

# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

**ROUTES**

Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>

**ROLE:** Cabin Crew  
**TOPIC:** A how-to guide

**A TOOLBOX TALK is a short informal discussion on a particular issue (e.g. safety), often given at the start of a shift.**

- This set contains four talks, designed to be given separately (e.g. one per month/quarter).
- Each session should only last a few minutes.
- An attendance form has been included for each talk.

TOPICS

Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing

(1/4)

Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage

(2/4)

What to look for

(3/4)

Safe handling of escaped animals in the cabin

(4/4)

## BEFORE YOU START:



### **FIND OUT (and share)**

- Your company's protocol on the reporting of wildlife trafficking.
- Individuals/agencies to contact (*email, name, phone number etc.*).



### **CHECK the ROUTES Partnership website (<https://routespartnership.org/>)**

for more wildlife trafficking examples to include in your talk (e.g. from your airline/airport/region).



**CHECK** for comments in the notes section of this presentation for more information.



**PRINT** the eight images provided at the end for 'show and tell' to assist you.

**Make it interesting**

**Make it relevant**

**Encourage discussion and ask if anyone has experience to share**

**Listen to what everyone says; and**

**Keep it positive!**

ROUTES role-specific toolbox talks are also available for passenger check-in, passenger screening, cargo acceptance, cargo/baggage screening and ground handler staff (<https://routespartnership.org/contact>)



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network



# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

## ROUTES

Reducing Opportunities  
for Unlawful Transport of  
Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>



**ROLE:** Cabin Crew  
**TOPIC:** A how-to guide NOTES

- For information on IATA and combating wildlife trafficking:  
<https://www.iata.org/policy/environment/Pages/wildlife-trafficking.aspx>
- For information on ACI and combating wildlife trafficking:  
<https://aci.aero/services/member-tools-to-combat-human-and-wildlife-trafficking/wildlife-trafficking/>
- You can find more information on CITES on [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org); and your country's CITES authority <https://cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp>



For regional and role-specific training materials on combating wildlife trafficking in air transport, visit the ROUTES training resources:

<https://routespartnership.org/training-modules>



To assist staff to recognise and report wildlife trafficking, Quick Reference Cards are available:

<https://routespartnership.org/contact-card>

The ROUTES website contains additional materials you can use, including:

- ROUTES publications on wildlife trafficking in air transport:  
<https://routespartnership.org/industry-resources/publications>
- ROUTES industry guidance resources: <https://routespartnership.org/industry-resources/guidance-documents>
- ROUTES factsheets : <https://routespartnership.org/industry-resources/factsheets>
- ROUTES awareness posters: <https://routespartnership.org/industry-resources/posters>
- ROUTES Infographics <https://routespartnership.org/industry-resources/infographics>



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network



# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

**ROUTES**

Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>

**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing (1/4)

## Wildlife trafficking poses potential risks to the aviation industry



REPUTATION



LEGAL



ECONOMIC



SAFETY

Passengers may try to smuggle illegal items including drugs and wildlife etc. under their clothing. **Cabin crew can play an important role in the detection and reporting of smuggled wildlife.**

*LOOK for passengers who:*

- Don't eat or move, especially on long flights
- Smell unusual
- Wear clothing which is baggy/loose/wrong for the climate
- Wear clothing which moves or makes a noise
- Are very nervous

Make a

**REPORT**

if you think a passenger may be smuggling wildlife

**Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing tends to be:**

- ✦ *High value*
- ✦ *Low weight*
- ✦ *Sometimes living (e.g. birds' eggs, live birds, snakes, fish, insects etc.)*
- ✦ *Sometimes dead (as parts and products) (e.g. ivory or rhino horn)*

*(Passenger taped birds' eggs to his chest under a loose shirt)*



UK Border Agency CITES team



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

**ROUTES**

Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>

**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage (2/4)

## Wildlife trafficking poses potential risks to the aviation industry



REPUTATION



LEGAL



ECONOMIC



SAFETY

Passengers may try to smuggle items including drugs and wildlife etc. in carry-on baggage. Cabin crew can play an important role in the detection and reporting of smuggled wildlife.

