



IWC

INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CRIMESTOPPERS, INC.

REPORT
POACHING



NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, 2018

International Operation Against Illegal Wildlife Trade

Nearly 100 countries took part in a globe-spanning crackdown on the illegal wildlife trade, seizing tons of meat, ivory, pangolin scales and timber in a month-long bust that exposed the international reach of traffickers.

Code-named “Thunderstorm” the month-long operation, from 1 to 31 May, has so far brought 1,974 seizures and the identification of some 1,400 suspects, triggering arrests and investigations worldwide. Further arrests and prosecutions are foreseen as ongoing investigations unfold.

Total worldwide seizures reported to date include: 43 tonnes of wild meat (from bear, elephant, crocodile, whale and zebra etc.); 1.3 tonnes of raw and processed elephant ivory; 27,000 reptiles (including approximately 869 alligators/crocodiles, 9,590 turtles and 10,000 snakes); almost 4,000 birds, including pelicans, ostriches, parrots and owls; several tonnes of wood and timber; 48 live primates; 14 big cats (tiger, lion, leopard and jaguar); the carcasses of 7 bears, including 2 polar bears.

Operation Thunderstorm was coordinated by INTERPOL and the World Customs Organization (WCO) in conjunction with the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), which includes the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Secretariat, UNODC and the World Bank.

For more information, go to: https://cites.org/eng/news/month-long-trans-continental-operation-hit-wildlife-criminals-hard_20062018



Canadian authorities intercepting illegal wildlife

Operation

“Thunderstorm”

Code-named “Thunderstorm” and targeting the people and networks behind global wildlife crime, the operation involved police, customs, border, wildlife, forestry and environment agencies from 92 countries and resulted in millions of dollars-worth of seizures.

Guidefitter, an Online Platform for the Outfitting Industry

IWC is proud to announce its support of **Guidefitter** which is an online community for guided hunting & fishing adventures, enabling sportspersons, guides, outfitters, and the organizations that serve them to collaborate and better promote their shared passion for the sport.

Guidefitter.com is the destination for consumers seeking and sharing guided adventures of a lifetime, the platform for outfitters to save money and run a better business, and the influencer marketing and sales channel for outdoor gear manufacturers. Guidefitter members and the information they share through their web and mobile apps, represent the pulse of the guided hunting and fishing industry.

Many outdoor gear manufacturers offer substantial discounts on gear through Guidefitter.

Military, First Responders, Wildlife Officers, Brand Employees, and Conservation/NGO Employees are eligible to receive considerable gear discounts through:

<https://www.guidefitter.com/insiders>

Fun Day at the Clay Shoot in Bucyrus, OH

July 21, 2018—Even with rainy and cool weather, all had a great time at the sporting clays shoot held jointly by IWC and Ohio Turn in Poachers, Inc. Highest scoring shooter, highest scoring team, ladies shooter, and youth shooter received prizes. Participants enjoyed door prizes, a live auction, and a great meal cooked by the game wardens from Maine.

IWC and Ohio Turn in Poachers, Inc. greatly thank Elkhorn Lake Hunt Club for hosting the event and also to event sponsors: **Bucyrus Road Materials, The Buffalo Trading Company, Henry-Wood Sportman's Alliance, Wurm's Woodworking, Piper Collision Center, Cass Woodworking, SW Ohio Chapter of Safari International, Schiebers Auto Care - Shawn Livingston, Scott Auctions, Ohio State Chapter of the NWTF, Knox County Pheasants Forever - Chapter 616, Sportsman's Den, Gochenour's Meats, and Carle's Market.**



ANNUAL IWC CONFERENCE



Thirty-four IWC members representing twenty states and one Canadian province attended the annual IWC conference July 22—25, 2018 in Huron, Ohio on the banks of Lake Erie.

Conference attendees gained information about program fundraising, wildlife crime on social media, receiving tip texts through a landline number, public safety broadband network services, trends in wildlife internet crimes, personal and professional breakthroughs for those who operate in the arena of crisis, and an overview of Ohio's largest deer poaching case.



At the conclusion of this year's IWC conference in Ohio, the gavel was passed from President Ron Ollis to new President Brian Eller from the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Captain Eller will be hosting the 2019 IWC conference at the Monte Bleu Resort on Lake Tahoe, July 14-17, 2019.

Additional information concerning the conference will be forthcoming in future newsletters and the IWC website.

Outgoing President Ron Ollis (right) passing the gavel to new President Brian Eller.

A BIG *thank you* to all who supported IWC and Ohio Turn in Poachers, Inc. by purchasing raffle tickets for a 2018 Yamaha Kodiak 450 All Terrain Vehicle.



The winner of the ATV is Morgan Arnold from Findley, Ohio.

Happy trail riding Morgan!



Have a successful wildlife enforcement case you would like to tell us about or need your case publicized to gain more information about the violation? Send it to us and we will help you get the word out through our website and Facebook page. Email the information to:

wildlifecrimestoppers@gmail.com



On April 28, 2018, IWC along with the Rhode Island Environmental Police Officers Association hosted a Sporting Clay Shoot at the Peace Dale Shooting Preserve in South Kingstown, Rhode Island.

All enjoyed a pig roast for lunch and awards were given to the top male and female shooter, top youth shooter, and top team.

