3934) thepremier@www.nsw.gov.au
- **Minister for Primary Industries***, The Honourable Ian MacDonald (Fax 02 9228 3452)

macdonald.office@macdonald.minister.nsw.gov.au

- **Minister for Climate Change, the Environment and Water**, The Honourable Philip Koperberg (Fax 02 9995 6654) office@koperberg.minister.nsw.gov.au

Queensland:

- **QLD Premier**, The Honourable Peter Beattie (Fax 07 3221 3631) premiers@ministerial.qld.gov.au
- **Minister for Environment and Multiculturalism**, The Honourable Lindel (Lindy) Nelson-Carr (Fax 07 3227 6309) EandM@ministerial.qld.gov.au
- **Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries***, The Honourable Timothy Mulherin (Fax 07 3229 8541) dpi@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Western Australia:

- **WA Premier**, The Honourable Alan Carpenter (Fax 08 9322 1213) wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au
- **Minister for Agriculture and Food / Minister for Forestry**, The Honourable Kimberley (Kim) Chance (Fax 08 9213 6701) kim-chance@dpc.wa.gov.au
- **Minister for the Environment and Climate Change**, The Honourable David Templeman (Fax 08 9221 4665) david-templeman@dpc.wa.gov.au
- **Minister for Fisheries**, The Honourable Jonathan (Jon) Ford (Fax 08 9213 7201) jon-ford@dpc.wa.gov.au

South Australia

- **SA Premier**, The Honourable Mike Rann (Fax 08 8463 3168) premier@saugov.sa.gov.au

- **Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries***, The Honourable Rory McEwen MP (Fax 08 8226 0316) mtgambier@parliament.sa.gov.au
- **Minister for Environment and Conservation**, The Honourable Gail Gago (Fax 08 8463 5681) minister.gago@saugov.sa.gov.au

Northern Territory

- **Chief Minister**, The Honourable Clare Martin (Fax 08 8901 4099) clare.martin@nt.gov.au
- **Minister for Primary Industries & Fisheries***, Mr Christopher (Chris) Natt (Fax 08 8901 4134) chris.natt@nt.gov.au
- **Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Heritage**, Ms Marion Scrymgour (Fax 08 8901 4110) marion.scrymgour@nt.gov.au

Tasmania

- **TAS Premier**, The Honourable Paul Lennon (Fax 03 6234 1572) paul.lennon@parliament.tas.gov.au
- **Minister for Tourism, Arts and the Environment***, The Honourable Paula Wriedt (Fax 03 6233 4980) paula.wriedt@parliament.tas.gov.au
- **Minister for Primary Industries and Water**, The Honourable David Llewellyn (Fax 03 6233 2272) david.llewellyn@parliament.tas.gov.au

ACT

- **Chief Minister; Minister for the Environment***, The Honourable Jon Stanhope (Fax 02 6205 0433) stanhope@act.gov.au

All letters to Federal Ministers should be addressed: C/- Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.
 All letters to State Ministers should be addressed: C/- Parliament House, in your capital city. *Animal Welfare Minister



How can I help animals even when I no longer share their world?

Through your bequest for animal protection to Humane Society International, you can provide for animals after you've gone. Naming HSI in your Will demonstrates your lasting commitment to animal protection and strengthens the Society for this task. We will be happy to send information about our animal protection programs and material that will assist you in planning a Will.

Yes, please send more information on leaving a bequest to HSI.

Name

Address

City State Postcode

PLEASE POST TO HSI, PO BOX 439, AVALON NSW 2107 OR PHONE FREECALL 1800 333 737

CITES Parties meet to address international trade in wildlife



Javan slow loris, Nycticebus javanicus.
Photo courtesy of K.A.I. Nekaris.

Elephants, whales, sharks, and a number of timber species were on the agenda at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP14) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which met from the 3rd – 15th June 2007, in the Hague, the Netherlands. HSI had a team at the meeting including an adviser on the Australian Government Delegation.

The meeting proved to be a mixed meeting in terms of affording species protection from international trade, with disappointing outcomes for some species, and turning points for others.

The slow loris, a small nocturnal primate from south-east Asia and China, heavily exploited for food, traditional medicine and the pet trade, was successfully uplisted to Appendix 1, effectively banning all international trade.

All great whales on Appendix I of the Convention were again reassured of their protective status from pro-whaling nations,

thanks to the rejection of a Japanese proposal to have all whale species listings reviewed by the CITES Animals Committee, and the introduction of language by Australia preventing the review of any of the great whales on Appendix I while the IWC moratorium on commercial whaling remains in place.

