



**PROTECTING ANIMALS AND THE EARTH 2004:
A SPECIAL REPORT BY THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF CANADA (HSC)**

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JANUARY

Jan.1 **A New Ambassador Dolphin in French Polynesia**, ‘Gratouillis’ also called Josephine, loves to play with scuba divers and it seems she likes to be petted as well. She appeared in October 2002 in Fakarava, then she moved to Apataki for a couple of months around June 2003, and since August she has stayed in the waters near Rangiroa. (CFN)

Jan 1 **Florence Bites Another**, a bull terrier belonging to Princess Anne has attacked a royal maid 5 days after it fatally mauled one of the Queen’s corgis. The Palace refused to comment on whether Florence would be put down after biting the maid. (Toronto Sun)

Jan 2 **Feeding Wild Birds Kindness and Fun for Nature Lovers Says The Humane Society of Canada**, winter has hit many parts of Canada hard, making it difficult for some birds to find food. According to the HSC, people can help wild birds cope with a harsh winter by offering them a continual supply of quality bird feed in an appropriate setting. (HSC)

Jan 2 **Price List Circulated by Monday Ehihebolo of Nigeria**, a Nigerian animal dealer is named a smuggler by Nigeria’s Administrative Panel studying the wildlife trade. (SSN)

Jan 2 **Ecologist Hit Out At Plan to Export Argentinean Parrots**, if an application from Argentina to export parrots as pets to the US is accepted, Argentina will become the first country to export wild birds for the US pet trade since a tough law on imports was enacted in 1992 to prevent species being wiped out by commercial trappers. (Nature)

Jan 2 **Orange Roughy**, reckless overfishing is rapidly causing the demise of orange roughy and other imported fish species popular with US consumers, according to a new scientific study released by the WWF and TRAFFIC. The study finds that rapidly expanding and unregulated fishing in deep waters is fast depleting species that could become commercially extinct if protective measures are not taken immediately by international governing bodies. (TRAFFIC)

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Jan 2 **China's Dangerous Wild Tastes**, last August the Chinese Forestry Commission lifted a four month ban on the trade and consumption of exotic wild animals with one stipulation: all of the 54 exotic species the Chinese are allowed to eat must be farm-raised and not caught in the wild. (PNS)

Jan 2 **World's Farmers Struggle With Globalization Issues**, US and European attempts to eliminate agricultural subsidies worldwide at the WTO meeting in Cancun, Mexico and replace them with free-market policy have been derailed for the time being this past September. The US opposes worldwide subsidies; however, domestically it continues large-scale agricultural subsidies. (ENN)

Jan 2 **Partnerships for Community-Based Ecotourism**, the Chalalan Ecolodge in the Bolivian jungle is a model project which partners indigenous communities with tourism businesses and nonprofit organizations to develop and operate successful ecotourism programs. (ENN)

Jan 2 **Countries undecided On How To Store Nuclear Waste**, at present highly radioactive waste is put into interim storage where it has to sit for 30-40 years for its radioactivity and heat production to decline. It is still hazardous and should be stored somewhere permanently and as a result highly radioactive waste has been crossing continents and oceans in search of a secure and final resting place. (ENN)

Jan 2 **Budget Fights Reach Grass-Roots Level**, fumes from California lawn mowers were among the issues this year that clouded the lines dividing federal authority from states' rights. A giant spending bill for the 2004 budget year initially contained language giving the EPA exclusive authority to regulate engines under 50 horsepower. (ENN)

Jan 2 **Much At Stake For NASA's Mars Rovers**, NASA scientists hope to begin writing the latest chapter in the long search for life on the red planet on Saturday if the first of two spacecraft bounces onto the surface of Mars and unfolds itself into a rock-inspecting rover as planned. (ENN)

Jan 2 **Chinese Herbalists Laud US Ephedra Decision**, when US regulators said they would ban the use of ephedra in weight-loss supplements they allowed an exemption for practitioners of Chinese medicine who have been using the herb for thousands of years to treat ailments ranging from asthma to fevers. (ENN)

Jan 2 **NASA Probe Heads For Close Encounter with Comet**, after a five-year voyage of 2 billion miles, NASA's spacecraft Stardust is finally nearing the climax of its mission: a close encounter with a comet to collect dust samples that could yield clues to the origins of the solar system. (ENN)

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Jan 2 **NSA Slow to Share Info on Fort Meade Cleanup**, the National Security Agency has been reluctant to share information about environmental conditions on its property, much to the frustration of environmental groups and government regulators. (ENN)

Jan 2 **Senegal's Traditional Fishers Watch Foreigners Haul in the Catch**, Senegalese fishers say that Western boats which have depleted fishing grounds in the North Atlantic are now depleting African waters, leaving little left for the locals. (ENN)

Jan 2 **US Scientist Says Anti-Mad Cow Measure Ignored**, a US scientist says a simple treatment combining high pressure with heat could neutralize the proteins that cause mad cow disease, but federal officials had shown little interest in it. (ENN)

Jan 3 **NAVs To Sue UK Government Over Monkey Lab**, the National Anti-Vivisection Society and Animal Aid launched a High Court challenge to the decision by First Secretary of State, John Prescott to allow a massive primate research laboratory to be built in Cambridgeshire. (SSN)

Jan 3 **Killer Whales Spotted In Bahrain**, for the first time off the coast of Sitra. The photographs taken of the whales are unfortunately inconclusive as to whether these whales were indeed killer whales, which prefer colder northern waters, or whether they were false killer whales or pilot whales that are similar in shape to orcas, but smaller in size. (Gulf Daily News)

Jan 4 **Third Ranch Quarantined**, a third cattle ranch in the US has been placed under quarantine after another cow with ties to a Holstein with mad cow disease in Washington was located. The whereabouts of the remaining 70 animals from the original source herd are still yet to be confirmed. No decision has been made whether to slaughter the animals and test for BSE once they are found. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 5 **WHO Confirms SARS Case in Guangdong, Mass Slaughter Of Civet Cats**, as Guangdong officials prepare to slaughter some 10,000 civet cats in wildlife markets to prevent another SARS outbreak All wildlife markets were subsequently ordered to close. ; Chinese authorities denied reports that second suspected case of SARS has been found in Guangdong; but confirmed that a virus gene sample from the SARS patient is similar to a coronavirus found in wild civet cats. (Channel News Asia and Globe & Mail)

Jan 5 **Ban On Beef Imports Chews Into Pet Food**, the ban on US beef imports has started to crimp supplies of pet food, under restrictions imposed by Canada following the discovery last month of a case of BSE in Washington state. At least half of the pet food sold in Canada comes from the US. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has also banned the import of any vaccine using protein from ruminants, the class of cud-chewing animal that includes cows, goats and sheep. (Globe & Mail)

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Jan 5 **Wild Sheep on the Lam**, a rancher is seeking the owner of a wild exotic sheep that suddenly showed up at a neighbouring buffalo farm and began ramming everything in sight. (Toronto Sun)

Jan 5 **Logging Practices Kill Bears**, environmentalists from Manitoba and BC say when clear-cut logging takes place, hibernating black bears are either sealed into their dens, crushed by logging equipment or left homeless. Abitibi Consolidated, a major logging company in Canada has stated that they are working with environmental organisations to identify sensitive habitats and avoid clear-cutting in these areas. (CBC)

Jan 5 **Sheep Producers Also Affected by BSE Crisis**, the Manitoba Sheep Association says the sheep trade has dropped 40 to 50 per cent since Canada's first case of BSE was discovered in May, 2003. Because of the border closure, it is hard to find a market or slaughterhouse for sheep and farmers are having to slaughter their own animals which in turn brings about the potential to cause a bigger catastrophe with other diseases. (CBC)

Jan 5 **Trappers Worry About Research Facility's Future**, trappers in Manitoba are concerned about the possible closure of a trap research facility in Alberta. The facility run by the Fur Institute of Canada has developed traps considered to be the most humane in the world. (CBC)

Jan 6 **Taiwan Bans the Selling of Dog Meat**, the Taiwan Legislative Yuan has passed new rules under Taiwan's Animal Protection Law to ban the selling of dogs and other companion animals as food. (Paw Alert Newsletter)

Jan 6 **Bush Signs Captive Wildlife Safety Act**, prohibiting the interstate and foreign commerce of exotics such as lions, tigers, leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, and cougars to be used as pets. (Paw Alert Newsletter)

Jan 5 **Jaws Of Extinction Fear**, a genuine set of it jaws of which could fetch up to \$50,000. Humane Society International has called on the federal Government to push for an international ban on trade in great white products at a meeting in Thailand this year. (The Australian)

Jan 6 **Man Charged With Starvation Deaths Of Animals**, animal welfare inspectors discover more than a dozen emaciated animals dead, which starved to death at a northern Ontario farm. The owner of the animals has been charged with 16 criminal offences related to failure to provide suitable and adequate food and care and causing unnecessary suffering to animals. (Toronto Star)

Jan 6 **China Kills Hundreds Of SARS-linked Civets**, Authorities in southern China drowned, electrocuted and incinerated hundreds of civet cats today, and were checking highway traffic for smuggled animals. (Toronto Star)

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Jan 6 **No Bovine Vaccines Coming From US**, ranchers may have to deal with shortage of livestock vaccines. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, in an effort to prevent BSE in Canadian livestock, has suspended the importation of vaccines from the US. (CBC)

Jan 6 **US Says It Will Slaughter Hundreds Of Cattle To Contain BSE**, the US will be slaughtering hundreds of cattle as part of its investigation into an outbreak of BSE. The cattle are linked to the cow that tested positive for the disease in Washington State on December 23. None of the animals will enter the human food chain. (CBC)

Jan 6 **USDA To Kill Hundreds of Calves**, unable to determine which calf was born to the nation's first cow diagnosed with mad cow disease, federal officials plan to kill a herd of 450 calves out of caution. (Canoe)

Jan 7 **Red Alert For Red Deer**, the population of which, has declined from 5,000 to 140 over the past 14 years. Apart from poaching, the very habitat of the hangul or red deer is being disturbed by security forces and vehicles. As a result J & K government plans to set up conservation breeding centres and deer parks at Pahalgam and Gulmarg. (Times of India)

Jan 7 **First UK Bushmeat Trader Given Prison Sentence**, of 3 months today in the UK. Paulina Owusu Pepra was found guilty of 23 counts of breaking the Food Safety Act after being caught illegally selling two tonnes of meat unfit for human consumption. The meat included grass cutters, giant African land snails and wild pig trotters. (SSN)

Jan 6 **Second Mona Monkey Dead**, both baby Mona monkeys that were smuggled from Sao Tome to Lisbon on Air Portugal on 7 September 2003 have died within one month of confiscation. (SSN)

Jan 7 **Rats Latest Target In China's SARS Fight**, rats are the latest target in the dramatic anti-SARS campaign in China. Officials said Wednesday that entire rat population of the southern city Guangzhou must be wiped out. (Canoe)

Jan 7 **Mad Cow Verdict: Infected Animal Born Here**, Canadian officials are scrambling to minimize the damage after new tests confirmed an American cow infected with mad cow disease was born on this side of the border. Officials said it's most likely the cow was infected by contaminated feed and it remains unclear where that feed came from. (Toronto Star)

Jan 7 **Pet Food Ban Could Hurt Zoo**, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency is forbidding even vegetarian pet diets or those made from pork, fish or poultry from entering Canada. The animal care manager at the Vancouver Zoo says at least 50 of his animals rely on special diets from the US. (CBC)

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Jan 8 **Baboons Swinging to Seneca Zoo**, new varieties of animals rented from International Animal Exchange Inc of Ferndale, MI, boost attendance and revenue at the Seneca Zoo, officials claim. (Democrat & Chronicle)

Jan 8 **Turtle Exporter Receives Award**, The federal government outlawed selling turtles in America 25 years ago, but Louisiana farmers sold \$15 million worth of turtles in 2003. (News-Star)

Jan 8 **Illegal Trade Alleged In State**, a three-year undercover investigation in Elkton has directly linked areas of Virginia to the international black-market trade in black-bear parts and wild ginseng, state and federal officials announced. Agents documented nearly 700 violations involving more than 100 people in seven states, Washington and one foreign country during the operation. (Times-Dispatch)

Jan 8 **Fire Sends Signal Of Palau's Shark Law**, in Palau officials again set fire to a mound of shark fins seized from a foreign fishing vessel to signal the coming enforcement of a new law that strictly prohibits the exploitation of that marine resource. (Pacific Daily News)

Jan 8 **Greed Killing River Terrapins**, Terrapins in Malaysia are threatened by villagers who see them as a valuable source of income, however another factor for the decline in their population is the soil erosion on the river banks, which has destroyed natural nesting grounds and left few areas to lay eggs on. (New Strait Times)

Jan 8 **Global Warming Outlook Is Chilling**, at least a quarter of the world's land animals and plants - more than a million species are heading for extinction if moderate global warming continues to 2050, an international research team warns. (Toronto Star)

Jan 8 **Pet Food Ban Prompts Run On North's Supply**, people are starting to panic in fear that a ban on American pet food could shorten the supply of pet food and began to stock up through purchasing several bags of it. (CBC)

Jan 8 **Conservation Officers Think They've Caught Dog-killing Wolves**, wildlife officers believe that they may have rounded up a wolf pack suspected of killing more than a dozen dogs in the Whitehorse area. Conservation officers will continue to monitor snares set around the Mary Lake area south of the city, where most of the reports of dead dogs have originated. (CBC)

Jan 9 **Accused Owner Horrified By Extent Of Dog's Injuries**, Furman 26 is charged with unlawfully causing or permitting an animal to be in or continue to be in distress. The charge under the provincial Animal Protection Act has a maximum fine of \$20,000. (Edmonton Journal)

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Jan 9 **Children Build Burial Mound for Keiko**, the six-ton hero of the “Free Willy” movies died Dec. 12, likely from pneumonia, in remote Taknes Bay. The children gathered to bury Keiko placed stone after stone atop the grave to create a burial ground. (Associated Press)

Jan 9 **Children Mourn Keiko**, ‘Absurd’, whale hunter says. There is suffering and hunger around the world, a war in Iraq, terror attacks, but people don’t get the sympathy that a dead whale gets. (Reuters)

Jan 9 **Dolphin Dolly Pregnant Again**, Dolly’s behaviour after recorded mating activities has been monitored, and in September her pregnancy confirmed by an ultrasound examination. Dolly’s previous calf died at the age of three. (Sunday Times)

Jan 9 **Pombo Eyes Overhaul of Endangered Species Act and the MMPA**, Pombo Richard elected to Congress in 1992, plans to reauthorized the Marine Mammal Protection Act however, with some amendments which, would put marine mammals at greater risk from commercial fishing operations and military sonar. He justifies such with claims that some restrictions in the act are arbitrary and ineffective, and is pushing for ‘science-bases’ rules governing the listing of endangered species and the establishment of ‘critical habitat’. (Alameda Times-Star)

Jan 9 **Dolphin Mystery: “What’s Killing Firstborn Calves?”** One reason may be man-made pollutants and the transfer of chemical contaminants to calves through milk according to Randy Wells, a conservation biologist. Since WWII more than 75,000 new chemicals have been developed and put into use according to Washington DC based Environmental Working Group. Many of these chemicals are dumped into oceans or waterways. (National Geographic News)

Jan 9 **Fury as Dealer Picks Up 240 Wild Penguins**. A wildlife dealer John Visser, captured more than 240 rockhopper penguins on the remote British-controlled island of Tristan da Cunha, and has been selling them to zoos in China, Malaysia and Japan. Experts believe even a small reduction in penguin population could have a sharp impact on the survival of the birds, who rely on numbers to survive attacks from sharks and seals. RSPB expressed amazement that Ministers of Foreign Office sanctioned the shipment of wild penguins. (The Observer)

Jan 9 **Ivory No Longer Attracts Ivorian Craftsmen**. According to ivory dealers, the ivory business is going through a profound stagnation that could in the long run extinct a trade. Not only is the material hard to come by, but the customers are also becoming rare. A major problem in the sector is the scarcity of ivory formerly imported from Zaire. (Air Senegal Magazine)

Jan 9 **Zoo Admits Mistakes In Animal Care**. The National Zoo has filed a formal response that disputes the claims of a former staff pathologist who said he uncovered a pattern of poor animal care but the zoo acknowledges a range of staff errors in caring for 15 animals that died. The mistakes included failure to keep complete and accurate veterinary records, failure to examine some animals in a timely manner, failure to perform tests that would have more

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accurately diagnosed some ailments, and failure to closely monitor the care of some animals. (Washington Post)

Jan 9 Family At The Centre Of Latest Mad Cow Case Speaks, for the first time about what they endured since their farm was identified as the birthplace of the latest cow to test positive for mad-cow disease. The couple said their one saving grace was perfect record keeping since they bought their first cow in 1965. Agriculture Minister Bob Speller announced that testing for mad-cow disease will be increased to about 8,000 cattle a year from the current 5,500 to reassure foreign markets that Canadians have the highest quality and safest beef. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 9 Feds Rule Out Ban On Abattoir Waste In Cattle Feed, federal officials rule out a ban on feeding slaughterhouse waste to cattle even though some government scientists say such a ban is the only way to be sure of stopping mad cow disease. They say such a ban would not be based on science and is impossible to enforce. (Toronto Star)

Jan 9 In A Rush To Kill Civets, China Threatens Punishment To Flush Out Hidden Animals. Authorities in China threatened fines of up to \$15,000 CAD for merchants who try to hide civet cats, a day ahead of the deadline to slaughter thousands of the animals because of fears they carry the disease. The WHO asked the Chinese government for more information about the test results of a woman in S. China whom authorities say could be the country's second SARS case of the season. (Canoe)

Jan 9 Pesticide Group Appeals Toronto Bylaw, CropLife Canada is appealing a controversial Toronto bylaw restricting pesticide use. A spokesperson for the group believes that the city doesn't have the authority under the Municipal Act to pass the bylaw, which regulates pesticides. The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has dismissed the application, but the group is going to press its case at the Ontario Court of Appeal. (Toronto Star)

Jan 10 Dead Victoria Dog Receives Christmas Card From PM, Liberal Party Invitations, a dead golden retriever named Gregg mysteriously ended up on the federal Liberal party membership list, receiving Christmas cards from Prime Minister Paul Martin and invitations to party functions. The dead dog's owner said the cards were addressed to Gregg Buchanan, but the only Gregg who ever lived at that address was a dog who died 5 years ago. (Canoe)

Jan 10 Edmonton Mall Dolphin Too Sick To Travel, despite months of trying to improve his health. Howard is the last of four dolphins that performed daily for shoppers and tourists at the world's largest shopping center. The 25-year-old dolphin has surpassed the average age for captive dolphins by nine years. In the wild, male dolphins can live past 40. (Canadian Press)

Jan 10 Nuge No Stooze, a bizarre new reality show featuring the rocker/gun advocate/conservationist. The series, which tosses 11 city slickers onto Nugent's Texas ranch, will debut in April on the US music channel VH1. (Canoe)

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Jan 11 **The Humane Society of Canada's Third Annual Report: Protecting Animals and the Earth 2003**, a special report providing a comprehensive overview of the world's top stories and events in 2003 that affected humans, animals and the planet. (HSC)

Jan 11 **Keiko the Whale Could Pose Environmental Threat**, The six-tonne carcass of the killer whale could contain about half a kilo of PCBs that have been absorbed and built up over the 27 years of his life. Its decomposition could pollute his burial site or even the groundwater. (AFP)

Jan 11 **Officials Probe Scene of Chinese SARS Case**, the province of Guangdong has turned its attention from the slaughter of civet cats to eradicating a more reviled form of vermin: rats. More than 10 tons of poison-laced grain has been deployed in 'millions of places' to kill rats. (Toronto Star)

Jan 11 **Malawi Ivory Trafficker Hit with Prison Term** - a fine of US \$55 for ivory trafficking handed to a Malawi woman last September has been increased to one year of imprisonment at hard labor after a judicial review of the light sentence by Malawi's High Court. (ENS)

Jan 12 **Blow Dealt To Tiger, Leopard Survival With Huge Haul Of Skins In Tibet**, China has made the biggest haul of smuggled rare animal products in more than 50 years, including 31 endangered Bengal tiger skins and 581 Asian leopards. The General Administration of Customs said that only several thousand leopards are left in Asia, indicating that a large chunk of the population has recently been wiped out. Three Tibetans were arrested but the Indian handlers, the organizers and the poachers are still believed to be at large. (AFP)

Jan 12 **Australia's Northern Territory Proposes Crocodile Trophy Hunting** is aimed at tourists as an invitation to come to Australia to hunt crocodiles for trophies. The proposal is currently before the Federal Environmental Minister Dr David Kemp for his approval under the export provisions of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. (SSN)

Jan 12 **Orang-utan Catastrophe Looms**, Orangutans, could be extinct within 20 years, wildlife campaigners warn. Nine tenths of the orangutan population has been lost from Borneo and Sumatra over the past 100 years, and there are no fewer than 30,000 of these apes in the world, according to WWF. Unless immediate conservation measures are taken, these apes will disappear. (Reuters)

Jan 12 **EU Urged To Act Over Bushmeat Trade**, the EU will face a tough call to curb the threat to the great apes and other wild creatures living in the tropics. Wildlife campaign groups warn that if the trade of bushmeat continues at the same rate, it will result in a loss of critically threatened species and vital food sources for poorer communities in developing countries. (The Scotsman)

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Jan 12 **Bear Poachers Feed Asian Black Market**, federal and state authorities disrupt a network of bear poaching with a three year sting operation called “Operation Viper”, which has resulted in nearly 700 charges against more than 100 people accused of trafficking poached black bears and illegally harvested ginseng roots. Law enforcement agencies estimate that poachers kill more than 40,000 bears a year in the US, including hundreds poached in national parks. (Washington Times)

Jan 12 **Sting Turns Up Many Reptiles Being Kept Illegally**, “Operation Slither” was conducted on Friday, part of a sting aimed at stopping the illegal possession and selling of reptiles. State and federal wildlife officials confiscated about 100 illegal animals and several computers for evidence. No arrests have been made, but the suspects could face charges of unlawful possession and collection of reptiles and Lacey Act violations for interstate commerce of protected wildlife. (Associated Press)

Jan 12 **Japan to Start DNA Testing on Tuna**, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has decided to add tuna, whale and certain type of pork to its DNA examination list in a bid to crack down on false labeling. The ministry officials hope to help prevent such fraud as cheap pork being falsely labeled as high-class meat, and albacore being sold as bluefin tuna. (Atuna)

Jan 12 **Can We Really Save The Whales?** North Atlantic right whale is very close to the brink of extinction with a population of less than 350, which continues to shrink. If the current population trends hold, the species will vanish within the next 200 years. Their leading causes of mortality are collisions with ships and encounter with fishing gear. Researches are proposing new scientific research and tools to protect the whales from man. (Christian Science Monitor)

Jan 13 **Pombo to Take on Endangered Species Act ‘Bit by Bit’**, Pombo, who contends environmental regulations too often infringe on the rights of farmers and homeowners, said the endangered species law produces more lawsuits and property disputes than it provides protection for wildlife. The new approach would involve launching small pieces of legislation that the public wouldn’t notice to undermine the law. (Associated Press)

Jan 13 **Bird Flu Outbreak May Have Caused 11 deaths In Vietnam**, a bird flue outbreak that has sickened nearly 600,000 chickens in Vietnam is suspected of being linked to the deaths of 10 children and an adult in the capital Hanoi. Vietnamese scientists are working to determine whether the disease can jump to humans. The virus has also begun spreading to other poultry such as ducks and geese. (Canoe)

Jan 13 **Northern County Wants Toronto’s Trash, Really**, a county southeast of Edmonton is proposing to load Toronto’s garbage on sealed CN Rail boxcars and ship the waste to its landfill to use for energy production. Bioreactor landfills are an emerging technology designed to recover more energy from solid waste converting it into a more stable material with less

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environmental impact. (National Post)

Jan 13 Canada On High Alert For Avian Flu, Health Canada officials are on a high alert after a bird flu outbreak suspected in the death of 11 people in Vietnam sparked fears of a potential flu pandemic. Officials said Canada does not import poultry from the affected countries because of concerns about the health of flock. (National Post)

Jan 13 Eid Sacrifice Ritual Latest Casualty Of BSE, Muslims in the US are scrambling to find new sources of live goat sacrifices now that Canadian exports are cut off. As the festival of Eid approaches, some US slaughterhouses and consumers are worrying they won't find a proper source of the meat known as Halal. Farm groups are hoping that the government will recognize that goats don't get BSE. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 13 Treaty On Giant Birds And Fishing Practices Enters Into Force, the agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) is to become law on Feb. 01, 2004 following S. Africa's ratification, which gave the agreement the five ratifications required for entry into force. (SSN)

Jan 13 Safari World Raided For Illegal Wildlife, a private zoo in Bangkok, has been raided after complaints it illegally possessed wildlife. Forestry police chief said they found 115 orangutans. This was the first raid at Safari World since it opened 20 years ago. (Bangkok Post)

Jan 13 Poachers Hit Our Seahorses, Port Phillip's pot-bellied seahorse is at risk from poachers cashing in on soaring demand from China, where the creatures are used as sex stimulants. The global seahorse trade is worth an estimated \$100 million, with more than 25 million exported to China each year. (Sunday Herald)

Jan 13 10-Country Declaration From Wildlife Trust Alliance Calls For Ban On Sale Of Exotic Animals, The Wildlife Trust Alliance - a group of scientists representing 10 countries, will issue a declaration calling for the ban of all global trade in exotic animals as pets or food. The group says that SARS, Ebola, Monkey pox and an escalating number of diseases are jumping from the animal kingdom to humans because of the sale of exotic animals as pets and food. (E-wire)

Jan 13 Texas State Aquarium Dolphins, the two dolphins at Texas State Aquarium's 'Dolphin Bay' exhibit are being temporarily moved back to the Indianapolis Zoo as the paint in the dolphins' pool is peeling. (CFN)

Jan 13 Death of Phoenix at KBMML, the dolphin Phoenix died last week at the Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory in Hawaii. The lab was trying to keep it a secret. There is only one dolphin left out of four kept at the facility since 1979. (CFN)

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Jan 14 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to Mr. Aleksander Kwasniewski the president of Poland in regards to animal experimentation in Poland. The proposed parliamentary changes would reverse Poland's current ban on animal research and end local ethics committee's oversight over allowed experiments. (HSC)

Jan 14 **Group Names Ten Most Endangered Parks**, a conservation group's annual list of the 10 most endangered national parks has six holdovers from last year, still considered victims of dirty air, inadequate funding, and bad policy. Ten parks include, Big Thicket National Preserve in Texas, Great Smoky Mountains in North Carolina and Tennessee; Joshua Tree in California; Shenandoah in Virginia; Everglades in Florida; and Yellowstone in Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho, Biscayne National Park in Florida, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in Arizona, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve in Alaska, and National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program. (ENN)

Jan 14 **Court Overturns Bush Air Conditioner Standards**, a US Federal Appeals Court overturned a Bush Administration decision to weaken energy-efficiency standards for new air conditioners, a move which could save American consumers \$20 billion and avoid the need for up to 200 new electricity plants by 2030. (ENN)

Jan 14 **UN Aims to Study Link Between Environment, Wars**, pollution, droughts, floods, storms, desertification, and rising sea levels are among possible triggers of wars in a world with more and more people competing for limited resources. (ENN)

Jan 14 **Environmentalists At Odds Over The Value Of A Bird's Life**, California based Centre for Biological Diversity has accused two wind-power companies of standing by while thousands of owls, eagles and hawks are unsuspectingly chopped up in their giant turbines. A spokesperson for FPL said his company has installed perch guards and screens on the turbines. (National Post)

Jan 14 **Mould Dog Sniffs Out Invisible Household Hazard**, when it comes to tools for indoor environmental testing, Quincy breaks the mould. The 2-year-old yellow lab, owned by Toronto-based Haverkate & Associates, is Canada's first mould-detection dog. Quincy trained using methods used for arson dogs, bomb and drug detection dogs, can identify where mould is growing in a home, school or business. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 14 **Biggest Seizure Of Ganges Soft-Shelled Turtle**, on Jan 12th 2004, police authorities in the state of Uttar Pradesh seized 1300 kg of Ganges Soft-shelled Turtles. This is the biggest seizure of turtles on record. Two people were arrested and sent to jail. (SSN)

Jan 14 **Examining Louisiana's Aquaculture**, the alligator industry in Louisiana has been a real fortune; the demand for alligator skins has increased, leading to a larger, more productive market. Louisiana's turtle industry has also grown, bringing in an estimated \$10 million. (The News-Star)

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Jan 14 **PMs Office Asked To Probe Tiger Exports**, Natural Resources and Environment Ministry asked the PM's Office to initiate a fact-finding probe into its Permanent Secretary's alleged approval of the export of 100 tigers to China for commercial use. Such is a violation of the conservation laws. (The Nation)

Jan 14 **Nobody Wants South Africa's Jumbo Ivory Stockpile**, South Africa has been trying for years to sell off its tons of ivory - but can't find a buyer. South Africa was given the go-ahead by the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) to sell off 30 tons of ivory for R20-million. Botswana has also been given the go-ahead to sell off 20 tons of ivory and Namibia 10 tons. (Cape Times)

Jan 14 **Bird Flu Prompts Alert**, a strain of avian influenza called H5N1 reportedly caused the deaths of the chickens and was present in 3 of 14 Vietnamese people found to have a suspicious illness. Federal health officials are concerned that a pandemic strain of influenza could arise as a result of mixing between avian and human viruses. Canadian Food Inspection Agency has had a ban on the import of live poultry from the affected Asian countries for at least six year as a way to control the flu. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 14 **Computer Model Can Direct West Nile Fight**, researchers at the University of Alberta have developed a computer program they believe can stop the spread of West Nile virus. The program will help public health officials determine when to start spraying the larvicide. The researchers anticipate the computer model will be ready for use in about a year. (CBC)

Jan 14 **Doctors Lash Out At Cancer Society Over HRT**, obstetricians and gynaecologists are lashing out at the Canadian Cancer Society, questioning its scientific expertise and commitment to women's health. The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada is upset because the Cancer Society urged women last week not to take hormone-replacement therapy for menopause symptoms, except in rare circumstances, because the health risks outweigh the benefits. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 14 **Botswana Battles To Attract Non-Hunters**, after 30 trophy lions were sold off to be shot in 2001, the government has vowed to end lion hunting and concentrate their efforts on luring a less aggressive breed of tourists. (BBC)

Jan 14 **MEPs Back Bushmeat Controls**, European Parliament supports plans to boost controls against the illegal import of bushmeat. The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) says the recent explosion in hunting for the bushmeat trade threatens the livelihood of millions of people living in forest communities who depend on wild meat for food. (Eupolitix)

Jan 14 **Whale-Boat Incidents Largely Go Unreported**, the US National Marine Fisheries Service feels hampered by lack of information that people are willing to supply concerning collisions between whales and boats. An estimated 5,000 humpbacks visit Hawaii annually,

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migrating from the summer feeding grounds off Alaska to socialize, mate and calve in the Islands' warmer coastal waters. (Honolulu Advertiser)

Jan 14 **Croc Expert Wants Government To Approve Safari Hunts**, the Northern Territory Government says Australian Federal Government officials have already indicated they do not support a proposal to allow experienced safari operators to take clients into the wild to hunt these reptiles as trophies. Professor Graham Webb, who owns a reptile park in Darwin, has rejected Federal Government claims safari hunts would reduce the crocodile population's sustainability. (ABC News)

Jan 15 **Plodprasop Sues After Tiger Claims**, natural resources and environment head Plodprasop Suraswadi has filed a 30 million-Baht defamation charge against Thai Rak Thai MP Siri Wangboonkerd. Mr. Plodprasop said the exports of 100 tigers to China took place under an animal exchange programme. (Asia Correspondent)

Jan 15 **Scandinavia Leads World in Environmentalism**, the US ranks 45 out of 142 countries evaluated by the ESI which measures overall environmental progress using 20 core indicators, including urban air quality, environmental regulations, and resource use. Finland, Norway, Sweden, Canada, and Switzerland top the list as the most environmentally conscious nations. The United Arab Emirates has the worst score. (ENN)

Jan 15 **Dinosaurs Once Roamed Brazil's Amazon**, scientists have found dinosaur fossils in Brazil's Amazon. The UFRJ said similarities between the 'fossil fauna' found in Maranhao and in northwestern Africa backed the theory that South America and Africa were once part of the same continent. (ENN)

Jan 15 **Mumbo-Jumbo Over Rides**, elephant trainers in Limpopo are planning to capture 24 young elephants from the wild and train them for elephant-back safaris, despite two near-fatal incidents involving elephant rides. Elephants for Africa Forever says it plans to capture elephants aged between eight and 14 years from areas where there is overpopulation or during culling operations. (Mail & Guardian)

Jan 15 **Namibia Still To Decide On CITES Submission**, Namibia has not yet decided whether or not to submit proposals to the 13th UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), regarding the sale of ivory stocks. The Government would only make a decision following the results of the one-off ivory sale that Namibia expects to conduct later this year. (The Namibian)

Jan 15 **Four Arrested In Tanzania Over Ivory Haul**, four men were arrested in Tanzania's commercial capital Dar-es-Salaam after they were found with 73 elephant tusks. Regional police commissioner is still investigating to establish the origin of the ivory. Though an African elephant is not considered an endangered species, its numbers have fallen from around 2 million in 1970 to an estimated 450,000 to 600,000 today. (Reuters)

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Jan 16 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to the Honourable Justice R. J. Haines, in regards to the need for increased safety measures in Canadian farming practices to protect animals from inhumane practices and people from potential diseases. (HSC)

Jan 16 **Ebola May Come From Bush Meat, Study finds**, the virus seems to break out when people slaughter chimpanzees, gorillas, and small antelopes. Almost all human Ebola outbreaks in Gabon and Republic of Congo have been linked to the villagers and hunters handling of dead animals. (ENN)

Jan 16 **Industrial Meat Production Causes More Problems Than It Solves**, according to a study published in the journal *Science*, farmed salmon contains up to 10 times as many contaminants such as PCBs and dioxin as do wild salmon. Many of these contaminants are believed to be cancer-causing agents. In fact, contamination levels are high enough that the report authors recommend people eat no more than one serving of farmed salmon per month. The source of contamination is likely to be food fed to salmon. (ENN)

Jan 16 **Panel Says Energy Dept. Can't Justify Relaxed Testing Of Radioactive Waste Shipments**, a panel of scientists argues that prior to implementing new lenient regulations concerning safety checks, the US Energy Department needs to do more studies and analysis on the effects of its actions. (ENN)

Jan 16 **South Africa Land Issue Looms In Election Year**, the South African government's plan is to deliver 30% of white-owned agricultural land into the black hands by 2014. The ownership target is inline with the government's policy of raising black participation in the economy. (ENN)

Jan 16 **Gore Blasts Bush Space Plan And Says President Neglects Earth**, former Vice President Al Gore scoffed at President's Bush's plan to send astronauts to the moon and Mars and said Bush was a "moral coward" for ignoring global environmental threats. (ENN)

Jan 16 **Sewage in St. Croix Harbour Causes Cruise Ship Diversion to British Virgin Islands**, a cruise company cancelled plans to dock in St. Croix this weekend, saying that raw sewage pouring into the island's harbour meant poor water quality and health hazards to its passengers. (ENN)

Jan 16 **New Yorker Dreams of a City Where He Can Sleep**, Aaron Friedman started a campaign that could lead to a ban against loud car alarms in the city, replacing the loud devices with silent alternatives. (ENN)

Jan 16 **Halliburton Defends Fuel Contract in Iraq**, Vice President Dick Cheney's old company Halliburton, which has tallied nearly \$6 billion in US military business in Iraq, defended its record Thursday after Pentagon auditors asked for an investigation into suspected price gouging for fuel. (ENN)

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Jan 16 **Native American Tribe Sues For Pennsylvania Land**, a tribe from Oklahoma filed suit Thursday claiming the right to ancestral land in Pennsylvania in an effort to establish a casino in the state. (ENN)

Jan 20 **New Diseases Pose Threat To World Health**, at least 30 new diseases are expected to appear over the next three decades as a result of environmental disruption, global warming and behavioural change, Britain's Royal Society has warned. Most new infections in the past occurred as a result of increased human contact with animals. (The Independent)

Jan 25 **Bill to Prohibit Animal Companion Housing Discrimination**, Hawaii has a chance to lead the nation by forbidding discrimination in housing based solely upon whether or not a person lives with animals. This would mean people with animals could more easily find rentals, and could not be kicked out solely on the basis of whether there are animals in the rental. (HSI-Animalia)

Jan 26 **Mass Pilot Whale Stranding**, around 110 whales beached this time and the carcasses weren't found until recently, which meant that by the time they were spotted, their bodies were around three to four weeks old. (Falkland Island News)

Jan 27 **Are The World's Frogs Still In Peril?** According to Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force (DAPTF), formed by the World Conservation Union, many species of amphibians (frogs, toads, salamanders, and newts) throughout the world have experienced population declines or extinction over the last 50 years. Causes for such changes may include deforestation, draining of wetlands, ozone depletion, and pollution. In a few cases, as with the Costa Rican golden toad, entire species have disappeared almost overnight. (ENN)

Jan 27 **EU Farm Animals Could Be Treated With Alternative Medicines**, the EU ban on antibiotics in animal feed could make farmers switch to natural solutions such as plant extracts to keep animals healthy and promote growth. The EU ban was introduced mainly to prevent the further spread of antibiotic-resistant "superbugs," some of which can affect humans and have become a growing problem for treating hospital patients. (ENN)

Jan 27 **Fury Over A Gentle Giant**, although the manatee has been designated as an endangered species since the first list was drawn up in 1967, biologists don't know how many of the animals remain in Florida waters, and both sides have seized on that uncertainty to advance their cause. The Coastal Conservation Association of Florida petitioned the state to re-evaluate the manatee's status with the aim to remove the manatee from the state's endangered species list. (ENN)

Jan 27 **Save Your Soul – Lahore's Cagey Bird Trade**, the practice of freeing caged birds to earn merit is practiced in India; where wild birds are caught for this trade and frequently die during capture and transport to the city. Despite the ban, the government

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has not been able to control the practice and caged birds are available in most cities of India. (Pakistan Daily News)

Jan 27 **Cambridge Withdraws Monkey Lab Plan, Before Case Goes to Court**, but the decision means that Cambridge University will not be forced to justify their exaggerated claims about the proposed lab. (SSN)

Jan 27 **Boa Dies In Quarantine Hours Before Release**, Environment Officials are wondering how a boa constrictor died while it was in quarantine just hours before it was due to be released from captivity. An autopsy is to be carried out on the 1.6 metre snake. The Malta Environment and Planning Authority's Nature Protection Unit has been busy coordinating the release of all confiscated animals to a rescue and breeding programme centre in England. (The Times)

Jan 27 **Twenty People Jailed For Poaching Rhesus Monkeys**, twenty people have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from 6 to 14 years for poaching, killing, trafficking and selling rhesus monkeys, a rare animal species under state protection in China. (China View)

Jan 27 **Ivory Stockpile Swells To 41 Tonnes**, Botswana's ivory stockpile has increased from 22 tonnes in 1999 to 41 tonnes due to a number of factors, including natural mortality. Killing of problem elephants to prevent destruction of property is also contributing to the increase. Botswana, Namibia and Zambia, were given the green light to sell their huge ivory stockpiles by CITES in 1997. (Botswana Daily News)

Jan 28 **Arctic Lake Pollution Goes Back Centuries**, research published by a team led by University of Toronto geology professor Marianne Douglas discovered evidence of the ancient ecological disruption preserved in the sediments of a shallow lake near the coast of Somerset Island in the high Arctic. (Toronto Star)

Jan 28 **Extremists Make Play For Sierra Club**, anti-immigration activists, have launched an aggressive bid to take over the Sierra Club, one of the most respected environmental groups in North America. For years, the organization has championed world population control as a key element in global environmental protection. But a vocal minority in the club is urging a stronger focus on population control within the US itself, including measures to decrease immigration. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 28 **Animals & Pain**, defendants Vernon & Katonya Zawistowski were convicted of two counts of animal cruelty for the conditions of two horses in their possession. A Lower Court set aside those convictions, but the Court of Appeals disagreed and reinstated the two convictions. (University of Texas Equine Law)

Jan 28 **Drunken Elephants Die in Accident**, a herd of about 20 to 25 elephants went on a rampage in a remote area in the West Garo Hills district with four of the animals dying

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as a result of striking an electric pole after becoming inebriated on the local rice beer. (BBC)

Jan 28 **Sea Turtles Face Deadly Beach**, killing a sea turtle or stealing eggs from their beach nests can cost the perpetrator 140,000 dollars in fines and up to nine years in prison in Mexico, while in Cuba the fine is 200 dollars, and in Costa Rica the punishment is 3 years behind bars. But these penalties and the legal protections established in most countries of Latin America and the Caribbean have failed to halt the turtle's journey to extinction. (Tierramérica)

Jan 28 **Nova Scotia Teen Sentenced For Torturing Cat**, a 14 yr old boy who dragged a stray tabby cat through the woods and hanged it from a tree was sentenced to community service and probation, a month after his older brother was given a similar sentence for the crime. (Canoe)

Jan 28 **A Young Man Finds Courage In Conviction**, Peter Wesolowski, a Grade 11 student at St. Pius X Catholic High School, objects to the animal dissection that regularly takes place in his school's biology classes. (Ottawa Citizen)

Jan 28 **An Elephant Poacher's Paradise?** Although Malawi will not partake in the 2004 sell-off of ivory intended to finance conservation, there are fears that the country's laws are too weak to prevent poachers from trying to cash in on the sale. Environmental analysts say the National Parks and Wildlife Act needs to be reviewed so that penalties for illegal ivory trading are brought in line with the gravity of the offence. (IPS)

Jan 28 **Monkeys Illuminate Language Advance**, the concept of word ordering is a basic component of language. In a study, all the human subjects correctly identified pattern changes; the monkey however, recognized none of the variations. The cognitive ability to spot recursive language patterns may have been what allowed humans to develop their linguistic genius, the researchers report in the journal *Science*. (ENN)

Jan 28 **Loss of Human-Eating Animals Is An Ecological Warning**, the plight of the planet's carnivores will be discussed at the 7th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CoP 7) in Malaysia from February 9-20. (ENN)

Jan 28 **Bush Administration To Ease Pesticide Reviews For Endangered Species**, the Bush Administration proposes allowing the Environmental Protection Agency to approve new pesticides without a formal signoff in every case from the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. (ENN)

Jan 28 **Flower Power Could Help Clear Landmines**, a Danish biotech company has developed a genetically modified flower that could help detect landmines, the genetically modified weed has been coded to change colour when its roots come to contact with nitrogen dioxide, or NO₂, evaporating from explosives buried in the ground. (ENN)

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Jan 28 Deforestation of Monarch Butterfly Habitat Continues Despite Crackdown, a recent crackdown on illegal logging has not slowed deforestation threatening the winter refuge for monarch butterflies, according to a scientist who has been studying the insects for 50 years. Illegal timbering continues to encroach on highland fir forests that are essential to monarch's survival. (ENN)

Jan 28 Chemicals Crackdown Will Save Thousands Of Lives, Says EU, badly managed chemicals can cause cancer, respiratory problems. The Commission estimates we could save 4,500 lives a year in the EU by using chemicals in a safer way. If Ministers agree, the plan known as REACH and launched in October 2003 would close a loophole that requires only new chemicals to undergo rigorous testing. It applies to some 30,000 substances. (ENN)

Jan 28 Messing Up A Planet Is Easy, Fixing It Takes Time, according to David Suzuki, the ozone layer for example, is still repairing itself from damaging chemicals such as CFC's, however it will take decades before the protective layer fully heals. (ENN)

Jan 28 Painkiller Threatens Survival of Asian Birds, a common painkiller used to relieve the aches of arthritis is threatening the extinction of three types of vulture. Diclofenac, which is used in veterinary medicine, is killing the rare bird of prey that ingests the nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug when eating the carcasses of livestock treated with it. (ENN)

Jan 28 EU Moves A Step Closer To Ending GM Food Ban, when its Executive backed a proposal to allow imports of gene-altered corn. EU ministers now have three months to consider the proposal to authorize the corn, known as Bt-11 and marketed by Swiss agrochemicals firm Syngenta. (ENN)

Jan 28 Worst Drought In More Than A Decade Threatens Millions In South Africa, and is sweeping through South Africa destroying crops, driving up food prices, and leaving millions hungry. Despite recent contributions by the European Union and the US, WFP is still short of \$127 million to feed 6.5 million of people. (ENN)

Jan 29 US Fish & Wildlife Service & National Marine Fisheries Service Propose Regulations To Improve Endangered Species Consultation Process For Pest And Rodent Control Products, which will for the first time establish a formal, comprehensive multi-agency review process to ensure that pest and rodent control products approved by the US EPA do not jeopardize threatened and endangered species. (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

Jan 29 Canada Won't Follow US Example In Banning Blood From Feed, Canada doesn't plan to ban the feeding of cow blood to cattle despite a US assessment that blood could be a route for the spread of mad cow disease. Blood is commonly used as a milk

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replacement for dairy calves. Some scientists say there is evidence that prions, the infective bits of protein that cause mad cow disease, can spread through blood. (CP)

Jan 29 **Bird Flu Could Kill Up To 58,000 Canadians**, if avian flu becomes pandemic, it could kill as many as 58,000 people in Canada alone. Those hardest hit would likely be young children and the old, whose immune systems are least able to fight off infection. The pandemic preparedness plan to be published in about two weeks is designed to guide the actions of government and health officials. (Globe & Mail)

Jan 29 **Killing Civets Is Not The Way To Fight SARS**, the authorities in Asia are now slaughtering millions of chickens in an attempt to stop the spread of avian flu across the region. President and chief executive officer of the Wildlife Conservation Society calls for a biodiversity surveillance system essential to protecting the global community. (International Herald Tribune)

Jan 29 **'Last Chance' For Southern Ocean**, scientists in Australia have warned that fish piracy is damaging the Southern Ocean to such an extent that time is running out to save it. Species numbers are said to have dropped so acutely that Australia has called for global help to tackle the pirates. (BBC)

Jan 29 **Fishing Pioneer Says Pirates 'Strip Mining' Toothfish**, the rich toothfish resource has been strip-mined by pirates in Australia's high Antarctic waters. There has been eight pirate vessels spotted a few weeks ago. Under the Antarctic Treaty, Antarctica is declared a global nature reserve. (The Age)

Jan 29 **Smuggling Leaves Star Turtles Shell-locked**, the Star tortoise finds itself on a fast track to endangered list. While small, star-striped tortoises are kept as pets; the larger ones are used as essential ingredients in traditional Chinese medicine. Since August, 2003 customs officials have seized nearly 3000 of these creatures from smugglers. (Times of India)

Jan 29 **Europe Bans Pet Birds From Asia In Flu Scare**, the European Union has suspended imports of pet birds to exclude any possible risk for the avian influenza virus sweeping across Asia. Banned birds are exotic tropical species such as parrots, cockatoos, finches, budgerigars, hawks and falcons. (ENS)

Jan 29 **Pollution 'Changes Sex Of Whales'**, male whales, dolphins and seals are the latest animals to show signs of developing female sex organs as a result of pollution. A wide range of marine life has already demonstrated hermaphroditic traits, from molluscs and fish to polar bear cubs. (The Telegraph)

Jan 29 **Whale Study Reveals Spread of Ocean Contaminants**, toxins measured in sperm whale blubber indicate man-made chemicals have dispersed throughout the ocean, reaching animals far in its depths, according to Greenwich-born environmentalist. Sperm

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whales sit atop the food chain. Their long life spans and large fat stores are ideal 'bio-indicators' of the health of ocean life. (Greenwich Time)

Jan 29 **Dolphin Rescue & Rehab**, the US Federal Government contributes \$3 million to Mobi Solangi, speeding up the construction process on a rescue and rehabilitation centre for dolphins and other marine mammals in Gulfport. The rehab centre is a separate entity from Marine Life and will be devoted more for research than public display. (Sun Herald)

Jan 29 **No Sanctuary In National Parks**, dozens of Canada's 41 national parks which are supposed to protect certain types of ecosystems for all time won't have any significant areas of these habitats left within their boundaries by mid-century. As ecosystems vanish, so too will the rare vegetation and endangered animal species that depend on them; this time, the threat to park conservation arises from climate change. (Toronto Star)

Jan 29 **Environmentalists Loose Battle To Stop Canadian Dam In Belize**, a panel of judges from Britain's Privy Council, ruled on Thursday that the Chalillo dam project could go ahead. The dam is being built on the country's Macal River by the Belize Electric Co. Ltd. A coalition of environmental groups has appealed to the Privy Council to have the project stopped. (CBC)

Jan 30 **Wily Smugglers Give Mother Nature A Raw Deal**, four German visitors were convicted yesterday on charges of possessing 211 stag beetles among a collection of 842 insects they gathered in Western Cape. They intended to smuggle their illegal collection out of South Africa for sale to international insect collectors. (Business Day)

Jan 30 **Mad Cow Bans Mean Breeding Curbs in Canadian Zoos**, Canadian Zoos may have to curb breeding programs for some animals such as giraffe, deer, and other ruminants, due to the US ban on imports. (ENN)

Jan 30 **The Cruellest of Culls**, six adult members of an elephant herd were gunned down in Mpumalanga last weekend and their eight babies were kidnapped for sale in exhibition parks. South African National Parks and several provincial reserves claim they are under pressure to resume culling of large number of elephants because their populations are growing in confined spaces. (Mail & Guardian)

Jan 30 **Two Elephants Poisoned To Death**, two male elephants have been found dead in Sumatra's Riau province, apparently poisoned by ivory poachers. The elephant's tusks were removed. Due to increasing incidence of illegal logging, elephants and tigers are losing the jungle areas where they feed and breed. (Laksamana.net)

Jan 30 **Peru Arrests German Toad-Smuggler**, a German tourist has been arrested in Peru after police found some 400 live miniature toads and dozens of insects in his

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luggage. The toads and insects, protected under Peruvian law, have been placed in police custody. (BBC)

Jan 30 **Koreans Suspected of Poaching Bear Parts**, at least 100 Koreans will be prosecuted for illegally poaching bear parts from national parks in Virginia and selling the parts for use in traditional Asian health remedies in several states. (The Korea Daily)

Jan 30 **Conservationists Under Fire**, the death of an orangutan in the care of conservationists at the Natural Resources Conservation Agency, has prompted demands that a prominent animal welfare group be shut down and its founder deported. It has also led to counter charges that outlaw traders in endangered species have used disinformation to smear foes of their illicit commerce. (IPS)

Jan 30 **Mercury Fears With Dead Dolphins**, biopsies reveal that mercury levels in dolphin tissues were found to be four times higher than Australia's previous worst case. The source of the mercury remains unclear and no direct link between the dolphin deaths and mercury has yet been established. (The Australian)

Jan 31 **Flu Pandemic Would Wreak Social Devastation**, A pandemic occurs happens when an influenza virus that hasn't circulated before in humans emerges and spreads around the world. It can be created in two ways: an existing strain can mutate, as flu viruses are prone to mutation; or an animal virus can reassort or mate with a human flu virus, acquiring the ability to spread from human to human. (Canoe)

Jan 31 **Another Tiger Poached in Bandhavgarh**, poachers electrocuted yet another tiger near the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. The poachers were arrested in their village on January 26 and were transferred into the custody of the Dhamokhar Range Office. (SSN)

FEBRUARY

Feb 1 **Bird Flu Update**, Two Vietnamese sisters who died of bird flu may have caught the disease from their brother according to the World Health Organization. If confirmed, this would be the first case of human-to-human transmission of the virus in Asia. (Canoe)

Feb 1 **Whales Flee Harsh Winter for Mexican Waters**, according to Mexico's Environment Ministry, grey whales are turning up in record numbers at their breeding ground in Mexico this year. (Reuters)

Feb 2 **Chemical Spill With Imperial Oil**, according to Ontario Ministry of the Environment officials, about 150,000 litres of highly volatile chemicals leaked into the St. Clair River south of Sarnia. Downstream communities were advised to shut down their water intake systems because the chemicals could make their way into the water supply. (Canoe)

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Feb 2 **Sea Bird Convention**, according to conservationists global efforts to prevent hundreds of thousand of rare albatrosses being killed by tuna fishing have been thwarted because Britain has failed to ratify a new treaty. The convention comes into force today and marks the first attempt to stop the deaths of about 300,000 threatened albatrosses including 19 species close to extinction. (SSN)

Feb 2 **Nepalese Monkey Exports**, according to a letter of intent, the government will deliver 150 monkeys to the US as soon as the NHSN establishes a basic infrastructure to breed them. Along with monkeys, the government has already permitted another NGO to begin the commercial breeding of snakes. Animal rights activists are protesting against this agreement. (SSN)

Feb 2 **Africa Reserves and Sustainable Development**, West African Environment Ministers have called on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to use six major nature reserves in the region as sustainable development sites to generate income and help fight poverty. They are launching a four-year project, sponsored by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). (SSN)

Feb 3 **Wildlife Experts Say That Closing Overseas Wildlife Markets Would Prevent Spread of Disease**, according to a group of scientists and wildlife health experts from the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) closing Asia's wild bird markets would reduce the spread of Avian flu. They also expressed concern about policies calling for widespread culling of wild birds to prevent disease as this may do more harm than good. (WCS News Release)

Feb 3 **Arrest of African Ivory Wholesaler by Toronto Public Fugitive Squad**, during the investigation, the accused sold 155 pounds of raw ivory in the United States worth \$175,000 dollars in US currency. The shipped ivory was concealed in pottery and all shipping documents were falsified. ([Toronto Police Services](#))

Feb 3 **Lab Rats Release Into Wild Survive**, 75 docile lab rats were released into the wild. Behaviourists were impressed by how quickly they adapted to outside life. (Nature)

Feb 4 **Environmentalists Urge Action on Ballast Water**, according to the environmental group WWF, the shipping industry should do more to kill stowaway alien species, from jellyfish to algae that can wreck ecosystems when flushed from ships' ballast tanks. (ENN)

Feb 4 **War, Terror Hunt Puts Environment on Hold**, according to environmentalists, the Iraq war and the antiterrorism offensive have put environment issues on hold globally, but crucial decisions are coming up that for the sake of the planet must not be avoided. (ENN)

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Feb 4 **Coatis**, cuddly but greedy coatis steal snacks in Brazil park from humans. Tourists are forced to walk on carefully marked trails. (ENN)

Feb 4 **Mexican Officers May Go to Jail for the Import of Solomon Island Dolphins**, the Secretary of Public Affairs initiated a legal process for corruption against the former Subsecretary (who signed the import permit) and other officers, for the illegal import of dolphins from the Solomon Islands to the Parque Nizuc Aquarium in Cancun (SSN).

Feb 4 **Europe Could See Illegal Wildlife Trade Spike**, police battling to end the vast illegal trade in endangered species fear the eastwards expansion of the European Union this year could make their task even harder. (Reuters)

Feb 4 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to the Peel Regional Chief of Police, Noel P. Catney in regards to their recent apprehension of the Canadian wholesaler who was selling African ivory via the internet. The HSC is nominating the officers involved to receive the HSC Heroes for Animals Award. (HSC)

Feb 5 **Malaysia is Accused of Illegally Selling Millions of Dollars of Indonesian Hardwood**, According to the environmentalist groups, many consumer items destined for Western markets are made from illegally logged Indonesian timber, which is smuggled across the border into Malaysia. (ENN)

Feb 5 **Shark Silently Disappears**, according to a new study by Canadian scientists, a shark that once was the most common tropical water oceanic species in the world has virtually disappeared from the Gulf of Mexico (Globe & Mail).

