An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

Animals as Commerce

- Map It: Tiger Ranges — Current and Historic
- Post Reprint: "Tracking the Tiger Butcher," Sections I-III
- Teachers Notes: Approaches to Tracking the Tiger Butcher
- Discussion Questions: The Investigative Reporter Takes You to Laos
- Post Reprint: "Coronavirus outbreak underscores potential health risks in China's wild animal trade"

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IN TRO DUC TION.

Meeting a Demand for the Wild

There are those who believe in the magical powers of parts of animals and there are those who have made a business of meeting the demand for animals in the wild. Getting to the truth of what is happening in Laos since 2016 when the government promised to stop the trade of wildlife is not easy.

As Post reporter Terrence McCoy stated, traveling in Laos "had been dangerous from the beginning, and then gotten riskier." Teachers will need to become familiar with the 10-part article to prepare their students for its content. Teachers Notes is provided to suggest different angles you might take and ways to use the online features.

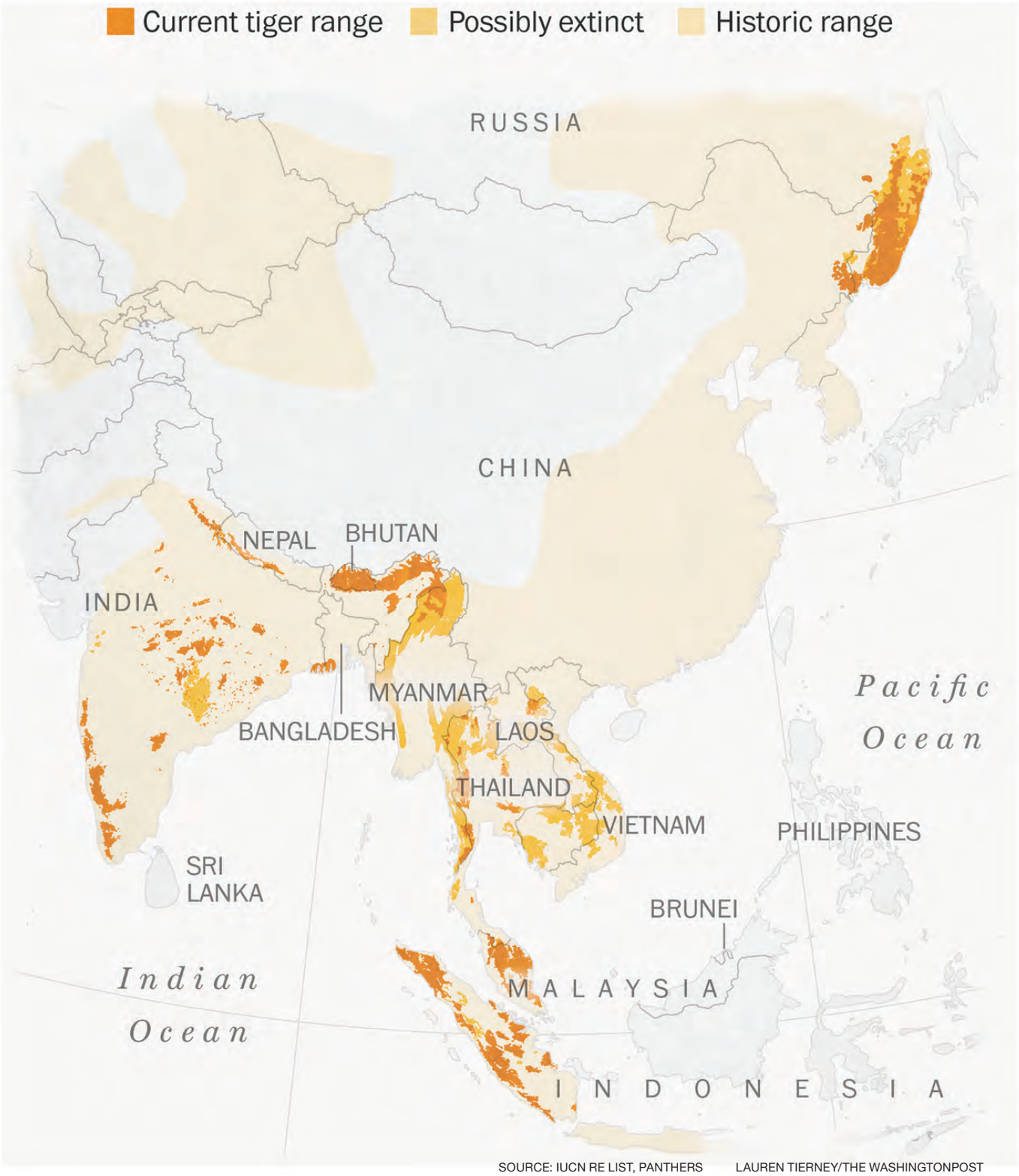
"Tracking the Tiger Butcher" is an example of long-form investigative journalism. We have reprinted the first three parts with questions for students to guide their reading and discussion.

