

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2385

To strengthen protections for the remaining populations of wild elephants, rhinoceroses, and other imperiled species through country-specific anti-poaching efforts and anti-trafficking strategies, to promote the value of wildlife and natural resources, to curtail the demand for illegal wildlife products in consumer countries, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 10, 2015

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. FLAKE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To strengthen protections for the remaining populations of wild elephants, rhinoceroses, and other imperiled species through country-specific anti-poaching efforts and anti-trafficking strategies, to promote the value of wildlife and natural resources, to curtail the demand for illegal wildlife products in consumer countries, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
3 “Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt Wildlife Trafficking  
4 Act”.

5 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
6 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Definitions.
- Sec. 3. Findings.

TITLE I—PURPOSE AND POLICY

- Sec. 101. Purpose.
- Sec. 102. Statement of United States policy.

TITLE II—FRAMEWORK FOR INTERAGENCY RESPONSE

- Sec. 201. Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Trafficking.

TITLE III—PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THE ESCALATING WILDLIFE  
TRAFFICKING CRISIS

- Sec. 301. Anti-poaching programs.
- Sec. 302. Anti-trafficking programs.
- Sec. 303. Demand reduction agreements.
- Sec. 304. Engagement of United States diplomatic missions.
- Sec. 305. International cooperation and global partnerships.
- Sec. 306. Community-based conservation.
- Sec. 307. Report on wildlife trafficking measures.
- Sec. 308. Implementation using amounts previously appropriated.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
11 mittees” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations  
13 and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
14 Senate; and

1 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and  
2 the Committee on Appropriations of the House  
3 of Representatives.

4 (2) CO-CHAIRS OF THE TASK FORCE.—The  
5 term “Co-Chairs of the Task Force” means the Sec-  
6 retary of State, the Secretary of the Interior, and  
7 the Attorney General, as established pursuant to Ex-  
8 ecutive Order 13648 (78 Fed. Reg. 40621).

9 (3) COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION.—The  
10 term “community-based conservation” is an ap-  
11 proach to conservation that recognizes the rights of  
12 local people to sustainably own, manage, or benefit  
13 directly and indirectly from wildlife and other nat-  
14 ural resources and includes—

15 (A) giving a resource a tangible value that  
16 can be realized by the community or land own-  
17 ers, including through partnerships with the  
18 private sector;

19 (B) devolving management and governance  
20 to local communities to create positive condi-  
21 tions for sustainable resource use; and

22 (C) building the capacity of communities  
23 for conservation and natural resource manage-  
24 ment.

1           (4) COUNTRY OF CONCERN.—The term “country of concern” means a country the government of  
2           which, or persons in which, play a significant role in  
3           the supply or poaching of, transit in, or demand for  
4           illegal wildlife or wildlife products or their derivatives or that obtains substantial revenue from illegal  
5           wildlife trafficking.  
6

7           (5) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The term “Implementation Plan” means the Implementation Plan  
8           for the National Strategy for Combating Wildlife  
9           Trafficking released on February 11, 2015, a modification of that plan, or a successor plan.  
10

11           (6) NATIONAL STRATEGY.—The term “National Strategy” means the National Strategy for Combating  
12           Wildlife Trafficking published on February  
13           11, 2014, a modification of that strategy, or a successor strategy.  
14

15           (7) NATIONAL WILDLIFE SERVICES.—The term  
16           “national wildlife services” refers to the ministries  
17           designated to manage matters pertaining to wildlife  
18           management, including poaching, in a country of  
19           concern.  
20

21           (8) TASK FORCE.—The term “Task Force”  
22           means the Presidential Task Force on Wildlife Traf-  
23  
24

1       ficking, as established by Executive Order 13648  
2       (78 Fed. Reg. 40621) and modified by section 201.

3               (9) WILDLIFE CRIME.—The term “wildlife  
4       crime” refers to the poaching or trafficking of illegal  
5       wildlife or wildlife products.

6 **SEC. 3. FINDINGS.**

7       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
8       ings:

9               (1) With a value that may be as high as  
10       \$10,000,000,000 per year, the illegal trade in wild-  
11       life and wildlife products is one of the most lucrative  
12       criminal activities globally, dominated by sophisti-  
13       cated transnational criminal networks that connect  
14       poachers to high-end markets for illegal wildlife  
15       products and that are linked to other transnational  
16       organized criminal activities, including trafficking in  
17       narcotics, weapons, and humans.