Feb 5 **10% of Dried Seafood Toxic**, the dried seafood had been treated with bleach containing hydrogen peroxide and other heavy metals that are hazardous to human health if repeatedly ingested. (The Standard)

Feb 5 **Rare Wild Siberian Tiger Found Dead in Liaoning**, a wild Siberian tiger has been found dead in Fushun City in the Manchu Autonomous County of Xinbin, in northeast China's Liaoning Province. This was the first incident where the wild tiger has positively identified. (Xinhua)

Feb 5 **Plant Bust Reveals Orchid Obsession**, Cestmir Cihalik, 54, and Jindrich Smitak, 60, were arrested by New Zealand Wildlife Enforcement Authorities who videotaped the men picking the plants from a national park. Cihalik was found with 115 orchids in his possession, Smitak had 15 plants; the two men posted bail and will enter pleas in court this month. (Prague Post)

Feb 5 **AVA Admit Four Underwater World Dolphins Are Wild**, according to the government agency, the Underwater World Aquarium had informed it that a "number of the dolphins" being sought were bred in captivity at the Oasis Sea World in Thailand when they applied for the import permits, but the AVA wrongly stated that all the six

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dolphins were captive bred. Local animal welfare group ACRES stated that endangered pink dolphins should be returned to the wild. (Channel News Asia)

Feb 5 **US Bans Bird Imports in Flu Fear**, the US Government has banned the import of birds from eight South-East Asian countries after outbreaks of avian flu that have killed at least 15 people and millions of birds. (The Australian)

Feb 5 **Warning About Vast Poaching in Zimbabwe**, according to the reporter Sally Sara, exiled farmers are now calling on the Zimbabwean Government to protect wild animals which are under threat from poachers. (The World Today)

Feb 5 **Antarctic Research Used to Defend Fish in Southern Ocean**, over the last decade, legal and illegal fishing fleets have come father south into Antarctic waters, filling their holds with krill, Patagonian toothfish and mackerel ice fish. Researchers sample the same sea, trying to understand the marine resources in order to protect them from over fishing. (Port Focus)

Feb 5 **A Major Ivory Supplier**, is being sought following the seizure of more than 100 kg of illegal ivory from two Hong Kong shops. (The Standard)

Feb 5 **Goodbye, Cruel World**, African lion numbers have fallen by 90% in the past 20 years according to a recent report, there are only 23,000 alive today. Also, 1/8 of all bird species are at serious risk of extinction as well as 13% of the world's flowering plants. These are estimates from the IUCN World Conservation Union. They call it the sixth extinction on the planet. (Mail & Guardian)

Feb 5 **Zimbabwe Clinches \$20 Billion Safari Deals**, the Safari operators sold out their hunts within the first few days of the world's largest hunting convention at the Reno Sparks Convention, Nevada. Zimbabwe has raked in up to \$6 billion per year from sport hunting during the past few years. (The Herald)

Feb 5 **Celebrate Responsible Pet Owner Month asks HSC**, which encourages people to incorporate a number of simple ideas into their daily routines to ensure that their animal companions are healthy, safe and happy. (HSC)

Feb 5 **Have a Heart for Animals on Valentine's Day**, the HSC invites people to do their shopping at their online adventure store. The revenues generated will help fund numerous animal protection and environmental programs. (HSC)

Feb 6 **US Groups Demand Sanctions for Illegal Timber Trade**, a coalition of leading US environmental groups called for the Bush Administration to impose trade sanctions against Malaysia unless it takes immediate steps to crack down on illegal timber trade. Illegal trade in ramin is threatening some of Indonesia's last remaining national parks and endangered species. (Inter Press Service)

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Feb 6 **Large Grant Aims to Preserve Madagascar's Biodiversity**, the Chicago based MacArthur Foundation has donated four grants totalling \$1.6 million to conserve and sustain development efforts in Madagascar. The good news comes just as the Island is cleaning up after tropical cyclone Elita. (ENS)

Feb 6 **Underwater World Urged Again to Free Pink Dolphins**, in its third press conference a local animal watchdog group again urged Underwater World Singapore (UWS) to set its pink dolphins free. This time, ACRES said the UWS knew that at least four of the six dolphins were not captive-born. (Today Online)

Feb 6 **Chinese Zoo Puts Wild Animals on Menu**, Nanning Zoo in southern China astonished visitors by offering ostrich meat and peacock soup. A staff member from the zoo explained that the purpose of this activity was mainly to let people understand that the zoo not only displayed animals but also raised animals which have economic value for food. (Epoch Times)

Feb 6 **Fishermen Defend the Slaughter of the Dolphins**, as guns are strictly controlled in Japan, the fishermen of Taiji use sharp hooks to drag the trapped dolphins from the sea and long knives to cut their arteries. (The Times)

Feb 6 **Pigs Infected with Bird Flu**, preliminary tests have indicated that pigs in Vietnam might be infected with the bird flu virus, UN officials said today. The findings are not yet conclusive. (Toronto Star)

Feb 6 **Study Shows How Flu Jumps From Birds to Humans**, British and US researchers found that the more birdlike the virus, the more dangerous it is. They say what's blocking the current flu from spreading person-to-person is that its hemagglutinin structure has not yet evolved such an extent that it can efficiently infect humans. (Globe & Mail)

Feb 6 **Withdraw Park Dog Poisonings**, The Humane Society of Canada issued a press release offering a \$1000 reward for information resulting in the conviction of those responsible for placing poison in the Withdraw Park off-leash dog area in Toronto's east end. (HSC)

Feb 6 **The Humane Society of Canada** wrote a letter to the Minister of the Environment, Hon. David Anderson in regards to the recent apprehension of the Canadian wholesaler who was selling African ivory via the Internet. The HSC is nominating the Canadian Wildlife Officer involved to receive the HSC Heroes for Animals Award. (HSC)

Feb 6 **The HSC Applauds European Union's Decision to Suspend Grizzly Bear Hunting Trophies from BC**, this decision was made to ensure the Grizzly Bear's survival, says Al Hickey, and will greatly reduce the number of foreign hunters coming into Canada to kill Grizzly Bears. (HSC)

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Feb 7 **Pigs Don't Have Bird Flu**, UN officials rule out human transmission of bird flu. Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has run separate tests on pigs in avian flu-affected areas, and the results were all negative. (Toronto Star)

Feb 7 **Guinea-Bissau: A Zoological Park Closed Due to Traffic in Protected Species**, all activities performed by Hans Schuhmann, at the Zoo River Farm in Guinea-Bissau have been cancelled by the Environmental Ministry because he has been implicated in large amounts of trade in species protected under international laws. (Le Matinal)

Feb 8 **Pressure Mounts on Ministers to Block Shell From Destroying the Last Sanctuary of the Asian Grey Whale**, protected by conservation campaigns and secrecy about their exact location, numbers of the Asian grey whale have slowly risen to around 100 today. But now they are threatened again by the Anglo-Dutch oil giant Shell and the British Government who plan to drill for oil and gas near their sanctuary. (The Observer)

Feb 8 **Delaware Orders Chicken Cull**, state officials have ordered the slaughter of some 12,000 chickens infected by avian influenza. As a safeguard, other flocks within a two-mile radius of the infected farm will be tested. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 8 **Stop Slaughter of Grizzly Bears**, The Humane Society of Canada has issued a press release asking Albertans to write to elected officials and voice their strong opposition to the Alberta Government's decision to issue 73 hunting licences for Grizzly Bears this spring. (HSC)

Feb 9 **Over 60% of Turtles in Japan are Foreign**, it has become clear that more than 60% of all turtles in the country are species that have been imported as pets, according to a recent study. The research also showed that the number of Japanese Pond Turtles now accounts for less than 10% of all turtles. (Japan Today)

Feb 9 **Poaching Battle Goes High Tech**, the Internet has opened a worldwide market for trade in exotic animals for pets, trophies and food. Wildlife and conservation officials say it's often difficult weeding out the legitimate sellers from poachers. (AP)

Feb 9 **Getting out of Rural Poverty by Exporting Rare Insects**, trade in rare insects is restricted under CITES, to which Uganda is signatory. However Uganda's insects are exported both live and dead, and most exporters do not breed them, but rather catch them from the wild. The country lacks the capacity to monitor such trade in the country. (IRIN)

Feb 9 **Uganda To Export Two Crocodiles To US** in exchange for being trained to set up a crocodile capture unit. The Uganda Wildlife Authority says they have to shoot problem crocodiles in Lake Victoria because it does not have the capacity to relocate them. (SSN)

Feb 10 **Asia's Wildlife Vanishing into Marketplace**, unless the wildlife trade can be controlled, Asia will lose much of its unique biodiversity, experts of the WCS said today. The trade includes everything from small songbirds sold as pets, reptiles sold on a

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massive scale for their skins, meat, and animal parts for medical use. (Innovations Report)

Feb 10 **Halting Species Loss in Europe**, scientists believe that the extinction rate of modern species is thousands of times higher than it would have been without human activities. In Europe at least 40% of all bird and butterfly species are threatened. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Cloud Forests, Water Source to Millions, Face Risk**, a warming climate threatens tropical mountain forests that take moisture from clouds and supply water to millions of people in Africa and Latin America, experts said in a recently released UN report. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Australia Charges Five Men Over Toothfish Poaching**, authorities said the seized boat the Maya V was carrying at least 150 tons of Patagonian toothfish worth \$1.5 million dollars US. The men face fines of up to \$423,000 US. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Town in Peruvian Andes Wants US-owned Smelter to Clean up its Act**. The smelter which mainly produces lead as well as 8 other metals is owned by St. Louis-based Doe Run Co. Residents of the town of La Oroya want the government to declare a health emergency because average lead levels in the blood of 1,198 residents tested were 2.5 times above World Health Organization limits and would have been caused by the Smelter. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Medicine Hunter Tracks Plants With Healing Promise**, Chris Kilham is a medicine hunter hired by companies that market herbal remedies for ailments ranging from the common cold to depression, Kilham has spent the past decade roaming remote areas of the globe in search of the next best botanical. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Rabbits, Mussels, Hyacinths Among Alien Invaders**, alien species piggybacking on human travellers to new countries are wreaking havoc on the earth's ecosystems in the harmless-sounding guises of fluffy rabbits, violet water hyacinths, and humble zebra mussels. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Canines Who Don't Shy Away From Toxins** turn out to be robotic dogs, modified by engineering students at Yale University to sniff out toxic materials. Equipped with just about everything but a wet nose, the plastic-and-metallic-skinned robots have spurred toxic search projects in the United States, Europe, and Australia. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Orphaned Pup Rescued in Greece**, the Mediterranean Monk seal pup is currently under intensive care in the mobile rehabilitations unit of the Hellenic Society for the Study & Protection of the Monk Seal in the Northern Sporades Marine Park. (Monachus Guardian)

Feb 10 **Lobster Stocks**, pressure is growing on the Canadian Federal Fisheries Department to take steps to preserve lobster. Members of the Maritime Fishermen's

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Union say improved fishing techniques, bigger boats and growing numbers of fishermen have put extraordinary strain on lobster stocks. (National Post)

Feb 10 **Ivory: Burundi**, Burundi has expressed an interest in selling its ivory stockpiles to the CITES Secretariat. (CITES)

Feb 10 **Unclaimed Shipment of Reptiles Taken to Zoo**, the reptiles arrived January 31 on a British Airways flight in a crate carrying an invoice from a reptile dealer based in the East African nation of Tanzania. The crate was marked for pickup but it sat unclaimed for almost a week. When customs officials seized the cargo, 52 lizards and 3 snakes were already , those that survived will be shipped to zoos. (Star Telegram)

Feb 10 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to the President and Chief Executive Officer, Robert Essner of Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in regards to the fate of the thousands of mares and foals on PMU farms. The HSC is prepared to discuss the feasibility of establishing a sanctuary and developing a mechanism to find permanent loving home for these mares and foals. (HSC)

Feb 10 **The Humane Society of Canada** wrote a letter to the President of France, Jacques Chirac in regards to the planned 67 bullfights to take place in France in 2004. The HSC had also written a letter to the Prime Minister of France condemning these bullfights. (HSC)

Feb 10 **Laos: Tropical Paradise Is on Road To Ecological Disaster**. Forest cover has shrunk from 70% of Laos' total area in the middle of the 20th century to less than 40% today. Many woodland areas are described as "dead" due to over-hunting. Local consumption and illegal trade to China are amongst the main reasons for this. (ENN)

Feb 10 **WHO Issues Guidelines For Herbal Medicines** to ensure safety and efficacy of the multibillion-dollar herbal medicines market amid reports that some products are tainted with toxic substances. (ENN)

Feb 10 **WHO Says Bird Flu Will Take Time To Beat**, the Health Organization said that it would take anywhere from six months to two years before some of these flu outbreaks can be brought under total control in the poultry population. (ENN)

Feb 10 **Twice as Many Orangutans, But Future Just as Bleak**, the most detailed count of wild orangutans has found that there are between 50,000 and 60,000 orangutans left in the tropical forests of Sumatra and Borneo, twice as many as had been estimated in recent years. (Jakarta Post)

Feb 11 **Aylmer Plant Owner Pleads Not Guilty**, Aylmer meat plant owner will challenge a string of environmental charges in court and will seek trial. The company is also the subject of a criminal investigation that began after allegations that some cows processed for human consumption were dead before they arrived at its plant. (CBC)

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Feb 11 **Zoologists Call for Trade in Bushmeat to be Licensed**, according to British zoologists, trade in African bushmeat should be licensed rather than banned so that it can be controlled in a sustainable way. The society has asked the Government to consider its Bushmeat Action Plan to persuade African governments to avert an impending crisis among many of the world's most-threatened species. (The Independent)

Feb 11 **New Report Documents Efforts to Privatize Ocean for Fish Farming**, the aquaculture industry is working along with US regulatory agencies to privatize parts of the ocean on behalf of corporate fish farming interests. (The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy)

Feb 11 **Plea to Check Trading in Wildlife Items**, a vast chunk of Nepal has become a conduit to smuggling of wildlife items to China due to the porous nature of the Indo-Nepal border. (The Times)

Feb 11 **African Forestry**, Ghana will host the 14th session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission meeting from Feb 16-21 as part of her contribution towards sustainable natural resource management in Africa. (Ghana Government website)

Feb 12 **Pacific Dolphins Make Waves for US Policy on Mexican Tuna**, conservationists are accusing the US government of ignoring its own scientific advisers over its decision to import tuna fish from Mexico. Biologists want the imports banned because Mexican fishermen target and chase dolphin pods in order to catch the tuna that often swim below. (Nature)

Feb 12 **Trophy Hunting of Crocodiles in Australia**, the Northern Territory Government is now proposing, with some confidence, a limited regime of commercial killing of crocodiles. This is because for the past 30 years its population has bounced back from 3,000 in 1971 to as many as 60,000 today. (ABC)

Feb 12 **Deep Sea Species are at Risk From Seabed Trawls**, trawlers scraping the ocean bottom with nets, heavy chains, and steel plates threaten thousands of deep-sea species for questionable economic return, environmental groups said. (ENN)

Feb 12 **No More Foie Gras From California**, a state that protects the spotted owl and shorebirds common on Pacific beaches, may be about to lend a helping hands to ducks and geese. The State Senate Leader said he would introduce legislation soon to ban foie gras production in California because of the manner in which it is produced. (ENN)

Feb 12 **Australian Outback Bursts Into Life as Flood Hits**, seven Australian outback rivers are flooding, turning the desert into an inland sea and bringing life to the once barren land. (ENN)

Feb 12 **Neglect Rap for Horses' Owner**, a Barrie-area woman who keeps Peruvian horses has been charged with neglecting their care. Cindy Pauluik, faces a criminal

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charge of wilfully neglecting or failing to provide suitable and adequate food, water and care after 3 of 10 horses were found to be emaciated and in serious condition. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 12 **Thai elephants given as gifts**, Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej will present a pair of young elephants as a gift to the Swedish Royal Family following a private visit this week by King Carl XVI Gustaf, officials said. (SSN)

Feb 12 **Host Malaysia Under Fire at Environment Meeting**, Malaysia, which is hosting thousands of delegates to a major international conference on the environment, has found itself the target of strong criticism over illegal logging. The Environmental Investigation Agency announced that it would release a report providing evidence of complicity by Malaysian officials in the illegal trade in ramin. (Agence France Presse)

Feb 12 **Complacency Kills the Cat**, an eight-year study of reproduction in the Okavango delta of Botswana shows that lions have intrinsic reproductive weaknesses. Many of the current lions are infected with lion lentivirus (LLV), which is closely related to HIV and FIV virus. The effect of this virus on lions needs to be vigorously researched. (The Guardian)

Feb 12 **30 Tips for Being a Green Tourist**, The Humane Society of Canada has released a series of easy steps that people can do to minimize their ecological footprint while travelling. (HSC).

Feb 13 **Cattle Feed Change**, Canada and the US stopped using cattle remains in cattle feed in August 1997, 3 months after the infected American cow was born. While cattle remains are no longer to be fed to cattle, the remains of chickens, horses and pigs are still used. And the remains of cattle are still used in feed for other animals. (CBC)

Feb 13 **Agency Investigating Reptile Abandonment**, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has launched an investigation into why dozens of the African reptiles were left unclaimed at the Dallas Fort Worth Airport for a week. (Star-Telegram)

Feb 13 **Toothfish Fishing Not Regulated**, Captain Flangini insisted that the Maya V was licensed by the Uruguayan government to operate in the high seas with toothfish, the captain is quoted as saying that he ignored the charges presented by Australian authorities against officers and crew. (Mercosur)

Feb 13 **Animal Trade in Indonesia**, around 70 activists from the organization Pro Fauna Indonesia demonstrated on Wednesday at the Hotel Indonesia traffic circle, unfurling a banner that read "Stop trade in endangered animals - wildlife belongs to nature". (Jakarta Post)

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Feb 13 **Wolf-Control Program**, environmental officials say they are now looking into the possibility of non-lethal wolf control, such as a surgical birth control program, in areas of Yukon where moose and caribou populations are in trouble. (CBC)

Feb 13 **Palau: A Shark Guardian**, for its stance against shark finning, Palau received the “Shark Guardian of the Year” award from a German conservation organization. (Pacific Daily News)

Feb 13 **More on Shark Finning**, oceanic white tip sharks, are almost completely extinct according to a new census in the Gulf of Mexico. Over the past 50 years, their numbers have crashed by more than 99% in the Gulf. Baum and Myers blame tuna fishing and trade in shark fins for the animal’s demise. (SSN)

Feb 13 **Environmentalists Call For Sanctions Against Malaysia For Timber Smuggling**, as a result of Washington-based Environmental Investigation Agency claims that Malaysia is at the centre of an international timber smuggling racket which is undermining regional and global efforts to protect endangered species. (ENN)

Feb 13 **California Water-Rights Ruling Could Threaten Species Protection**, an effort to save two rare fish species more than a decade ago could come back to haunt environmentalists after a recent court decision awarded millions of dollars in compensation to farmers who lost water in the process. (ENN)

Feb 13 **Camera Could Help Sort Fish, Save Stocks**, by letting fishers identify and free unwanted catch immediately after nets are being hauled in, its Danish inventor said. (ENN)

Feb 14 **TTC & Hybrid Buses**, energy-efficient, environmentally friendly hybrid busses should be on Toronto’s streets in 2 years if all goes according to plan, says TTC chief general manager Rick Ducharme. (Toronto Star)

Feb 14 **Shark Oil Trade in India**, forest department officials have busted a racket in illegal production and trade of shark fish oil with the arrest of a six-member gang at Kundapur-Kodi in Udupi district. (SSN)

Feb 14 **European Bears**, environmentalists warn that brown bear hunting in some Eastern European countries has turned into a profitable business that threatens to drastically reduce the number of animals. (SSN)

Feb 16 **Fish and Human Health**, the national association representing fish farmers says sales are down 20% in the past month. While this is an economic blow to the economy, nutritionists believe it also has the makings of a public-health disaster. (Globe & Mail)

Feb 16 **Palau Stops Shark Fin Trade**, Palau has seized another haul of shark fins and mutilated shark bodies in its crackdown on shark fishing. (AFP)

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Feb 17 **How Bush Reversed Regulatory Effort on Polluting Gas Additive**, by quietly shelving a proposal to ban a gasoline additive that contaminates drinking water in many communities, helping an industry that has donated more than \$1 million to Republicans. (ENN)

Feb 17 **EU Wants to Cut Pollution From Car Tires**, by adopting a proposal which will limit the presence of toxic chemicals in their structure. The objective is to reduce the emission of tire debris that contains carcinogens into the environment to an acceptable level and to control the possible risks to health and the environment. (ENN)

Feb 17 **Concerns Mount Over Safety of LNG Tankers**, ships carrying LNG contain vast amounts of highly concentrated energy, and now with the heightened fears of terrorism and proposal of more terminals there is a concern of their danger for metropolitan areas. (ENN)

Feb 17 **Butterfly Trade**, in Malaysia, villagers are paid a mere 7 sen for each butterfly yet catching butterflies is a major village activity. The middlemen who sells these specimens to traders gets about 2,000 specimens every fortnight. At this rate, these species may die out. (SSN)

Feb 17 **New Mad Cow Strain**, Italian scientists found a second form of mad-cow disease that more closely resembles the human Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease than the usual cow form of the illness. (Globe & Mail)

Feb 17 **British Columbia Offshore Drilling**, an independent scientific panel formed by the federal Liberal government says long-time bans on oil and gas drilling in waters near BC could be safely lifted under strict conditions. (Globe & Mail)

Feb 17 **Mexico City's Wildlife Market**, federal inspectors seized more than 250 examples of undocumented wildlife from a Mexico City market, including some threatened and endangered species. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Use It or Lose It: Kenya**, Kenya has no comprehensive wildlife policy. Tourism is not capable of generating enough revenue to vouchsafe the survival of wildlife, and all in all, Kenya's conservation efforts have failed and wildlife numbers have plummeted in the last 25 years by more than half. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Chimpanzees and Extinction**, leading scientists and conservationists around the world have worked together to produce a new action plan aimed at reversing the imminent extinction of chimpanzees. They say dramatic reduction in numbers is mostly due to habitat destruction, bushmeat trade and Ebola outbreak. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Ecuador's Illegal Wildlife Trade**, last year authorities seized 1,521 animal and plant specimens in mainland Ecuador, and more than 25,000 shark fins and sea

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cucumbers were smuggled from the country's islands. It is the country's size that makes it so vulnerable. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Birds Seized in Angola**, on February 7, a total of 280 birds that were on transit from Democratic Republic of Congo to Portugal were seized by the authorities at the Luanda airport, after finding that the papers were not in order. On February 12, another 320 birds on transit to South Africa were seized over documents irregularities. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Tibet Seizure - India Was the Source**, it is now clear that all the skins seized in China were smuggled directly from India. The 31 seized tiger skins represent about 10% of India's entire population of wild tigers. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Shark Fin Question**, are there any guides to identify shark fins? Yes, the Australian government commissioned a Whale Shark Fin Identification Manual that is publicly available. (SSN)

Feb 17 **Rock Kills Horse**, a rock-throwing incident leads to tighter security. Rock throwing has been identified to be the cause of death of a horse that had to be put down when he broke a bone in his left hind leg just before the start of the 11th race. (Harness Edge)

Feb 17 **Trawling Threat**, the report entitled "*High Seas Bottom Fisheries and their Impact*" states that high seas bottom trawling destroys up to 95-98% of the species habitats in the area that is being trawled. Deep-sea ecosystems like cold-water reefs can be completely destroyed by a single trawl. (CFN)

Feb 17 **Oceans Now in Dire Peril**, a report from a panel appointed by President Bush is expected to paint a stark picture of oceans in trouble, and will call for sweeping new oversight measures to reverse decades of ecological decline in marine waters. (CFN)

Feb 18 **Whale On the Menu**, Japan renews call for hunting the giant mammals, calling it a proud national tradition. Japan believes endangered whales should be protected, but that others, such as the Minke, are in no danger of dying out and hunting within limits should be allowed. (CFN)

Feb 18 **Study Approves Limited Bowhead Whale Hunt**, a hunt of one whale every two years from the Hudson Bay-Foxe Basin population and one whale every 13 years from the Baffin Bay-Davis Strait population will not jeopardize the bowheads. (CFN)

Feb 18 **Seal Herds and Nova Scotia's Fishery**, an advisory panel said that inaction by the federal Fisheries Department has contributed to a ballooning population of seals which continue to do serious damage to fish stocks off Nova Scotia. They recommend allowing a hunt of 5,000 grey seals per year for two years to give depleted ground fish stocks a chance to rebuild. (CanadaEast.com)

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Feb 18 **FAO: Sub on Fish Trade**, UN meeting on global fish trade closes in Germany. A report by the body contains recommendations that, if approved by FAO's Committee on Fisheries, will be incorporated into the activities of the agency's Department of Fisheries. (SSN)

Feb 18 **Seized Ginseng**, the federal court in Ashville is getting ready to decide if and how 328 pounds of wild American ginseng should be apportioned after being seized by the US Fish and Wildlife Service nearly 16 months ago. (SSN)

Feb 18 **ETIS in China**, TRAFFIC East Asia and the Government of China are working on efforts to strengthen the implementation of the Elephant Trade Information Systems (ETIS) in the country. ETIS is one of the two monitoring systems to track illegal trade in elephant products. (SSN)

Feb 18 **More on Crocodile Hunting**, David Lawson, Australia's Northern Territory's Director of Wildlife Management, said for the past 5 years the Commission has been able to issue permits to landowners for the wild harvest of up to 600 crocodiles a year. But now the Commission is seeking national approval for up to 25 crocodiles from that quota to be available for safari hunters. (SSN)

Feb 18 **Ginseng Poaching**, Jim Corbin uses a dog as the latest weapon in the fight to protect valuable ginseng plants from poachers looking to steal them from public lands in Western North Carolina. He has trained his dog to pick up the scent of the dye, which federal land managers are using to mark ginseng roots. (SSN)

Feb 18 **Bird Flu in Pet Chickens**, a strain of bird flu has been discovered in pet chickens in Southern Japan. Local health officials have ordered the family that kept the birds as pets to undergo tests to make sure they were not infected. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 18 **Rottweiler Ban**, the Municipality of Guysborough has passed a Bylaw banning residents from owning Rottweilers. People who already own the controversial breed will be exempt from the ban as long as they register their dogs with the Municipality. (CanadaEast.com)

Feb 18 **Breed Specific Legislation Site**, <http://www.goodpooch.com/BSL/cdnbsl.htm> that states that on average about one dog bite related fatality per year happens in Canada. (Goodpooch.com)

Feb 18 **Cow Saves Farmer**, a New Zealand farmer escaped from a flooded river by hanging on to one of her cows as it struggled through the raging waters. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 19 **Bush Administration Distorts Science, says report**, top scientists and environmentalists accused the Bush Administration of suppressing and distorting scientific findings that run counter to its policies. They say the Administration has suppressed research on global warming, air quality, cancer and other issues. (ENN)

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Feb 19 **Swiss Study Predicts Scorching European Summers**, the heat wave that killed more than 10,000 people across Europe last summer is only a taste of things to come as the planet becomes steadily warmer, a Swiss expert predicted this week. (ENN)

Feb 19 **Ivory Sale in Namibia**, the date on which Namibia will hold its one-off ivory sale this year will be determined by the 15th meeting of the Standing Committee of United Nations CITES to be held this year. (SSN)

Feb 19 **CJD in Ontario**, the Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit is investigating a suspected case of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, a human form of Mad Cow Disease. But a suspected human case of mad cow doesn't mean the dreaded cattle sickness is in the area. (Canoe & London Free Press)

Feb 19 **Right Whale's Death Raises Extinction Fears**, an expectant right whale has been struck and killed by a ship in coastal waters for the second time in 5 months, raising fears among scientists that the most-endangered whale species again may be sliding toward extinction. (CFN)

Feb 19 **NOAA Launches Whale Study**, and will spend 3 years and \$3.3 million studying the humpback whale. "Splash" will be the most comprehensive study ever attempted of the endangered North Pacific humpback whale population. (CFN)

Feb 19 **Uganda Exporting Chimpanzees**, the Ugandan High Court has suspended the export of three Ugandan chimpanzees to China. The Uganda Wildlife Authority was to send the primates to China. (The New Vision)

Feb 19 **Bird Flu Found on BC Farm**, an H7 influenza subtype caused the outbreak, which is not the form of avian influenza ravaging poultry stocks in Asia. (Canoe)

Feb 20 **Can Zoos Save Species Without Saving Habitat**, visitors to America's zoos and circuses are regularly informed, via signs and announcements that these institutions are working overtime on behalf of endangered species. (ENN)

Feb 20 **Japanese Love Fish Too Much For Fragile Stocks**, and remain the largest fish consumer in the world. According to the United Nations, more than 70 percent of the world's commercially important fish stocks are either over-exploited, depleted, slowly recovering, or close to the maximum sustainable level of exploitation. (ENN)

Feb 20 **Chemical Research On Humans Is Approved To the Dismay of Environmentalists**, the National Research Council Advisory Panel said the government should accept tests using human subjects but cautioned there had better be a good reason and the strictest care must be taken to protect volunteers. (ENN)

Feb 20 **Utilities to Release Cost Information for Future Environment Rules**, American Electric Power and Cinergy Corp. agreed to environmentalist and shareholder

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demands to release pollution-reduction plans and cost estimates for complying with anticipated federal emissions regulations. (ENN)

Feb 20 **EU's Top Environment Official Says Differences with US Over Biotech Crops Will Persist**, the dispute between the US and the European Union about the safety of genetically modified food is not going away any time soon and will likely widen into a global debate. (ENN)

Feb 20 **Latest From Malaysia**, Environment Ministers from around the world renewed their commitment to cut rates of extinction in six years and urged the US to ratify a key UN pact to preserve biodiversity. (SSN)

Feb 20 **Tiger Killer**, a former Will County Corrections Officer who had been sentenced to more than 4 years in prison for illegally slaughtering and stuffing endangered tigers and leopards has been found guilty of owning an illegal gun silencer. (SSN)

Feb 20 **Bear Poaching**, at a news conference, the US Attorney announced the indictment of seven people connected with the illegal killing of black bears and the illegal harvesting or sale of black bear parts. (Anchorage Daily News)

Feb 20 **Ban Bird Trade**, veterinarians, wildlife experts applaud China's ban of wild bird trade to help prevent the spread of Avian Flu. (Wildlife Conservation Society)

Feb 20 **Asian Beetle Update**, the Ontario government is providing up to \$1 million to help replace trees cut down due to an infestation of the voracious beetles. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 21 **Dolphins From Estuary Sick, Study Finds**, after capturing 43 dolphins in the Indian River Lagoon and giving them a thorough, Mayo Clinic-like physical exams, scientists confirmed that an inordinate number of dolphins in North America are sick and diseased. (CFN)

Feb 21 **Avian Flu and Chickens in BC**, an isolation zone has been set up around BC chicken farm hit by the avian flu. About 16 thousand affected chickens are being slaughtered as a precaution. (Vancouver Sun)

Feb 21 **Bird Flu Affecting Other Animals**, the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu has been detected in a leopard, a tiger and three domestic cats in Thailand. One clouded leopard has already died and one white tiger is still alive and has recovered. (Daily Star and NY Newsday)

Feb 21 **Bird Flu Now Found in Cats**, scientists in Asia reported that two house cats in Thailand died of the same strain that has killed 22 people across the continent. China also confirmed two more suspected outbreaks of the influenza H5N1 virus in two provinces, and Thai officials said the virus had reappeared in two areas that had been declared under control. (Toronto Star)

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Feb 21 **Bird Flu**, the WHO has sought to calm fears that the deaths of two cats in Thailand from bird flu could signify an increased danger to humans from the killer virus. The WHO says it is highly unlikely that cats will prove to be easily infected and such cases will remain rare. (ABC)

Feb 22 **Birds' Nest Soup in Thailand**, Pattani, a fishing town, is in the midst of a property boom fuelled by the fortunes to be made from selling edible birds' nests to ethnic Chinese buyers. (SSN)

Feb 22 **Tarantulas Smuggled From Mexico to Zurich**, Swiss customs officials seized 775 Mexican tarantulas smuggled into the country illegally to be sold as pets. 253 of them died during the trip. (SSN)

Feb 22 **Nepal Monkey Exports**, activists demand a ban on Nepal monkey exports in order to supply US laboratories. According to the agreement, the Nepalese government will supply 150 monkeys to the US as soon as NHSN established the basic infrastructure to breed them. (SSN)

Feb 22 **Coral Smuggling in Singapore**, three trucks loaded with coral were seized while trying to sneak past customs checks at the port in Pasir Panjang. The coral shipment was loaded onto the trucks after a ship deposited its cargo at the port. (SSN)

Feb 22 **Lion Hunting**, excessive trophy hunting of large male lions could open the door for young males to invade prides and kill all existing cubs, causing a population decline. But income from trophy hunting helps sustain African game reserves, which might otherwise be converted to small-scale agriculture. (SSN)

Feb 22 **Grey Parrots**, conservationists in Nigeria are concerned by a growing trade in the export of grey parrots from Nigeria and neighbouring Cameroon. Under CITES, only limited trade under strict licensing is permitted. (SSN)

Feb 23 **Guam and Turtle Poaching**, to stop Guam's sea turtle's from completely disappearing, both local and federal agencies are teaming together to crack down on poaching. (SSN)

Feb 23 **Poultry Ban**, China has joined other Asian governments in banning imports of Canadian poultry after avian flu was reported in birds on a farm in BC. All Canadian poultry awaiting inspection by Chinese quarantine officials will be returned or destroyed. (Canoe)

Feb 23 **The HSC Wrote a Letter to the Japanese Prime Minister, Junichiro Koizumi, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, Yoshiyuki Kamei and the Governor of Wakayama Prefecture Mr. Yoshiki Kimura**, opposing the slaughter of dolphins in the drive fisheries of Taiji and other coastal villages in Japan. (HSC)

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Feb 23 **Genetically Engineered Pigs**, a Canadian Government Agency has revealed that the 3 pigs which were genetically engineered as part of a program to produce pharmaceutical proteins, had gone to market by mistake in Quebec. Their safety for use in the human food chain has never been assessed. (Globe & Mail)

Feb 23 **New Food Labels**, a standard for labelling of food containing genetically modified ingredients has now been prepared by industry and agricultural stakeholders and is likely to be approved very soon by the Standards Council of Canada. (Gallon Newsletter)

Feb 24 **Five Power Companies Commit to Clean Energy and Limits on CO₂**, by answering a challenge from WWF to become the first US power companies to support a mandatory cap on heat-trapping carbon dioxide emissions and confirm their commitment to clean energy. (ENN)

Feb 24 **Galapagos Fishermen Protest to Demand More Freedom** from environmental regulations and blocked park officials from attending work. They want their demands met to loosen norms so they can use long-line fishing and sell their shark by-catch in the islands. (ENN)

Feb 24 **Brazil Tribes Fear for their Environment**, Xingu is Brazil's oldest and probably its most successful Indian reservation. The Indians are now worried that in 20 years there won't be enough land for the tribe due to signs of the encroachment of white civilization all around. (ENN)

Feb 24 **Great Barrier Reef Faces Major Coral Destruction**, and will lose most of its coral cover by 2050 and at worst the world's largest coral system could collapse by 2100 because of global warming, a study by Queensland University's Centre for Marine Studies, and commissioned by the Worldwide Fund for Nature concluded. (ENN)

Feb 24 **Southeast England Fights to Save Sparrows**, government officials met to discuss ways of curbing the bird's decline. The number of house sparrows has dropped by 12 million pairs to fewer than 7 million pairs over the last 30 years, according to researchers. (ENN)

Feb 24 **Aylmer Meat Packers to Sue**, and launch a \$100 million lawsuit against the federal and provincial governments for alleging it was processing deadstock for human consumption. Sources close to the investigation say despite being at the plant since August, the OPP has no evidence of "deadstock". No charges have been laid. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 24 **Capture of Antigua Wild Dolphins**, the permission granted to Mr. John Mezzanotte to capture 12 dolphins annually from Antigua waters has been revoked. It has been set that any importation or exportation of dolphins into and from Antigua and

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Barbuda be in strict compliance with all international obligations of Antigua and Barbuda. (CFN)

Feb 24 **Downtown Aquarium Isn't the Place to Keep Big Cats**, the City of Houston has two ordinances that would seem to prevent the Downtown Aquarium from housing three exotic white tigers. (CFN)

Feb 24 **Scientists Set to Issue Results of Zoo Review**, Congress ordered the probe of the Smithsonian's animal park last year after the Washington Post uncovered questionable animal care practices in a series of animal deaths. (CFN)

Feb 24 **Dolphins at Nanning Zoo in China**, Dolphin treatment for mentally disabled children is expected to prompt more public awareness and scientific research into their treatment. (CFN)

Feb 24 **Oregon Bids Farewell to Popular Whale**, nearly 700 people turned out to bid farewell to Keiko, the killer whale who starred in the popular "Free Willy" movies, and died overseas. (CFN)

Feb 24 **\$3.3 Million Whale Study Launched**, hundreds of researchers from 10 Pacific Rim nations will take part in a project that will study the humpback whale population. (CFN)

Feb 25 **Seals and Dolphins Wash Up on Mexican Beach**, the corpses of 128 seals, nine dolphins and nine pelicans washed up on a beach in the Sea of Cortez. (ENN)

Feb 25 **Boost For Transgenic Foods as China Widens Imports**, by opening doors to billions of dollars worth of transgenic crops, amid increasing pressure to import more agricultural products to feed its huge population. (ENN)

Feb 25 **Scientist Says Asian Brown Cloud Threatens Gulf**, a body of pollution that has been identified in the skies across Asia is now threatening to engulf the Middle East and make the planet a drier place concluded Veerabhadran Ramanathan. (ENN)

Feb 25 **Marketer Tries Again to Sell Fluorescent GloFish in California**, by asking the state regulators to allow sales of the pet, two months after Officials barred it from stores. (ENN)

Feb 25 **Report Released, Zoo Director Resigns**, Lucy Spelman will depart as Director of the Zoo following an interim panel report released which said many animals are not receiving adequate preventive care, including exams, vaccinations and tests for infectious diseases. (Associated Press)

Feb 26 **China's Wildlife Markets**, China plans to reopen its wild animal markets and introduce more exotic animals for food despite warnings from health experts they could be sources of viruses such as SARS that pose huge threats to humans. (SSN)

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Feb 26 **Leatherback Turtles**, the steep decline of the Pacific Ocean leatherback turtle has gone so far the species could be extinct within no more than a decade, conservationists fear. Their numbers have fallen from about 115,000 breeding females to fewer than 3,000 since 1982. (BBC)

Feb 26 **Minke Whales**, the Norwegian Minister of Fisheries has now determined the regulations for participation in catches of Minke whales in 2004 and regulating of catches will be more or less the same as last year. (CFN)

Feb 26 **Tuna's Cocaine Connection**, police cracked a drug smuggling ring spanning four continents, arrested more than 150 people and seized more than five tons of cocaine. The cocaine was often hidden in shipments of marble, plastic or leather goods or in tuna fish cans. (CFN)

Feb 26 **Why Expose Endangered Dolphins to Suffering**, the Green Party is appealing to Conservation Minister Chris Carter to back off plans to tag endangered Hector's dolphins with satellite tracking devices, saying the weight of evidence is clearly against the move and that there are safer more effective ways of monitoring dolphin populations. (CFN)

Feb 27 **Pentagon Downplays Report Identifying Climate Change as National Security Threat**, the report suggests that global warming already is approaching a threshold beyond which a sudden cooling will set in. (ENN)

Feb 27 **First Michigan Wolverine Spotted in 200 Years**, a biologist has confirmed the sighting of a real Michigan wolverine, about 200 years after the species was last seen in the state. (ENN)

Feb 27 **Hydrogen Highway, by 2010 Says California Official** is realistic and won't even cost the state much money. (ENN)

Feb 27 **Smoke Pollution Makes for Stronger Storms**, smoke drifting from burning forests in the Amazon is affecting the climate across the entire continent - drying up rain but making the storms that do develop much more violent than usual, scientists reported. (ENN)

Feb 27 **Namibia Ivory Request to CITES**, the CITES conference rejected Namibia's request to trade in ivory annually, however the organization granted Namibia permission to have a one-off sale this year. The same meeting gave Botswana and South Africa the green light to conduct a one-off auction of ivory stock. (SSN)

Feb 27 **Elephant Imports**, green groups are urging Sydney's Taronga Zoo to abandon efforts to purchase four elephants from Thailand in exchange for native wildlife. (SSN)

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Feb 27 **Plant Poaching**, 2 Czech men, one of them a government official and the other a University professor, were convicted and fined in the Manukau District Court for smuggling New Zealand native orchids and taking plants from conservation areas. (SSN)

Feb 27 **Ivory Trade**, the Thailand government has been warned it is risking an international trade boycott by dragging its feet over the introduction of measures to control the ivory trade. (SSN)

Feb 27 **Scaly Fashion**, an upsurge in the trade in reptile skins as exotic leather is back in fashion is taking a heavy toll on a number of endangered species. In the last few days, WPSI has learnt of another case in illegal trade in exotic leather. This is the 5th or 6th case in succession, with leads as far a field as the Netherlands, Italy, Singapore and Malaysia. (SSN)

Feb 27 **Another Elephant Electrocuted to Death**, signifying that wild animal mortalities by electrocution both accidental and deliberate have reached staggering proportions in India. WPSI presently has record of more than 257 large wild mammals that have been electrocuted in the past 14 years. (SSN)

Feb 27 **Hormone Therapy and Hearing Loss**, the Women's Health Initiative is wrapping up a 12-year nationwide study that has linked hormone-replacement with increased incidents of breast cancer, heart disease, stroke and dementia. (National Post)

Feb 27 **Dog Cruelty Case**, a pit bull abandoned in a sweltering apartment for five weeks turned to cannibalism - eating his Staffordshire terrier roommate. Jennifer Clark has been charged with two counts of cruelty to animals. (Toronto Sun)

Feb 27 **Sanctuary Chimpanzee Project Vetoed**, causing fury among animal rights groups. Minister Hoogervorst said the funding for the chimps' golden years did not fit his cost-cutting programme. (SSN)

Feb 27 **Animals Not Property Says The Humane Society of Canada**, under existing Canadian law, animals are currently regarded as property. "In our view, while they cannot be given the same right as people, animals should not be regarded as mere chattel". (HSC)

Feb 28 **Successful Ivory Bust**, an Ivory dealer from Douala was arrested with 12 tusks in Cameroon. (SSN)

Feb 28 **Czech Republic: Bribes For Permits**, a corruption scandal has erupted at the Environment Ministry where official Petr Svec demanded bribes for licenses for trade in exotic animals. For this, Svec must spend two and a half years in prison and pay a fine of 100,000 crowns. (SSN)

Feb 28 **Galapagos Under Seige**, local fishermen have taken over the offices of the Galapagos National Park, the Charles Darwin Research Station and WWF, in an effort to

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call on the president of Ecuador to lift regulations on fishing in the Galapagos Marine Reserve. (SSN)

MARCH

Mar 1 **Hunting Charities**, the Charity Action Team is releasing a report submitted to the federal government that questions the status of active sport-hunting groups as charities. (SSN)

Mar 1 **Exotics in Florida**, South Florida presents the perfect dumping ground for animals, imported from all over the world that have outgrown their cage sizes. (SSN)

Mar 1 **Sea Cucumbers**, thirteen countries participated in the three-day workshop in order to establish priorities for managing and conserving sea cucumbers. (SSN)

Mar 1 **Faeroe Islands and CITES**, the Secretariat is not entirely decided on their opinion in regards to Faeroe Islands by postponing the actual implementation of the Convention in the Faeroe Islands until appropriate legislation has been passed. (SSN)

Mar 1 **EIA Targets Wal-Mart Whale Meat**, the Environmental Investigation Agency urged Wal-Mart Stores Inc to force its affiliated Japanese supermarket chain operator Seiyu Ltd to stop selling whale and dolphin meat. (Japan Today)

Mar 1 **Superbugs & Antibiotics**, deaths from an increasingly drug-resistant superbug are 15 times higher than they were a decade ago, according to new figures released. Health authorities are extremely worried about the spread of bacteria called MRSA. (Globe & Mail)

Mar 1 **Fines For Poaching Seahorses in Australia**, seahorses are to become a protected species in New South Wales following warnings they are being fished to extinction for souvenirs and Chinese medicines. (SSN)

Mar 1 **Galapagos Fishing**, fishermen end a week-long strike in the Galapagos Islands after the government agrees to review regulations protecting the archipelago's unique wildlife. (SSN)

Mar 1 **Lions With Black Noses Fair Game**, research suggests that if hunting is going to take place, hunters should target only the big cats with the darkest noses, perhaps one way to ensure that only the oldest animals are removed from lion populations. (SSN)

Mar 2 **Seychelles Sea Turtles Poaching**, five men pleading guilty to turtle poaching charges will be each fined R 25,000 on the count of illegally killing turtles and another R 10,000 for the illegal possession of turtle meat. (SSN)

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Mar 2 **Turtle Smuggling in Indonesia**, customs and excise officers helped forestry ministry officers and environmental activists to foil an attempt to smuggle 309 pig-nosed turtles through Soekarno-Hatta International Airport late on Sunday. (SSN)

Mar 2 **Rhino Sanctuary in Uganda**, sparse human population and a semi-arid landscape with extensive grassland have over the years attracted cattle ranchers to Nakasongola district. Because of this, the area was assumed to be part of the cattle corridors. But this might soon change with the setting up of a sanctuary for endangered rhinos. (SSN)

Mar 2 **How do I Recycle or Safely Dispose of Used Batteries?** The chemicals in batteries, particularly cadmium, present a major health hazard if they leak from their corroded metal jackets. Cadmium is a probable human carcinogen, and it can affect kidney and lung function. (ENN)

Mar 2 **Sixty Animals Dead in Brazil Zoo Murder Mystery**, nearly 60 animals have been killed at the Sao Paulo Zoo since last month and police expect to track down the suspected killers soon according to the Brazilian officials. (ENN)

Mar 2 **Ocean Power Technologies to Harness Spanish Waves**, the stormy, ship-wrecking seas of the Bay of Biscay are poised to take on a more constructive role as the site of the world's first wave-driven power station on a commercial scale. (ENN)

Mar 2 **More Alternative Fuel vehicles seen in US in 2004**, the number of vehicles in the United States that run on alternative fuels is expected to increase 7.3 percent this year from 2003. A total of 547,904 vehicles that run on natural gas, corn-based ethanol, electricity or liquefied petroleum gases will be on the road this year, up from 510, 805 last year, according to the US Energy Information Administration. (ENN)

Mar 3 **HSC News Release About How to Protect Pets from Spring Melt Waters**, the HSC is requesting that people ensure that their animal companions are kept at home, or when take for walks are kept safely on a leash. (HSC)

Mar 3 **Science Matters: Is Our Climate Nearing the Tipping point?** A report that argues global warming is a greater threat to world security than terrorism and predicts a warming future where "disruption and conflict will be endemic features of life". (ENN)

Mar 3 **Climate Change Theory of Dinosaur Extinction Gains Ground**, scientists probing a vast crater off Mexico's Yucatan peninsula questioned a popular theory about dinosaurs this week, saying the collision that formed the crater happened too far back in time to have caused their extinction by itself. The finding would support an alternative theory that the dinosaurs and other forms of life were wiped out in a series of disasters that changed the Earth's climate. (ENN)

Mar 3 **Toothfish Poaching**, former Cape Town fishing magnate Arnold Bengis pleaded guilty in the United States on Tuesday to charges relating to a massive seafood poaching and smuggling scheme. (SSN)

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Mar 3 **Shark Demand Increases as Swordfish Becomes Inaccessible**, according to the article, sharks are paying for the closed European Union swordfish market with their fins. (SSN)

Mar 3 **Bushmeat**, the health of people in the UK could be at risk from bushmeat imports and other forms of “food crime” according to the campaigners. (SSN)

Mar 3 **More on Thai Tigers**, Thai Authorities have announced an investigation into a shipment of Tigers to China authorized by a top public servant. (SSN)

Mar 3 **Wolf Trapping Ban in Algonquin Park**, the Ontario Government will announce a permanent ban on hunting wolves in Algonquin Provincial Park according to the Canadian Press. Government source revealed that Natural Resources Minister David Ramsay will propose a permanent ban on hunting and trapping wolves and coyotes in Algonquin and in townships surrounding the park. (Toronto Star)

Mar 4 **California County Bans Planting of Biotech Crops**, opponents of genetically modified foods celebrated a historic victory Wednesday after voters approved a measure to make Mendocino County, California, the first in the United States to ban genetically modified crops and animals. (ENN)

Mar 4 **The Humane Society of Canada**, the World Organization for Animal Health has just concluded its Global Conference on Animal Welfare held in Paris, France with a reaffirmation of their role as global coordinators of guidelines on animal welfare. Participants from all over the world met to discuss such issues as land & sea transport, slaughter, disease control, the role of veterinarians, animal welfare research amongst more general topics. Dr. Angelo Filipic, our veterinarian with 50 years of experience, attended on behalf of the HSC. (HSC)

Mar 5 **The Humane Society of Canada**, the HSC is part of a coalition of doctors, nurses, lawyers, and environmentalists who supported the City of Toronto’s decision to adopt a Pesticide Bylaw. We now urge City Council to provide funds for public education about the Bylaw this year. The Bylaw was passed by City Council last May after numerous public meetings, stakeholder consultations and public polls showing strong public support. (HSC)

Mar 4 **Ecotourism Takes a Toll on Wildlife**, and may be endangering the survival of the very animals people are flocking to see according to researchers. (ENN)

Mar 6 **Canadian Waters Polluted**, according to federal Environment Minister, Ottawa will increase surveillance off the East Coast. But pollution from foreign ships continues to be a problem. (National Post)

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Mar 6 **Dolphins Used as Shark Bait**, Indonesian fishers use dolphin as bait to lure sharks, which in turn have their fins cut off and are left to die a slow death in the water. (SSN)

Mar 6 **Orchid Smuggler**, a Peruvian grower was arrested in Miami, Florida and charged with smuggling prized “tropical lady slippers” that were pulled from the wild but disguised as more common, nursery-raised varieties. (SSN)

Mar 6 **Wolf-Dog Hybrids**, the Ministry of Natural Resources seized from dogs from the Malanych family and placed the dogs at the Thunder Bay and District Humane Society and Animals Services until DNA testing determines their pedigree. (Chronicle Journal)

Mar 6 **Illegal Hunting**, two US residents have been charged with illegal hunting following a Ministry of Natural Resources investigation into the killing of a trophy white-tailed deer last fall in the Dryden area. They have been summoned to appear in Dryden court March 16 on six counts of illegal hunting including night hunting and trespassing. (Chronicle Journal)

Mar 8 **EU and UK Fisheries**, the UK fishing industry must change if the familiar fish round the UK coast are to stand any realistic chance of survival Prince Charles has told a charity promoting sustainable fishing. (BBC)

Mar 8 **Wind Energy**, Ontario is interested in wind turbines to produce electricity according to the article. (Toronto Star)

Mar 8 **Costa Rican Shark Finning Case Goes to Highest Court**, the Costa Rican Constitutional Court announced that it has accepted a case brought by Pretoma against the Costa Rican Customs Department. (SSN)

Mar 8 **Reptile Smuggler Sentenced**, Leong Tian Kum was sentenced today in US District Court in Milwaukee, to serve 41 months in federal prison for smuggling more than 150 protected reptiles valued at more than \$200 000 from Thailand to buyers in the United States and for laundering the money he received for the animals. (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

Mar8 **Green Mountain Energy**, Green Mountain Energy only sells electricity from cleaner sources. The wind and solar facilities are branded Green Mountain but owned and operated by third parties. Since the first Green Mountain facility opened on Earth day 1999, the company says that customers have saved 16, 910 tons of carbon dioxide, the equivalent of taking 3000 cars off the road for one year according to the article. (Gallon Newsletter)

Mar 8 **Less Car Ownership Reduces Congestion**, Germany is trying to develop alternatives so that instead of using space for parking, space is made available for children, cyclists, greening projects, and pedestrians. Richter's, Senior Project Manager,

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German Ministry of Transportation, innovations include making cars available on a pay as you go basis at reasonable rates. (Gallon Newsletter)

Mar 8 **Low Carbon Buildings**, Brenda Boardman, the leader of Lower Carbon Futures team at the University of Oxford Environmental Change Institute commissioned a couple of reports which were scathing about the barriers to energy conservation in domestic and commercial building. The report indicated that massive changes would be needed in the market and regulatory systems to ensue that the environmental costs of carbon emissions over the lifespan of the buildings are made visible. (Gallon Newsletter)

Mar 8 **Leading Canadian Green Buildings**, the Canadian Green Building Council was formed last year by representatives of the design and building industry to accelerate the design and construction of Green Buildings in Canada. (Gallon Newsletter)

Mar 8 **Washington Recommends Endangered Status for Puget Sound Orcas**, the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife proposed Monday that Puget Sound's orcas be added to the state list of endangered species. (SSN)

Mar 8 **Booming Ecotourism is Stressing Animals to Death**, according to New Scientist reports, wild animals are manifesting signs of extreme stress when they come into contact with humans. (SSN)

Mar 8 **Canadian Officials Trying to Lighten Stress Load on Orcas**, Canadian officials are trying to agree on ways whale-watching boats can lighten the stress load on orcas swimming in Puget Sound and nearby waters according to the report. (Associated Press)

Mar 8 **A Simple Reason to Stop Whaling**, 142 organizations united to highlight horrific impact of harpooning. Animal welfare groups from around the world presented a report on whaling yesterday. (The Independent)

Mar 8 **UK-Owned Store Sells Whale Meat in Japan**, according to Environmental Investigation Agency and Greenpeace, a UK retailer, Tesco PLC has been closely linked to the sale of products from Japan's controversial hunting of whales, dolphins and porpoises. (One World)

Mar 8 **Whale Watching a Fast Growing Sector**, according to the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, whale watching is one of the fastest growing sectors of South Africa's tourism industry. (Business Day)

Mar 8 **West African Art Dealer Indicted on Ivory Smuggling Charges**, Gregory A. White, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, announced today that a federal grand jury has returned an indictment charging Tania J. Siyam with two counts of violations of the Lacey Act and two counts of Aiding and Abetting the Smuggling of Goods into the United States. (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

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Mar 8 **Animal Trade Thrives Amid Crackdown**, the trade of protected species continues to flourish across the archipelago, pushing rare animals into extinction and threatening the country's biodiversity, the third richest in the world. (Jakarta Post)

Mar 9 **Why is South Africa Importing Lions?** The NSPCA stresses that although hundreds of thousands of animals pass through Johannesburg International Airport annually, there is no dedicated area for animals according to the report. (NSPCA Press Release)

Mar 9 **Duke study gives first worldwide measure of sea turtle casualties by longline fishing**, more than 250000 loggerhead and 60000 leatherback turtles are estimated to be inadvertently snared each year by commercial logline fishing, with up to tens of thousands dying, according to the first global assessment of the problem. The researchers who conducted the assessment say that although their numbers are estimates, they are firm enough to warrant the development of rules for fishing equipment and practices to reduce or avoid such losses. (Duke News)

Mar 9 **Koko Gets Help From Robin Williams in Urging Public to Save Gorillas From Extinction**, a gorilla famous for her communication skills and love of kittens, and acclaimed actor and comedian Robin Williams share the spotlight in a new ad campaign. The program is designed to help the Gorilla Foundation raise awareness of the serious threats to the survival of gorillas, an endangered species. (Newswire)

Mar 9 **Collector Smuggled Primate Skulls Into UK**, a museum owner was facing possible jail sentence last night after admitting to dealing in endangered species according to the article. (The Australian)

Mar 9 **DA blames rangers for poaching**, unwillingness on the part of Kruger National Park rangers to work on Sundays might be responsible for the "dramatic increase" in poaching over the past year in South Africa's flagship game reserve. (News 24)

Mar 9 **Scientists Call On Bush Administration To Reverse Policy Expanding Imports Of Endangered Species**, Hundreds of scientists from around the world today called on the Bush administration to reverse a proposal to expand the importation of endangered animals and their body parts. (Environmental Media Services)

Mar 9 **Researcher Reveals Fate of Five Released Pilot Whales**, more than half a year after five stranded pilot whales were released into the Atlantic Ocean, two of the mammals are doing well, one is deceased and two are in uncertain condition. (Associated Press)

Mar 9 **White House Race Pits Oil Drilling Against Conservation**, US voters hit with soaring gasoline prices can choose between two presidential candidates with contrary ways to escape the energy morass. (ENN)

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Mar 9 **HSC Applauds Ban on Hunting Wolves**, the Humane Society of Canada congratulates the Government of Ontario for permanently banning the hunting of wolves in Algonquin Provincial Park. (HSC)

Mar 10 **Shipping Noise & Marine Mammals**. The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced an upcoming symposium entitled "Shipping Noise & Marine Mammals: A Forum for Science, Management and Technology to be held 18-19 May 2004 in Arlington, Virginia. (NOAA Press Release)

Mar 10 **Sharks Studied to Death**, Bateman's Bay dive shop owner Wayne Smith claims the State Government risked driving the grey nurse shark to extinction with its inaction. (Bay Post-Moruya)