There are many dimensions and issues for in-depth study of what happens when endangered and threatened species are viewed as goods — and lucrative commerce.

On the cover: DONNA MCCULLOUGH AND CREATIVEART/ADOBE STOCK

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

Tiger Ranges — Current and Historic



SOURCE: IUCN RE LIST, PANTHERS LAUREN TIERNEY/THE WASHINGTONPOST

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

SPECIAL REPORT

Tracking the tiger butcher

More tigers now live in cages than in the wild. The animal has become a commodity: farmed, butchered, sold. We joined one man on his dangerous quest to expose the truth.

TERRENCE McCOY

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
TERRENCE MCCOY

• *Originally Published May 19, 2019*

THA BAK, Laos — He was up there somewhere, at the top of the hill, the man Karl Ammann had come to see. It would soon be night. The forest was all shadows and sounds. Ammann had driven across the country to reach this remote river village, and now he was finally here, looking to the top of the hill, ready to confront the person he believed had murdered more tigers than anyone in Laos. In the distance, he could hear them: dozens of tigers roaring.

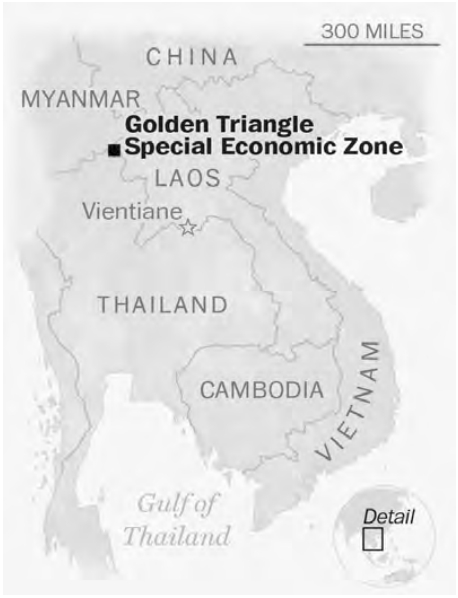
For nearly five years, Ammann, 70, a Swiss counter-trafficking conservationist, had tracked the tiger butcher, a man named Nikhom Keovised. He had placed hidden cameras inside what had once been the largest tiger farm in Southeast Asia, an illegal operation where tigers had been raised to one end — slaughter — and where the man doing the slaughtering had been Nikhom. And he had listened to Nikhom describe it all in his own words: "Use the anesthetic," he had said. "Then just cut the neck." Then "peel its skin."

Now Nikhom had established himself here, in this half-splash of civilization near the Vietnam border, where he'd just opened what his boss — considered one of the nation's biggest wildlife traffickers — described as a zoo, but what Ammann suspected was a front for selling tigers.

Ammann knew the risks. He was in the country without permission to investigate its wildlife practices. He was unarmed. Neither Nikhom nor his boss, who didn't respond to repeated requests for comment, had ever been charged with anything, let alone arrested. If discovered, the equipment Ammann had with him — the drone, the hidden cameras, the satellite images of the

country's tiger farms — would immediately unravel his cover story, that he was a tourist here on a lark.

But he could already feel the familiar intensity. It had driven him to undertake dozens of risky, self-funded investigations,



pushed him to the fringes of the conservation community and caused even friends to describe him as obsessive, if not a little crazy. He couldn't stop. Those responsible had to be held to account. Species by species, the world is rapidly undergoing an ecological transformation, becoming barely recognizable from the planet it was a few centuries ago. It is a world reckoning with an end of wildness, where humanity and domesticated animals account for almost all mammal biomass, and the tiger, whose captive population now dwarfs its numbers in the wild, is on the verge of becoming a fully industrialized commodity.

For 10 days late last year, I joined Ammann on an undercover journey to the core of the modern tiger economy to determine whether Laos, a global hub of wildlife trafficking, had fulfilled its promises since 2016 to stamp out the wildlife trade. The trip had been dangerous from the beginning, and then gotten riskier, and now we'd arrived to this hill, where, above, the tigers were becoming louder.