18              (2) The poaching of and illegal trade in wildlife,  
19       including elephants and rhinoceroses, is rapidly esca-  
20       lating in scale, sophistication, and violence, and  
21       there is evidence that illegal trade in high-value wild-  
22       life parts, including elephant ivory, is being used as  
23       a source of financing for criminal organizations and  
24       armed groups that pose a threat to United States

1 economic and security interests in Africa and else-  
2 where, including terrorist organizations and militias.

3 (3) Increasing consumer demand for rhinoceros  
4 horn and elephant ivory, in Asia and elsewhere, has  
5 caused the prices of both to escalate, with the price  
6 of rhinoceros horn rivaling that of gold or heroin by  
7 weight, further driving the poaching and trafficking  
8 of rhinoceroses and elephants.

9 (4) In 2014, 1,215 rhinoceroses were illegally  
10 killed in South Africa, which represents an increase  
11 of more than 9,000 percent since 2007.

12 (5) Two subspecies of African rhinoceroses and  
13 1 subspecies of Asian rhinoceros have gone extinct  
14 since 2005, and 2 of 3 Asian rhinoceros species have  
15 fallen to critically low population numbers.

16 (6) Data from the Monitoring the Illegal Killing  
17 of Elephants program established under the Conven-  
18 tion on International Trade in Endangered Species  
19 of Wild Fauna and Flora, done at Washington  
20 March 3, 1973 (27 UST 1087; TIAS 8249) (com-  
21 monly referred to as “CITES”) and academic stud-  
22 ies indicated that 100,000 elephants were killed ille-  
23 gally across the whole of Africa between 2010 and  
24 2012.

1           (7) From 2000 to 2011, 54 large-scale ivory  
2 seizures world-wide captured more than 110,000  
3 kilograms of ivory. More than half of those large-  
4 scale seizures occurred between 2008 and 2011, in-  
5 dicating an increasing demand for ivory and expand-  
6 ing participation by organized crime in the illegal  
7 trade in ivory.

8           (8) Wildlife crime threatens elephants, rhinoc-  
9 eros, and tigers greatly, but also has a devastating  
10 impact on a number of other species, including  
11 sharks, pangolins, great apes, and turtles.

12           (9) In addition to threatening the survival of  
13 imperiled species, wildlife poachers and traffickers  
14 frequently kill park rangers devoted to protecting  
15 their countries' wildlife, destabilize communities  
16 through violence and corruption of local law enforce-  
17 ment officials and others, and threaten wildlife tour-  
18 ism industries, which contribute significantly to the  
19 local and national economies of many countries.

20           (10) Where wildlife is well-managed by commu-  
21 nities or in partnership with others, it can provide  
22 a significant and sustainable source of economic ac-  
23 tivity, particularly in impoverished rural areas, and  
24 when communities share in the revenues generated  
25 by wildlife-based economic development, it can great-

1 ly reduce incentives to engage in poaching activities  
2 while greatly increasing incentives to protect wildlife.

3 (11) At the 16th meeting of the Conference of  
4 the Parties to CITES, held in Bangkok, Thailand,  
5 in March 2013, all parties to CITES agreed to work  
6 to help eradicate poaching of rhinoceroses, ele-  
7 phants, sharks, and other species, and the illegal  
8 trade in their parts.

9 (12) The United States can play a pivotal role  
10 in ensuring that countries meet their international  
11 obligations under CITES and take additional posi-  
12 tive steps to address the wildlife trafficking crisis  
13 and the global illegal trade in elephants, rhinoc-  
14 eroses, and other species, including through sus-  
15 tained diplomatic engagement.