Mar 10 **NSPCA Outraged by Lions' Journey**, the traumatic and disorganized journey of six lions to South Africa from Spain would be reported to the South African Veterinary Council according to NSPCA. (Sunday Times)

Mar 10 **How Do You Like Your Iguana?**. Iguana has been consumed throughout Central America and now showing up on a small but growing numbers of North American dinner tables. For El Salvador raising iguanas on farms for export provides much-needed jobs, and it also allows food to be grown while keeping the tropical rain forest intact. (Christian Science Monitor)

Mar 10 **Power Giants Agree to Report Climate Emissions to Shareholders**, Electric power giants American Electric Power and CInergy have agreed to report publicly about on how they are responding to growing pressure to reduce greenhouse gas and other emissions. (ENN)

Mar 10 **Animals Die in Fire**. A number of animals were killed in a fire that destroyed a barn near Truro according to the article. (CBC)

Mar 10 **Adam Pack Defends Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory**, on Feb. 24 Hsiao, a male dolphin passed away. His death was unexpected and the staff, students and friends of the Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory are deeply grieved and mourning the loss of their collaborator and companion according to the. (SSN)

Mar 10 **Fraser Valley Farm Quarantined**, a second farm in the Abbotsford area has been placed under quarantine because of growing concerns that avian influenza could have spread from another nearby farm that was quarantined last month. (CBC)

Mar 10 **Japan Bans Canadian Chicken**, Japan has banned all poultry imports from Canada today after receiving reports of a second, more virulent strain of the avian flu virus was found in British Columbia according to the Japanese Agriculture Ministry. (Toronto Star)

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Mar 10 **BC Bird Flu**, according to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, new tests have revealed that a rural BC chicken farm was a virus soup infected with mutating stains of avian flu. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 10 **US Working With World to Preserve Environment**, The United States is working with its international partners to improve and preserve the environment through initiatives relating to land preservation, illegal logging, renewable energy development and climate change according to the Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs John F. Turner. (State Department Press Release)

Mar 10 **Scientists Blast Bush About Endangered Species**, more than 350 scientists from the international conservation community are urging the Bush Administration to withdraw a proposal to allow US Hunters and businesses to capture, kill and import certain types of endangered species from foreign countries. (ENS)

Mar 11 **Human Parts in Farm Pork?** According to Dr. Perry Kendall during an interview with The Canadian Press, human remains may have been in meat processed for consumption at the infamous pig farm co-owned by an accused mass killer, BC's provincial health officer. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 11 **"Maya V" Observer "Loved Shooting Sea Birds"**, serious accusations were aired in the Montevideo press against the Uruguayan Fisheries Department observer of the long liner "Maya V", apprehended by the Australian Navy for allegedly illegally fishing. (MercoPress)

Mar 11 **Tiger Saved from Poachers' Snare**, one of the world's most endangered big cats, a Siberian tiger, has been saved from a poachers' trap and turned loose. (BBC)

Mar 11 **Fund Crunch in Nepal Hits Endangered Crocodiles**, the survival of one of the most endangered crocodile species in south Asia is threatened by a fund crunch in insurgency torn Nepal, impacting a landmark crocodile-breeding centre in the Himalayan kingdom. (OneWorld)

Mar 11 **Killer Turtle the New Australian Nasty**, the turtle world's equivalent of the cane toad, the feared red-eared slider, has been discovered splashing around happily in farm dams north of Brisbane. (The Courier-Mail)

Mar 11 **TO Trash - Extra Charges**. Toronto small businesses have responded well to the program, cutting their trash from 70,000 tons to less than 10,000 tons. Sales of the yellow bags at \$3.10 each were \$3 million lower than projections last year, while composting and recycling skyrocketed. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 11 **Chinese Police Seize 595 kilograms of Illegal Ivory**, Police in the main southern Chinese city of Guangzhou have seized 595 kilograms of illegal ivory worth three million dollars according to the media. (AFP)

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Mar 11 UK at Heart of Illegal Ivory Trade, The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species CITES is due to agree to the one-off sale of a total of 60 tones of ivory from Botswana, Namibia and South Africa to Japan, but activists fear the sale will trigger an explosion of poaching. (Reuters)

Mar 11 SA Under Pressure to Abort Ivory Sale, South Africa has come under pressure to abort its plan to sell ivory stockpiles after seven African states this week called for the proposed sales to be halted. (Mail & Guardian)

Mar 11 Attenborough Invited on Norwegian Whaling Trip, this week when 140 animal welfare organizations from more than 50 land countries commenced a worldwide against whaling, the British wildlife film narrator Sir David Attenborough was their front man. (NRK)

Mar 12 Proposed Captures in Guyana, while Guyana has a reputation as being a trader of wildlife, it is believed that this is the first time dolphins have been targeted. (SSN)

Mar 12 Bulgaria Wants to Import Dolphins From Cuba, an Executive Director of Varna's Dolphinarium in Bulgaria wants to import 10 dolphins from Cuba (8 females and 2 males) for February 2005. (SSN)

Mar 12 At Least 14 Dolphins Found Dead in Panhandle Bay, along the shore of St. Josephs Bay in Florida Panhandle according to federal officials who were unsure of the cause. (SSN)

Mar 12 Russian Beluga Whales go to Shanghai, the beluga whale Show Stadium at the Changfeng Park has added two new performers. 5 year-old beluga whales from Russia, arrived in the city on Wednesday and will join the troupe's two other whales that arrived in December last year. (SSN)

Mar 12 Drive to Protect Sarangani Rare Bats is on, fearing the extinction of a rare species of bat, environment and local officials of Maitum, Sarangani have joined hands to defend it against poachers for the sake of scientific research and posterity. (Minda News)

Mar 12 SA, Botswana And Namibia Bid to Sell Ivory Delayed, Namibia and South Africa will have to wait a little longer before they can sell their stockpiled ivory totalling 60 tones to Japan because preconditions to sell the ivory have not been met according to the Director of the East and southern African Office of the Trace Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce (TRAFFIC). (The Herald)

Mar 12 Shark Fin Profits Outweighing Fears of Prosecution says Palau President, in Palau and across the globe, fishermen have increasingly targeted sharks for markets in Southeast Asia such a Hong Kong and Taiwan where the expensive dish of shark fin soup is widely popular. (AFP)

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Mar 12 **US Bans Commercial Swordfish Fishing in Pacific to Save Turtles**, the federal government on Thursday banned commercial fishing for swordfish in a large swath of the Pacific Ocean in a move to protect endangered sea turtles that were being killed or injured by the hooks. (AFP)

Mar 12 **Mangalore Bans Shark Fishing**, Mangalore Fishermen in the State have expressed dismay over the State Government's decision to ban shark fishing as over 2000 fishermen in the three coastal districts will lose their livelihood. (The Hindu)

Mar 12 **Activists: End Turtle Trade**, eighteen protesters, members of the wildlife protection organization, ProFauna, staged a unique protest in front of the Serangan Oemoem 11 Maret monument in downtown Yogyakarta recently. (Jakarta Post)

Mar 13 **Spring man faces indictment over orchid**, a federal Grand Jury in Miami this week indicted Norris and Manuel Arias Silva, a prominent orchid grower in Peru, on charges that they smuggled endangered orchid grower in Peru, on charges that they smuggled endangered orchids, including tropical lady slippers, into the United States. (Houston Chronicle)

Mar 15 **Trio Takes a Dive With Beluga Whales in Shanghai**, a Chinese-Australian woman, Liz Moh, and her Australian friends Kylie Smits and Michael Smits became the first people in Shanghai to swim with beluga whales in Shanghai. (SSN)

Mar 15 **Border Agents Seize 'Gators**, a man has been arrested after customs agents seized four rare baby American alligators being allegedly smuggled into Canada stuffed inside a driver's jacket. The accused will appear in Windsor court today to face a number of smuggling-related offences. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 15 **Rosek Dedicated to Wildlife**, the name of environmental crusader Rosek Nursahid is heard almost every time people discuss wildlife protection in Indonesia. (Jakarta Post)

Mar 15 **Wildlife Groups Head to Court to Curb Kangaroo Cull**, wildlife protection groups are preparing a legal appeal against the Federal Government's kangaroo management plans in Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia. (ABC News)

Mar 16 **The Bush Administration Packs the Courts With Anti-Environmental Judges**, while the environment does not always prevail in court, litigation has become an essential protection tool. (ENN)

Mar 16 **Canada Passes Bill to Ban Human Cloning**, controversial Canadian legislation designed to ban human cloning while permitting research on stem cells from embryos received final parliamentary approval on Thursday. (ENN)

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Mar 16 **Recalcitrant Poachers at Risk**, fifteen thousand kilograms of the 150,000 of bush meat poached and consumed in Cameroon annually were seized in 2003 by the anti-poaching committee. (Cameroon Tribune)

Mar 16 **Sumatran Tiger on Brink of Extinction**, the critically endangered Sumatran tiger could be the first large predator to go extinct in the 21st century if poaching and widespread illegal trades are not stopped, according to Traffic and World Wildlife Fund. (WWF News Release)

Mar 16 **Indonesia Mulls Death Penalty for Illegal Loggers**, illegal loggers and corrupt officials who help them plunder vast tracts of virgin tropical forests may face the death penalty under a presidential decree to be issued next month. (ENN)

Mar 16 **EU Needs to do More to Protect Arctic**, the European Union has to take immediate action to protect its Arctic region from environmental disaster according the United Nations and the European Environmental Agency. (ENN)

Mar 16 **Australia Will Seize Vessels Found Illegally Fishing, Days After Government After Court Ruling**, foreign ships that fish illegally in Australia's Antarctic zone can now be seized after a court upheld a landmark ruling aimed at stopping poachers in the country's territorial waters, the federal government said yesterday. (ENN)

Mar 16 **Alleged Ecoterrorist is Arrested in Canada for 2001 Arson of Logging Trucks**, A fugitive radical environmentalist has been arrested on charges of setting fire to logging and cement trucks in 2001, the FBI announced Monday. (ENN)

Mar 16 **Turtles Fight a Losing Battle**, as most people who've seen them will attest, Gabon's leatherback turtles are a majestic sight. (IPS)

Mar 16 **State's Turtles in Trouble**, freshwater turtle populations throughout the Lowcountry and the rest of South Carolina could be threatened by a thriving collection business that sends them overseas, conservationists say. (Island Packet)

Mar 16 **SPCA Pounces on Man Accused of Cat Abuse**, SPCA inspectors are convinced they've collared the culprit who has been mutilating cats, in particular a kitten the shelter has christened Lucky. (Montreal Gazette)

Mar 16 **EU Mulling Measures to Protect Dolphins**, European Union nations are close to agreeing on measures designed save the lives of thousands of dolphins and porpoises caught accidentally in fishing nets according to officials. (Associated Press)

Mar 16 **Court Says BP Needed Impact Statement Before Expanding Dock**, A very big ruling yesterday case in the 9th Circuit Court may very well make life a lot easier for orcas and other marine life here in the Pacific Northwest, by reducing oil tanker traffic at Cherry Point. (Seattle Post-Intelligencer)

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Mar 17 **Singapore is tightening air pollutant regulations**, tightening environmental regulations in 2006 to meet a European air pollution standard that would sharply reduce dangerous fuel emissions, according to a government official. (ENN)

Mar 17 **US Gasoline Supplies** could be in short supply this summer, and pump prices may skyrocket even more because of a new law that would ban oil tankers from entering US ports if the ships fail to meet security standards. (ENN)

Mar 17 **Tanzanian Fishermen Catch Rare Fish Species Once Believed to be Extinct**, Tanzanian fishermen have caught a coelacanth, a rare species of fish that was once believed to be extinct, only existing in fossil records dating back 50 million years. (AFP)

Mar 17 **Eat Less Meat Campaign**, Compassion in World Farming Trust announced this week amazing results from a national opinion poll, showing that people who eat meat every day are more like to consider themselves overweight than those who eat meat once a week or less. (Compassion in World Farming Press Release)

Mar 17 **Asian Biodiversity**, over 80 participants representing 19 members of the Asia-Pacific Economic cooperation (APEC) concluded on Tuesday a two-day workshop on Trade and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, producing recommendations to be presented at the grouping's next meeting to be turned into concrete programs. (SSN)

Mar 17 **Turtles Seized in Vietnam**, police in Vietnam have confiscated more than one tonne of smuggled live turtles, anteaters and iguanas destined for China, where they are eaten as delicacies and used in traditional medicines. (SSN)

Mar 17 **Sea Turtles in the Mariana Islands**. Wildlife officials say the sea turtle population in Japan has dwindled to fewer than 200 as the endangered animals continue to be hunted and eaten by the residents. (SSN)

Mar 17 **Sea Turtles in Asia**, Asian Governments are making greater efforts to protect marine turtles and their habitats the United Nations said Wednesday at the start of a four-day meeting to review the status of the threatened species. (SSN)

Mar 17 **Part-Time Vegetarians**. In recent years the market for vegetarian friendly foods has exploded, with items such as soymilk and veggie burgers showing up in mainstream groceries and fast food restaurants. But even the diet's activists say that growth can't be attributed just to committed vegetarians, who are estimated at about three per cent of the adult US population. (Canoe)

Mar 17 **Number of Part-Time Vegetarians Growing**, whose loose adherence to the meat-free diet is transforming a decades-old movement and the industry that feeds it. These so called "flexitarians" a term voted most useful word of 2003 by the American Dialect Society are motivated less by animal rights than by a growing body of medical data that suggests health benefits from eating more vegetarian foods. (Canoe)

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Mar 18 **An International Team of Researchers**, says factory fishing is upsetting the natural balance of bird populations. While processing catches at sea, the factory ships dump tons of unwanted bycatch such as sandeels over the side. Opportunistic seabirds known as great skuas now make most of their living on these discards. (ENN)

Mar 18 **Oyster Farmers and Dairy Ranchers Clash Over Pollution in California Bay**, Tomales Bay pacific oysters are at the centre of a long-running dispute between dairy ranchers and shellfish growers in this coastal community. (ENN)

Mar 18 **America's Dependence**, on oil imports will contribute to grow even if the government were to allow oil drilling in an Alaska wildlife refuge, according to an energy department analysis. (ENN)

Mar 19 **Which Environmentalists Do The Auto Companies Fear Most?** Is it environmental protection agency (EPA) clean air regulators or Congressional fuel economy watchdogs? (ENN)

Mar 19 **Donkey Wars and the Green Revolution**, since the agricultural boom which began in the 1950s, world food production has tripled. All hail the tractor. (ENN)

Mar 19 **Brit Wildlife Nears Extinction**, a steep decline in birds, butterflies and plants in Britain supports the theory that humans are pushing the natural world into the earth's sixth big extinction event. In an effort that sent more than 20,000 volunteers into every corner of England, Scotland and Wales to survey wildlife and plants, researchers found that many native populations are in trouble or gone altogether. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 19 **Pet Dog Faithful To End**, the small dog that Leslie Mitchell walked daily across a busy railway crossing returned his devotion by guarding the World War II veteran's body after he was killed by a high-speed train. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 19 **Marmot Recovery Plan Under Fire**, The BC government authorized the killing of six golden eagles because they were a threat to the marmots, whose numbers have dwindled to less than two dozen in the wild. The killings were authorized by the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection but were never made public, a move that has riled BC's scientific and conservation community. (Globe & Mail)

Mar 19 **Martin Budget to Boost Greenhouse Technology**, the federal budget next Tuesday will put approximately \$250-million toward an environmental fund for inventions that prevent climate change but also have the potential to be commercially viable. (Globe & Mail)

Mar 19 **More Than 60 Bottlenose Dolphins**, have died in the waters of the Florida Panhandle in the past nine days under mysterious circumstances, according to US marine researchers. (Reuters)

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Mar 20 **Thousands of Cormorants** are to pay the price for recent Ontario government decisions on hunting bears and wolves, environmentalists charge. The province is currently soliciting public comment on its plan to shoot some 6,000 of the birds to protect vegetation on two islands at Presqui'ile Provincial Park. (Toronto Star)

Mar 20 **Rampaging Gorilla Shot To Death**, Dallas Zoo officials said they can't explain how a 300-pound gorilla escaped from its enclosure, injuring four people before it was shot to death. (Canoe)

Mar 20 **Dog Breeder Fined**, a Southern Ontario breeder whose puppy mill left dogs emaciated, dehydrated and in dirty conditions has been handed the Province's largest fine ever for an animal-cruelty offence. The Humane Society of Canada along with other animal groups applauded the \$12,000 fine as a welcome hard-line approach to people who mistreat animals. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 20 **New Guidelines for Eating Fish**, worried that mercury in fish poses a hazard to youngsters - while still trying to stress the health benefits of seafood - the US government issued new guidelines for eating fish. (Canoe)

Mar 22 **United Nations Environment Program**, recently released the online version of a manual on how to set up cleaner production centres. (Gallon Report)

Mar 22 **Companies Facing Risk**, from policies to reduce greenhouse gas emission are also facing shareholder resolutions for disclosure of market-based risks and plans to reduce such emissions. (Gallon Report)

Mar 22 **The State of Wyoming**, is going to court to try to get permission to allow ranchers to shoot wolves on sight. (Gallon Report)

Mar 22 **India's Proposed River-Link Mega-project Will be Devastating to Bangladesh**, at the United Nations Commission on Sustainable development in Paris, Bangladesh asked for support to ensure that the World Bank not release funds without the consent of countries affected by this water project and has asked India to do an assessment of the impacts on the environment and biodiversity before implementing the project. (Gallon Report)

Mar 22 **The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency**, outlines some of its initiatives most of which result from Bill C-9, an Act to Amend the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. (Gallon Report)

Mar 22 **Animal Antibiotic Withdrawn by US FDA**, the Food and Drug Administration's Centre for Veterinary Medicine proposed to withdraw the approval for enrofloxacin, also known as Baytril™. The CVM now says that use of this drug in poultry poses a human health hazard. The drug stays on the market until final decisions are made. (Gallon Report)

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Mar 22 **Federal Investigations Continues Into Seal Mutilations**, US Federal agents investigating the incidents acknowledge the media attention these attacks are getting may be out of proportion to the small number of animals affected. (Associated Press)

Mar 22 **Unacceptable Killing of Dolphins Has to Stop**, a Newlyn fishermen's leader is backing a petition signed by 40,000 people to put an end to dolphin slaughter by banning bass pair trawling. (The Cornishman)

Mar 22 **Controversy Rages On About Wild Or Farmed Salmon**, the study, which appeared in the US research journal *Science*, found that farm-raised salmon contains significantly more contaminants than salmon caught in the wild because of PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), in the feed. It recommended farmers change their fish feed and urged consumers to buy wild salmon. (Canoe)

Mar 22 **Fight to Save Whale Stranded on Man-Made Island**, A battle is underway to rescue a huge whale that is beached on a man-made island off the Lincolnshire coast. A 36-foot-long sperm whale is stranded on Trial Bank at Sutton Bridge in the Wash. (The Scotsman)

Mar 22 **Fresh Studies Support New Mass Extinction Theory**, fears that earth is undergoing a mass species wipe-out similar to that which destroyed the dinosaurs 65 million years ago gained new ground with the publications of two British studies. They found that the rate of loss of insect and plant species across Britain was running at several times what would be considered normal, and had been doing so for a long time. (Reuters)

Mar 22 **Russian Customs Seized A Truck**, heading for China after agents uncovered a load of animal parts, including nearly 800 severed bear paws prized for exotic dishes. (Reuters)

Mar 22 **HIV-Related Illness Is Spreading from Simians in Africa**, by hunting and handling of primate meat. Thousands of rural Africans may be infected with a virus in the same category as HIV, according to a new study by researchers at Johns Hopkins University and the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (Baltimore Sun)

Mar 22 **Butchered for a Shawl**, the bloody and deadly trade has brought a much prized Tibetan antelope, the Chiru, to the brink of extinction. (The Observer)

Mar 22 **Major Breakthrough In China's Fight Against Illegal Ivory Trade**, nearly 300 Kg of ivory has been seized in Guangzhou, China, during joint enforcement operations carried out by China's Endangered Species Import and Export Management Office and the State Forestry Administration. The operation was prompted by based on information provided by the environmental investigation agency. (EIA News Release)

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Mar 22 **CITES Gets Tough With Ivory Traders**, South Africa, Namibia and Botswana have still not been given the green light to sell a total of 60 tons of stockpiled elephant ivory. The 3 countries had hoped they would be given permission to sell ivory legally by the 50th Standing Committee for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) that concluded a weeklong session in Geneva. But the sale was halted until a list of conditions is met, meanwhile CITES took steps to end the domestic ivory markets within all African countries. (ENS)

Mar 22 **Babies Are Larger after Ban on Two Pesticides**, according to a study, pregnant women in upper Manhattan who were heavily exposed to two common insecticides had smaller babies than their neighbours, but recent restrictions on the two substances quickly lowered exposure and increased babies in size. (New York Times)

Mar 23 **What Is The Environmental Impact Of The United States Consumer Habits?** Your next-door neighbour just bought a hummer. That long-touched parcel of land around the corner just became home to a new strip mall. And on your short bicycle trip to the office you count dozens of discarded soda cans and bottled water containers with pretty nature scenes on them. (ENN)

Mar 23 **Ireland Plans Weight-Based Garbage Tax to Promote Recycling**, Ireland, which has been a trailblazer in environmental initiatives, announced plans to charge its citizens according to the weight of the garbage they produce, a measure designed to promote recycling. (ENN)

Mar 23 **Africa Braces for the Fallout of Global Warming**, a number of African scientists are urging governments on the continent to take measures to prepare for the impacts of global warming. Climate change is now with us and poised to change our pattern of life, according to Dr. Cecil Machena; yet few people know what climate change is all about. The vast majority of the greenhouse gases have been released by the US and Europe, however, climate disruptions will take their heaviest toll on poor nations. (ENN)

Mar 23 **New Footage of Australian Animals Exported to and Slaughtered in Kuwait**, Australia's exports of live animals came under increased criticism after a leading television current affairs program, "*Sixty Minutes*" showed a three-program series on the suffering inflicted on animals by Australian live exports. (CIWF)

Mar 23 **Caviar from Endangered Beluga, retails** for about \$3.50 per gram in the west. The wildlife-protection arm of the United Nations last week gave four post-Soviet Caspian countries three months to provide convincing evidence they are taking measures to protect the world's last great population of sturgeon or face an international ban on caviar exports. (Moscow Times)

Mar 24 **Exxon Penalties Could Rise As Valdez Oil Lingers**, 15 years after the Exxon Valdez super-tanker split open on a submerged reef off Alaska, stubborn pockets of crude

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oil persist on once-pristine beaches, and creatures ranging from sea otters to harlequin ducks and herring are still struggling. (ENN)

Mar 24 **US Pushes to Boost Use of Ozone-Damaging Fumigant**, US fruit growers have come to Montreal this week to push for an increase in their use of a pesticide known to destroy the ozone layer, claiming that exemptions for developing nations on the chemical are unfair. (ENN)

Mar 24 **A 26 Year Old Singaporean Man Was Caught**, trying to smuggle a civet cat from Taiwan. He hid the animal in a paper box but was nabbed when immigration and checkpoints officials stopped him and screened his bags. The civet cat, an animal believed to have contributed to the outbreak of SARS in China, has been put down to prevent any possible spread of disease. (Straits Times)

Mar 24 **Ivory Sales Delayed**, South Africa, Botswana and Namibia have all met the conditions required for international trade in ivory, the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism announced. It said the process had been delayed due to lack of data from certain south-east Asian countries. (News 24)

Mar 24 **The Federal Government Is Betting An Extra \$1 Billion**, that coming up with new green technologies will pay off environmentally for the country and financially for Canadian companies. (Toronto Star)

Mar 24 **Illegal Meat**, thousands of kilograms of illegal meat, including caribou and moose, have been seized from a wholesaler who supplied meat to restaurants and butchers across Quebec, the bust capped a 2 year investigation and was one of the largest seizures of illegal meat in the province. (Canadian Press)

Mar 24 **Fraser Valley Farms**, more chickens will be slaughtered after the confirmation Tuesday of avian flu on another farm in BC. It brings the total of confirmed sites to four, said the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in a statement. Chickens will also be destroyed on a fifth farm where several birds have died. It's not known yet whether avian flu is present on that property, although test results are expected later in the week. (Windsor Star)

Mar 24 **Sumatran Tiger on the Brink**, Chinese demand for ground tiger bone is driving the tiger to the edge of extinction. Experts give the big cats 10 years unless immediate changes take place to stem the trade in tiger parts. (Taipei Times)

Mar 24 **Probation For Killing 300 Pigs**, a 43 year old Leamington pig farmer has been sentenced to 2 years probation for allowing 300 pigs to die. Raymond Garant pleaded guilty to cruelty to animals after the pigs were found dead of starvation in his barn on Highway 3 a year ago. The pigs were being raised for slaughter. (CKLW Radio)

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Mar 24 **Dolphins Died From Toxin**, preliminary tests results indicate the deaths of more than 65 dolphins in the Panhandle may have been caused by a biotoxin released by naturally occurring algae. (The Ledger)

Mar 24 **Bird Slaughter ‘Devastating’**, the slaughter of about 19 million chickens, turkeys and ducks in British Columbia in the latest effort to try to stop the spread of avian influenza will be devastating for the industry, the head of the BC Chicken Growers Association predicted. (CBC)

Mar 25 **Warming Trend Means New Disease**: Canada’s changing climate will expose southern Ontario residents to an array of exotic and emerging illnesses that until now have been considered rare, delegates to a conference on climate change were told yesterday. (Toronto Star)

Mar 25 **Meat Inspection**, Ontario’s meat inspectors are undermanned and inadequately trained, risking the safety of our food, a review of the province’s meat inspection system was told yesterday. Leah Casselman, President of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, said some inspectors right now wouldn’t even be able to recognize early signs of avian flu, the so-called bird flu that has spread in BC. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 25 **HSI Requests Information on Proposed Safari Hunts in Australia**, the move towards crocodile safari hunting in Australia continues to gather momentum. Animal welfare could be the obstacle to the territory’s plan to introduce safari-style crocodile hunting. (SSN)

Mar 25 **Colombia Drops Plans to Spray Drug Crops in Parks**, until other alternatives are examined. Colombia's spectacular National Parks harbour some of the most diverse populations of plant, bird, and animal species in the world. But the presence of guerrillas, who kidnap hundreds of people a year for ransom, often makes them dangerous to visit. (ENN)

Mar 26 **Elephant**, a special squad under the National Parks Department will round up elephants and handlers in Bangkok next month. The National Elephant Policy Committee approved a new campaign last month to keep roaming elephants away from Bangkok. (SSN)

Mar 26 **Endangered Species**, a British study released on March 18 showed that butterfly species in recent decades have declined 71 per cent, bird species declined 53 per cent, and plant species showed a decrease of 28 per cent. Scientists say the study is further proof that we are in the midst of an extinction crisis. (Globe & Mail)

Mar 26 **Kenya Plans Massive Relocation of 400 Elephants**, away from a reserve where elephants are breaking down fences and trampling crops in its biggest animal relocation exercise. The government plans to start the 2 month move in July, when enough funds have been raised to transport the elephants. (SSN)

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Mar 26 **Beekeepers to Use Microchips**, a rise in the price of honey and shortage of bees has fuelled the outbreak of poaching in the Central Valley. Bakersfield beekeeper came up with the idea of combining the hives and chips after watching a TV show in which scientists tagged fish and other animals as a means of identification. (Globe & Mail)

Mar 27 **Fine for Bear Gall Bladders**, Toronto business owner was convicted and fined in the Ontario Court of Justice after pleading guilty to one charge of unlawfully possessing black bear gall bladders at his place of business in Toronto. He was ordered to pay fines of \$40,000. (ENN)

Mar 27 **The Graveyard of the Turtles**, the Orissa coast is littered with the carcasses of more than 6,000 turtles that have fallen victim to illegal mechanized fishing. Patrolling at the Devi river mouth has stopped owing to the lack of funds. (The Hindu)

Mar 27 **Pesticides & Bees**, Europe's chemical trade faces the prospect of many of its pesticides being banned in a row over the death of French bees. An investigation is being launched by a French court into the cause of death of many bees. (The Observer)

Mar 29 **Green Grass Goal of Most Households**, a Toronto Public Health survey in 2000 and 2001 found 66% of respondents whose houses had lawns believed pesticides should be used as a last resort and non-chemical alternatives were just as effective. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 29 **Chemical war**, a spokesman for the Toronto Environmental Coalition, an organization of lawn-care companies, wants to know why pesticides are Ok for use on city-owned properties but not for use by homeowners. (Toronto Sun)

Mar 29 **UK Zoos**, are trading in some of the world's most endangered species with a controversial wildlife dealer who has been condemned by European animal welfare groups. EU rules require that zoos exchange their surplus bred animals only with other recognized zoos, without money changing hands. But documents seen by the Observer prove that some zoos have traded with Bienvenue – a wildlife dealer. (The Observer)

Mar 29 **Animals Rescued From Private Home**, under Law No. 5,1990, in Jakarta trapping, keeping or trading protecting animals carries a maximum penalty of 6 years in prison or a fine of US \$11,764. But many city residents keep wild animals in their homes, a practice that has not stopped despite increased raids by the police. (The Jakarta Post)

Mar 30 **Nepal Seizure**, security forces have recovered a huge cache of skin and bones of endangered animals from Daklang on the way to Tibet's Khassa Bazaar along the Arniko Highway. Security sources said 172 rhino skins, 7 tiger skins, and 6 skins of unidentified cat-like animal were recovered from a container. (Wildlife Trust of India News Release)

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Mar 30 **Pinprick Attacks on Global Warming Gain Popularity**, in pinprick attacks on global warming, some companies and individuals are finding that some consumers are willing to pay to try to curb global warming. (ENN)

Mar 30 **As Natural Gas Prices Rise, Utilities Plan New Coal-Fired Plants**, coal, spurned for decades by power plant builders, is enjoying something of a renaissance as natural gas prices drive up the cost of generating electricity. (ENN)

Mar 30 **Dust Storm Blankets Chinese Capital**, as of the worst dust storms to hit northern China in years swirled in Beijing, turning the skyline of the sprawling capital into a monochrome of grey and prompting afternoon commuters to put on surgical masks. (ENN)

Mar 30 **Rainforests**, determining how much rainforest is protected worldwide depends on how you define 'rainforest'. Many of these rainforests are protected on paper, but in reality are not safe from oil drilling, wood harvesting, cattle grazing, and myriad other destructive uses. (ENN)

Mar 30 **UN Dead Zone**, the United Nations opened a global environment summit Monday, warning about the growing number of "dead zones" in the world's oceans but painting a picture of a greener planet with an increase of vegetation in many regions. (ENN)

Mar 30 **Congress Moves to Help Endangered Turtles**, a Bill known as the Marine Turtle Conservation Act, has 15 co-sponsors and won Senate approval in October. The legislation would authorize \$5 million annually through 2009 to help sea turtles. (Washington Times)

Mar 31 **Dolphin Poaching out of Control in Riau**, as the fish yields in the area have been rapidly decreasing, the fishermen have turned to dolphins as an alternative, and dolphin meat is sold openly at markets in Bagansi-Api. Besides local demand, dolphins are also traded in the middle of the sea between fishermen from Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. (Jakarta Post)

Mar 31 **Japanese Take 440**, Japan's research whaling fleet has returned to port after killing a self-imposed quota of 440 minke whales in Antarctic waters. This mission was designed to gather data such as eating habits of whale populations. (Sydney Morning Herald)

Mar 31 **Japanese Corruption Prevention**, the Foreign Ministry has compiled draft guidelines to boost transparency of the country's development aid and to prevent corruption. Guidelines include basic ideas and standards for selecting contractors and conducting assessment of projects during and after their implementation. (Kyoto News Service)

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Mar 31 **Shorter Lists May Improve Conservation**, representatives from the 10 regions of the world are in Johannesburg this week to review the criteria for including animals on the CITES endangered species Appendices. (Sunday Times)

Mar 31 **UN Tackles Link Between War and Environment at Global Forum**, and examining ways environmental problems trigger war with the hope of developing an early warning system to avoid conflict. (ENN)

Mar 31 **Arid Saudi Arabia is Struggling to Cut Water Use**, the parched desert kingdom of Saudi Arabia will launch a major water conservation drive this summer aiming to halve consumption in a million homes. (ENN)

Mar 31 **Garbage is Threatening Beauty of Paradise Islands**, which rely on tourism. It is estimated that on some islands in the Caribbean Sea, 80% of the waste water is discharged untreated into the coastal zones. (ENN)

Mar 31 **German Industry to Cut Greenhouse Gas Output in Emissions Trading Deal**, the German government agreed on an emission trading system designed to trim industry emissions of greenhouse gases, settling a clash between key ministers over environmental and economic goals. (ENN)

Mar 31 **Iraq War Diverts Key Aid from Devastated Afghanistan**, Environment Minister warns that the war in Iraq has diverted badly needed funds from restoring his devastated country, still reeling from air pollution, water shortages and deforestation. (ENN)

Mar 31 **Dolphin Death Toll Hits 105 in Panhandle**, as scientists try to pinpoint what is killing bottlenose dolphins off the Florida Panhandle. The large size of some carcasses also indicated they lived far offshore in the Gulf of Mexico. (CFN)

Mar 31 **Dolphins Threatened by Bass Fishing**, the current popularity of sea bass in supermarkets and restaurants is killing hundreds of dolphins, porpoises and whales each year. Hundreds of their carcasses washed up on the shores of SW England and NW France. (CFN)

APRIL

Apr 1 **Pesticide Ban Begins**, Toronto's anti-pesticide Bylaw kicks in today, meaning homeowners must stop using chemical bug and weed killers for outdoor cosmetic purposes. Civic inspectors will not issue any \$250 fines for illegally using pesticides until Sept. 2005. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 1 **Bird Flu Escapes**, Avian flu has spread to poultry beyond a tightly guarded hot zone in the Fraser Valley where hundreds of thousands of chickens will be culled. Test

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results showed birds were infected on a farm located somewhere in a broad area including the Lower mainland and Fraser Valley region. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 1 **Sea Turtles Get Fishing Relief and Other Stories**, US has banned longline swordfish fishing off its Pacific coast to save dwindling sea turtle populations. The new rules released by the National Marine Fisheries Service, affect a 1,200 to 1,700 mile-wide swath of waters from Washington south to California. (ENN)

Apr 1 **EU Parliament Approves Law Forcing Polluting Companies to pay for Cleanups**, which will set up a new European Union-wide legislation to force polluting companies to cover full costs of cleaning up the damage they make to the environment. (ENN)

Apr 1 **Fish Catch in Mekong rive Tributary Plummets 50%**, the fish catch in a Cambodian tributary of the Mekong River has fallen by about 50% from last year because of small floods during the rainy season and low water levels, and other parts of the river could be facing similar problems. (ENN)

Apr 1 **Green Groups Seek Protections for Alaska Loon**, a coalition of US and Russian environmental groups petitioned the federal government this week for new protections for a species of loon that breeds in an area of Alaska targeted for new oil development. (ENN)

Apr 1 **Greenpeace Says Regulations Protecting Mexico's Mangrove Swamps are in Danger**, Greenpeace volunteers in orange jumpsuits placed chain saws and sawdust at the entrance to Mexico's Environment Department on Wednesday, accusing the Agency of failing to protect mangrove swamps forests and favouring business interests. (ENN)

Apr 1 **North Korea Set to Release Environment Report with UN**, the first Report on the Environment of North Korea is due out in a few weeks and will underscore the need for urgent action on many pollution fronts. (ENN)

Apr 1 **Wild Animals in Zoos or Sanctuaries**, the harmful effects of zoo confinement on elephants due to long periods of inactivity is detrimental to the health and longevity of an elephant. The elephants in the zoos live their entire lives in a space of less than half an acre - which cause a variety of joint diseases, the sanctuaries have much larger areas. (SSN)

Apr 2 **Dolphin Deaths Still a Mystery**, experts from nearly a dozen Agencies are on the case, trying to learn if Red Tide is causing the Panhandle deaths. Experts say they have found evidence of *Karenia brevis*, a toxin produced by Red Tide algae, in the bodies. Yet no Red Tide bloom has been found in the Gulf of Mexico. (CFN)

Apr 2 **Narwhale Decline**, hunting and local climate change in the Greenland waters where narwhale usually lives may be to blame for its declining numbers. The monitoring suggests there has been a population decrease of 10% over the past 17 years. (SSN)

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Apr 2 **Two More Months For Togo**, the African grey parrot will perch in the pen for two more months as his US owner fights a charge of trying to smuggle the bird across the border. Environment Canada Acting Chief Gerry Brunet said the owner was charged on Wednesday for exporting the bird into the US without a permit. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 2 **Fish Protection May Have a Price Tag**, Judge John Paul Wiese of the US Court of Federal Claims in Washington DC ordered the federal government to pay nearly 14 million plus interest of about 10 million, to 5 San Joaquin Valley water districts. (ENN)

Apr 2 **Alaska Governor Invites Drilling in State Waters Off Arctic National Wildlife Reserve**, the Governor said he will open lease sales in state waters offshore of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) and the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. (ENN)

Apr 2 **South Africa Investigates Illegal Shark Fin Haul**, the authorities sent DNA samples from thousands of shark fins confiscated at Cape Town harbour this week for testing on Thursday as part of an illegal hauling probe. (ENN)

Apr 3 **Deal Reached on Lake Erie Walleye Fishing**, walleye catch limits this year will be cut by 30% on Lake Erie under the agreement between Canadian and American officials. This comes after noticing an alarming decline in walleye numbers from 2000 to 2002. (Toronto Star)

Apr 3 **Chemical Spill in Sarnia**, Mayor Mike Bradley was furious after the second chemical spill in 16 days and 3rd in 6 months had set alarms ringing the length of the St. Clair River. The Macomb County (Michigan) Water Quality Board voted to fine Imperial about \$8 million for the spill. (Toronto Star)

Apr 4 **At Risk Fish**, in the first study of its kind in Essex County, the Essex Region Aquatic Species at Risk Recovery Team will try to track down 37 aquatic dwellers and plot a strategy to help them survive. (Windsor Star)

Apr 4 **Running of the Sheep**, a small New Zealand town reached for some of the glamour and danger of the Spanish bull-run City of Pamplona yesterday, by running 2,000 sheep through town. No one was chased, trampled or gored by the animals. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 5 **Dead Zones in World's Seas Threaten Marine Life**, huge areas of seas will become 'dead zones' through oxygen starvation unless serious efforts are made to end pollution, the United Nations warned. These zones are mainly caused by the run-off nitrogen fertilizers from intensive farming, which cause excessive growth of algae. (Fish Update)

Apr 5 **UK Tesco Boycott Over Whale Meat**, supermarket giant Tesco faces a consumer backlash over its refusal to stop selling whale meat in its stores in Japan. (This Is London)

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Apr 5 **International NGO's Welcome Japan's Draft Guidelines To Boost Development Aid**, by boosting transparency of the country's development the government hopes to prevent fraud and corruption and to convince the international community that Japan's official development assistance is fair. (ACS and ECCEA Press Release)

Apr 5 **Seismic Research**, the ship being used is the RV Roger Revelle, owned by the US Navy. The funding is coming from the National Science Foundation, and involves two big airguns and a mid-range active sonar. The supposed purpose is to test different models of tectonic sheet movement. (NMFS Release)

Apr 5 **DFO Announces Luna Plan**, to relocate the juvenile killer whale L98, to its pod in the Juan de Fuca Strait. The timing of relocation will depend on the actual movements of the L-pod, and the ability to raise additional funds. (DFO News Release)

Apr 5 **MMC Advisory Committee**, the second meeting of the Marine Mammal Commission will focus on techniques for risk assessment of acoustic impacts of marine mammals. (SSN)

Apr 5 **More on Luna (L98) Relocation**, NOAA Fisheries and DFO subsequently each identified \$100,000 to partially fund an intervention, and will work together to further develop the plan to implement actions during the winter/spring of 2004 and to outline agency responsibilities for various phases of the relocation plans. (NOAA News Release)

Apr 5 **Gopher Derby Cancelled**, the Saskatoon Wildlife Federation has cancelled its controversial gopher-hunting derby this year, saying weather conditions have reduced the population naturally. (CBC)

Apr 6 **Have a Safe & Caring Easter Says The Humane Society of Canada**, Easter is a wonderful time, especially for children, and the HSC is asking people to encourage kindness towards animals in a number of simple ways. Don't buy animals for Easter; avoid feeding dangerous items, such as chocolate to your pet. (HSC)

Apr 6 **Birds on block**, about 19 million chickens and turkeys throughout the Fraser Valley of southern BC will be killed in a bid to wipe out contagious avian flu. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 6 **Dump Law Kills Mine**, the Provincial government is killing the Adams Mine dump proposal once and for all by introducing a new law that bans the use of lakes as landfills. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 6 **Channel Island Foxes Declared Threatened**, four subspecies of Channel Island fox have been added to the federal Endangered Species List. (ENN)

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Apr 6 **Bush Administration Eases Logging Restrictions on Logging Old-Growth Forests**, in the Pacific Northwest completing rule changes that will allow forest managers to begin logging without first looking for rare plants and animals. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Alaska Offshore Oil Plan is Opposed by Arctic Natives**, a plan by Alaska's governor to authorize oil drilling in state waters close to a wildlife refuge is angering local Inuit residents who worry it may hurt the whale population they hunt. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Snowmobiles**, a San Francisco, California-based Bluewater Network, wants to ban snowmobile use in national parks. The main issue is the vehicle's two-stroke engine, which is a major polluter. According to Bluewater, the air pollution from these dirty machines is so bad that some Yellowstone Park Rangers now wear respirators to protect themselves. Further, these engines dump 25 percent to 30 percent of their fuel unburned out the tailpipe onto vegetation and soil and into the water and air. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Lamb**, is edging its way back into the American diet at Greek, Turkish, and Middle Eastern restaurants and as the traditional main dish for those who celebrate Easter and Passover. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Record Number of Indonesian Fishing Vessels Caught Last Year**, poaching in Australian waters, but the government admitted Monday most crews were simply stripped of their catch and fishing gear and sent home. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Venezuela Says It Has Set a Record Saving River Turtles**, for releasing an endangered species back into the wild by setting free tens of thousands of protected Arrau turtles into the Orinoco River. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Tre Arrow Says He's No Terrorist**, for 19 months, Tre Arrow was one of the most wanted fugitives in America and was accused of firebombing logging and cement trucks in Oregon and having links to a group of radical environmentalists viewed as terrorists by the FBI. (ENN)

Apr 6 **Amazon Drought Can be Measured From Space**, satellites can accurately tell scientists about the effects of drought on the ground, which in turn can help them further understand and predict climate change. (ENN)

Apr 7 **USA Investigates Canadian Rodeo Bulls**, the animals, which were to be used in bull riding, were allegedly brought across the border at Sweetgrass, in southern Alberta. The US Department of Agriculture is investigating for possible violations of import/export rules. (CBC)

Apr 7 **Who Studies BC Bird Virus**, the World Health Organization is closely monitoring the avian flu outbreak in BC. The UN agency heightened the state of alert after officials confirmed mild eye infections and runny noses in two workers who handled sick chickens. (CBC)

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Apr 8 **PETA Ad Slammed**, a new anti-meat ad campaign that exploits the serial killings in British Columbia was condemned yesterday. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 8 **Before You Sink Your Teeth Into That burger...** individual Canadians eat about 100 kilograms of meat a year, twice as much as the global average. Ontario's Environment Commissioner concluded environmental laws created when small operations were the norm may not address the associated environmental risks that come with more intensive farm operations. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 8 **Bird Owners Fight Cull**, owners of specialty birds, which can value in the thousands of dollars are fighting the inclusion of these birds in the cull. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 8 **Ottawa & Farming Research**, Canada's Agriculture minister sprinkled \$255 million in research and development seed money over the country's farming sector. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 9 **Rabbits' Crate Yields Parrots**, quarantine officials discovered concealed parrots in a shipment of rabbits at the Ninoy Aquino international airport the shipment was seized. It yielded 100 parrots, 50 lorries and 50 cockatoos. Investigation into the source of birds is pending. (ABS-CBN)

Apr 9 **Turtles Under Threat: Zoologists**, South East Asia is home to the most diverse range of turtles and tortoises in the world, but half of those species are critically endangered. 15 Million turtles and tortoises disappear from around the region each year. (AFP)

Apr 9 **Zambezi Large Mammal Survey Finds Elephant Populations Increasing**, Zimbabwe has the largest percent of the range - 63% and the largest population estimate of elephants with 19,646. Zambia has an intermediate size portion of the range - 27% that has a population estimate of 1,423, a 137% increase from the estimate figure of 600 elephants made in 2002. Mozambique makes up just 10% of the range and has 1,717 elephants a 41% increase. On a landscape level, the entire Heartland has had an 8% increase in population to amount to 22,826 elephants in the latest survey. (African Wildlife Foundation News Release)

Apr 9 **Uganda Frogs Sold to China**, there is a huge market in China for frogs and fish products. Frogs, fish, medicinal drugs and minerals are urgently needed to run the Chinese industries and these raw materials are abundant in Uganda. (The Monitor)

Apr 9 **African Wildlife Poachers Are In His Sights**, Blatz as one of the founding members of the Central African Wildlife Trust is attempting to stop legions of poachers stripping the Central African Republic of elephants, lions and other animals to sell ivory, meat and medicinal body parts. (Winchester Star)

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Apr 9 Tip-off Nets Illegal Bird Haul, a tip off from a member of the public helped Customs officers foil an attempt to illegally export 19 protected birds from Sydney airport. The offence carries a maximum sentence of 10 years' jail and an \$110,000 fine. (Herald Sun)

Apr 9 Dinner, Pets, and Plagues by the Bucketful, an estimated 49 million amphibians were imported into the US in 2002, mostly for the pet trade. At least one million frogs inclusive over the last decade, outbreaks of the amphibian fungal plague *chytridiomycosis* have cropped up throughout the world, yet none of the amphibians were inspected for disease at the US border. (The Scientist)

Apr 9 Does The Great White North Deserve Its Green Reputation? The widely held notion that Canada is taking excellent care of its wild, pristine lands – far better than the gluttonous citizens in the United States – is nothing more than a misperception approaching a myth. Americans, or Yanks as they are often called up north, are frequently verbally assailed by Canadians with the misplaced and perhaps naïve notion that all US citizens are swine when it comes to caring for and preserving quality country. (ENN)

Apr 9 Government Rejects Challenge to Alaska Program That Allows, wolves to be hunted from planes. The interior department has rejected a national wildlife group's challenge of an Alaska wolf control program that allows hunting from airplanes. (ENN)

Apr 9 Lichen Kills Elk, after puzzling scientists nationwide, the mysterious death of 300 elk in the red desert of Wyoming has been solved. Reports of animals slumping to the ground and struggling to stand were first rumoured to be caused by chronic wasting disease, the elk form of mad cow disease. (ENN)

Apr 9 Oil Pipeline Shooter Ordered to Pay \$17 Million, a man convicted of shooting at the trans-Alaska oil pipeline in October of 2001 and causing 285,000 gallons of crude to coat a forested area has been ordered to pay more than \$17 million in restitution for the act, state officials said Wednesday. (ENN)

Apr 9 Parrot Refuge Squawks at Canada's Bird Flu Cull, Canada's largest parrot refuge wants to avoid being the victim of a plan to kill an estimated 19 million birds to stop an outbreak of avian influenza, its president said Thursday. (ENN)

Apr 9 EPA Prepares Smog Ratings For Up to 506 Countries, when the environmental protection agency decides next week which counties violate its more protective federal smog standard, more than 500 counties could be on the list, mostly in the eastern third of the country and Southern California. (ENN)

Apr 9 Cloud Seeding to Fight Global Warming Approved, cloud seeding is going to be used to keep Australia's snowy mountains true to their name: snowy. The new South Wales government said Thursday it's the best way to reverse decades of declining snowfall because of global warming. (ENN)

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Apr 11 **Nature conservation a growing trend**, a growing number of mainstream Canadians are putting their time and money into a niche formerly occupied by environmentalists. The emergence of nature trusts or land trusts in several provinces has resulted in the protection of thousands of environmentally sensitive properties to be used for future generations. (Canoe)

Apr 12 **Over 300 Critically Rare Species Unprotected**, and all could disappear in future decades because global efforts to protect them are inadequate. Most of the coverage gaps are in the world's tropical belt - mainly islands and mountain areas in central America, the Caribbean, Eastern and Western Africa, India, Myanmar and the Pacific region. (Reuters)

Apr 12 **World Bank Moves to Protect Gorillas From Poor Miners**, while the threats to Africa's famous mountain gorillas have eased considerably in the past decade the eastern lowland gorilla is by comparison in crisis. The threat is posed by illegal mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (Dian Fossey Foundation Press Release)

Apr 12 **Ottawa to Study Methane From Cows**, Environment Canada is launching new efforts to measure the amount of methane gas produced by cattle as they digest their food. The Head of Animal Science at the University of Manitoba will lead a \$50,000 study. (Canoe)

Apr 13 **Wind Energy** is a zero-emissions energy, renewable resource that many environmentalists and alternative energy proponents feel is one of our last, best hopes for staving off devastating climate change. (ENN)

Apr 13 **Wildlife, Humans, Clash on America's Urban Frontier**, Montana Wildlife Officials met last month to discuss the very common problem of wildlife and human encounters. (ENN)

Apr 13 **Hollywood Asked to help Save the Tasmanian Devil**, movie studio Warner Bros, which earned million of dollars from its Tasmanian devil cartoon character, has now been asked to help save his real-life cousins in Australia that are being decimated by facial cancer. (ENN)

Apr 13 **Canada Embarks on Mass Seal Hunt**, Canada's largest seal hunt for more than 50 years is taking place despite protests by environmentalists and animal rights groups. The government is allowing more than 300,000 seals to be killed saying the campaign is both ecologically sound and economically justified. (BBC)

Apr 13 **Tawun Once a Haven for Freshwater Turtles**, after the country was hit by the acute economic crisis in 1997, the illegal catching of turtles in Taiwan reached its peak. But after realizing that the turtle population is declining, the village agreed to save their extinction and agreed that nobody would be allowed to catch the turtles anymore. (Jakarta Post)

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Apr 13 **Top cop held for poaching**, a senior police officer, his father and a relative were arrested for possession of perlemoen valued at R20 000. A number of police officers have in the past been arrested for their involvement, directly or indirectly, in perlemoen poaching. (Eastern Province Herald)

Apr 14 **Butterflies May Make Better Canaries**, recently there was a report from Birdlife International that described how birds around the world were in trouble. The authors noted that birds were an indicator species – canaries in the coal mine, you might say – and they argued that if birds were faring poorly, then other species and the environment in general probably weren't doing so hot either. (ENN)

Apr 14 **World Lags On Clean Water Goals Despite Benefits**, the world is falling behind on U.N. goals for access to clean water and sanitation even though the benefits in better health and faster growth would dwarf the huge costs, the head of a U.N. commission stated. (ENN)

Apr 14 **China's Premier Reportedly Orders Review Of Controversial Dam**, the Premier of China has reportedly ordered the government to reconsider plans for a dam on a river shared with Thailand and Myanmar, but the official in charge of the project said he knew of no decision to cancel it. (ENN)

Apr 14 **Kremlin Aide Officially advises Putin To Kill Kyoto**, global outrage over Russia killing of the Kyoto protocol environmental pact would be better than harming the nation's economy by limiting gas emissions, according to a Kremlin adviser's recommendation to president Vladimir Putin. (ENN)

Apr 14 **Research Shows Swine Manure Can Become Crude Oil**, a University of Illinois research team is working on turning pig manure into a form of crude oil that could be refined to heat homes or generate electricity. (ENN)

Apr 14 **Radical Environmentalist Sentenced To Prison For Damaging SUVs, Vandalism**, a former Boy Scout with ties to a radical environmentalist group was sentenced to prison for vandalizing sport utility vehicles and trying to blow up construction equipment. (ENN)

Apr 14 **Seal Hunt Cartoon and Coverage**, the Canada seal hunt got underway and has been covered in every Canadian paper, every major Australian paper, and many papers in the UK and the US. (SSN)

Apr 14 **Experts Warn To Stay Away From Beached Animals**, beachgoers can expect to find dead or sick sea lions and dolphins on the sand from San Luis Obispo to San Diego this spring. The cause is most likely domoic acid, a substance produced by certain types of algae. (NBC TV)

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Apr 14 **Poaching Flourishes in Nepal Despite Strict Curbs**, despite the arrests of 100 poachers in Nepal in the past year, the menace remains rampant across the Himalayan Kingdom, hindering efforts at wildlife conservation and threatening endangered species. (OneWorld)

Apr 14 **Why Bird Trade Needed**, the ban protecting wildlife means exotic parrots are now the theft of choice, a report for the insurance industry has noted a surge in thefts and attempted thefts after ban by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. (The Independent)

Apr 15 **Environment Responsibility Can Be Profitable Study Shows**, a new study by Winslow Management Company adds to the evidence that companies that are good to the environment are also good to their shareholders. (ENN)

Apr 15 **Global Energy Demand to Rise 54% by 2025, Says US EIA**, world demand for all forms of energy is expected to grow by 54% over the next two decades, with oil consumption alone jumping by 40 million barrels a day, the US government said. (ENN)

Apr 15 **EPA Requires Smog Reductions in 31 States**, smog cleanups affecting about 460 counties in 31 states are being set in motion now that the government, after years of court wrangling, is deciding where and how to require compliance with tougher air quality standards. (ENN)

Apr 15 **Canadian Cows Eat Herring for New Milk**, some landlocked Canadian cows are enjoying a little seafood with their hay and grain so they can produce a new kind of milk being touted for its benefits for the brain, eyes, and nerves. (ENN)

Apr 15 **Europe's Scorching Summer: Was Global Warming Responsible for the Deadly Heat?** Reduced rainfall and Alpine snows have triggered the crisis, but there is no way to know if it is linked to global warming. (ENN)

Apr 15 **Honduras to Halt Gold Mine After Protests**, the Honduran government said it would revoke a Canadian company's right to search for gold near a nature reserve after environmental protesters blocked a major road for two ways. (ENN)

Apr 15 **Sunsets May Help Guide Migrating Songbirds**, a sunset may do more than refresh the soul it could recalibrate the internal compasses of migrating songbirds. (ENN)

Apr 15 **US Corps Showcases Efforts to Bring Sturgeon Back to Missouri River**, backhoes are breaking into the earth along the Missouri River in an attempt to re-create inviting habitats for the pallid sturgeon. (ENN)

Apr 15 **Millions of Locusts Swarm toward Australian Cities** swarmed toward Australia's second biggest city of Melbourne, as the insects were also reported near the southern city of Adelaide. (ENN)

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Apr 15 **Increase in Canada's Seal Hunt Quota**, a letter addressed to Prime Minister from HSC to express outrage in permitting 975,000 Harp seals to be massacred in Atlantic Canada over the next three years. (HSC)

Apr 15 **How to Save Caspian Sturgeon?** In March, the secretariat of CITES approved the 2004 quotas for the Caspian littoral countries for the catch of sturgeon and black caviar export. A new method of setting quotas includes criteria required for sturgeon reproduction. (Times of Central Asia)

Apr 15 **Wildlife Smuggling Raises Alarm**, trafficking in wild animals has reached alarming proportions, with between 450 and 1,500 tons and hundreds of thousands of individual animals being traded illegally every year. (VNA)

Apr 15 **Bangladesh Lizard Skin Exports**, the Department of Forest is giving a company named Haque and Brothers a dispensation to export 12000 pieces of lizard skin. The large population of lizard is the rationale behind its move. (SSN)

Apr 15 **Town's Mayor threatens action to block dumping of infected chickens at landfill**, BC has about 1 million infected birds to dump. Some 300 tons are supposed to be headed for the Greater Vancouver Regional District Landfill located near Cache Creek. But the people don't want the carcasses of any sick chickens in their landfill. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 16 **Dog Poisonings In Goderich, ON**, provincial police have launched an investigation after three dogs mysteriously died and another fell ill in the south end of Goderich last weekend. Tests are being conducted on tissue samples from the animals to determine a cause of death. (Canoe)

Apr 16 **Ontario Says Coal Plans Won't Jeopardize Consumers** with plans to shut down its coal-fired power plants, which produce about one-quarter of the province's electricity, but not before viable alternatives are in place. (ENN)

Apr 16 **Earth Tones, the Environmental Internet & Phone Co.**, the only long distance service or Internet Company to donate 100% of its profits to environmental organizations. (ENN)

