

Impact case study (REF3)

Institution: University of Northumbria at Newcastle		
Unit of Assessment: 20 (Social Work and Social Policy)		
Title of case study: Protecting the non-human through green criminology: changing policy and practice at national and international levels to tackle animal welfare, trafficking, and corruption		
Period when the underpinning research was undertaken: October 2010 - 2019		
Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:		
Name(s):	Role(s) (e.g. job title):	Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:
Tanya Wyatt	Professor	October 2010 – present
Period when the claimed impact occurred: 2016 – December 2020		
Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014? N		
1. Summary of the impact (indicative maximum 100 words)		
<p>Existing regulatory and enforcement mechanisms are ineffective in preventing harms to non-humans nor are they effective in combatting the institutional and systemic corruption which sustains them. Professor Tanya Wyatt's research at Northumbria University supported awareness campaigns and led to changes in legislation prohibiting puppy farming, importing, and selling in Scotland and England. Internationally, Wyatt's research shaped the development of new 'Global Guidelines for Establishing Wildlife Enforcements Networks' and informed the educational content and understanding of wildlife crime through the 'Education for Justice' initiative operating in 550 universities and 114 countries. Wyatt's research into wildlife crime and corruption links contributed to drafting Resolution 17.6, of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) preventing, detecting, and countering corruption in the 183 member countries.</p>		
2. Underpinning research (indicative maximum 500 words)		
<p>Wildlife trafficking - the illegal gathering, transportation and distribution of animals, plants and any derivative thereof - is an often-overlooked green crime, the scale and impact of which is vastly underappreciated by governments and the general public [R1, R2]. Wyatt's research in the interdisciplinary field of Green Criminology challenges not only specific regulations and practices, but also presents a critique of the criminal justice system regarding the non-human. In 2013, her monograph [R1] was one of the first criminological investigations of wildlife trafficking and she was the principal investigator on the first-ever ESRC Research Seminar Series (2012-14) on 'Green Criminology'. Green criminology recognises crimes against the environment and non-human species as worthy of investigation. Furthermore, the degradation of the environment is ultimately just as, if not more, harmful to humans than street crime [R1].</p> <p>Wyatt's extensive body of research projects conducted at Northumbria University demonstrates that the regulatory and enforcement mechanisms for national and international wildlife trade are undermined by systemic corruption inherent to institutional structures. Wyatt's research illuminates that while individual corrupt actors perpetuate wildlife trafficking, the issue runs much deeper than this as it is rooted within broader corrupt structures that facilitate other crimes [R3, R4]. Wyatt argues that to effectively address wildlife trafficking, a more holistic solution must account for the inherent issues within a country's criminal justice system, political environment, and economic climate [R3, R4]. Wyatt's collation of data about forms of corruption linked to wildlife trafficking from across national jurisdictions addressed a gap in the field and created a new dataset for targeted investigation of, and new insights into, how to combat the governmental weaknesses and societal causes of corruption [R3]. Wyatt applied these findings to demonstrate</p>		

the need for: the creation of inter-agency networks to combat corruption on the regional and international levels; enhanced education for key stakeholders on the key indicators of (and links between) corruption and wildlife trafficking; and the creation of robust self-assessment tools for internal and inter-agency accountability [R4].

In 2015, Wyatt was co-applicant on a British Academy (BA) Newton Advanced Fellowship with her colleague at National Autonomous University of Mexico (2015-2017). They explored the previously un-investigated links between Mexico and the EU in terms of wildlife trade and trafficking [R5]. The BA project led to further funding as a consultant to the AETS (Application Europeenne De Technologies Et De Services) which coordinated an EU project further exploring the trade and trafficking of wildlife between these two regions (2017-2018). From May 2018 to May 2020, Wyatt was an AHRC Leadership Fellow, investigating the implementation of and compliance with CITES [R1-R5].

Wyatt has applied her research to the concerns of key stakeholders, including presenting to the UK and EU parliaments' environment committees, the US Agency for International Development funded 'Wildlife Crime Technology Challenge Fund', where she reviewed proposed technology interventions to stop wildlife crime, and the US National Intelligence Council where she wrote a classified report on illegal logging as a national security threat.

In 2016/17, her consultancy with the Scottish Government and UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), explored irresponsible and illegal puppy breeding and trade [R6]. Findings, obtained using a mixed-methods approach comprising secondary data analysis, semi-structured interviews (with experts n=12), online survey (stakeholders n=53) and focus groups (with puppy owners n=40, 160 participants), facilitated understanding of puppy trade in Scotland, England and Wales in relation to: prevalence, nature, consumer behaviour, trade regulation (or lack thereof), trade impact, and potential solutions [R6].

Using this knowledge, Wyatt and colleagues developed an extensive list of recommendations to support improvement in the UK puppy trade, including: developing multi-agency partnerships to enhance enforcement, improving regulation of online trade sales, creating a reliable 'go-to' online resource for advice/guidance on puppy purchasing, improving national education around puppy trade, and developing an independent trusted traders scheme [R6].