## 16 **TITLE I—PURPOSE AND POLICY**

### 17 **SEC. 101. PURPOSE.**

18 The purposes of this Act are—

19 (1) to support a collaborative, interagency ap-  
20 proach to address the wildlife crime crisis;

21 (2) to protect and conserve the remaining popu-  
22 lations of wild elephants, rhinoceroses, and other  
23 species threatened by poaching and the illegal wild-  
24 life trade;



1           (3) to disrupt regional and global transnational  
2 organized criminal networks and to prevent the ille-  
3 gal wildlife trade from being used as a source of fi-  
4 nancing for criminal groups that undermine United  
5 States and global security interests;

6           (4) to prevent wildlife poaching and trafficking  
7 from being a means to make a living in countries of  
8 concern;

9           (5) to create a conducive environment for wild-  
10 life and local populations in countries of concern;

11           (6) to reduce the global demand for ivory, rhi-  
12 noceros horn, and other wildlife and wildlife prod-  
13 ucts taken and traded illegally;

14           (7) to support the efforts of, and collaborate  
15 with individuals, communities, local organizations,  
16 and the governments of countries of concern to com-  
17 bat poaching and wildlife trafficking; and

18           (8) to assist countries of concern in implemen-  
19 tation of national wildlife anti-trafficking and poach-  
20 ing laws.

21 **SEC. 102. STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES POLICY.**

22 It is the policy of the United States to—

23           (1) take immediate actions to stop the illegal  
24 global trade in wildlife and wildlife products and as-  
25 sociated transnational organized crime;

1           (2) provide technical and other forms of assist-  
2           ance to countries of concern to help them halt the  
3           poaching of elephants, rhinoceroses, and other im-  
4           periled species and end the illegal trade in wildlife  
5           and their parts, including by providing training and  
6           assistance in—

7                   (A) wildlife protection and management of  
8                   wildlife populations;

9                   (B) anti-poaching and protected area man-  
10                  agement;

11                  (C) local engagement of security forces in  
12                  anti-poaching responsibilities where appropriate;

13                  (D) wildlife crime investigative techniques,  
14                  including forensic tools;

15                  (E) transparency and corruption issues;

16                  (F) management and tracking of con-  
17                  fiscated wildlife contraband;

18                  (G) demand reduction strategies; and

19                  (H) bilateral and multilateral cooperation  
20                  agreements;

21           (3) employ all appropriate assets and resources  
22           of the United States Government in a coordinated  
23           manner to curtail poaching and disrupt and dis-  
24           mantle illegal wildlife trade networks and the financ-

1 ing of those networks in a manner appropriate for  
2 each country of concern;

3 (4) implement the National Strategy and Imple-  
4 mentation Plan to further combat wildlife crimes in  
5 a holistic manner and guide and aid in the response  
6 of the United States Government to ensure progress  
7 in the fight against wildlife crime; and

8 (5) to recognize the ties of wildlife trafficking  
9 to broader forms of transitional organized criminal  
10 activities, including trafficking, and where applica-  
11 ble, to focus on those crimes in a coordinated, cross-  
12 cutting manner.

## 13 **TITLE II—FRAMEWORK FOR** 14 **INTERAGENCY RESPONSE**

### 15 **SEC. 201. PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE ON WILDLIFE TRAF-** 16 **FICKING.**

17 (a) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the functions  
18 required by Executive Order 13648 (78 Fed. Reg. 40621),  
19 the Task Force shall—

20 (1) identify countries of concern and periodi-  
21 cally assess such countries, as appropriate, based on  
22 criteria, including the role of such countries in the  
23 supply, poaching, or transit of, or demand for, wild-  
24 life and wildlife products, and use that information  
25 to prioritize work under this Act, as appropriate;

1           (2) collaborate with the national wildlife serv-  
2           ices, or other relevant components of the govern-  
3           ment, of each country of concern to prepare, not  
4           later than 120 days after the date of the enactment  
5           of this Act, a situational analysis of the threats to  
6           wildlife in that country of concern and an assess-  
7           ment of the capacity of that country to address wild-  
8           life crime;

9           (3) collaborate with the national wildlife serv-  
10          ices, or other relevant components of the govern-  
11          ment, of each country of concern to prepare, not  
12          later than 210 days after the date of the enactment  
13          of this Act, a strategic plan that includes rec-  
14          ommendations for addressing wildlife crime, taking  
15          into account any regional or national strategies for  
16          addressing wildlife crimes in a country of concern  
17          developed before such date of enactment;

18          (4) coordinate efforts to implement the stra-  
19          tegic plans required by paragraph (3) and other  
20          goals to combat wildlife crime in each country of  
21          concern among Federal agencies and non-Federal  
22          partners, including missions, domestic and inter-  
23          national organizations, the private sector, and other  
24          global partners;

1           (5) not less frequently than annually, consult  
2           and coordinate with stakeholders qualified to provide  
3           advice, assistance, and information regarding effective  
4           support for anti-poaching activities, coordinating  
5           regional law enforcement efforts, developing and  
6           supporting effective legal enforcement mechanisms,  
7           and developing strategies to reduce illicit trade and  
8           reduce consumer demand for illegally traded wildlife  
9           and wildlife products, and other relevant topics  
10          under this Act; and

11          (6) carry out other functions as are necessary  
12          to implement this Act.

