

3 Tons of Mammoth Tusk

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ST. PETERSBURG — St. Petersburg authorities have confiscated three tons of mammoth tusks from a criminal gang that tried to smuggle them out of the country.

A local court said Thursday that it had confiscated some 64 full and 14 reconstructed tusks, but would not say when.

A small group of criminals has been involved in smuggling tusks and bones from the extinct beasts across Russia's borders since 2004, the court said in a statement.

The court said that the tusks come from a species of mammoth that once inhabited the Sakha republic. The tusks have survived thousands of years in the permafrost that covers vast part of the region. ☒

(Reuters)

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