They were hungry, Ammann announced. It would soon be time to feed them. He slung his camera over his shoulder and started up the hill, in search of tigers and their warden.

II.

Over the past century or so, the tiger population has plunged in the wild, dropping from an estimated 100,000 to fewer than 4,000, while the number in captivity has exploded to more than 12,500. Nowhere else is the animal's commodification more complete than in tiger farming, where it is raised, butchered for parts and sold for tens of thousands of dollars. And nowhere else have these farms operated with greater impunity than in Laos, an obscure communist nation whose own wild tigers have nearly all been killed. Ammann was one of the few people who'd seen inside the country's farms.

"They all want hope and happy endings," he said of producers and audiences who ignored his documentaries, despite their findings. "And I don't see any happy endings. I can't create fiction from what I see as fact."

— Ammann

When I'd first spoken to him in June of last year, I'd expected to find someone who was, if not optimistic, then at least hopeful. In a smattering of countries in South Asia, the tiger's population appeared to be stabilizing, even as it cratered elsewhere. And since 2016, international authorities and some conservationists had applauded Laos, home to some of Asia's biggest wildlife traffickers, as it announced overhauls to finally clean up the trade. Shops trading in bones and wildlife merchandise were to cease. All three of the country's illegal tiger farms, which stored 700 tigers, were ordered to stop farming and convert into zoos and conservation centers. No new facilities breeding endangered wildlife for commercial purposes would open. From the outside, things seemed to be getting a bit better. Even Britain's Prince William had reportedly taken up the cause.

But Ammann was neither optimistic nor hopeful, and, if anything, seemed offended by the suggestion. In our first substantive phone conversation, he immediately plunged into the arcana of tiger farming in Laos, citing operational tiger farms and going on and on about "lip service" and how we were being taken for "bloody fools." While Ammann vented, I searched for images of him. He looked the same in every one: mustachioed and grimacing, an expression of the frustration and futility in his voice.

"They all want hope and happy endings," he said of producers and audiences who ignored his documentaries, despite their findings. "And I don't see any happy endings. I can't create fiction from what I see as fact."

We ended the phone call, with him promising to send me some photographs and documents from a trip he'd just taken to Laos to work on a documentary about tiger trafficking. I felt dazed. Who was that guy? And if he didn't feel there was any hope, why did he assume so much risk going into some of the world's most remote forests, without institutional support or funding, to document the destruction?

From then on, in interviews with conservationists about tiger trafficking, I saved a few questions for the end: Just

what do you think of Ammann? Almost everyone I asked immediately knew who

NORTHERN LAOS IN 2017. (COURTESY OF KARL AMMANN)

Ammann was and said his findings were sound. He could be trusted — but.

But what?

"He takes a lot of risks," Steve Galster, a counter-trafficking expert in Bangkok, said after a long pause.

NORTHERN LAOS IN 2017. (COURTESY OF KARL AMMANN)

"A difficult character," said Crawford Allan, a senior director at World Wildlife Fund, an international conservation organization with an office in Washington. Ammann had been kicked out of an international conservation meeting for aggressively confronting officials and was known to send environmentalists notes denigrating their work after they'd just trumpeted it in press releases.

"A bit of a kook who gets results," a law enforcement consultant in Laos, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, called him.

Ammann had sent me some of those results. I pulled up the documents and photographs on my computer, and immediately recoiled.

The first one was of a diseased tiger in a claustrophobic cage — mangy, eyes desperate, death coming.

The next showed seven tigers eating bloody, raw chicken off the ground, clustered in a line of cramped cages.

Two more were from high above, where Ammann had flown a drone to capture images of two massive tiger farms, showing the animals in cage after cage. He included a 3,700-word missive he'd dispatched to the U.N. commission charged with regulating the wildlife trade, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), accusing the organization of being "a big part of the problem." He'd sent the same letter to a European Parliament official, attaching this comment: "So you cannot say you did not know. My motto for doing this."

I called Ammann, who was home in his estate at the base of Mount Kenya, where he keeps as "dependents" two orphaned chimpanzees. I asked whether he was planning on going to Laos again. He said he was — and it would be before year's end. In the coming weeks, in fact, he'd have the itinerary all planned out. This time, he hoped to take his investigation even further, stepping out from behind the hidden cameras to personally meet those who'd profited from the death of the tiger.

"Why don't you come," he asked, "and see for yourself?

III.

After a 24-hour flight, I arrived at my hotel in northern Thailand past midnight. There was a note waiting for me from Ammann. We'd planned to meet the next morning at 8, given my late arrival, but now the note said that wasn't early enough. We had to meet at 7. A long day was ahead, and there was no time to waste.