13          (b) DUPLICATION AND EFFICIENCY.—The Task  
14 Force shall—

15           (1) ensure that the activities of the Federal  
16           agencies involved in carrying out efforts under this  
17           Act are coordinated and not duplicated; and

18           (2) encourage efficiencies and coordination  
19           among the efforts of Federal agencies and inter-  
20           agency initiatives ongoing as of the date of the en-  
21           actment of this Act to address trafficking activities,  
22           including trafficking of wildlife, humans, weapons,  
23           and narcotics, illegal trade, transnational organized  
24           crime, or other illegal activities.

1 (c) CONSISTENCY WITH AGENCY RESPONSIBIL-  
2 ITIES.—The Task Force shall carry out its responsibilities  
3 and prepare the reports required under this Act in a man-  
4 ner consistent with the authorities and responsibilities of  
5 agencies represented on the Task Force.

6 (d) TERMINATION OF TASK FORCE.—The Task  
7 Force shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after  
8 the date of the enactment of this Act.

9 **TITLE III—PROGRAMS TO AD-**  
10 **DRESS THE ESCALATING**  
11 **WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING CRI-**  
12 **SIS**

13 **SEC. 301. ANTI-POACHING PROGRAMS.**

14 (a) WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL  
15 TRAINING AND COORDINATION ACTIVITIES.—The Sec-  
16 retary of State and the Administrator of the United States  
17 Agency for International Development, in collaboration  
18 with the heads of other relevant United States agencies  
19 and nongovernmental partners where appropriate, may  
20 provide assistance to countries of concern to carry out the  
21 recommendations made in the strategic plan required by  
22 section 201(a)(3), among other goals, to improve the effec-  
23 tiveness of wildlife law enforcement in regions and coun-  
24 tries of concern, with clear and measurable targets and  
25 indicators of success, including—

1           (1) assessing and utilizing existing resources,  
2 enforcement tools, and legal authorities to coordi-  
3 nate the efforts of combating wildlife trafficking  
4 with other illegal trade, such as illegal weapons, nar-  
5 cotics, and human trafficking;

6           (2) expanding existing wildlife crime law en-  
7 forcement training at international law enforcement  
8 academies;

9           (3) providing targeted country-specific trainings  
10 on wildlife crime law enforcement;

11           (4) supporting the professionalization of the  
12 wildlife law enforcement sector, which may include—

13               (A) creating and adopting standards for  
14 professional ranger training and qualifications;

15               (B) training and accreditation systems  
16 based on the standards described in subpara-  
17 graph (A) that produce professionally trained  
18 and qualified rangers and promote the overall  
19 professionalization of ranger forces, including  
20 appropriate participation within the criminal  
21 justice system;

22               (C) developing and institutionalizing re-  
23 ward and promotion systems for rangers based  
24 on performance and set competencies;

1 (D) developing and institutionalizing na-  
2 tional systems to provide insurance to rangers  
3 and their families and compensation for those  
4 rangers killed in the line of duty; and

5 (E) cooperating and coordinating between  
6 law enforcement tasked with wildlife or park  
7 protection and defense forces, where appro-  
8 priate, including training opportunities, logisti-  
9 cal support, or provision of equipment;

10 (5) providing training and technical support on  
11 joint operations between wildlife law enforcement  
12 and anti-poaching professionals and other law en-  
13 forcement agencies to combat threats from poaching;

14 (6) training and assistance in gathering, shar-  
15 ing, analyzing, managing, and applying intelligence  
16 related to wildlife trafficking, including the use of  
17 data gathered from weapons seizures and ballistics  
18 testing;

19 (7) assisting in the creation or enhancement of  
20 transboundary patrols and regional law enforcement  
21 operations under joint command, particularly in cen-  
22 tral, eastern, and southern Africa;

23 (8) assessing technology needs in countries of  
24 concern and promoting the use of technology to im-  
25 prove wildlife protection, while taking into account



1 the limitations of technology and the appropriateness  
2 of using technology in each country of concern; and

3 (9) utilizing pre-existing national or regional  
4 strategies that countries already have in place to  
5 combat wildlife trafficking as a basis for incor-  
6 porating applicable parts of the National Strategy.