Apr 16 **Emergency Program to Battle Avian Flu**, the BC government drafted the full resources of its emergency program to battle the rapidly spreading poultry killer. (Canoe)

Apr 16 **Rare Whales Seen for 1st time in Decades**, a rare sighting of right whales in the Gulf of Mexico has been confirmed for the first time in more than 20 years. (News Herald)

Apr 16 **Plastic bags linked to rare whale's death**, wildlife watchers are waiting for the results of a post-mortem examination to find out exactly what killed the Cuvier's beaked

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whale found on Mull in February, but yesterday they revealed its stomach was filled with polythene bags. (The Herald)

Apr 16 **Trinidad Joining The Whaling Nations**, and the IWC - the international organization that oversees the conservation of whales worldwide. Suspicions have arisen because both Trinidad and Tobago are non-whaling countries. (SSN)

Apr 16 **Thai Elephants Death**, the National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department has ordered an investigation into the deaths of two Thai born elephants that died after being sent to a zoo in China. (The Nation)

Apr 16 **Freed Gorillas on Their Way to South Africa**, 4 young gorillas captured illegally and kept in a Malaysian zoo have been sent to South Africa, despite Cameroon's insistence they were caught there and should be returned. (Independent Online)

Apr 16 **Weston Restaurant Owner Accused of Illegally Buying Deer, Bear Meat**, the owner of a Chinese restaurant in Weston was arrested on charges of illegally buying poached deer, fish, ducks and a bear cub. (Sun-Sentinel)

Apr 16 **Dead Dolphins Still Washing Ashore**, the total number of dead dolphins found since March 10 reaches 108. At the height of the dolphin die-off there was also a die-off of large red drum and horseshoe crabs, as well as catfish. (Sun-Sentinel)

Apr 16 **Government Wildlife Record Slammed**, the Zimbabwe Conservation and Development Foundation said widespread poaching and deforestation on newly acquired farms threatened the environment. The government is criticized for its laissez faire environmental policy that has resulted in widespread poaching and deforestation on newly resettled farms. (Zimbabwe Independent)

Apr 16 **United States Citizen Convicted of Illegally Exporting Endangered Parrot**, a US citizen has been convicted in a Brockville court of the unlawful export from Canada to the US of an African grey parrot. (Canada Newswire)

Apr 16 **Smuggled Gorillas Reach South Africa**, as a result of being sent from the Taiping Zoo to Pretoria, South Africa, in a hush-hush move aimed at dodging the media. (The Star)

Apr 16 **What Role Will Wind Power Play in Our Future?** Wind energy, a renewable resource that many environmentalists and alternative energy devastating climate change. According to the American wind energy association, the average wind turbine can prevent the emission of 1,500 tons of carbon dioxide each year. (ENN)

Apr 16 **Mercury**, a consultation paper on mercury issued by the Environment Directorate of the EU discusses many of the major concerns about mercury in the marketplace and its impact on the global environment. (Gallon Report)

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Apr 16 **Brownfield Clean Up is a Waste of Money**, contaminated site regulations applied to large operating industrial sites distorts environmental management decisions at these sites. In particular they force companies to focus on 'dead weight loss' pollution control solutions and not prevention. (Gallon Report)

Apr 16 **Canada Budget Barely Green**, the only large environmental spending initiative is an allocation of \$3.5 billion over 10 years to accelerate the clean up of contaminated sites for which the federal government has responsibility. The budget also allocates \$500 million over 10 years for clean up of certain other sites, most notably the infamous Sydney Tar Ponds. (Gallon Report)

Apr 16 **Auditor General: Improve Process For Biotech Plants**, and told the House of Commons that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency needs to strengthen its regulatory processes in order to better protect the environment from the risks of plants with novel traits. (Gallon Report)

Apr 16 **Make "Earth Day" a Way of Life Requests The Humane Society of Canada**, April 22nd is EARTH DAY and the HSC is encouraging everyone to get involved – even in the smallest way. (HSC)

Apr 17 **Logs Spikes**, eco-terrorists threatened the lives of loggers by spiking hundreds of trees. Anti-logging protests have been a frequent scene around the more than 100 hectares of forest at Elk Creek. (Canoe)

Apr 18 **Dog Survives**, a Burmese mountain dog escaped an avalanche that killed her owner, a tourist from India and survived six days in freezing temperatures before being found alive and well. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 19 **Prince 'n' the Pussycat**, a cat owner is threatening to take Prince William to court after he allegedly scared off her cat while on a night-time rabbit shoot. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 19 **Bardot Fumes About Faeroese**, Brigitte Bardot sent birthday wishes to Danish Queen Margrethe Thursday and asked her to end whaling in the Faeroe Islands. (Associated Press)

Apr 19 **Turtle Poachers in the Soup**, exotic turtle cuisine and handicrafts have been replaced by protected beaches for turtles and stiff penalties for poachers. A lucrative black market emerged where Seychellois are willing to pay dearly for tasty turtle meat, threatening the existence in the region of huge creatures. (The Mercury)

Apr 19 **The Crack Down on Illegal Wildlife Trade**, a passenger arriving at Dubai International Airport on a flight from Kabul carried an 850 kg consignment of animal pelts and garments claiming it to be 'rabbit fur dyed to look like wild animal skins'. But the authorities discover they are genuine wild animal skins. (Arabian Environment)

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Apr 19 **Reptile Dealer Gets 10 Months for Smuggling**, a Waukesha reptile dealer will spend 10 months in prison for illegally trafficking in endangered and protected animals. (Milwaukee Journal Sentinel)

Apr 19 **Amnesty for Illegal Snakes, Lizards**, state and federal authorities have called an amnesty for people holding illegal reptiles to hand them in. The Exotic Reptile Amnesty runs from March 29 to May 24. (The Mercury)

Apr 19 **No Respite for Critically Endangered Saiga Antelope**, still faces imminent extinction, despite the conservation efforts. Their numbers plummeted 95% from about 1 million in 1990 to less than 50,000 today. The main cause is poaching, both for horn and meat. (IUCN)

Apr 19 **Taiping Gorillas in South Africa**, the NSPCA believes the 4 gorillas should go to WSPA sanctuary in Cameroon. These gorillas were captured as babies in the rain forests of Cameroon and smuggled to Nigeria, then exported to Malaysia. (NSPCA)

Apr 19 **Container Ship Drags Whale Carcass into Port**, struck and killed at sea by a vessel came to port about 6 pm. DNA and other samples were taken for research purposes, and a statement from the ship's company about the incident is expected. (Daily Breeze)

Apr 19 **Local Taboos Could Save The Seas**, countries in the south-western pacific are considering allowing citizens to reclaim legal control of their local seas, in the hope additional knowledge, customs and laws to protect fish stocks and biodiversity. (New Scientist)

Apr 20 **US Policy Change Announcement Impacting Marine Species**, NMFS establishes a species of concern list, places 45 species on this list, describes the factors it will consider when identifying species of concern, and revises the candidate species list. NMFS also solicits information and comments concerning the status of, research and stewardship opportunities for, and the factors for identifying species of concern. (NMFS Bulletin)

Apr 19 **Mystery Swirls Around Dolphin Deaths**, dolphins who beached in Florida's Panhandle bore no outward signs of disease or injury. By all appearances, they are healthy animals, except they are dead. (CFN)

Apr 20 **Nearly 1 in 5 US Counties Have Unhealthy Air**, Americans living in nearly one in five counties nationwide are breathing unhealthy air, according to new ozone rules the Bush Administration unveiled. (ENN)

Apr 20 **EU Hopes Newcomers Will Meet Deadline for CO2 Plans**, Europe's environment chief fought shy on Monday of acting against laggard EU states that failed

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to submit plans to cut carbon dioxide (CO₂) pollution on time, saying she hoped the bloc's newcomers would fare better. (ENN)

Apr 20 **USDA Won't Pay Full Cost of Animal ID System**, the US government may pay about 1/3 the estimated \$550 million cost to set up an animal identification system, an Agriculture Department official said, providing the first outline of the Bush Administration's financial commitment to the program. (ENN)

Apr 20 **Warming Climate Disrupts Alaska Natives' Lives**, the leaders say that salmon are increasingly susceptible to warm-water parasites and suffer from lesions and strange behaviour. Salmon and moose meat have developed odd tastes and the marrow in moose bones is weirdly runny. (ENN)

Apr 20 **China Names Green Chef**, a young chef in Huludao city, was conferred an honorary title of 'green chef' by China Wildlife Conservation Association for his persistence in rejecting cooking wildlife. (Xinhua)

Apr 20 **Dolphin Advocate Rips Seaquarium on Hazards**, Lolita's stadium lacks some of the required emergency exits – the safety code requires 4 public exits, but the stadium has 2. (SSN)

Apr 20 **Group Wants Permit Halt until Gulf Coast Dolphin Deaths Resolved**, and urged federal authorities to deny any new permits for pollution-causing activities along the Gulf coast. (Miami Herald)

Apr 20 **Gorillas: South Africa Joins the Fray**, an animal rights group accused South Africa of breaching international conventions by sheltering four young gorillas in a Pretoria zoo. (SAPA)

Apr 20 **The Navy Giveth & the Navy Taketh Away**, the US Navy has turned down a request by environmentalists to cooperate with local orca groups and scientists in establishing policies for naval vessel traffic to avoid the use of active sonar and other loud noise devices that might harm the endangered orcas. (San Juan Journal)

Apr 20 **Six Flags Animals Leave for New Home**, the animals left the Six Flags World of Adventure amusement park in a caravan of trucks and were loaded onto a cargo plane at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. Cedar Fair LP has purchased the Six Flags but not the park's animals. (Associated Press)

Apr 20 **Grizzlies & Road Kill**, hungry after months of winter slumber, grizzlies in Southwestern Alberta are waking up to find a feast of deer and elk road kills. The annual 'intercept feeding program' consists of dropping carcasses of animals killed during the winter on highways into the backcountry where grizzlies can find them as they emerge from their dens. (Globe & Mail)

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Apr 20 **Gorilla scam: Wildlife crime unit needed**, Nigeria's Presidential panel investigating wildlife crime has revealed that six more gorilla babies had died at Ibadan. (Malaysiakini)

Apr 20 **Shackled by the law**, Cameroonian Environment and Forestry Minister had requested for the gorillas to be returned to his country as opposed to the Malaysian Government's decision to send the animals to Pretoria Zoo in Pretoria, South Africa. (The Star)

Apr 20 **Beluga Sturgeon Listed as Threatened in US**, the US Fish and Wildlife Service announced it is listing beluga sturgeon as threatened under the US Endangered Species Act. The listing takes effect 6 months from its April 21, 2004 Federal Register publication. (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

Apr 20 **Australia Allowing Safari Hunting of Crocodiles**, HSI is campaigning against proposals to allow safari hunting of saltwater crocodiles in Australia. (SSN)

Apr 21 **Mexican Intellectuals Demand End to Canada Seal Hunt**, forty-seven Mexican writers and artists are demanding that Canada end a baby seal hunt, citing the two countries' environmental ties under NAFTA. (ENN)

Apr 21 **Lawn Chemicals Linked to Dog Cancer, Says US Study** – a study that links lawn chemicals to bladder cancer in Scottish terriers could help shed light on whether they cause cancer in some people. (ENN)

Apr 21 **US is Keen to Rejoin Global Warming Debate**, and wants to rejoin the global warming debate but is adamant that its lone approach to environmental issues is a success. (ENN)

Apr 21 **Wanted: \$4B for Water**, the US should set up a trust fund with \$4 billion US annually from oil and gas royalties to protect the oceans, Great Lakes and US coastal areas, a presidential commission reported. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 21 **Ape virus transfer to humans strengthens call for clampdown**, new scientific evidence proving that a virus has transferred from apes to humans reinforces calls for an urgent clampdown on the illegal bushmeat trade, according to the Farmers' Union of Wales. (The Western Mail)

Apr 21 **'Loving' Japanese fined R110 000 for poaching**, two more Japanese nationals have joined the growing list of wildlife poachers nabbed by Cape conservation officials while trying to smuggle wildlife or indigenous plants out of the country. (The Cape Argus)

Apr 21 **Ladybugs**, spring has finally arrived and so have swarms of ladybugs, emerging from winter hiding places as warmer weather awakens them from their long slumber. Ladybugs, also known as lady beetles or ladybird beetles, are one of the good guys of the

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insect world because they feast on aphids and other crop-damaging pests. (London Free Press)

Apr 21 **Indonesia to Swap Elephants with Russia**, Jakarta who promised to present two elephants as a gift to St. Petersburg Zoo is asking for some polar bears, brown bears and leopards in return – and the zoo has none to spare. (SSN)

Apr 21 **Orca Settles Into New Home in Vallejo**, Shouka the killer whale is the first orca in four years at Six Flags Marine World Park gets until the weekend to explore her new pools before going on public display. (Contra Costa Times)

Apr 21 **Deer Starve, Man Charged**, a London-area man made his first court appearance on six animal cruelty charges. Doug Weldon was charged this year after 5 red deer starved to death and another was found emaciated on a farm south of Arva. (London Free Press)

Apr 22 **Jacques Cousteau Book by Jean Michel**, the legendary French explorer mistreated and even killed sea creatures while staging scenes for his films, according to a shocking new book by his son. (The Independent)

Apr 22 **Shark Fisheries in Costa Rica**, according to data provided by the Port Authority of Puntarenas more foreign long line vessels landed at Puntarenas in March 2004 than during any month since June of 2003. This information directly contradicts statements made by Costa Rican Fishery Department claiming that international long line fleets were abandoning Costa Rica, resulting in a rise in fish prices. (EMS)

Apr 22 **A Taste For Shark Fin Soup**, Namibia's tourism image could suffer irreparable damage internationally if a proposed shark fin drying plant outside Walvis Bay is allowed to go ahead. (The Namibian)

Apr 22 **Four plead guilty to Illegal Trafficking in Bear Parts**, four South Korean immigrants have pleaded guilty to felony charges stemming from a 3-year investigation into illegal trafficking in wildlife. The four men were charged with several counts of buying and conspiring to buy gall bladders and other parts of N. American black bear. (Associated Press)

Apr 22 **Sharks Draw the Line on Madagascar Fishery**, the initial stages of collapse of a local shark fishery, as documented by research teams from Earthwatch Institute, may initiate an important transition from shark consumption to conservation in Ampasindava, on Madagascar's northwest coast. (Earthwatch Institute)

Apr 22 **Local Poachers Kill Tigers, Rhino**, four tigers, a baby elephant and a rhinoceros caught in snares laid by poachers were killed for their meat and organs in the Endau-Rompin National Park in Johor recently. (New Strait Times)

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Apr 22 **Animal Farm Stuns Cops**, Police and SPCA officials swooped down on an Innisfil farmhouse to make one of the widest-ranging seizures of exotic animals – about 200 reptiles, mammals and birds, all in various states of distress. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 22 **Land Donated to Rouge Park**, a 1,432-hectare donation makes Rouge Park the largest natural urban park in North America. The donated lands from Markham, Toronto and Pickering will protect existing green space and the wildlife corridor connecting the Oak Ridges moraine to Lake Ontario. (Toronto Sun)

Apr 22 **Climate Warning Looks Good But Where's the Rage**, in a TV miniseries Alanis Morissette and Keanu Reeves take turns telling us that the world in a shocking state and we should all be utterly ashamed of our parents and ourselves. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 22 **New Port Rejected to Save Birds**, the government rejected plans to build a 750m container terminal on Southampton Water because it would damage wildlife sites of international importance. (SSN)

Apr 22 **10 Personal Actions that can Make a Difference for the Environment**, these actions include an energy audit, insulating the home, set water heater to a lower temperature, turn off lights, wash bigger loads of clothes, close blinds in warm weather, carpool or take public transit, tune up a car, work at home, turn off computer monitors. (ENN)

Apr 22 **Many of Iraq's Marsh Arabs are Reluctant to go back to their Ancient Lifestyle**, driven out of their homes; their habitat destroyed, the Marsh Arabs rank high on the list of Saddam Hussein's victims. But now that they can start thinking about going back, many are reluctant to do so, since they are getting used to modernized environments they currently reside in. (ENN)

Apr 22 **Canadian Firm Delivers Less Polluting Bio-Fuel**, Canada's Iogen Corp. made its first commercial delivery of cellulose ethanol, moving the company a step closer to larger-scale production of the alternative fuel, which has fewer harmful emissions than either gasoline or conventional ethanol. (ENN)

Apr 22 **Lack of Females May Have Done in Dinosaurs**, an asteroid may have wiped out the dinosaurs 65 million years ago not simply by changing the world's climate and causing years of dark skies but also by causing too many of them to be born male. (ENN)

Apr 22 **10 Issues about Which to Write Your Congressperson and Educate your Friends and Neighbours**: clean air and water, food and agriculture, climate change and clean energy, pollution and toxic waste, oceans and fisheries, transportation, population, recycling and solid waste, protect animals, national parks/forests/wilderness. (ENN)

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Apr 23 **Virus Jumps Species**, 8 Jacksonville racing greyhounds were killed by an equine influenza virus that jumped the species barrier from horses to dogs, University of Florida researchers announced. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 23 **China and SARS**, China reported two suspected cases of SARS in Beijing and in the eastern province of Anhui, the first cases in those areas since the country's initial outbreak of the highly contagious disease. (Canoe)

Apr 23 **Eco-Friendly Furniture that's Beautiful and Functional**, San Rafael, California based Tamalpis NatureWorks uses toxic free finishes in a clean lined furniture to promote environmentally friendly furniture. (ENN)

Apr 23 **Bush Halts His Environmental Record on Earth Day**, President Bush who withdrew from the Kyoto Environment Accord, sought to counter critics who accuse him of trying to reverse decades of environmental progress in an Earth Day appearance at a wetlands area near his family's Maine estate. (ENN)

Apr 23 **Sweden's Capital Tolls on Car to Be Implemented to Reduce Traffic**, motorists will have to pay a toll of between \$1.30 and \$2.60 to get into increasingly congested Stockholm during a trial period beginning next year. (ENN)

Apr 23 **EPA Drops Plan to Ease Gasoline Pollution Rules** and thus ease sulphur air pollution rules for gasoline that would have allowed more imports to supply a tight US market. (ENN)

Apr 23 **G8 Rallies in US to Carry Price Tag, Activists Fume**, anti-globalization activists planning to protest at this summer's Group of Eight summit in Georgia had better bring some cash. (ENN)

Apr 23 **The Recent Federal Budget** expanded funding for waste technologies under the Sustainable Development Technology Canada funding program. The Canadian General Standards Board has published a final National Standard for the voluntary labelling and advertising of foods that are and are not products of genetic engineering. (Gallon Report)

Apr 23 **Marine Farms in Sounds 'Threaten Dolphin Habitat'**: allowing more marine farms in the outer Marlborough Sounds could drive off its Dusky dolphins population, an expert told the Environment Court. (New Zealand Herald)

Apr 23 **A Taste for Soup Threatens Sharks**, the highly lucrative shark fin trade could open up the coastal area to criminal elements as happened in South Africa where power struggles in the 'Chinese Mafia' resulted in cold-blooded killings, kidnapping and organized crime. (The Namibian)

Apr 23 **Pike Vanish From Yukon Lake**, in one year, the community on the British Columbia-Yukon border went from a destination for anglers in search of trophy pike to a

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lake devoid of the fish. In 2004 search for pike in Watson Lake, revealed none. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 23 **Britain's Secret Profits from the Seal Cull**, British retailers insist they do not stock their products, fur traders claim they are a mere sideline and a Welsh fashion designer caused a national outcry a few years ago by using them on the catwalk. (The Independent)

Apr 23 **South Police Nab Wildlife Smugglers**, a known wildlife smuggler who tried outwitting the police by using a decoy car to carry his animal cargo, was arrested by police on the Solomon Hochoy Highway yesterday. (Trinidad Express)

Apr 23 **Calgary's Water Supply Shrinking**, the Rocky Mountain glaciers that feed Calgary's water system are shrinking so quickly that they will not be able to meet the city's demand for water in 30 years, Alberta's Environment Minister warns. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 25 **Australia Sells Illegal Toothfish Haul for A\$2mln**, an illegal haul of the rare and valuable Patagonian toothfish has been sold by Australian fisheries authorities for more than A\$2 million (\$1.5 million), the government announced. The catch was taken from the Uruguayan-flagged Maya V. (Reuters)

Apr 25 **SARS Update**, China was investigating four new suspected SARS cases in the capital on Sunday, days after it confirmed two cases linked to a Beijing research lab – an unsettling development just before a major holiday sends millions traveling around the country. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 26 **Consuming Exotic Animals**, despite efforts by the Chinese government to curb the trade, ecologists agree the current harvest is unsustainable and inevitable will lead to the eradication of species. (Associated Press)

Apr 26 **Aim Changing in Africa**, social, political and physical transformation of sub-Saharan Africa has reached beyond the realm of imagination – extraordinary for a place that so long has been the object of the world's wildest fascinations. (Denver Post)

Apr 27 **Whalers Take On World's Scientists To Save Their Culture**, because the Natives claimed that there are greater number of whales than the scientists approximated a whale count in 1985 revealed their numbers to be 7,200 – six times the original estimates. Counts in subsequent years yielded even higher whale numbers, and in 2002 the official number was 10,000 despite increasing quota. (Anchorage Daily News)

April 27 **China's SARS Worries Canada**, in Canada only level 3 and 4 labs are authorized to work with the live SARS virus. Since the discovery of two new cases of SARS, Health Canada is on a heightened level of alert. (Toronto Sun)

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April 27 **Dolphin Calf Dies At National Aquarium**, the bottlenose dolphin calf born at the National Aquarium in Baltimore died on Sunday. Officials suspect a respiratory infection may be to blame. Seven calves have been born at the aquarium and two have died. (WBAL)

April 27 **Chairman Pombo Issues ESA Report, "A Mandate for Modernization"**, he states that only 12 out of 1300 species listed have recovered which calls for an update and modernization of the Endangered Species Act. (SSN)

April 27 **Animal smuggler caged**, Couva Magistrate Marcia Ayers-Caesar jailed Alimudeen Sahadath for a total of 12 months and 28 days for keeping birds in undersized cages that caused many of them to die. (Trinidad Express)

April 27 **Uganda Hunting and Chimps**, Uganda Government efforts are underway to rewrite legislation governing the tourism sector in Uganda, also Uganda Wildlife Authority now appears to have sanctioned some limited hunting in areas around Lake Mburo National Park. (ETN Uganda)

April 27 **Trade in Hawksbills**, the demand for tortoise shell items is pushing hawksbill turtles to the brink of extinction since tortoise shell makes pretty jewellery and ornaments. (The Star)

April 27 **New EU 'will boost illegal wildlife trade'**, a report by Traffic Europe reveals that current difference between wildlife trade controls in existing and new states have allowed traders legally to import species banned in the EU for years. (The Scotsman)

April 27 **Nation's Scientists Agree On Global Climate Watch System**, that would lead governments to share information about the Earth to assess climate change, forecast natural disasters and fight disease. (ENN)

April 27 **African Heads of State Meet at Niger River Basin Conference**, representatives of nine African countries are trying to come up with an action plan to encourage better management of the water, and prevent its levels from dropping further. (ENN)

April 27 **EU Paves Way To End Five Year Ban On New GM Foods**, six EU governments backed the proposal to authorize B-11, another 5 voted against, and 3 more abstained. Environmental groups oppose lifting of the ban, and consumers oppose it as well. (ENN)

April 27 **Nearly Half of Extinct Species Were In Hawaii**, which became extinct in the first 20 years of the federal Endangered Species Act, according to an advocacy group. The report lays much of the blame on the Fish and Wildlife Service. (ENN)

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April 27 **Mozambique OKs Greenhouse Gas Resolution**, Mozambique Parliament unanimously approved a resolution ratifying the Kyoto protocol on limiting greenhouse emissions. (ENN)

April 27 **Study Finds Signs of Life In Ancient Lava**, tiny bacteria like organisms made their home in hardened lava some 3.5 billion years ago, in a finding that pushes the limits of when life is known to have started on Earth. (ENN)

April 27 **Water Agencies File Claim Against US**, and seeking \$500 million for a decade's worth of water that they say the federal government failed to deliver. (ENN)

April 27 **UN Uses Atomic Technology To Fight Malaria Mosquito**, for this they will use a sterile insect technique which is supposed to erode the mosquito population and destroy malaria mosquitoes. (ENN)

April 27 **Officials Seize Giant Snails From Schools**, and have started a national search in Wisconsin for Giant African Land Snails which reproduce rapidly, destroy plants, and can transmit meningitis. (ENN)

April 28 **Two Dolphins Die At Curacao Facility**, one was a calf. (SSN)

April 28 **Climate Change Movie is Not Exactly Rocket**, a movie "The Day After Tomorrow" looks at what could happen if the Earth's climate abruptly shifted. (ENN)

Apr 28 **Norwegian Island Being Used To Test Clean Energy System**, a Norwegian company presented a project to overcome the problem of storing electricity when the wind dies, the sea calms, or the sun doesn't shine. (ENN)

Apr 28 **Climate Change Movie** – "A Day After Tomorrow" examines what would happen to the world if the Earth's climate abruptly shifted. (ENN)

Apr 28 **Energy Department Announces \$350 million In Research for Hydrogen Fuel Technology**, to more than 130 research institutions and companies, including the Big Three automakers, to put hydrogen-fuelled cars on the road by 2015. (ENN)

Apr 28 **WTO Cotton Move Sends Shock Wave Through Farm Talks**, the WTO told Washington to halt much of the lavish aid it gives the Geneva cotton farmers, ruling it illegal. (ENN)

Apr 28 **How Game Meat Finds Its Way to Our Tables**, up to 300 tones of bush meat is illegally finding its way into the Kenyan market every year. And now, experts are warning that the spiralling wave of commercial poaching threatens conservation efforts and must be urgently curbed. (The East African Standard)

Apr 28 **PPB Press Conference and City Committee Meeting**, there is a scheduled press conference for Monday, May 3rd where Dr. Bray and Councillors will deliver OCFP's

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recently released report on pesticides and human health to City Councillors and urge them to support the pesticide bylaw through stringent restriction on pesticide use for infestations. (Partnership for Pesticide Bylaw)

Apr 28 **Animal Testing**, a comparison of almost 3,000 research papers published over 30 years in major biomedical journals has found a 30% decline in the number of studies using animals. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 28 **SUVs**, pickups, large SUVs and other light trucks produce twice as much noise as cars, even at low speeds. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 28 **Cork and Birds**, more than 40 bird species depend on cork-producing woodlands, called dehesas, in Spain and Portugal, according to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds in the UK. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 28 **Court Stops Sino Chimp Deal**, the Minister for Tourism, Trade and Industry, faces a court suit if he insists on exporting to China three chimpanzees. The anti-export lobby group, who secured a court injunction 2 months ago, has vowed to sue whoever goes ahead with the deal. (New Vision)

Apr 28 **Orcas Boost Calls Amid Boat Noise**, killer whales living off the west coast of the US are extending the length of their calls to each other to be heard above the din of heavy boat traffic. (BBC)

Apr 28 **Pollution Affecting Turtles**, Canadian researchers studying wildlife on the Great Lakes have found sexual abnormalities in male snapping turtles, with penis size diminished and some males able to produce egg yolk protein. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 28 **EU Loophole ‘Scandal’ Risks Dolphins’ Lives**, the deaths of thousands of porpoises and dolphins that get tangled in fishermen’s nets will continue because Europe’s ministers have left huge loopholes in a new law. (SSN)

Apr 28 **New Sea Turtle Report**: poaching, commercial fisheries and human interference at nesting sites are some of the major factors contributing to declining marine turtle populations worldwide. (WSPA News Release)

Apr 29 **Farming is Biggest Global Environmental Threat**, says new book “World Agriculture and the Environment”. Agriculture uses more than half of the Earth’s habitable area and destroys 100,000 square miles of forests and other critical habitat annually. (ENN)

April 29 **Thai Orangutans**, a total of 147 orangutans were encountered by the police amongst whom some 120 were very young at Safari World, amusement park in Bangkok. Safari World claims all of them were bred inside Safari world. (SSN)

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Apr 29 **UN Conference Finds Little Progress On Reaching Global Development Goals**, the ministerial session was aimed at assessing progress on three goals adopted at the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000: halving the proportion of people without access to clean water and basic sanitation by 2015 and improving the lives of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. (ENN)

Apr 29 **California Farmers Struggle With New Rules on Runoff Pollution**, now growers have to test water runoff at key periods – during irrigation and after storms – and report findings to their regional water board. (ENN)

Apr 29 **EPA Says 2004 Models Average 20.8 MPG**, unchanged from previous year's models. But they said hybrid-electric vehicles, clean diesel technology, and variable displacement engines hold promise for raising the average in the near future. (ENN)

Apr 29 **US Eased Rules On Tuna Despite Bribery Claim** e-mail alleged effort to evade dolphin law. Critics say the e-mail demonstrates that the Bush Administration ignored key evidence and that its decision undermined longstanding environmental protections. (SSN)

Apr 29 **Energy Bill Goes Down** the Senate refused on Thursday to debate either reform of US energy policy or a federal mandate to double the use of corn-based ethanol. (ENN)

Apr 29 **Good News**, a message from Mayor Barbara Arnott of Napier, New Zealand says that the Napier City Council will not be replacing Marineland's captive dolphins once the remaining two have died. (SSN)

Apr 30 **Report Predicts Asthma Epidemic From Pollution**, poor and minority children are likely to develop asthma at worsening rates due to global warming and air pollution, environment experts predict. (ENN)

Apr 30 **'Frankenfish' rears ugly head in Maryland, again**, Maryland state workers plan to drain a suburban lake after the discovery of the same voracious, 'walking' fish that two years ago prompted them to poison a smaller body of water. (ENN)

Apr 30 **Iraq Terror Divert Focus From Environment** said Annan when addressing a meeting of more than 80 environment ministers and other high officials; he also singled out Moscow and Washington for undermining efforts to reign in global warming. (ENN)

Apr 30 **South Africa Monitors Stricken Ship Off Coast**, as fears grow of major environmental damage if the ship sinks. The ship on route from Brazil to Japan is loaded with iron ore and 1,800 tons of fuel. (ENN)

Apr 30 **Greenbelt Protection Act 2003**, passed Second Reading on Apr 28, 2004 and has been referred to the Standing Committee on General Government. The Committee will convene three days of public hearings to consider amendments to the Act. The

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Liberal and NDP members voted in favour of the Greenbelt Protection Act, the Progressive Conservative members voted against the Act. (Greenbelt Alliance)

Apr 30 **Health Risks From Bushmeat May Reach US Shores**, new studies suggest that humans who handle or consume 'bushmeat' risk contracting several deadly conditions. The Ebola virus is one that is traced back to bushmeat, as well as HIV. (PNS)

Apr 30 **Why did the fish miss the boat?** Under Canada's newly minted Endangered Species Act, the government officially recognized 79 of 91 species that Canada's scientists has officially decided were at risk. (Globe & Mail)

Apr 30 **Mobile phones continue to decimate Gorillas**, one of the key minerals used in the production of mobile phone handsets is killing gorillas in eastern Congo. The apes' population has declined by over 79% in the past 10 years. (BBC)

Apr 30 **TRAFFIC'S. ASIA Workshops**, delegates from six South Asian countries identified priority action to be taken at national and regional levels to mitigate illegal wildlife trade and to enhance implementation of CITES in a region where trade is threatening the long-term survival of some of the world's rarest species. (TRAFFIC)

MAY

May 1 **West Nile**, experts predict there is a good chance West Nile virus will move into BC this year. A type of mosquito prevalent in Saskatchewan holds a key to why last year's outbreak there was so bad. *Cules tarsalis* readily bits both birds and humans, easily passing the virus from one to another. (Globe & Mail)

May 1 **New Commissioner For Morocco**, Monsieur Abdeslam Fahfouhi has replaces Mr. Driss as Commissioner for Morocco. (IWC)

May 1 **Global Warming & Asthma**, America's cities blanketed with smog and climate-altering carbon dioxide, have become cradles of ill health and are fostering an epidemic of asthma, according to a report from Harvard University researchers. (Globe & Mail)

May 1 **Icelandic Whale Watching & Whaling**, Chairman of the Icelandic Whale watching Association has sent a letter to MPs in the North Eastern constituency stating his worries over the dramatic decrease in bookings of foreign tourists for whale watching trips this spring. (IWC)

May 2 **Peacock in Peril**, the peacock population is dwindling fast due to habitat loss, contamination of food sources and poaching. Until today no census has been conducted of the peacock. In great demand for their feathers and flesh, peacocks are being mercilessly hunted down. (The Tribune)

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May 3 **Leopards Caught in Kashmir Violence**, leopards caught in the crossfire between guerrillas and security forces in Indian-administered Kashmir have begun migrating to safer, more populated areas, endangering both humans and themselves. (One World)

May 3 **Tiger Meat Demand in Malaysia**, despite being a protected species in a forest reserve, tigers roaming the Endau-Rompin gazetted area are still not safe from the poachers who hunt them for their meat, which is high demand overseas. (New Straits Times)

May 3 **Elk Island Fire Almost Out**, the blaze, when it finally subsides, will likely cover a total area of 3,000 hectares in the central part of the park. The park's animals won't be affected because they generally move around fire. (Globe & Mail)

May 3 **Naval Medicine Tests Water for Possible Dolphin Deployment**, mark six swimmer defence dolphins are deployed to the Arabian Gulf to provide operational force protection capabilities for Navy ships, piers and other high-value assets as part of the global war on terrorism. (Navy Newsstand)

May 3 **Amusement Park Based on Values Wants Dolphins**, a Scottsdale man is attempting to build a children's theme park focused on a pelican named Palican in the East Valley. (Arizona Republic)

May 3 **Zoos Marketing Babies to Get Visitors**, new born babies help boost attendance, raise revenue as funding drops. (Baltimore Sun)

May 3 **Up Close With The Wild Dolphins in Tangalooma Resort**, a place that provides the opportunity to interact closely with native wildlife. (Jakarta Post)

May 3 **Sea turtles found on board fishing trawler, crew detained**, about 160 sea turtles protected under Sabah laws, were found dead on a fishing trawler about 20 nautical miles from the city. Investigations show that the turtles were meant to be sold in the open market as decorations. (New Straits Times)

May 4 **100 Tigers to China: Disciplinary Charges**, Permanent Secretary of the National Resources and Environment Ministry, and other senior forestry officials are to face serious disciplinary charges for authorizing the export of 100 tigers to a zoo in China. (Bangkok Post)

May 4 **There Are Now Several Natural Herbicides on the Market**, one of the most effective natural ingredients is corn gluten meal, a yellow powder that is a waste product of the corn milling process. (ENN)

May 4 **Whistle Blower Accuses Government of Cooking Date on Endangered Species**, with no more than 100 Florida panthers roaming the southwestern part of the

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state, a Fish and Wildlife Service biologist is accusing the agency of putting developers' needs ahead of the endangered cats. (ENN)

May 4 **WWF Says New Hook Can Protect Endangered Turtles**, a new circular fishing hook could save thousands of endangered marine turtles snagged accidentally each year by commercial fisher. (ENN)

May 4 **US Rule Change Could Weaken Salmon Protection**, a Bush administration plan to revise protections for endangered Northwest US salmon drew praise from farmers and industry groups but environmentalists and fishing advocates said future salmon runs would be gutted. (ENN)

May 4 **Traffic on Ramin**, policing small boats carrying cargoes of hardwood logs, often including Ramin, present the biggest challenge for CITES enforcement agencies between Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. (TRAFFIC)

May 4 **UWA Approves Hoima Game Hunting Deal**, the Uganda Wildlife Authority has approved plans to expand another pilot project to promote commercial trophy hunting around the Kabwoya Wildlife Reserve in Hoima. (New Vision)

May 4 **Wrong-Way Baby Beluga found in Boston Harbour**, where belugas are extremely rare in waters so far south of their normal habitats in the Arctic and the St. Lawrence rivers. (Canadian Press)

May 4 **IATTC 'Dolphin-Safe' Tuna Still Kills**, the chasing and netting of dolphins as promoted by the IATTC and the government of Mexico, separates dolphin calves from their mothers, study shows. (Discovery Channel)

May 4 **ASEAN Position on Whaling and Sharks**, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) confirmed that they would reinforce coordination on fishery issues, including whaling. (SSN)

May 4 **Black caviar export from Iran diminishes**, exports of black sturgeon caviar from Iran in 2003 decreased, experts believe that the main reasons for lower catch of sturgeons and falling black caviar exports are poaching, which has become organized crime. (SSN)

May 4 **Cod Fishery**, fisheries minister Geoff Regan announced that the Atlantic cod fishery will partially reopen for this season. Areas on the northern and southern Gulf of St. Lawrence cod fisheries will reopen. (Globe & Mail)

May 4 **Jellyfish for lunch?**, as traditional fish stock decline some nations, especially third world countries, are turning to eating lower on the food chain. (Post-Intelligencer)

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May 5 **Smuggling in China**, Anhui Huanshan forestry police solve illegal wildlife species skin trafficking case. Based on reports from the masses, the police learned that a suspect bought species skins at the railway station. (SSN)

May 5 **United Nations Wakes Up to Sustainable Coffee**, coffee shops throughout the United Nations offices in New York are now serving sustainable coffee to the delegates, diplomats and visitors who walk in prestigious halls. (ENN)

May 5 **Debate Over Causes Aside, Warm Climate's Effects Are Striking In the West**, higher temperatures due to global warming put a higher strain on water availability. (ENN)

May 5 **African Groups Criticize US Over Gene-Altered Food Aid**, some 60 African farm campaigners, criticized the US for what they said was relentless pressure on Sudan and Angola to accept gene-altered food aid to avert hunger. (ENN)

May 5 **Malaysia Detains 16 Chinese Fishers For Poaching**, finds 160 dead sea turtles on boat. The fishers were believed to have poisoned the waters with cyanide to catch the turtles. (ENN)

May 5 **US Lawmakers to Remove Lead From Tap Water**, by introducing a bill to eliminate lead in the nation's drinking water supply after high levels of the toxic metal were found in the capital's tap water. (ENN)

May 5 **Fatal Deforestation Plans**, the World Bank plans to 'develop' the country's forests (in the Democratic Republic of Congo) and to open them for large-scale commercial logging. These plans are combined with financial promises for the DRC. (ENN)

May 5 **Singapore Smuggling of Vervet Monkey**, smuggled monkey heads home to Africa since it has been sneaked into Singapore by a sailor 6 years ago and kept chained in a metal cage in a Tuas factory. (New Straits Times)

May 5 **Endangered cactus**, a first ever study of a star cactus is being done on land purchased by the Nature Conservancy under a species recovery plan directed by the US Fish and Wildlife. The location is being kept secret because of poachers. (Valley Morning Star)

May 5 **Pig-Nosed Turtles**, illegal turtles' trail leads to homes in Philadelphia. Agents searched in Williamstown and Lindenwold for rare S. Pacific reptiles whose import is banned. (Philadelphia Inquirer)

May 5 **Malaysian Sea Turtle Poachers Nabbed**, 16 Chinese held for poaching rare turtles. (New Straits Times)

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May 5 **Kangaroo Culling**, Australia's iconic kangaroos are being decimated by hunting and drought and the species could be extinct within 10 years. Wildlife Protection Association said a great amount of danger comes as a result of aggressive culling programs. (AFP)

May 5 **Bay-Delta sturgeon at risk from wildlife black markets**, a huge year-class of sturgeon projected to enter the San Francisco Bay and Delta as adults in 2006 is at risk from wildlife black markets. (San Francisco Chronicle)

May 5 **'Grasp the Last Chance to Save Great Apes'**, Dr. Richard Leakey, former head of the Kenyan wildlife service, said he wanted to raise millions of pounds for the Great Apes Survival Project, which believes great apes face a threat of imminent extinction. (PA News)

May 5 **Trappers 'Targeting Wild Birds for Cage Sales'**, the RSPCA said it was becoming concerned about the rising numbers of wild birds being trapped by poachers. It is mainly finches and songbirds that are being targeted. (PA News)

May 6 **Mote Releases Rehabilitated Dolphin in Charlotte Harbour**, a 2 yr old Atlantic bottlenose had become entangled in nylon fishing line and was in bad shape. The dolphin underwent 3 surgeries and two months rehabilitation before it was set free. (Sarasota Herald)

May 6 **Man guilty of illegal wildlife sales**, a Spearfish man has been sentenced to serve one year on probation and pay a \$3,000 fine, along with \$8,320 in restitution for illegally selling bear gall bladders. (Rapid City Journal)

May 6 **Supreme Court empowers wildlife officials**, a Supreme Court order has strengthened the hands of officials engaged in protecting the country's endangered wildlife and taking on gangs of well armed poachers. (Indo-Asian News Service)

May 6 **Whaling Critics Blast Norway Over Sensors Trial**, environmentalists started the 2004 whale hunting season by criticizing a Norwegian trial system that replaces inspectors on ships with computerized sensors. (Reuters)

May 6 **Japan Prepares for Next Whale Hunt**, the primary goals of the research are to determine how many whales are out there, how long they live, how quickly they breed, what they eat and how many could be killed commercially without significantly depleting their stocks. (Globe & Mail)

May 6 **Last Stand for Hawaiian Birds**, Renate Gassman says introduced predators from tree-climbing rats to feral cats, have taken their toll on indigenous species like the i'iwi and other birds. (ENN)

May 6 **Scientists Petition to List 225 Plants and Animals as Endangered**, and have petitioned the US government to add them to the US endangered species list. (ENN)

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May 6 **Conservation Groups Organize Boycott of Catch From Environmentally Damaging Fisheries**, an environmental group is preparing a global boycott of seafood from fisheries they consider environmentally damaging, distributing millions of copies of a list of seafood species to avoid. (ENN)

May 6 **Wild Salmon Prices Boosted by Campaigns Promoting Health, Taste, Environment**, fish marketing consultant notes a slight increase in farmed salmon prices but notes that wild salmon prices are up much more. (ENN)

May 6 **Ocean Creatures Growing Sicker**, marine creatures are succumbing to diseases faster than ever before, a new study finds. Yet numbers of disease reports about fish seem to be decreasing, possibly because overfishing has made fish rarer and disease more difficult to transmit. (ENN)

May 6 **Royal Caribbean Will Add Equipment to Cruise Ships to Better Clean up Sewage** before it is dumped into the ocean. (ENN)

May 7 **Tigers maul worker at private zoo in Thailand**, six Bengal tigers mauled a zoo worker as she was feeding the animals in front of about 100 tourists, leaving the 18 year old woman in intensive care at a hospital. (Associated Press)

May 7 **Shark wastage condemned**, the minister of fisheries considers the introduction of shark species into the quota management system due to declining shark stocks. (SSN)

May 7 **Private Public Partnership Brings Back Shovelnose Sturgeon after 15 Years of Hiatus**, the five year re-introduction effort is in its 3rd year. (ENN)

May 7 **Air Pollution Kills Thousands a Year**, says French Agency, while ozone in the upper atmosphere is vital to filter out harmful ultraviolet light, ground-level ozone can cause respiratory problems. (ENN)

May 7 **Canada Vows to Combat Overfishing Near Its Waters**, and crack down on foreign trawlers which are accused of illegally catching endangered and undersized fish just outside Canada's 200 mile limit in the Atlantic Ocean. (ENN)

May 7 **New Group Battling to Beat Climate Change**, Climate Group publicly launched last week in London with the blessing of the British government and funded by the US-based Rockefeller Brothers Fund, aims to persuade governments, companies, and even individuals to slash greenhouse gas emissions. (ENN)

May 7 **Luna**, a research project conducted over the past 2 months has been observing Luna, with a view to assessing his behaviour in the absence of summertime recreational vessels. Results show Luna to be a normal orca fully capable of managing by himself. (CFN)

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May 7 **Cormorant Slaughter Begins**, Natural Resources Ministry staff began shooting cormorants in E. Ontario's Presqu'ile Provincial Park today. Ministry staff will continue other management practices following the cull which should dampen the spread of the cormorant. (Toronto Star)

May 7 **Liberals & Pirates**, a tough talking Liberal government announced it's spending \$15 million more to track 'modern-day pirates on the sea'. (Toronto Sun)

May 7 **Vicuna**, a major change in the commercialisation of the vicuna fibre from the main producer is going to take place in Peru. (SSN)

May 7 **Greenbelt Update**, the provincial government has announced the dates of a series of public meetings that will give Ontarians the opportunity to voice their views on green space protection. (Greenbelt Alliance)

May 7 **Humpback Whale**, the male humpback whale apparently sings its mysterious songs to get females. (Toronto Sun)

May 7 **SARS Vaccine**, animal testing has begun on two Canadian SARS vaccines, just 14 months after the deadly virus was discovered. (Toronto Sun)

May 7 **Gull Eggs & Contaminants**, herring gull eggs collected from nests along the Great Lakes contain rising levels of a new contaminant that could be as dangerous as the PCBs banned in the 1970s. This contaminant is known as brominated diphenyl ethers. (Globe & Mail)

May 7 **Pesticide Bylaw**, Mayor David Miller says city council might as well forget about the anti-pesticide bylaw if it supports proposals to water it down. (Toronto Sun)

May 10 **Zimbabwe Army & Parks Staff Accused of Poaching**, that have decimated Zimbabwe's wildlife in the country's conservancies. Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force Chairman Rodrigues accused the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of failing to curb 'state poaching'. (The Independent)

May 10 **Dolphin Babies Swim in Mothers Slipstream**, as the mother moves through the water, she pushes the water in front of her forwards and to the sides, to make space for her body, as she moves, the space behind her is filled with water moving forward and inward, which reduces nearby pressure and helps to pull the calf inward and close to mum. (Atuna)

May 10 **Newborn Dolphin Dies**, another Begins Life, the National Aquarium is celebrating a healthy 30 pound calf and both mother and baby are doing well. This baby is the Aquarium's eighth calf born at the facility. (WBAL)

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May 10 **Myanmar to Protect its Sharks**, Myanmar has moved to protect the rapidly shrinking shark population in its southern waters which have been decimated by illegal fishing. A shark protection zone was proposed last month which comprises more than 800 islands stretching 400 km along the peninsular shared with Thailand. (AFP)

May 10 **Scandal of zoo's 'missing' tigers**, Sriracha Tiger Zoo owner faces charges for breeding tigers without a permit. WSPA says the park breeds a lot of cubs every year, which prove impossible to trace, questions arise as to where tigers go since the zoo has no more than 200-300 tigers. (The Independent)

May 10 **Threat to Wildlife From US Military Base in Japan**, a massive US military base is proposed to be constructed a coral reef off the NE coast of Okinawa, Japan. (Action Network)

May 10 **China Considers Animal Welfare Law**, Beijing is considering draft laws to protect 'animal welfare' in what would be the first legislation of its kind in the country. The regulations would ban abuse against animals and contain requirement on how they should be treated, including how they should be transported or slaughtered. (Channel News Asia)

May 10 **Malaysia's Wild Pet Trade**, TRAFFIC has estimated that wildlife trade in total reached RM38 billion by 2001 and illegal trade is widely thought to account for at least half the amount. (New Straits Times)

May 11 **MPs & Mad Cow Money**, at least two major meat-packing firms are running the risk of possible jail terms after refusing to provide financial details demanded by MPs looking into what happened to millions of dollars in government aid in the mad cow crisis. (Toronto Star)

May 11 **Animal Welfare in Jordan**, Jordan has no animal protection laws and because the notion of welfare is low on the priority list for people in this part of the world, the people are often mystified at how sentimental Westerners can be towards animals. (SSN)

May 11 **What Are Some Ways to Maintain a 'Green' Swimming Pool**, Zodiac System offers a system called Nature 2 that doesn't do away with chlorine entirely but does greatly decrease the amount needed. (ENN)

May 11 **Koala Exports**, Brisbane City Council has been asked to send two new koalas to Kobe zoo for breeding after a previous shipment stopped reproducing. But the request could cost up to \$100,000 for each one delivered and has also raise animal-welfare concerns. (Sunday Mail)

May 11 **Cormorant cull foes target by-election**, activists who have been unable to stop a government cull of thousands of cormorants plan to hit back by urging people to not vote for the Liberal candidate in next week's by-election. (Toronto Star)

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May 11 **Egg Industry Should Not Label Its Product Humane**, as long as it continues such practices as clipping hens' beaks and depriving birds of food and water, according to a ruling issued by the Better Business Bureau. (ENN)

May 11 **Loss of Bamboo Threatens Rare Animal Species**, deforestation is endangering about 1/3 of the world's 1200 bamboo species and threatening rare animals such as giant pandas and mountain gorillas who depend on the plants for food and protection. (ENN)

May 11 **Rocky Mountains Energy Groups to Fight Bird Protection**, the US Fish and Wildlife Service agreed last month to look into the possibility of protecting the greater sage grouse under the Endangered Species Act, a move that would limit development around its habitat in 11 Western states. (ENN)

May 11 **EPA Issues Rules Cutting Pollution in Construction and Farming Vehicles and Equipment**, EPA will issue a new rule that will require refiners to remove nearly all the sulphur in diesel fuel used by these off-road engines. (ENN)

May 11 **Indian Ocean Could Lose Coral Islands in 50 Years**, if sea temperatures continue to rise and reefs badly damaged by global warming, do not recover. (ENN)

May 11 **US Says it is Misunderstood on Climate Change Policy**, Bush's Administration policy on climate change, highlights a commitment to reduce emissions growth and a commitment to advance climate change science and technology are aimed to prove the US is committed to fighting global warming. (ENN)

May 11 **Cod Poachers**, Canadian fisheries officials won't have a chance to inspect a Portuguese boat that they say cut a net that was catching endangered cod and flatfish in international water. The Portuguese government and the European Union ordered the vessel Brites to return to an unspecified port in Portugal to under an inspection. (Globe & Mail)

May 11 **Turtle Eggs Seized in Brunei**, thousands of turtle eggs were saved from ending in the pot as Customs Enforcement officers succeeded in foiling the smuggling of eggs from a foreign man aged 40. (Borneo Bulletin)

May 11 **Japan Minke Whale**, Japan is to propose an easing of an embargo on the international trade of minke whales, at an international wildlife conservation meeting in Bangkok later this year. (ABC)

May 11 **Nepal's Snow Leopards**, the fragile mountain ecosystem that the snow leopards is acclimatized to is under threat because of global warming and an increasing number of people venturing into the once solitary regions for agriculture. (One World)

May 11 **Sudan rebels 'killing for ivory'**, in Kinshasa, poachers linked to the Sudanese SPLA rebels are killing elephants for ivory in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (BBC)

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May 11 **Norway Goes Whaling**, whaling vessels have left Norway for the Barents Sea to open this year's whale-hunting season, defying an international moratorium and protests. The Norwegian government has set a quota of 670 minke whales for this season. (BBC)

May 11 **Whale Meat Markets Failing**, in Japan whale consumption has been falling since WWII, and Norway's total whale meat production is about 1,000 tonnes, or roughly 200 grams or one meal a year for each of Norway's 4.5 million inhabitants. (Reuters)

May 11 **Natural Landscaping**, refers to the use of hardy native plants that are appropriate to the local environment and hence require less use of fertilizers and pesticides. Local governments should promote natural landscaping by planting native plants on public property or by passing official plans which encourage natural landscaping. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Certified Wildlife Gardens**, Canadian Wildlife Federation has certified over 100 gardens ranging in size from postage-sized urban lots to larger rural lots for wildlife friendliness. The certification is free and approved applicants receive a certificate and window decal for the Certified Backyard Habitat. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Lawns and Environmental Problems**, taking grass clippings to a municipal composting facility requires more collection trucks and fuel for transport, watering may account for as much as 40-50% of municipal water use in the summer when water supplies are lowest, polluted runoff from lawns pollutes surface and ground water. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Canadian Healthy Lawns Strategy**, a partnership of Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency and provincial and territorial governments says their main objective is to reduce pesticide use. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Dandelion Festival**, held in Waterloo on May 2, was based on environmental themes such as co-existence with the dandelion. In Ontario, Stratford's Dandelion Festival will focus on butterflies and dandelions including dandelion ice cream, poetry praising the dandelion, and judging the grandest dandelion taproot. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Goonhilly, World's Largest Satellite Earth Station**, is owned and operated by British Telecom. British Telecom works with English Nature, the government's nature conservation agency to proactive manage its site for biodiversity. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Metals and Petroleum**, hundreds of millions of dollars are spent each year remediating sites contaminated with metals and petroleum. An estimate based on Environmental Risk Information Services Ltd is that there are at least 22,000 metal contaminated sites in Canada. (Gallon Environment Letter)

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May 11 **Pesticides and Health Effects**, the Environmental Health Committee of the Ontario College of Physicians, reviewed databases and studies to conclude that people should reduce their exposure to pesticides because of the potential for serious harm to health such as cancer, reproductive problems and neurological diseases. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Ocean Policy**, US Commission has issued a preliminary report recommending a new and comprehensive national ocean policy. Oceans should not be regarded as a separate area but should be integrated into the global ecosystem. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **Tougher Environmental Reporting Requirements** for UK companies listed on the London and New York stock exchanges have been proposed in a published consultation paper by the UK government. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 11 **MACS**, or Mobile Air Conditioners (automobile), have been one of the bigger problems as the world seeks to implement the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 12 **Thailand's Tigers**, Natural Resources and Environment Ministry permanent secretary Plodprasop Suraswadi may be in the clear regarding allegations he illegally approved the export of 100 tigers. (The Nation)

May 12 **Seahorse Listing**, starting May 15 international trade rules kick in for horses – making them one of the first commercially valuable marine species to be managed by the world's largest wildlife treaty. (US Newswire)

May 12 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to the Mayor of Napier, New Zealand, congratulating and supporting their decision not to replace Marineland's two ageing dolphins. (HSC)

May 12 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to his Excellency Sr. Rodriguez Zapatero president of Spain to urge his new government to create new and enforce legislation that will protect animal welfare within Spain. (HSC)

May 12 **Elephants Are Beggars in Bangkok**, the Asian elephant is disappearing from the country due to a lack of space for it. (Pacific News Service)

May 12 **Sudanese rebels threaten rare Congolese rhino**, armed Sudanese rebels have driven the rare northern white rhinos to near extinction after they stepped up poaching in northern Congo. There are 27 world's remaining wild northern white rhinos in Congo. (Reuters)

May 12 **Parrot traffickers get their wings clipped**, five people, including the master of the Safmarine charter vessel Meroula, have been sentenced to fines totalling R78 000

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after KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife inspectors seized six African grey parrots in Durban harbour. (The Independent)

May 12 **Water Use Charges**, the Environment Minister announced plans to charge companies for extracting water from the province's lakes, rivers or from ground sources. (Toronto Sun)

May 12 **Avian Flu Update**, a new strain of avian flu has been found in the Fraser Valley. The discovery among geese and ducks at the Abbotsford farm has prompted officials to close a school. (Canoe)

May 12 **Free Lolita! Bid to Bring Orca 'Home' Heats Up**, activists put squeeze on Florida aquarium. A bicoastal band of activists is on a quixotic campaign to free the killer whale from the Miami Seaquarium and bring her back to Puget Sound. (Seattle Post)

May 12 **Whale Cull Sparks Protest Outside Norwegian Embassy**, protesters voiced their anger over the start of Norway's planned slaughter of hundreds of whales. The row over whaling is due to re-surface in July at the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Italy. (New Scotsman)

May 13 **Fines against meat packers halted**, conservative MPs have stopped the House of Commons from levying massive fines against two major meat-packing firms suspected by some members of profiting from the mad cow crisis. (Canoe)

May 13 **Irrawaddy Dolphin**, Thailand has asked an international wildlife protection agency to list the Irrawaddy dolphin as a critical species in danger of extinction. The proposal is one of about 50 received by the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in endangered Species for Cites from governments around the world. (The Nation)

May 13 **Lions & Sharks**, great white sharks and lions are two of the endangered species slated for extra protection in new proposals to limit trade in their body parts. Elephants, however, are now plentiful enough to allow the controversial ivory trade to be resumed legally, according to proposal. (New Scientist)

May 14 **Boxer & Miller Letter to Commerce**, US Senator Barbara Boxer and Congressman George Miller today asked that the Department of Commerce place an indefinite ban on allowing Mexican tuna to be labelled 'dolphin safe'. (SSN)

May 14 **Group Prepared to Sue Over Rare Bering Sea Whales**, the Center for Biological Diversity submitted a 60 day notice to the National Marine Fisheries Service over what it says is a breach of promise to protect the whales first sighted in 1996. (Associated Press)

