

# Needs Assessment Framework: Confiscation and Management of Live Wildlife as Evidence

2022



Photos clockwise from left: ©WCS Viet Nam; ©Liz Bennet; ©Julie Larsen Maher; ©Arthur Sniegou

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## Introduction

The following survey document has been developed to understand what is currently being done and what are future needs to meet recommended best-practices for those involved at the frontlines of confiscating and managing live wildlife from illegal trade, to support high standards of welfare, positive conservation outcomes, and collation of evidence for successful prosecution of cases.

It is not intended for all questions in the document to be asked of all stakeholders. The framework is broken down based on the role of the stakeholder being interviewed, and is separated into the following sections:

1. [Questions for Ministerial/ Central/ Regional Agency Level](#)....Pages 3-11
2. [Questions for Frontline Enforcement Team Supervisors/ Managers](#)....Pages 12-18
3. [Questions for Frontline Officers](#)....Pages 19-24
4. [Questions for Forensics Investigators or Crime Scene Investigators](#)....Pages 25-29
5. [Questions for Prosecutors](#)....Pages 30-32

### [Annex 1: Example of Data Collection Table for Essential Participant Information](#)....Page 33

The intent is for country teams to take this framework and utilize all or some of the surveys, amending and adjusting which questions they use based on their own country's needs, capacity, and infrastructure. The document does not prescribe the specific authorities for each section, nor the methodology for conducting the assessments, as the required approach and specific stakeholders targeted may differ in different countries. This is for survey teams to decide and standardize ahead of time. Examples of approaches could include individual in-person or virtual interviews with key government agency officials, supervisors, prosecutors, or forensic investigators; and focus group meetings with frontline officers, considering different groups for different types of agents e.g., customs officers versus field rangers. For sections 1, 2, 4 and 5, selecting and surveying the most relevant "key informants" is more important than total number of people interviewed. For focus groups, 5-8 participants from the demographic of interest (e.g. customs officers, protected area rangers) are recommended. If you wish to make comparisons across countries or divisions, you will need to standardize percentages or sample sizes from the target level or demographic of interest based on the difference you want to be able to detect.

You should describe the purpose of the survey (see top of each section) and obtain consent from any requested participants. The survey should be anonymous, but we recommend you collect the following minimum information (e.g., in an Excel database or other table as seen in Annex 1):

#### For each survey, record:

Date

Section of Survey Participant is Answering (E.g., "3: Questions for Frontline Officers")

ID number for survey (format suggested in Annex 1 and on top of each page):

#### For Individuals ask:

Do you consent to participate? Yes/ No

Organization:

Role:

Location of position (name of city/ town/ protected area):

Gender: Male/ Female

Number of Years Working on Wildlife Trafficking/ Forest Protection/ Wildlife Management Issues:

0-1      2-5      6-10      11-20      >20

For focus groups: Record individual information of participants as above, and the total number of participants.

Try to gather and store any recordings, survey responses and supporting documents acquired on a computer. If this is not an option, store paper responses and copies in an organized, safe and secure manner and enter data into a computer as soon as possible.

**01. QUESTIONS FOR MINISTERIAL/ CENTRAL/ REGIONAL AGENCY LEADERSHIP STAFF**

*The following survey document has been developed to understand what is currently being done and what are future needs to achieve best-practices for the confiscation and management as evidence of live wildlife confiscated from illegal trade. We ask that you help us complete this survey in as much detail as possible. Please note that your responses will be anonymous.*

Date:

*ID number for survey:*

(For ID, use: date-section of needs assessment-number of survey that day e.g., \_02/06/22-01-01, 02/06/22-01-02, 02/06/22-01-03 etc.)

## Confiscation Authorities

1. Please describe the in-country process for controlling the illegal trade in wildlife:

- Who has authority at a national level and how is authority delegated from central to subnational/provincial/district level?
- Please describe in detail the types of roles, different levels of authority and the system you have in place.