*LOOK for baggage which:*

- Makes a noise
- Smells unusual
- Moves

Make a

**REPORT**

if you think a passenger may be smuggling wildlife

**Wildlife smuggled in carry-on baggage tends to be:**

- 📦 *High value*
- 📦 *Low weight*
- 📦 *Sometimes living (e.g. birds' eggs, live birds, snakes, fish, insects etc.)*
- 📦 *Sometimes dead (as parts and products) (e.g. ivory or rhino horn)*

*(Smuggled tiger cub discovered in carry-on baggage)*



Wildlife Checkpoint Suvarnabhumi Airport



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

**ROUTES**

Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>

**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** What to look for (3/4)

## Wildlife trafficking poses potential risks to the aviation industry



REPUTATION



LEGAL



ECONOMIC



SAFETY

Smugglers often try to hide prohibited items such as drugs etc. on passengers. Traffickers are also known to use passengers to smuggle wildlife. **Cabin crew can play an important role in the detection and reporting of smuggled wildlife.**

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR

*(passengers who may have something to hide)*

### Involuntary Responses



- Sweating, dilated pupils
- Avoids eye contact



- Nervousness
- Shaking & twitching

### Nervous Body Movements/Speech



- Adjusts clothing/jewelry
- Talks fast



- Delayed responses
- Repeats questions

### Other Signs



- Odd smell/sounds, movement in baggage or under clothing
- Wearing clothing which is too big or baggy
- Wearing the wrong clothes for the climate



- Doesn't eat or move, especially on long flights

Make a

**REPORT**

if you think a passenger may be smuggling wildlife



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network







**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Safe handling of escaped animals in the cabin (4/4)

### Animals can cause injury and spread disease.



Disease transmission applies to living animals and meat and other products.

E.g. Rabies, Ebola, SARS, MERs, Tuberculosis, Anthrax, Bird Flu etc.

Smugglers often try to hide prohibited items such as drugs etc. on passengers or in baggage. Traffickers are also known to use passengers and their baggage to smuggle wildlife. **Cabin crew can play an important role in the detection and reporting of smuggled wildlife.**

Make a



if you find wildlife in the cabin

IATA's 'Safe Handling of Escaped Animals in the Cabin: Best Practice' provides help if you encounter live animals on-board an aircraft.

If you see or suspect a live animal has escaped in the cabin or hold, report to your P.I.C. as soon as possible. Do not touch the animal until you have read the full guidelines.

- Stay calm and do not put yourself or others at risk
- Do not take unnecessary risks
- Contain the animal where possible, try and observe where you can't
- Don't handle any animal unless you believe it is necessary or safe to do so
- If you must handle wildlife, wear protective clothing
- Move passengers away slowly, be cautious of sudden changes to weight distribution
- Inform station managers of your need for experts at arrival

*If anyone is bitten or stung and the animal is dead, retain the body so that medical professionals know what treatment is required.*

## PREVENTION

- Do not leave aircraft doors open and unattended
- Check the cabin before passenger embarkation and departure
- Investigate and report anything suspicious as soon as possible



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Safe handling of escaped animals in the cabin (4/4) NOTES



## See below for more guidance on the safe handling of animals:

**Ask the audience if they know any examples of diseases than can pass from animals to people.**

1. ALL animals have the potential to spread disease to humans.
  - a) Examples include: Rabies, Ebola, SARS, MERs, Tuberculosis, Anthrax, Bird Flu etc.
2. Disease transmission does not just apply to living animals – meat and other products can also spread disease.

**If you are in a situation where you must handle an animal, make sure that you protect yourself and those around you.**

1. Always wear personal protective equipment when handling animals including gloves and a mask.
2. Be sure that you thoroughly clean your hands and any surfaces which the animal(s) may have come into contact with. **It is important to follow hygiene protocols.**
3. **Anyone who is bitten/scratched etc. should see medical attention as soon as possible.**





# Safe Handling of Escaped Animals in the Cabin: Best Practice

*Evidence suggests that the number of incidents of live animals escaping in the cabin is increasing. The impact of this can threaten cabin safety, be intimidating for passengers and crew, and represent a potential health risk from bites, stings and animal-borne diseases. These guidelines are designed to help if you encounter live animals on-board an aircraft. The undeclared carriage of live animals breaches airline conditions of carriage*

*and often these animals are being smuggled by wildlife traffickers in contravention of national and international regulations.*

*If you see or suspect a live animal has escaped in the cabin or hold, you should report it to your P.I.C. as soon as possible but do not touch the animal until you have read this guidance.*