3. References to the research (indicative maximum of six references)

R1. Tanya Wyatt *Wildlife Trafficking: A Deconstruction of the Crime, Victims and Offenders* (Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan 2013) ISBN-13: 978-1137269232.
doi.org/10.1057/9781137269249

R2. Tanya Wyatt (2013) 'The Security Implications of the Illegal Wildlife Trade' *Journal of Social Criminology: Special Issue on Green Criminology* Autumn: 130-158. Available at:
<http://nrl.northumbria.ac.uk/16695/>

R3. Tanya Wyatt, Johnson, K., Hunter, L., George, R., and Gunter, R. (2017) 'Corruption and Wildlife: three case studies involving Asia' *Asian Journal of Criminology* doi.org/10.1007/s11417-017-9255-8

R4. Tanya Wyatt and Cao, A. (2015) 'Corruption, Wildlife Trafficking and Development' U4 Anti-corruption Research Centre. Available at: <https://www.u4.no/publications/corruption-and-wildlife-trafficking.pdf>

R5. Arroyo-Quiroz, I. and Tanya Wyatt (2019) 'Wildlife trafficking between the European Union and Mexico' *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy* 8(3): 23-37
[DOI:10.5204/ijcjsd.v8i3.1243](https://doi.org/10.5204/ijcjsd.v8i3.1243)

R6. Tanja Wyatt, Maher, J., and Biddle, P.* (2017) 'Scoping research on the sourcing of pet

dogs from illegal importation and puppy farms 2016-17' Scotland: Scottish Government
Available at: <https://bit.ly/2UrUsID>

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Research funding

G1. PI Tanya Wyatt, British Academy Newton Advanced Fellowship, 2015-2017, GBP34,860 (AF140036)

G2. PI Tanya Wyatt, AHRC Leadership Fellow, 2018-2020, GBP149,786 (AH/R002584/1)

G3. PI Tanya Wyatt, Scottish Government, 2016-2017, GBP59,687 (ANA/001/16)

4. Details of the impact (indicative maximum 750 words)

Wyatt's research has generated impact in two key areas: 1) informing awareness campaigns and improving national animal welfare policy in Scotland and England, and 2) improving international wildlife trafficking regulation, strategy, and education.

4.1 Informed awareness campaigns and improved national animal welfare policy in Scotland, England and Wales

Working in coordination with The Dog's Trust, the UK's largest dog welfare charity, and the Scottish Government in 2016-17, Wyatt '*compiled the different concerns surrounding the dog trade, including highlighting the lack of data available ... the challenges of only requiring some dog breeders to be licenced, and recognising the demand for puppies that drives the illegal elements of the trade*' [E1]. An estimated 700,000-1,900,000 puppies are sold in the UK each year (about 10% in Scotland) with approximately 400,000 supplied by unlicensed breeders and approximately 80,000 imported from Europe, and only 300,000 from licenced breeders or registered at-home births [E2, p7]. The Dog's Trust valued Wyatt's expertise for identifying important sectoral and organisational concerns surrounding the dog trade, including the availability and reliability of data demonstrating the scale and depth of the problem, and how inconsistencies in licencing facilitate the illegal elements driving this trade [E1]. The Dog's Trust confirmed, '*her research was valuable in helping to contribute to political discussions on the trade in dogs... since the research took place, the [animal welfare] sector has been working together in a much more unified way [and] sharing information*' [E1].

Building on this, Andrew Voas, Head Veterinarian of Animal Welfare for the Scottish Government, confirmed, '*Professor Wyatt's research has made a direct and material contribution to the understanding of these issues in the Scottish Government and the framing of the policy approach to tackling them ...[and] her research report [R6] commissioned by the Scottish Government, underpinning a new strategy to address the illegal breeding and sale of puppies in Scotland*' [E3]. To raise awareness of and assist implementation of this new strategy, Wyatt's '*work contributed to the successful 2018 and 2019 "Buy a Puppy Safely" Scottish Government awareness campaigns alerting the public to the dangers of the illegal trade, and will also inform the preparation of new legislation on the breeding of dogs, cats, and rabbits*' [E3]. This new legislation on dogs is the 'Responsible Breeding and Ownership of Dogs (Scotland) Bill' (hereafter, Scottish Bill), finalised in May 2018 and currently in its final stages in the Scottish Parliament, and the final Bill directly cites Wyatt's 2017 research [R6] repeatedly in justifying the need for enhanced measures [E2, p9].

The Scottish Bill and increased profile of the illegal puppy trade inspired the UK Government to pass 'Lucy's Law' (amendment to the Animal Welfare Regulations - active from 6th April 2020) regarding puppy breeding and selling [E4]. In the UK Parliamentary debate about Lucy's Law in June 2019, the Scottish Bill, (referred to by the Members as 'MaLucy's Law'), was used as the example to follow [E5]. David Rutley, then Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, moved that Lucy's Law be approved and argued '*Scotland has committed to reform the licensing of sanctuaries, breeders and pet shops... Scotland is slightly ahead of us... We do not want to have an animal welfare race, but we certainly want to*

ensure that we learn from this experience' [E5, p6-7]. Lucy's Law means anyone looking to buy or adopt a puppy or kitten under six months must either deal directly with the breeder or with an animal rehoming centre and licenced dog breeders must show puppies interacting with their mothers at their place of birth to demonstrate they have not been separated and trafficked [E4]. The Welsh Government announced a similar ban will come into effect in Wales by May 2021.