E.g., Who has the authority to arrest? Who has the authority to fine? Who has the authority to charge? Who has the authority to collect and submit evidence? Who has the authority to decide where confiscated wildlife are held and for how long?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

2. Approximately, how many people are assigned to the wildlife confiscating enforcement agencies (e. g. Police; rangers) in your country (Ministerial-level respondent) or region/ district (regional/ district leadership-level respondent)? .....

- What level of education do these staff normally have e.g. high school or university level?
- Are they trained specifically in this field?

Yes/ No

- If yes, to what level e.g. in-service on the job training/ certificate level/ university degree/ through government training center

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- What topics of training do you think would be beneficial for these staff in order to improve the handling and management of confiscated live wildlife as evidence?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

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- And what do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g. in person, live online, written online, You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats).

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3. Approximately, how many people are working as protected area rangers in your country (for Ministerial level respondent) or region (regional-leader respondent)? .....

- What level of education do these staff normally have e.g. high school or university level?
- Are they trained specifically in this field?

Yes/ No

- If yes, to what level e.g. in-service on the job training/ certificate level/ university degree/ through government training center

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- What topics of training do you think would be beneficial for these staff in order to improve the handling and management of confiscated live wildlife as evidence?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

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- And what do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g. in person, live online, written online, You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times(if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats).

4. Approximately, how many people are working as customs officers in your country (for Ministerial level respondent) or region (regional-leader respondent)? .....

- What level of education do these staff normally have e.g. high school or university level?
- Are they trained specifically in this field?

Yes/ No

- If yes, to what level e.g. in-service on the job training/ certificate level/ university degree/ through government training center

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- What topics of training do you think would be beneficial for these staff in order to improve the handling and management of confiscated live wildlife as evidence?

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- .....
- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

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- And what do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g. in person, live online, written online, You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats).

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5. Please describe in detail how you gather intelligence on the illegal trade of wildlife. Please describe what you think would help improve your ability to gather strong intelligence.

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6. Are confiscated animals ever held for < 24 hours after confiscation?

Yes/ No

- If yes, please describe which species/ taxa and why they might be held for extended periods
- Please also describe where/ how they are held and if protocols exist (attach if necessary)

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7. Are confiscated animals ever held in quarantine facilities which follow specific quarantine protocols?

Yes/ No

- If yes, please describe size, location, capacity and ongoing maintenance and management (attach if necessary)

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8. Are confiscated animals ever held in in captivity for extended periods?

Yes/ No

- If yes, please list which types of animals and why and any existing protocols for making this decision and the animals' care

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- If yes, please list names and locations of centres where animals are held, their capacity if known and who provides oversight for their maintenance and management (attach if necessary)

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9. Do you feel you have sufficient resources (such as funds, facilities, personnel, expertise) to enable animals to be managed in captivity for extended periods to a high standard of welfare?

Yes/ No

- Please describe what resources you currently have and what you feel could be improved

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10. Do you sometimes re-introduce confiscated wild animals back to wild habitats?

Yes/ No

- If yes, do you feel you have sufficient resources (such as funds, expertise) to follow best-practice guidelines for reintroducing confiscated wild animals? i.e., prerelease health assessments, suitable site assessment, soft//hard release techniques, post release monitoring)

Yes/ No

- Please describe in detail what resources you have, and the decision-making process for re-introduction and challenges faced in reintroductions

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11. Do you ever repatriate animals (i.e. return them to their country of origin if they are known to not originate from your country and the source country can be identified)?

Yes/ No

- If yes, do you feel you have sufficient resources (such as funds, expertise, monitoring) available for repatriating confiscated wild animals?

Yes/ No

- If you do repatriate animals, please describe in detail what resources you have, the decision-making process and challenges faced in repatriation

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12. What do you see as the main challenges to the healthy survival of confiscated live wildlife in your country/ region?