7 (b) AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE SECURITY ASSIST-  
8 ANCE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State may  
10 provide defense articles, defense services, and related  
11 training to security forces of countries of concern for  
12 the purpose of countering wildlife trafficking and  
13 poaching.

14 (2) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary of State  
15 shall certify to the Committee on Foreign Relations  
16 of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs  
17 of the House of Representatives that any assistance  
18 provided pursuant to this subsection is necessary for  
19 the purposes of combating wildlife crime.

20 (3) NOTIFICATION.—Consistent with the re-  
21 quirements of the Arms Export Control Act (22  
22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) and the Foreign Assistance Act  
23 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), the Secretary of  
24 State shall notify the Committee on Foreign Rela-  
25 tions of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign

1 Affairs of the House of Representatives regarding  
2 defense articles, defense services, and related train-  
3 ing provided under paragraph (1).

4 (4) FUNDING.—Assistance provided under this  
5 subsection shall be provided using amounts available  
6 to the Secretary of State for foreign military financ-  
7 ing.

8 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) DEFENSE ARTICLE; DEFENSE SERVICE; SIG-  
10 NIFICANT MILITARY EQUIPMENT; TRAINING.—The  
11 terms “defense article”, “defense service”, “signifi-  
12 cant military equipment”, and “training” have the  
13 meanings given those terms in section 47 of the  
14 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794).

15 (2) SECURITY FORCE.—The term “security  
16 force” means a military, law enforcement, gendar-  
17 merie, park ranger, or any other security force.

18 **SEC. 302. ANTI-TRAFFICKING PROGRAMS.**

19 (a) INVESTIGATIVE CAPACITY BUILDING.—The Sec-  
20 retary of State and the Administrator of the United States  
21 Agency for International Development, in collaboration  
22 with the heads of other relevant United States agencies  
23 and communities, regions, and governments in countries  
24 of concern, may design and implement programs in coun-  
25 tries of concern to carry out the recommendations made

1 in the strategic plan required by section 201(a)(3), among  
2 other goals, with clear and measurable targets and indica-  
3 tors of success, to increase the capacity of wildlife law en-  
4 forcement and customs and border security officers in  
5 countries of concern to improve their ability to conduct—

6           (1) professional investigations, including using  
7 law enforcement techniques such as controlled deliv-  
8 eries, undercover investigations, and the development  
9 of informer networks and actionable intelligence;

10           (2) market inspections and associated enforce-  
11 ment actions;

12           (3) border inspections, including the use of  
13 sniffer dogs and other detection equipment to iden-  
14 tify elephant ivory, rhinoceros horn, and products  
15 made from such ivory or horn, as well as other ille-  
16 gal wildlife and wildlife products;

17           (4) shipment and trafficking risk analyses and  
18 associated targeting of high-risk shipments;

19           (5) assessments of technology needs in coun-  
20 tries of concern and promotion of the use of tech-  
21 nology to improve investigation and prosecution of  
22 wildlife crimes, while taking into account the limita-  
23 tions of technology and appropriateness of using  
24 technology in each country of concern;

1           (6) DNA-based and forensic identification of  
2       wildlife products in trade, including assistance with  
3       advanced techniques for determining the age and or-  
4       igin of ivory and ivory products and rhinoceros horn;  
5       and

6           (7) training for law enforcement personnel in  
7       complex investigations that have not traditionally in-  
8       cluded wildlife crime, but could in the future, includ-  
9       ing with respect to international matters, financial  
10      issues, government corruption, electronic evidence,  
11      and computer forensics.

