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喵星人2010

多彩旅行

2013年08月06日05:30 南方都市报

近日, 著名“救虎女”全莉向南都记者透露, 她已经有近一年没有得到非洲老虎谷的华南虎的任何消息了, 这些老虎是否健康、是否安然无恙、是否有新的老虎诞生无从得知。

News of Over 10 South China Tigers in Africa Under Rewilding Unknown

Source <http://news.sina.com.cn/c/2013-08-06/053027872386.shtml>

Recently, the well-known “Tiger Woman” Li Quan who had saved rare South China tigers revealed to a Southern Metropolis journalist that she had not received any news about Laohu Valley Reserve in Africa for nearly a year. She did not know whether the tigers were healthy, safe and if there are any new born tiger cubs or not.

Li Quan said, she found out from the official website of Save China's Tigers on September 29th that the South China tiger “Princess” gave birth to a cub on September 16th. The next time she heard any news was when the tiger cub went missing several weeks after birth and the reason was unknown. Since then there were no updates on the website of Save China's Tigers which had been used for communicating with the public and the weekly diaries and photos of the South China Tigers in SA have also been stopped.

The missing tiger cub was the first offspring of South China tigers born and raised in the natural environment in Africa, namely the third generation of tigers in Africa. The birth of the third generation was iconic in the history of wild animal rewilding.

“I wrote to Heinrich Funk, manager of Laohu Valley Reserve in Africa and his answer was that he had been informed that he couldn't tell me anything about the Chinese tigers and Laohu Valley Reserve, or he would be fired by my husband's company Conservation Finance International”, said Li Quan.

Marriage Hitting rocks and Quan Was Removed by “Save China's Tigers UK”

Save China's Tigers was registered by Li Quan in England, Hong Kong, Australia and Mainland China respectively in the year of 2000, 2003 and 2011. When the UK Foundation was registered, her husband Stuart Bray was made a member and chairman of the board of directors by her. The initial funding for the charity came from the couples and part of donations of friends.

Li Quan admitted that she and her husband Stuart Bray are in a divorce proceeding. “On July 21st 1

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ast year, I found that he was closing down Save China's Tigers UK, and together with my colleagues of SCT Australia we questioned the actions. On August 8th I received a legal letter saying that I had been removed by "board of directors" of Save China's Tigers."

Chinese Tigers South African Trust and the UK charity signed South China tigers rewilding project with China's State Forestry Administration in the year of 2002. On August 18th, just three days after her filing for divorce, she was ousted from this board of directors of the trust as well.

Li Quan Said that her husband seized all her 13 years of documents and materials after her divorce petition was filed and he also closed all the channels that she could use to get information about tigers.

The Public Lost Connections with South China Tigers

The UK charity also stopped issuing news on the South China tigers in South Africa.

Steve Prassas, a lawyer who executed the will of his client Ms. Jenifer Bone to donate \$100,000 Australia dollars to big cat conservation in 2008 had visited Laohu Valley Reserve in South Africa and named a new-born tiger as JenB, He was so moved that he become a volunteer of saving the South China tigers. He and Li Quan registered Save China's Tigers Australia and became chairman of the board of directors of the Australia charity.

Steve Prassas confirmed to this journalist that the Australia charity had kept contact with Li Quan and Laohu Valley Reserve since 2008, receiving weekly and monthly report, but no news was forthcoming about this project since August last year.

Another director of Save China's Tigers Australia Chris Stomo was also concerned about the Laohu Valley Reserve. In the email reply to the inquiry of this journalist he said it is very difficult to get any news now. "Stuart mixes charity matters with his personal issues. In my opinion, he is hiding information on purpose." Chris Stomo thought that tiger rewilding project is at a critical stage and this situation will adversely affect the effort that he and his colleagues have devoted for many years.

Email by this journalist to Heinrich Funk who was in charge of the Rewilding project in South Africa inquiring on the health condition of tigers and operation of the project received no reply.

15 South China Tiger Cubs Born and 11 Survived

The UK charity reached an agreement with the Chinese State Forestry Administration on the rewilding of South China tigers in Africa for reintroduction in 2002. Li Quan's husband invested in 17 defunct farms and the charity established facilities at Laohu Valley for the rewilding of South China tigers as well as Breeding Center through deploying public donations.

Five South China tigers were sent to Laohu Valley in South Africa successively. They not only learned to hunt in the wild, but also successfully bred. Fifteen South China tigers were born in Africa, and 11 survived.

Lu Jun, China Representative of the South African rewilding project from the State Forestry Administration of China had written to Stuart Bray, hoping that he could deal with the problem calmly and allow Li Quan to return to the UK charity, because "Li Quan had been the representative of Save China's Tigers UK and coordinator of the Chinese project".

The letter also pointed out that as one of three parties to the agreement and owner of the Chinese tig

ers China party hoped that Stuart Bray provides accounts of the charity's donations and raised in the name of the tiger project as well as their usage.

Seven international wildlife biologists including Dr. Peter Crawshaw etc signed a joint letter to four government officials including Director General Zhang Xiwu in charge of Wildlife Protection and Nature Reserve Management Department of China's State Forestry Administration to express their concerns: "It is important not to lose the achievements obtained in these ten years, especially such an important subspecies as the South China tigers".

This reporter contacted relevant departments of the State Forestry Administration for information by telephone and message, but received no answer.

"The South China tigers are national treasures of China. They should not be used as a bargaining chip as Stuart Bray did in the divorce with Ms. Li Quan" Mark Szotek who once worked for CFI said to this reporter in an email.

Reported by Nan Xianghong, Southern Metropolis Daily,

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