After a fast handshake and a few quick words in the morning, we were inside a van, bumping toward the Laos border. My editors and I had decided that I would enter the country without identifying myself as a journalist, an exception to The Washington Post's usual practice. I would travel with Ammann and planned to accompany him everywhere, taking notes and quietly snapping photos. If someone asked about my profession or my employer, I knew I'd have to answer truthfully. But no one did.

Ammann wanted to cross into the country by nightfall, where he said the real journey would begin. Landlocked and mountainous, Laos has nearly 1,600 miles of borders with Vietnam and China, whose appetite for illicit wildlife products had both decimated numerous species and transformed Laos into a global epicenter of wildlife trade. Last October, the U.S. State Department again listed Laos as one of three countries whose government "actively engaged in or knowingly profited" from trafficking endangered species. CITES in a 2017 report was even blunter: "Everyone can buy everything and cross the border."

Over the next 10 days, Ammann planned to traverse much of the country, beginning in a northern region called the Golden Triangle to visit a casino town notorious for wildlife trafficking and investigate rumors of a never-before-identified tiger enclosure. And then he'd head south, stopping to buy tiger products from merchants in the country's biggest cities, fly drones over tiger farms and search for clues involving the mysterious disappearance of 300 tigers from one of them. Lastly, he'd venture to a new resort and "zoo" named Say Namthurn, where Ammann hoped to finally meet Nikhom, the tiger butcher, along with his boss, Sakhone Keosouvanh, who helped bring tiger farming to Laos.

Inside the van now, along with Ammann, were his cameraman, Phil Hattingh, a towering South African; and a young Chinese woman named Grace Chan. Ammann had met Chan, who's from Hong Kong, in autumn 2017, after she'd contacted him to discuss elephant trafficking. She'd told him she wanted to save animals, so he had introduced her to what he believed was

the best way of doing that — his way.

"They'll think you're a customer," Ammann said to Chan, explaining his plan for her on this trip. "I have the perfect cover story for you." She was to visit shops all over Laos while wearing a hidden camera to buy tiger products, masquerading as a young assistant to a Hong Kong businessman who wanted tiger parts to impress his friends. To bolster her expertise on the tiger economy, Ammann would soon pull out a tattered book and hand it to her.

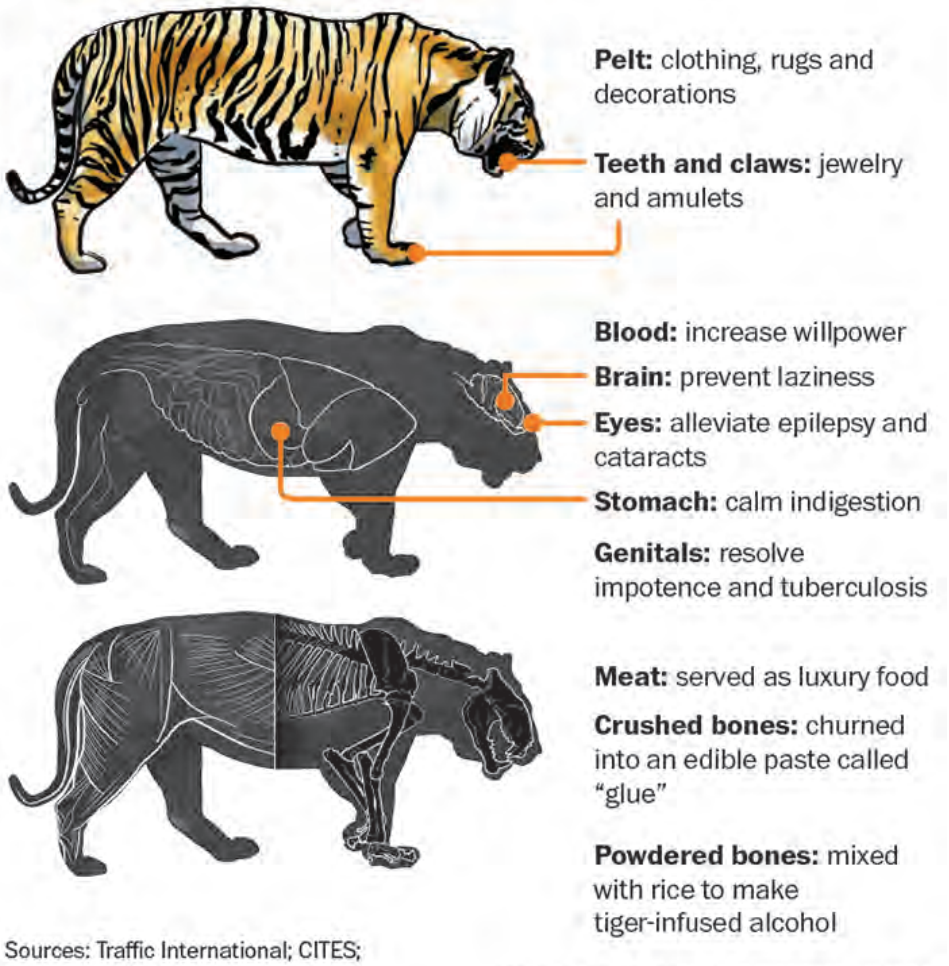
It was a taxonomy of tiger bones, showing pictures of the skull, femur, tibia, hip. The book described the bones as a "precious crude medicine," whose medicinal use in China traced back more than 1,400 years. But as China's economy grew, the animal's mythical qualities — none of which are substantiated by modern medicine — ignited a market for tiger products that, the book said, "sold well domestically and abroad."