## If you find something - stay calm and do not put yourself or others at risk

**Do not take unnecessary risks**

**Contain where possible, try and observe where you can't**

**Don't handle any animal unless you believe it is necessary or safe to do so**

**Move passengers away slowly and be cautious of sudden changes to weight distribution**

**Inform the station managers of your need for experts at arrival**

## Assess the situation

- What is it?
- Is it alone or are there more than one?
- Does it pose an immediate risk?
- Does it belong to anyone?
- Is it calm/quiet/afraid/aggressive?
- Where is it?
- Is it completely contained (locked in the toilet or in a container)?
- If it is, leave it and do not let anyone access the area
- If it is still and not an immediate risk you may be able to leave it and watch it.

**If anyone is bitten or stung and the animal is dead, retain the body so that medical professionals know what treatment is required.**

## Prevention

**Do not leave aircraft doors open and unattended for extended periods**

**Check the cabin before passenger embarkation and departure**

**Investigate and report anything suspicious as soon as possible.**

# Live animals may be brought onto an aircraft on passengers or hidden in their luggage. What to look out for:

Luggage that moves, smells or makes a noise

Passengers who don't eat or move, are very nervous, smell unusual, wear baggy clothing

### Small animals:

Place container (preferably transparent e.g. drinking glass/plastic box) over the top of the animal (1), slide a piece of paper underneath (2) and a rigid flat object beneath this (3). Tape the rigid base to the top of the container (4).

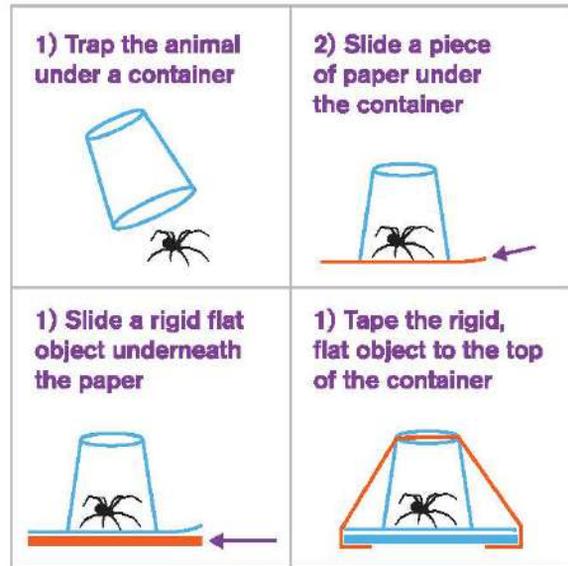
For small insects you may be able to seal with plastic film.

### Larger animals:

If the container method is not feasible, it may be possible to place a blanket or coat over the animal so that you can try to catch it without touching it.

Drop the animal in a larger container (solid) and secure. Place in the toilet and lock the door.

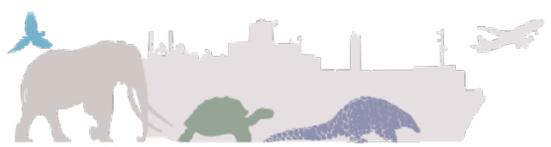
A calm snake may be willing to enter a dark bag held open in front of them. Wear gloves and do not place yourself at risk.



## Most common types of animals found on aircraft:

 <b>Spiders</b>	 <b>Scorpions</b>	 <b>Rodents</b>	 <b>Snakes</b>
Most are not dangerous	All can sting	Good chewers	All can bite
<i>Be careful of...</i> <b>Bites</b> can be extremely venomous <b>Hairs</b> can cause irritation  <i>Containment:</i> <b>Plastic container</b> (bin, glass, ice bucket etc.) with lid <b>Well sealed cardboard box</b>	<i>Be careful of...</i> <b>Stings</b> can be extremely venomous  <i>Containment:</i> <b>Plastic container</b> (bin, glass, ice bucket etc.) with lid <b>Well sealed cardboard box</b>	<i>Be careful of...</i> <b>Bites</b> risk of disease <b>Chewing of equipment</b>  <i>Containment:</i> <b>Plastic container</b> (bin, glass, ice bucket etc.) with lid !!! can chew through cardboard, thin plastic, cloth	<i>Be careful of...</i> <b>Bites</b> some are venomous <b>Squeezing</b> dangerous in large specimens  <i>Containment:</i> <b>Plastic container</b> (bin, glass, ice bucket etc.) <b>Cloth bag</b> (knot or tied at top). Can bite through bag so only handle this above the knot. Place in other container.
<i>Safety equipment</i> <b>Gloves</b>	<i>Safety equipment</i> <b>Gloves</b>	<i>Safety equipment</i> <b>Gloves</b>	<i>Safety equipment</i> <b>Gloves</b> <b>Goggles</b>