Elephants and the trade in ivory and other elephant products once again dominated proceedings. Deliberations started before the CITES meeting itself, with a 3 day African Range State Dialogue meeting taking place, and the Standing Committee meeting on June 2nd eventually voting to allow the acceptance of the baseline information on elephant poaching and population levels – the final condition to allow the one-off ivory stockpile sale agreed at CoP12 in Chile 2002.

Parties attending this CITES meeting had been asked to consider proposals from South Africa, Botswana and Namibia seeking to weaken trade restrictions to allow increased commercial trade, while Kenya and Mali had submitted a proposal calling for a 20 year moratorium on ivory trade.

Following more than 2 weeks of negotiations a compromise proposal was put forward that will allow an additional stockpile sale from Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, and for the first time Zimbabwe, subject to a number of conditions being met. The compromise position will also provide a nine year moratorium, following the shipment of the additional stockpile sales going ahead. Effectively, even if the stockpile sales were to go ahead today, there would still be a moratorium on ivory trade until CoP17 in 2016 at the earliest. The compromise position submitted on behalf of Africa was adopted by consensus.

Kenya and the USA submitted a proposal to list all seven species of sawfish in the family

Prisidae on Appendix I of the Convention. A successful listing would have been the first time an entire shark family were afforded such strict international protection. While six of the species were successfully listed on Appendix I, an appalling amendment proposed by Australia saw an annotation added to the listing which will see *Pristis microdon*, the freshwater sawfish, listed on Appendix II, so as to allow the international 'trade in live sawfish to appropriate and acceptable public aquariums for primarily conservation purposes'. The Australian Delegation was roundly and heavily criticised by conservation organisations.

Australia's amendment is critically out of character for a country that for more than a decade has championed marine species protection internationally, particularly at CITES. HSI is extremely disappointed that the Australian Government took the decision to put commercial interests ahead of affording an internationally recognised critically endangered species a complete trade ban. HSI will not let this matter rest, and we will be doing all that we can to eventually stop this sawfish export trade from Australia.

Further information on the results of CoP14 is available at www.cites.org and at www.hsi.org.au ■

ACTION NEEDED:

Write to **Malcolm Turnbull, MP Minister for Environment and Water Resources, c/o Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600**, expressing great disappointment in his decision to allow a continuing trade in a threatened Australian sawfish species, and asking what extra precautions he will be taking to ensure the species long-term protection.

Please send your replies to us.

STOP PRESS

Europe bans dog and cat fur

Nearly eight years after it began, our campaign to ban dog and cat fur was approved unanimously on the 19th June, 2007 by the European Parliament.

Scots Tory MEP Struan Stevenson showed an unwavering commitment to take the lead in pushing through this legislation and said today: "This is a truly brilliant decision. It's been a long time in the making but finally to have secured a total ban on the import of dog and cat fur is a

real reflection of the strength of people power.

Millions of citizens across Europe have demanded this ban. But even more poignantly, the ban is a victory for the innocent victims, the millions of dogs and cats in China who will be saved from a horrible life and a grisly death.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work and dogged determination of Humane Society International (HSI), celebrity

support, and millions of concerned citizens.

Cat and dog fur products will become a thing of the past across Europe and for that we should all feel mighty proud."

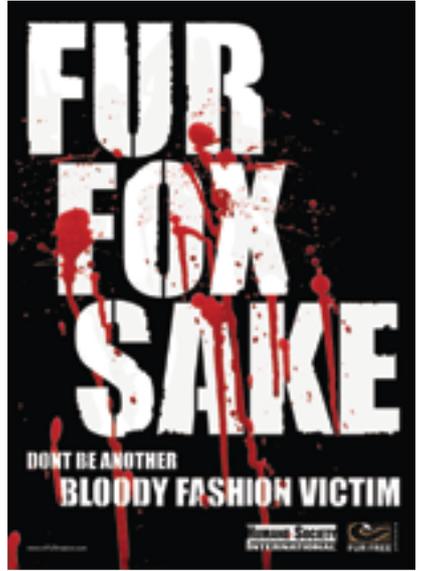
With bans now operational in Australia, the United States and Europe, this cruel trade has lost its most lucrative markets. This is a sweet victory for dog and cat lovers across the world. ■

Design Against Fur Competition 2007

The Design Against Fur fifth annual poster competition this year focused on the message 'Fashion Victims'. The theme reflects that innocent animals are "Fashion Victims". The goal of the competition is to make fur unfashionable and to convince consumers that killing animals for their fur is a fashion faux pas. The winners of the Euro & International round will be announced shortly but three Australian entries have been specially commended. They include Chloe Ong, Queensland College of Art, Joshua Tatarynowicz, Southbank Institute of Technology and Lee La Motta, Griffith University. You can

view these entries on our website: www.hsi.org.au. Congratulations to you all!