May 17 **Dolphins and Dandruff**, dolphins shed a continuous stream of 'dandruff' to help them glide smoothly and quickly through the oceans, according to a study. Such reduces

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friction around their bodies and lets them reach speeds that would otherwise be impossible. (The Telegraph)

May 17 **New Approach to Pavement and Sprawl in Michigan** is gaining acceptance in that it replaces the conventional, one-size-fits-all approach to transportation projects with a citizen-led planning process that is much more sensitive to a community's sense of place. The approach is called 'context-sensitive design'. (Michigan Land Use Institute)

May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, the Indianapolis Zoo said the average life span for bottlenose dolphins was up to 37 years none of its dolphins alive or dead has lived past 21 records show. After the newspaper asked, the zoo changed its Web site to say the average life span in the wild was 17 years. (Sun Sentinel)

May 17 **Close enough to get a blast of whale breath**, Shedd Aquarium is offering \$350 for "Trainer for the Day" experience that puts participants to work, behind the scenes. At 4 hours, the sessions are really half-day experiences and are led by a Shedd trainer. (Sun Times)

May 17 **Thailand Lobbies to Save Dolphins**, Thailand was lobbying Asian nations and Australia for support Wednesday for a ban on trading rare Irrawaddy dolphins. (Big News Network)

May 17 **UN Weighs Endangered Species Rule**, Namibia wants to loosen a global ban on ivory sales, Japan wants to ease restriction on trade in whales and Australia wants to protect the great white shark. (Newsday)

May 17 **New MMPA Amendments**, the new amendments do nothing to reverse the exemptions for the military adopted last year by Congress through the military budget process, and further increase exemptions and exceptions for commercial fishermen and other special interests, allowing many thousands more marine mammals to be killed. (CFN)

May 17 **Dolphins Captured in Haiti** by the Mexicans have been caged near the shores of the Arcadians islands right off the coast of Haiti. The dolphins look very sick, are motionless on the surface of the water, and hot because of no shade. (CFN)

May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, the South Florida Sun-Sentinel examined the history and records of the industry, including more than 30 years' worth of federal documents on 7,121 marine animals more than 3,850 sea lions, seals, dolphins and whales have died under human care, many of them young. (Sun-Sentinel)

May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**. The chlorine level in tanks at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium last year was so high that dolphins couldn't fully open their eyes and their skin peeled off. (Sun-Sentinel)

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May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface:** the Sun-Sentinel asked 129 facilities displaying marine mammals, for their records on attendance, revenues and animal deaths. (Sun-Sentinel)

May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface:** the age of animals that died varies among facilities. (Sun-Sentinel)

May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface:** the average life span for bottlenose dolphins, according to marine attractions' websites is 18, 30, 37, 45 years. Conservation biologist Randall Wells tracked dolphins on Florida's west coast for 34 years, and among 140 animals his team follows at least four are in their 50s and eight in their 40s. (Sun-Sentinel)

May 17 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface:** the top exporters among 29 countries that have reported dolphin deals under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, provided export records in an effort to ensure that trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. (Sun-Sentinel)

May 18 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface:** a single dolphin can generate \$1 million a year. Dolphins and whales have become so valuable that parks and use them as collateral for loans. They are worth money even dead, bringing their owners million-dollar life insurance payouts. (Sun-Sentinel)

May 18 **Tribe's whalers await chance to hunt again,** while the courts haven't said the tribe cannot hunt whales – as the 1855 Treaty of Neah Bay affirms it can – a ruling that stands now requires the Makah to go through additional processes to do so, with no guarantees the tribe will ever win approval to hunt again. (Post-Intelligencer)

May 18 **Hybrid Buses and Pollution,** a Department of Energy study reports that hybrid buses which combine a diesel engine with an electric motor, outperform regular diesel buses in a variety of categories, offering 10 percent higher fuel economy, 19 percent lower carbon dioxide emissions, and a 97 percent reduction in carbon monoxide emissions. (ENN)

May 18 **Set For Ban, DDT Lingers in Battle against Malaria,** once hailed as a miracle pesticide; DDT is outlawed as one of the "Dirty Dozen" chemicals even as it stays in use as a controversial spray against malaria-spreading mosquitoes. (ENN)

May 18 **Japan Says It Won't Meet Kyoto Targets Reducing Greenhouse Gasses without Policy Changes,** the government recently released a progress report showing emissions of greenhouse gasses up 8.2% in 2001 from 1990 level. (ENN)

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May 18 **US Cattle Brains May Be Turned into Biofuels says USDA**, cattle brains and other remains that may carry the deadly mad cow disease would be turned into biofuels under a plan announced by the US Department of Agriculture. (ENN)

May 18 **Bald Eagle Will Be off Threatened List this Year, says Bush official**, the birds still would be safeguarded under the federal Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940, which prohibits killing or selling the animals. (ENN)

May 18 **Russia's Top Scientists Tell Putin to Kill Kyoto**, the Kyoto Protocol to limit greenhouse gases has no scientific basis and puts the Russian economy at risk, Russia's leading scientists said in official advice to Russian President Vladimir Putin. (ENN)

May 18 **Arctic Temperatures are Warming Rapidly, says Polar Explorer**, summer temperatures in the Arctic have risen at an incredible rate over the past three years, and large patches of what should be ice are now open water, a British polar explorer said. (ENN)

May 18 **UN Food Agency Support Genetically Modified Crops Despite Lingering Public Opposition**, genetically modified crops are helping poor farmers and have posed no adverse health or environmental effects so far, the UN food agency said Monday in a report on how biotechnology can help feed the world's hungry. (ENN)

May 18 **Norway to Increase Minke Quota**, Norway's Parliament will decide to instruct the government to substantially increase the minke whale quota as soon as possible, in accordance with advice from Norwegian scientists. (High North News)

May 18 **Bison back roaming Canada's prairies**, 50 bison from a holding paddock were reintroduced to the land they once roamed by the millions, the bison were trucked in from Elk Island National Park in Alberta to the Old Man on His Back Prairies and Heritage Conservation Area south of Swift Current, Sask. (Toronto Sun)

May 18 **Killing of Tahrs on Table Mountain – NSPCA Calls for Halt**, the NSPCA expects SANPARKS to cease this killing and to urgently submit a formal proposal to the SANPARKS AUCC for review and consideration: which must include an environmental impact study. (NSPCA Media Release)

May 19 **Shanghai Warns Residents to Avoid Seafood Due to Massive Red Tide Off Coast**, the growth of algae affects an area up to 20,000 square kilometres off the coast of neighbouring Zhejiang province, and is one of the biggest in years. (ENN)

May 19 **California Lawmakers Back Ban on Force-Fed Foie Gras**, force-feeding of ducks and geese to make foie gras, a delicacy to some and outrage to others, is a step closer to being outlawed in California after the state senate's passage of a bill. (ENN)

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May 19 **Environmentalists Target Canada's Boreal Forest**, environmentalists launched an international campaign Tuesday to limit logging in Canada's boreal forest, a northern wilderness stretching from the Atlantic Ocean into Alaska. (ENN)

May 19 **Medicine From the Sea**, more than 100 important drugs originate either as direct extracts or synthetic redesigns of plant molecules. Now with the arrival of scuba diving, researchers will be able to explore the seas for any new discoveries of drugs. (ENN)

May 19 **Oslo Wants More Whaling to Boost Fish Stocks**, Norway's parliament called for a three-fold increase in whale hunting quotas in a move it said would protect stocks of cod and other fish eaten by the giant mammals. (ENN)

May 19 **Cameroon Arrests Woman Carrying 266 Dead Parrots and 597 Red Bannerman Turaco Feathers** in the northwestern town of Bamenda, the 41 year old woman was planning to sell the birds and the highly prized feathers used in black magic rites and to decorate community leaders in Nigeria. (ENN)

May 19 **Bush Forms Cabinet-Level Task Force to Coordinate Great Lakes Cleanup**, the General Accounting Office found last year that 33 federal states and 17 state programs have spent more than \$1.7 billion on environmental restoration of the Great Lakes. (ENN)

May 19 **New Species of Fish Discovered in Seychelles**, in the Indian Ocean archipelago underlining the need for better protection for marine species. (ENN)

May 19 **Tiger Cubs Released Back in Kaziranga National Park**, the tiger cubs which attacked the village cattle were tranquilized and release back into the wilderness within 24 hours. (Wildlife Trust of India Medial Release)

May 19 **Greenpeace 1, Bush 0**, a judge threw out federal charges Wednesday against Greenpeace for a protest in which members of the environmental group clambered aboard a cargo ship loaded with Amazon mahogany. (MSNBC News Service)

May 20 **Bo Derek & Horse Slaughter**, Bo Derek is lending her fame to Illinois lawmakers working to keep horses from being slaughtered for human consumption. (Toronto Sun)

May 20 **Whistleblower Leaves National Fisheries Service**, the biologist who filed a federal whistleblower complaint concerning political interference is setting water levels prior to the massive Klamath fish kill in the fall of 2002 has resigned from federal service. (PEER Media Release)

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May 20 **Norwegian Parliament on Higher Quotas**, Norway's parliament called for a three-fold increase in whale hunting quotas in a move it said would protect stocks of cod and other fish eaten by the giant mammals. (Reuters)

May 20 **Forest Plant Spells Extinction for Marbled Murrelet**, a threatened Pacific seabird, has proven a might force in force conservation because it nests in old-growth trees the murrelet has helped turn back chainsaws and logging trucks from Northern California to Washington state. (ENN)

May 20 **Conservationists Ask Koizumi to Stop US Military Base Relocation to Save Endangered Dugongs**, conservationists have asked Japan to halt plans to relocate a US Marine Corps air base, saying the facility might threaten endangered dugongs, or sea cows, that live in nearby waters. (ENN)

May 20 **International Protection Given to New Zealand Marine Reserve Area**, large ships will be banned from approaching the Poor Knights Islands off New Zealand's east coast following an unprecedented ruling aimed at protecting ecologically sensitive areas. (ENN)

May 20 **Bush Invokes War on Terror in US Energy Debate**, Bush said he would not release strategic oil stocks to curb record gasoline prices while he was waging war on terror and accused Democrats of playing politics on energy. (ENN)

May 20 **Thaw of Icy Gas May Worse Global Warming**, a thawing of vast, ice like deposits of gas under oceans and in permafrost could sharply accelerate global warming in the 21 century, British based scientists said. (ENN)

May 20 **Activists and MPs Renew Call for British Hunt Ban**, animal welfare activists and backbench members of parliament called on Britain's government to reopen the long-running debate on banning hunting with dogs. (ENN)

May 20 **Government Often Slow to Enforce Laws**, four times in the previous 15 months, federal inspectors have cited Sea Life Park on the Hawaiian island of Oahu for not providing its aging and frail marine mammals with adequate veterinary care. By the time of their 5th visit, a pregnant 24-year old dolphin had died after three days of labour with no medical care. (Sun Sentinel)

May 20 **Puerto Rico falls under MMPA and APHIS**, no dolphins can be sent there unless already in US facilities, otherwise the company will need to complete the usual import permit process. (SSN)

May 20 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, when federal officials decided that a 2-3 week old dolphin found swimming in circles near the Kennedy Space Center in April 2002 was too young to be returned to the ocean, seven Florida marine attraction stepped up to take him. (Sun Sentinel)

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May 20 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, to sustain and grow their exhibits, marine parks, aquariums and zoos have come to rely on animals found stranded on beaches and those born in their own tanks. The federal government has placed fewer than 20 stranded animals at marine attractions in the past three years, leaving parks to increasingly rely on their stars to reproduce. (Sun Sentinel)

May 20 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**. Between 1960s and 1993 at least 1,600 whales, dolphins, seals and sea lions were taken from US waters, according to National Marine Fisheries Services records. (Sun Sentinel)

May 20 **Man Charged After 'Neuter'**. A Mississauga man has been charged with cruelty to animals after a 'do-it yourself' neutering of a 2 year old golden retriever went so badly the dog required emergency surgery. The maximum penalties range from a fine of \$2,000 to six months in jail. (Toronto Star)

May 20 **Student Charged with Animal Cruelty** after a pregnant rabbit was punched to death at the University of Victoria in February. (Times Colonist)

May 20 **No Spraying for Weeds Allowed under Bylaw**, the professional lawn care applicators will be fined for non-compliance in 2007. (Toronto Environmental Alliance)

May 20 **Gun Registry Changes**, Prime Minister Anne McLellan announced the Liberals are eliminating fees for registering a gun and capping the registry's annual cost to taxpayers at \$25 million. (Canoe)

May 21 **Pesticide Ban Update**, the City will hit homeowners with \$255 fines for using chemical weed-killers to destroy dandelions, starting in September 2007. Authors of the bylaw want to focus on educating people about ways to wean lawns off pesticides in the short-term. (Toronto Sun)

May 21 **UK Governments 3Rs Centre Mislead the Republic**, the new center will actually fund animal experiments which is misleading. The Centre is not going to be independent at all - the people in charge are all from the pro-animal experimentation industry, and so they will starve the Replacement side of the work of both money and effort. (SSN)

May 21 **Tahrs Second Release**, the NSPCA has received no response to its faxed message to SANPARKS in which NSPCA asks for a discussion on the issue. The NSPCA offers to relocate and neuter the animals at no cost to SANPARKS or if the animals are needed to be culled such must be done humanely. (NSPCA Media Release)

May 21 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, oversight of marine mammals in US parks, zoos and aquariums falls under two federal agencies that are part of massive bureaucracies charged with other responsibilities, from the Census counts to ensuring the safety of the nation's food supply. (Sun Sentinel)

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May 21 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, the carcasses of more than 120 bottlenose dolphins washed up along the shores of the Florida Panhandle, the victims of what scientists suspect was a red tide outbreak and environmentalists blame on run-off from development. (Sun Sentinel)

May 21 **Marine Attractions: Below the Surface**, fascination with dolphins and whales is worldwide, captures are still legal in the US but sensitive to public opposition, American marine parks and aquariums have not applied for a permit in more than a decade – though they do not rule out the possibility in the future. (Sun Sentinel)

May 21 **Corpus Dolphin Handlers Find Missing Penny**, a penny was found in the tank of a Texas State Aquarium dolphin, relieving fears the coin was in the dolphin's stomach and it would take a medical procedure to retrieve it. (SSN)

May 21 **Norwegian Whaling Update**, whalers have made a cracking start to this year's whaling season, in the course of the first week, whalers have killed 68 animals 40 more than in the same time last year. (IWC)

May 21 **Nepal Goes Utilizationist**, wildlife farming might sound like a contradiction in terms, but it is the government of Nepal's new strategy for conserving animal species. New avenues have been opened for farming, breeding and research of high value wild species under the government's new Wildlife Farming, Reproduction and Research Policy. (ENS)

May 21 **Disappearing Species**, numbers presented by Jeremy Thomas, an ecologist with Britain's National Environmental Research Council and his colleagues support the theory that the planet could be on track for what scientists refer to as earth's 'sixth major extinction event'. The cause is oblivious man. (Boston Globe)

May 23 **Monsanto**, the Supreme Court of Canada made biotechnology history Friday with a 5-4 ruling that a Saskatchewan farmer violated a patent Monsanto Canada Inc. held on genes of genetically engineered canola seeds. (Globe & Mail)

May 24 **London Chicken Farmers Surviving Avian Flu**, London and area poultry industry on a perpetual high alert since the first sweep of a deadly virus has resulted in the loss of more than \$10 million and a government ordered cull of about 20 million birds in Canada's most westerly province. (London Free Press)

May 24 **Howard an Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphin**, residing at the West Edmonton Mall, Alberta, was moved to a new home in the Florida Keys on 23 May 2004. That home is Theatre of the Sea, established in 1946 by the McKenney family and one of the oldest marine mammal facilities in the world. (Theatre of the Sea Media Release)

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May 24 **Tacugama Sanctuary in Sierra Leone Gets Grant**, US donated \$77,000 to Sierra Leon's Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary for habitat restoration aimed at saving seven endangered primate species in the tiny west African state. (AFP)

May 24 **LA Zoo to Use Robotic Dinosaurs**, a Los Angeles zoo opens a Dinosaur Pen with 18 robotic animals, including a tyrannosaurus rex, a triceratops and several young hatchlings. The robots are powered by computer chips and compressed air, can swing their heads and swish their tails. (Canoe)

May 24 **Canada Tests SARS Vaccine**, the SARS vaccine testing that has reportedly started on humans in Beijing is the culmination of research that got a boost in Vancouver and was accelerated by the Internet. (Canoe)

May 24 **Minefield Rats**, Frank Weetjens is conditioning giant Gambian pocket rats to detect land mines by rewarding them with food. TNT means clicking sound, means food. (Toronto Star)

May 24 **Brain Parasite Caused Sea Otter Deaths**, most of a startling number of sea otters found sick or dead on the Central California coast were infected with a deadly brain parasite called *Sarcocystis neurona* and suffered brain inflammation. (Associated Press)

May 25 **Japan Mulls Market to Let Companies Trade Rights to Pollute**, Japan is considering setting up a market that would let companies trade the right to pollute, as Tokyo looks for ways to lower overall emissions and meet its targets for the Kyoto treaty on climate change. (ENN)

May 25 **US Agency Calls for Closer Look at Drugs in Animals**, federal agencies looking at the issue of antibiotics in livestock need to focus their efforts, work faster, and back up any recommendations with better research, congressional investigators said. (ENN)

May 25 **Fast Arctic Thaw is a Sign of Global Warming**, global warming is hitting the Arctic more than twice as fast as the rest of the planet in what may be a portent of wider, catastrophic changes, the chairman of an eight-nation study said. (ENN)

May 25 **Humans, Nature Mix Things Up in Day after Tomorrow**, a film that predicts an Ice Age if Humans mess with nature. (ENN)

May 25 **Steer Death at Cloverdale Rodeo**, an injury that ended in the death of an 18-month-old steer at the Cloverdale Rodeo on the weekend was an unusual 'freak accident', said rodeo veterinarian Edward Wiebe. (Vancouver Sun)

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May 25 **Dolphin Lawsuit Report**, lawyers for 9 environmental groups urged a federal judge in San Francisco to order the US government to maintain strict standards for 'dolphin safe' labels on tuna caught by foreign vessels. (Bay City News Service)

May 25 **Drugs**, every time one swallows a pill, some of that medicine follows a circuitous path through the body, down the toilet, through the sewage treatment plant (where it is often resistant to traditional treatments) and into the nearest river or lake, where it is eventually tapped again for the public drinking water supply. (ENN)

May 25 **Dog Gets Lawyer**, an Indiana judge has appointed a lawyer for a dog who faces a death sentence if it can be shown he is part wolf. Cabic bit one of his owner's neighbours in Cedar Lake, Mark Schilling. (Toronto Sun)

May 25 **Police Shoot Bear**, some St. Vital residents were distressed that Manitoba Conservation officials could not tranquilize a bear that was found roaming in a nearby park, instead deciding to have police kill it. (Canoe)

May 26 **Bird Flu in Thailand**, a new outbreak of bird flu has killed hundreds of chickens at a research farm in northern Thailand. Agriculture Ministry officials have culled 1,575 chickens at the Chiang Mai University farm in Chiang Mai province after being informed about the outbreak by the university. (Canoe)

May 26 **Woman Dies Saving Pets**, after a fire broke out in her home, Cathy Margetts, 27 died after trying to rescue several animals from the blaze. (Canoe)

May 26 **Bank of America Sets New Industry Best Practices for Climate Change and Forest Policies**, Bank of American has pledged to take significant new steps in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, protection of intact forest ecosystems, and transparent public reporting to all stakeholders. (ENN)

May 26 **Louisiana Oyster Fishers Claim Diversion Project Destroyed Harvesting Area**, oyster fishers claim in a lawsuit before the Louisiana Supreme Court that the state destroyed their livelihood with a 1991 freshwater diversion program and should be forced to reimburse them. (ENN)

May 26 **Missed Conservation Opportunities Prove Costly**, Canadian legislation designed to increase the fuel efficiency of new vehicles, including SUVs, was passed by Parliament in 1982. But the auto industry lobbied hard and promised to improve fuel efficiency on its own, so the government backed down. The result – the average new vehicle gets worse gas mileage than it did in 1980. (ENN)

May 26 **Administration Considers Speed, Routing Limits to Save Big Whales**, in an effort to protect North Atlantic right whales, one of the world's most endangered large whales; the Bush administration is considering speed and routing restrictions for East Coast shipping. (ENN)

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May 26 **Brazil Says Foreign Media Distort Amazon Destruction**, Brazil's government accused foreign media and nongovernmental organizations of trying to undermine Brazil's farm boom by distorting the facts and linking it to destruction of the Amazon jungle. (ENN)

May 26 **Dozens of Stranded Whales Dragged Back to Sea in Indonesia**, scientists were studying a whale who died of heat exposure when it became stranded on a beach on Indonesia's Java Island after 49 others were successfully pushed back into the sea. (ENN)

May 26 **Rabies in BC**, pet owners could soon be advised by their vets to get their dogs and cats vaccinated against rabies, following the discovery of a rabid skunk in Stanley Park. (CBC)

May 27 **EPA Issues Fine over Release of Nerve Gas on Pacific Wildlife Sanctuary**, the US Army and a contractor were fined nearly \$52,000 for releasing a deadly chemical weapon on a wildlife sanctuary in the Pacific Ocean. (ENN)

May 27 **California Governor Launches Fuel-Conservation Drive**, brake gradually, keep your tires properly inflated, and obey the speed limit: That was the message from Arnold Schwarzenegger as he called on state residents to cut back on gasoline consumption in response to record prices. (ENN)

May 27 **US Arrests Seven Animal Rights Militants**, who were also charged with terrorizing officers, employees, and shareholders of a British company in New Jersey that uses animals to test drugs. (ENN)

May 27 **The Declining Importance of Environmental Expertise**, for a number of years now in many environment ministries one has to go down four or five layers from the Minister before one finds anyone who has any professional expertise in the Ministry's area of responsibility. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 27 **Managing Exotic Diseases and Pests**, many parts of Canada recently experienced threat from exotic diseases and pests, and when it comes to dealing with exotics pests and disease, long term decisions of enormous magnitude are being made with little involvement by the full range of various segments of society. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 27 **Avian Influenza – 17 Million Chickens Slaughtered**, area covered: entire Fraser Valley. Of the 600 farms, 42 farms had infections with nearly 1.3 million infected birds. (Gallon Environment Letter)

May 27 **Industry Supported Massive Scale of Cull in Canada**, the industry is losing hundreds of millions of dollars as a result of an avian flue, and is seeking compensation from the provincial and federal governments. (Gallon Environment Letter)

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May 27 **Chimps and Humans**, just 2% of human genetic mixture is different from a human. This closeness is used as a reason to attack medical experiments on chimps. (Ottawa Citizen)

May 27 **Selling Endangered Species**, the cops were watching recently when W.R. Jamieson of Toronto tried to sell an Eskimo curlew – an endangered shorebird that summers in Canada's Arctic, the Environment Canada enforcement officers relieved the man of the bird and he was fined \$3,250 by the Ontario Court of Justice judge. (Ottawa Citizen)

May 27 **British Lord Wants Bounty on Squirrels**, the red squirrel is protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act which prohibits any unauthorized killing, injuries, theft or sale of the creatures. The grey squirrel threatens the red squirrels by driving them out of their territory and something should be done about that. (Canoe)

May 28 **Ontario West Nile**, health officials in Ontario have reported what appears to be Canada's first dead bird from West Nile virus this year. A blue jay found earlier this month near Hanover, Ontario, had tested positive for West Nile. (Canoe)

May 28 **High US Fuel Costs Put Focus on Renewable Energy**, with fuel prices at record levels, US consumers are once again turning their attention to more efficient cars, companies are investing in renewable energy, and government programs are encouraging conservation. (ENN)

May 28 **Biomass Could Reduce CO2 Emissions**, using biomass, a type of fuel made of materials such as wood and manure, instead of coal to generate electricity could lower the world's carbon dioxide emissions and create jobs. (ENN)

May 28 **US Needs Stricter Car Fuel Standards**, America should end its love affair with gas guzzlers to cool down red-hot prices at the pumps and cut oil imports, a consumer group urged. (ENN)

May 28 **In About-Face, Army Scraps Plans for Environmental Cutbacks**, the Army scrapped plans to curtail some environmental protections and contracts after learning from Pentagon budget officials it could make do with cuts elsewhere. (ENN)

May 28 **Austria's Animal Rights Law**, the anticruelty law in Austria, Vienna, will ban pet owners from cropping their dogs' ears or tails, force farmers to uncage their chickens and ensure that puppies and kittens no longer swelter in pet shop windows. (Globe & Mail)

May 28 **Rabies**, in Ontario approximately \$6 million is spent annually by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to control and eradicate the disease from wildlife populations. (Globe & Mail)

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May 28 **Drought, Insects & Trees**, Western forests may be on the brink of epochal change, driven to permanent retreat in lower elevations by years of drought and decades of fire suppression that has made them vulnerable to a scourge of insects. (Canoe)

May 30 **Bumpy Ride Article Request**, Canada could be left behind in the race to develop and market alternative fuels – firms have proven expertise but lack government. (Toronto Star)

JUNE

Jun 1 **Celebrate “World Environment Day” Asks The Humane Society of Canada**, “with global warming, deforestation, pollution, and disappearing species we need to consider the state of the only home we have and do whatever we can to protect it. (HSC)

Jun 1 **UK Sonar**, sonar tests are a threat to dolphins. Animal rights campaigners are calling on the Ministry of Defence to abandon sonar tests off the Scottish coast, which they claim could kill whales and dolphins. (London Times)

Jun 1 **Friendly to Sea Bass**, sea bass are set to be the focus of a new fight to prevent the deaths of thousands of dolphins every year. Restaurants and hotels are banning the use of sea bass caught using fishing methods that have been linked to the killing of dolphins off the Southwest coast. (The Independent)

Jun 1 **Mad Cow-Resistant Embryo**, Japanese and US scientists have genetically engineered a bovine embryo that is resistant to the deadly mad cow disease and they plan to breed several of the cows to use them to make medicines to treat human diseases. (Globe & Mail)

Jun 1 **French Frog Poachers Arrested**, seven people in France have been arrested and charged with conspiring to evade French laws that established quotas and closed seasons for the catching of pool frogs and edible frogs, whose legs have been a staple of French cuisine for centuries. (The Independent)

Jun 1 **West Nile in York Region**, a dead crow found in Aurora has tested positive for West Nile virus, York Region Health officials said. The bird was discovered near the intersection of St. John’s Sideroad and Industrial Pkwy. (Toronto Sun)

Jun 1 **Hong Kong Applies a Heavy Sentence to Illegal Ivory Case**, a shop located in Kowloon, Hong Kong, was fined over L 2,000 for possessing 0.863kg of ivory products without a license. (Environmental Investigation Agency Press Release)

Jun 1 **EU Bird Ban**, human and feathered protesters have presented a petition of 33,000 names to Downing Street, calling for a ban on the importation of wild birds. Around 100

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protesters, and 12 parrots on board of London bus, joined a march starting from Trafalgar Square. (SSN)

Jun 1 50 Whales Stranded in Banyuwangi, fifty whales, which were stranded on Ancol beach, Banyuwangi, East Java, were successfully returned to the sea at high tide on Sunday night, however, one died of heat exposure. (Jakarta Post)

Jun 2 Cities Intensify Climate Problems, in a recent report from Harvard Medical School carbon dioxide and smoke from smokestacks did not dissipate as readily as previously thought. Instead they create a dome around cities, intensifying the urban 'heat island effect' and increases plant growth like ragweed, which in turn exacerbate asthma. (ENN)

Jun 2 Court Upholds Snowmobile Pollution Rule, Federal Appeals Court judges upheld tougher pollution controls on snowmobiles Tuesday, but asked why the Environmental Protection Agency Rule would exempt almost one-third of newly built snowmobiles. (ENN)

Jun 2 Antifire Chemical Spurs Toxic Fears in Arctic, chemicals widely used as flame retardants in homes have been found in polar bears and birds in the Arctic, raising fears that they could pose a health hazard, Norwegian scientists said. (ENN)

Jun 2 Amphibians & Sunburn, the global decline of amphibians, which do not have the luxury of slathering on sun block, is partly linked to sunburn. Ultraviolet radiation is one of several components that cause damage to amphibians at every stage of their life cycle. (Globe & Mail)

Jun 3 US Helps Brazil Crackdown on Wildlife Smuggling, a US Fish and Wildlife Service investigation of wildlife smuggling has helped Federal authorities in Brazil break up a criminal network illegally trafficking in tribal handicrafts made from protected species. (US Fish & Wildlife Service Press Release)

June 3 Great White Shark, marine scientists returned from a 3 week cruise along the South African coast where they attached satellite tracking devices to the fins of 18 Great White sharks. They hope this will help establish the migration patterns of this poorly understood shark. (Cape Times)

June 3 Bad Air Causes Heart Disease, says US Heart Group, air pollution causes heart disease the American Heart Association said this week. While pollution does not cause as many heart attacks as high blood pressure, it is a serious risk factor. (ENN)

Jun 3 Open USDA Biopharm Permitting Process to the Public, the US Agriculture Department's process for approving permits to grow biopharmaceutical crops is 'shrouded in secrecy', making it difficult to know if the crops pose a risk to humans or the environments. (ENN)

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Jun 3 **EU Commission Sees US Return to Kyoto Fold**, the US will eventually join other industrial nations in signing up to the Kyoto global warming pact, despite its current opposition to the agreement, Europe's environment chief said. (ENN)

Jun 3 **Power Plants Top North American Air Polluters**, coal and oil-fired power plants are the top air polluters in the US and Canada according to most recent data, the commission for environmental cooperation said. (ENN)

Jun 3 **Protecting Namibia's Wildlife Increases Incomes**, desert-dwelling elephants, endangered mountain zebras, and black rhinos are some of the animals protected by Namibia's Torra Conservancy, which provides jobs for villagers as it protects the country's wildlife heritage. (USAID Press Release)

Jun 3 **Burkina Faso's Tiny Elephant Population**, a hard-line government anti-poaching campaign and widespread community support have brought Burkina Faso's tiny elephant population back from the verge of extinction. (News 24)

Jun 3 **Toothfish Sentencing**, a man who led companies that smuggled Chilean sea bass and rock lobsters from South Africa to the US for at least 15 years was sentenced to nearly four years in prison. (Associated Press)

Jun 3 **Thai Clouded Leopards Move to US**, more clouded leopards may be joining Ming and Mae at the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere soon. Zoo officials hope to get two cubs from Thailand later this year. (The Tennessean)

Jun 3 **Elephants Threatened in Myanmar**, Myanmar officials are concerned that illegal logging and hunting are threatening the country's wild elephant population despite the species being placed on the protected list a decade ago. (AFP)

Jun 3 **Protecting the Hoodia Plant**, Namibia has requested CITES to list the Carrion Flower (Hoodia) in Appendix II, to enable it to sell the natural resource. Plants and animal species classified in the United Nations on International Trade on Endangered Species (CITES) Appendix II can be sold in controlled commercial trade. (The Namibian)

Jun 3 **Ivory as a Pet Product**, rising export demand has prompted the government to consider bringing domesticated animals such as fish, cats, dogs and birds under bilateral free-trade agreements (FTAs). (The Nation)

Jun 3 **"World Pet Memorial Day" is a Good Time to Honour Pets Says HSC**. Pets are a big part of many people's lives providing love, companionship and many other benefits to their human guardians. (HSC)

Jun 4 **Car Owners are Turning to Vegetable Oils as Cleaner, Cheaper Fuel Alternative**, environmentalists have used vegetable oil for years as an alternative fuel to

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cut back on sooty emissions, but as gas prices soar, they say 'veggie cars' are a great way to save cash. (ENN)

Jun 4 **"Toxic Dust" on Computers Has Chemicals Linked to Diseases** such as reproductive and neurological disorders, according to a new study by several environmental groups. (ENN)

Jun 4 **New Zealand to Ask Tiny Palau to Support South Pacific Whale Sanctuary**, New Zealand wants the tiny Pacific state of Palau to end its opposition to the creation of a whale sanctuary in the South Pacific Ocean. (ENN)

Jun 4 **Brazil Defends Amazon Protection Efforts**, Brazil on Thursday defended its efforts to fight destruction of the Amazon rain forest despite delays in creating reserves to protect the world's largest jungle. (ENN)

Jun 4 **Chile's Trade in Alerce**, according to the news, illegal trade of alerce (also known as the Patagonian cypress tree) is out of control in the South of Chile and newspapers are claiming that alerce products are exported to the USA and Canada. The Organization, TRAFFIC, is investigating incidences of the illegal traffic of alerce. (Santiago Times)

Jun 4 **Indonesian Bird Smuggling**, a wildlife watchdog has revealed that bird smuggling is the second largest crime in Indonesia after drug trafficking in terms of the number of cases. Most popular birds are cockatoos and parrots, which are smuggled overseas from North Maluku. (Jakarta Post)

Jun 4 **Ivory Seizure**, the Lusaka Agreement Task Force has announced it is taking unprecedented actions to investigate a massive illegal haul of African elephant ivory in its efforts to crackdown on the deadly trade. (US Newswire)

Jun 4 **Polar Bear Killed**, police in northern Labrador received a frantic call for help when three people in a remote cabin found themselves surrounded by polar bears and running out of bullets. A man and two women said they had been forced to shoot a 680-kg polar bear the night before after warning shots failed to scare away the animal. (Toronto Star)

Jun 4 **Angulated Tortoise**, the Madagascar angulated tortoise has been listed in Appendix I of the Convention since 1 July 1975, however commercial trade in specimens of this species is taking place on some parts of the world. The Secretariat recommends that any trade in this species should be investigated and be reported to the Secretariat. (CITES Notification)

Jun 4 **Killer Whales**, US officials said they are granting special protection to a small group of Alaska killer whales that has dwindled in number since some members were seen swimming through oil from the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill. (SSN)

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Jun 7 Chimpanzee Extinction Looms for Western Subspecies, chimpanzees are disappearing at a faster rate than originally thought and some subspecies could become extinct within 17-23 years, based on preliminary research conducted at the African sanctuaries that take in orphaned apes. (PASA Press Release)

Jun 7 Nunavut Wildlife Act, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the Nunavut government, and Nunavut Tunngavik, the territorial land claims organization, signed a special agreement on Thursday outlining a time frame for drafting new regulations under the Act for protecting wildlife. (CBC)

Jun 7 Indonesia's Illegal Wildlife Trade, wildlife smuggling was out of control in Lampung, with syndicates often using elderly women as couriers. The Pramuka and Jatinegara markets in Jakarta were the main trading places for protected wildlife. (Jakarta Post)

Jun 7 China's Wildlife Laws, China plans to toughen its wildlife protection laws to preserve wild animal species and improve their care. Investigative work and the drafting of new legal rules are being completed for amending current laws. The adjustments will likely focus on management of protected wildlife, the definition of ownership of wildlife and management of habitats beyond nature reserves. (China Daily)

Jun 7 Black Bear Poaching, the global animal trade for pets, skins for clothing, and animal parts for traditional Asian medicines is estimated at \$20 billion a year. The United States acts as both a consumer and a supplier. But the decline of bear species in Asia has opened an underground market that is a potential threat to black bears on US public lands. (Voice of America)

Jun 7 Congressional Bill Would Cut Government Oversight Of Marine Parks, the government would no longer track dolphins, whales, sea lions and seals traded or sold overseas under the proposal, which opponents fear could lead to the outright elimination of a federal inventory of marine mammals that has existed for more than 30 years. (Sun-Sentinel)

Jun 8 Peruvian Government Confirms its Position, in favour of the conservation of whales on international level. In a meeting convoked last week at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Marine Affairs and the Antarctic, Mrs. Elvira Velasquez, confirmed the position of the Peruvian government to firmly support the conservation of whales. (IWC)

Jun 8 Iceland to Take 25 Minke Whales, Iceland's national economy is overwhelmingly dependent on the utilisation of living marine resources in the ocean around the country. The sustainability of the utilization is therefore of central importance for the long-term well being of the Icelandic people. For this reason, Iceland places a great emphasis on effective management of fisheries and on scientific research on all the components of the marine ecosystem. (IWC)

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June 8 **UN Urges Fish Havens As World Marks Environment Day**, the UN urged the creation of ocean parks to protect depleted fish stocks recently as activists marked World Environment Day by freeing turtles, planting trees, and decrying global warming. (ENN)

June 8 **Anger Against Wolf-Reintroduction Suspected in Western US Dog Poisonings**, the discovery comes after a few visitors of Grand Teton National Park saw their dogs start drooling, retching and quivering uncontrollably as a result of eating poison. (ENN)

June 8 **Galapagos Fishers Call Off Sea Cucumber Protest**, fishers in Ecuador's pristine Galapagos Islands Monday called off a protest demanding more leeway in lucrative sea cucumber fishing after the government agreed to hold talks on new rules limiting their catch. (ENN)

Jun 9 **Aid for Chicken Farmers**, the federal government will pay British Columbia farmers up to \$60 million in compensation for chickens slaughtered during the avian flu outbreak. (Canoe)

Jun 9 **Toothfish**, South Africa is expected to sign a co-operation agreement with Australia to boost its capabilities of combating the poaching of endangered Patagonian toothfish in the southern Indian Ocean. (SSN)

Jun 9 **Makah Blocked from Whaling, Again**, it may take years to determine whether the Makah tribe may resume hunting grey whales, lawyers say following the latest in a series of federal appeals court rulings. (KOMO TV)

Jun 9 **Environmentalists Seek Ban on Bottom Trawl Fishing**, environmental groups urged the United Nations this week to ban so-called bottom trawl fishing in international waters, calling the practice the most destructive fishing practice on the high seas. (ENN)

Jun 15 **Polystyrene Foam From Old Boat Docks is Becoming a Significant Source of Pollution**, every spring, as scores of volunteers scour the shorelines of the lake of the Ozarks looking for trash, much of their haul is chunks of floating, dingy blobs. (ENN)

Jun 10 **China Says Panda Population Up 40 Percent**, the number of giant pandas in the wild in China has jumped by more than 40 percent to 1,590, but the animal remains endangered because its scattered habitat makes breeding difficult, the government said. Officials with the state Forestry Administration, releasing a new survey on the panda population, attributed the rise to conservation efforts implemented in the early 1990's. (SSN)

Jun 10 **All Wildlife Conservancies to be Nationalized**, in a move that has sent shockwaves through the community of conservationists who have been fairly immune to land grabs because of their importance to the economy, leases on nationalized conservancies are to be limited to 25 years. (Ecoterra)

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Jun 10 **Canine Intelligence**, Rico, a dog with a “vocabulary” of nearly 200 words, can learn names of unfamiliar toys after just one exposure to be the new word-toy combination. (Canoe)

Jun 13 **Oil Demand**, global demand for oil will grow this year at its fastest rate since 1980, but the producer group OPEC’S pledge to pump more crude should help ease the pressure on prices, the International Energy Agency said. (Canoe)

Jun 14 **Polluters Can Be Sued**, the supreme court of Canada has opened the door for governments to sue polluters who damage trees, wildlife and water that lack commercial value. In a ruling that delighted environmentalists yesterday, the court said that governments may act as trustees of the public good, seeking compensation for damage from negligence ranging from oil spills and poisoned air to forest fires. (Globe & Mail)

Jun 14 **Tap Opened on Huge Oil Pipeline in Sub-Saharan Africa**. The Presidents of landlocked Chad and the coastal nation of Cameroon took turns opening two pumping station valves, one of the largest private investment in Africa, before a gathering of leaders of other African nations, including some equally caught up in a regional oil boom. (Globe & Mail)

Jun 15 **Cuba’s New Environmentalist Faces Challenges**, the students of the Escuela Primeria in Los Tumbos, a village nestled deep within the rich agricultural province of Pinar Del Rio, constantly hover around the computer awarded to the school a year ago. Their computer runs off of two small solar panels that gleam in the sun when not subjected to occasional rain showers in early summer. (ENN)

Jun 15 **US City’s Lights-Out Policy Saves Migrating Birds**, turning out the lights of city skyscrapers is helping to save the lives of thousands of birds migrating across North America cities to their spring breeding grounds. (ENN)

Jun 15 **California Seen Ready Plan To Cut Auto Emissions**, California regulators will unveil a plan that would require automakers to reduce vehicle emissions by as much as 30 percent on cars sold in the state by 2015, according to a San Francisco environmental group. (ENN)

Jun 15 **Mendocino’s GMO Vote Sparks Action**, this spring, Mendocino County, California voters banned the production of genetically modified crops and animals. Mendocino is the first county in the United States to implement such a ban, inspiring people across the country and the world to follow suit. (ENN)

Jun 15 **Government Proposes More Alaskan Land For Oil And Gas Drilling**, the federal government wants 387,000 more acres available for oil and gas drilling in Alaska, a proposal criticized by environmentalists. (ENN)

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Jun 15 **Southeast Asian Nations Are Becoming Dumping Ground For Toxic Waste**, recent illegal shipments of toxic waste from Taiwan to Malaysia reinforce the urgent need for Southeast Asian Countries to agree on regulations to stop richer countries from using the region as a dumping ground. (ENN)

Jun 15 **BSE Compensation**, the Alberta government released a detailed list on Monday of more than 22,000 Alberta ranchers who received \$402-million in compensation for the effects of mad cow disease. (Globe & Mail)

Jun 15 **House Passes Bill to Conserve Endangered Sea Turtles**. Marine turtles are now among the oldest living creatures on earth. The house unanimously passed the marine turtle conservation act. This bill will assist in the conservation of marine turtles and the nesting habitats of marine turtles in foreign countries. (SSN)

June 16 **Antigua Dolphin Saga**, Chief Environmental Officer Dianne Black-Layne is writing government to recommend the closure of the Marina Bay Dolphin Facility citing that the facility is too small to accommodate the nine dolphins now housed there. (Daily Observer & Antigua Sun)

June 16 **Native Band Wants to Warn Luna of Capture**, members of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation will take to the ocean in two war canoes today to warn Luna, the orca that the Fisheries Department is out to catch him. (The Province)

June 16 **What Happened to the Paperless Office?** The paperless office does appear to still be a distant dream. A recent University of California Berkeley study found that worldwide, the amount of printed matter generated between 1999 and 2002 not only did not decrease - it grew by 36 percent. (ENN)

June 16 **Ukraine Announces It Will Continue to Destroy Rocket Fuel**, thus destroying thousands of tons of rocket fuel from nuclear missiles that were voluntarily decommissioned by the former Soviet republic. (ENN)

June 16 **Australia Unveils Multimillion-Dollar Energy Plant to Help Environment**, Australia's government which has refused to ratify the Kyoto protocol to reduce the world's greenhouse gas emission, announced a new fund Tuesday to boost research into cleaner energy sources. (ENN)

June 16 **Climate Change Experts Despair over US Attitude** and claim they are frustrated the US government and the public are not taking the risk of global warming seriously. (ENN)

June 17 **Cloning Human Embryos**, Britain's reproductive science regulator said Wednesday that it is considering the country's first request to clone human embryos for scientific research. (Globe & Mail)

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June 17 **How to make a one-vole vole**, science is a step closer to solving the perennial complaint that men just won't commit. By slightly altering the brains of the notoriously promiscuous male meadow vole, neurobiologists found that the animals stopped playing around and promptly began to settle down. (Globe & Mail)

June 17 **Abducted Girl Gets Dog**, a 9-year-old girl who narrowly escaped a vicious abduction with her life 11 days ago has received as a gift from Chinguacousy Lion Club a 22-month-old black Labrador retriever pup, along with a lifetime supply of dog food and 10 years of coverage for vet services. (Toronto Sun)

June 17 **This Father's Day**, the Humane Society of Canada would like to remind shoppers looking for that special gift for Dad to check out the HSC "Online Adventure Store". (HSC)

June 17 **Genetically Modified Salmon Out Eat Wild Fish**, scientists attempting to gauge how wild salmon might fare when pitted against their genetically modified brethren have uncovered some sobering findings, the natives could go hungry if forced to compete directly with GM escapees. (ENN)

June 17 **Two Red Tides Bloom off China's East Coast**, two giant toxic red tides engulfed parts of the sea off north-eastern China over the weekend and officials were monitoring seafood for contamination the China Daily reported. (ENN)

June 17 **Alaska Fishery Awarded Label Signifying Environmental Friendliness**, the \$750 million Alaska Pollock fishery, the world's largest fishery has been approved for a label to identify its products as environmentally friendly. (ENN)

June 17 **Japan is Shipping Home a Half-Century's worth of Garbage from Antarctica**, which reinforces their efforts to clean up the garbage piled up at their base on the southernmost continent. (ENN)

June 18 **First Ever Standards Set for Land Use Projects Target Climate Change**, standards which certify land use projects that reduce global warming while conserving the environment and alleviating poverty will be opened up for global peer review and comment next week by the Climate, Community, and Biodiversity Alliance. (ENN)

June 18 **Environmental Hazards are a Big Killer of Children** says study, hazards such as pollution, unsafe water, poor sanitation, lead poisoning, and injuries are the cause of one-third of child and adolescent deaths in the European region, health experts said. (ENN)

June 18 **Workers Spill Tar Into Protected Mexican Mangrove, Coral Reserve**, roughly 2,000 litres (500 gallons) of tar spilled into mangrove swamp in a coral beach preserve on the island of Cozumel. (ENN)

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June 18 **Scientists Discover New Fish Species off Brazil Coast**, the newfound fish species is believed to have lurked deep in the South Atlantic Ocean for more than 150 million years. (ENN)

June 18 **Dog Support**, in Alberta a Court of Queen's Bench judge recently awarded monthly 'dog support' payments to a woman caring for her ex-common-law four-year-old St. Bernard. Payments are \$200 per month. (Edmonton Sun)

June 18 **Australia Seizes CITES Listed Species in Traditional Medicine Outlets**, as a result of work by the DEH, Customs, Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and AFP officers raided five complementary medicine outlets in three states where they found large quantities of illegal imports derived from endangered species that are prohibited under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. (Australia Ministry for the Environment and Heritage Media Release)

June 21 **EU and CITES implementation**, public prosecutors and wildlife trade experts discuss ways to impact wildlife trade crime in the EU Member States. (TRAFFIC)

June 21 **Taiwan denies casting blind eye toward illegal trade in wood from Indonesia**, Taiwan denies casting blind eye toward illegal trade in wood from Indonesia claiming that its restrictions against the import of the valuable tropical hardwood ramin are enforced. (Central News Agency)

June 21 **Leopard Hunts**, the Limpopo government has come under fire from conservationists who say there is no sufficient scientific data to support the hunting of 35 leopards in the region. (News 24)

June 21 **Sharks and rays threatened**, International experts are examining the state of North American and Central American sharks and rays against mounting threats such as overfishing. At Mote Marine Laboratory in Florida, scientists gathered at a shark workshop said they would evaluate threatened populations and methods of conservation. (UPI)

June 21 **Hunting Revived to Control Rising Hippo Numbers**, the government of Burkina Faso has made hippo hunting legal again as a result of a recent survey which showed that hippo numbers have rebounded to around 1,400 following the imposition of a state hunting ban in 1991 and the establishment of privately-managed reserves where the animals are protected. (UN Integrated Regional Information Networks)

June 21 **Bangkok's elephants beg for survival**, now classified as an endangered species, the Asian elephant is expected to disappear from the country altogether, except for zoos and a few nature reserves, around 2050. The main culprit of their disappearance is deforestation. (Pacific News Service)

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June 21 **Kugluktuk Oil Spill**, as a result of a 2,000-litre spill of diesel fuel into the ground in the middle of the community of Kugluktuk, an official of Nunavut's Petroleum Products is heading there. (CBC)

June 22 **Australia's Koalas Face Extinction** as rapid urbanization along the eastern seaboard destroys their fragile habitat, environmental activists have warned. (ENN)

June 22 **Scientists Urge Shift to Non-food Crops**, farmers of the world must shift quickly to growing plants for industrial uses such as oils and plastics to replace petrochemicals as the climate warms and crude supplies run out. (ENN)

June 22 **Fake Sharks Could Save Turtles From Fish Hooks, says UN**, fibreglass sharks might help to scare endangered sea turtles away from long-line fish hooks as part of a drive to protect the world's migratory species, the UN Environment Program said. (ENN)

June 22 **Monsanto Co. Withdrew GMO Wheat** submissions from all regulatory agencies except the US Food and Drug Administration, a company spokeswoman said recently. (ENN)

June 22 **California Sues Three Tuna Makers on Product Warning Law**, California sued three big canned tuna companies Monday for not warning customers that they are exposed to mercury, state Attorney General Bill Lockyer said. (ENN)

June 22 **Port of Los Angeles Opens Green Shipping Terminal** as part of a \$50 million settlement of a lawsuit over air pollution that has plagued communities near the port. (ENN)

June 22 **Mercury Dumped in BC River**, newly obtained documents reveal the Teck Cominco smelter in BC dumped tones of highly toxic mercury into the Columbia River for decades. Calculations based on two Canadian estimates indicate that 1.4 to 3.2 tonnes of mercury were discharged into the river each year since the 1940s. (Canoe)

June 22 **Rocket Fuel & Milk**, young children and pregnant women who drink milk from California cows may be exposed to unsafe levels of a toxic chemical used in rocket fuel. Perchlorate, the explosive ingredient in missile fuel has been linked to thyroid damage. (Canoe)

June 22 **Vegetable Oil Car**, which operates on recycled vegetable oil is much cheaper on fuel. Cities across the country are adopting programs to run municipal trucks and buses on biodiesel. (Canoe)

June 22 **Banks Warned Against Lending to Whale-Threatening Russian Energy Project**, environmental groups around the world say they will attack any bank that lends to a controversial oil and gas project in Siberia as contributing to the extinction of one of the most globally endangered species of whales. (OneWorld)

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June 22 **No Whale Meat on Menus as PMs Meet**, traditionally there are very few issues which divide Norway and New Zealand, except for the International Whaling Commission and the decision of Norway to resume whaling in 1993. (New Zealand Herald)

June 22 **Stricter laws, rules help some Mexican sea turtles, do little for others**, despite two decades of conservation efforts, the world's biggest sea turtle species continues to disappear from Mexican waters and is sliding toward extinction around the globe, federal officials say. (Associated Press)

June 22 **New Stars in the Conservation Show**, conservationists are getting practical in their efforts to control the trade in endangered species. Rather than focusing on protecting iconic species such as the American bald eagle, their attention is turning to less fashionable plants and animals. (New Scientist)

June 22 **Police Probes Tuna Fisheries Corruption Row**, the Tuna Boat Owners Association has called on the government to show leniency on Fisheries director Maciu Lagibalavu who was suspended last week following allegations of corruption. (Atuna)

June 22 **A Taste of the Bush**, in Congo a thriving bushmeat trade is threatening to wipe out some species altogether. Two at risk are great apes found only in Congo – eastern lowland gorillas and bonobos, or pygmy chimpanzees. (Daily News)

June 23 **Crab Stocks**, fishermen on Newfoundland's northeast coast say there's a scarcity of snow crab this season. In some cases they're setting twice the number of pots catch half the crab they got this year. (CBC)

June 23 **NSPCA to Charge Cash Strapped Government Self-help Project**, an agricultural self-help project near the border of the Free State and Lesotho, is to have criminal charges laid against it by the National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, due to the condition of the animals found in their care. (NSPCA News release)

June 23 **Soils and Atmosphere Intricately Linked**, scientists say that of all the issues facing humanity this century, the biggest challenge may be climate change. Over the next few decades, a warming planet could begin to have profound implications for our economy and our way of life. (ENN)

June 23 **Haze from Fires in Indonesia Disrupts Flights** and by drifting across to neighbouring Malaysia has shrouded several cities in an unhealthy haze. (ENN)

June 23 **Woman with Human Form of Mad Cow Disease Dies in US**, the woman suffering from the only known case in the US of the human form of mad cow disease has died. (ENN)

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June 23 **Australia's Rare White Whale is Tiring of His Celebrity**, a rare white whale making its way up Australia's east coast is showing signs he is growing tired of his celebrity status, an expert warned. (ENN)

June 23 **South Africa to Streamline Eco-Impact Rules**, South Africa plans to cut red tape surrounding environment regulations so that some development projects can be started more quickly. (ENN)

June 23 **Proposal to Examine the Opportunity of a National Dog Bite Prevention Project with Canada Post**, HSC releases a letter to Canada Post with a request to pursue a similar project in Canada as the US Postal Service's National Dog Bite Awareness Week. (HSC)

June 23 **International Trade a Threat to Endangered Species**, International trade is increasingly becoming a threat to endangered species and all biodiversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild fauna and Flora (CITES) said. (The Times of Zambia)

June 23 **Malaysia seizes wok-bound pangolins**, Malaysian wildlife authorities said Tuesday they had seized 280 live pangolins and arrested three suspects believed to be part of an international smuggling ring trafficking endangered animals to restaurants in China. (AFP)

June 23 **Thai Orchids**, Thailand will ask the international wildlife secretariat to pull hybrid, jade and crown of thorns orchids from its list of species under controlled trade. The request is aimed at allowing Thailand to promote these flowers for export. (The Nation)

June 23 **US Certifies Iceland for Whale Hunt, Continues Certification of Japan**, US Commerce Secretary Donald L. Evans announced he certified to President Bush that Icelandic nationals are hunting whales in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness of the IWC conservation program. (IWC)

June 23 **Police bust racket in exotic live birds and animals**, acting in tandem, police and animal rights activists here have busted an audacious racket in endangered birds and animals, including panthers and mountain squirrels. Several members of a gang that operated from a market in the Tamil Nadu capital of Chennai were charged with selling endangered birds and animals and remained in 15 days' police custody. (IANS)

June 23 **Reuniting Luna**, a letter written to the Honourable Geoff Regan, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, from the HSC urging him to not consider moving Luna into a captive facility. (HSC)

June 24 **Televising Rodeos on Canadian Television**, a letter sent to Mr. Charles Delfen, President of the CRTC expresses the deep concern The Humane Society of Canada has

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that the CRTC allows the televising of rodeos and requests to him reconsider this involvement. (HSC)

June 24 **New Mosquito Disease**, US health officials are now on the lookout for another mosquito-borne disease, fearing it could become a permanent part of the US landscape if it entered the country. The Rift Valley fever, which originated in Africa, is the only disease at the top of both human health and agriculture lists of dangerous diseases. (Globe & Mail)

June 24 **Australia and the Great Barrier Reef**, Australia has increased tax concessions to encourage oil exploration in the far reaches of the Great Barrier Reef, angering environmentalists who warn an oil spill could destroy the world's largest living reef system. (ENN)

June 24 **UN and Social Activism**, businesses around the world increasingly are taking into account that improvements in the social and natural environments are part and parcel of an improved business environment and the UN engagement with the business community is a substantial factor in greater social activism by companies. (ENN)

June 24 **Rhino**, Africa's black rhino has been snatched from the brink of extinction and its numbers are on the rebound, but the lumbering beast still faces many threats, conservations say. (ENN)

June 24 **Toxic Chemicals Releases**, into the environment rose 5 percent in 2002, marking only the second such increase reported by the Environmental Protection Agency in nearly two decades and the first since 1997. (ENN)

June 24 **Galapagos Island**, the Environmental Ministry has appealed a Galapagos Island court ruling delivered last week that struck down catch limits for lucrative sea cucumbers, a conservation leader said. (ENN)

June 24 **United Nations**, a unique ice-stream glacier in Greenland and a rain forest home to endangered orangutan in Indonesia are set to join the United Nations' main Heritage Site protection list. (ENN)

June 24 **GM Tree Study**, protesters have torn up 400 genetically modified birch trees in Finland, wrecking the nation's only research into the environmental impact of biotechnology on forests, officials said. (ENN)

June 24 **US Scolds Japan, Iceland for Whale Hunting**, and has officially condemned Iceland and Japan on Tuesday for their ongoing whale hunts. Both nations contend the hunts are necessary for scientific research but the US officials say that excuse is baseless and the hunts are undermining international whale conservation efforts. (Ecoterra & ENS)

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June 25 **Fossil Fuels**, three towering smokestacks rise from the fossil-fuel-fired Schiller Power Station in the quaint New England city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Built more than 50 years ago, Schiller is a striking example of a dirty, coal-burning power plant constructed during the mid-20th century. (ENN)

June 25 **Bear Baiting**, the illegal sport of bear baiting is booming in Pakistan, but authorities are doing nothing to prevent it, animal activists claim. (ENN)

June 25 **Arctic Ocean**, a new survey of the depths of the ice-capped Arctic Ocean could reveal a lost world of living fossils and exotic new species from jellyfish to giant squid scientists said. (ENN)

