

Project S-99/02-P

CITES PROJECT PROPOSAL

SECTION 1 - PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

- 1.1 **Title of project** Status Assessment of Wallace's Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus flosculus* in Flores, Indonesia.
- 1.2 **Project number** S-99/02-P
- 1.3 **Geographic scope** Flores, Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia
- 1.4 **Implementation** Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI)
Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation (PHPA)
IUCN/Species Survival Commission
- 1.5 **Duration of the Project.** Six months, beginning as soon as funds are available
- 1.6 **Cost of Project:** USD\$ 44,500
- 1.7 **Project summary**

Wallace's Hanging-Parrot is endemic to Flores in the Lesser Sunda Islands (Nusa Tenggara) of Indonesia. It is known only from one specimen and a few recent sightings. It is not protected by national legislation, and the status of this species in the wild and in trade is presently unknown. Under the new IUCN Red List criteria, *Loriculus flosculus* is considered to be vulnerable. The remaining undisturbed rainforest that remains on Flores is disappearing fast and is primarily confined to the eastern end of the island.

International concern regarding the status of this species led to the inclusion of *Loriculus flosculus* on the CITES Significant Trade List in 1991 because small numbers had been documented in trade despite concern that it was exceedingly rare (based on a lack of observations in the wild). Subsequently, the CITES Animals Committee recommended a moratorium on international trade of this species pending a field survey to determine its status. The species is presently the subject of a voluntary moratorium but no field survey has been undertaken. This project seeks to implement the recommendation for a status assessment of this species in the wild.

SECTION 2 - BACKGROUND AND PROJECT CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL CITES IMPLEMENTATION

2.1 Background

This species is a single-island endemic that is virtually unknown in the wild, with only a handful of sightings of the species since it was discovered (White and Bruce 1986). Flores exhibits extreme environmental gradients. Consequently there is a wide range of forest habitats, but *L. flosculus* is known only in the wetter forests, although local people apparently

claim that it also occurs in semi-deciduous forests in the western third of the island. The wet forest habitats that it is known to use are fast disappearing. Nevertheless, 70 live *Loriculus flosculus* were reported as exported by Indonesia in 1983 and 1984. However, there was no reported CITES trade between 1985 and 1990 for this species, and it was not recorded in an extensive survey of Indonesian bird markets throughout 1992. According to Edwards and Nash (1992) and S. Nash (*in litt.* to TRAFFIC International, 1993) capture quotas were set at 400 in 1987-1989; 700 in 1990; 500 in 1991. There was no quota for 1992, but a quota of 100 was set in 1993, despite zero quota recommendation from CITES Scientific Authority of Indonesia.

International concern regarding the status of *Loriculus flosculus* arose as a consequence of the scarcity of recent sightings of this species from the wild, the setting of quotas and the international trade reported to CITES. This led to the inclusion of this species on the CITES Significant Trade List in 1991. Subsequently, as a result of a detailed desk review of the status of the species (Anon. 1992), the Animals Committee of CITES recommended a moratorium on the international trade pending a field survey to accurately determine the status of the species. This was adopted as Resolution Conference 8.9. As stated above, a zero quota was set for export of this species in 1992 but not in 1993. The species is presently the subject of a voluntary export moratorium imposed by the Indonesian Government (H. Jenkins *in litt.* May 1996).

2.2 Project contribution to the overall implementation of CITES objectives

This project will ascertain whether the population of *Loriculus flosculus* is sufficiently robust to allow sustainable trade, and if so, make recommendations relating to the level of capture and management of harvesters and harvesting practices. Other recommendations relating to its conservation and safeguarding of its habitat will also be made.

SECTION 3 - NEEDS AND RESULTS

3.1 Needs

There is an urgent need to obtain data in order to ascertain whether the population of *Loriculus flosculus* is sufficiently robust to allow sustainable trade, and if so, make recommendations relating to the level of capture and management of harvesters and harvesting practices.

3.2 Results

The result of this project will depend on the outcome of the status survey: it is likely that the project will result in recommendations relating to the setting of quotas for sustainable exploitation of the species.

3.3 Assumptions to achieve results

Suitable counterparts available for training and implementation;
Indonesian authorities provide adequate assistance to any external consultants to promptly obtain permits to initiate project and an exit visa to leave Indonesia.
[Indonesian authorities will implement recommendations resulting from the study.]

