

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

Other proposals**A. Proposal**

Transfer of *Eunymphicus cornutus cornutus* from Appendix II to Appendix I. The horned parakeet has been and will continue to be affected by trade. Its wild population is small and is found only on the main island of New Caledonia (Grande terre).

B. Proponent

France, at the request of New Caledonia

C. Supporting Statement**1. Taxonomy**

- 1.1 Class: Aves
- 1.2 Order: Psittaciformes
- 1.3 Family: Psittacidae
- 1.4 Genus, species
subspecies: *Eunymphicus cornutus cornutus*
- 1.5 Scientific synonyms:
- 1.6 Common names:
 - English: Horned parakeet
 - French: Perruche de la chaîne, Nymphique cornue
 - Spanish: Perico cornudo

2. Biological parameters**2.1 Distribution**

The horned parakeet is endemic to New Caledonia, where it is found throughout the main island (Grande terre). Reported sightings of the horned parakeet during the past few years are shown on the attached map and listed in the attached figure. This species is seldom seen, and the number of parakeets reported sighted is always small (two to three specimens).

2.2 Habitat availability

This parakeet's habitat is the dense and humid forest on the central range of the main island, areas at the edge of the forest and gallery forests. This habitat covers an area of approximately 300,000 hectares. Although distribution of this species seems to be heterogeneous, its density is very low (a maximum of four specimens per observation site).

2.3 Population status and trends

There is little information concerning the size of this population. However, the infrequency of confirmed observations indicate that the population is decreasing.

Stattersfield *et al.*, 1998, without indicating their source or survey techniques, report a population of 2000 to 10,000 specimens (1000 to 5000 mating pairs) on the main island (Grande terre). The horned parakeet has a very spotty distribution in 3 to 4 main areas where several field visits made it possible

to estimate densities at ten couples per 1000 hectares or more. It is estimated that these areas cover a fifth of the forested mountains (60,000 hectares) and that the density in the rest of the mountains is from 0 to 1 couples per 1000 hectares. As a result, the population is probably fewer than 1700 specimens for the 300,000 hectares of potential habitat. The Diadema association also feel that this parakeet is much rarer than was previously thought (J. Willis and J. Ekstrom, personal communication, 1998).

2.4 Geographic trends

This parakeet is confined to the main island of New Caledonia (Grande terre) without any other known populations.

2.5 Role of the species in its ecosystem

The kauri (*Agathis* spp.) is an important food source.

This parakeet might be a means of disseminating the seeds of several trees.

2.6 Threats

Capture for breeding and smuggling are important threats. (See the newspaper clipping from the "Les Nouvelles Calédoniennes", describing a successful breeding in captivity.) Nests are also surely the object of predation by rats.

3. Utilisation and Trade

3.1 National utilization

Trade in captured and captive-bred birds exists, but there is no information on volume.

3.2 Legal international trade

A list of recorded exports is attached as an annex (19 specimens between 1991 and 1998). The horned parakeet is apparently the object of world trade, as is indicated on the attached document taken from the Internet.

3.3 Illegal trade

No information available

3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

Trade represents a real threat to the survival of this species. Birds, primarily specimens captured in the wild, are apparently shipped from New Caledonia.

3.5 Captive breeding or artificial propagation for commercial purposes (outside country of origin)

Several breeding operations of horned parakeets seem to exist in Europe (see document obtained from the Internet).

4. Conservation and Management

4.1 Legal status

4.1.1 National

Deliberation 387 dated 26/4/1972 - Territory of New Caledonia (hunting, capture and possession are prohibited). A draft regulation is being prepared by the three provinces of New Caledonia (see attached note no. 3145 PN). It is intended to promote the regulation and management of wild species of fauna and flora, primarily through a more precise definition of conditions for capture, possession and breeding.

4.1.2 International

This species is listed in Appendix II of CITES.

4.2 Species management

4.2.1 Population monitoring

Several research agencies in New Caledonia (Cirad) have included in their programme a survey of the bird life of New Caledonia. The horned parakeet, an endemic species, will be given special attention.

4.2.2 Habitat conservation

The following types of measures aimed at the conservation of the habitat are to be taken by the provincial services:

- regulation of land clearing and the cutting of forests;
- regulation of the exploitation of forest resources;
- prohibition of exploitation of the dense and humid forest.

4.2.3 Management measures

There is no official management programme for this subspecies. A management plan exists for the subspecies *E. c. uveaensis* (Uvéa parakeet).

