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IFAW

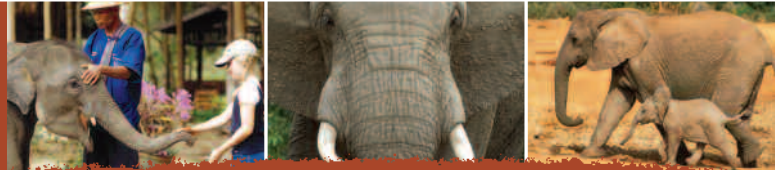
in action

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

KEY FACTS



An estimated
20,000
elephants are killed annually
for their ivory.



Protecting the World's Remaining Elephants

- Over 25 tons of elephant ivory was seized between August 2005 and August 2006. Levels of trade have again reached the devastating levels seen before the 1989 CITES ivory trade ban went into effect.
- The wholesale price of ivory in Japan and China has skyrocketed in recent years, going from \$100 per kilogram (\$221 per pound) in the late 1990's to the current staggering \$851 per kilogram (\$1876 per pound).
- Protected areas account for only one per cent of African elephant range*; thus 84 per cent is outside protected areas.
- Today, hunting rather than habitat loss is the dominant influence on African elephant population dynamics.

*Blanc et. al. 2003

05/07 US

HOW YOU CAN HELP

IFAW strives to ensure the welfare of living elephants, protecting the species and their habitats worldwide. For many years, IFAW has worked around the world to protect elephants, but we can't do it alone.

Visit www.ifaw.org to learn more about what IFAW is doing, and how you can help protect elephants today and for generations to come.

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A BETTER WORLD FOR ANIMALS AND PEOPLE



One of the elephant orphans from the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust (DSWT) playfully bonds with James Isiche of IFAW at Tsavo East National Park.

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ENDING IVORY TRADE



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The trade in ivory has created a tragic situation for elephant populations, and IFAW is committed to putting an end to the unnecessary slaughter. Elephant populations continue to dwindle in many elephant range states, with less than 300 elephants remaining in China. The situation is similar in many African countries; only 12 elephants remain in Senegal; an estimated 15-100 elephants are said to be killed each week by poachers in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

IFAW remains engaged in the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) and is also working closely with national governments, park and forestry officials, law enforcement, local communities, and various others to get elephants the protection they deserve. Through CITES, IFAW continues to aim to put a moratorium on all ivory sales, by pushing for the highest level of protection for all elephant populations, Appendix I status. Additionally, by continued enhancement of park operations and infrastructure, anti-poaching patrol trainings, research, education, and community service, IFAW remains focused on saving lives.

SECURING ELEPHANT HABITAT

The conservation of elephant habitat is vital for the survival of elephant populations. IFAW works with both governments and National Parks to rebuild and enhance management and conservation policies, each crucial to securing elephant populations.

In addition to such policy maintenance, IFAW is involved in a great deal of research on elephant population dynamics. Currently, through working with the Conservation Ecology Research Unit (CERU) at the University of Pretoria in South Africa, IFAW is exploring the mega-parks for meta-populations concept, also known as trans-boundary habitat linkages. By expanding elephant range space and allowing a more natural dispersion of elephants across multiple park and/or country borders, decimation of local vegetation and the impact on humans and certain species will be significantly mitigated.

REDUCING HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT

As habitat shrinks, developing practical plans that enable landowners and local villagers to live alongside elephants becomes ever more critical. Human-elephant conflict is wreaking havoc across both Asia and Africa, and effective mitigation means are necessary for more peaceful cohabitation.

IFAW believes it is necessary to be proactive and prevent problems before they start by focusing on the causes, rather than treating the symptoms. What is the cause of locally high elephant numbers? IFAW is funding research to determine just this, and already, a great deal has been learned. Man's manipulation of water holes, fire, and fencing are all significant contributors and must be factored into the human-elephant conflict equation. As IFAW continues to unearth causes of such conflict, we are able to aid in a more effective manner.

DNA TESTING OF IVORY

IFAW supports the cutting-edge DNA ivory testing studies conducted at The University of Washington, U.S, led by Dr. Samuel Wasser. Wasser and his team have collected samples of DNA throughout many African elephant populations, and now as illegal ivory is confiscated by authorities the DNA can be analyzed for determination of origins. This research is beginning to enable authorities to identify poaching hotspots and key smuggling routes, prompting efficient allocation of anti-poaching patrols and resources.



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