SECTION 4 - OUTPUT, ACTIVITIES, WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE, BUDGET, FOLLOW UP

4.1 Output

A comprehensive report (in English and Indonesian) to the Indonesian Scientific and Management Authorities and CITES Secretariat regarding the status of *Loriculus flosculus*, with an assessment of the effects of past and present trade.

4.2 Activities

Field activities will take place on the island of Flores for a period of approximately three months, after an initial month of training. During this time, data will be collected on the distribution and status of the species in the wild, on the means of trapping, past and present trapping levels and trend in population size as judged by local people. Data on other psittacines that occur in similar habitats on Flores will also be collected.

Field activities are timed to follow immediately a joint WWF/BirdLife project on Flores that aims to assess relative biodiversity values of different types of forest. This project will be provided with vegetation maps for all of Flores (based on 1996 Satellite imagery, donated by the East-West Centre) which will facilitate planning and project execution. It is anticipated that the project staff will collaborate with the WWF/BirdLife project and that some of their team may participate. The following objectives will determine field activities:

to assess the present status of *Loriculus flosculus* on Flores and to estimate maximum and minimum population sizes;

to establish the methodology, base line data and a framework for long-term monitoring of *Loriculus flosculus* populations;

to collect biological and ecological data on the species, particularly with regard to habitat preferences, diet, breeding and ranging behaviour;

to provide training to Indonesian field staff from relevant institutions and build up the capacity to implement recommendations relating to monitoring of population;

to assess whether there is any current harvest and trade in this species;

to provide recommendations for the management and conservation of *Loriculus flosculus* populations;

to provide information on the status of other endangered bird species on Flores, in particular those that are in trade or considered to be threatened.

Methodology

The methodology will follow that used by Lambert (1992, 1997) in similar studies of psittacine species, relying primarily on Variable Circular Plot and/or transects and analysis of results with the programme DISTANCE. Due to the difficulties of detecting the hanging-parrot, methodology may be modified. Interviews and observation will provide the basis for an analysis of the impact and level of present and past trade.

4.3 Workplan and timetable

Processing necessary permits in Jakarta and Flores: 3 weeks

Fieldwork (including training): 16 weeks

Research and reporting: 4 weeks

Amending report after peer review: 1 week

Preparation of report for publication: 2 weeks

4.4 Budget

10	Project Personnel	USD
1100	Project personnel	
	Salary, trainer (assumes 2 man months; responsible for training, data analysis & report)	10,000
	Salary, Indonesian counterparts (PHPA/LIPI personnel)	3,000
	Field subsistence (all personnel under 1100)	5,000
1200	Consultants (Indonesian: responsible for data collection, with counterparts)	8,000
1300	Administrative support personnel	1,500
1500	Travel on official business (includes vehicle hire on Flores, international and domestic flights)	6,000
40	Equipment and Premises	
4100	Expendable equipment	3,000
50	Miscellaneous	
5100	Operation and maintenance of equipment (includes repair and insurance of equipment)	500
5200	Reporting cost (Includes translation, review, printing, distribution)	3,500
5300	Sundry (Miscellaneous costs including visas, permits, over-runs, etc.)	4000
	TOTAL	44,500

4.5 Cash advance requirements

All funds for fieldwork are needed in advance of project implementation. Funds for publication and distribution of the final report, and final installments of consultant fees can be held back until completion of all tasks in terms-of reference and publication of final report.

4.6 Follow up

Report should be distributed for peer review and subsequently submitted to CITES Animals Committee. PHPA and LIPI are responsible for considering recommendations made by the project and implementing those that are agreed to be important.

SECTION 5 - INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND EVALUATION

5.1 Institutional Framework

This project will be implemented by consultants approved by the CITES Scientific Authority of Indonesia. Fieldwork will involve staff of the CITES Management Authority. IUCN can provide consultants if requested, as well as training and project evaluation.

5.2 Evaluation

Evaluation of the research findings and conclusions will be made during peer review process.

SECTION 6 - MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1 **Progress reports** Project duration is considered too short to necessitate progress reports.

6.2 **Terminal reports** Final report to be completed within three months of completion of field work.

6.3 **Financial reports** Interim report due within two weeks of completion of field work. Financial report due within two weeks of publication of final report. In addition, work carried out in the field should be monitored and evaluated by IUCN.

6.4 Terms and Conditions

6.4.1 Non-expendable equipment Equipment purchased by the project is to be donated to counterpart organizations after the project with the provision that it be made available to future CITES projects.

6.4.2 Responsibility for cost overruns LIPI (CITES Scientific Authority) have requested that this section be deleted from the proposal.

Literature Consulted

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