June 25 **Toilets**, Australia, one of the driest countries on Earth, is considering laws to reduce the amount of water literally going down the toilet. (ENN)

June 25 **Governor Backs Off Controversial Pet Plan**, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today reversed himself and kept California's law protecting stray dogs and cats at shelters. (LA Times)

June 26 **Sabah Wildlife Officials Nab Bruneian With Turtle Eggs**, a 37-year-old national was arrested buying endangered turtle eggs in Sabah during a raid on a busy market by Malaysian wildlife officials. The illegal traders abandoned the shop and fled on seeing the enforcement team. (Brunei Direct)

June 26 **McGuinty & Water**, McGuinty government is proposing new rules for taking water designed to protect the drinking-water supply. The proposed regulation would ensure that environment ministry directors follow stringent safeguards before granting permission for the removal of large amounts of water. (Toronto Star)

June 26 **Renewable Energy Interest**, ninety companies have expressed an interest in producing renewable energy for Ontario totalling 4,400 megawatts – 15 times the amount asked for, Energy Minister Dwight Duncan said. (Toronto Star)

June 26 **Luna**, the massive orca ignored the entreaties of the scientists who arrived in Vancouver Island two weeks ago with a plan to capture Luna and take it back to its family. Their plan foiled by an intervention from native paddlers who for eight days shadowed Luna with their canoes coaxing the orca away from the would-be captors. (Globe & Mail)

June 26 **BC Wild Fires**, there are now more than 400 wildfires blazing in BC. These came as a result of 14 thousand lightning strikes overnight. The cost of fighting the fires is already at the \$20 million mark. (Globe & Mail)

June 25 **US Mad Cow Case**, an animal in the US tested positive in a preliminary screening test for mad cow disease, Agriculture Department officials said. The results

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were inconclusive which doesn't mean another case of BSE in the country. (Globe & Mail)

June 27 **Bear Incidences**, Ontarians heading into bear country should remember to treat the creatures with respect given a higher than normal number of calls about nuisance bears this year. (Toronto Sun)

June 28 **Rare Trees Killed**, a woman who fought hard to protect a Mississauga stand of rare, mature trees from a housing development was devastated to learn that some of have been cut down. The company that purchased the land for development managed to save 1/3 of the total of trees quoting it is much more than the required limit. (Toronto Star)

June 28 **West Nile Funding**, the province's decision to slash funding earmarked for fighting West Nile virus is a big mistake says a Toronto woman. However, the cut comes after the number of cases fell to 89 last year, from nearly 400 the previous year. A \$13 million cut would come out of the advertising budget. (Toronto Sun)

June 28 **Vegans and Burger King**, Burger King launched a meat-free hamburger across North America. Vegan websites now donate free advertising to the chain and shower the company with awards. (Globe & Mail)

June 28 **Dancing Bear Freed from Chains**, earlier this year animal rights activists launched a campaign to free the furry giants from being chained for amusement. The bears' new home is a 12 hectare mountainous park located 180 kilometres south of Sofia in Bulgaria. (Associated Press)

June 28 **More on Springer's Return**, Springer the orphaned orca who was reunited with her pod via a historic project in 2002 has been sighted in the Johnstone Strait for the first time this season. The orca's return lends considerable support to the notion that the solitary orca Luna can succeed in returning to the company of his Southern Resident orca community. (CFN)

June 29 **Ivory Trade in Francophone Africa**, recent efforts to ease the ivory trade ban have further eroded Africa's already decimated elephant population, with conservation efforts in Francophone West Africa under particular threat. There has been a resurgence in demand for ivory particularly from Japan and the Far East. (United Press International)

June 29 **Rescuing stranded orangutans**, Malaysian wildlife rangers are trying to rescue scores of displaced orangutans, gibbons and macaques believed to be roaming through oil palm plantations on Borneo island following the illegal destruction of their jungle habitats. The endangered primates face starvation or capture by poachers after being squeezed out of a 200-hectare rainforest area cleared in May to create space for new plantations. (Borneo Bulletin)

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June 29 **Parrot Smugglers**, smugglers face \$250,000 fine after a Fresno grand jury returned an indictment charging three people with smuggling exotic parrots from Mexico in the US. (Associated Press)

June 29 **Twist in the tail for two rescued parrots**, the Bombay Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals rescued two rare grey African parrots from Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport. One of the parrots has died in BSRCA custody while the other was allegedly stolen by a ward boy of Petit Hospital where the bird was being treated. (Mid Day News)

June 29 **Elephants to be Sent to Mozambique**, the Gorongosa National Park, in the central Mozambican province of Sofala is to receive 500 elephants from Botswana, during the second half of this year, as part of its restocking programme. The animals will be transported by road. (Agencia de Informacao de Mocambique)

June 30 **China's Dams Put Mekong on Knife's Edge**, China's damming of the Mekong River to help power its economy could pose a grave threat within a decade to the livelihoods of millions of Southeast Asian farmers and fishers and Australian researcher said. (ENN)

June 30 **US EPA Seeks to Cut Train and Boat Engine Pollution**, the Environmental Protection Agency said it will propose regulations to cut soot and toxic air emissions spewed from new train, boat and ship engines. (ENN)

June 30 **Man Arrested in Connection with Environmental Activist's Killing**, police have arrested a local politician's driver in connection with the slaying of a prominent environmental activist last week in Thailand. (ENN)

June 30 **Russian Border Guards Discover Tens of Tons of Fish on Detained Japanese Trawler**, Russian border guards discovered some 30,000 metric tons of humpback salmon and 100 kg of red caviar in the hold of a Japanese fishing boat that was detained in Russia's economic zone. (ENN)

June 30 **Federal Worker's Mistake Blamed for Deaths of Seven Wild Horses in Nevada**, seven wild horses died in remote northeast Nevada after a mistake by a federal worker trapped them in an enclosure without water. (ENN)

JULY

Jul 1 **Sea Otter Scourge Found**, an ongoing study of sea otter mortality has found that southern sea otters are dying from diseases carried by opossums and cats. (ENN)

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Jul 1 **Mekong Region Bands Together to Stop Sale of Wild Animals**, the six countries of the Mekong region are uniting to stop the poaching of wild animals within their borders (SSN)

Jul 1 **Sharks To Be Put On Endangered “Red List”**, at least 10 more shark and ray species will be added to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Overfishing and a demand for shark fin are the main culprits. (Reuters)

Jul 1 **Mad Cow Ruled Out**, there was no sign of mad cow disease in an animal that was singled out to be screened last week in the USA. (Associated Press)

Jul 1 **Ivory Seized**, authorities of a tiger reserve in India seized ivory tusks from members of a community in Gujjars. (SSN)

Jul 1 **Transplant Patients Die**, three people died of rabies after receiving infected organs from the same donor. The organs were donated to patients in Texas, Oklahoma and Alabama. (Globe & Mail)

Jul 2 **Zimbabwe To Export Wildlife**, Zimbabwe plans to export wildlife to China but have not disclosed what animal species will be involved. (Zimbabwe Independent)

Jul 3 **Warming Trends in Alaska**, a warming climate is bringing expensive and dangerous erosion and floods to Native Alaskan villages. (ENN)

Jul 3 **Oil Spill**, a private oil company has admitted that a spill at one of its drilling sites involved 4,000 barrels of oil which is a figure 10 times larger than what it originally claimed. (ENN)

Jul 4 **Love of Pets**, according to a survey, pets are like new babies for singles and young couples who put off having a family to focus on their careers. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 5 **Hero**, a Hamilton man saved his four cats from a fire that broke out in his home. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 5 **Asian Longhorned Beetle**, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) had ordered 15,000 trees cut down last year when an adult beetle was found. There is no sign of any of these pests emerging from trees this year. (Toronto Star)

Jul 6 **Bird Flu Outbreak**, China has reported a new outbreak of bird flu in poultry, nearly four months after the disease seemed to be under control. (Associated Press)

Jul 6 **Animal Testing**, the law in Israel authorizes animal testing but it states that researchers should take steps to minimize the suffering of animals. (Haaretz)

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Jul 7 **Ivory Seizure**, customs authorities and police throughout the world are being asked to inform the SSN about seizures of elephant ivory they have made in the past two years. (ENS)

Jul 7 **World's Smallest Fish**, Australian scientists say they have caught the world's smallest fish. They say it would take a million of the fish to make one kilogram. (Canoe News)

Jul 7 **Dolphin Dies**, one of the first dolphins born in Siegfried and Roy's Secret Garden at The Mirage, has died at age 11. (Las Vegas Review)

Jul 8 **Decline of Those in Favour of Whaling**, according to a poll the percentage of Icelandic people in favour of whaling has declined. (CFN)

Jul 8 **Dog Accepted At University**, the University of New Brunswick reversed its decision to prevent a blind student from Quebec from bringing his guide dog into an English immersion program. The dog only responds to French commands. (Canoe)

Jul 8 **Graduates to Wear Faux Fur Capes**, Dalhousie University students objected to wear the ceremonial rabbit skin capes; instead they will wear robes with synthetic hoods. (Globe & Mail)

Jul 8 **Pets Sold for Food**, a South Korean news channel has revealed that purebred dogs also end up in dog meat markets. (HSI)

Jul 8 **Antibiotics In Salmon Farm Industry**, Chilean specialists and environmental organizations are very concerned about the negative effects caused on the environment and public health due to bacterial resistance caused by the abuse of antibiotics in the salmon-farm industry. (Ecoceanos News)

Jul 8 **Police Seize Ivory**, Spanish police have seized about three tonnes of poached African ivory, which have caused the death of approximately 400 elephants. (ENS)

Jul 8 **Million-rupee racket in tiger skins busted**, officials in India have busted a dealer that sold tiger skins. (IANS)

Jul 8 **Essex Humane Society**, the Essex County Humane Society is operating the shelter at a deficit and may have to cut staff or services. (Windsor Star)

Jul 9 **Rwanda Park Burned**, poachers have burned one-third of Rwanda's largest national park. (ENN)

Jul 9 **Pygmy Elephants to Be Released**, five endangered Borneo pygmy elephants to be released into the wild. Each will have a global positioning collar so they can be monitored. (The Star)

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Jul 9 **Feed Rules Tighten**, the federal government is tightening agriculture rules to prevent risky animal parts linked to mad cow disease from being fed to chickens, pigs and other animals. (Globe & Mail)

Jul 9 **“Extinct” Bird Found**, a Mexican bird thought to be extinct has been found off of the Yucatan Peninsula. (Globe & Mail)

Jul 9 **Bird Flu**, the avian flu strain has become an epidemic in East Asia. It is more widespread than first thought. (Toronto Star)

Jul 10 **Global Warming**, Australia’s beach lifestyle could be at risk if it fails to take immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gases, which feed global warming. (Toronto Star)

Jul 12 **Bull Run**, runners were gored and others injured during the sixth running of the bulls at the festival in northern Spain. (Canoe News)

Jul 12 **Parrots In Paper Bags Smuggled Into US**, three people were charged with smuggling exotic parrots from Mexico into the United States. (Bakersfield Channel)

Jul 13 **Tiger Shot**, a tiger that escaped from the home of an actor in Florida was shot and killed yesterday after it lunged at a wildlife officer. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 15 **No Pet Buying**, a new Animal Welfare Bill has been drafted in Britain to replace outdated legislation. Under this Bill, children under the age of 16 will no longer be allowed to buy pets from pet-shops unaccompanied. (NZ News)

Jul 15 **Antelope At Risk**, a research team claims that immediate action is needed to save the Saiga antelope from imminent extinction. Saiga numbers have fallen by more than 90% in the last decade. (Green Consumer Guide)

Jul 15 **Shark Specialist Awarded**, the Chair of the Shark Specialist Group has been awarded the Order of the British Empire. (SSN)

Jul 15 **Chemical Valley**, inspections of the petrochemical plants referred to as Chemical Valley will continue for months as the province of Ontario works to clean up the area. (Windsor Star)

Jul 15 **Musk Deer Under Threat**, the continued use of musk deer in traditional medicine has put the musk deer at risk. (TRAFFIC)

Jul 16 **Tigers Stir Senses**, tigers have been hunted practically into extinction. A lively market in crushed tiger bones, used as a remedy for insanity in Chinese traditional medicine, has encouraged poachers in India and Southeast Asia to kill as many tigers as possible. (Palm Beach Post)

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Jul 16 **Athens Olympics**, an organization has said that the organizers of the Olympic Games in Athens have destroyed vital wildlife habitats. (ENN)

July 19 **The Beaches**, locals say that there are more dogs in The Beaches than anywhere else in Toronto. (Toronto Star)

Jul 19 **Turtles Seized**, police at the Chennai airport arrested a 30-year -old man for smuggling 600 star turtles to Thailand. (SSN)

Jul 20 **Sonar Threat**, it has become more apparent that submarine detecting sonar systems can be lethal to whales. The U.S. Navy should make necessary adjustments to protect marine mammals. (Register-Guard)

Jul 20 **Guyanese Dolphins**, the Venezuelan Coast Guard confiscated several dolphins that had been exported from Guyana. (Stabroek News)

Jul 20 **Restocking River Terrapins**, the river terrapin is one of the world's most endangered turtles. Over the years the collection of eggs and mass harvesting has led to a drastic drop in wild population. A research and conservation project in Sungai Setiu, Terengganu, may offer hope for the endangered species. (The Star)

Jul 21 **Wildlife Official Transferred**, a senior Thai environmental official was transferred to an inactive post pending an investigation of his involvement in the export of 100 tigers to China. (Associated Press)

Jul 21 **Caribbean Allies to Japan**, Japan has denied allegations it is using aid money to buy votes at the International Whaling Commission meeting in Italy. For years it has built piers and fish markets in pro-whaling countries from Antigua and the Dominica. (Associated Press)

Jul 21 **Grey Whale Threatened**, the International Whaling Commission has endorsed the report of its Scientific Committee, which describes the Sakhalin oil and gas development project in Russia as a threat to the survival of the endangered Western Pacific grey whale. (ENS)

Jul 21 **Athletes enraged over dog killings**, Canadian athletes are outraged that the Canadian Olympic Committee wouldn't take a stand against Athens officials who are poisoning up to 15,000 stray dogs in the city. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 21 **Pit Bull**, a man set a pit bull free on teens in order to intimidate them into giving up their valuables in Pickering, ON. The dog did not injury anyone. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 21 **Beef and Illness**, health officials are investigating whether six people admitted to hospital are linked to tainted ground beef that had to be taken out of grocery stores in Quebec. (Globe& Mail)

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Jul 21 **KFC**, an animal rights group captured video showing chickens being kicked, stomped and thrown against a wall by workers at a supplier for Kentucky Fried Chicken. (Windsor Star)

Jul 22 **Oil Spill**, oil from the tanker that sank off Spain's northwest coast two years ago will be recovered by mid October. (ENN)

Jul 22 **Recycled Tires**, 80 percent of old tires were recycled for fuel and playground equipment in 2003. (ENN)

Jul 23 **Whalers**, the International Whaling Commission established a process that could see agreement next year on its Revised Management Scheme, a scientifically sound way to set catch limits for whales. (BBC)

Jul 23 **Dealing With Stray Dogs**, The Humane Society of Canada wrote to Philippines' Mayor Herbie Aguas with alternate methods to poisoning stray animals in his Municipality. (HSC)

Jul 23 **New Site For Dolphins**, several government ministries are working together to locate a new site for the Marina Bay Dolphin Facility. (Antigua Sun)

Jul 23 **Dead Whales**, two dead whales landed in the Canary Islands. Many feared they many have been hurt by NATO military exercises off Morocco. (Reuters)

Jul 23 **Energy Consumption**, oppressive heat and thick smog in Ontario have many residents turning up their air conditioners. This has caused a sharp spike in energy demands. (Canadian Press)

Jul 25 **Smuggled Exotic Pets**, the demand for reptiles as pets has made Japan one of the top markets for smuggled exotic animals. (Straits Times)

Jul 26 **Sunscreen meltdown**, people may not be getting enough protection from sunscreen to defend against the sun's cancer-causing rays because not enough information is available on ultraviolet A rays. (Canadian Press)

Jul 26 **Elephants**, the Prime Minister of Vietnam has asked for measures to prevent the elephant herd from extinction in the Central Highlands. Poaching has decreased the elephant population. (VNA)

Jul 27 **Killer Whale Slams Trainer**, during a performance at Sea World, a killer whale slammed his trainer underwater repeatedly. (KSAT)

Jul 27 **Frozen Ark**, a tissue bank called The Frozen Ark has been set up in the UK to preserve genetic material from endangered animals. (BBC)

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Jul 27 **Whaling**, the IWC meeting in Italy closed with another year of gridlock over approval of a plan for sustainable management and monitoring of whale catches. (BBC)

Jul 27 **Villagers**, three Indonesian fishermen filed a lawsuit against a U.S. based mining company accusing it of dumping waste in the sea that caused skin diseases and the deaths of fish. (ENN)

Jul 27 **Seismic Pulses**, scientists investigating the possible effect of underwater seismic pulses on marine mammals have conducted a series of tests, designed to better understand the force of sound waves generated by shipboard airguns. (Eurekalert)

Jul 27 **Citronella**, citronella in candles and incense are burned to keep bugs away but some bug sprays containing the oil may cause allergic reactions in some people. (CBC)

Jul 27 **Earthdive to Boost Protection of Oceans**, a new initiative called Earthdive is being launched. Professional and amateur divers are being urged to record the health of the marine environment including coral reefs. (ENN)

Jul 28 **British Columbia Fires**, a raging forest fire grew to 10,300 hectares or 103 square km in the province's interior due to hot, dry winds. (Windsor Star)

Jul 28 **Ban On Lion Hunting**, the Department of Wildlife and National Parks is to review the ban on lion hunting pending the outcome of Predatory Management Strategy being undertaken. (Government of Botswana)

Jul 28 **Economy Damage**, the security threat posed by animal rights people is damaging the UK economy. Companies have not established UK research facilities because of safety fears. (BBC)

Jul 28 **Chemical Spill**, part of the St. Lawrence Seaway was shut down due to a chemical oil spill. (Windsor Star)

Jul 28 **E. Coli**, the department of Quebec Agriculture has found that contaminated meat sold in Quebec came from Alberta. (Canoe)

Jul 29 **Orca Deal**, Fisheries officials say they will focus on enforcing rules to keep people away from Luna and the natives will focus on education and awareness initiatives. (Canoe)

Jul 29 **Ripley's Believe it or Not**, Ripley's is considering bringing an aquarium to Toronto's waterfront. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 29 **Burger Disease**, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency has not yet been able to identify who provided meat that infected 25 children with the hamburger disease in Sudbury. (CP)

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Jul 29 **West Nile Virus**, two more birds in Durham have tested positive for the West Nile virus. This brings the province's total to 84 this year. (Toronto Sun)

Jul 29 **411 Culls**, Malaysia has culled 411 pet birds seized at its northern border with Thailand. The government has been on full alert against the bird flu virus. (The Star)

Jul 29 **Boycott Demanded**, an international animal rights group has called on Thailand to ban kickboxing fights between endangered orangutans held daily at a Bangkok wildlife park. (Channel News Asia)

Jul 29 **DNA Test**, Thai authorities plan to DNA test more than 100 allegedly smuggled orangutans at a Bangkok wildlife park. (Jakarta Post)

Jul 29 **Baby Dolphin Dies**, the dolphin, Bridget, born in May died at the National Aquarium. (WBAL Channel News)

Jul 29 **Exotic Animal Bylaw**, Southwold Township's new Bylaw bans ownership of exotic animals has no clauses or provisions to exempt anyone who owned the animals before the Bylaw was passed. (Times Journal)

Jul 29 **Microchip Seller Fined**, the competition bureau has ordered PetNet to refund its customers. It was fine in federal court after pleading guilty to misleading thousands of pet owners through deceptive mail campaigns. (Toronto Star)

Jul 30 **Luna To Stay**, the Fisheries Department has decided not to capture and move Luna from his adopted home in Gold River. (Globe & Mail)

Jul 31 **Orangutans Confiscated**, Forestry Police has raided Safari World in Bangkok to confiscate 115 orangutans that are believed to be illegally obtained. (ENS)

AUGUST

Aug 1 **Climate Change, Overuse & Yellow River**, the Yellow River has been overused and abused. Dozens of dams block its flow drawing off huge quantities of water to grow cotton in the desert. Global warming could push it over the edge. For more than 200 days of the year, this river no longer makes it to the sea. (BBC)

Aug 1 **Republic of Congo Groups Denounce Asians' Fishing Practices**, Republic of Congo is investigating complaints of extensive illegal fishing by Chinese ships in the West African nation's waters, including alleged fishing with dynamite. (Associated Press)

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Aug 1 **Snow Leopard**, customs officials at Dubai International Airport have seized a large consignment of snow leopard skin from a passenger who arrived on a flight from Kabul. The passenger claimed it was rabbit fur dyed to look like wild animal skins. (Khaleej Times)

Aug 1 **South Africa Skins Seized**, a major wildlife poaching ring allegedly connected to the Shembe church and tribal chiefs has been exposed in KwaZulu-Natal following the chance arrest of a Mozambican leopard-skin smuggler. (Daily News)

Aug 2 **Alberta 'Running of Bulls'**, Jason Williams was one of the men hurt during the annual Running of the Bulls in Strathmore, Alberta. Williams sustained a partially collapsed lung after one of the bulls speared him in the chest. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 2 **Rodeo Horse in Crash**, a champion rodeo horse had to be put down after the truck and trailer hauling him home flipped in a highway crash just outside of Leduc. The chain of events leading to the crash appears to have been set off by a motorcycle crash on the Leduc overpass on Highway 2. (Edmonton Sun)

Aug 2 **Mad Cow Recreated**, US scientists have made a protein that can trigger a neurological disorder similar to mad cow disease in mice. The study confirms that certain forms of proteins, called prions, are infectious and are alone sufficient to cause disease. (BBC)

Aug 2 **More on Orangutans**, the owner of Safari World and Phuket FantaSea will be charged with illegally importing orangutans, and thus violating provision 23 of the Wildlife Conservation Law and provision 53 for concealing the wildlife. (Phuket Gazette)

Aug 2 **Animal Rights Targeted**, plans for a crackdown on animal rights campaigners who use terror tactics against scientists have been unveiled. Protesting outside someone's house in an intimidating manner will be made a specific offence. Harassment laws will also be tightened up and special prosecutors appointed for each police area. (BBC)

Aug 2 **Anthrax & Chimp Deaths**, 9 of the 79 Tai chimps were killed by the anthrax – a development that has put the bacteria on the list of extinction threats to Africa's great apes. (BBC)

Aug 2 **591 Rare Birds Seized in Walled City**, the Delhi Police seized around 900 birds of which 591 are classified rare and exotic under the Wildlife Protection Act from three traders in the Jama Masjid area. 250 of the seized birds died during transportation, and the three accused have been booked under the Act. (Express News Service)

Aug 2 **Conservation & Hunting**, worldwide experience suggests that carefully managed conservation hunting programs can contribute significantly to successful conservation

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programs. Program success is linked to the sustainability of local communities as well as to wildlife populations. (Conservationhunting.ca)

Aug 2 **Eagles no Longer Rarity in Area Skies**, as the effect of now-banned pesticides and industrial chemicals subside, the bald eagle is growing in numbers in West Michigan. Statewide there are 393 documented breeding pairs of eagles, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service looks to take the national symbol off the federal list of threatened and endangered species. (Grand Rapids Press)

Aug 2 **Six Flags Declines Option to Buy Marine World**, two months before Six Flags Inc was to close a deal with the city of Vallejo to buy the theme park, the Oklahoma City based company said it was backing out but still intends to exercise its purchase option before February 2007. Vallejo owns the park, while Six Flags runs it under a 10-year deal. (Times-Herald)

Aug 3 **ACATF-Asian CITES Alliance**, twenty conservation groups from across Asia have formed a network to combat the illegal trade in wildlife and will hold an international workshop in Tokyo to discuss issues such as the ivory trade. (Kyodo News)

Aug 3 **Acid Rain & Global Warming**, acid rain might not be entirely harmful: the sulphate it contains might be helping to slow down global warming scientists announced. The greenhouse gas methane is produced in large quantities by microbes found in wetland such as peats and marshes. After dosing a variety of wetlands in the UK, US and Sweden with various amounts of sulphate, the results showed that methane emission was significantly suppressed by sulphate. (BBC)

Aug 3 **Dingo's Origins**, a genetic analysis of the Australian dingo suggests the dogs tagged along on an epic expansion of people out of southern China around 6,000 years ago. (BBC)

Aug 3 **Children & Nature**, Camp Kawartha is one of 98 summer day and residential camps subsidized by the Star's Fresh Air Fund. Star publisher Joseph Atkinson established the fund in 1901 and it enables about 25,000 under-privileged and special-needs children to attend summer camp. (Toronto Star)

Aug 3 **Europe Would Regulate Trade in Great White Sharks**, the great white shark is one of three species that the European Union proposes to shield from international trade at the upcoming meeting of CITES. The Commission adopted a proposal to tighten the international rules for trading rare species such as the great white shark. (ENS)

Aug 3 **Six Flags' orca pursuit not black and white**, Six Flags Marine World in Vallejo is trying to import a captive Argentine orca angering marine-mammal advocates who say the whale should swim free. (San Francisco Chronicle)

Aug 3 **Meat-Packer Profits Probed**, meat packers have nearly tripled their profits since the mad cow crisis hit the country. The packers didn't benefit unfairly from \$402 million

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federal provincial BSE program. Instead, the increase resulted from supply and demand forces at work in a distorted market, in which cattle supplies significantly exceeded slaughter capacity while domestic consumers maintained demand. (Canoe)

Aug 3 **Kennedy, Environmentalists Take to Rafts to Protect Quebec River**, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and a group of environmental protection and tourism groups began a rafting trip to protect a Quebec river. The group contends the Magpie River is threatened by the construction of a private hydroelectric power plant and want to assess the waterway's potential for recreational tourism. (Canoe)

Aug 3 **Senior Saves Dog**, Mike MacGregor after saving his pooch is mourning a second pooch that died in a fire that drove him from his Radisson home yesterday. Arson cops say the fire that caused \$300,000 in damage may have been deliberately set. (Calgary Sun)

Aug 3 **Request for a Permit to Take Large Whales and Other Non-Endangered Species for Purposes of Scientific Research**, came from Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon State University in Newport. (CFN)

Aug 3 **Chicken Catcher Quits**, the man hired to rid Key West, Florida city of its prolific and unabashed chickens quit his post saying city leaders were not committed to the cause. Many residents consider the birds a nuisance but others stomped on Parra's traps and taunted him on his rounds. (Windsor Star)

Aug 3 **Why Bangladesh Floods**, Bangladesh and its capital, Dhaka, lie in a flood plain and annual deluges from mighty rivers fed by monsoon rains and melting Himalayan snow are natural. But experts say deforestation; urbanization and rising sea disrupt this nation's natural water rhythms. (ENN)

Aug 3 **Diesel Whiz Says He Can Clean Up Coal**, John Rich Jr., whose family has worked the anthracite coal seams of eastern Pennsylvania for a century, plans to turn a \$100 million grant from the US Department of Energy into the nation's first commercial plant converting waste coal or culm into low-emissions diesel fuel. (ENN)

Aug 4 **Miami's Jorge Picon**, known as "Senor Blanco" a shady Colombian with a foul mouth, Jorge Picon goes undercover to catch smugglers of endangered species. Law enforcement officials estimate that smuggling wild animals and products made from protected species is a multibillion dollar a year business. (Washington Post)

Aug 4 **Warning on animal smuggling**, customs issued a warning about the dangers of sending wildlife through the post after an officer in Sydney found 26 live spiders hidden inside a parcel sent from South America. The package was destined for an address in Austria but was shipped to Australia by mistake. (The Australian)

Aug 4 **Gloves Come off for 'Thai' Boxing Orang-utans**, the fur is flying in Thailand over claims from conservationists that a troupe of more than 100 kick-boxing orangutans

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at a Bangkok amusement park are victims of a smuggling racket from nearby Indonesia. Forestry officials from Jakarta say Safari World involved in Indonesia's biggest ever case of orangutan smuggling, even though the zoo insists all its animals were acquired through the proper channels or bred in captivity. (Reuters)

Aug 4 **Dead Zone & Shark Bits**, a huge 'dead zone' of water that has spread across the Gulf of Mexico may be contributing to an unusual spate of shark bites along the Texas coast. In the last 30 years, the dead zone has been an annual event, fed by the rising use of nitrate-based fertilizers. (BBC)

Aug 4 **Lions & Tanzania**, between 1994 and 2001 outbreaks of canine distemper virus have kept the lion population low, with numbers dipping to just 29 individuals in 1998. Scientists suggest that climate change, or an increasing local human population could be to blame. (BBC)

Aug 4 **Shahtoosh Shawl Seizure in Dubai**, travelers in Dubai began reporting more shahtoosh shawls in prominent shopping malls of Dubai such as the City Centre. As a result of complaints to CITES, the government has seized 90 shahtoosh shawls and 10 scarves from Kashmiri owned shops in Dubai on 31st July 2004. (Wildlife Trust of India)

Aug 4 **Climate Distress Reaches the Deep Sea**, climate change could cause alarming changes to sea life far below the surface, report oceanographers in the journal Science. (ENN)

Aug 4 **Study Finds High Mercury Levels in Freshwater Fish**, fish from lakes and reservoirs sampled by federal researchers were contaminated with mercury and most exceeded federal exposure limits for young children and women of childbearing age, according to a study by an environmental advocacy coalition. (ENN)

Aug 4 **Annual Dead Zone Spreads Across Gulf of Mexico**, huge dead zone of water so devoid of oxygen that sea life cannot live in it has spread across 5,800 square miles of the Gulf of Mexico this summer in what has become an annual occurrence caused by pollution. (ENN)

Aug 4 **Remote Alaska Island is Home to Petrified Forest**, in the Shumagins an island chain that jabs into the north Pacific, people planted the few live trees. But along a stretch of beach on the northwest corner of Unga Island there's a grove that hasn't grown for 25 million years. (ENN)

Aug 4 **Locals Angered as Forest and Bird Sells Donated Piha Land**, the country's biggest conservation group has sold land with ancient pohutukawa that an elderly benefactor wanted protected after her death. Forest and Bird pocketed \$670,000 from the sale. (New Zealand Herald)

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Aug 5 **Save our Sharks**, overseas studies have shown that one living sharks is substantially more valuable than one killed for its fins and flesh, which is a good reason for Australians to better understand and value sharks. (ABC)

Aug 5 **Illegal Turtle Sales Thrive in Strand**, along with New York's Chinatown, the Grand Strand is the East Coast's largest source for illegally sold turtles, according to several turtle rescue organizations. They say weak and poorly enforced laws allow the Strand's many beachwear stores to sell baby turtles to tourists who might not know it's against federal law. (Myrtle Beach Sun News)

Aug 5 **6 Turtles Sold in Japan May Face Int'l Trade Restrictions**, the US and Madagascar have suggested to Washington Convention member countries that they regulate trade in six kinds of Asian and African turtles that are sold as pets in Japan, according to a US governmental organization. (Japan Today)

Aug 5 **Memorial for Wildlife Officers**, new memorial will honour those 'faceless' game wardens. Colleagues hope to draw public attention to hundreds who died in the line of duty. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 5 **Bird Lessons**, a research on brown-headed cowbirds (which leave their eggs in the nests of other birds) shows that if a little cowbird shares the nest with baby birds already there it grows faster and stronger than when it is the only chick. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 5 **Deer Slaughter Urged For Saskatchewan**, thousands of wild deer must be slaughtered in Saskatchewan to save the rest of Canada's deer from a brain disease that threatens to sweep across the country. The Ministry responsible for wildlife management in Saskatchewan said it doesn't have the resources for a massive extermination of 3,000 to 7,000 deer, and the federal government said it is not inclined to help with the cost. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 5 **Bear Dog Dogs Bears**, the unfortunate shooting of a black bear at a music festival in BC need never have happened if either the promoters or the police had thought to have a couple of Karelian bear dogs on the property. A medium size, spitz-type animal originally from Finland, these dogs are fearless and like nothing better than to go after bear. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 5 **Orangutans No Longer to Box in Thai City**, Thai forestry officials have clamped down on ape kickboxing matches staged at an amusement park in suburban Bangkok. Some 110 orangutans are dressed up in boxing gloves and silk shorts and forced to spar for tourists at Safari World. (Independent)

Aug 5 **Thai Government and CITES**, A Wildlife Fund official urged Thailand to step up its preparation for the upcoming international convention on endangered species in Bangkok. The government is ill prepared to explain to delegates Thailand's role in the trafficking of endangered species. (The Nation)

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Aug 6 **Green Credit Unions Do Well By Doing Good**. While many of us may feel we don't have the extra money, let alone spare time, to take the plunge into the vortex of socially responsible investing (SRI), just about everyone has a bank account. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Environmental Groups Win Biotech Crops Suit**, a federal judge has ordered the US Department of Agriculture to identify where four companies are performing open-field testing of genetically modified crops in Hawaii. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Movement Down Under To Drive Cleaner Cars**, the Australian government is urging consumers to give up their love affair with hefty four-wheel drive vehicles and opt instead for more environmentally friendly models. (ENN)

Aug 6 **California EPA Wants To Spur Solar-Home Development**, officials are proposing that of all new homes in the state be running on solar energy in 10 years, an effort spurred by \$100 million in annual incentives paid for by electricity consumers. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Great Bustards Back In Britain After 172 Years**, in a scheme run by the British great bustard project with Stirling University, 30 chicks of the rare, wild bird were hatched in Russia and flown over to Britain this week. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Norwegian Scientists**, who explored the deep waters of the Atlantic Ocean said their findings, including what appear to be new species of fish and squid, could be used to protect marine ecosystems worldwide. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Shark Attacks Along Texas Coast Are 'Normal'**. Three shark attacks off the Texas coast in the past two months are unusual but don't mean there are more sharks than normal along the beach or that they are getting bolder, marine biologists and other experts say. (ENN)

Aug 6 **First Signs Of El Nino Arise In The Pacific Ocean**, warming water temperatures in the central equatorial Pacific last month may indicate the start of a new El Nino. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Ford Unveils World's First Hybrid SUV**, the Ford Motor Company kicked off formal production Thursday of a hybrid version of its Escape SUV, the world's first gas-electric hybrid sports utility vehicle and the first hybrid vehicle produced by an American company. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Ontario's First Probable Case Of West Nile Virus**, has been confirmed in a resident of the Windsor-Essex area, health officials stated. (ENN)

Aug 6 **Alien Fishes Threaten Waterways**, the snakehead, an invasive species, has been causing great concern as a voracious predator and a potential danger to the environment in the United States. (Globe & Mail)

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Aug 6 **Rhino Population Plunges**, gangs of poachers in Congo have been slaughtering the world's minuscule population of northern white rhinos, reducing the population by about one-half in just more than a year, a key conservation organization said Friday. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 6 **Safari World Claims Missing Orangutans Are Dead**, pictures of a few supposedly dead animals were shown to police officials, however it is widely believed that this whole story has been fabricated to cover up the likelihood that these animals have in fact been moved to another location. (SSN)

Aug 6 **Rare Bats Found**, very few Barbastelle maternity roosts are known; researchers have found five colonies of rare bats in woodland on the isle of Wight, off the southern English coast. (BBC)

Aug 7 **Farmers Join Forces On Mad Cow Crisis**, cattle producers across the country, scrambling to find ways to boost Canada's processing capacity, are taking matters into their own hands and investing money in new slaughterhouses. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 7 **Meat Safety Regulations To Be Tougher**, the Ontario government is making more changes to the province's food safety system to prevent un-inspected meat from entering retail outlets. (Toronto Star)

Aug 7 **Bird Brain Reveals Flight Secrets**, the fossilized brain of a 150 million-year-old bird has given up the secret of whether or not the creature could fly: apparently it could, according to researchers. (BBC)

Aug 7 **Ocean Species Discovered**, this new find is unlike most anglerfish, scientists exploring the depths of the mid-Atlantic ridge were excited to uncover a wealth of new species, including a bright red squid. (BBC)

Aug 7 **Farmer Charged With Cruelty**, the Mississauga owner of a farm where police found 300 sheep and 115 barnyard fowl starving is due in court next month on an animal cruelty charge. He was accused of neglect after residents complained his sheep and cattle had not been watered or fed. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 7 **Bear Kill Total: BC 867, Washington 11**, last year in BC, wildlife officers and the RCMP killed 867 black bears because of perceived conflicts with humans. (Vancouver Sun)

Aug 8 **Cattle Mass Slaughter**, an Alberta government official says a massive cull of the Canadian cattle herd is "the least preferred option" to solve one major problem caused by the BSE crisis. (CTV)

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Aug 9 **Thai-Linked Syndicate Poaching Our Precious Wood**, the discovery of Thais with illegally collected gaharu in the Endau-Rompin national park last month has revealed the presence of a syndicate with connection to Thailand. (The Star)

Aug 9 **Charges Likely Over Tortoise Trade**, Federal Justice Minister Chris Ellison said the unnamed 24-year-old man would be charged with state and federal wildlife offences for trying to sell endangered star tortoises over the Internet. (Sunday Times)

Aug 9 **Bush-Meat Trade Breeds New HIV**, the HIV virus has jumped from primates to people on at least seven separate occasions in recent history, not twice as is commonly thought. (New Scientist)

Aug 9 **Great Lake Fish Bite At Fertility**, couples trying to conceive may want to think twice about which fish to eat from the Great Lakes, a new study has found. Given environmental concerns about contamination, researchers looked at blood-mercury levels in fish-eaters to see how high their levels got in relation to the amount of fish they ate. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 9 **Gorilla Uses Sign Language To Complain Of Toothache**, when Koko the gorilla used the sign language gesture for pain and pointed to her mouth, 12 specialists, including three dentists, sprang into action. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 9 **Burning Barn Kills 1,500 Pigs**, in a \$2-million inferno that enveloped three barns north of Port Hope, Ontario. Firefighters did save another nearby barn with more than 300 pigs in it. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 9 **Doubts Over Claim Apes Succumbed To Pneumonia**, Forestry police will investigate the site where 41 orangutans were cremated to verify safari world's claims the apes died of pneumonia. (Bangkok Post)

Aug 9 **Locust Plague Prompts Famine Fear**, agricultural experts have warned that a plague of locusts currently sweeping through West Africa could threaten up to a million people with famine. (BBC)

Aug 9 **Pet Cloning Company**, the first cat clone was produced by researchers in Texas. Cats can now have more than nine lives thanks to a Californian company that is the first US firm to go commercial and offer the public a pet cloning service. (BBC)

Aug 9 **A Porcupine's Defences Are Obvious**, their deployment is, however, subtle. One of the world's experts on porcupines has called their quills "smart weapons" and his most recent research shows why. The quills modified hairs, with overlapping barbs covering the last centimetre or so. (Toronto Star)

Aug 9 **Teflon, Dupont & The Environment**, Teflon has been hugely successful for chemical maker Dupont, which over the last half-century has made the material almost ubiquitous, putting it not just on frying pans but also on carpets, fast-food packing,

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clothing, eyeglasses and electrical wires – even the fabric roofs covering football stadiums. (Toronto Star)

Aug 9 **Ontario, Polluters Told To Clean Up**, a report by the Industrial Pollution Action Team urges tougher penalties for chemical spills. Environment Minister Dombrowsky asks industry to meet challenge ‘head on’. (Toronto Star)

Aug 9 **Approximately 1500 Western Grey Kangaroos Killed**, illegally in Western Australia for the commercial kangaroo industry according to evidence given at an Administrative Appeals Tribunal hearing in Sidney last week. (WLPA)

Aug 9 **Dolphins Stranded On Florida Beach Euthanized**, thirty stranded dolphins were euthanized after experts and volunteers spent hours trying to get them to swim back to the ocean. (Associated Press)

Aug 9 **Fur Trade Goes On Despite Ban In Saudi Arabia**, two authentic tiger skins for sale, SR1500 each. Serious inquiries only, read the small ad in a classifieds supplement distributed by Al-Madinah newspaper. (Arab News)

Aug 10 **Cat Causes Emergency Landing**, a SN Brussels airliner made an emergency landing after an “agitated” passenger – a cat – got into the cockpit and attacked the co-pilot, according to the airline spokesperson. (Canoe)

Aug 10 **Rush For Natural Resources Still Fuels War In Congo**, on the mud wall of an abandoned thatched hut in the Congolese jungle town of Walikale, the words “stop, please” are scrawled in the white chalk. (ENN)

Aug 10 **Connecticut Dairy Farmer Is Turning Manure Into Cash**, beyond the Freund farm’s picturesque market, boasting fresh tomatoes and homemade apple pies, is a working dairy farm, complete with a half-acre lagoon brimming with cow manure. (ENN)

Aug 10 **Dirty Water Provokes Hepatitis Outbreak In Darfur**, an outbreak of Hepatitis E shows that teeming camps of refugees from the conflict in Sudan’s Darfur region are at growing risk from water and sewage-borne diseases, health agencies stated. (ENN)

Aug 10 **Tiger Skin Seizure On Indo-Nepal Border**, one tiger skin was seized by the Uttaranchal forest department in a remote town near Banbassa, India, and arrested one Totha Ram. (Wildlife Protection Society of India Media Release)

Aug 10 **Bees Attack Cow And Chase Man**, officials from Chatham-Kent and the University of Guelph, Ontario are probing a swarming bee attack near Tilbury that bears the hallmarks of African killer bees. The attack, which happened Sunday on a Swanton line farm, forced a farmer to flee to his house and left a cow covered of bee stings. (Canoe)

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Aug 10 **Blackout Anniversary A Chance For Real Action On Conservation**, the first anniversary of the August 14, 2003, blackout is an excellent opportunity to look in the rear-view mirror and examine how Ontario has responded over the past year and look forward to determine how we can reduce the likelihood of this event happening again. (Toronto Star)

Aug 10 **Ivory Trade**, the European Commission has objected to a proposal to resume commercial ivory trade without ensuring that such trade does not lead to increased poaching in Southern Africa. (The Post)

Aug 10 **High Volume Of Trade In Agarwood**, the international trade involves wood, wood chips, powder, oil and finished products as perfumes, incense and medicines. Traders say Agarwood stocks in Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos have been depleted. (The Star)

Aug 10 **Farm Changes ‘ Behind Wasp Plague’**, new eco-friendly ways of farming could be causing a steep rise in the UK’s wasp populations, an expert has said. (BBC)

Aug 10 **Safari World Owner Turns Himself In**, the owner and managing director of Safari World turned himself in to face animal smuggling charges. With forestry police looking to file additional charges against him, Pin Kewkacha could face up to 10 years in jail if found guilty. (Bangkok Post)

Aug 10 **Killer Whales**, are residents to Gulf waters of Texas - their presence has been documented for more than a hundred years. They’re not lost in the Gulf - they are home. (SSN)

Aug 10 **Judge Strengthens Dolphin-Safe Tuna Label**, dolphin conservationists are proclaiming victory after a Federal Judge ordered the US Commerce Department to issue a new rule prohibiting the use of a “dolphin-safe” label on any tuna products caught by netting dolphins. (ENS)

Aug 10 **Great Ape Project Welcomes Wilmington Chimpanzee Ban**, the Great Ape Project welcomed Wilmington Mayor James Baker’s decision to bar a performing chimpanzee exhibit from the Wilmington riverfront retail area. (GAP News)

Aug 11 **Sumatran Tiger Poachers Convicted**, five members of an illegal wildlife trade syndicate were convicted for poaching and illegal trade in the endangered Sumatran tiger. The defendants were sentenced to a total of six years in prison and given fines amounting to 70 million Rupiah (US\$ 7,750). With this sentence a strong message is sent out to others involved in illegal wildlife activities across Indonesia. (SSN)

Aug 11 **Japan Unfurls Solar Sail In Space**, the rocket deployed two solar sails, or ‘clover type films’. Japan has unfurled a delicate solar sail in space, a device which some scientists believe could enable travel to far away planets. (BBC)

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Aug 11 **US Judge Affirms Tuna Rules**, the Judge has rejected the Bush Administration's attempt to relax the nation's "dolphin-safe" tuna labelling standard in a scathing decision that accuses the Administration of sacrificing science – and dolphins – for politics. (San Francisco Chronicle)

Aug 11 **Boxer And Miller Applaud** court's decision to strengthen dolphin-safe tuna label to protect dolphins. (SSN)

Aug 11 **Zoo Unveils Plan For Dolphin Dome**, Hoosiers can get their first look today at how a revamped exhibit at the Indianapolis zoo will bring visitors from the sidelines to the centre of the dolphin tank. The plans depict an exhibit that will provide visitors a closer look than at any other zoo in the Midwest – watching the Atlantic bottlenose dolphins from inside a dome immersed in their tank. (Indy Star)

Aug 11 **McGuinty Renews Safe Water Promise**, says he had to break a key election promise to not raise taxes so his government could keep its commitment to safe drinking water, health care and education. (Toronto Star)

Aug 11 **The Ontario Ministry Of Natural Resources**, has quietly extended legislation to cover a controversial quarry proposed for a scenic stretch of the lake superior shoreline near Wawa, Ontario. (Toronto Star)

Aug 11 **New Scientific Evidence**, indicates that Prime Minister Paul Martin could be on thin ice during his four-day tour of the North that gets under way today. Sonar recordings by American submarines suggest that the summer ice across the central Arctic Ocean was more than a metre thinner on average in the 1990s than three and four decades earlier. (Toronto Star)

Aug 11 **Sudanese Arab Horsemen**, whose kin are being recruited by the Janjweed militias in Darfur, are poaching elephants and endangered white rhinos in neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo, according to conservationists. (Reuters)

Aug 11 **Cat Returns After 18 Years**, after someone mistakenly let her cat out 18 years ago, Leslie Dumas thought she would never see her precious pet again. But when the Winnipeg Humane Society called her father in Selkirk, Manitoba, the 41-year-old owner was finally reunited with her long-lost Seagull. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 11 **Canada's National Parks Brace For Strike**, visitors hoping to catch a glimpse of wildlife in National Parks across the country this weekend could instead be confronted with picket lines or other labour disruptions. (Canoe)

Aug 12 **Bangladesh Has Sought Help From India**, to prevent wild elephants from entering into its territory. Officials at the Forest and the Environment Ministry say up to 200 Indian elephants have been roaming freely for months in a northern Bangladeshi district. (SSN)

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Aug 12 **Hearing Clue To Whale Evolution**, at one stage whale hearing was crude in both air and water, the evolution of whales from four-legged land dwellers into streamlined swimmers has been traced in fossilized ears. (BBC)

Aug 12 **Young ‘ More Susceptible To CJD’** some 142 people are believed to have died from VCJD in the UK. Scientists have found more evidence to suggest that young people may be more susceptible to VCJD since it first emerged in the UK nine years ago. A disproportionate number of these have been young. Some believe this may be because they were more likely to have eaten BSE infected meat. (BBC)

Aug 12 **Monkeys Test ‘Hardworking Gene’**, the monkeys were back to normal after 10 weeks of treatment; scientists in the United States have found a way of turning lazy monkeys into workaholics using gene therapy. (BBC)

Aug 12 **Socialites Unite Dolphin Groups**, a few well-connected dolphins keep pods together dolphin groups, or “pods” rely on socialites to keep them together, scientists have claimed. Without these individuals, the cohesion of the dolphin group falls apart, according to researchers. (BBC)

Aug 12 **Neglected Dog**, when young 7-year-old Courtney Lavery grows up, she wants to take care of animals. She is already off to a great start. The Courtney girl gathered up some of her most cherished belongings to make a care package for Beth, a Brittany spaniel found horribly neglected. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 12 **Dead Bees Sent To Arizona**, specimens of the bees that may have killed a Holstein cow on a Chatham-Kent dairy farm are being studied in a lab in Arizona. Until results confirm what kind of bees they are, speculating they’re African killer bees is useless. (Canoe)

Aug 12 **Liberals Stack Commission With Hunters & Anglers**, the Ontario government appointed 11 people to serve on the new Fish and Wildlife Heritage Commission. The Commission was created by the Heritage Hunting and Fishing Act, which the Tories spearheaded in December 2002. (Sault Ste. Marie This Week)

Aug 12 **Wildlife Group Concerned By Elephant Exports**, the wildlife group raised concerns about the export of 3 elephants to the Warsaw zoo in Poland by the Limpopo government earlier this month. Seven elephants were originally destined for the zoo but eventually only 3 left. (SSN)

Aug 12 **Survey Shows Most Organic Farmers**, say prices are holding steady, some predict rise from alfalfa to oats to wine grapes, prices for organic produce and products have held steady for more than half of the nation’s organic farmers, and more than one-quarter said they are seeing prices inching up, a new survey shows. (ENN)

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Aug 12 **Flame Retardants Found In Salmon Meat**, farmed salmon, already found to carry higher levels than wild salmon of chemicals such as PCBs, may also contain higher levels of flame-retardants, according to a new study. (ENN)

Aug 12 **Appeal Rejected On Plan To Poison California Stream To Aid “Rarest Trout”**, the US forest service rejected environmentalist’s appeal of a plan to poison a stream south of Lake Tahoe to aid the rarest trout. (ENN)

Aug 13 **Clean Energy Goes To College**, there is a new wave of activism sweeping across college campuses. Student groups are coordinating efforts to reduce fossil-fuel dependency by pushing for more renewable alternatives and putting forth specific goals for their colleges. (ENN)

Aug 13 **Bulk Of Greenhouse Gases Swallowed By Oceans**, the sea as sucked up about half the carbon dioxide that humans have pumped out since the start of the industrial age, two new studies report in the journal science. (ENN)

Aug 13 **Scientists Probe The Pacific Ocean Depths In Search Of The Dead Zone**, his hand on a toggle switch and his eyes on a computer screen, Oregon State University graduate student Anthony Kirincich uses an array of scientific instruments to probe the vibrant waters of the Pacific. He is searching for the absence of life. (ENN)

Aug 13 **Bacteria Give Coral Its Orange Glow, Study Finds**, the soft orange glow of a common Caribbean coral comes not from the coral itself but from bacteria that live inside it, according to scientists. (ENN)

Aug 13 **Dupont Challenges EPA Claim It Failed To Report Teflon Chemicals Risks**, the Dupont Company wants a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge about a government complaint that the company failed to provide information about the potential health and environmental risks of a chemical used to make Teflon. (ENN)

Aug 13 **Heat Waves To Worsen Across America And Europe Study Find**, heat waves like those that have hit Paris and Chicago in recent years are likely to get worse, roasting more and more cities with ever-higher temperatures, climate researchers predict. (ENN)

Aug 13 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to the Honourable Bill Barisoff, Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection in regards to the black bears killing in British Columbia. (HSC)

Aug 13 **State Does Not Intend To Have ban In Ivory Lifted**, the Government does not intend to have the ban on trade lifted because it protects the number of elephants in the country. (The Herald)

Aug 13 **Super Ant Colony In Australia**, natural aggression kept numbers under control in the ant’s native country; a giant colony of ants stretching 100km has been discovered in the Australian city of Melbourne, threatening local insects species. (BBC)

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Aug 13 **Cat Killer In BC**, there is no sure way of knowing what's going on in the mind of Rutland's cat killer, but the best bet is that he won't stop until he gets caught. (Daily Courier)

Aug 14 **Snake Smuggler Arrested**, a man who kept nearly 100 exotic and venomous snakes in his Firestone home was sentenced Friday to 18 months in federal prison for illegal trafficking of wildlife and for being a felon in possession firearms. (Denver Channel)

Aug 14 **National Parks Sells \$180 Million Ivory**, sold to the local industry was meant for commercial purposes only. Only 12 tonnes would be sold while the remaining eight tones was collected from elephants that had died of natural causes, confiscated from illegal dealers and from the problem animal control program. (The Herald)

Aug 14 **Thai Police Find 'Cremated' Orangutans**, police have found dozens of rare orangutans that a scandal-hit private zoo claimed had been cremated after dying from pneumonia. (Channel News Asia)

Aug 14 **Blood On Ice: Seal Culling Returns To Canada**, twenty years after the ban ended Canada's policy of seal culling, one million seals are to be clubbed to death. (SSN)

Aug 14 **Arms Race And Pollution**, in the former Soviet Union, the work of finding and recovering radioactive waste goes on not only near plutonium-producing reactors in Siberia or the Urals, or on the test range Kazakhstan but right inside a city (Moscow) of 11 million people. (Toronto Star)

Aug 14 **Greeks Protest Dog Slaughter**, Greek Animal Rescue Canada took to the streets yesterday to protest the extermination of strays in Athens which they say will continue even after the Olympics. (Toronto Star)

Aug 14 **Jays Fans Can Bring Their Furry Pals To Game**. Man's best friends will be wagging into the dome with their baseball-fan owners for the second Iams dog days of summer. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 14 **Mugabe's Spin Doctor Turns Wildlife Sanctuary Into Hunting Ground**, Zimbabwe's Information Minister, Jonathan Moyo, has seized a celebrated African wildlife sanctuary, government documents have shown, and turned it over to hunting. (The Telegraph)

Aug 15 **Humans, Water & Food**, livestock need a lot of water; world water supplies will not be enough for our descendants to enjoy the sort of diet the west eats now, experts say. (BBC)

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Aug 15 **Hydrogen Power**, turning sunlight into hydrogen power could be the future. Capturing sunlight to make enough hydrogen fuel to power cars and buildings has been brought a step closer by a British research company. Hydrogen power, a renewable energy, has the potential to replace fossil fuels. (BBC)

Aug 16 **15 Year Old Boy Suspected Of Killing**, and mutilating three cats in the Rutland area has been arrested by Kelowna RCMP. The teen was taken into police custody following tips from people who thought he might be responsible for the grisly killings, in which the cats were decapitated. (The Sunday Okanagan)

Aug 16 **Tibetan Antelope**, at least 3 or 4 Tibetan antelopes or Chiru – highly endangered species protected under the convention on international trade and endangered species (CITES) – must be killed for a single shawl. Shahtoosh is doing to the Chiru what ivory did to elephants, horn to rhinos, and skin to tigers. (AME Info)

Aug 16 **Europe's Eel Population Collapsing**, the eel population fell to 10 percent of its former levels in the last half century. Now it's going from 10 percent to one percent. (Associated Press)

Aug 16 **Indonesia Still Wants Orangutans Repatriated**, the Indonesian Minister of Forestry has made it clear again today that the Indonesian Government insists on a speedy repatriation of more than one hundred illegally obtained orangutans currently held in Thailand. (The Pressbox)

Aug 16 **Mad Cow Research**, scientists have developed a protein that can trigger the development of a neurological disease in mice that is similar to cow disease, offering insight into several brain disorders. (Toronto Star)

Aug 17 **Are Pesticides, Particularly Malathion Dangerous?** Organophosphate pesticides, which include the widely used insecticide malathion, are chemically related to nerve gases developed during World War II. For decades, scientists have been debating whether such pesticides cause birth defects, cancers, and other health problems. (ENN)

Aug 17 **India Urges Bangladesh Not To Kill Stray Elephants**, authorities in northeast India urged Bangladesh not to kill about 100 wild elephants who have strayed across the border and gone on a rampage, killing 13 people and injuring dozens more. (ENN)

Aug 17 **In Puget Sound, Divers Harvest Sea Cucumbers**. Sea cucumbers, and the appetite for them, is growing in China, Korea and other Asian countries, where they are used in everything from stir-fries to aphrodisiacs. The demand is driving prices up and leading to overfishing in many parts of the globe. (Seattle Times)

Aug 18 **Farmland Fight Moves To Isolated Argentine Woods**, General Pizarro, a one-telephone town in the northern province of Salta, gained notoriety last month when environmentalists chained up bulldozers to protest the sale of a nearby nature reserve. (ENN)

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Aug 18 **Global Warming Could** cause dramatically hotter summers and a depleted snow pack in California, leading to a sharp increase in heat-related deaths and jeopardizing the water supply according to a study. (ENN)

Aug 18 **New York Issues Emergency Order To Cut Acid Rain Emissions**, citing what they called a public health emergency, New York officials ordered power plants to reduce emissions blamed for acid rain. (ENN)

Aug 18 **Energy Minister Insists Government Is Committed To Conservation**, Minister Dwight Duncan is dismissing critics of his proposal for a national electrical grid as a means to solve the province's huge appetite for energy. (Windsor Star)

Aug 19 **Rising Ocean Acidity**, ocean acidity is gradually on the rise; the UK's Royal Society has launched an investigation into the rising acidity of the world's oceans due to pollution from the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. (BBC)