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**Prosecution/ Forensics**

13. What happens to live wildlife whilst a court case related to their confiscation is pending or ongoing?

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14. How is the final disposition of confiscated live wildlife decided and by whom e.g., re-release, repatriation, long-term holding, euthanasia)?

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15. Who oversees the monitoring of the confiscated live wildlife after the final disposition is decided?

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16. Are wildlife confiscation agencies involved in the court proceedings for case prosecutions?

Y/N/ Sometimes

- If yes or sometimes, please describe when/ how

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- If yes, are relevant personnel trained to present evidence in court?

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17. Are wildlife confiscation agencies kept apprised of the outcome of court cases?

Yes/ No/ Sometimes

If sometimes, please describe why/ how/ challenges:

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18. Are there specific government staff teams or personnel trained to perform wildlife crime forensic investigations?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

19. If so, how long/ where are they trained (e.g., university, on the job, government training center, other?) and what certification do the relevant personnel hold?

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20. Are relevant personnel adequately trained to maintain records and preserve chain of custody for evidence from wildlife trafficking cases?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

21. Are relevant personnel trained to present evidence from wildlife trafficking cases in court?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

22. What do you see as the main challenges to achieving a successful prosecution for trafficking live wildlife? What additional evidence or background information from the crime scene do you think might help support the successful prosecution?

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23. What additional topics of training do you think would improve the handling and management of confiscated live wildlife as evidence in your country? And who should receive these trainings?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

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- What do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g.  
in person trainings;  
live online trainings;  
written online courses;  
You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times  
Other? (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats).

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## 0.2 QUESTIONS FOR FRONTLINE ENFORCEMENT TEAM SUPERVISORS/ MANAGERS

*The following survey document has been developed to understand what is currently being done and what are future needs to achieve best-practices for the confiscation and management as evidence of live wildlife confiscated from illegal trade. We ask that you help us complete this survey in as much detail as possible. Please note that your responses will be anonymous.*

Date:

ID number for survey:

(For ID, use: date-section of needs assessment-number of survey that day e.g., \_02/06/22-01-01, 02/06/22-01-02, 02/06/22-01-03 etc.)

### Pre-Confiscation

1. Do frontline staff receive a formal training in pre-seizure considerations/ planning for a confiscation ie team roles, safety, pre entry planning, timing?

Yes/ No

- Please describe what topics are included in trainings, how they are taught and how often you practice

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2. Is health and safety included in these trainings for frontline officers?

Yes/ No

If yes, does this cover:

- Injury to human Y/N
- Injury to animals Y/N
- Disease transmission from animal to human Y/ N
- Disease transmission from human to animal Y/ N
- Personal Protective Equipment Y/N

3. Do you have any Biosecurity protocols that frontline officers follow regarding confiscations?

Yes/ No

-If yes, please attach or describe

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4. Are frontline officers trained in the safe and welfare-friendly handling and management of confiscated animals?

Yes/ No

- Please describe the level and type of training, instructions or guidance, whether formal or not, who conducts the training and whether officers become accredited through this training, and how are skills and knowledge regularly assessed? (attach documents on training topics)

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5. Do you follow a standard operating procedure/checklist when preparing for a seizure event?

Yes/ No

- Please describe or provide

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6. Do you have pre-seizure briefing meetings to ensure everyone knows their assigned role in an upcoming seizure event?

Yes/ No

- Please describe how this is done and who is involved and who leads this meeting

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7. Do you have a checklist of items needed to take for a seizure event?

Yes/ No

- If yes, please describe what is included or provide list

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8. Do you have feel you have appropriate/good quality methods of intelligence?

Yes/ No

- Please describe how you gain intelligence prior to a seizure and improvements you think could be helpful

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9. Do you have cameras, recording/writing materials to record the seizure?

Yes/ No

- Please describe what you have and how they are used and managed including archiving

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10. Do you have radios and communications systems in place to communicate between personnel during the seizure event?

