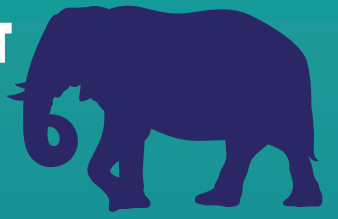


# BIDDING AGAINST SURVIVAL

## THE ROLE OF AUCTIONS IN THE U.S. IVORY MARKET



**ON AVERAGE, EVERY 15 MINUTES AN ELEPHANT IS KILLED FOR ITS IVORY AND THE U.S. IS PART OF THE PROBLEM**



### THE MARKET

The U.S. is the world's **second-largest retail market** for elephant ivory products (behind only China).

### ILLEGAL TRADE

From 2009 to 2012, officials seized nearly 1,250 illegal ivory items at the US border. However, INTERPOL estimates that only 10% of illicit goods are discovered globally, which makes it likely that **10,000** ivory items were **successfully smuggled** into the U.S. in this timeframe.

### IFAW INVESTIGATES

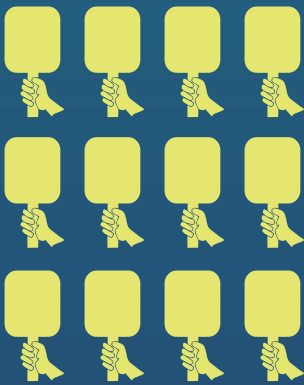


Undercover investigators personally attended a sample of 14 live auctions and/or auction previews in early 2014.

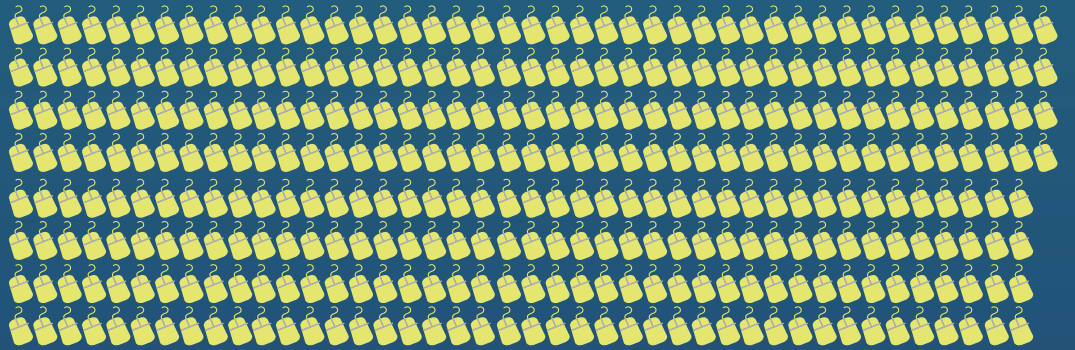


IFAW tracked online ivory auctions over nine weeks in early 2014 and analyzed data from 340 auctions, hosted by 223 auctioneers and galleries.

### IFAW FINDS



**OUT OF 14 LIVE AUCTIONS, ONLY 1 PRODUCED ANY DOCUMENTATION**



**OUT OF 340 ONLINE AUCTIONS, 0 PRODUCED DOCUMENTATION**

There is a great deal of ivory available at auctions in the U.S. (LiveAuctioneers.com alone may facilitate annual ivory sales of \$13 million). **Almost none of the businesses surveyed were able to provide any documentation on the provenance of their products.**

### TYPES OF IVORY ITEMS SOLD AT AUCTION



Auction houses do not have safeguards in place to protect elephants.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO STOP SELLING IVORY.**