4.3 Control measures

4.3.1 International trade

This species is listed in Appendix II of CITES.

4.3.2 Domestic measures

Legislation is being prepared aimed at protecting wild species of fauna and flora. Awareness of the risk of extinction facing the horned parakeet is relatively recent, but conservation measures were taken earlier for the Uvéa parakeet.

5. Information on Similar Species

The two subspecies of horned parakeet are very similar. Harmonization of their protection is justified, apart from the consideration of the tenuous status of the two subspecies, by the need to prevent fraudulent exporters from trying to ship Uvéa parakeets through customs or other inspection services in the place of horned parakeets if legislation on the latter is more lenient.

6. Other Comments

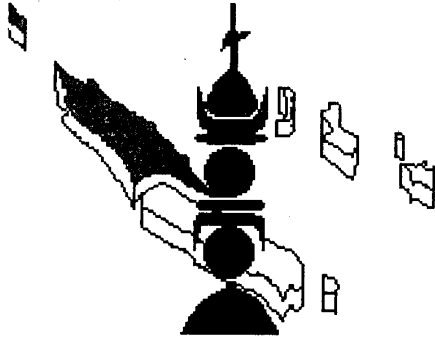
7. Additional Remarks

8. References

A. Stattersfield, M.J. Crosby, A.L. Long and D.C. Wege, 1998. Endemic Bird Areas of the World. Priorities for conservation. BirdLife Conservation Series n° 7. BirdLife International, Cambridge, UK.

Annexes

- A report on the most important measures contained in the draft regulation on the protection of fauna and flora in New Caledonia
- A map showing the places and dates of sightings of the horned parakeet



NOUVELLE - CALEDONIE

ASSEMBLEE DE LA
PROVINCE NORD

DIRECTION DU DEVELOPPEMENT
RURAL ET DE LA PECHE

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KOUMAC, le 18 AOUT 1999

RAPPORT DE PRESENTATION

PROTECTION DE LA FAUNE ET DE LA FLORE EN NOUVELLE CALEDONIE

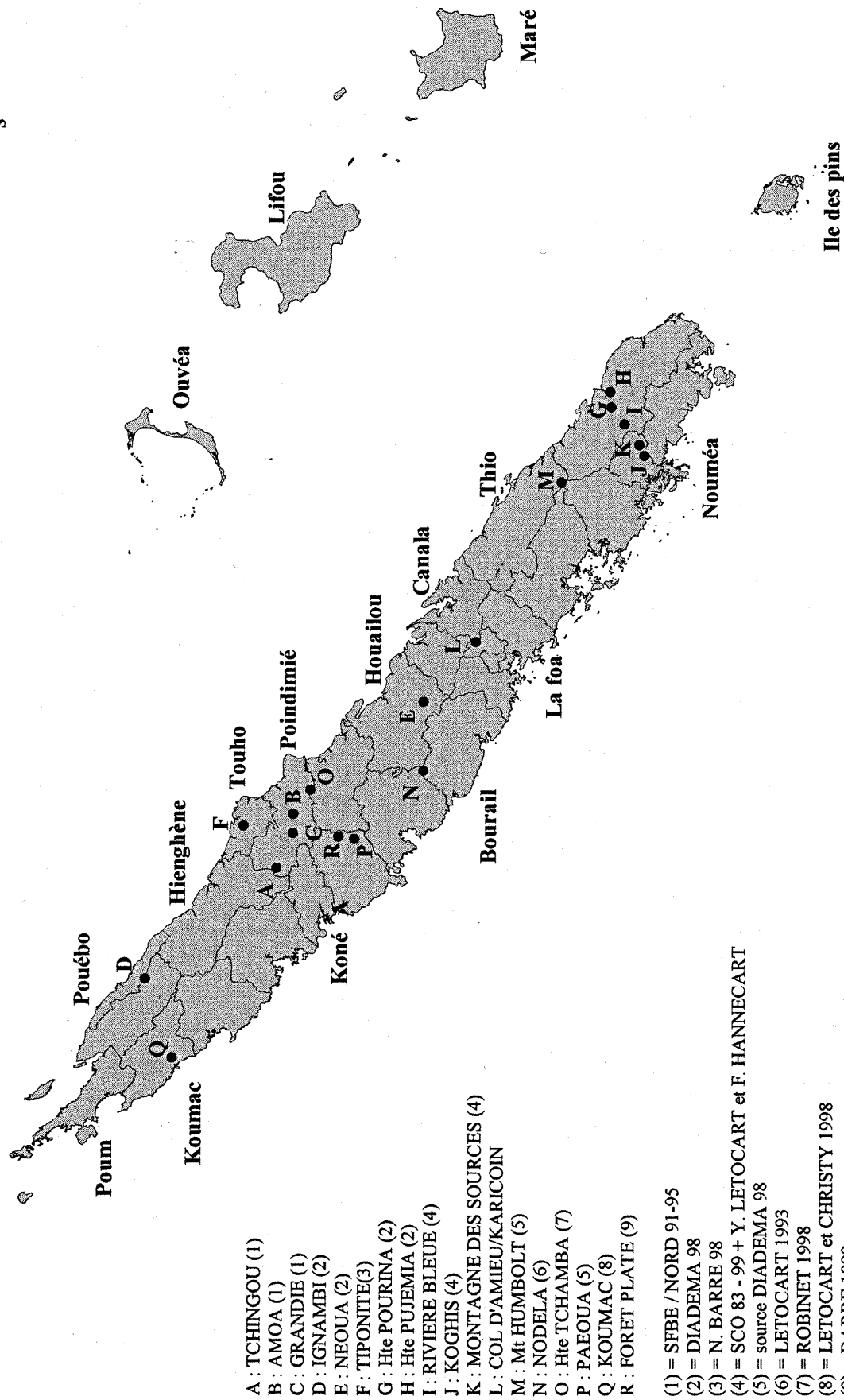
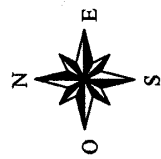
Les trois Provinces de la Nouvelle Calédonie, compétentes en matière de protection et de gestion du patrimoine naturel ont pour objectif de voter fin 1999 - début 2000 une nouvelle réglementation sur les bases suivantes :