Yes/ No

- Please describe what you do and what equipment you use?

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*Confiscation*

11. Regarding equipment to capture/hold/transport/manage confiscated animals?

Please describe in detail what your teams have, where it is held, how it is managed and what additional items would be valuable:

- Capture and handling (E.g., Gauntlets, PPE, snake tubes etc):

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- Temporarily holding/ transport (E.g., appropriate crates/ cages, vehicles for transport):

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- Management (food and water provisions, ability to safely give those):

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12. Please describe the process you have for identifying species?

- Do your teams have expertise, guides, manuals, and taxonomic keys available for basic taxonomic identification?

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13. Do your teams have access to taxonomic identification specialists?

Yes/ No

If Yes, for which taxa?

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14. How is the disposition of live wildlife that your team confiscates decided e.g., immediate re-release, temporary holding, long-term holding, euthanasia

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15. Do you have access to interim holding facilities( facilities ie holding containers/cages/rooms where animals are held before being moved to quarantine or carer facilities?)

Yes/ No

- Please describe size, location, capacity and ongoing maintenance and management (attach if necessary)

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16. Are confiscated animals ever transported to quarantine facilities which follow specific quarantine protocols prior to longer-term placement or re-release?

Yes/ No

- Please describe size, location, capacity and ongoing maintenance and management (attach if necessary)

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17. Do you have access to a network of longer-term carers (individuals, rescue organizations, zoos etc who may hold animals?)

Yes/ No

- Please describe the extent of and abilities of the carer network and their facilities and capacity. Do you have some form of accreditation process for these facilities and how are they checked?



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*Forensics*

18. Are wildlife forensics investigators assigned to your wildlife crime scenes?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

19. If no specialized wildlife forensics teams are assigned, are frontline officers trained in wildlife forensic investigation and how to preserve a crime scene in such way that it remains suitable for forensic investigation?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No

- If yes, please describe what training(s) they receive/ from who/ if any certification?

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20. Do your frontline officers generally preserve a wildlife crime scene in such way that it remains suitable for forensic investigation?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No
- It depends on the nature of the case - "I make the call"

21. What evidence does your team normally collect for forensics during a confiscation?

- Please describe what is collected, how it is stored and where/ by which authority it is kept for chain of custody and challenges you have experienced with this process

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22. Do you or your teams ever present evidence from a wildlife trafficking case in court?

Yes/ No

- If yes, have you or your officers been trained in how to present evidence in court?

Yes/ No

If yes, please describe training:

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### *Training Needs*

23. What additional topics of training pertaining to pre-confiscation, confiscation or forensics do you think would improve the handling and management of confiscated live wildlife as evidence in your country? And who should receive these trainings?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

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- What do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g.:  
in person trainings;  
live online trainings;  
written online courses;  
You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times  
Other? (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats)

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### 0.3. QUESTIONS FOR FRONTLINE OFFICERS

*The following survey document has been developed to understand what is currently being done and what are future needs to achieve best-practices for the confiscation and management as evidence of live wildlife confiscated from illegal trade. We ask that you help us complete this survey in as much detail as possible. Please note that your responses will be anonymous.*

Date:

ID number for survey:

(For ID, use: date-section of needs assessment-number of survey that day e.g., \_02/06/22-01-01, 02/06/22-01-02, 02/06/22-01-03 etc.)

#### **Confiscation Process**

1. Before you conducted any confiscations, were you given any type of training or instruction in the safe and welfare-friendly handling and management of confiscated animals?

Yes/ No

- If yes, please describe the training/ instruction e.g., if it was formal/ informal, what was covered in your training, including what taxa, how long the training took, who conducted the training and whether there was accreditation available for the training

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2. Have you received any training to assess disease risks linked to an operation, specifically linked to the nature of the operation, the environment and the species involved?

Yes/ No

- Please describe what training you received and the key learning outcomes?