So well, in fact, that within years of the book's 1979 publication, a country as vast as China estimated it had only a few dozen tigers left, and something needed to be done. The Chinese government passed a law that banned killing endangered species in the wild while encouraging their "domestication" and breeding. The idea was that the farms would expand the tiger population, sating demand for tiger products while protecting those in the wild. But that wasn't what happened. Instead, demand exploded further, said Vanda Felbab-Brown, a Brookings Institution senior fellow who's studied the industry, inciting rampant poaching of wild tigers all over Asia and ushering in an era of "catastrophic consumption."

There were efforts to get things under control. Chinese officials in 1993 prohibited domestic trade in tiger bone but didn't close the country's many farms, which by 2007 warehoused more than 5,000 tigers. That year, CITES, an international authority with few enforcement tools, banned tiger farming for commercial purposes. China chafed against the restrictions then, and now. Last autumn, it legalized trade in tiger parts for medicinal purposes but, under international pressure, quickly reinstated its ban.

To bypass it, some Chinese customers flock to border towns sprinkled throughout the Golden Triangle area, where the countries of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand converge, and where weaker rule of law and government corruption abet black market wildlife trade. That was exactly what Ammann wanted to investigate first. ■

Captive tigers soon outnumbered those in the wild, as habitat loss accelerated and a supply chain of poaching and farming spread across the continent. Using nearly every part of the tiger, a growing collection of "medicines" and improbable luxury products followed.



Sources: Traffic International; CITES; Environmental Investigation Agency

AARON STECKELBERG / THE WASHINGTON POST

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

TeachersNOTES

Approaches to Tracking the Tiger Butcher

"Tracking the Tiger Butcher" by Terrence McCoy was published as a special report in The Washington Post on Sunday, May 19, 2019. It is an example of long-form investigative journalism that requires the commitment of time, resources and staff by a publication. Teachers should read the entire ten sections of the investigative feature. Prepare your students for reading about and viewing some very sensitive and cruel actions.

In this resource guide we have reprinted the first three of ten sections. This will allow you to guide reading and encourage annotation by students. By moving online to read the remaining six sections, teachers can discuss the difference between the printed page and online interactive features.

Use the Article to Understand Investigative Journalism

The investigative journalist needs to give readers enough information to give context, history and current situation. The journalist introduces the people and businesses involved. The reader has details to form an opinion, to explore further, and, maybe, take action.

Readers begin the piece of investigative journalism placed in Laos. We know that Karl Ammann has "come to see" a man who is "somewhere, at the top of the hill." We have provided discussion and guided reading questions (See The Investigative Reporter Takes You to Laos.) that you might want to use with your students as well as the following suggestions.

1. Read through the first paragraph with students. As details unfold what do they learn about Ammann, the man, the surroundings and the animals?

2. Many more specific details are given in the second paragraph.
   a. Who is Ammann and what is his concern?
   b. What do students understand about his tactics?
   c. Do we know how he "listened to Nikhom" Keovised?
   d. What impression of Nikhom do students have after two paragraphs?

3. As students continue to read the rest of Section I, have them underline verbs that stand out. Along with action, what attitudes are implied?

4. Discuss the following terms. What do they mean and communicate in this context?
   - remote river village
   - counter-trafficking conservationist
   - half-splash of civilization
   - mammal biomass
   - undercover journey
   - tiger farm
   - wildlife practices
   - ecological transformation
   - industrialized commodity
   - warden

5. Read the last two paragraphs of Section I. The reporter enters the scene of this foundation/background section. Why do students think he gave readers this information?

