

WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK



ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Introduction

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 of talks has been custom-made for Passenger Screeners

- It will detail the key indicators of wildlife trafficking that Passenger Screeners may come across in the course of their duties and how to report this.
 - Wildlife trafficking refers to the illegal trade of wild animals and plants
 - It should be recognized that not all wildlife trade is illegal, but a worrying proportion of trade is carried out in contravention of national laws and international regulations.
 - The illegal trade causes serious problems to wildlife populations, to governments, to local communities and to legitimate business which may become inadvertently caught up in this.

The role of a passenger screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference.

However screening for such items may also lead to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking. Passengers may try to smuggle wildlife on board under their clothing.

Reports of suspected wildlife trafficking should be made to the police and/or the regulatory authority via your locally approved reporting procedures. Please check these each time these materials are used and share them.

TOPICS	Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing (1/4)	Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage (2/4)	Indicators of wildlife trafficking on passengers (3/4)	Staying safe (4/4)
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WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

ROUTES

Reducing Opportunities
for Unlawful Transport of
Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>

ROLE: Passenger Screeners

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, cabin crew, cargo acceptance, cargo/baggage screening and ground handler staff (<https://routespartnership.org/contact>)



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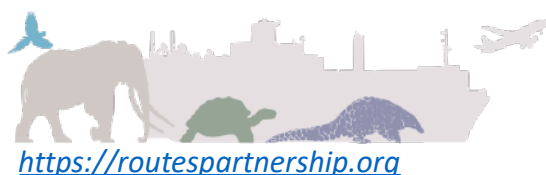
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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: A how-to guide NOTES

- 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; 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>



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

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

Wildlife trafficking poses potential risks to the aviation industry



REPUTATION



LEGAL



ECONOMIC



SAFETY

The role of a screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference. However, screening for such items may also lead you to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking. Passengers may try to smuggle wildlife on board under their clothing.

Indicators of wildlife trafficking by passengers

- Smell unusual
- Wear clothing which is too big or baggy, moves or makes a noise
- Wear the wrong clothes for the climate
- Are very nervous
- Have an unusual route/multiple connections

Make a

REPORT

via your locally approved reporting procedures if you think a passenger is attempting to smuggle wildlife

Wildlife smuggled on passengers 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



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WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK



ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing (1/4)
 – Attendance form

Company Name: **Date:**

Talk led by:

Name	Designation	Signature

(photocopy additional pages if necessary)



WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING TOOLBOX TALK

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Reducing Opportunities for Unlawful Transport of Endangered Species



<https://routespartnership.org>

ROLE: Passenger Screeners

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

Wildlife trafficking poses potential risks to the aviation industry



REPUTATION



LEGAL



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SAFETY

The role of a screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference.

However, screening for such items may also lead you to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking. Passengers may try to smuggle wildlife on board in their carry-on baggage.

Indicators of wildlife trafficking in baggage

- Makes a noise or moves
- Smells unusual
- Has air holes
- Appears to contain organic items, suspicious shapes or other elements which could indicate wildlife trafficking

Make a

REPORT

via your locally approved reporting procedures if you think a passenger is attempting to smuggle wildlife

Wildlife smuggled by passengers 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 hand baggage)



Wildlife Checkpoint Suvarnabhumi Airport



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage (2/4) – Attendance form

Company Name: **Date:**

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<https://routespartnership.org>

ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Indicators of wildlife trafficking on passengers (3/4)

Wildlife trafficking poses potential risks to the aviation industry



REPUTATION



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SAFETY

The role of a screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference. However, screening for such items may also lead you to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking. Passengers may try to smuggle wildlife on board under their clothing or in their carry-on baggage.

WHAT YOU MIGHT SEE

(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



- Wearing clothing which is too big or baggy
- Wearing the wrong clothes for the climate



- Odd smell/sounds/movement in baggage/under clothing
- Baggage which has air holes
- Unusual route and multiple connections (on further inspection)

Make a

REPORT

via your locally approved reporting procedures if you think a passenger is attempting to smuggle wildlife



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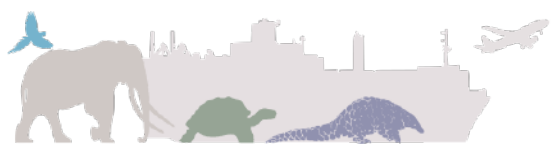
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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Staying safe (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.

The role of a screener is to identify and detect weapons, explosives or other dangerous devices, articles or substances which may be used to commit an act of unlawful interference.

However, screening for such items may also lead you to the detection of other illegal activities such as wildlife trafficking. Passengers may try to smuggle wildlife onboard under their clothing or in their carry-on baggage.