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3. Regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- Please describe what you think PPE might include:

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- What PPE do you have access to and how do you use and manage the PPE after use (e.g., wash, re-use, store, dispose of)?

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- Have you received training in use of PPE? Yes/ No

If yes, please describe:

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- What additional items do you feel are needed for your team?

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4. Do you follow Biosecurity protocols for confiscations?

Yes/ No/ Not that your aware of

- If yes, please describe or provide a copy

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5. Do you feel you have good quality handling and restraint equipment for all taxa?

Yes/ No

- Please describe (or provide an equipment list or photos) what you have and your competency in using the equipment (e.g. trainings received), and what additional items you feel would be helpful

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6. Do you have access to cages/crates/short-term holding facilities which animals can be held and/or transported in?

Yes/ No

- Please describe (or provide photos) what you have access to now and what additional materials/ facilities you feel are needed

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7. Do you have access to fluids, food and provisions for animals that are confiscated before they are moved to interim holding facilities or quarantine facilities and safe ways to provide these?

Yes/ No

- Please describe

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8. Do you have suitable vehicles to transport confiscated animals to holding facilities?

Yes/ No

- Please describe

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### ***Examination/ Handling***

9. If an animal needs to be immobilized or anesthetized for capture/ confiscation, who performs the immobilization and what equipment do you have for this?

- Please describe:

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10. Do you have personnel on your team with the knowledge to assess if any animals might have an infectious disease or might have potential to transmit pathogens with zoonotic potential?

Yes/ No

- Please describe the level of knowledge and expertise

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11. Do you have access to any veterinary examination equipment e.g. stethoscope, thermometer, x-ray machines, ultrasound)?

Yes/ No

- Please describe

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12. Do you have access to qualified, experienced wildlife veterinarians to health screen the animals?

Yes/ No

- Please describe skills, access to treatment and anesthetic practices

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13. Are you able to collect and send samples to diagnostic laboratories to diagnose disease and ill health in animals?

Yes/ No/ Sometimes

- Please describe

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14. Do you have any equipment to mark individual animals for future tracking or identification i.e., bands, microchips etc?

Yes/ No

- Please describe?

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15. Is euthanasia of a severely injured or sick i.e., suffering animal considered culturally acceptable?

Yes/ No

If yes, do you have personnel on your team who know how to euthanize animals should that be required?

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16. Do you have the equipment, drugs, and consumables to euthanize animals?

Yes/ No

- Please describe

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17. Do you have access to other basic veterinary drugs and consumables? Or are they provided by your consultant veterinarians

Yes/ No

- Please describe

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18. What happens to animals that are euthanized?

- Please describe how euthanized or dead animals are disposed:

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19. Are euthanized animals ever sent for necropsy examination?

Yes/ No/ Sometimes

If yes or sometimes, please describe the decision process and where the bodies are sent for necropsy/ who performs the necropsy and how the animal is stored for transportation

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### **Forensics**

20. Have you received any training or guidance in forensic practices?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No

- If yes, please describe what training(s) you have received to date?

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21. Have you been taught how to preserve a crime scene in such way that it remains suitable for forensic investigation?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No

- If yes, please describe how you would preserve the scene:

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22. Do you generally preserve crime scene in such way that it remains suitable for forensic investigation?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No
- It depends on the nature of the case - "I make the call"

23. What evidence does your team normally collect for forensics during a confiscation?  
- Please describe what is collected, how it is stored and where/ by which authority it is stored

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24. Have you been trained to present evidence in court?

