ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE ON THE RISE

Recently, in March 29, 2004, a truck on its way to Khasa (Chinese border) met with an accident in Sindhupalchok 60 km from Kathmandu which yielded 7 leopard skin, 6 otter skin, 2 tiger skull and bones and 175 strip of rhino skin which is an indicator that smuggling of wildlife is on the rise.

Wildlife Conservation Nepal had gone to the site with DNPWC personnel to see the wildlife seizures and take notes. With consultation of Wildlife Trust of India, a leopard skin and otter skin had a signature that had been previously recorded in India.

Leopard skin with signature

Today security has been a major focus in Nepal's highway. Motor vehicles are stopped and checked by security forces, despite all these efforts, trading of wildlife products still occur. We need to be more vigilant if we are to arrest trade in wildlife. We also need to monitor and provide trainings to enforcement agencies to identify wildlife products.

Rhino skin and Leopard skin seized in Sindhupalchok