

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Dusicyon gymnocercus in Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

The Eastern Republic of Uruguay.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

- 11. Class: Mammalia
- 12. Order: Carnivora
- 13. Family: Canidae
- 14. Species: Dusicyon gymnocercus
- 15. Common Names: English: pampas fox
French: renard d'Azara
Spanish: Zorro gris de las pampas
Zorro de campo, Aguarachay
- 16. Code Numbers: 112001007003

2. Biological Data

- 21. Distribution: South-eastern Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina and Uruguay (Figure 1).
- 22. Population: Undetermined.
- 23. Habitat: Pastures, fields, rocky areas. Its habitat is altered for cattle production and agriculture.

3. Trade Data

- 31. National Utilization: In Argentina as well as in Uruguay, it is one of the most commonly used species in the fur industry after Myocastor coypus. In Uruguay, commercial hunting is presently banned; however, control of populations which interfere with human activities is possible and the skins obtained go to the fur market, basically through auctions. In Brazil, the species is totally protected and, therefore, no trade exists. In Paraguay, although the legal situation is similar to that in Brazil, a large trade in skins of this species has been noticed in the last years.
- 32. Legal International Trade: As the species is not listed in the CITES appendices, figures are not known.

33. Illegal Trade: An extensive regional trade exists; most of it is illegal. In some years, it is estimated that more than 30,000 skins have entered into Uruguay from Paraguay.
34. Potential Trade Threats:
341. Live Specimens: Almost nonexistent.
342. Parts and Derivatives: This is one of the most commonly used species in the fur industry, because there are no international controls. Due to its similarity with Dusicyon griseus, an important part of the trade in that species is declared as trade in D. gymnocercus.

4. Protection Status

41. National: In Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, it is legally protected, though hunting control permits may be issued in the last of these countries. In Argentina, the level of protection varies from one province to the other, though in general terms commercial hunting is authorized.
42. International: Not listed in CITES.
43. Additional Protection Needs: As a result of the above mentioned points it is very important to carry out a study to determine a method for rational management of this resource. Inclusion in Appendix II has to be considered; this will give an indication of the level of exploitation and be useful to avoid that skins of Dusicyon griseus (Appendix II) be declared as belonging to Dusicyon gymnocercus to avoid controls.

In accordance with information from TRAFFIC (South America) a rather high proportion of skins declared and exported from Argentina as Dusicyon gymnocercus are from the species D. griseus.

5. Information on Similar Species

The Argentina grey fox (Dusicyon griseus) is the smallest. The following table gives comparative information:

	<u>Dusicyon gymnocercus</u>	<u>Dusicyon griseus</u>
Total length (male)	100 cm	75 cm
(female)	94 cm	
Tail length	35/40 cm	35 cm
Weight (male)	4,6 Kg	3 Kg
(female)	4,2 Kg	

The furskin of D. griseus is of a similar coloration as that of D. gymnocercus, but it is less marked.

As appears from these data on size and colour, it is very difficult to identify a skin of a species from one to another, a difficulty which increases when the skins are part of a garment.

As D. griseus is listed in Appendix II, its international trade has to be registered. The main exporting country is the Argentine Republic, and in accordance with statistic compiled by WTMU, the following numbers were exported:

1982	171,868 skins
1983	137,012 skins
1984	62,062 skins

Preparations (plates, etc.), as well as other types of registration (kilos, pieces, etc.) have to be added and, therefore, it is impossible to determine the number of animals included. Cajal (1986) gives, in his work "El Recurso Fauna en Argentina", figures on the export of tanned and raw skins between 1976 and 1984. Under the column "foxes" the following numbers are indicated:

1976	993,791
1977	695,991
1978	986,525
1979	1,251,647
1980	279,663
1981	295,076
1982	423,981
1983	235,339
1984	66,259

Taking into account that four fox species exploited in the fur industry are found in Argentina (Dusicyon griseus, D. gymnocercus, D. culpaeus and Cerdocyon thous) and in comparing the figures from WTMU records presented first with those from Cajal, it may be concluded that a rather high percentage of the fox skins exported belong to species other than D. griseus.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

The fact that three of the four countries which are within the range of Dusicyon gymnocercus have included it in their lists of protected species is a sign that the majority are in favour of its inclusion in Appendix II.

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

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-  *Dusicyon gymnocercus gymnocercus*
-  *Dusicyon gymnocercus antiquus*
-  *Dusicyon gymnocercus lordi*

- 1 = "Provincia"
- 2 = "San Luis"
- 3 = "Cordoba"
- 4 = "Pata amarilla"
- 5 = "Entre Rios"

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