12      (b) TRANSNATIONAL PROGRAMS.—The Secretary of  
13      State and the Administrator of the United States Agency  
14      for International Development, in collaboration with other  
15      relevant United States agencies, nongovernmental part-  
16      ners, and international bodies, and in collaboration with  
17      communities, regions, and governments in countries of  
18      concern, may design and implement programs in countries  
19      of concern to carry out the recommendations made in the  
20      strategic plan required by section 201(a)(3), among other  
21      goals, to better understand and combat the transnational  
22      trade in illegal wildlife, including programs that—

23           (1) improve understanding of the status of and  
24      trends in transnational wildlife trafficking, poaching  
25      locations, ports of entry and exit, and trade routes;

1           (2) increase and institutionalize the capacity,  
2           coordination, and technical expertise of governments  
3           and regional law enforcement bodies to disrupt ille-  
4           gal wildlife trafficking routes and cartels, including  
5           through enhanced investigation techniques and in-  
6           formant networks;

7           (3) identify linkages to other transnational  
8           criminal activities and organizations and other forms  
9           of illegal trade and utilize existing resources, en-  
10          forcement tools, and legal authorities to coordinate  
11          efforts;

12          (4) identify and make transparent the role of  
13          money laundering, shell companies, and other illegal  
14          financial practices in international organized wildlife  
15          crime that help link source, transit, and demand  
16          countries;

17          (5) help to elevate and sustain the priority and  
18          importance placed on wildlife trafficking issues by  
19          community, national, regional and international law  
20          enforcement and security bodies; and

21          (6) may place, as feasible and appropriate,  
22          United States wildlife law enforcement officers in  
23          countries of concern.

1 **SEC. 303. DEMAND REDUCTION AGREEMENTS.**

2 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
3 gress that the United States should continue to work with  
4 foreign countries, including the People’s Republic of  
5 China, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Repub-  
6 lic of Vietnam, to build on positive efforts to combat global  
7 wildlife trafficking, including by reducing demand for ille-  
8 gal wildlife and illegal wildlife products.

9 (b) UNITED STATES-CHINA BILATERAL AGREE-  
10 MENTS ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE.—The Secretary of  
11 State should, in consultation with the Secretary of the In-  
12 terior—

13 (1) implement agreements with the People’s Re-  
14 public of China aimed at reducing demand for ivory  
15 and continue negotiations on bilateral efforts to  
16 eliminate illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife prod-  
17 ucts within the United States and China; and

18 (2) collaborate to combat the global illegal wild-  
19 life trade, identify and monitor international crimi-  
20 nal syndicates involved in wildlife trafficking, pro-  
21 mote successful enforcement actions and prosecu-  
22 tions, minimize the illegal wildlife trade on the Inter-  
23 net, and phase out domestic stocks of captive ani-  
24 mals that could end up in the illegal trade or serve  
25 to stimulate or mask illegal trade in critically endan-  
26 gered species within the United States and China

1 (other than captive animals maintained by organiza-  
2 tions whose accreditation programs heed rigorous  
3 and publicly available standards, utilize notable ex-  
4 perts in the field to conduct comprehensive inspec-  
5 tion and review, and provide opportunity for public  
6 comment).

7 (c) UNITED STATES-THAILAND BILATERAL DIA-  
8 LOGUE ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE.—The Secretary of  
9 State should, in consultation with the Secretary of the In-  
10 terior—

11 (1) initiate negotiations with the Kingdom of  
12 Thailand on a bilateral agreement aimed at reducing  
13 demand for ivory and illegal wildlife and wildlife  
14 products in Thailand through support for anti-traf-  
15 ficking and demand reduction efforts, legislative and  
16 regulatory reform, effective implementation of Thai-  
17 land’s National Ivory Action Plan; and

18 (2) collaborate to combat the global illegal wild-  
19 life trade, identify and monitor international crimi-  
20 nal syndicates involved in wildlife trafficking, pro-  
21 mote successful enforcement actions and prosecu-  
22 tions and any other beneficial measures, and use  
23 clear measures of success.

24 (d) UNITED STATES-VIETNAM BILATERAL DIA-  
25 LOGUE ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE.—The Secretary of

1 State should, in consultation with the Secretary of the In-  
2 terior—

3           (1) initiate negotiations with the Socialist Re-  
4 public of Vietnam on a bilateral agreement aimed at  
5 eliminating illegal trade in ivory, rhinoceros horn,  
6 and other wildlife and wildlife products in Vietnam  
7 through support for anti-trafficking and demand re-  
8 duction efforts, comprehensive legislative and regu-  
9 latory reform, effective rhinoceros trophy manage-  
10 ment and registration, effective enforcement, inves-  
11 tigation, and prosecutions, and effective rhinoceros  
12 horn stockpile management and registration; and

13           (2) collaborate with Vietnam to combat the  
14 global illegal wildlife trade, identify and monitor  
15 international criminal syndicates involved in wildlife  
16 trafficking, promote successful enforcement actions  
17 and prosecutions and any other beneficial measures,  
18 and use clear measures of success.

