

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Twenty-ninth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-22 July 2017

Species specific matters

Aquatic species

BANGGAI CARDINALFISH
(agenda item 25)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Chair: the alternate representative of North America (Ms. Caceres);

Parties: Austria, European Union, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: FAO; SEAFDEC; Abercrombie & Fish, Animal Welfare Institute, Fondation Franz Weber, Humane Society International, Ornamental Fish International, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Sea Save Foundation, Species Survival Network, Wildlife Conservation Society and Zoological Society of London.

Mandate

Concerning agenda item 25.2:

Taking into consideration document AC29 Doc. 25.2, as well as discussions in plenary and any additional information, the working group shall:

- a) make recommendations on Indonesia's plan to conserve and manage *Pterapogon kauderni*;
- b) based on the above, provide guidance to the Secretariat on how the study requested in Decision 17.260 can best assist and support Indonesia in its efforts to conserve and manage this species; and
- c) suggest ways to improve the presentation, structure and content of the report that will be submitted to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee (AC30).

Concerning agenda item 25.1:

Taking into consideration the information presented by Indonesia in document AC29 Doc. 25.2, as well as discussions in plenary and any additional information, the working group shall provide recommendations to the Secretariat on the nature and scope of the study that will be carried out in fulfilment of Decision 17.260.

Recommendations

The working group on Banggai Cardinalfish recommends the following be agreed by the Animals Committee for transmission to Indonesia and to the Secretariat:

Concerning agenda item 25.2:

1. The Animals Committee noted that Indonesia would welcome any further suggestions or considerations on their plan to conserve and manage *Pterapogon kauderni* subsequent to the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee and requested the Secretariat facilitate the transfer of any additional comments to Indonesia for their consideration.
2. The Animals Committee welcomed the initial progress report and congratulated Indonesia on the comprehensive action plan and the valuable progress currently underway. They made the following recommendations to Indonesia for consideration for its report to the 30th meeting of the Animals Committee:
 - a) Indonesia was encouraged to share any preliminary data or results in their next report, recognizing this may consist of early results of work intended to extend beyond 2018.
 - b) Indonesia was also asked to provide more information on where additional marine protected areas are planned and how the marine protected areas are related to the selected monitoring sites. It was noted that for monitoring purposes having control sites outside protected areas may be beneficial. Indonesia indicated that an updated marine protected area map has been prepared and will be incorporated into the next report.
 - c) It was noted that further information could be provided on the objectives for undertaking actions both in areas of natural habitat and in areas where the species has been introduced, and how those actions are intended to support conservation in natural habitat.
 - d) Noting that, among other actions, restocking activities are proposed, it was suggested Indonesia provide the updated reintroduction protocols it will be using to support the restocking activities and avoid genetic mixing. It was further noted that the IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines may be useful for Indonesia to consider in this regard.
 - e) Indonesia was encouraged to think about safeguards for populations that are outside of the 22 selected monitoring sites.
 - f) Regarding the setting of harvest quotas, it was noted this species can be susceptible to high mortality in transit and disease such that these impacts should be taken into account when establishing quotas
3. Throughout the discussion, the Animals Committee noted the high level of community involvement foreseen in the action plan and also encouraged the further involvements of Indonesian scientists and specialists in the work and preparing publications. The Animals Committee also noted the offers of support to Indonesia from Animal Welfare Institute, Fondation Franz Weber and encouraged those Parties and organizations wishing to support these activities to engage bilaterally with Indonesia.

Concerning agenda item 25.1:

1. Regarding the study requested in Decision 17.260, the Animals Committee noted there has been a shift in international trade to greater trade in specimens from aquaculture facilities outside of Indonesia and it would be beneficial for the study to examine what risks this trade may pose to the wild species including the impact on incentives to conserve and sustainably use the species. It was also noted that translocation may be used as a production method and could be taken into account in the study.
2. Indonesia and others additionally noted that trade data for inter-island, regional and international trade, as well as trade from captive-bred sources may be scarce, although there is data available on trade into the United States of America and the European Union.
3. Indonesia indicated that a better understanding of the location, size and preference of the market for Banggai Cardinalfish would support efforts to sustainably manage Banggai Cardinalfish. The Committee

further noted the challenge of negative perceptions around wild caught specimens and noted that a strong national conservation and management plan in place for the species would provide a good basis to raise awareness for sustainable use of the resource and improve market access.

4. Based on these observations, the Animals Committee recommended the Secretariat, in consultation with Indonesia, to commission a study to assess the impact of international trade on the conservation status of *Pterapogon kauderni*, and recommended that this study should analyse the utilization and trade of the species including specimens sourced from the wild and captive breeding within and outside of Indonesia, and further assess the potential conservation risks and benefits from international trade in specimens of Banggai Cardinalfish from these sources.