- Not applicable
- Yes
- No

### ***Training Needs***

25. What additional topics of training pertaining to pre-confiscation, confiscation or forensics would benefit you and your team and improve the handling and management of confiscated live wildlife as evidence?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

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- What do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g.:  
in person trainings;  
live online trainings;  
written online courses;  
You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times  
Other? (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats)

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## 0.4 QUESTIONS FOR FORENSICS INVESTIGATORS OR CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATORS

*The following survey document has been developed to understand what is currently being done and what are future needs to achieve best-practices for the confiscation and management as evidence of live wildlife confiscated from illegal trade. We ask that you help us complete this survey in as much detail as possible. Please note that your responses will be anonymous.*

*Date:*

*ID number for survey:*

(For ID, use: date-section of needs assessment-number of survey that day e.g., \_02/06/22-01-01, 02/06/22-01-02, 02/06/22-01-03 etc.)

### *Training and certification*

1. Did you or the relevant personnel receive specific training to perform wildlife forensic investigation?

Not applicable

Yes

No

2. Are you or the relevant personnel trained to delineate the crime scene and collect forensic evidence?

Not applicable

Yes

No

3. Are you or the relevant personnel adequately trained to maintain records and preserve chain of custody?

Not applicable

Yes

No

4. Are you or the relevant personnel certified to perform forensic investigation?

Not applicable

Yes

No

5. If yes, what certification do you or the relevant personnel hold?

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6. Have you been trained to present evidence in court?

Not applicable

Yes

No

7. How often do you perform wildlife forensic investigation(s)?

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*Capacity*

8. What equipment do the personnel carrying forensic investigation for wildlife trafficking crimes usually have?

- Please specify below, i.e field case with DNA collection kit, camera, etc and/or field tests such chemiluminescence, ALS, developer powders or reagents, etc

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9. What tools do/can you use to identify species wildlife crime investigations?

Visual identification of specimen by accredited expert via photographic evidence  
Visual identification of specimen by accredited expert via direct examination  
Morphology/anatomy analysis of specimen  
Genetics (PCR or metabarcoding) analysis of specimen  
Environmental DNA  
None

10. For wildlife crime investigations, what identification questions can your laboratory address?  
(tick/ check all that apply)

Family or genus of mammals  
Species of mammals  
Geographic origin of mammals  
Age of mammals  
Genus of reptiles  
Species of reptiles  
Geographic origin of reptiles  
Age of reptiles  
Genus of amphibians  
Species of amphibians  
Geographic origin of amphibians  
Genus of fish of fish  
Species of fish  
Geographic origin of fish  
Genus of insects  
Species of insects

11. What forensic support is available at your institution?

Microscopy

Pathology  
Toxicology  
Isotopes  
Ballistics  
Radiography

12. Does your organization have access to relevant (internal or external or In-house) genotyping DNA databases for:

Taxonomic identification  
Phylogeography  
Sex determination

13. Does your laboratory (unit/institution) have collaboration strategies or alliances with other national or foreign laboratories that allow it to attend or perform analyses it does not have and to perform forensic work for other countries?

Not applicable  
Yes  
No

14. Has your laboratory (unit/institution) ever performed a test that has been used as evidence in a court of law during a wildlife crime investigation?

Not applicable  
Yes  
No

15. For casework, what quality assurance standards does your lab work to? How do you audit them?

ISO 17025 Accreditation  
International interlaboratory evaluation certifications  
National interlaboratory evaluation certifications  
Government certification  
Metrological certification  
Other

16. How many wildlife crime cases did you investigate last year

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*Chain of Custody*

17. Is an official designated to ensure the continuity and preserve the integrity of evidence collected and presented in court?

Yes  
No

18. Is the course of an investigation recorded electronically or on paper?

- Yes, on paper
- Yes, electronically
- Yes, on paper and electronically
- No

19. Do you have standard operating protocols to preserve the chain of custody?

- Yes
- No

20. Are chain of custody protocols complied with?

- Yes, sometimes
- Yes, usually
- Yes, always
- No

21. Would you like to share other relevant information/ needs for your department to facilitate wildlife crime forensic investigations?

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### *Training Needs*

22. What additional topics of training would benefit you and your team and improve wildlife crime forensic investigations?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable? Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

.....

.....