6. Read Section II. During discussion include:
   a. The addition of numbers to the narrative. What do these add to the investigation?
   b. How the reporter and conservationist met. Expected and unexpected details.
   c. Does the new information about Ammann's work on documentaries add to students' view of him?
   d. The reporter approaches sources to verify Ammann's credibility. Who are these sources? Reliable? Opinion of Ammann? What other reason did the reporter have for contacting these sources? What does this reveal about the work of an investigative reporter?
   e. Thinking of the writer's craft: How does the ending of Section II bookend with the beginning and end of Section I?

7. Read Section III.
   a. The second paragraph is very important to discuss with students. It involves the code of conduct of journalists, the expectation of transparency and no entrapment. Talk with students about the importance of getting an accurate story, being an eyewitness and being honest in the process of getting the facts.

Use to Introduce Threatened and Endangered Species

Teachers may wish to begin with finding Laos on a map. The Map It activity provides a map of the countries in which tigers ranged historically and their current range. Before focusing on this information, students could locate Laos. What countries border it?

Cover the definitions of "threatened" and "endangered" species. Threatened species (animals, plants, fungi, etc.) are vulnerable to endangerment in the near future. The Endangered Species Act states that the endangered species is "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

NOAA scientists use the best scientific and commercial information available as the basis for their listing decisions. Scientists may not consider the economic impact of listing a particular species.

Survival of animals is the focus of this curriculum guide. Some survive by migration, hibernation or camouflage. The tiger-trafficking business is investigated in "Tracking the tiger butchers." Questions that may be considered include: What is the truth behind zoos and tiger farms in Laos? What roles do culture and superstition play in the business? Who is responsible for monitoring businesses and regulating commerce that makes a commodity of endangered animals?

Laos and its tiger farms may be used as a case study. McCoy states in Section III: "Landlocked and mountainous, Laos has nearly 1,600 miles of borders with Vietnam and China, whose appetite for illicit wildlife products had both decimated numerous species and transformed Laos into a global epicenter of wildlife trade." Students could be assigned to read the article for different points of view: international conservationists, CITES official, local governments, business owners and "zoo" keepers, citizens who believe in powers in tiger parts, and investigative reporter, for example.

Use the Online Extras

The entire special report is found online at "Tracking the tiger butcher."

1.In Section III reference is made to a "tattered book" that was a "taxonomy of tiger bones, showing pictures of the skull, femur, tibia, hip." This may be a good point to introduce students to the online resources after they have finished reading and discussing Section III. Does seeing the actual book and pages add to the authenticity of Ammann's work? Do you stop to view a particular page?

2. In the handout (page 7) students have the graphic of the three levels, from skin to bones, of use of the tiger in the tiger farm business. Skim down to the online version. Ask students to compare and contrast the two methods of presentation.

3. Next view and listen to videos and podcasts in Section V. Do they add depth beyond what the photographs provide? In what ways? Teachers may read McCoy's description, view photographs in the print edition and view the video. Compare and contrast the impact made by each format.

4. Compare and contrast the video footage in Section VI to the previous videos. Both provide documentation. Do students think the senses are more engaged in these videos?

5. How have drones entered into investigative journalists' bag to find truth? Discuss what the footage in Section VII provides?

Use Art to Bring to Life

Find examples of each of the following. What does each add to the reader's understanding? Why are some more effective than others to convey information — for example, using illustrations of the three levels from skin to bones utilized for business versus photographs of an animal?

1. Informational graphics

2. Photographs

3. Illustrations

Name _____ Date_____

The Investigative Reporter Takes You to Laos

"Tracking the Tiger Butcher" by Terrence McCoy was published as a special report with 10 sections in The Washington Post as a Sunday supplement. It is an example of long-form investigative journalism that requires the commitment of time, resources and staff by a publication. The following questions will guide your reading and discussion of the writer's craft and investigative reporter's methods.

1. Read only the first paragraph of Section I.
   a. Where are we?
   b. Who is involved?
   c. What details stand out to you?

2. Read the second paragraph. List three details and more information that have unfolded.
   a.
   b.
   c.

3. In the first three paragraphs, what adjectives stand out alone or paired with another adjective? Explain why you find these adjectives interesting.
   a.
   b.
   c.