Aug 19 **New Fears For Alaskan Bears**, the new regulations come into force in time for hunting season, the mighty Alaskan Kodiak bear is the world's largest land carnivore. (BBC)

Aug 19 **Europe Climate disaster Seen**, rising sea levels, disappearing glaciers in the Alps and deadly heat waves are coming to Europe because of global warming, Europe's environmental agency warned yesterday. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 19 **Scientists Warn That The Malaysian**, populations of several species of sea turtles are on the brink of collapse and could disappear without urgent action to eliminate poaching and other dangers. (VOA News)

Aug 19 **Timber Exports To Exceed RM17b**. Malaysia's timber products exports are expected to exceed RM17 billion this year from RM16.3 billion in 2003, on the back strong growth in the first half of 2004. (The Edge Daily)

Aug 19 **Finding Nemo**, the popular animated movie, a favourite in kid's video collections, traces the exploits of the young clownfish Nemo, which is captured by divers and plopped into a dentist office aquarium. The movie's message seems simple: fish are not happy trapped in tanks. (ENN)

Aug 19 **European Winters Could Disappear By 2080**, Europe is warming more quickly than the rest of the world, and cold winters could disappear almost entirely as a result of global warming. (ENN)

Aug 20 **US Courts Tackle Foreign Abuses Of Energy Corporations**, a 215-year-old law originally written to address piracy and crimes abroad against American ambassadors is at the heart of litigation targeting some of the world's largest energy corporations. (ENN)

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Aug 20 **EU Complains At Governments Failure to implement environment rules**, the European Union's Head Office accused national governments of letting their citizens down by failing to properly implement EU laws. It named France, Italy and Ireland as the worst offenders. (ENN)

Aug 20 **Volts Of Low-Voltage Electricity Are Reviving Damaged Coral Reef**, as the late afternoon sun bathes the beach with a soft warmth, gentle waves lap quietly at the shore and strollers occasionally stumble over a thick wad of white cables embedded in the fine, black sea. (ENN)

Aug 20 **The Bush Administration Pushes Dirty Coal Plants**, why was the lake Michigan coastal city of Ministee, population 6,600, targeted for a \$700 million, 425-megawatt, coal-powered electric power plant, the largest proposed in Michigan in two decades? (ENN)

Aug 20 **The Zimbabwe Conservation Task Force**, has heard of illegal hunting in the Metetsi Area near Victoria Falls according to an informant. (SSN)

Aug 20 **Thai Government To Return Orangutans After DNA Test**, Indonesia will have to wait for the return of 69 orangutans, it suspects have been smuggled into Thailand, as the Thai government requires them to undergo DNA tests to determine their origin. (SSN)

Aug 21 **Push For A Permanent Greenbelt**, the province and municipalities will immediately begin staking out lands spanning the Golden Horseshoe to create a permanent, continuous greenbelt, Municipal Affairs Minister John Gerretsen announced yesterday. (Toronto Sun)

Aug 21 **Deadly Avian Flu Reaches Malaysia**, Health experts warned, after a teenager in a Malaysian village was hospitalized with flu symptoms, that the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu appears to be entrenched in parts of Southeast Asia. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 22 **Minister In Illegal Hunting Scandal**, Zimbabwe's Information Minister, Jonathan Moyo, who has closed down three newspapers and ordered the arrest of more than 75 journalists, has been accused of seizing a renowned wildlife sanctuary and turning it into a 'slaughterhouse'. (The Observer)

Aug 23 **Floods 'To Become More Frequent'**, summers will be drier, but flash floods are expected to increase the recent flash floods have raised concerns over the possible repercussions of global warming on the European climate. (BBC)

Aug 23 **Bird Flu Spreading Faster Than Thought, WHO Warns**, China denied assertions that a deadly strain of bird flu that killed 27 people in Asia has been discovered in the country's pigs, as the world health organization warned the disease will take several years to contain. (Globe & Mail)

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Aug 23 **Ontario Faces Energy Crisis, Critic Warns**, Ontario consumers will be at risk of soaring electricity prices and power shortages under the government's planned reorganization of the province's \$12-billion-a-year electricity industry, according to an internationally recognized energy report. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 24 **Chile: Marine Species Gain Better Protection**, Chilean waters have been targeted by international fisheries using "convenience flags", and piracy during the past decades. The Chilean Administrative Authority for Marine Resources has just published the Decree #123, aiming to increase the protection on migratory species by reducing the illegal fisheries. (CFN)

Aug 24 **China Says Pigs Clear Of Bird Flu**, scientists fear more humans could be infected in the future. The Chinese government says tests have found that its pigs are clear of a highly virulent strain of bird flu. (BBC)

Aug 24 **How Can I Attract Wildlife To My Backyard?** The key essentials for attracting wildlife to your property include an abundance of native plants as a food source, a water supply, and some form of shelter to encourage nesting. (ENN)

Aug 24 **Scientists Say Risk Of Water Wars Is Rising**, the risk of wars being fought over water is rising because of explosive global population growth and widespread complacency. (ENN)

Aug 24 **Industries To Pay \$56 Million For Northwest Indiana River Cleanup**, eight companies have agreed to pay to help clean up several miles of polluted river near a rare habitat of sand dunes, prairie, and swamp, officials said recently. (ENN)

Aug 25 **The Humane Society of Canada**, wrote a letter to The Hon. Stephane Dion Minister of the Environment, in regards to Zimbabwe's Sikumi Tree Lodge. There is growing concern over reports of allegations that this land and the 45,000 acres of adjoining conservancies have been seized illegally. (HSC)

Aug 25 **Polluted Fish Warnings Cover One-Third Of Lakes, One-Fourth Of Rivers**, one out of every three lakes in the United States and nearly one quarter of the US' rivers contain enough pollution that people should limit or avoid eating fish caught there. (ENN)

Aug 25 **Brazil Police Seize Black Market Uranium Ore**, taken from a secret mine in the jungle in Northern Brazil and destined for sale in the black market. (ENN)

Aug 25 **Cafeteria Management Chain Pushes For Sustainable Agriculture**, it has rewritten its mission statement to emphasize sustainable agriculture, asking its chefs to use locally grown produce and meat free of hormones, antibiotics, and genetically modified feed. (ENN)

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Aug 26 **Sunflower Oil Boost To Car Future**, the new process only produces a small amount of carbon dioxide; UK scientists have developed a process for making hydrogen from sunflower oil, which could prove an important future source of eco-friendly energy. (BBC)

Aug 26 **Break-up Of The North Pole**, the Northeast Passage across the Siberian polar ice is open. The glaciers on Ellesmere Island and the northern and north-eastern shores of Greenland are collapsing within a matter of days. The channel between Greenland and Ellesmere Island is open. (IWC)

Aug 26 **Focus On Hydrogen Economy Has Things Backwards**, as summer slides towards fall, fuel-cell manufacturers and automakers are out on the streets of major cities around the world, showing off million-dollar prototypes of hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles. (ENN)

Aug 26 **Ecuador Gives Petrobras The Ok To Drill Inside Amazon Reserve**, President Lucio Gutierrez gave Brazil's state-run oil firm green light to start drilling inside an Amazon jungle reserve. (ENN)

Aug 26 **NASA Experts Report Drought Forecast Breakthrough**, they believe to have found a way of forecasting droughts and floods months in advance. (ENN)

Aug 26 **Global Warming Means More Frost-Free Days, Says Report**, frost will become less and less common across much of the world as global warming accelerates, US researchers stated. (ENN)

Aug 27 **Fifth Feline Killed**, as the cat killings continue, some Rutland residents are starting to fear for their children as well as their pets. A jogger found a fifth dismembered cat. Half of the animal was on a lawn the other half was left around the corner in a ditch. (Daily Courier)

Aug 27 **North Korea's Environment Crisis**, deforestation is the top priority the UN and officials in Pyongyang have agreed to the first-ever assessment of the state of the North Korean environment. (BBC)

Aug 27 **Bananas Could Power Aussie Homes**, banana-fuelled power plant capable of powering 500 homes could be built, Australian engineers have created an electricity generator fuelled by decomposing bananas, and hope to build a full size fruit-fired power station. (BBC)

Aug 27 **Water Wakeup Call**, some 4,000 children die daily from illnesses caused by unclean water the UN says the world faces a silent emergency because of the continued lack of clean water and sanitation. (BBC)

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Aug 27 **Drought Boosts Campaign**, to drain one of the west's biggest reservoirs – Lake Powell. (ENN)

Aug 27 **Alaska Brown Bears Gather For Summer Salmon Feast**. Each summer, the falls at the McNeil River turn into a mosh pit of bears. Instead of thumping music, it's the sound of salmon slapping their way up the falls. (ENN)

Aug 27 **Fifteen Years After Exxon Valdez, Alaskan Fishers Are Still Waiting For A Settlement**, in a tiny bakery just across the street from the fisherman's memorial in Cordova, Alaska, Brian O'Neill is using a tablecloth – a laminated nautical chart of Prince William Sound – to diagram the worst environmental disaster in North America history. (ENN)

Aug 27 **World Is Meeting Goals On Safe Drinking Water But Falling Behind On Sanitation, Says UN**, countries are improving access to clean drinking water but not on sanitation. (ENN)

Aug 29 **Solar-Panel Array Makes a statement**, alternative-energy supporters are hoping Toronto Hydro's launch of the city's largest industrial solar power generating system will generate a wave of interest in solar technology. (Globe & Mail)

Aug 30 **Conservationists Fighting To stop Wildlife Trade**, are now turning their attention to Asia; where they say affluence has made the region a top market for endangered species. (CITES)

Aug 30 **Vietnam Monkey Faces Extinction**, hunting has pushed the Delacour's langur back into a few strongholds a black and white monkey that lives exclusively in Vietnam is in severe danger of dying out. (BBC)

Aug 30 **Britons Attack US Cloning Ban Bid**, stem cells could provide treatment for diseases such as Alzheimer's; top British scientists are backing an international campaign to stop the US from obtaining a worldwide ban on all types of human cloning. (BBC)

Aug 30 **Denmark Backs Down In Grand Banks Shrimp Dispute**, Canadian ports will stay open to Danish boats after Denmark backed down in a dispute over shrimp quotas on the grand banks. (CBC)

Aug 30 **The University Of Kuopio**, have decided to close down the Karttula beagle and rabbit vivisection breeders. (SSN)

Aug 30 **A Bacterial Illness In Oysters**, has turned up at three more oyster farms, officials said. The farms have stopped selling oysters until more tests can be completed. (USA Today)

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Aug 31 **Do Urban Trees Really Help Reduce Pollution And Clean The Air?** The granddaddy of American landscape and architecture and the designer of the New York's central park proclaimed that trees were the "lungs of the city." (ENN)

Aug 31 **California Revives Plan To Create String Of Restricted Fishing Zones Along Coast**, the program would set up restricted fishing zones expected to serve as models for protecting ocean habitat. (ENN)

Aug 31 **UN Report On North Korea Environment Says Outlook Is Tough**, unless urgent action is taken. (ENN)

Aug 31 **Siberian Cubs Get Radio Collars**, the team had to wait until the cub's mum had left the den before tagging the tiny endangered tiger cubs from Siberia; they have been kitted out with radio collars so that scientists can track them. (BBC)

Aug 31 **Russian Oil And Grey Whales**, a top environmental group said last week it had agreed to probe an oil and gas project led by royal Dutch Shell off the Russian far East coast because of fears it threatens endangered whales. (IWC)

SEPTEMBER

Sep 1 **Cat-Killing Movie**, the Toronto International Film Festival has decided to show the movies "Casuistry: The Art of Killing A Cat". It is a 90-minute documentary that highlights an infamous & brutal killing of a stray cat in Toronto. (Toronto Star)

Sep 1 **Caviar Ban?** The United Nations has halted exports of caviar until the countries where it is produced comply with an agreement to protect sturgeon. (New York Times)

Sep 1 **Stabilizing Climate**, there are existing technologies that could stop the escalation of global warming for 50 years. (ENN)

Sep 1 **Asian Reef Fish Industry**, the appetite for live reef fish in Asian restaurants is ravaging aquatic stocks in Indonesia. (ENN)

Sep 2 **"Dolphin Safe" Tuna**, the San Diego federal court has taken action against smugglers shipping Dolores tuna, canned in Mexico, into the US with a phoney "dolphin Friendly" label. The smugglers will pay \$40,000 to the US government to make up for lost tax duties and for administration costs. (CFN)

Sep 2 **Cat Killing Movie**, the Toronto film festival organizers defend their decision to show "T Casuistry: the Art of Killing a Cat" because it does not show footage of the cat being killed nor glorify the men eventually charged in the case. (CBC)

Sep 2 **Zoo to Include Whale Exhibit**, the Calgary Zoo is considering adding an Arctic species exhibit within the next 10 years. (Calgary Sun)

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Sep 2 **Luna**, there are many concerned that if Luna is not reunited with his family immediately, the conflicts with humans will escalate and there will be less support for a reunion next Spring. (Times Colonist)

Sep 2 **Progress on Foreign Overfishing**, the efforts to combat overfishing off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland and Labrador have helped reduce the number of foreign boats fishing in the area by one-third. (Globe & Mail)

Sep 2 **Tainted Meat**, the Ontario Provincial Police have charged the owner of a meat packing plant with fraud, conspiracy to commit fraud after a year-long investigation into allegations that they were processing dead animals along with legitimate meat. (Globe & Mail)

Sep 2 **Bird Flu Virus**, scientists have found that the bird flu virus that can kill humans has the potential to be spread by cats. (BBC)

Sep 3 **Soya Boom**, a report has found that Soya plantations contributed to the near disappearance of the Atlantic Forest in southern Brazil and eastern Paraguay. (BBC)

Sep 4 **PEI's Woods**, a small shrub called ground hemlock as become green gold because it is a source of the cancer-fighting drug Taxol. (Globe & Mail)

Sep 6 **Lion Trophy Ban**, Britain is opposing an attempt to ban international trade in lion trophies and skins, despite evidence that the animal's population in Africa has declined by almost three quarters in less than a decade. (The Telegraph)

Sep 6 **Bushmeat**, an estimated 11,600 tons of illegal bush meat, including monkey, rat, bat, gorilla, camel and elephant were smuggled into Britain last year, exposing cattle to a range of infectious diseases. (The Telegraph)

Sep 7 **Mitsubishi Helps Fund Dolphins**, Mitsubishi Corporation has provided the dolphin conservation team in Zagreb equipment to help save the last dolphins that have survived in the Adriatic Sea off the Croatian coastline. (Mitsubishi International)

Sep 8 **10 Most Wanted**, the WWF has released its list of 10 of the world's most in-demand species bought, sold, smuggled, killed or captured. (SSN)

Sep 11 **Coffee Giants Agree to Code**, four of the world's biggest coffee companies have agreed to a voluntary pact to improve conditions in growing countries, but critics say cutting oversupply would help more. (Toronto Star)

Sept 11 **Going Green**, the green bin will be introduced throughout Scarborough and Toronto starting in October. (Toronto Star)

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Sep 12 **Dante & Friends**, The Humane Society of Canada presented Dante, Cisco, and Elvis with the HSC Animal Heroes Award. Dante befriended the man who allegedly set out to embark on a widespread killing spree. (HSC)

Sep 13 **Water Supply Threatened**, the International Joint Commission warns that the Great Lakes could face another Walkerton-like tragedy unless Canada and the United States spend billions to upgrade wastewater treatment plants. (Windsor Star)

Sep 13 **Speak Out Against Torture**, The Humane Society of Canada is asking that a 90 minute film called "Casuistry: The Art of Killing a Cat", be pulled from the Toronto International Film Festival. (HSC)

Sep 14 **Edmonton Man Pleads Guilty**, an Edmonton man pleads guilty to four indictable counts of illegally exporting an endangered freshwater fish species. (SSN)

Sep 15 **Cellphones**, the PetsCell, launched yesterday by a US company, will allow pet owners and their dogs to connect between walks and work. (Calgary Sun)

Sep 16 **Slaughterhouses**, some Calgary city councillors want to go farther than blocking a new slaughterhouse in the city's northeast, and ban them from the city altogether. (CBC)

Sep 17 **Wildlife Trade Presents Global Threat**, the expanding and unsustainable trade in wildlife for meat in many parts of the world represents a threat to both biodiversity and the health and well-being of human, wildlife and livestock communities. (Newswise)

Sep 17 **Natural Disasters On the Rise**, more people are being caught up in a growing number of natural disasters. The UN says this is due to global warming. (BBC)

Sep 18 **Green Ground Zero**, the name refers to the space in which the twin towers of the World Trade Centre once stood, the project is designed around the entirety of New York's Lower Manhattan district. (BBC)

Sep 18 **Dog Poisoning in Fiji**, poison is used in Fiji to control the dog population. The poison used is a compound that causes extreme pain. Poisoned dogs and cats scream and run around in circles until they die. (Fiji Times)

Sep 18 **Dog Used to Lure Children**, a senior used his pet dog to lure children into his car outside a Scarborough school. (Toronto Sun)

Sep 20 **Prevent Dog Bites**, The Humane Society of Canada released its report "Saving Lives: An Action Plan to Prevent Dog Bites" which has been sent to Premier Dalton McGuinty and other political figures across Canada. (HSC)

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Sep 20 **US Oceans a Mess**, the oceans surrounding the United States are in serious trouble. Persistent organic pollutants and nutrients on the coasts are one of the biggest challenges. (CFN)

Sep 21 **Canada Needs Its Kyoto Plan**, one of the most important messages from the Prime Minister must be a clear statement on the urgency of meeting the challenge of climate change, underlining Canada's commitment to implementation of the Kyoto Protocol. (Daily Courier)

Sep 22 **British Get Mad Cow Alert**, thousands of people who received plasma or other blood products in Britain received letters from the government yesterday, warning that they may have been exposed to the deadly human form of mad cow disease. (Toronto Sun)

Sep 22 **Caribbean Coral**, two-thirds of the Caribbean's coral reefs are threatened by human activities. Bleaching caused by warming waters, disease from new pathogens, and damage from storms also pose difficulties. (BBC)

Sep 23 **Gorillas**, the government of Cameroon has entered into diplomatic negotiations with the governments of South and Malaysia to bring back the four young gorillas that were smuggled from Cameroon to the Taiping zoo in Malaysia. (SSN)

Sep 23 **China Facing Crisis**, China's growing cities are among the world's most polluted. Environmental problems like pollution, acid rain and contaminated rivers have only now become a key policy issue. (BBC)

Sep 24 **Canned Hunting in Manitoba**, The Humane Society of Canada has written to the Minister of Conservation in Manitoba expressing its opposition to canned hunts. (HSC)

Sep 24 **US Considering Banning Canadian Trash**, a Bill has passed a House of Representatives Subcommittee, which would allow US states to ban trash shipments from Canada and other states. (Canoe)

Sep 24 **Antarctic Glaciers Speed Up**, a report in the journal Science, states that glaciers in West Antarctica are losing 60% more ice into the Amundsen Sea than they accumulate from inland snowfall. (BBC)

Sep 25 **Dogs Smell Cancer**, tests were conducted and verified that scientifically, dogs are able to smell cancer. (Canoe)

Sep 27 **Bird Flu & Humans**, Thai and international health officials held an emergency meeting to review a case in which there is a very remote possibility that bird flu was passed from human to human. (Toronto Star)

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Sep 27 **The HSC Animal Character Mascots**, 'Kia' and 'Willow', The Humane Society of Canada animal character mascots will be at Queen and Bay to promote new commemorative pet stamps which go on sale across Canada October 1st. (HSC)

Sep 27 **Canned Lions**, at the 2004 CITES Conference in Bangkok, the South African delegation will contend that canned lion hunting has been abolished. (Ecoterra)

Sep 28 **Bird Flu Death Blamed on Human-to-Human Transmission**, Thailand confirmed that a woman died after contracting the bird flu virus from a family member. (CBC)

Sep 28 **Adopt A Dog**, October is Adopt A Dog Month and The Humane Society of Canada is asking anyone who can provide a good home for a dog in need to consider his or her local humane society. (HSC)

Sep 29 **Kenya Wants Protected Status for Lions**, the Kenya Wildlife Service is pushing a plan to give the African lion maximum protection under a UN body that governs trade in endangered or threatened plants and animals. (ABS-CBN News)

Sep 29 **Japan Moves to Cut Whale Protection**, Japan will propose that some stocks of Minke whales be shifted from a list of most-endangered to a less endangered category at the CITES meeting. (Reuters)

Sep 29 **Ontario Dumps Go Green**, the Ontario government is hoping to end the province's reputation as a dumping ground for hazardous waste by banning the disposal of untreated toxins. (Toronto Sun)

Sep 30 **International Ivory Trade**, in a report released by a UK based wildlife charity, it refutes the economic justification behind Namibia's latest proposal to sell ivory. (CFTWI Media Release)

Sep 30 **Blessing of the Animals**, The Humane Society of Canada will be participating in the annual Blessing of the Animals, celebrating the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi. (HSC)

Sep 30 **28 Trees Chopped**, more than a dozen trees in a North York neighbourhood were razed by a developer hours before City Hall passed a Bylaw to protect them. (Toronto Sun)

Sep 30 **Russia Ratifies Kyoto**, the Russian cabinet approved the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol on combating global warming. (Globe & Mail)

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OCTOBER

Oct 1 **New Pet Stamps**, new stamps and contest from Canada Post a wonderful way to celebrate our pets (HSC)

Oct 1 **Foie Gras Cruelty**, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Bill SB 1520 which outlaws the cruel force feeding of ducks and geese to produce foie gras and prohibits the sale of foie gras in the state of California. (Farm Sanctuary)

Oct 1 **BC Mercury Exposure**, the BC Medical Journal reports that there is high mercury levels in some fish. Researchers are blaming the results on a regular diet of specific fish. (CBC)

Oct 2 **Perch Add Mussels To Diet**, perch have started eating quagga mussels. These mussels cause millions of dollars of damage in the Great Lakes region. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 4 **BSE**, nearly 60 per cent of cattle in Canada are raised for export to the US. Within six weeks of the border's close, international experts concluded that the herd in Canada is safe. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 4 **Sable Island**, the fragile dunes of Sable Island could be contaminated by tourists because the guardians of the remote sandbar are running out of money. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 5 **Illegal Trafficking**, the illegal trafficking of wildlife continues at high levels. The Conference of the Parties to CITES has asked the group to study how effectively the Convention is being enforced and to make recommendations for improvements. (SSN)

Oct 5 **Fuel Cell Cars**, Silicon Valley start-up PolyFuel Inc. is announcing a new membrane technology that could speed up the mass-market introduction of hydrogen fuel-cell cars. (Toronto Star)

Oct 5 **Saving Species**, species are being wiped out so fast that scientists say humanity may be triggering the sixth mass extinction in history. (BBC)

Oct 6 **Deep Sea Trawling**, environmental groups have called for a ban on using trawlers for fishing as it damages fragile ecosystems. (BBC)

Oct 6 **Horses Seized in Raid**, two emaciated horses and a pony were removed from an Aurora farm. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 6 **Tiger Skin Trade**, environmental investigators revealed an alarming rise in illegal tiger skin trade at CITES meeting. (EIA Media Release)

Oct 6 **Planet Under Pressure**, scientists say we are in a new stage of the Earth's history, when we have become the globe's principal force. They are concerned that

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unprecedented human pressure on the Earth's ecosystems threatens our future as a species. (BBC)

Oct 7 **Discoveries**, a Canadian Coast Guard ship has come back from a yearlong scientific mission. They discovered that shrinking ice cover could reduce the winter-feeding season for Arctic cod and the Arctic ice pack absorbs carbon dioxide even after freezing. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 7 **Horse Euthanized**, one of the emaciated horses removed from an Aurora farm during a raid has been put down. He was too weak to get up and had very low blood pressure. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 7 **Boom in Bushmeat Trade**, the bushmeat trade in Equatorial Guinea is thriving due to a recent boom in oil. (BBC)

Oct 8 **Tourists To Kill Seals**, visitors to Norway will be invited to liven up their holiday by hunting seal. (BBC)

Oct 8 **CITES**, at the CITES meeting, Parties unanimously agreed to new controls over the international trade in ramin, a tropical hardwood found in Southeast Asia. Ramin has declined dramatically and is commercially extinct throughout much of its former range. (SSN)

Oct 8 **Man Injured by Dolphin**, a man is being treated for injuries after he jumped into a tank with a mother dolphin and her baby. (Local 10 News)

Oct 8 **Maathai Wins Nobel**, Wangari Maathai is the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. She is responsible for the Green Belt Movement, which aims to curtail the devastating effects of deforestation and desertification. (BBC)

Oct 8 **Ban for Rare Asian Dolphin**, CITES has banned international trade of the Irrawaddy dolphin, a rare Asian dolphin. (BBC)

Oct 10 **Ivory Trade**, CITES voted to deny Namibia an annual quota of 2,000kg of raw ivory and an unlimited quantity of worked ivory jewellery. The decision could have long-term and positive implications for elephant conservation across Africa. (SSN)

Oct 11, **Ferrets Left to Die**, a man was spotted leaving ferrets at an Etobicoke park. A ferret rescue society looked for the ferrets but was not able to find them. Their chances of survival are slim. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 11 **Drinking Water**, dozens of drinking water utilities in Washington have tried to hide lead contamination and failed to correct problems. (ENN)

Oct 12 **Whales Survive**, CITES defeated a move by Japan to reopen commercial trade in Minke whales. (SSN)

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Oct 12 **Rhinos Under Attack**, Swaziland has received permission from the Parties to CITES to exploit its white rhino population. (SSN)

Oct 13 **Shark Protection**, a UN conference has decided that a system of permits will now control trade in great white shark products. (BBC)

Oct 13 **Funding for GRASP**, United Kingdom Environment Minister will announce a grant to GRASP to fund targeted law enforcement training in Central Africa. (SSN)

Oct 13 **UNEP & the Caribbean Environment Programme**, the Eleventh Intergovernmental Meeting on the Action Plan for the Caribbean Environment Programme and Eight Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region took place Sept. 28- Oct. 2. The Meeting agreed on the priority actions and projects to be implemented over the next 2 years. (SSN)

Oct 13 **Captive Dolphins**, dolphins in captivity are among the most stressed creatures around, as their physiology doesn't make them suitable for captivity. (The Tribune)

Oct 13 **Bushmeat Trade Flourishes**, the market for bushmeat is flourishing in Nairobi, Kenya. This is a serious threat to wild fauna. (ENN)

Oct 13 **Perfume Wood**, a UN conference voted to regulate global trade in a fragrant wood highly coveted for perfumes in the Middle East. (ENN)

Oct 13 **Cuba and Dolphin Trade**, US authorities fined a Nevada doctor for buying six dolphins from Cuba. (CFN)

Oct 14 **Celebrate World Food Day**, The Humane Society of Canada is asking people to participate in this special day. People can participate by learning more about our food supply and how it affects the Earth and species. (HSC)

Oct 14 **Elephant Trade**, CITES has agreed to permit a limited trade in ivory to resume to allow Namibia to trade in ivory ornamental trinkets. (SSN)

Oct 14, **A Garbage Fire**, at a Vaughan dump has forced residents in Vaughan to remain inside their homes. City officials say the fire could have been avoided had the Environment Ministry heeded and shut down the dump. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 15 **Marine Life Booms**, sea life is flourishing since people were banned from catching fish, lobsters and crabs from an area east of Lundy Island. (BBC)

Oct 15, **Ecuador and Global Warming**, global warming is melting Ecuador's mountain glaciers and could cause many of them to disappear over the next two decades. (ENN)

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Oct 16 **British and Bees**, the chairman of Britain's national Beekeeping Association has warned cuts to the number of hive inspectors could worsen the effects of bee diseases. (BBC)

Oct 16, **St. Bernards For Sale**, the Congregation of Canons of the Great St. Bernard is selling 18 adult and 16 pups. They are heavy dogs, expensive to feed and their jobs have been taken over by helicopters and heat sensors. (Toronto Star)

Oct 18 **Waste Water**, a study has shown that Toronto's wastewater could be harnessed and converted into electricity to run its own water treatment facilities. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 18 **Dogs Great for Health**, studies have shown that pet ownership improves the quality of everyday life and provides enormous health benefits. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 18 **Sea Life Protection**, CITES has shown a great focus on marine life. Delegates agreed to grant greater protection to great white, sharks, while Japan's proposal to commercially exploit Minke whales was rejected. (BBC)

Oct 19 **Deal Reached on Walkerton Charges**, the two brothers charged in connection with the Walkerton tragedy will not go to trial. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 19 **UK Owls**, experts are appealing to nature lovers in the UK to help them discover the numbers and location of the UK's five owl species for the first time. (BBC)

Oct 19 **Bird Flu Hits Tigers**, twenty-three tigers have died at a zoo in Thailand after they ate raw chicken infected with bird flu. (BBC)

Oct 20 **Decline In Birds**, a report states that there is a decline of North American bird populations, which is abnormal and not attributable to natural population fluctuations. (BBC)

Oct 20 **Water Ban**, an NDP MP has introduced a private member's bill to ban the export of Great Lakes water outside the Great Lakes basin. (Toronto Star)

Oct 20 **Animal Cruelty Bill**, Jane Goodall is urging the Canadian Prime Minister to pass a Bill against animal cruelty that has stalled in the Senate three times. (Toronto Star)

Oct 20 **Dolphins Can't Sue Bush**, a Federal Appeals Court ruled that whales, dolphins and porpoises have no standing to sue President Bush over the US Navy's use of sonar equipment. (Reuters)

Oct 20 **Illegal Whale Kill**, an animal rights group claimed that Japan has illegally killed hundreds of whales in an Australian whale sanctuary. (ENN)

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Oct 21 **Resource Consumption**, an environmental group says people are plundering the world's resources at a pace that outstrips the planet's capacity to sustain life. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 21 **Prairie Dogs Poisoned**, wildlife workers in Colorado have begun a program to poison thousands of prairie dogs in the grassland of South Dakota to stop them from moving onto private ranch area. (ENN)

Oct 22 **Pop Cans**, an estimated 1 billion pop cans end up in the trash instead of the blue box. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 23 **Hunting Rules**, the chair of Charlottetown's police committee says City Council should look at the policy allowing hunting in the city limits. Hunters have been shooting pellet guns trying to shoot at waterfowl, accidentally hitting businesses and cars with their stray bullets. (CBC)

Oct 23 **Sockeye Salmon**, the Environment Minister has refused to place two critically endangered populations of sockeye salmon on the endangered species list. (Globe & Mail)

Oct 23 **Threatened Species**, records have shown that over the past six years, the number of species in trouble has increased rapidly in Ontario. (Toronto Star)

Oct 24 **Canadian Lab & Avian Flu**, researchers at Canada's National Microbiology Lab are working with the H5 and H7 avian influenza viruses in order to help the scientific community find the mysteries of their virulence. (Canoe)

Oct 24 **No Fur**, Pamela Anderson has sent a petition to Queen Elizabeth urging Britain's monarch to stop using bear pelts in making the black helmets worn by the palace guards. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 24 **Global Warming**, US scientists have calculated that the US could slash its greenhouse gas emissions by switching to today's fuel-efficient cars. (Nature)

Oct 25 **Halloween Pet Safety**, The Humane Society of Canada wants people with pets to be careful to protect them at Halloween, as some people have been known to harm animals on this day. (HSC)

Oct 26 **Manure Gas**, an Ontario cattle operation is teaming up with the province to make a new type of green electricity. Manure will be turned into megawatts by producing gas. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 26 **Restrictions for GM Food**, more than 35 people, most of them leaders of scientific or environmental groups, released a letter urging the Russian President to set limits on the development and use of genetically modified foods. (ENN)

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Oct 26 **Environmental Hummer**, Governor Schwarzenegger has introduced an environmentally friendly Hummer but not the converted hydrogen-powered car he promised voters he would build when he campaigned for office. (ENN)

Oct 26 **Global Warming**, rising sea levels have forced millions of Bangladeshis into India. (ENN)

Oct 27 **Dolphins in the Solomon Islands**, more than 40 dolphins are suffering under appalling conditions in sea cages in the Solomon Islands. (Herald Sun)

Oct 27 **Tanzania**, Tanzania plans to sell 99 tonnes of confiscated elephant tusks in government stores to raise funds for conservation efforts. (Mail & Guardian)

Oct 27 **Zoo manager 'traded in monkeys'**, a zoo manager was fired after selling monkeys so he could create a menagerie of exotic animals. He won a claim for unfair dismissal because the zoo had not fully investigated before firing him. (BBC)

Oct 28 **Reward for Brutal Dog Killings**, The Humane Society of Canada is offering a reward for information resulting in the conviction of those responsible for stabbing two German Shepherd dogs in Oro-Medonte Township, Ontario. (HSC)

Oct 28 **Lawsuit**, Environmental groups filed a federal lawsuit this week to reverse a Bush Administration decision to set aside Reagan-era rules aimed at protecting wildlife. (ENN)

Oct 28 **Polluters Targeted**, the Environment Minister introduced legislation that would impose new penalties on environmental scofflaws including up to \$100,000 in fines for companies and five years in jail for its directors. (Toronto Sun)

Oct 29 **China Launches Award**, an environmental organization in China has launched a special award in Beijing to promote wildlife protection in China. (Xinhua)

Oct 29 **Sri Lanka Eye's Whale Watching**, Sri Lanka's government plans to develop an eastern port city as a centre for tourists hoping to spot whales. (ENN)

Oct 29 **Refinery and Chemical Workers**, Texas workers at US refineries, chemical plants and paper mills are not adequately trained to prevent or respond to terrorist attacks. (ENN)

Oct 29 **Endangered Species**, over the past 20 years, we have had problems convincing politicians that Canadians support the protection and not the killing of wildlife. At a recent CITES meeting in Bangkok, we are pleased to announce that Canada voted in favour of proposals to protect whales and dolphins. (HSC)

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Oct 29 **France Urged to Support Ban**, Kenya is seeking French support in the fight against ivory trade. Kenya is opposed to a recent proposal by some countries to be allowed to dispose of their ivory stocks. (The Nation)

Oct 30 **Action Need to Save Salmon**, the auditors general of BC and Canada say there is a lack of clear vision to protect the West Coast's wild salmon stocks and prompt change is needed. (The Review)

NOVEMBER

Nov 1 **Entire Pod of Risso's Dolphins Eradicated**, a closer look at the dolphins that were captured was impossible due to white blinds and large curtains of blue tarp covering the entire slaughterhouse. (One Voice)

Nov 1 **Eton or the Zoo**, a new discovery of a tiny, 3ft tall, flat faced bipedal "ape man" on the Indonesian island of Flores shows us the skeletal remains which are detailed and are found along with delicate stone tools and evidence of fire-making and the hunting of large game. (BBC)

Nov 1 **Threatened Species May Spiral into Oblivion**, rampant inbreeding can put panthers, cheetahs and other endangered species at increased risk from parasites and infections. That could create a vicious cycle capable of driving the remaining population to extinction. (New Scientist)

Nov 1 **Why Are Dolphins So Smart?** Emory psychologist to answer the question of why dolphins have such large brains did a study. The article will appear in the December issue of The Anatomical Record. (Red Nova)

Nov 1 **Humans and Dolphins: If Brain Size is a Measure, We're Not That Different**, six scientists have determined how brain size changed in dolphins and their relatives over the past 47 million years and how these species evolved in relation to humans. (Newswise)

Nov 1 **Great Apes**, bushmeat trade keeps on driving chimpanzees and gorillas towards extinction. An estimated 1-5 million tonnes of bushmeat is eaten every year in Congo, its value ranging from L10 Million to L100 Million in different countries. In the past decade the number of eastern lowland gorillas has plunged from 17,000 to 5000 according to Conservation International. (The Observer)

Nov 1 **Goodall on Chimps**, Jane Goodall, studying chimpanzees, sees a very grim future for chimps. Human development is said to be destroying their habitats, and new roads built by loggers provide easy access to the forest for illegal hunters. The conservationist spoke

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with VOA's Michael O'Sullivan in Los Angeles, and said she is hopeful that the problems afflicting the animals and their human neighbours can be surmounted. (SSN)

Nov 1 **Canada Post's October Pet Stamp**, pet stamps issued in October celebrates the fascination of Canadians with their favourite furry, feathery or scaly companions. Isabelle Toussaint of Montreal designed the 49-cent stamps, in her first work for Canada Post. Early in the next year a new set of regular-issue (definitive) stamps featuring the Queen and five new flag images will mark the rate increase to 50 cents for domestic postage. (Toronto Star)

Nov 1 **High Tech Building Use Sunlight, Sea Water to Save Energy**, at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, and the lights are controlled by sensors that measure sunlight. They dim immediately when it's sunny and brighten when a passing cloud block the Sun. (ENN)

Nov 1 **Kyoto is Too Little to Fix Warming**, says UN Climate Chief. Although saved recently with Russian help, the Kyoto pact on global warming offers too little to arrest climate change and governments should adopt more radical solutions, the top UN climate expert said. (ENN)

Nov 1 **Canada and EU Consider Global Conference on Overfishing**, and recently agreed to move beyond their long-running argument about fishing off the Atlantic Ocean Grand Banks to attack overfishing on a global basis. (ENN)

Nov 2 **Elephant Killed for Ivory**, a Borneo Pygmy elephant was shot dead and butchered for its ivory tusks a month ago near the Tabin Wildlife Forest reserve. The endangered bull elephant weighing 2.5 tonnes and 2.6 m tall, was shot twice in the head and had its tusks, each weighing about 14 kg, removed. (The Star)

Nov 2 **Salmon at Risk in Pacific Russia**, extreme poverty is driving Russians in the Pacific region to poach salmon to unsustainable levels, a UK group says. Television Trust for the Environment says the Kamchatka peninsula is home to a massive population of wild salmon. (BBC)

Nov 2 **Threatened Bird Breed**, development threatens the Socotra Cormorant and the Dubai Zoo says it is the first in the world to achieve captive breeding of the Socotra Cormorant. The distinctive black bird is indigenous to the Arabian Peninsula and is mostly found in there. It has come under threat because its natural habitats - the islands in the Gulf - are increasingly being developed for residential and tourist use. (BBC)

Nov 2 **Curbs on Discarded Fish?** Fishermen in the North Sea are already facing strict quotas. Tyneside scientists are calling for action to prevent fishermen from catching fish they do not want. The Newcastle University team want the EU and UK government to limit over-fishing in the North Sea. They say almost one million tonnes of unwanted fish are thrown back into the North Sea each year. (BBC)

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Nov 2 **Taiwan Bans Wildlife Releases**, the Legislative Yuan passed the first reading of a draft revision to the existing animal protection law Tuesday to ban the release of animals into the wild as a so-called “charitable” act. (Taiwan News Agency)

Nov 2 **China Bans Imports of Scrap Electronics in Bid to Clean Up Environment**, Beijing China is banning imports of used TV sets and other electronic scrap in a bid to clean up its environment complaining that the US, Japan and others are using it as a dumping ground, a government newspaper said recently. (ENN)

Nov 2 **World Unprepared for Avian Flu, Experts Warn**, the current US flu vaccine shortage shows perfectly how poorly the world is prepared to handle the next global epidemic of influenza, health experts said. (ENN)

Nov 2 **Greenpeace Accuses Hong Kong of Downplaying Air Pollution**, Hong Kong Greenpeace on Monday accused the Hong Kong government of downplaying air pollution in the territory by setting the acceptable level of certain pollutants too high. (ENN)

Nov 2 **Elephants At Risk, Activist Warns KWS**, an activist asked the Kenya Wildlife Service to control the killings of elephants. Saying the animals could soon become extinct, the Samburu Wildlife Forum chairman, Mr. James Lenges said last month more than 100 elephants were killed by poachers in different areas of the district. (The Nation)

Nov 2 **Owning Wildlife**, the list of wild animal pets continues to grow from raccoons, squirrels and kinkajous to hedgehogs, marmosets, and a host of reptiles and amphibians. But owning animals from wild is a bad idea since behavioural changes occur and the new owners discover that they got more than they bargained for. (The Tribute)

Nov 2 **Killing of elephant cannot be viewed lightly: official**, the MP for Silam Samsu Baharun Abdul Rahman Monday lodged a police report over the killing of a pygmy elephant in Sabah, fearing that there could be a conspiracy to wipe out the pachyderms. (Borneo Bulletin)

Nov 2 **Singapore Seized Skins**, thirty-one bales of python and lizard skins were discovered hidden among plywood products on a tugboat and barge arriving in Singapore from Indonesia, immigration officials said. The 40,000 pieces of air-dried python and monitor lizard skins, without the necessary permits, were seized, according to a statement from the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority. (Jakarta Post)

Nov 3 **Asia and Environment**, the Asian giant is the world’s leading importer of round wood timber after Beijing banned domestic logging in 1999. Prior to that, China had been the 18th largest timber importer in the world. (IPS)

Nov 3 **US Parrot Smuggler**, a Riverside County man pleaded guilty Monday in San Diego federal court to smuggling more than 120 exotic birds from Mexico. Joel

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Valencia, 37 of Perris, was linked to at least two bird-smuggling cases several years ago and officers were on the lookout for him. (Union-Tribute)

Nov 3 **Cloning Insects**, a team of researchers at Dalhousie University in Halifax announced yesterday that they have become the first in the world to successfully clone insects, specifically fruit flies. Dr. Vett Lloyd a biologist and head of the research team, said the implication might help scientists figure out why the cloning of mammals has been so fraught with failure. (Toronto Sun)

Nov 3 **Olive Ridley Turtles in India**, when the endangered Olive Ridley turtles return to Orissa's coast for their annual synchronized mating and nesting, they will find large drilling rigs for gas disturbing their tranquillity. The classic battle between environment and development is being played out near the Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary in Orissa's Kendrapada district. (Indo-Asian News Service)

Nov 3 **Seized Tortoises Stolen**, a Moody Gardens employee was in jail Tuesday charged with the theft of 15 federally protected tortoises. When electrician William L. Johnson, 60, showed up to work, police were waiting for him and he was charged with felony theft. (The Daily News)

Nov 3 **Arctic Ice is Melting**, the Arctic Ice cover will completely disappear in summer by the end of this century unless carbon dioxide emissions are significantly reduced, according to a study to be released next week. (Globe & Mail)

Nov 3 **Arctic Melt Accelerates, Governments Split**, a thaw of the Arctic icecap is accelerating because of global warming, but nations including the US are deadlocked on how to stop it. (ENN)

Nov 3 **Endangered Species List is Growing Says Green Group**, the world's list of endangered species is growing at an accelerating and alarming rate, as governments pay less and less attention to green issues a major environmental body said on Tuesday. (ENN)

Nov 3 **Turtle Confiscation**, on Tuesday, 2nd November at 8 pm, Marine Police of Bali confiscated 51 live Green Sea Turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) and 28 parts of sea turtles (dried plastron for raw material of chips) on Badung waters. The sea turtles were brought by boat named: KM Mekar Sari, from Dompu (South Sumbawa) to Tanjung Bena-Bali. (Profauna Media Release)

Nov 4 **Plastic & Arctic Birds**, Iqaluit Mayor Elisapee Sheutiapik says she's appalled by the findings the Canadian Wildlife Service says it found plastic of various shapes and sizes in the digestive system of Northern Fulmars. (CBC)

Nov 4 **Arctic Climate Change**, the ACIA report says the Arctic icecap has shrunk by 15 percent in the past 30 years and the contraction is likely to accelerate. (CBC)

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Nov 4 **Japan Hits Back at Whaling Criticism**, Japan hit back at widespread international condemnation of its 'research-whaling' program accusing its critics of emotionally based criticism and political interference. (IWC)

Nov 4 **\$5M Worth of Smuggled Falcons Siezed at Russian Airbase**, law enforcement authorities have seized 127 rare falcons worth \$5 M that were being smuggled to Syria from a Russian military airbase in Kyrgyzstan, in the biggest bird smuggling racket uncovered in the region. (Moscow News)

Nov 4 **South Africa Elephant Culling**, SANParks will have an elephant management plan in place by the end of October next year designed to reduce the 'exorbitant' number of elephants in South Africa, Parliament's portfolio committee on environment was told yesterday. (Business Day)

Nov 4 **Krill in Decline**, an important link in the food web, krill, a major component in the diets of many Antarctic species such as whales, penguins and seals, appears to be undergoing a major decline. Since 1970s numbers of the shrimp-like creatures have fallen by 80% in waters near the Antarctic Peninsula, UK scientists tell Nature magazine. (BBC)

Nov 5 **Black Rhino Protection**, rangers protecting the endangered black rhinos of East Africa have taken to the trees. Rhino's are hunted for their horns, Mr. Alpers, a Namibian rhino expert, now spends up to seven days in a single tree to get sightings of the shy rhinos. (BBC)

Nov 5 **Arctic & Warmer Future**, polar bears use the ice floes to hunt seals. But the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) endorses recent warnings about melting ice, with perhaps all ocean ice disappearing in summers by 2060-2100. (BBC)

Nov 5 **Gas Cuts "Affordable"** friendlier farming is one way to tackle climate change. The world can ward off a dangerous rise in temperature much more cheaply than many people think. Professor John Schellnhuber of the University of East Anglia, believes the cost of averting runaway climate change could be as low as 0.3% of global GDP. (BBC)

Nov 5 **McKenzie Valley Pipeline**, a Mackenzie Valley pipeline will end the NWT's dependence on federal funding, says a recent study commissioned by the territorial government. A pipeline would bring in more than \$20 billion in revenue, the report estimates. (BBC)

Nov 6 **Another Orca Died at Marineland Canada**, Marineland has lost a second killer whale in less than three months. Hudson, a six-year old orca, was found dead in Friendship Cove on Oct 20, the theme park announced. The death came just two months after Neocia, a 12-year-old killer whale, was found dead in her pool. (Edmonton Sun)

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Nov 7 **Bushmeat and Anthrax**, anthrax that broke out in eastern Caprivi last month, continues to kill wild animals and livestock in the area, the Ministry of Environment said. The Deputy Director for Parks and Wildlife Management said since the outbreak of the disease on Oct 14, 56 buffalo have died of the disease in eastern Caprivi. (The Namibian)

Nov 8 **Jamaica - Running Debate over Captive Dolphins Rages On**, the long-running debate over the appropriateness of keeping dolphins in captivity is continuing, with the Dolphin Cove attraction in Ocho Rios strongly dismissing suggestions from animal rights activists that a plan to import five dolphins from Cuba threatens the well-being of those mammals. (Jamaica Observer)

Nov 8 **Bear Bile Seizure**, the Forest Department in the Himalayan state of Uttaranchal is to be congratulated on busting a long-standing racket in bear bile. On 4th November 2004 12 bear gall bladders were seized at Munsiyari weighing 1130 gm. Munsiyari in Distt Pithoragarh has for a long while been a poaching and trading point of bear bile. (Wildlife Trust of India)

Nov 8 **Ivory Trade, View From India**, the Convention of Illegal Trading of Endangered Species (CITES) Conference met in Bangkok until Oct 14, has made the Ministry of the Environment & Forests mandarins over India's 26000 plus elephants. (Times of India)

Nov 8 **Greater respect for lives of animals urged**, animal conservationists and religious figures say more must be done to promote respect for the lives of animals. (Taipei Times)

Nov 8 **Canned Lion Hunts**, the hard-hitting Cook Report exposing South Africa's sordid 'canned lion' industry shocked millions of television viewers here and abroad. But that was seven years ago, and in spite of the outcry at the time, the practice of hunting lions in captivity continues. (The Independent)

Nov 8 **USA Canned Hunts**, hunters pay thousands to kill animals on enclosed private land. Hunts take place in 8-foot fences at safari-like game preserves throughout Florida. Hunters pay as they kill - as much as \$7,000 per animals. Animal's rights activists call them 'canned hunts' because the animals are confined and can't get away. (St. Petersburg Times)

Nov 8 **Japan to Reject CITES Regulation on Shark Trade**, the Japanese government has decided to reject an international agreement to limit the trade in great white sharks that was reached last month at a wildlife conservation conference in Bangkok, government sources said Monday. (SSN)

Nov 9 **Eight Nations Find Arctic Warming Quickly**, scientists say changes in the earth's climate from human interference is occurring particularly intensely in the Arctic region, evidenced by the melting glaciers, thinning sea ice and rising permafrost temperatures. (ENN)

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Nov 9 **Japan to Meet Kyoto Protocol Targets By Buying Rights to Pollute from Companies in 2006**, Japan's government said it will try to meet its target of reducing gas emissions promised under the Kyoto Protocol on global warming by buying rights to pollute from Japanese companies. (ENN)

Nov 10 **TESCO - Japan Ends Whale Meat Sales**, Conservation groups welcomed an announcement by Tesco PLC that it has decided to stop selling all cetacean products in its Japanese supermarkets. (Tesco Press Release)

Nov 10 **India& Enforcement Problems**, India needs to create a specialized enforcement unit to deal with wildlife crime Debbie Banks, senior campaigner of EIA said. She was speaking at a press meet in the capital where the NGO announced it was joining hands with the Wildlife Trust of India and the Wildlife Protection Society of India to work for the protection of the 'big cats'. (UNI)

Nov 10 **World Bank on Wildlife Trade**, the threat that East Asia's rich biodiversity faces, with 95 percent of its forests already lost because of uncontrolled logging and wildlife being decimated at alarming rates, may well create what the World Bank calls 'silent forests' completely devoid of animals. (IPS)

Nov 10 **Anthrax Kills Nearly 200 Hippos in Uganda**, an anthrax outbreak has killed 194 hippos in western Uganda, wildlife officials said, and scientists are struggling to develop a way to quickly diagnose and contain the disease. (ENN)

Nov 10 **China in for Extreme Weather as Climate Change Felt, Report Says**, China can expect more droughts, floods and other extreme weather as it struggles to balance rapid development with environmental concerns, a report on climate change released on Tuesday said. (ENN)

Nov 10 **Bottom-Dwelling Marine Life Found in Georgia**, researchers working off coastal Georgia have discovered what could be three new species of bottom-dwelling creatures known as sea squirts. (ENN)

Nov 10 **Judge Declines to Dismiss Pollution Suit**, a federal judge on Monday refused to dismiss a lawsuit accusing a Canadian mining company of polluting the Columbia River with heavy metals for decades. (ENN)

Nov 11 **Brazil Creates Two New Forest Reserves**, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva placed a large swath of rainforest under government protection creating two new environmental reserves in the Amazon. (ENN)

Nov 11 **Satellite Tracking Finds Albatrosses' Deadly Zones**, Satellite tracking data have pinpointed parts of the world where longline fishing trawlers and albatrosses cross paths often with fatal results for the majestic birds. (ENN)

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Nov 11 **Biodiesel Offers Potential Environmental Economic Results**, the message at a biodiesel conference held at the Georgia Farm Bureau on Tuesday was simple: Georgia is ripe for creating a successful new fuel industry. (ENN)

Nov 11 **Pollution in Southern China Exceed US Standards, Study Says**, air pollution levels in China's industrial Pearl River Delta are two to five times higher than US air quality standards, a Hong Kong think tank said. (ENN)

Nov 12 **Teens Arrested in Killing of Sharks at Aquarium**, four young teens have been arrested after the torture and killing of two sharks and a ray at a California aquarium. They are held on suspicion of animal cruelty and trespassing. (CFN)

Nov 12 **Brown Bears & North America**, new fossil evidence suggests brown bears actually made their way through Canada more than 25,000 years ago, well before ice sealed their path. The find is particularly important because it clears up some niggling inconsistencies in the history of brown bears. (BBC)

Nov 12 **Himalayan Glaciers Melt**, environmentalists are warning that the melting of glaciers in the Himalayas could spell disaster for millions of people living in the region. Swelling glacial lakes would increase the risk of catastrophic flooding. (BBC)

Nov 12 **Susilo pledges stern action against illegal logging**, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono reiterated his pledge to fight illegal logging and crack down on officials, police and military personnel found to be supporting it. The meeting was held in Pangkalan Bun, Central Kalimantan. (Jakarta Post)

Nov 12 **Saving People and Seals: Let's Try a New "Made in Canada" Approach**, a letter sent to the Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Hon Paul Martin, requesting a new 'made in Canada' approach to the end of seal hunting in Canada. (HSC)

Nov 12 **Pesticide Study Using Children as Test Subjects Postponed**, a planned government study into how children's bodies absorb pesticides and other chemicals has been suspended due to ethical concerns. (ENN)

Nov 12 **US Report Says Biotech Corn Should Be Better Regulated**, Mexico is trying to limit the importation of genetically modified corn from the US after a NAFTA watchdog group recommended better regulation of the crop, something US officials have said is unnecessary. (ENN)

Nov 12 **Forest Service Fails to Monitor Grazing**, an environmental group accused the US Forest Service of failing to adequately monitor livestock grazing allotments in New Mexico and Arizona and allowing overgrazing. (ENN)

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Nov 14 **Rescued Horses Being Attacked**, the horse attacks that began April of 2004, consist of three poisoned horses, three horses slashed and one imbedded with a three-pronged fish hook. Horsemeat is big business, and Paul Mitchell believes his job - saving horses from slaughter may have rubbed someone the wrong way. (Edmonton Sun)

Nov 14 **Saskatchewan & Deer**, leaders of rural Saskatchewan communities are calling for an expanded deer hunt, claiming the animals are so numerous that they are being overrun by peeping deer. They passed a resolution calling on the province to address the situation. Their suggestion for fixing the problem includes changing regulations to encourage more deer hunting. (Edmonton Sun)

Nov 14 **NWT Garbage Dumps**, garbage dumps across the Northwest Territories are virtually unregulated and there is no environmental monitoring at most waste sites. Emery Paquin, Director of Environmental Protection, says there are no inspections because the landfill sites aren't licensed. (CBC)

Nov 15 **US Canada Hook Up in Bid to Help Orcas**, a team of Canadian and US experts has begun the daunting task of trying to protect killer whales in their increasingly toxic environment. Because of the combined impact of pollution, heavy boat traffic and reduced salmon stocks, the southern resident population has been labelled endangered and the northern residents are deemed threatened. (Times Colonist)

Nov 15 **Kiwi: Trade to Save?** The fate of the New Zealand's national symbol, the kiwi, is destined to appear on the country's board of extinct species. Decimated by stoats, dogs, and feral cats, the kiwi appears headed for extinction in the wild. Despite valiant efforts by the Department of Conservation over the past decade the attrition rate is rising. (NZ Herald)

Nov 15 **Parrot Egg Smuggling**, a Sydney man has been charged after allegedly trying to smuggle parrot eggs out of Australia in his underpants. The 50-year-old man was about to board a flight to Zurich when Customs officers at Sydney Airport detained him for a frisk search. (Herald Sun)

Nov 15 **Caviar Smuggling**, Optimus Inc., a Miami-based gourmet company doing business as Marky's Caviar and the International Food Emporium, has pleaded guilty today to federal wildlife and smuggling charges. Optimus Inc., one of the largest importers of sturgeon caviar in the US, has admitted that it purchased approximately 5.9 tons of smuggled caviar from five separate smuggling rings. Under the terms of the plea agreement, Optimus Inc. will pay a \$1 million criminal fine. (Lawfuel)

Nov 15 **16,000 Species Face Extinction**, Almost 16,000 species of flora and fauna are at risk of extinction, largely because of environmental damage caused by mankind, according to a comprehensive study. They range from previously common sharks and birds to exotics such as Sri Lanka's tree-climbing slender Loris and the Nassau grouper. According to the report by the World Conservation Union, 23% of mammals, 32% of

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amphibians and more than 40% of all turtles and tortoises are threatened with extinction, as are about 8,000 plant species. (The Sunday Times)

Nov 15 **Shark Finning in Costa Rica**, Costa Rican Senators make Urgent Recommendations to Resolve Shark Finning Crisis. The recommendations are designed to resolve two national policies that have been questioned and highly criticized both nationally and internationally. The result is that the Decree recommended by the senators would require foreign vessels to only dock at authorized docks, nullifies the current INCOPECSA shark finning regulation and bans the landing of shark fins. (PRETOMA)

Nov 15 **Singapore Wildlife Trade**, seizures of smuggles CITES-listed species by Singaporean authorities in recent weeks illustrate exactly why there is a need for greater regional and international co-operation to combat the persistent illegal wildlife trade, according to TRAFFIC. (TRAFFIC)

Nov 16 **Shahtoosh Weavers in Court**, on Nov 16, 2000 the Supreme Court of India heard the bunch petitions on shahtoosh, including the Special Leave Petition filed by the Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI). The Shahtoosh Weavers Association appeared in court, requesting that they too be heard, which ensures that from now on, they will be bound by the directives of the Apex Court. (SSN)

