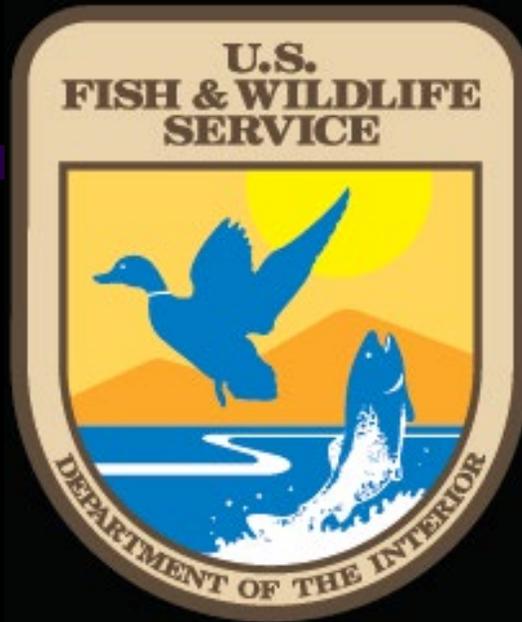
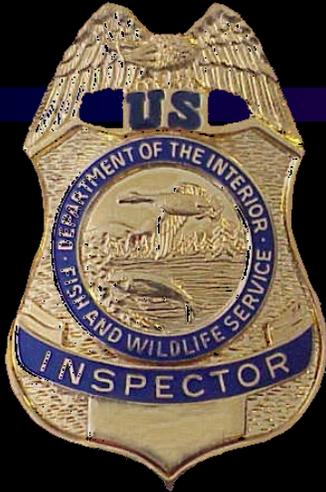


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement



**David Hubbard
Special Agent in Charge
International Operations**



Mission Statements

USFWS:

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

The Office of Law Enforcement:

To protect wildlife and plant resources. Through the effective enforcement of Federal laws, we contribute to Fish and Wildlife Service efforts to recover endangered species, conserve migratory birds, preserve wildlife habitat, safeguard fisheries, combat invasive species, and promote international wildlife conservation.



International Operations Unit

USFWS Office of Law Enforcement Attaches



- Support U.S.-based international criminal investigations
- Coordinate transnational investigations & information sharing
- Leverage USG assets for host-nation CWT efforts & investigations
- Capacity Building, Training, & Professionalization of foreign government partners.



OLE Intelligence Unit

Supporting Investigations



Formed in 2016

The Intel Unit provides operational intel support to investigations, support to international operations, and technical advice in standing up a fully-functioning Intel Unit.

The Intel Unit is expected to continue expanding it's capacity to support investigations in the coming years, to acquire additional personnel to provide more robust and responsive support, and to gradually place less reliance on contract employee expertise.