Print

**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 1/6*

- ✦ Passenger taped birds' eggs to his chest under a loose shirt
- ✦ The eggs are hidden in small tubes to stop them knocking together and breaking



© UK Border Agency CITES team

### Other examples include:

- Live hummingbirds hidden in underwear
- Live fish hidden under skirt
- Baby gibbon strapped to passenger's legs under a long gown
- Birds hidden in tubes up shirt sleeves
- Baby monkey strapped to belly (passenger pretended to be pregnant)
- Ivory hidden in tailor-made vest under other clothing
- Rhino horn strapped to the body



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network



# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

**ROUTES**

Reducing Opportunities  
for Unlawful Transport of  
Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>



**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 2/6*

- ❏ Smuggled tiger cub discovered in carry-on baggage
- ❏ The animal was sedated
- ❏ Scheduled to board flight to Iran from Bangkok, Thailand



(TRAFFIC)



## Other examples include:

- Ivory tusks hidden in carry-on baggage
- Rhino horn hidden in carry-on baggage
- Live owls hidden in tubes in carry-on baggage



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 3/6*

## See



Screenshot from youtube (courtesy of the Border Service of Kazakhstan's National Security Committee)

([Agencia EFE](#))

- **No bag tags**
- **Note airholes**
- **32 falcons found in baggage**



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





Print

ROLE: Cabin Crew

TOPIC: Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 4/6*

## Hear



© The Star, Malaysia

*(The Star)*

- Hissing from cargo declared as fruit
- Smuggled turtles and cobras found



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 5/6*

## Smell



© Miona Janeke

[\(BBC News\)](#)

- **Foul smell**
- **Delayed shipment**
- **Dead reptiles found inside**



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network





**ROLE:** Cabin Crew

**TOPIC:** Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 6/6*

## Feel



© TRAFFIC

([Macau News](#))

- **Heavy shipment of chocolate**
- **Contained smuggled ivory**



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network



# WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

**ROUTES**

Reducing Opportunities  
for Unlawful Transport of  
Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>



**ROLE:** Cabin Crew  
**TOPIC:** Image resource NOTES

## Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage

<http://www.traffic.org/home/2010/8/26/live-tiger-found-in-check-in-baggage.html>

August 2010

- A two-month old tiger cub was found sedated and hidden among stuffed-tiger toys in the baggage of a woman at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport
- She was scheduled to board a Mahan Air flight destined for Iran
- Airports of Thailand (AOT) staff suspected something amiss when they scanned the bag and x-ray images showed an item resembling a real cat

## Use your senses - SEE

<https://www.efe.com/efe/english/life/kazakhstan-thwarts-smuggling-of-endangered-falcons/50000263-3098719#>

November 2016

- Authorities at Astana International Airport intercepted baggage with air holes containing 32 live falcons bound for the United Arab Emirates.
- Image taken from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4t9gNQY6G4> with footage courtesy of the Border Service of Kazakhstan's National Security Committee.

## Use your senses - HEAR

<http://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2012/05/05/reptiles-in-papayas/>

May 2012

- Authorities discovered illegal shipment of 555 cobras and 171 freshwater turtles in shipment of papayas.

## Use your senses - SMELL

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-25877368>

January 2014

- Officials were alerted to OR Tambo International Airport cargo holding facilities because of a bad smell coming from the sealed shipment. The consignment (bound for the U.S.A. from Madagascar), had been in the holding facility for five days because of cancelled flights.

## Use your senses - FEEL

<https://macaunews.mo/customs-seize-34-kg-ivory-disguised-chocolate-bars/>

July 2013

- Officers who were suspicious with the weight of boxes of chocolates discovered that the 'chocolates' were actually 90 ivory seals.



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**C4ADS**  
innovation for peace



**TRAFFIC**  
the wildlife trade monitoring network