In September 2007, the regional winners' posters will be part of a high-profile world-wide-web vote for The People's Choice Award. The poster receiving the most votes wins \$1,000 US! Everyone can vote for their favourite design from the top three winners in each region. The competition will run online throughout September 2007 at www.designagainstfur.org ■



One of the specially commended Australian entries: Joshua Tatarynowicz

Become an HSI regular supporter and spread your donations evenly across the year!

Although our campaigners have many specific targets each year there is also a great need to plan long term strategies for many of the major environmental and animal welfare issues we face. By supporting us with a regular monthly pledge, you empower us to budget with confidence for these projects.

As a regular supporter of HSI, your tax-deductible donations will be deducted from either your credit card (Amex, Mastercard, Visa) or a nominated bank account once per month, and can start with any amount that suits your budget! To receive further information please feel free to contact our office on free call **1800 333 737** or simply complete the coupon below to receive our regular pledge authorisation forms.

Thank you also to all our existing regular supporters – without your help our work for the animals would be greatly diminished.

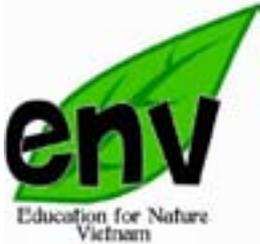
Yes, please send more information on becoming a regular supporter of HSI.

Title First Name Last Name

Postal Address

State Postcode Contact Phone () Email

The press release below from Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV) highlights both their recent bear rescue efforts and the effectiveness of their “Wildlife Crimes Monitoring Unit”, partly funded by HSI.



News from the Frontlines of Conservation

P.O. Box 222, Ha Noi, Vietnam, Tel/Fax: +84 4 7753685 Email: env@fpt.vn Website: www.envvietnam.org

Press Release

Three Bear Cubs Rescued in Dien Bien

(Hanoi) June 11, 2007 Customs officers at the Tay Trang checkpoint along the Vietnam-Laos border in Dien Bien Province confiscated three bear cubs from a man who was attempting to smuggle the animals in to Vietnam where he intended to sell them.

Working closely with the Dien Bien Forest Protection Department (FPD), staff of the ENV Wildlife Crimes Monitoring Unit coordinated the transfer of the confiscated bear cubs to the new bear rescue facility at Tam Dao National Park run by Animals Asia (AAF), an international organization specializing in rescue and long-term captive management of bears.

At the time of their transfer to the Bear Rescue Center, the bears weighed a little over 2 kilograms each. Experts at the center estimate that the cubs were only about two months old when they were confiscated at the border on May 6. As is commonly the case with baby bears caught up in the trade, the bears' mother was most likely killed so that the hunter could capture and sell the cubs.

“While it is unfortunate that these young bears ended it up in the trade, at least they will not end up victims in the bear bile industry, which is almost certainly where they were headed,” says Nguyen Van Anh, coordinator of ENV's Wildlife Crime department, which operates a National Wildlife Crime Hotline aimed at encouraging public participation in stopping wildlife crime.

“Thanks to the excellent efforts of the Dien Bien Customs Department and Forest Protection Department, these young bears were spared a miserable and torturous life in the hands of bear bile traders,” says Van Anh.

There are about 4000 bears in captivity in Vietnam, according to government estimates. Experts suggest that there may be more bears in captivity in Vietnam than in the wild.



Annemarie Weegeenaar of Animals Asia, Van Anh, ENV Wildlife Crime Unit coordinator, and case officer, Tran Thu Hang had an opportunity to visit the baby bears in Tam Dao

About Education for Nature - Vietnam

Education for Nature-Vietnam (ENV) was established in 2000 as Vietnam's first non-governmental organization focused on conservation of nature and wildlife. Our mission is to foster greater understanding amongst the public about the need to protect Vietnam's rich natural heritage and the living world around us. Through our creative and innovative approach to addressing key conservation and environmental issues, we aim to influence attitudes and behavior, and encourage greater public participation in this important and challenging task.



Stop Wildlife Crime

If you see wildlife in restaurants or other business establishments, contact your local Forest Protection Department or the ENV Wildlife Crime Hotline

Hotline: **1800-1522** Email: **Hotline@fpt.vn**

You can make a difference!

New Life for 'Dancing Bears'

Late last year through the generosity of HSI supporters Wildlife SOS opened a third rescue centre in Bhopal, Central India. They had been working extensively with the Qalandar communities, who dance the bears and their efforts yielded results! As soon as the sanctuary was operational 15 bears were rescued and are being cared for at the new facility and in the short time since then the number of bears has increased to 27.