Indicators of wildlife trafficking

- Very nervous passengers
- Passenger clothing that is baggy/loose/wrong for the climate
- Passenger clothing/baggage which makes a noise/smells unusual/moves
- Baggage which has air holes/appears to contain organic items which could be wildlife
- Upon further inspection - unusual routes/multiple connections

Smuggled wildlife can be dangerous to airport operations and to staff and passengers.

If you suspect a live animal is loose:

- **STAY CALM**
- *Seek assistance from an expert*
- *Do not handle the animal unless absolutely necessary*
- *Use protective clothing*
- *Make a **REPORT***

(Monitor lizard found in the baggage sorting area at Heathrow)



Border Force, UK



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Staying safe (4/4) NOTES



See below for more guidance on staying safe :

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.**

Image:

Monitor Lizard found in the baggage sorting area at Heathrow

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/border-force-seizes-rare-live-lizard-at-heathrow>



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Staying Safe (4/4) – Attendance form

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Print

ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Wildlife hidden under passenger clothing

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 1/8*

- ✦ 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



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Wildlife hidden in carry-on baggage

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 2/8*

- ❏ 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



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Wildlife hidden in baggage

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 3/8*

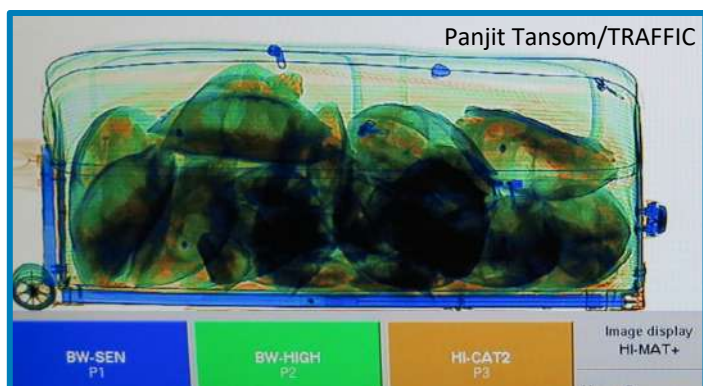
470 live Black Pond Turtles smuggled in baggage; Animals taped to restrict movement - 8 November 2013

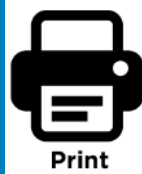
- Thai Royal Customs arrested a Pakistani national on a flight from Lahore, with four suitcases containing 470 live Black Pond Turtles
- The species is listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which therefore makes any international commercial trade illegal.
- 5 days earlier, authorities also seized 80 live turtles and tortoises from two bags that had just arrived on a flight from Bangladesh.
- At the end of this week of two seizures, authorities again seized live turtles and tortoises from baggage.
- A total of 475 live turtles and tortoises were discovered in baggage that arrived from Dhaka.



Panjit Tansom/TRAFFIC

(TRAFFIC)





ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 4/8*

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**



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Use your senses
Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 5/8*

Hear



© The Star, Malaysia

(The Star)

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



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 6/8*

Smell



© Miona Janeke

[\(BBC News\)](#)

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



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: Use your senses

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 7/8*

Feel



© TRAFFIC

([Macau News](#))

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



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners

TOPIC: General use

Image resource – *print for 'show & tell' – pg. 8/8*

Quick Reference

WHAT YOU MIGHT OBSERVE



- **Use your senses**
 - Odd smells
 - Animal sounds / noises
 - Movement in baggage or under clothing
- **Clothing**
 - Wrong clothes for the climate i.e winter jackets while heading to tropical region
 - Large, baggy coats with unusual bumps visible
- **Nervous body movements / speech and involuntary responses**
 - Adjusts clothing / jewelry
 - Talks very fast
 - Delayed response to questions
 - Repeats the question
 - Sweating, dilated pupils
 - Avoids making eye contact
 - Nervousness
 - Shaking & twitching
- **X-Ray image**
 - Shows organic items, suspicious shapes or other elements which could indicate wildlife trafficking
 - These may appear orange, or green in the case of ivory
- **Upon further investigation**
 - Unusual route and multiple, frequent and short connections
 - Passport stamps with suspicious country stops



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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Image resource NOTES – pg. 1/2

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

Wildlife hidden in baggage

<http://www.traffic.org/home/2013/11/12/royal-thai-customs-intercept-three-attempts-to-smuggle-torto.html>

November 2013

- Thai Royal Customs arrested a Pakistani national on a flight from Lahore, with four suitcases containing 470 live Black Pond Turtles
- The species is listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which therefore makes any international commercial trade illegal.
- 5 days earlier, authorities also seized 80 live turtles and tortoises from two bags that had just arrived on a flight from Bangladesh.
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ROLE: Passenger Screeners
TOPIC: Image resource NOTES – pg. 2/2

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.