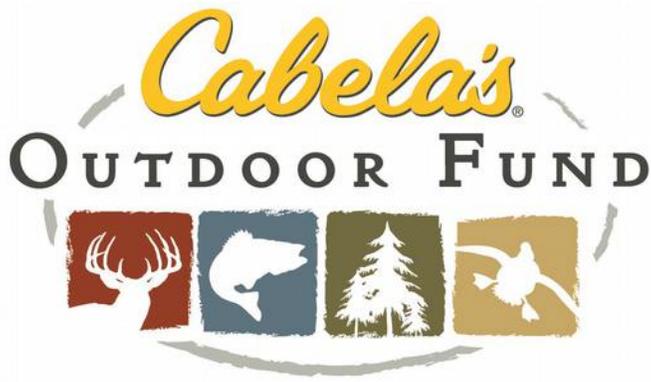


Artist Grant Hacking and IWC are giving you an opportunity to purchase exclusive prints of his wildlife artwork.

These prints are signed and numbered and can only be purchased online at www.wildlifecrimestoppers.org. All proceeds benefit IWC and its mission to preserve our fish and wildlife resources.

Payment will be processed through PayPal. No account is required.





THE CABELA'S OUTDOOR FUND SUPPORTS ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE OUTDOORS. IWC WAS AWARDED A \$25,000 GRANT FROM THE FUND FOR THE PURCHASE TO TWO TRAILERS AND THE UPGRADE OF A THIRD. THESE TRAILERS WILL BE USED TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF POACHING.



Trailer based in Ohio



Trailer based in Nevada



(Right) Upgraded trailer based in Vermont



Meet the IWC Board

(From left to right) - Brian Eller (President); Bob Thompson (West Region Director); Lee Ellis (1st Vice-President); Lewis Rather (Executive Director); Candice Henderson (Executive Assistant); Ron Ollis (Past President); Wayne Saunders (Past President); Avery Tubbs (Southeastern Region Director); Justin Stedman (Northeast Region Director); Chris Simmons (Assistant Executive Director). Not pictured—Jen Wolfe (Midwest Region Director); Brian Voogd (Canadian Region Director); Jeff Whipple (2nd Vice-President).

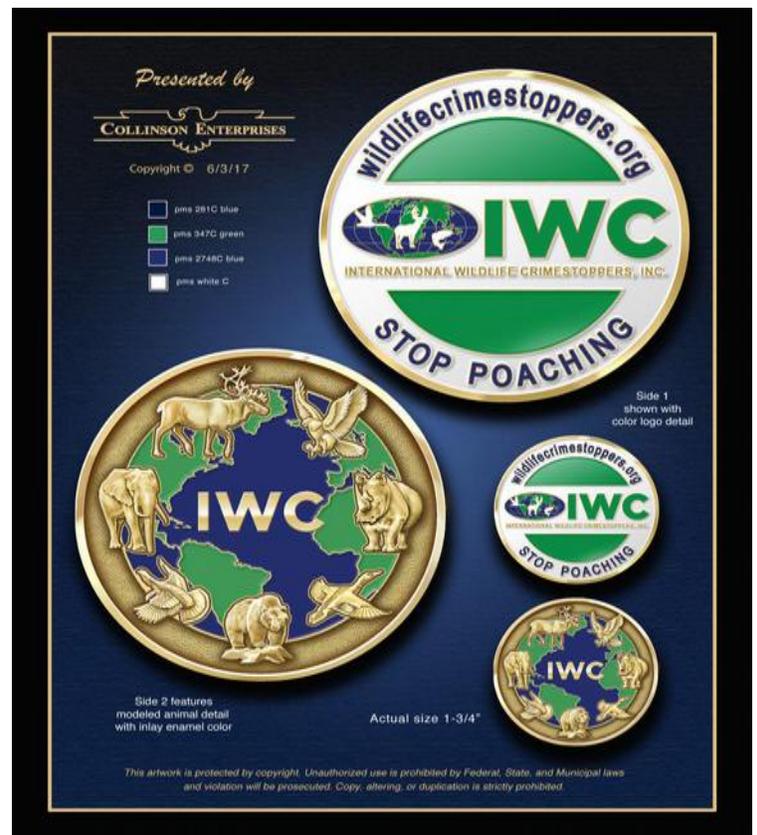
International Wildlife Crimestoppers' Mission Statement is simple: We Are Dedicated to Stopping all poaching. We are a non-profit membership organization created by wildlife resource officers dedicated to reducing the illegal taking of the world's fish and wildlife resources through the global exchange of information with anti-poaching organizations. We strategically partner with effective like-minded organizations that support sustainable use of our natural resources. With special emphasis on youth education, we provide public education on the difference between sustainable use and poaching, creating a force multiplier for law enforcement charged with protecting the world's natural resources.



Purchase your IWC cap or challenge coin at <https://wildlifecrimestoppers.org>

Caps—\$15

Coin—\$20



SUPPORT IWC

International Wildlife Crimestoppers is a non-profit corporation dedicated to reducing the illegal taking (poaching) of the world's fish and wildlife resources through the exchange of information with anti-poaching organizations at international, national, regional and local levels. Members are agencies or organizations whose primary responsibility is the collection and passing on of information relating to violations of laws and regulations regarding the fish, wildlife and habitat in their state or province. Currently, the association is made up of North American states, Canadian provinces and other locals around the globe, along with a board consisting of environmental, outdoor and enforcement enthusiasts.

As a 501c3 non-profit corporation, IWC does not receive any state, federal or international funding and depends solely on financial support from memberships, public and corporate donations, as well as private and individual donations.

Protecting the natural and cultural resources around the world is an ongoing mission for conservation law enforcement officers and the International Wildlife Crimestoppers association. This cannot be accomplished without your support.

Levels of annual support start at \$50. Major donations start at \$3,000. See all the levels of support and the benefits of each on our website at <https://wildlifecrimestoppers.org/make-a-contribution>.



Welcome Sportman's Warehouse as IWC's newest sponsor.