4. Read the last two paragraphs of Section I.
   The reporter decides to enter the scene to give you perspective for the rest of the article.
   a. Will he be an eyewitness to what follows in the article?
   b. Why has Laos been chosen for this investigative project?
   c. Where — place, beginning or end — are we in the ten-day journey back in the first paragraph?

5. By the end of Section I, what do you know about the subject or focus of this investigatory piece?

Read Section II of "Tracking the tiger butcher."

6. The investigative reporter does research, finding the most reliable sources.
   These statistics might be compared to those given by involved parties and statements of governments.
   a. What do the numbers tell you?

   b. Why does Terrence McCoy seek information about Ammann?

   c. What other information is McCoy seeking from the above reliable sources?

7. In addition to talking with The Washington Post reporter, Ammann sends McCoy photographs.
   a. What was the subject of the photographs?

   b. Why do you think Ammann sent the variety of images?

   c. Why was CITES selected to receive the 3,700-word missive?

8. Section II ends with a question: "Why don't you come," he asked, "and see for yourself?" In what way does this question connect with the very first paragraph and the eight sections that follow?

9. In Section III, readers get a better understanding of the code of ethics by which journalists conduct themselves and the risks that investigative journalists may take to be an eyewitness to questionable practices. At the end of Section I, McCoy writes:

> For 10 days late last year, I joined Ammann on an undercover journey to the core of the modern tiger economy to determine whether Laos, a global hub of wildlife trafficking, had fulfilled its promises since 2016 to stamp out the wildlife trade. The trip had been dangerous from the beginning, and then gotten riskier, and now we'd arrived to this hill, where, above, the tigers were becoming louder.

   Give two examples from the article to support his statement:
   a.

   b.

10. Review the informational graphics (maps, illustrations) and photographs that editors added to the investigative report. Select two of them. Tell what they add to your understanding of the article's focus and why they stand out for you.
   a.

   b.

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ASIA & PACIFIC

Coronavirus outbreak underscores potential health risks in China's wild animal trade

BY SIMON DENYER

• *Originally Published January 26, 2020*

TOKYO — China failed to learn one of the most important lessons of the SARS outbreak 17 years ago, that wild animal markets are a potent breeding ground for disease with the possibility of ailments jumping to humans, health experts say.

SARS, or severe acute respiratory syndrome, was thought to have originated in masked palm civets, tree-dwelling mammals native to parts of Asia. The trigger point for the current coronavirus remains unclear, but China has linked the outbreak to the Huanan Seafood Market in Wuhan, which despite its name also appeared to be selling live cats and dogs, wild chickens, snakes and marmots.

China implemented controls on wildlife markets after the SARS epidemic, but those controls soon evaporated. The country remains a major consumer of wild and endangered animals for meat, as well as in traditional medicine.

Yuen Kwok-yung at the University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen Hospital, one of the authors of a new study on coronavirus and a leading authority on SARS, said the wild animal or game meat trade had obviously been rekindled since the SARS outbreak ended in 2003. The SARS outbreak claimed more than 750 lives in China and other countries.

"This is understandable that change of food or eating culture is always a difficult issue," he wrote in an email. "But the lesson of this major epidemic is that the life, ecosystem and habitat of wild life must be respected."

HECTOR RETAMAL/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A security guard stands outside the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, where the coronavirus is thought to have originated.

Viruses from wildlife can easily mutate and jump from animals to humans, and then from humans to humans, he said.

"The price of such an epidemic is staggering, and this should not be allowed to happen again."

Struggling to contain the outbreak, the Chinese government has imposed travel bans on 15 cities in the central Hubei province — effectively placing 48 million people on lockdown — and granted itself wide-ranging emergency powers across the country to enforce blockades, requisition housing and transport, and close businesses and schools.

China has been praised for reacting more swiftly and more transparently to this latest outbreak than with SARS in 2002, when it was widely accused of initially trying to cover up the epidemic.

A study published in the Lancet medical journal Friday confirmed the current outbreak is a new form of coronavirus, which is closest to the SARS-related coronaviruses found in Chinese horseshoe bats.

Some scientists say they believe another species was involved in transmitting the disease to humans, but no consensus has yet emerged on which animal, with theories ranging from snakes to mink.

"Wild animal markets are a petri dish for an epidemic and an unacceptable risk that should be consigned to history as soon as possible," said Peter Knights of WildAid, a San Francisco-based group that works to end wildlife trade.

"Stress, dehydration, malnourishment, filthy conditions, mixing of species, wild and domestic, are the perfect cocktail to create a new deadly disease, and basing them in urban centers ensures a quick and wide dispersal to a wider world," he said.