Nov 16 **High Seas Fishing**, even though drift nets are a forbidden fishing method in all oceans, Oceania warns that there may be hundreds of vessels still using these types of nets. It also states that due to an increased use of the French tuna fishing net named 'thonaille', dolphin deaths in the Atlantic have multiplied. It wants the ICCAT to take firm action. (Atuna)

Nov 16 **Poco Dies**, a lonely beluga whale who won hearts along the northeastern seaboard with his endearing ways and search for companionship was found dead on Nov 15, 2004. It wasn't known if the whale died earlier and washed onto the mud flat, or whether the stranding killed him. (940 News)

Nov 16 **Ontario Demands Tougher Protection for Great Lakes in US Water-taking Deal**, Ontario will not sign an international deal to limit how much water can be diverted from the Great Lakes unless changes are made to better protect the basin, Natural Resources Minister David Ramsay said Monday. The province fears a growing thirst for water among expanding US suburbs that it warns could fuel demand for large-scale diversion from the 5 lakes. (940 News)

Nov 16 **Soft Energy Pathfinder: Who Needs Oil, Anyway?**, Amory Lovins drives a hybrid that gets 64 miles per gallon and lives in a solar powered house that is so energy-efficient he's able to grow bananas in an indoor jungle high in the Colorado Rockies. (ENN)

Nov 16 **US Exhorts Nations to Protect Sharks**, the US on Monday proposed broad international measures to curb the slaughter of sharks in the Atlantic Ocean and

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encourage the study and preservation of threatened shark populations throughout the world. (ENN)

Nov 16 **Recycled Shipping Containers Make a Splash in Construction Scene**, the steel cargo containers routinely unloaded at ports like the Port of Hampton Roads one day could be used in the construction of homes, businesses and even office buildings. (ENN)

Nov 16 **China to See More Energy Shortages, Report Says**, shortages of coal and electricity are expected this winter in China, state media reported Monday. (ENN)

Nov 16 **States Hit by Hurricane See Oyster Losses**, oyster reefs in Alabama suffered severe damage from Hurricane Ivan's wave surge, which flushed out an estimated 80 percent of the \$4 million crop, disrupting the livelihood of some 200 oystermen who work the reefs in winter. (ENN)

Nov 17 **Elk Poachers**, conservation officers are investigating the deaths of six underage bull elk in the Kootenays in the past few weeks. The animals were shot and their bodies left to rot. Four of the elk with five point antlers were killed in the Castlegar area, and two near Cranbrook. (CBC)

Nov 17 **Global Warming and Everest**, melting glaciers caused by climate change are posing an urgent threat to Mount Everest's unique environment, activists said today, launching a campaign to save the Himalayan mountain range and the world's highest peak. (Toronto Star)

Nov 17 **Fish Empathy Project**, touting tofu chowder and vegetarian sushi as alternatives, animal-rights activists have launched a novel campaign arguing that fish - contrary to stereotype - are intelligent, sensitive animals no more deserving of being eaten than a pet dog or a cat. (Toronto Star)

Nov 17 **USA & Arctic Thaw**, polar bears face extinction due to climate change, scientists say. Indigenous people from the Arctic have urged the US to cut greenhouse gas emissions to slow down the current thaw of the polar ice. (BBC)

Nov 17 **Everest & Climate Change**, campaigners demand urgent assessment of the risks to Everest. A delegation of environmental lawyers is starting a new initiative to force action on global warming. They are arguing that government which are members of UNESCO - the UN's cultural and scientific agency - are legally bound to protect World Heritage Sites from damage. (BBC)

Nov 17 **Ozone & Premature Deaths**, high levels of ozone may be killing off people who live in cities around the world, experts suspect. Peaks in air ozone levels were linked with peaks in premature death rates in urban areas across the US, researches at Yale University found. (BBC)

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Nov 17 **Eagle Smuggler Arrested**, forestry police in Bangkok, arrested a Thai national on charges of smuggling two bird flu-infected eagles into Belgium last month. The man has been charged with trading in an endangered species without a permit and exporting an endangered species. (Borneo Bulletin)

Nov 17 **New Red List**, the World Conservation Union unveiled its 2004 "Red List" of endangered species on Wednesday, saying the roll-call of animals threatened with extinction is growing faster than ever before. The full IUCN Red List is available on the internet at www.iucnredlist.org. (Reuters)

Nov 17 **Mass Extinctions & Humans**, the latest official chronicle of the world's endangered species has found that more than 15,000 plants and animals are at risk of genetic obliteration, a number that reinforces scientists' fears that the planet is facing the biggest extinction spasm since the dinosaurs died off. (Globe & Mail)

Nov 18 **China's Massive South-North Water Diversion Project Facing Money Woes**, thirsty Beijing will begin by 2010 to divert water from the Yangtze River far to the south, though the massive project is strapped by financial difficulties and severe pollution, state media reported. (ENN)

Nov 18 **Biologist Seeks Wolves' Return to Rockies**, a US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist says returning wolves to the Rocky Mountains is "a chance to undo a great wrong" done when wolves were exterminated from about 98 percent of their range by the mid-1900s. (ENN)

Nov 18 **Starbucks**, in an important step to further integrate leading environmental practices into its business, Starbucks Coffee Company announced that the US Food & Drug Administration has granted Starbucks supply chain member, Mississippi River Corporation, the first ever approval to use recycled content in food packaging, specifically Starbucks hot beverage cups. (ENN)

Nov 19 **Grizzly Killed in Yellowknife**, wildlife officers shot and killed a grizzly bear that wandered into Yellowknife on Thursday. The bear was shot near the Con mine and Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development officials are still investigating the incident. (CBC)

Nov 19 **Yukon Man Convicted Under Environment Act**, a Yukon recycler who thumbed his nose at local authorities has been convicted for illegally dealing in hazardous waste in the first case involving the territory's new Environment Act. Smith took out a permit once, but in the past few years he's become so frustrated with government officials, he's refused to re-register. (CBC)

Nov 19 **Arctic Climate Change**, negotiators from Canada, Russia and the US and five other Arctic nations were meeting behind closed doors trying to come up with policy recommendations aimed at slowing climate change in the Arctic. (CBC)

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Nov 19 **Melting Glaciers, Threaten World Water Supply**, mountain glaciers which act as the world's water towers, are shrinking at ever faster rates, threatening the livelihoods of millions of people and the future of countless species, as scientist reported. (ENN)

Nov 19 **Brazil Trains Environmental Police to Guard Amazon**, the latest recruits to Brazil's losing battle to slow Amazon destruction began training Wednesday at a new environmental police academy deep in the world's largest jungle. (ENN)

Nov 19 **Indonesia's Birds of Paradise Dying Out, Scientist Says**, rampant illegal logging in Indonesia and the demands of a rapidly expanding population and economy in Indonesia are killing many of Asia's most exotic and rare birds, conservationists say. (ENN)

Nov 19 **UN General Assembly Urges Temporary Ban on High Seas Bottom Trawling**, the UN General Assembly urged nations to consider temporary bans on high seas bottom trawling, disappointing scientists and some countries seeking and immediate halt to the destructive fishing practice. (ENN)

Nov 19 **Connecticut Program Promotes Use of Renewable Energy**, the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund will offer free solar energy systems to towns and cities that commit to buying 20% of their electricity from environmentally friendly sources by 2010, the agency said. (ENN)

Nov 19 **Environmentalists Call for Better Protection of Bears**, the revised wild species protection law allowing bear farms to slaughter bears over 10 years old has raised public concern as it is feared to encourage illegal trading of bears and their body parts, especially fluid taken from the animal's gall bladder. (Korea Times)

Nov 19 **Activists Rip Tissue Maker's Tactics**, Kleenex is wiping away precious forests in Canada, environmental activists charged during local protests against tissue giant Kimberly-Clark. Instead of using fibre from freshly cut trees, they are asking to use recycled paper in Kleenex. (Toronto Sun)

Nov 19 **British Ban Fox Hunting**, Britain outlawed fox hunting in England and Wales after a dramatic standoff between MPs and the House of Lords, banning a popular country sport that is despised by many urbanites. (Toronto Sun)

Nov 22 **Climate Change Sceptics Wrong**, some say any warming that is measured is due to urbanisation. A major argument used by sceptics of global warming is flawed, a UK Met Office study in Nature magazine says. This argument maintains that much recorded climate data is inherently unreliable because of where weather instruments are situated. (BBC)

Nov 22 **"Original" Great Ape Discovered**, scientists have unearthed remains of a primate that could have been ancestral not only to humans but to all great apes, including

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chimps and gorillas. The Partial skeleton of this 13 million year old 'missing link' was found by palaeontologists working at a dig site near Barcelona in Spain. (BBC)

Nov 22 **Groundbreaking Global Study Concludes That When it Comes to the Environment, Crime Does Pay**, weak enforcement systems generate a shockingly insufficient deterrent to illegal activity in critical biodiversity areas, concludes a study released by Conservation International. The global study was conducted in four biodiversity hotspots - Brazil, Mexico, Indonesia and the Philippines by CI's Center for Conservation and Government. (Conservation International Media Release)

Nov 22 **NGOs to protests against Russian ice-circus**, Russian ice-circus company, Rogoscirk's might face rough weather in Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi. Animals lover have decided to stage protests against their shows which begin from Nov 26. (Times of India)

Nov 22 **Ozone & Deaths**, even short-term increases in air ozone levels have been linked to an increased number of deaths, a new study shows. Dr. Michelle Bell of Yale University and colleagues at Johns Hopkins University found that a 10 parts per billion increase in the previous week's ozone level was associated with a 0.52% increase in the daily death rates and a 0.64% increase in cardiovascular and respiratory-related deaths. (Toronto Sun)

Nov 22 **Illegal traders 'go unpunished'**, new powers and penalties were approved by parliament in November 2003 to increase the maximum prison sentence for wildlife trafficking from two to five years, and to give police the power of arrest for such crimes. (BBC)

Nov 22 **Hunters Hunted**, a dispute among deer hunters over a tree stand in northwestern Wisconsin erupted in a series of shootings that left five people dead and three injured, officials said. (Canoe)

Nov 22 **No Evidence Ozone Layer is Recovering Scientists Say**, Mexico's Nobel Prize-winning chemist Mario Molina said that despite recent measures, scientists still don't have evidence that the ozone layer is recovering. (ENN)

Nov 22 **San Francisco Proposes Charging Fee for Grocery Sacks to Reduce Waste**, city officials are considering charging grocery stores 17 cents each for grocery bags to discourage use of plastic sacks. (ENN)

Nov 22 **Controlled Flood Set at Grand Canyon**, environmentalists have complained for years that the Colorado River below a man-made dam was washing away natural sediment in the Grand Canyon, wiping away beaches and native fish and plants. (ENN)

Nov 23 **New Marine Life Being Found**, The Census of Marine Life hopes to find out how many fish are in the sea by mapping marine life around the world over a 10 year

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period at a cost of \$1 billion US - from the tiniest microbes to the largest predators.
(Toronto Sun)

Nov 23 **Oil Spill off Newfoundland**, an oil spill off the east coast of Newfoundland was much worse than first thought, the province's offshore petroleum board revealed. At first, operators of the Terra Nova platform said 200 barrels of crude has spilled from the huge vessel, but the board later confirmed that up to 1,000 barrels were spilled due to a mechanical malfunction. (Toronto Star)

Nov 23 **Gold and Environment**, Residents of Buyat Bay in north Sulawesi claim that tailings from Newmont Gold Corp.'s Minahasa mine had poisoned fish, contaminated water with mercury and arsenic and precipitated a rash of medical problems. A \$543 million (US) lawsuit has been filed by villagers against the company. (Globe & Mail)

Nov 24 **Portland, Maine, Laundry Uses Solar Energy**, the temperature dipped into the 30s and grey clouds swarmed high in the sky one recent afternoon, but the few hours of sunlight that peeked through were sufficient to generate enough hot water for a busy night at the Washboard Laundry. (ENN)

Nov 24 **New York City Council Bill Targets Illegal Trading in Endangered Species**, the City Council is set to put a big bite on buyers and sellers of outlawed products containing endangered species. (ENN)

Nov 24 **Clean Diesel Fuel Will Be Available but Costly in Alaska**, Flint Hills resources is gearing up for \$170 million modification project at its refinery at North Pole, near Fairbanks, that will produce ultra-low sulphur gasoline and diesel fuel. (ENN)

Nov 25 **Other Nations Resist US Delay in Phasing out Ozone-Damaging Chemical**, US farmers who grow tomatoes and strawberries might have to cut back more than they planned on the use of an ozone-depleting pesticide. (ENN)

Nov 25 **Half of Brazil's Amazon Jungle Occupied, According to Study**, about half of Brazil's original Amazon rainforest has been occupied by man, deforested or used for industry like logging and its destruction is worse than government data shows, a leading environmental group said. (ENN)

Nov 25 **Catalina Foxes Back After Near Extinction**, a unique subspecies of fox that is about the size of a house cat is back from the brink of extinction on Santa Catalina and can survive on its own thanks to a captive breeding program, the head of a nonprofit group that manages most of the island said. (ENN)

Nov 25 **Groups Join, Seek Action on Global Warming**, more than a dozen conservation and public health advocacy groups joined on Tuesday to throw their collective support behind further legislative action to prevent global warming. (ENN)

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Nov 25 **Planet, Food, Environment**, world cereal consumption has more than doubled since 1970, and meat consumption has tripled since 1961. The global fish catch grew more than six times from 1950 to 1997. One question is whether the world can go on increasing its harvests at this rate or even faster, to cater as well for the extra 75 million people born annually. (BBC)

Nov 26 **Exporting Polar Bears**, the orphaned polar bear cubs from northern Quebec bathed in the sun of Australia's Gold Coast heating up a debate over the export of Canadian bears to tropical countries. (Canoe)

Nov 26 **WHO Issues Bird Flu Warning**, after almost a year of trying to bring Asia's bird flu under control, WHO experts are now warning the disease is the most likely candidate to cause the world's next pandemic, with the possibility of as many as seven million deaths. (Canoe)

Nov 26 **Dog Used in Terror Attack**, a grenade tied to a dog's neck exploded in a shopping area in Indian-administered Kashmir on Friday, wounding four people. The blast missed its apparent target, a paramilitary guard post outside a government hospital. (Canoe)

Nov 26 **Fuel Efficient Vehicles**, vehicles made by Honda and Volkswagen are at the top a government list of the most fuel-efficient new vehicles sold in Canada. (Autonet)

Nov 29 **Environmental Advocacy Group Urging Yellowstone Officials to Focus on Reducing Roadkill**, Executive Director of the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility said park officials are widening too many roads, which leads to higher speeds and more wildlife killed. He said other parks have systems that alert drivers to wildlife on roadways. (ENN)

Nov 28 **Mass Stranding of Pilot Whales and Bottlenose Dolphins**, Tasmanian scientists are hoping to determine why more than 100 whales and dolphins beached themselves on King Island off Tasmania yesterday. The strandings were first noticed mid-afternoon by locals who immediately launched a rescue attempt. (ABC)

Nov 28 **Thailand to Return Smuggled Orangutans to Indonesia**, a year long effort to return rare Indonesian orangutans trafficked illegally to Thailand will finally happen, with a delegation from the Thai police visiting Indonesia to check the final preparations for the repatriation. (Jakarta Post)

Nov 28 **Ethanol in Gasoline**, a plan to make Ontario gasoline more ecologically friendly by including at least 5% ethanol doesn't mean all pumps province wide will be serving up cleaner fuel, Premier Dalton McGuinty said. (Globe & Mail)

Nov 28 **Fox & Coyote Hunting Thriving Outside TO**, Ontario holds eight of Canada's 12 fox hunts, including the two largest: the Eglinton and Caledon Hunt and the Toronto North York Hunt (TNYH). One of the largest clubs in Canada, the TNYH started in

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1843 on Toronto's lakeshore, then moved to the Scarborough bluffs, then Aurora, then Newmarket and now Creemore to escape urban sprawl.. (Globe & Mail)

Nov 29 **Dolphins From Antigua Moved to Tortola**, nine dolphins from Dolphin Discovery were airlifted to Tortola. News of the dolphins' relocation has done little to appease environmentalists opposed to dolphins in captivity. (Daily Observer)

Nov 29 **Entering "Kyoto" Years, Warming World Wonders What Lies Beyond**, the ice is melting and the heat is on for international delegates assembling in Buenos Aires to find new ways to confront global warming under the 194 nation treaty on climate change. (ENN)

Nov 29 **Sperm Whale Found Dead in Contaminated Waters Off Puerto Rico**, a sperm whale beached itself on a coral reef and died in contaminated waters in Puerto Rico officials said. (ENN)

Nov 29 **Sea Turtles in the Caribbean**, sea turtles in the Caribbean are perilously close to extinction because of over-fishing and over-development, and official report has discovered. The collapse of turtle numbers on some of the Caribbean's most famous and glamorous islands has been so severe that in Bermuda turtles no longer breed any more. (The Independent)

Nov 30 **Tibetan black bear on verge of extinction in China**, Tibetan black bears are on the verge of extinction in China with their population nearly halved during the past decade, mainly due to poaching to extract their bile for medicine. A recent survey conducted by the forestry administration in Tibet shows the region has just 7,031 black bears, down from 14,062 the Xinhua news agency said. (Phayul)

Nov 30 **Turtle Pest far More Widespread than First Thought**, a turtle pest with the potential to damage native plant and animals seriously, is far more widespread than originally thought. The aggressive turtles have a painful bite, are prolific breeders and are known to carry diseases. (Stuff)

Nov 30 **Alleged Smuggling of Monkeys by Thai Zoo Investigated**, intense campaigning by conservation groups has so far failed to pressure the Thai Government to resolve the alleged smuggling of some 100 orangutans by private zoo Safari World in Bangkok. WFFT director said that there has been a glitch in DNA analyses to determine the origins of the apes, and fresh samples will have to be collected. (The Star)

Nov 30 **Bird Flu**, the bird flu virus is far more lethal than the SARS virus that struck Asia last year and could unleash a pandemic that could kill as many as 50 million people, WHO official said. A WHO estimate last week that H5N1 could infect up to 30 percent of the world's population and kill between two and seven million people was a conservative estimate. (Reuters)

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Nov 30 **Moss Gatherers in the US**, with harvesters roaming public and private property, the loosely regulated industry faces scientific scrutiny as biologists and businesses clash over research findings and land managers struggle to enforce collection policies across huge tracts with scarce personnel. (New York Times)

Nov 30 **International Forum to Take up Acid Pollution Problem**, Penn State scientists and ClearWater Conservancy will convene an international conference of acid-pollution experts to offer their knowledge to state officials facing decisions on the pyrite cleanup at an Interstate 00 construction site at Skytop. (ENN)

Nov 30 **Fine Particle Pollution is Cutting European Life Expectancy, Says UN**, the burning of fossil fuels and wood is cutting life expectancy in some parts of Europe by up to two years, despite a significant reduction in other pollutants the United Nations reported. (ENN)

Nov 30 **Hillary Opposed to Highway to South Pole**, New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary the first man to climb Mount Everest and the first to drive a vehicle to the South Pole, described a US highway to the pole as 'terrible'. (ENN)

Nov 30 **Chlorine Found Off BC**, after nearly 30 years of mystery, government scientists believe they have found four rail-car tankers that vanished into coastal waters near Vancouver carrying a lethal load of chlorine. The finding came after a spate of searches using less-sophisticated equipment failed to find the massive metal tank cars in the late 1970s. (Globe & Mail)

Nov 30 **US Meat Industry Cutting Corners**, American veterinarian Dr. Lester Friedlander and local doctor Ray Kellosalmi concur that more needs to be done to protect consumers from tainted meat products. Friedlander is a whistle blower on the US Department of Agriculture who has taken his message throughout the US and the networks at prime time. (Capital News)

DECEMBER

Dec 1 **Cold Weather And Snow Is Making Its Seasonal Appearance** over much of Canada making it increasingly difficult for birds to find enough food. The Humane Society of Canada (HSC) says that people and birds can both benefit when humans assist their feathered friends by supplying them with a continual supply of quality bird feed. (HSC)

Dec 1 Millions of Americans Will Face an Increased Threat of Bacteria, viruses and parasites in their water thanks to a new federal policy allowing sewer operators to dump inadequately treated sewage into the nation's waterways. The Environmental Protection Agency's new plan, which reverses a current rule requiring sewer operators to fully treat

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their waste in all but the most extreme circumstances, will allow operators to routinely dump sewage anytime it rains. The EPA is expected to issue the policy sometime in the next few weeks. (ENN)

Dec 1 **Whale Meat to Return to Japanese School Lunches**, Local education board official Yoshiki Tachibana was cited as saying that Japan's whaling heartland will resume serving whale meat to school children after a gap of 20 years in a bid to preserve the whaling culture. (AFP)

Dec 1 **Zoo Demands Fuels Illegal Elephant Trade**, international wildlife experts called for bans on the trafficking of endangered Asian elephants, warning that demand from zoos and theme parks is driving the illegal trade from countries such as Thailand. (AFP)

Dec 1 **Asia's Birds on the Brink of Extinction**, many of Asia's birds face being wiped out to illegal logging, the demands of a rapidly expanding population and bird trafficking. (Taipei Times)

Dec 1 **Threat to Wildlife**, conflicts with human beings for space will become the biggest threat to wildlife in India in coming years, a leading international conservationist predicted. (Indo-Asian News Service)

Dec 1 **Shark Cartilage Not a Cure**, the rising popularity of shark cartilage extract as an anti-cancer treatment is a triumph of marketing and pseudoscience over reason, with tragic fallout for both sharks and humans, a biologist says. (News wise)

Dec 1 **Coral Thrives on Sunken WWII Ships in Gulf**, a University of Alabama scientist and other researchers have found coral growing at extreme depths in the Gulf of Mexico – on several ships sunk during the WWII. (ENN)

Dec 1 **Blair Urges Dialogue With US**, UK Prime Minister Tony Blair urged international dialogue with the US on climate change, weeks before Britain takes over the presidency of the G8 group of industrialized nations. (ENN)

Dec 1 **Species Extinction**, as the subject of climate change gathers political momentum, yet another ecological emergency takes on critical dimensions with barely a mention. The updated red list of threatened species was published last week by the world conservation union. It shows another increase in the register of species facing the spectre of extinction. (The Guardian)

Dec 1 **Clouded Leopard Killed in Buxa**, a group of poachers killed a highly endangered leopard in Buxa tiger Reserve, West Bengal. This is the second incident of poaching in the same area of the reserve within the last six months. (SSN)

Dec 2 **New York Ban On Endangered Species**, international Conservation organization Wild Aid congratulates the council of the city of New York for being the first US Municipality to approve a law making it illegal to buy or sell products containing, or advertised as containing, endangered species. (PR Newswire)

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Dec 2 Protests Aside, Aquarium Introduces More Wildlife to Downtown Night Life, four white Bengal tigers were added to the menagerie at Downtown Aquarium despite

concern earlier this year that such wildlife might not belong in the city's business district. (Houston Chronicle)

Dec 2 DNA Test Trace Bear Necessities According To Scientists, customs officers will soon be equipped with a DNA kit aimed at tackling the growing trade in bear gall bladder and bear bile, which are used in traditional Asian medicines. (The Independent)

Dec 2 Blood Taken From Birds To Screen For Avian Flu, officers of the Penang Veterinary Services Department have taken blood samples from an unspecified number of hill Mynas by a bird dealer in Seberang Prai to screen for H5N1 strain of the deadly flu. (The Star)

Dec 2 New Dolphin Application in Bermuda, animal activists are protesting plans to build a new dolphin park on the south shore. The SPCA has expressed safety concerns the new dolphin concession. (Royal Gazette)

Dec 2 Protected Species, 170 animal heads and skins put up for auction in Moulins were confiscated. The confiscation of the stuffed and hunted animals was covered by two pieces of legislature. (La Montagne)

Dec 2 Toothfish Trial, Five foreign fishermen could face a lengthy wait for retrial on charges of poaching Patagonian toothfish from Australia waters after a WA jury failed to reach a verdict. (The Australian)

Dec 2 Trade In Exotic Animals Endangers People & Animals. A tri-state man risked his life in an undercover mission that delved into a world many of us know nothing about. Ohio is second only to Texas when it comes to the sale of dangerous exotic animals. (WCPO News)

Dec 2 Shahtoosh Shawl Seizure, three shahtoosh shawls were seized from the possession of Ita Bigelli Cristina and Lopez Fonta Maria Teresa who were detained for interrogation in an operation at the Indira Ghandi international airport, New Delhi, India. (Wildlife Trust of India)

Dec 2 Ontario Ethanol Industry, a major expansion of Ontario's ethanol industry is imminent in the wake of the provincial government's demand that gasoline contain an average five per cent ethanol by 2007. Commercial Alcohols Inc., which operates the province's only ethanol plant – and Canada's largest – in Chatham, is eyeing an expansion. (London Free Press)

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Dec 5 **Death of Sira at Shedd Aquarium**, Sira, one of the five Pacific white-sided dolphins kept in Shedd Aquarium died. She was captured in 1988 from Monterey Bay. (News Democrat)

Dec 5 **Grits Told To Tighten Greenbelt**, urban sprawl will continue to spread across the Greater Toronto Area like a cancer if the province doesn't tighten the proposed greenbelt by almost doubling its mass, a coalition of city councillors warned yesterday. (Toronto Sun)

Dec 6 **Talks Look For New Climate Effort**, Russia's ratification saved the Kyoto Protocol, climate experts and politicians are meeting in Buenos Aires to discuss policies they believe may be needed beyond the Kyoto protocol. (BBC)

Dec 6 **Rare Bird Falls To Avian Malaria**, many bird species are in decline due to habitat loss and introduced predators. An extremely rare Hawaiian bird has died in captivity, possibly marking the extinction of its species only 31 years after it was first discovered. (BBC)

Dec 6 **Emissions Double Heat wave Risk**, the hot summer of 2003 caused thousands of excess deaths. Emissions of greenhouse gases have more than doubled the risk of European heat waves similar to last year's, according to a study by UK scientists. (BBC)

Dec 6 **Beached Whales Die Off Tasmania**, it is not know what caused the beachings. More than 100 whales and dolphins have died in two separate beachings in islands off Tasmania Australia. (BBC)

Dec 6 **BSE Cattle Ban Phased Out**, the automatic ban on cattle over 30 months old being sold as meat is to be phased out, the government has said. The over thirty-month rule, which stops older cattle from entering the food chain, was introduced to combat the spread of BSE – or mad cow disease. (BBC)

Dec 6 **Africa 'Makes Excuses on Climate'**, Professor Maratha says Africa's women "carry a heavy burden". Wangari Maathai, who won the 2004 Nobel peace prize, says African governments should do more about climate change. She said climate change mattered, and the Kyoto Protocol on how to limit its effects must be taken seriously by all. (BBC)

Dec 6 **Swarms of Locusts Invade Canaries**, it is thought to be the Canaries' worst invasion for 50 years. An estimated 100 million locusts have forced tourists and locals to abandon beaches in the Canary Islands. The insects have swarmed into the island of Fuerteventura after devastating crops across regions of Africa and the Mediterranean. (BBC)

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Dec 6 **New Dinosaur Uncovered in Brazil**, the creature was about 2.5m long, identified from fossils; it is thought to have lived more than 200 million years ago, making it one of the earliest dinosaurs known to science. (BBC)

Dec 6 **Another Bad Year for Hurricanes Predicted**, hurricane forecasters are calling for an above-average Atlantic hurricane season again next year after one of the most destructive seasons on record. (Globe & Mail)

Dec 6 **Quebec Ruling Might Affect Snowmobiling Elsewhere**, a legal expert says a Quebec court decision that awarded hundreds of Laurentian residents compensation for noise pollution from snowmobiles could affect the sport in other provinces. (News 940)

Dec 6 **Working Together To Combat Wildlife Trade**, in South-East Asia, illegal wildlife traffickers run a massive syndicate that operates across Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Singapore and Laos. But law enforcement officers who try to nab these criminals cannot exercise their authority across borders due to the lack of agreement between countries. (The Star)

Dec 6 **Chimps to the General, By Special Delivery**, Atibu Filibungan wobbled over the jungle track with another consignment on the back of his bicycle: a baby chimpanzee. Chimpanzees are an endangered species and the trade is illegal but Mr. Filibungan was not worried. "She is a pet for the general. He has decided to give himself a present." (The Guardian)

Dec 6 **Planned Dolphin Park Gets Worldwide Focus**, plans for a second dolphin concession have put Bermuda in the worldwide spotlight as hundreds of environmental protestors begin their campaign to protect Sinky Bay on the south shore. (Royal Gazette)

Dec 6 **Smuggled Birds Could Bring Avian Flu**, the small suitcase carried through the Brussels airport by the traveler from Thailand looked unremarkable. But when customs officials opened it, they found a surprise: two rare small eagles, weak but healthy-looking, taped inside lengths of PVC pipe. Their surprise turned to horror when tests on the eagles came back four days later. The smuggled birds were infected with avian influenza H5N1, the Southeast Asian virus that health authorities fear could blow up into a pandemic and kill millions. (Atlanta Journal-Constitution)

Dec 6 **Invasive Crab Worries Biologists**, a new species of invasive crab has recently been found near Quebec City and could spread from Montreal to Atlantic Canada, according to scientists. (CBC)

Dec 6 **Vietnam Police Discover Smuggled Elephant Tusk**, police in Vietnam have uncovered a 730 kilogram (1,600 pound) haul of smuggled elephant tusks, the largest amount of ivory ever discovered in the communist nation. (Borneo Bulletin)

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Dec 6 **Dead Elephant's Ivory 'Stolen' Within Two Hours**, a wild elephant was shot dead after it destroyed several vegetable farms, orchards and two houses. However, its tusks were missing when national Forest and Wildlife Protection Department officers went to clear the animal's carcass. (The Star)

Dec 6 **Japan Is Accused of Buying Votes of Poor Nations**, like Nicaragua, to promote its pro-hunting agenda. The only whales seen in Nicaragua are the ones that wash up occasionally on the Pacific beaches. The country has no whaling fleet, no tradition of whaling and certainly no market for whale blubber. (Chicago Tribune)

Dec 6 **Scientists: More Needed To Protect Sharks**, an international decision making it illegal to cut the fins off a live shark and then dump the carcass is a great first step. The biggest need is an international limit on the number of sharks that can be killed each year. (Associated Press)

Dec 6 **Shark Fin Soup Can Sell For \$100 Or More A Bowl**, it's a delicacy in China, a status symbol to that country's growing middle class and favoured dish at weddings. The sharks frequently have their fins cut off while alive and are then dumped back into the sea to die. (Union Tribune)

Dec 6 **Navy Rejects Sonar Wildlife Fears**, the Royal Navy defended its controversial new 160 million £ sonar system, claiming it will greatly enhance the fleet's ability to detect enemy submarines without injuring sea mammals. (The Scotsman)

Dec 7 **Business Groups Beat out Environmentalists in Spending Bill**, from an Alaska land swap to hours of a Georgia Barrier Island, business interests bested environmentalists in battles that shaped Congress \$388 billion spending bill. (ENN)

Dec 7 **As Tech Trash Piles Up, E-Junk Recycling Still In Its infancy**, when Office Depot Inc. stores ran an electronics recycling drive last summer that accepted everything from cell phones to televisions, some stores were overwhelmed by the amount of e-trash they received. (ENN)

Dec 7 **Most Coral Reefs Under Threat, Some Resilient**, about 70 percent of the world's coral reefs have been wrecked or are at risk from human activities but some are showing surprising resilience to global warming. (ENN)

Dec 7 **Human Stampede to Hunt in Namibia's Game Parks**, a controversial plan to sell off trophy hunting concessions on state land has been postponed until early next year because of the overwhelming response. (The Namibian)

Dec 7 **Antelope Traders Threaten Mabira**, commercial poaching is threatening to wipe out antelopes and primates in the Mabira Forest Reserve in the Mukono district of Uganda. (New Vision)

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Dec 7 **Iran's Caspian Caviar Business On The Rocks**, for the most part, caviar is not usually on the menu at the average business lunch. As things stand that's probably just as well; for this Christmas, businessmen, or indeed anyone else who likes dining on the delicacy, will have to get used to paying substantially more. (Daily Star)

Dec 7 **Cops Seize Tons of Smuggled Animals**, police in Vietnam have seized nearly 7.3 tons of wild animals that were destined for sale in China, according to officials. (The Independent)

Dec 7 **San Francisco Rules Could Bar Elephants From Zoo**, elephants must receive hundreds of times more space to live at San Francisco's zoo or not be kept at the facility, city legislators said on Tuesday in legislation that could effectively bar pachyderms for good. (Washington Post)

Dec 8 **Congress Acts To Preserve Money For Environmental Farming**, the house voted Monday to protect aid to farmers who convert to environmentally sound practices. (ENN)

Dec 8 **'Hero Of The Planet' Engineer Puts 'Green' Mark On Building Design**, the industrial revolution model of extracting natural resources for products destined for the landfill. (ENN)

Dec 8 **Japanese Automakers Continue To Produce Greenest Vehicles, According to reports**, Japanese manufacturers continue to make the cleanest-burning vehicles, but automakers are generally doing a poor job in lowering emissions that contribute to global warming. (ENN)

Dec 8 **EU To Close Fishing Grounds**, the European Commission has proposed the closure of dangerously depleted cod grounds in the North Sea, Irish Sea and off the West of Scotland. The proposals were announced as part of another major round of fishing cuts. (BBC)

Dec 8 **US Rejects Climate Policy Attacks**, the US says it will do more on climate than many in Europe. The US has been defending its decision not to take part in the Kyoto Protocol, just two months before the international agreement to cut greenhouse gases comes into force. (BBC)

Dec 8 **UK Fish Grounds Need Action**, the UK's whitefish fleet is under particular pressure, commercial fishing should be banned in 30% of UK waters to save threatened species, an influential report says. (BBC)

Dec 8 **Orangutans Once Ranged Throughout Southeast Asia**, counting the nests of orangutans from the air helps give more very accurate estimates of the endangered great apes' numbers, an international team reports. (BBC)

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Dec 8 **Snakes Bite Back At Poison Toads**, cane toads were introduced to Australia in 1935, some snakes in Australia have now evolved to counter the threat of invasive, poisonous cane toads, scientists have found. (BBC)

Dec 8 **Elephant Tusks Now More Marketable Than Before**, who is killing Africa's elephants and encouraging the trade on ivory. With the global ban on ivory trade still in place, the precious elephant tusks are increasingly becoming marketable worldwide, further endangering the lives of the African elephant, mostly targeted for elimination by poachers. (The Standard)

Dec 8 **University Of Florida Researchers Find Subspecies Of Tiger**, a genetic analysis of tigers from across Asia revealed that tigers roaming of the Malaysian Peninsula are substantially different from those in the rest of the continent, enough to be considered a new subspecies. (Associated Press)

Dec 8 **Abandoned Or Escaped Pet Turtles Found All Over Japan**, a turtle moved back and forth in the water as it made its way through a canal in a residential area near the centre of Yongago. The creature with its sharp teeth and claws is one of the more than 4 million exotic animals that are imported into Japan every year. (Japan Today)

Dec 8 **The Humane Society Of Canada**, wrote a letter to the Honourable John Briceno Minister of Natural Resources & the Environment and Mr. Brian Rolinson, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Environment, expressing the organization's extreme concern about plans to create a dolphin encounter in Spanish Bay, Belize. (HSC)

Dec 8 **The Humane Society Of Canada**, wrote a letter to Mr. Bob Dickinson, President and CEO of Carnival Cruise Lines, requesting a stop to plans to increase advertisements regarding their dolphin swim ashore excursions. (HSC)

Dec 9 **Quick Bird Flu Test Developed**, researchers said Wednesday they have developed a new test that can detect bird flu in humans within hours, the project's patron, the Li Ka Shing Foundation, said in a statement. (Canoe)

Dec 9 **Extra Trash Charge**, cash for trash may be on its way to Toronto. Residents who throw out more than a bag of garbage a week will be charged as much as \$1.50 a bag for the extra refuse if city council approves the idea in February. (Toronto Sun)

Dec 9 **Snoopy And The Humane Society Of Canada**, "I want a dog for Christmas Charlie Brown" - just in time for Christmas and the holidays, "Snoopy" the world's most famous dog, global television, paramount home video and the humane society of Canada have teamed up to send people a light hearted message about adopting pets this festive time of year. (HSC)

Dec 9 **Bad Air Making Us Sicker**, Canada's poor air quality is posing health risks, including causing the skyrocketing cases of asthma, the head of the Canadian Medical

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Association said yesterday. Dr. Albert Schumacher said a new report released yesterday shows 96% of reported air pollution in 2002 made up of substances associated with respiratory illness. (Toronto Sun)

Dec 9 **The World Could Soon Lose the Primate Species**, that shares the greatest genetic connection to humans, said Richard Carroll, a primatologist. Bonobos are fascinating creatures and little understood. They have the only great ape society led by females, with a sophisticated social structure that encourages cooperation and peace and settles disputes through sex. If humans allow our closest relatives to go extinct, we have failed as a species. (US Newswire)

Dec 9 **International Efforts to Secure Future of the World's Largest Tuna Fishery Applauded**, healthy fish stocks and marine ecosystems are crucial to the long-term natural and economic prosperity of countries in western and central Pacific and, in particular, Pacific island countries. (SSN)

Dec 9 **European Firm Plans Illegal Hunting**, a European private firm is organizing illegal hunting expeditions in Uganda's wildlife areas, according to the Uganda Wildlife Authority. (New Vision)

Dec 10 **Rhino Charges Back From Brink Of Extinction**. India's endangered one-horned rhinos are fighting from the throes of death despite increasing demand for their horns in the international market. (India Daily)

Dec 10 **Hunters Shoot More Than 100 People Per Year**. Loved ones of a pregnant woman injured in a shooting, apparently by a hunter's stray bullet, believe she is lucky to be alive, but they want new hunting regulations that will give greater protection to suburban homes and business. (ABC)

Dec 10 **Whale Shark Finds New Friends In Indian Fishermen**, a few weeks ago, the crew of an Indian fishing boat in the Arabian Sea thought they had the biggest catch of their lives. A 40-foot-long unsuspecting whale shark had entered their nets on a still night. But instead of killing the creature, known as the gentle ocean giant, the captain called the boat owner who promptly told him to let it go. (SSN)

Dec 10 **Feds Oppose Fishing Enquiry**, Liberal MPs fought a Conservative Motion that would set up a judicial inquiry into the collapse of this year's Fraser River sockeye salmon run. (Canoe)

Dec 12 **The Humane Society Of Canada**, invites Americans and their pets to join the HSC Pet Recovery Team. (HSC)

Dec 13 **Animals At Risk From Pig Hunters**, Sumatran tigers (the smallest sub-species of tigers), leopards, bears and other rare and endangered creatures are at risk of being caught up in an Indonesian hunt for wild pigs, conservationists say. (BBC)

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Dec 14 **With Poaching Becoming a global Menace**, India is holding an international conference in March next to discuss measures to check this problem. (123 Bharath)

Dec 14 **Research Begins Into Saving Australia's Seahorses**, in some parts of Australia, aquaculture firms are growing seahorses for sale. Elsewhere there's increasing worry about the fate of the creatures in the wild. (ABC)

Dec 14 **Global Bird Populations Face Dramatic Decline In Coming Decades**, ten percent of all birds species are likely to disappear by the year 2100, another 15 percent could be on the brink of extinction, according to a new study by university biologists. (Toronto Sun)

Dec 15 **The Humane Society Of Canada**, asks owners to ensure pets are kept safe from winter hazards such as frostbite and ethylene glycol. (HSC)

Dec 15 **Kenyan Rangers Clamp Down On Poachers**, rangers from the Kenya Wildlife Services had seized 17 elephant tusks that were to be smuggled out of the country. (The Independent)

Dec 16 **Navy under Global Pressure to Limit Sonar Use**, the United States is facing increasing international pressure to place limitations on the underwater equivalent of radar that has been linked to mass strandings of whales. (San Francisco Chronicle)

Dec 16 **On Second Look, Feds Give 'Threatened' Listing To San Juan Orcas**, the federal fisheries agency on Thursday proposed giving Endangered Species Act protection to a struggling community of killer whales that spends much of the year near Washington's San Juan Islands. (Associated Press)

Dec 16 **Rich Need To Do More On Environment, World Bank Says**, the World Bank Tuesday chastised rich countries for not giving enough to fund environmental protection and warned that overall progress in meeting global environmental targets was 'alarmingly slow'. (ENN)

Dec 16 **Cuts In Carbon Dioxide Emissions Urged**, the world's chief climate scientist on Tuesday disputed the US government contention that cutbacks in carbon dioxide emissions are not yet warranted to check global warming. (ENN)

Dec 16 **Blair Faces test Of Bush Friendship On Environment**, Tony Blair is unlikely to sway George W. Bush on global warming when he leads the G8 nations in 2005 but the British Prime Minister could help his own re-election bid by appearing to stand up to Washington, analysts say. (ENN)

Dec 16 **California Seeks To Create More Solar Homes**, California could have one million buildings producing solar energy by 2018, with half of all new homes powered by the sun. (ENN)

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Dec 16 **Italy Calls To End Kyoto Climate Limits After 2012**, Italy has called for an end to the Kyoto Protocol after the environmental treaty's initial period in 2012, preferring voluntary agreements that would entice the United States, China and India to tackle climate change. (ENN)

Dec 17 **Thai Zoo to Be Charged over Illegal Orangutans**, the owners of a Bangkok amusement park will be charged with importing endangered animals illegally after DNA tests confirmed a group of orangutans had not been born in Thailand, forestry police said on Thursday. (SSN)

Dec 17 **The Humane Society Of Canada**, asks remember pets & other animals at Christmas. (HSC)

Dec 17 **Department Probing Bird Of Paradise Smuggling Network**, the Wildlife and National Parks Department is probing a smuggling network involving the bird of paradise with the seizure of some 20 of the foreign species from an undisclosed location in Selangor last month. (ENN)

Dec 17 **2004 Among The Hottest Years On Record**, the year 2004 punctuated by four powerful hurricanes in the Caribbean and deadly typhoons lashing Asia, was the fourth-hottest on record, extending a trend since 1990 that has registered the 10 warmest years, a UN weather agency said. (ENN)

Dec 17 **NASA Spacecraft Tracks Global Air Pollution**, the spacecraft has begun the first ever daily tracking of how air pollution moves across the globe, a scientist at NASA's jet propulsion laboratory said. (ENN)

Dec 18 **Urgent Need for President Bush to Close the US Border to Illegal Wood**, in the aftermath of the landslides and flash floods that recently left over a thousand Filipinos dead or missing, the Environmental Investigation Agency, a non-profit environmental group, urged President Bush to expand his initiative against illegal logging. (EMS)

Dec 20 **Thai Arrested For Smuggling tiger Meat And Pangolins**, a Thai man smuggled the meat of a tiger along with 42 live pangolins destined for cooking pots in China. (AFP)

Dec 20 **As Bush Stands Firm, States Flirt With Europe On Carbon Controls**, two sets of Americans have come here to talk global warming: the United States, opposed to controls on carbon emissions, and a bloc of United States, from Maine to Delaware that plan to impose them. (ENN)

Dec 20 **Bush Administration To Allow Continued Use Of Ozone-Depleting Pesticide**, Bush announced new rules to allow US farmers who grow tomatoes, strawberries and other crops to continue using methyl bromide, an ozone-depleting pesticide that is scheduled to be phased out worldwide next year. (ENN)

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Dec 20 **Elephant Conservation Gains Momentum**, since the pioneering behavioural studies of Ian Douglas-Hamilton in Tanzania and Cynthia Moss in Kenya, the Wildlife Conservation Society has provided major support to elephant research and conservation throughout Africa. (IPP Media)

Dec 20 **New Peril For West Africa's Giants**, perched among the top branches of an acacia tree, Hassan Abdoulaye scanned the horizon for the tallest animal on earth. But spotting members of the last wild giraffe herd in West Africa is never easy. They blend well. (Boston Globe)

Dec 20 **Wildlife Agency Adds Louisville as a Port**, the agency will officially begin operating a wildlife port locally on Jan. 5. Wildlife inspectors will focus on the airport and UPS. In August, a yellow anaconda was found at the Louisville airport's UPS facilities. (Courier-Journal)

Dec 20 **The Humane Society Of Canada**, says Christmas can be dangerous time for pets and is asking everyone to be extra careful with their four legged friends. (HSC)

Dec 21 **Compromise Seals Climate Meeting**, emissions in fast-developing China are expected to rise; delegates at the UN climate change conference in Buenos Aires have reached an agreement on ways to address the issue of global warming. (BBC)

Dec 21 **Concern Is Mounting over the Future of a Pioneering**, eco-tourism development in Costa Rica, the Monteverde Rainforest Reserve in the country's northwestern highlands. (BBC)

Dec 21 **Rhino Population at Indonesia Reserve Drops by 90 Percent in 14 Years**, the Sumatran rhino, the most endangered of all rhinoceros, is fast heading to extinction with its population at one of its last reserves in Indonesia. (AFP)

Dec 21 **The Humane Society Of Canada** is asking Canadians to incorporate environmentally friendly changes into their lives when they make their New Year's resolutions. (HSC)

Dec 21 **Abandoned Appliances Find New Use In Artic Bay**, furniture and household items from the abandoned Nanisivik mine are heading to homes in Artic Bay, despite concerns about lead and zinc contamination. (CBC)

Dec 21 **Threat Of Global Flu Pandemic Increasing**, health officials warned Monday that the world was close to its next pandemic, a powerful and highly contagious mix of avian influenza and flu virus that would likely be centred in Asia. (Canoe)

Dec 21 **Europe 'Can Reach Kyoto Target'**, the EU is barely doing enough to fulfil its pledges the 15 states which were members of the European Union before 2004 can reach

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their promised greenhouse gas target, according to the European Environment Agency. (BBC)

Dec 21 **Scientists Find New Indian Monkey**, the Arunachal macaque: a surprise to science. A species of monkey unknown to science has been photographed in India by a team of researchers. (BBC)

Dec 21 **Cabinet-Level Committee To Oversee Ocean Policies**, President Bush created a cabinet-level committee Friday to oversee the nation's ocean and great lake policies, but some environmentalists voiced concerns that the initiative could be under-funded and eventually ineffective. (ENN)

Dec 21 **EPA Says 225 Counties Fail To Meet Clean Air Standards**, the Environmental Protection Agency on Friday identified 225 counties in 20 states that don't meet new clean air standards designed to protect against one of tiniest but most harmful pollutants – microscopic soot. (ENN)

Dec 21 **The 'Hole' Pulls Back, But 'Red Days' and Danger Linger On**, the worst of the ozone hole has pulled back once more to Antarctica this southern spring, leaving behind a shadow of uncertainty for the people living at the bottom of the Americas. (ENN)

Dec 21 **Tree Planting Could Ease Global Warming, California Scientists Say**, as scientists sounded alarms about global warming at an international forum in Argentina, local research scientists announced that the solution might be as simple as planting trees. (ENN)

Dec 21 **Farmers Continue Using Chemical Slated for Phase-out**, Neil Nagata knows his strawberries, especially the fruit's proclivity to pests and infections. (ENN)

Dec 22 **Farmed Caviar**, farm-raised caviar is becoming a better option than the shrinking and restricted wild harvest. Cultivated caviar is a response to decreasing supplies of Caspian Sea caviar. (New York Times)

Dec 22 **Two Men Freed By Troops In Mali**, from the clutches of an armed gang entered the country without the consent of the West African state to prepare for a Qatari prince's hunting trip. (Reuters)

Dec 23 **Growing Trees In The City**, trees can grow in the forest on their own, but the city wants to spend \$45,000 on a video showing how to make trees flourish in the urban jungle. (Toronto Sun)

Dec 24 **Bureaucracy Tramples Elephant Trade In India**, the great rituals of Indian life, from lavish weddings to grand temples festivities, are in danger of losing the splendour of elephant processions, under the burden of bureaucracy. (Daily Times)

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Dec 24 **Swiss Rescue Dogs Saved From Obsolescence**, Swiss philanthropists are giving the equivalent of more than \$5-million CAD to keep the famed Saint Bernard rescue dogs working on the mountain pass that gave them their name, a key advocate said Friday. (Globe & Mail)

Dec 24 **Trawler Breaks Dolphin Agreement**, the Department of Conservation is disappointed that a trawler has broken an agreement and killed a group of dolphins and pilot whales. (One News)

Dec 25 **The Mafia Consolidates Its Grip On Cambodia**, the regional mafia finds many ways to preserve and consolidate its grip on Cambodia. Through corruption of political leaders from the ruling CPP and Funcinpec, it has secured influential/strategic positions for the organized crime. (Khmer Intelligence)

Dec 25 **Lonely Fight To Protect American Eel**, it is one of the creepier creatures on earth a squirming, snakelike fish bound for no real glory beyond its role in sushi or as bait from a fishermen's hook. But it is largely for that reason that Tim Watts is taking a stand to protect the America eel. (Associated Press)

Dec 25 **Ice Interferes with Normal Methods of Purging Oil after Accidents**, as the world's energy industry begins a cautious return to Artic waters, environmentalists, scientists and governments are increasingly concerned about its ability to clean up after the accidents some say will inevitably follow. (Globe & Mail)

Dec 25 **Nuclear-Waste Plan Splits Lake Huron Community**, a group of residents in and round the scenic lake Huron town of Kincardine, Ontario claim that the province's publicly owned electricity generator is bribing the town to support Canada's first permanent burial of radioactive nuclear waste. (Globe & Mail)

Dec 26 **The Rapidly Increasing Volume** of such waste, and two, e-waste is hazardous. It is difficult to imagine that the friendly (or otherwise) computer sitting harmlessly on your desk becomes hazardous waste as soon as you decide you do not want it anymore, but it does. According to Environment Canada, key pollutants from electronic waste entering landfill in 1999 included 1,356 tonnes of lead. (Gallon Letter)

Dec 26 **Russia Crash Kills 2, Endangers Dolphin**, two people were killed and another was injured in Russia Saturday when two trucks, one transporting two dolphins and a baby walrus, collided. (United Press International)

Dec 26 **Sri Lanka Goes hog Wild For Illicit Meal**, wild boar ban has led to a boom in black market meat as well as pig population. It doesn't take much more than a nod of the head to be served a sumptuous meal of rice and wild boar curry at a roadside food stall even if it has been illegal for four decades. (Associated Press)

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Dec 26 **The Humane Society of Canada**, asks everyone to consider year-end donation to help animals and the earth. (HSC)

Dec 26 **New Orca Babies Seen In Puget Sound Pods**, two newborn killer whales are being welcomed into the J and K pods, two of the major Puget sound orca groupings, according to whale researcher Mark Sears. (Kitsap Sun)

Dec 26 **Government Proposes Listing Puget Sound Orcas On Endangered List**, this revises a decision by the National Marine Fisheries Service, which concluded two years ago the orcas did not warrant protection. (Associated Press)

Dec 27 **CITES Loosens Selected Restrictions On Hunting Black Rhinos**, Thailand hosted a meeting of CITES, the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species, an international body of which Egypt is a signatory. For the uninitiated, CITES controls the trade in rare animal and plant species and is one of the most important global conservation agreements. (Egypt Today)

Dec 27 **Kenya Names New Wildlife Chief**: amid appeals to scrap Conservation Law. (AFP)

Dec 27 **Tidal Wave Began Beneath Indian Ocean**. The main reaction that sent enormous, deadly tidal waves crashing into the coasts of Asia and Africa on Sunday started more than six miles beneath the ocean floor off the Indonesian island of Sumatra. (ENN)

Dec 27 **Madagascar's Poor See No Benefit From Conservation** the people of Mahatsara village do not understand why they are forbidden from burning down wild forests of eastern Madagascar. (ENN)

Dec 27 **Bad Weather Hampers Efforts to Rescue Stranded Sperm Whales in Australia**, a pod of 19 sperm whales was stranded on the coast of Australia's Tasmania state and most of them are dead, authorities said. (ENN)

Dec 27 **Hurricanes Bring Temporary Relief To Florida Reefs**, these reefs are being smothered by invasive seaweed. (ENN)

Dec 28 **Britons & Christmas Waste**, Christmas cards are thrown out in their millions up to one billion cards and 83 square km of wrapping paper will be thrown away this season – much of it needlessly – the government has said. (BBC)

Dec 28 **Penguins Escape Huge Earthquake**, Macquarie penguins appear to have escaped the worst an earthquake on a remote Antarctic archipelago to 850,000 king penguins was the strongest on earth in four years, seismologists say. (BBC)

Dec 28 **Whales Suffer From Bends**, scientists say much more research is needed. A swift ascent from deep water may be just as dangerous for whales as it is for humans,

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damaged consistent with the bends – every driver’s nightmare – has been found in the bones of sperm whales. (BBC)

Dec 28 **Steam Engines Could Be Eco Hope**, think of steam engines and hazy, romantic images of chugging great beasts of old fill the mind. (BBC)

Dec 28 **Rather Than Enforcing a Strict Ban on the Sale of Macaws**, Venezuela is allowing some of the residents of the Warao Delta to capture and sell a controlled number of the birds. (SSN)

Dec 29 **Tsunami Threatens Survival Of Low-Lying Maldives Islands**, the tidal waves that swept across the Indian ocean did more than take a heavy toll of lives and property in the Maldives – it confronted the tiny island nation with a threat to its survival. (ENN)

Dec 29 **Global Warming, Pollution Add To Coastal Threats**, a creeping rise in sea levels tied to global warming, pollution and damage to coral reefs may make coastlines even more vulnerable to disasters like tsunamis or storms in future. (ENN)

Dec 29 **Thai Fishery Industry Fears Tsunami threat To Coral Reefs, Biodiversity**, damage to coral reefs and changes in sand layers as a result of the tidal waves on Sunday has raised concern about marine biodiversity among local fishermen, as Thai waters might no longer be a rich natural resource for certain species. (ENN)

Dec 29 **The Disappearing Drill**, the animals were stacked on filthy tables: tiny antelope, a blue tropical forest bird called a Turaco, and the hands and head of an endangered black Colobus monkey, too recognized for comfort. The vendors that sell have no remorse about their role in the slaughter of threatened wildlife, including several endangered species. (Philadelphia Inquirer)

Dec 29 **Green Needs Proactive Solutions**, a recent California decision to ambitiously fight smog is showing the contrast between what the public wants and what automakers are willing to deliver. (Canoe)

Dec 29 **Endangered Ferrets Make Comeback In Arizona**, Endangered black-footed ferrets are reproducing more and surviving longer in the wild in Arizona than they have since recovery efforts began nearly a decade ago, wildlife biologists say. (ENN)

Dec 29 **Palo Alto, CA, To Buy ‘Green’ Power Created By Gas Of Decomposing Garbage**, pushing to buy at least 20 percent of its electricity from renewable sources, Palo Alto has turned to a new supply: rotting garbage in Watsonville. (ENN)

Dec 29 **In The Economics Of Global Warming, Pig Emissions Have A Part To Play**, pig manure in Chile will keep neon lights glowing on Tokyo’s Ginza in years to come. It’s a grand north-south trade-off to slow global warning: You reduce your “greenhouse gas” emissions so I don’t have to cut back on mine. (ENN)

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Dec 30 **Animals May Have Sensed Wall Of Water And Fled**, wildlife officials in expressed surprise that they found no evidence of large-scale animal deaths from the tsunamis – indicating that the animals may have sensed the wave coming and fled to higher ground. (Toronto Star)

Dec 30 **No More Living Dangerously: Environment At A Crossroads**, there are numerous ways to present the main environmental issues in Indonesia, and the scope of problems in this, among the world's most biodiversity countries, is infinite. (Jakarta Post)

Dec 30 **New Mad Cow Fear in Canada**, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency says it has detected what may be another case of mad cow disease, a potentially devastating hit to an already struggling Canadian beef industry. (Canoe)

Dec 31 **Snow Leopard Project Over**, the project is having some success, however Central Asia's tiny surviving group of snow leopards may soon loose a lifeline is helping them cling to survival. (BBC)

Dec 31 **Did Animals Have Quake Warning?** Wildlife officials in Sri Lanka have reported that, despite the loss of human life in the Asian disaster, there have been no recorded animal deaths. (BBC)

Dec 31 **New BSE Case Update**: The Canadian Food Inspection Agency expects the US to go ahead with plans to reopen the border to live cattle from Canada despite tests suggesting another Canadian cow may have been infected with mad cow disease. (C