- affirmer la valeur et le respect de ce patrimoine naturel remarquable
- compléter les textes antérieurs de 1956 et 1972 par une réglementation moderne tenant compte de l'évolution des connaissances scientifiques et des pratiques de récolte, de pêche ou de chasse
- protéger les espèces animales et végétales locales présentant une valeur culturelle, écologique, symbolique ou marchande
- renforcer le contrôle des prélèvements, captures et dégradations d'espèces endémiques sur les sites naturels ainsi que celui des exportations
- interdire, sauf autorisation spéciale, l'introduction d'espèces exogènes en Nouvelle Calédonie
- contrôler les conditions et destinations des élevages et cultures d'espèces endémiques en Nouvelle Calédonie
- conserver les biotopes porteurs d'espèces rares ou menacées

L'application de cette réglementation sera contrôlée par les agents des Provinces, de Police, des Douanes et de Gendarmerie ainsi que par des gardes champêtres et gardes particuliers agréés.

Cette volonté des trois Provinces s'appuie sur le vœu officiel du Congrès de Nouvelle Calédonie émis le 26 Janvier 1996 en faveur des espèces menacées de faune et de flore.

LIEUX D'OBSERVATION DE LA PERRUCHE DE LA CHAÎNE



FICHE CITES RECAPITULATIVE

EXPORTATIONS

FAUNE

OISEAUX

Perruche de la chaîne
(*Eunymphicus cornutus cornutus*)

ANNEXE II

N° CITES	EXPEDITEUR	DESTINATAIRE	DESIGNATION	QTE	OBSERVATIONS
5/91	Nouméa	France	1 perruche de 2 ans née en captivité	1	
3/92	Nouméa	France			
7/92	Nouméa	France	4 perruches nées en captivité 3 ^e génération	4	
14/92	Nouméa	France	2 mâles (0.35g) nés en captivité	2	
3/93	Nouméa	France	2 couples de perruches	4	Echanges d'oiseaux entre parc et éleveur.
16/94	Remplace la CITES n° 3/95				
22/95	Nouméa	France	1 couple de perruches nées en captivité : M : FFO 12.0014 F : FFO 12.0015	2	
52/95	Nouméa	France	2 couples de perruches 2 Fem : 16FFO/25FFO 2 Mâ : 18FFO/02FFO nés en captivité	4	Elevage personnel
1996			NEANT		
1997	Nouméa	Nouvelle-Zélande	Prélèvements sanguins	2	Scientifique
578/98	Nouméa	France	2 Fem : 94A00097/001159395 1 Mâ : 91A00097 1 Mâ : 106A00097 1 Fem : 144A00097 nés en captivités		Annulé, remplacé par CITES n° 1013/99 du 08.02.99