19 **SEC. 304. ENGAGEMENT OF UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC**  
20 **MISSIONS.**

21 Not later than 210 days after the date of the enact-  
22 ment of this Act, each chief of mission to a country of  
23 concern should—



1           (1) begin to implement the recommendations  
2 contained in the strategic plan required by section  
3 201(a)(3), among other goals, for the country;

4           (2) convene a working group of United States  
5 agency officials operating in the country to focus on  
6 wildlife crime, including experts in wildlife conserva-  
7 tion, law enforcement, criminal justice, transnational  
8 organized crime, defense, intelligence, and develop-  
9 ment; and

10          (3) where appropriate, designate a Wildlife  
11 Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, from among existing  
12 personnel at the mission, whose role it is—

13           (A) to provide leadership and coordination  
14 across United States agency officials operating  
15 within that country involved in the working  
16 group and with technical, political, and other  
17 stakeholders in the government of the country  
18 and other community leaders and stakeholders  
19 in order to support the recommendations of the  
20 strategic plan required by section 201(a)(3),  
21 among other goals, to prevent wildlife crime in  
22 the country of concern;

23           (B) to share all relevant information about  
24 wildlife crime from the country of concern with  
25 other Wildlife Anti-Trafficking Coordinators in

1 other missions as well as to the Task Force;  
2 and

3 (C) to identify and engage with nongovern-  
4 mental partners working in the country on  
5 these issues to support efforts described in sub-  
6 paragraphs (A) and (B), including donor part-  
7 ners, conservation organizations, and the pri-  
8 vate sector.

9 **SEC. 305. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND GLOBAL**  
10 **PARTNERSHIPS.**

11 The Secretary of State and the Administrator for the  
12 United States Agency for International Development, in  
13 collaboration with the heads of other relevant United  
14 States agencies, may take action to strengthen inter-  
15 national cooperation and partnerships to combat the glob-  
16 al wildlife crime crisis, including through—

17 (1) strengthening and advancing the implemen-  
18 tation of international agreements and other ar-  
19 rangements that protect wildlife;

20 (2) leveraging United States diplomacy to mobi-  
21 lize global support for action against wildlife crime;

22 (3) promoting organization of and participation  
23 by United States agencies in wildlife crime enforce-  
24 ment operations;

1           (4) building partnerships with governments,  
2           intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental  
3           organizations, communities, and the private sector to  
4           combat wildlife crime, including leveraging new and  
5           existing technologies;

6           (5) considering the development of vetted units  
7           of local law enforcement to be screened, trained, and  
8           supported by appropriate United States law enforce-  
9           ment officials; and

10          (6) encouraging countries, where appropriate,  
11          to transparently audit their holdings of contraband  
12          wildlife and wildlife products.

13 **SEC. 306. COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION.**

14          The Secretary of State, in collaboration with the  
15          heads of other relevant United States agencies, the private  
16          sector, nongovernmental organizations, and other develop-  
17          ment partners, may provide support in countries of con-  
18          cern to carry out the recommendations made in the stra-  
19          tegic plan required by section 201(a)(3) as such rec-  
20          ommendations relate to the development, scaling, and rep-  
21          lication of community-owned wildlife conservancies and  
22          community-based conservation programs in countries of  
23          concern to assist with rural stability and greater security  
24          for people and wildlife, empower and support communities  
25          to own, manage, or benefit from their wildlife resources

1 sustainably, and reduce the threat of poaching and traf-  
2 ficking, including through—

3           (1) promoting conservation-based enterprises  
4           and incentives, such as eco-tourism and agricultural  
5           production, that empower communities to own or  
6           manage their wildlife, natural resources, and com-  
7           munity ventures where appropriate, by ensuring they  
8           benefit from well-managed wildlife populations;

9           (2) helping create alternative livelihoods to  
10          poaching by helping support rural stability, greater  
11          security for people and wildlife, sustainable economic  
12          development and economic incentives to conserve  
13          wildlife populations;

14          (3) engaging regional businesses and the pri-  
15          vate sector to develop goods and services to aide in  
16          anti-poaching and anti-trafficking measures;

17          (4) working with communities to develop secure  
18          and safe methods of sharing information with en-  
19          forcement officials;