The trade represents a massive risk to human health and economies in parts of Asia as well as in Africa, he said.

"After SARS and now this, China urgently needs a strictly enforced ban on these markets and a massive awareness campaign to reduce demand for bushmeat," he said.

China has shown it is capable of regulating the illegal wildlife trade when it wants to, banning the ivory trade at the end of 2017 and enforcing a customs crackdown on ivory smuggling.

But a strong lobby within the government, led by the State Forestry Administration, sees wild animals not as something to be protected but generally as a resource that can be utilized.

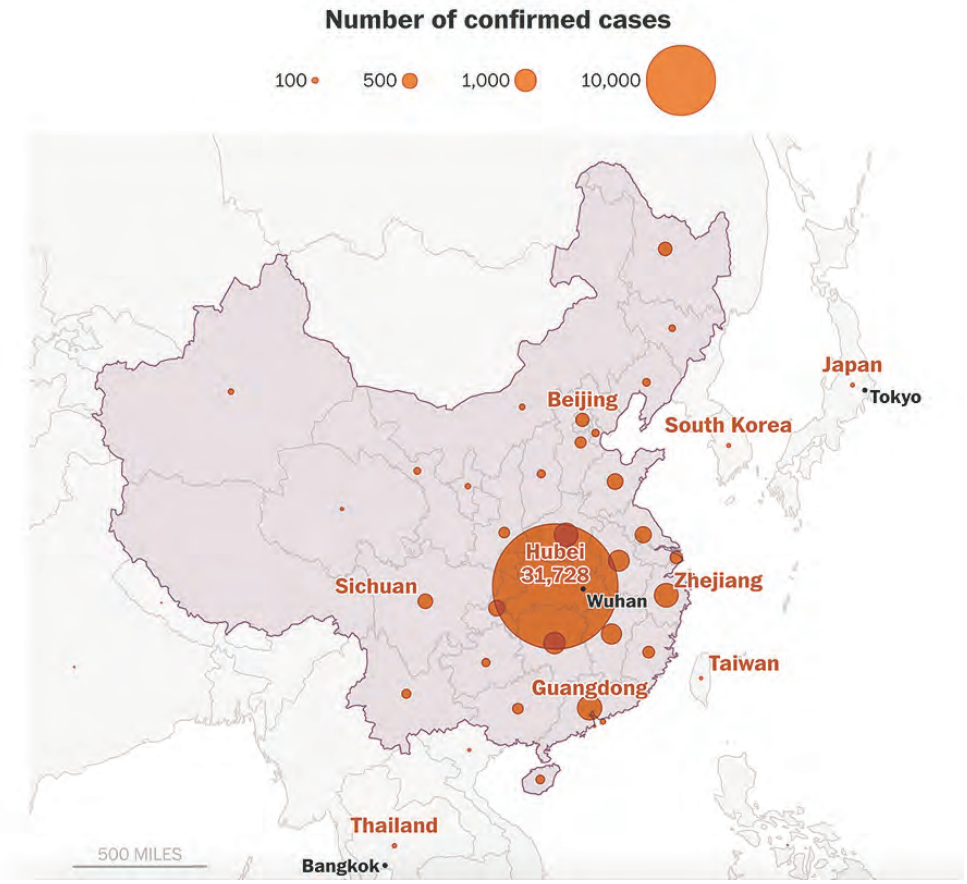
The Wuhan city government closed the seafood market at the beginning of January after the first cases of coronavirus emerged in people working there.

On the Weibo social media platform, a user posted that the market sold live cats, dogs, wild chickens, snakes and marmots. "There was even a signboard saying that they have live monkeys and deer for sale," the post said, according to China Daily.

This provides "ideal conditions for the emergence of new viruses that threaten human health, economic stability, and ecosystem health," Christian Walzer, executive director of health for the Wildlife Conservation Society, said in a statement. "The re-assortment and exchange of viral components between species at live animal markets is seen as the major source of new viruses."

Walzer cited avian influenza, swine influenza, SARS and MERS, or Middle East respiratory syndrome, as examples of diseases originating in animals and subsequently transmitted between humans, "creating the conditions for a rapid global pandemic spread." ■

Chinese health officials say the new strain of coronavirus came from wild animals sold at a market in Wuhan, a city of 11 million and the capital of Hubei province in central China. The pneumonia-like illness has spread rapidly since appearing in late December, and the World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus outbreak a 'public health emergency'. As of February 7, the virus has infected more than 42,000 people in China and killed more than 1000, more than 200 more than killed by the SARS virus in 2003.



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