

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Deletion of Notomys spp. from Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

The Commonwealth of Australia.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Mammalia
12. Order: Rodentia
13. Family: Muridae
14. Species: Notomys mitchelli, N. alexis,
N. fuscus, N. cervinus, N. macrotis,
N. longicaudatus, N. amplus,
N. mordax, N. aquilo
15. Common Names: English: hopping mice
French: souris sauteuse d'Australie
Spanish: ratones saltadores
16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: Notomys macrotis, N. longicaudatus, N. amplus,
N. mordax, are thought to be extinct.

N. mitchelli is distributed throughout mallee areas of southern Australia from the Western Australian coast to the Big Desert of Victoria.

N. alexis is found throughout much of the arid zone of central and western Australia.

N. fuscus and N. cervinus are found in inland Australia from Ooldea in South Australia North to Lake Eyre and southwestern Queensland.

N. aquilo is known from only three northern coastal or near coastal localities.

22. Population: Notomys mitchelli, N. alexis, and N. cervinus are common; N. fuscus and N. aquilo are rare.
23. Habitat: N. aquilo occurs on stabilised coastal sand dunes; N. alexis and N. fuscus live on large sand dunes; while N. cervinus inhabits the gibber plains, N. mitchelli inhabits mallee areas.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Notomys spp. breed readily when in captivity under suitable conditions.

Sixty specimens of N. alexis are currently held by the following zoos: Adelaide, Healesville, Perth, Taronga Park.

Notomys spp. particularly N. alexis and N. mitchelli are commonly used in research and teaching institutions in Victoria, where a total of 256 specimens are held in captivity.

New South Wales institutions hold approximately 200 N. alexis, 50 N. mitchelli and 10 N. fuscus.

32. Legal International Trade: Exportation of native Australian wildlife is regulated by the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1982. No specimen of Notomys spp. has been exported since the Act came into force on 1 May 1984.

33. Illegal Trade: None.

4. Protection Status

41. National: Notomys fuscus, N. macrotis, N. longicaudatus, N. amplus, N. aquilo and N. mordax are listed on the CONCOM national list of endangered species.

Notomys spp are protected in all States under the following legislation:

New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

Western Australian Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.

South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

Victorian Wildlife Act 1975.

Queensland Fauna Conservation Act 1974.

Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1977.

42. International: The genus Notomys is currently listed in Appendix II of CITES because of the overall similarity of appearance of the species and the variable conservation status of the genus.

43. Additional Protection Needs: None.

5. Information on Similar Species

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

The genus Notomys is endemic to Australia.

7. Additional Remarks

The species are not subject to trade except for Notomys alexis, where trade is confined to captive bred specimens.

8. References

Burbidge, A.A. & R.W.G. Jenkins (eds), 1984. Endangered Vertebrates of Australia and its Island Territories. Report of the Working Group on Endangered Fauna of the Standing Committee of the Council of Nature Conservation Ministers. ANPWS, Canberra.

Olney, J.P.S. (ed), 1984. Census of Rare Animals in Captivity 1982. 1983 International Zoo Year Book Vol. 23. Zool. Soc., London.

Strahan, R., 1983. The Australian Museum Complete Book of Australian Mammals. Angus & Robertson, Sydney.