



Facts of Tiger Trade & Farming

We *can* save wild tigers *if* we stop tiger trade and the farming of tigers. Tiger farming for trade will make the king of the jungle – and the jungle – disappear forever.

Bans on tiger trade have nearly stopped the killing of wild tigers for their skins and bones. Improving enforcement and public awareness of these bans *can* end tiger trade once and for all, allowing tigers to thrive in the wild.

When we save wild tigers, we save the rich forests in which they live, with all the climate-cooling trees, fresh water, herbal medicines and other irreplaceable forest resources needed to secure healthy people and a healthy planet.

We *will* save wild tigers if we stop trade in tiger parts and products from *all* sources, including tiger farms. Here are the facts of this urgent matter:

FACT: Tiger trade bans work.

- China's 16-year tiger trade ban has been an overwhelming success in reducing trade *and* demand.
- Worldwide bans on tiger trade have helped Russia's tiger population recover and other wild tiger populations to persist.
- Trade bans work when they are well enforced and backed up with public awareness campaigns.

FACT: Tiger conservation works.

- Traditional tiger conservation methods work when they have adequate political and financial support.
- Protection of tigers and their habitat and prey *do* stabilize wild tiger populations.
- Protecting wild tigers protects large tracts of the world's most valuable natural resources.

FACT: Legalizing tiger farming will increase killing of wild tigers.

- Legalizing trade in farmed tiger products will only expand opportunities to sell parts and products from wild tigers.
- Illegal tiger trade is run by organized criminal networks, which will exploit loopholes opened by legalizing trade of farmed tiger products.
- Organized criminal networks will increase tiger poaching and illegal tiger trade if selling of farmed tiger products is allowed.

FACT: Tiger products are *not* needed for human health.

- Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) gave up the use to tiger bone 16 years ago.
- Leaders of the TCM community say they no longer need or want tiger bone, and China's TCM ministry has changed the official TCM pharmacopeia to remove tiger bone as a legitimate treatment.
- Alternatives to tiger bone are effective, plentiful, sustainable and embraced by TCM practitioners.

FACT: Legalizing tiger farming will stimulate demand for wild tiger parts & products.

- Tiger farming will reignite demand for tiger products among China's 1.3 billion consumers.
- Since wild tiger bone is believed to be more effective than farmed tiger bone, demand for the bones of wild tigers will go up, too.
- Rekindling China's appetite for tiger products could quickly wipe out wild tiger populations.

FACT: Wild tigers *can* come back in the wild.

- Wild tigers breed "like cats," and their populations can come back quickly when they have enough habitat, prey and protection from poachers.
- Wild tigers do not need outside help when they have plenty of prey and shelter.

FACT: People benefit when tigers come back in the wild.

- Local people benefit economically when wild tigers are present and tourists can see them.
- Protecting tigers and their habitats protect the air, water and other forest resources that sustain the lives and livelihoods of millions of people.

FACT: Stopping tiger trade is a global issue.

- An international treaty signed by 174 countries prohibits international trade in tiger parts and products and is against tiger farming.
- Countries with the largest wild tiger populations stand to lose the most if tiger farming is legalized.
- Any country that allows tiger farming and trade will bear responsibility for the loss of wild tigers and their invaluable forest realms.



END TIGER TRADE

American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine * AMUR * Animal Welfare Institute *
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