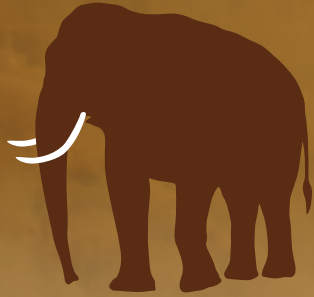


WALRUS v. ELEPHANT IVORY



ELEPHANT IVORY



WALRUS IVORY

COMMON USES:

Sold illegally as whole tusks, which are often sold several times for money before ever made into art, crafts or jewelry.

When walrus is harvested for food and other materials, artists put the ivory to use, as well. Local carvers create walrus ivory art to share their cultures and experiences, and create income for their families.

LEGALITY:

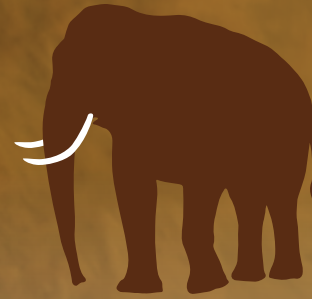
ILLEGAL

Walrus harvests and ivory art sales by Alaska Natives are federally protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. However, some states have enacted “blanket bans” in an effort to help stop elephant poaching across the world, and this has unintentionally made walrus ivory illegal in those states.

POPULATION:

Endangered; poaching continues to threaten elephant populations worldwide.

Healthy; Alaska Native people have responsibly harvested walrus and other marine mammals for centuries.



ELEPHANT IVORY

Wasteful and horrific. Only the ivory is taken, and the elephants are slaughtered with no use for the rest of the animal.

HUNTING PRACTICES:

INDUSTRY:

Although elephant and walrus ivory look similar, they can be properly identified in most situations based on some distinct features. For example, walrus ivory is normally white, but it may darken through age or exposure to environmental factors.



WALRUS IVORY

Walrus are harvested with respect and gratitude for the animal and the resources it provides. This is a centuries-old practice in relationship with the land and commitment to sustaining all it has to offer. Alaska Native communities share in the bounty, and the entire animal is put to use for food, heat, clothing and materials.

Ivory purchase promotes barbaric animal poaching practices.

Ivory is one of many parts of the walrus that is put to use. Walrus ivory art tells stories, shares Native cultures and creates economy for artists and their families. Walrus ivory art sales support the well-being of both people and the animal.