20          (5) providing technical assistance to support  
21          sustainable land use plans to improve the economic,  
22          environmental, and social outcomes in community-  
23          owned or -managed lands;

24          (6) supporting community anti-poaching efforts  
25          including policing and informant networks;

1           (7) working with community and national gov-  
2           ernments to develop relevant policy and regulatory  
3           frameworks to enable and promote community-  
4           owned or -managed conservation programs, includ-  
5           ing supporting law enforcement engagement with  
6           wildlife protection authorities to promote informa-  
7           tion-sharing; and

8           (8) working with national governments to en-  
9           sure that communities have timely and effective sup-  
10          port from national authorities to minimize physical  
11          or mortal risks that communities may face when en-  
12          gaging in anti-poaching and anti-trafficking activi-  
13          ties.

14 **SEC. 307. REPORT ON WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING MEASURES.**

15          (a) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than one year  
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually  
17 thereafter, the Co-Chairs of the Task Force, in collabora-  
18 tion with the Director of National Intelligence and the  
19 heads of other relevant United States agencies, shall sub-  
20 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report  
21 on wildlife crimes.

22          (b) **MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.**—The report re-  
23 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

1           (1) A summary of the situational analysis of  
2 threats to wildlife for each country of concern re-  
3 quired by section 201(a)(2).

4           (2) A summary of the strategic plan for each  
5 country of concern required by section 201(a)(3)  
6 and an assessment of any progress made on the im-  
7 plementation of the plan in that country, including  
8 a description of measurable goals and a framework  
9 with clear timelines and benchmarks for monitoring  
10 such progress.

11          (3) A detailed description of actions that each  
12 agency represented on the Task Force has or will  
13 implement to carry out the requirements of section  
14 201 and the other provisions of this Act.

15          (4) A description of the capacity of the authori-  
16 ties of governments of countries of concern to sus-  
17 tain the programs for which the United States has  
18 provided assistance pursuant to this Act.

19          (5) An identification of the countries of concern  
20 that play the most significant role in the supply or  
21 poaching of, transit in, or demand for illegal wildlife  
22 or wildlife products or their derivatives and a de-  
23 scription of how such products or derivatives are  
24 trafficked.

1           (6) An identification of relevant supply routes,  
2 methods of transportation, use and identification of  
3 freight forwarders, financial institutions used in  
4 each country of concern, and red flag indicators of  
5 wildlife smuggling related money laundering.

6           (7) A description of the efforts of the countries  
7 identified under paragraph (5) to counter wildlife  
8 trafficking and to adhere to their international trea-  
9 ty obligations relating to endangered or threatened  
10 species.

11           (8) An assessment of the extent of involvement  
12 of organizations designated as foreign terrorist orga-  
13 nizations under section 219 of the Immigration and  
14 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

15           (9) Any security assistance provided under sec-  
16 tion 301(b), or security assistance provided during  
17 the most recent fiscal year ending before the date of  
18 the report using funds or authorities available in the  
19 Act authorizing appropriations for that fiscal year  
20 for military activities of the Department of Defense,  
21 to each country of concern under section 301(b).

22           (c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)  
23 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include  
24 a classified annex.

1 (d) TERMINATION DATE.—The requirement to con-  
2 duct reports under subsection (a) shall terminate on the  
3 date on which the Task Force terminates under section  
4 201(d).

5 **SEC. 308. IMPLEMENTATION USING AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY**  
6 **APPROPRIATED.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of this Act shall  
8 be carried out using amounts previously appropriated and  
9 available for obligation as of the date of the enactment  
10 of this Act. No additional amounts are authorized to be  
11 appropriated to carry out this Act.

12 (b) PROHIBITION ON USE OF OVERSEAS CONTIN-  
13 GENCY OPERATIONS FUNDS.—No amounts authorized to  
14 be appropriated for a fiscal year and designated as being  
15 in support of overseas contingency operations may be obli-  
16 gated or expended to carry out this Act.

17 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT OVERSEAS CONTIN-  
18 GENCY OPERATIONS FUNDS SHOULD NOT BE IN-  
19 CREASED.—It is the sense of Congress that efforts to find  
20 available amounts to carry out this Act should not result  
21 in an increase in amounts authorized to be appropriated  
22 for a fiscal year to provide additional funds for overseas  
23 contingency operations.

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