4.2 Improved international wildlife trafficking regulation, strategy, and education

Wyatt's insight into combatting the institutional corruption that facilitates wildlife trafficking contributed to her helping key stakeholders, including Transparency International (a non-governmental organisation working to combat corruption on a global scale) and the World Wildlife Fund (the world's leading independent conservation organisation), to draft an international anti-corruption resolution: Resolution 17.6 of CITES [E6] adopted at the Conference of the Parties in October 2016.

CITES is an international agreement between governments aimed at ensuring that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. The new Resolution urged all 183 member countries of the Convention to implement legislation to prohibit, prevent, detect, and counter instances of corruption and ensure that any corrupt practices associated with the administration, regulation, implementation, or enforcement of CITES are punishable with appropriate penalties under national legislation [E6]. In September 2017, the United Nations General Assembly reinforced the focus on the fight against wildlife trafficking and emphasised the role of CITES and the importance of implementing the Decisions and Resolutions adopted by its governing bodies [E6].

Dr Grant Pink of INTERPOL's Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee worked directly with Wyatt '*prior to, during, and after a workshop*', convened alongside the CITES conference in August 2019, where '*Professor Wyatt's insights and interventions helped shape the development of Global Guidelines for Establishing Wildlife Enforcement Networks (WENs)*' [E7]. These guidelines '*provide a self-assessment tool...to strengthen their respective networks and their regional responses to combating wildlife crime*' [E8].

Wyatt's research informed international efforts shaping the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) '*efforts to transmit knowledge and create a deeper understanding of rule of law related issues, with a focus on the subject areas of crime prevention and criminal justice, anti-corruption, organized crime, trafficking... [and] wildlife crime*' [E9]. Dr Pink confirmed that from the '*numerous examples which demonstrate the significance of Professor Wyatt's work*' her contribution to shaping the UNODC Education for Justice Programme for Environmental Crime covering '*Fisheries, Forest, and Wildlife*' is of '*special importance*' [E7, E10]. In April 2019, this programme '*brought together more than 1,700 lecturers [and involved] more than 550 universities and 114 countries*' to guide the content of university educators and shape students' understanding of wildlife crime's '*devastating impact on biodiversity*' and how wildlife crime can '*undermine national and regional political and economic security*' [E9, p1; E10].

5. Sources to corroborate the impact (indicative maximum of 10 references)

Ref.	Source of corroboration	Link to claimed impact
E1	Testimonial – Charlotte Longster, Public Affairs Manager – The Dog's Trust	Directly informing the practice and political approach of The Dog's Trust
E2	Responsible Breeding and Ownership of Dogs (Scotland) Bill citing Wyatt's research seven times at pp. 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12	Directly informing new legislation improving the regulation and enforcement of puppy breeding, sales, and vendor licensing (active in Scotland)

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E3	Testimonial – Andrew Voas, Head Veterinarian of Animal Welfare – Agriculture and Rural Delivery Directorate, Scottish Government	Directly informing awareness and policy in the Scottish Government and the creation of a national awareness-raising campaign
E4	UK Government press release announcing the coming into force of ‘Lucy’s Law’ - the amendment to The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 brought about by The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2019	New legislation improving the regulation and enforcement of puppy breeding, sales, and vendor licensing, brought about through public campaigning and increased political understanding
E5	Hansard – UK Parliamentary debate on Lucy’s Law, 5th June 2019 (Vol. 661) – David Rutley moves that the Bill be approved	Informing new legislation improving the regulation and enforcement of puppy breeding, sales, and vendor licensing, brought (active in England)
E6	CITES Res. 17.6 – Prohibiting, preventing, detecting and countering corruption, which facilitates activities conducted in violation of the Convention	New legislation combatting the systemic corruption which facilitates international wildlife trafficking and crime
E7	Testimonial – Grant Pink, Academic Liaison INTERPOL Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Committee	Directly informing new global guidelines for cooperative enforcement of wildlife crime law, and the way that international aspects of criminal justice are taught and studied across the world
E8	CITES website announcement of the new Guidelines and summary of the workshop	New global guidelines enhancing the cooperative enforcement of wildlife crime law
E9	UNODC Education for Justice Initiative – Tertiary Education webpage	International education programme changing the way international aspects of criminal justice are taught and studied across the world
E10	UNODC Education for Justice module on ‘Illicit Markets for Wildlife, Forest and Fisheries Products’ webpage and Module Series Overview page	International education programme changing the way international aspects of criminal justice are taught and studied across the world – specific module on wildlife crime