Special Agent in Charge at HQ

Intelligence Analyst at HQ

Intelligence Analyst at the Commercial Targeting and Analysis Center

Special Agent at the National Targeting Center

Technical Advisor for Intel Unit; at HQ

Special Investigations Unit Support; at HQ

International Operations Unit Support; at HQ

Analyst/Operational Support; at IOC2 SOD in Chantilly, VA

Analyst at the OCDETF Fusion Center in Reston, VA

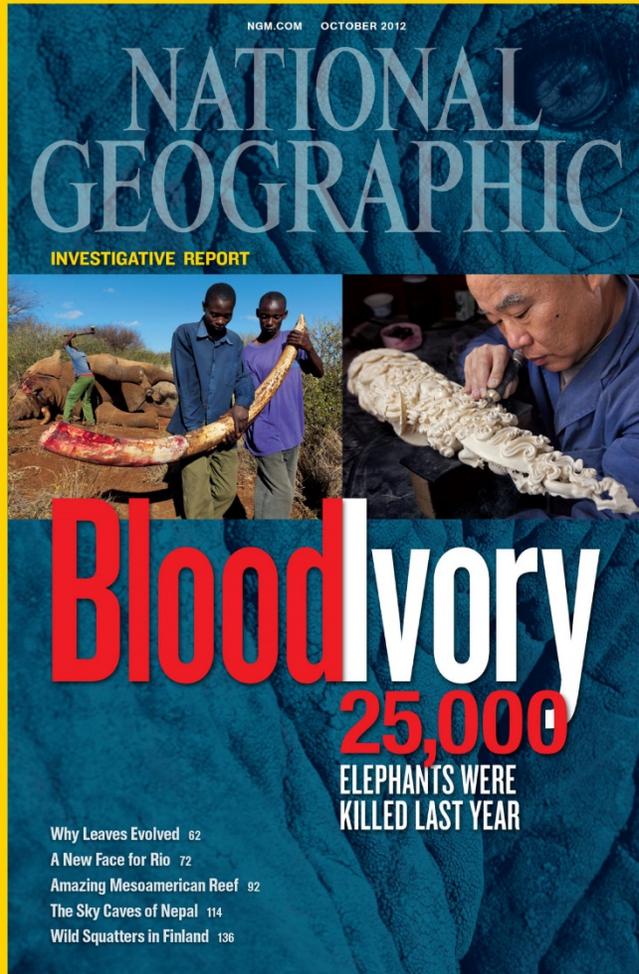


Special Investigations Unit (SIU) *(2011 to present)*



- In 2011, the undercover team working for the Special Operations Division was renamed the **Special Investigations Unit (SIU)**. Senior Special Agents strategically assigned and located throughout the U.S.
- Focus investigative efforts on international wildlife trafficking with emphasis on disrupting and dismantling high-level criminal organizations and syndicates.
- Conduct large, complex criminal investigations globally working with our Attaches other USG Law Enforcement and foreign partners .

Global Illegal Wildlife Trade and Impacts to the U.S.





So what gets this issue on our significant threat radar?

- **Dramatic increases in the scope and scale of poaching to supply illegal trade;**
- **Landscape-scale losses of wildlife populations, both iconic and little known;**
- **Wildlife trafficking undermines security, weakens institutions and exacerbates official corruption;**
- **More than 1,000 rangers have died in the past decade.**



2016: President Trump Executive Order to Strengthen Efforts to Combat Trans-National Organized Crime (Narcotics; Guns; Human Trafficking...and **Wildlife Trafficking**)





Uganda Assist Background

- **Joint investigation with FWS and DEA, initiated in late 2016 and focused on transnational criminal organizations involved with wildlife trafficking in Eastern Africa**
- **Executive Order 13773 called for a comprehensive and decisive approach to dismantling organized crime syndicates, highlighting wildlife trafficking as one of four areas to be addressed**
- **In February 2017 Moazu KROMAH was arrested in Kampala, Uganda, 1.3 tons of ivory was seized by UG authorities**
- **Phones belonging to KROMAH were seized during the arrest**
- **Analysis of the phones produced evidence identifying KROMAH as a major wildlife trafficker of elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn**
- **June 2017 through present, began covertly working multiple subjects involved in wildlife and narcotics trafficking in Africa, including KROMAH**



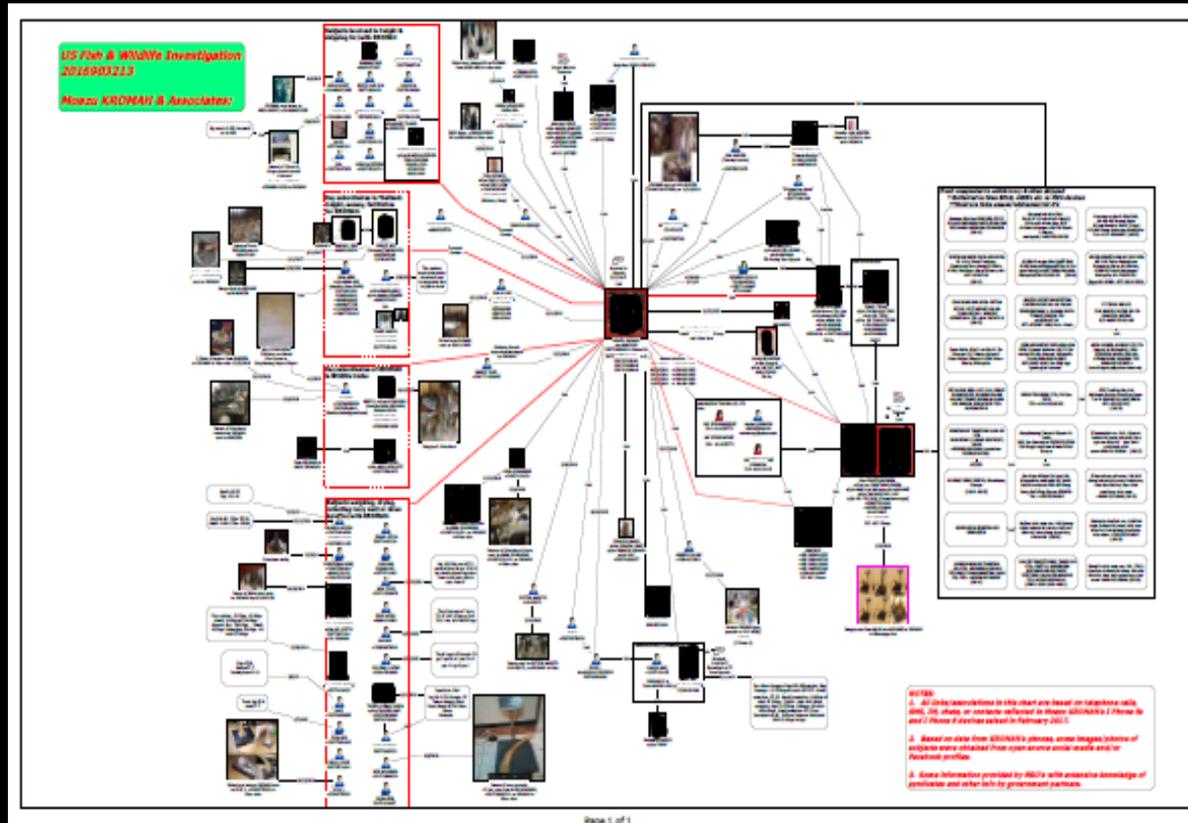
Current Case Study: Money flows & Wildlife Trafficking:

Africans in Asia
assist w/ money
pickups...

Ethnic Chinese Finance
acquisition of rhino horn &
ivory & then sell upon arrival
of product in Asia

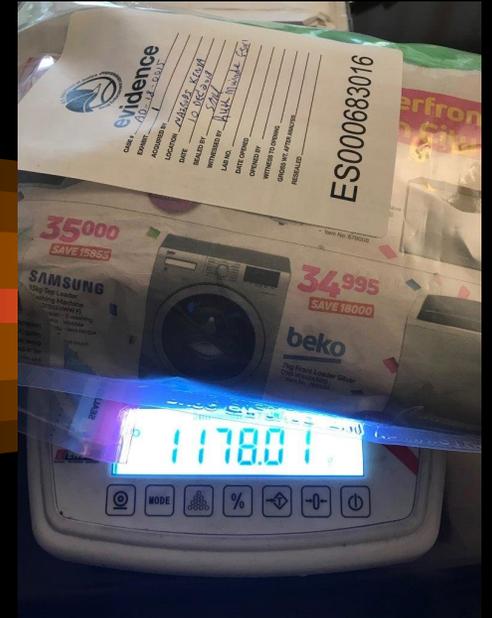
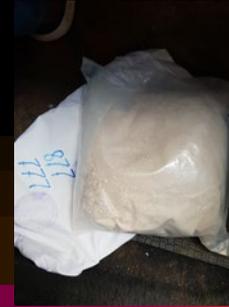
Africans
supply rhino
horn & ivory
to Asians &
Africans in
Africa...

Collected
from multiple
suppliers...



Asian &
African front
companies
Ship from
Africa to
Asia...

Air cargo &
Sea Cargo



- Relevant Statutes:
 - Conspiracy (Trafficking of wildlife and drugs)
 - Lacey Act Title; 16 U.S.C. § 3372(a)(2)(A) & 3373(d)(1)(B)
 - Money Laundering; Title 18 U.S.C. § 1956(a)(3)(A) or § 1956(a)(3)(B)
 - Endangered Species Act (ESA); Title 16 U.S.C. § 1538(a)(1)(F)
 - Narcotics – distribution of controlled substances; Title 21 U.S.C. § 841 (a)(1)





Product offers to date

- **Rhino Horn: approximately 190 kgs (\$3,420,000)**
- **Ivory: over 4 tons (\$1,600,000)**



7 ARRESTS OF RATHKEALE ROVERS

- Michael **HEGARTY** & Richard **O'BRIEN** (2010) – arrested in U.S.; sentenced to 6 months in prison.
- Michael **SLATTERY** – (2014) arrested in NY, sentenced to 14 months in prison, \$10,000 fine and forfeit \$50,000 in proceeds.
- Patrick **SHERIDAN** – (2016) arrested in U.K. and extradited to US; sentenced to 12 months in prison.
- Michael **HEGARTY** - (2017) arrested in Belgium and extradited to the U.S.; sentenced to 18 months in prison.
- Richard **SHERIDAN** – (2019) arrested in U.K. and extradited to the U.S.; sentenced to 14 months in prison
- John **SLATTERY** aka **FLYNN** – (2014) indicted in U.S.; fugitive was later arrested in France; fled France on bail and was recently arrested in Ireland and awaits extradition to the US



Thank You



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Law Enforcement

Protecting Wildlife and Wild Places



Our officers work the "wildlife beat," contributing to conservation in the United States and around the world. We enforce laws and treaties that safeguard animals, plants, and habitat. Our work includes:

- Investigating crimes against wildlife throughout the country.
- Inspecting wildlife trade to prevent trafficking in global species.
- Protecting the Nation's wildlife refuges and the people who visit them.

