

# Wildlife Disease Association Asia-Pacific Section (WDA-AP)



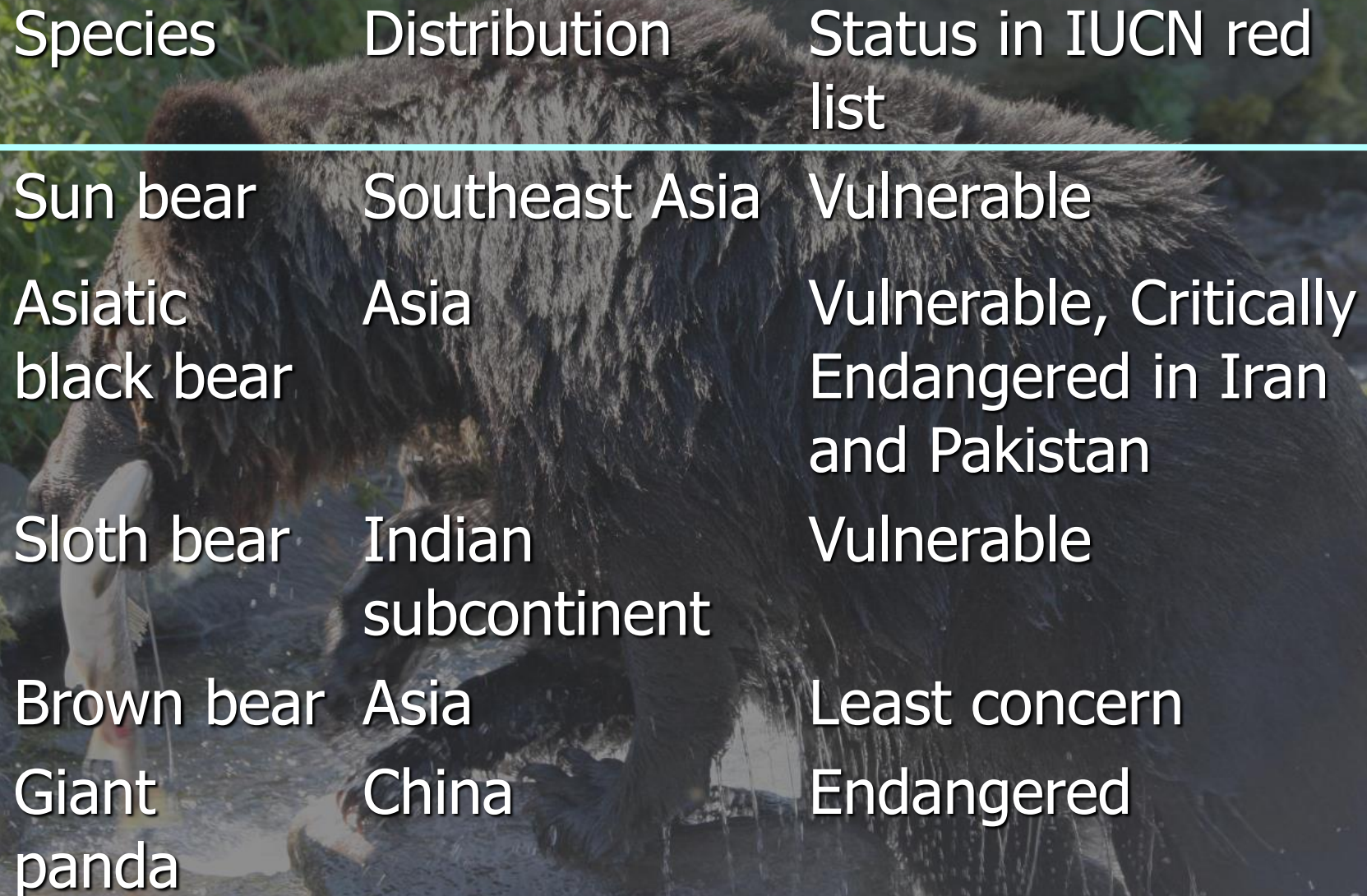
**WDA AP  
(2019 founded)**



**Section Chair: Toshio Tsubota  
(2021-2022, 2023-2024)**

# Asian bear status

## ■ 5 species in 31 countries

A large brown bear is shown in a natural setting, standing in a stream and eating a fish. The bear's fur is dark brown and appears wet. The background shows green foliage and rocks.

Species	Distribution	Status in IUCN red list
Sun bear	Southeast Asia	Vulnerable
Asiatic black bear	Asia	Vulnerable, Critically Endangered in Iran and Pakistan
Sloth bear	Indian subcontinent	Vulnerable
Brown bear	Asia	Least concern
Giant panda	China	Endangered



# Zoonosis in Bears

- **Virus:** Rabies (Am. black bear, polar bear)
- **Bacteria:** Tularemia (Am. black bear), Brucellosis (Am. black bear, polar bear), Q fever (Am. black bear, As. black bear)
- **Rickettsia:** Rocky mountain spotted fever (Am. black bear)
- **Protozoa:** Toxoplasmosis (general)
- **Parasite:** Trichinosis (general), Filariasis (Am. black bear)

Am.: American As.: Asiatic

18 June 2013 Last updated at 08:42 GMT



## China border officials seize 213 bear paws

Chinese officials have confiscated 213 bear paws hidden inside the tyres of a vehicle crossing the border from Russia, state media has announced.

Two Russians were detained in Manzhouli, Inner Mongolia, when the discovery was made on 22 May.

Bear parts are prized in China for their perceived medicinal value, but their sale is illegal.

Initial investigations showed the paws were from the brown bear, a protected species in China, Global Times said.

Officials grew suspicious after noticing that the van's driver looked nervous, with customs worker Yang Xu telling CCTV the man "looked at his watch often".

The vehicle was then X-rayed, the tyres removed and the



The sale of bear parts is illegal in China, but a thriving trade exists nonetheless.



ated Stories

# Bear trading



## 2 men to be charged with buying bears and bear parts

by NBC25 Newsroom

Posted: 03.07.2014 at 2:21 PM

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MIDLAND (AP) – Two men from Midland have been arrested on charges of illegally buying Michigan black bears and bear parts.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources said Thursday a conservation officer learned that one of the suspects was contacting hunters about making the illegal purchases. An undercover officer made a number of transactions with the suspects before the bust.

Detective Lt. Jason Haines says there's a black market for bear parts in Asia, where they are used for medicinal purposes. He says the illegal sales encourage poachers to kill bears out of season, exceed hunting limits and use unlawful methods.

The defendants' names are being withheld until arraignment. Each of the seven counts against them could be punished by 90 days in jail, plus a \$1,000 fine and reimbursement costs.

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Bear bile, tiger parts sold in Myanmar market.  
National geographic news; Oct 28,2008



# Wildlife trade in Asia

[www.thairath.co.th](http://www.thairath.co.th) 20/08/11



[www.news.voicetv.co.th](http://www.news.voicetv.co.th) 6/02/12









# Conclusion

- **Wildlife disease surveillance, including passive and active surveillance is important to know the emergence of infectious diseases throughout wildlife trading.**
- **One Health approach should be incorporated into national wildlife trade management systems to reduce zoonotic disease risks.**
- **International institutions should offer guidance and support for enforcing laws and using forensics to combat illegal wildlife trade, which might be source of pathogens for zoonotic diseases.**