- What do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g.:  
in person trainings;  
live online trainings;

written online courses;

You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times

Other? (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats)

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## 0.5 QUESTIONS FOR PROSECUTORS

*The following survey document has been developed to understand what is currently being done and what are future needs to achieve best-practices for the confiscation and management as evidence of live wildlife confiscated from illegal trade. We ask that you help us complete this survey in as much detail as possible. Please note that your responses will be anonymous.*

*Date:*

*ID number for survey:*

(For ID, use: date-section of needs assessment-number of survey that day e.g., \_02/06/22-01-01, 02/06/22-01-02, 02/06/22-01-03 etc.)

### *Hearing and sentences*

1. Which court/office decides on the disposition of the live wildlife both during and after the case is being heard

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2. Where are wildlife crime cases heard?

in magistrates' courts  
in superior courts  
in lower courts

3. Are wildlife crime cases heard:

in general courts?  
in specialist courts?

4. What types of penalties are generally applied?

finer  
prison  
action orders  
none

5. What remedies are invoked for the harm caused?

civil sanctions  
criminal sanctions  
none

6. Is a Sentencing Guidelines Applicable to Wildlife Trafficking Offenses in use in your region/country?

Yes  
No

7. How many wildlife trafficking prosecutions have you handled this past year? .....

8. What was the conviction rate last year?

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*Prosecution Issues*

9. Have you experienced difficulties in getting the statutory agencies to investigate crimes due to insufficient resources, for example a lack of available scientific or technical support in gathering evidence?

Yes  
No

10. Have you experienced difficulties in investigating cases due to the lack of specialist wildlife and legislative knowledge on the part of wildlife and conservation investigators?

Yes  
No

11. Have you experienced lost/ missing evidence due to challenges maintaining chain of custody of evidence?

Yes  
No

12. Have you experienced difficulties around prosecuting or sentencing due to lack of sufficient supporting documentation describing crime scene and why the crime is significant (e.g., conservation value of species, financial, link to other crime syndicates, human/ livestock health risks etc)?

Yes  
No

13. Have you encountered loopholes in legislation meaning that some illegal activities are similar to legal ones?

Yes  
No

14. In that case, are the investigators able to determine whether or not a crime has actually been committed?

Yes, sometimes  
Yes, usually  
No

*Prosecutor Training*

13. Do you have specialist knowledge and training on conservation law?

Yes  
No

14. Have you encountered difficulties around prosecuting or sentencing due to uncertainty about crime significance (conservation, value, link to other crimes, risks etc)

Yes  
No

If yes, please describe:

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15. What additional topics of training would benefit you and your team and improve prosecution of wildlife crimes and outcomes for wildlife?

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- Would certification in such trainings be valuable?

Yes/ No/ Maybe

If yes, would government or external certification e.g. through a college/ international organization be preferable?

.....  
.....

- What do you feel would be the best format for such trainings e.g.:  
in person trainings;  
live online trainings;  
written online courses;  
You Tube videos or other recorded video trainings that can be taken at more flexible times  
Other? (if a mixture please describe which topics in which formats)

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## ANNEX 1

Example of table for collection of essential participant information

DATE	SECTION OF SURVEY PARTICPANT IS ANSWERING (E.g., 3: Questions for Frontline Officers – create dropdown menu with options)	FOCUS GROUP or INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW	ID NUMBER OF SURVEY (Date, section, survey number that day e.g., 02_06_22/01-01, 02_06_22/01-02, 02_06_22/01-03 etc.)	CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN SURVEY (Y/ N)	ORGANIZATION	ROLE	LOCATION OF POSITION (Town/ City, Region/ protect Area)	GENDER (Male/ Female)	NUMBER OF YEARS WORKING ON WILDIFE TRAFFICKING/ MANAGEMENT ISSUES (Create drop down menu in excel for categories: 0-1, 2-5, 6-10 11-20, >20)