Sadly, the bears suffered from a range of health problems including muzzle injuries, malnutrition, cataracts, tuberculosis, dehydration and severely broken teeth. A Wildlife SOS veterinarian has been overseeing their care and ensuring they receive medical help and a nutritious diet – and of course a lot of TLC.

Wildlife SOS Director, Kartick Satyanarayan, is delighted at the response of the bears to their medical help and kind treatment, "For the first time, these bears will be free to live their lives as

bears.... To climb trees, play in the ponds, to eat wholesome food. They need never again be beaten or tortured to perform in hot dusty venues in front of large noisy crowds."

The rescue of these bears and the creation of the new facility are in part due to the tremendous support of the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department who has worked with Wildlife SOS to secure the land and to help facilitate the hand over of the bears. We also must thank the generous HSI supporters who have donated the \$2000 it costs to rescue each bear and train the previous owner into a new profession to ensure the cycle of cruelty stops. If you would like become a bear sponsor and have the honour of naming rights please contact us with any questions you may have.



Rescued bear cub now being rehabilitated at the sanctuary.

To date Wildlife SOS has rescued 392 bears from their lives of torment and suffering. We continue to support this wonderful program and thank all our donors who make this ongoing commitment possible. It is thanks to you that the bears are now spared further suffering and can look forward to being treated with kindness and compassion. ■

Partnership to help community dogs in Northern Australia



Image courtesy of Dr Ted Donelan, West Doncaster Veterinary Centre.

HSI is pleased to announce a new partnership with AMRRIC – Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities. Founded in 1998, AMRRIC is a non profit organisation whose aim is to provide guidance and support with veterinary services in partnership with Private Practitioners, Institutional stakeholders such as Australian Veterinary Association, Indigenous Stakeholders such as Community Government Councils, Commonwealth, State & Territory Governments and Non-Government Organisations.

AMRRIC works to promote veterinary services (including education) in remote localities; promote animal management and welfare needs of Rural & Remote Indigenous Communities; support dog health programs in Indigenous communities; promote cross cultural sensitivities and control for Indigenous communities; promote research investigating links with human health and animals; and to assist communities with funding options to ensure sustainable programs.

July 2007 marks the start of a 3 year program to which HSI is pleased to be providing financial support. The joint program will work to improve the health and welfare of domestic animals in two remote rural indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. By providing education and practical support to help raise the health and wellbeing of domestic animals, particularly dogs, it is hoped that the health and welfare of indigenous people living in these communities will also benefit, by reducing the risk of diseases that can be transferred from the animals to people.

The HSI – AMRRIC project also seeks to develop a model of best practice in establishing a sustainable and capacity building model of dealing with animal management, especially dog management, in remote rural indigenous communities around Australia.

Further information about the HSI – AMRRIC program will be available on our website in the coming months. ■

Join the "Wildlife Land Trust"



WLT sanctuary owned by Lyn and Geoff Murray.

The Wildlife Land Trust was established in the United States in 1993 by The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and now has over 80 sanctuaries in North America and is working to protect habitats in Canada, South Africa, Romania, Belize, Indonesia and, now, Australia. An Australian Wildlife Land Trust (WLT) program was established in 2006 by Humane Society International (HSI).

The WLT is currently assessing a number of applications from landholders in Australia, keen to become a part of the WLT global network, and as we go to press five new sanctuaries have joined the fold: Lyn & Geoff Murray from Tasmania own a 10 acre property near Hobart; Trish Cunningham has a 9 acre refuge near Tamworth in NSW; Heather Wood protects a 150 acre sanctuary near Upper Mt Gravatt in Queensland; Marilyn Mills looks after 100 acres south of Canberra and Kathleen Isherwood protects 78 acres near Newcastle. We warmly welcome them to the Wildlife Land Trust family.

The Wildlife Land Trust (WLT) protects wildlife by preserving natural habitats and permanent sanctuaries. Working under the guiding principle of "humane stewardship", the WLT protects not only vast and impressive landscapes, but also the smaller, humbler places that provide for the needs of all wildlife, rare and common species alike.

In Indonesia, the WLT is working with the Friends of the National Parks Foundation to purchase a small rainforest property on the Island of Nusa Penida, just off the coast of Bali, while the WLT's program in Australia was launched with the addition of "Warriwillah" and "Curricabark" wildlife sanctuaries, both in NSW.

How to join the Wildlife Land Trust in Australia: Go to <http://www.wlt.org/australia> asap to download an application form or email Michael Kennedy on michael@hsi.org.au ■



Many thanks to

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Your support is vital to the work we do. Thank you.

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