

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Mycteria cinerea in Appendix I.

B. PROPOSENT

Malaysia.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Aves
12. Order: Ciconiiformes, suborder Ciconiae
13. Family: Ciconiidae, tribe Mycteriini
14. Species: Mycteria cinerea (Raffles, 1822)
15. Common Names: English: milky stork, milky wood stork
French:
Spanish:
16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: Western Malaysia, South of Kedah and Penang, southern Democratic Kampuchea, southernmost Viet Nam, South-East Sumatra, North-West Java, Bali and Sulawesi. Breeding occurs on Sumatra, Java and Sulawesi.
22. Population: Until recently, the total world population was considered not to exceed 1,000 specimens (Anon, 1982). New data, however, indicate a much larger world population.

Malaysia: The only known population is 100-115 individuals at Kuala Gula on the coast of Perak. The group, consisting only of adults, is not breeding any more, due to disturbance. Nesting requires tall trees on dry land behind the mangrove; all such forest has been cleared at Kuala Gula. At present, the group uses clear pools within mature mangrove swamps (Parish, in litt., 1985; Davison, in litt., 1985).

Viet Nam: The species was common before the war, but is now very rare, only single individuals are reported from the coastal mangrove forests, of which 50% directly were destroyed by herbicides in the war (Anon, 1982).

Democratic Kampuchea: There are no population data available to the proponent, but military activities have doubtlessly caused a decline (King, 1977).

Sumatra: During a recent ICBP survey, 3,000 milky storks were observed in southern Sumatra (about 5-10% being youngsters). Large coastal areas have not yet been censused, and possibly the total Sumatran population can be between 5,000-10,000 animals (Anon, 1985; Verheugt, in litt., 1985)

Java: Only one breeding colony on Java: Pulau Rambut, a small island off the Javan coast. c. 200 animals were counted in 1984, of which 33 were youngsters (Verheugt, in litt., 1985). Only 20+ breeding pairs were counted in July 1985 (Parish, in litt., 1985). On Pulau Dua, another island off the Javan coast, the colony of birds observed by Kahl in the 1960's (Kahl, 1972) is no longer breeding on the island. An expedition from July to October 1984, organized by the University of East Anglia (U.K.) surveyed the coasts of Malaysia and 350 to 400 km. of the coastline of Java. Their estimate for the milky stork population on Java is a total of 300-350 birds (Anon, 1984). Several hundred individuals migrate from Sumatra to Java during October-March (Parish, in litt., 1985).

Other Indonesian Islands: A semi-resident population of c.25 individuals seems to occur on Sulawesi, single individuals have been reported from Bali and on the southern coast of Java (Escott and Holmes, 1980; Verheugt, in litt., 1985).

23. Habitat: The birds require undisturbed large mangrove/swamp forest trees for nesting.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Hunting for food occurs on Java and may have occurred in Malaysia. Large numbers of birds, including milky storks, are caught with mist nets along the northwestern coast of Java. Some collection of eggs by local people in southern Sumatra occurs.
32. Legal International Trade: Unknown to the proponent.
33. Illegal Trade: An illegal shipment of 12 specimens from Malaysia was seized in the Netherlands in 1986.
34. Potential Trade Threats: Collectors and bird fanciers doubtlessly value this species.

4. Protection Status

41. National: Fully protected by law in Indonesia and in Malaysia. No information about the protection status in Viet Nam and in Democratic Kampuchea.
42. International: None
43. Additional Protection Needs:

5. Information on Similar Species

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

Malaysia: The species is spread over a 100 km. stretch of coast and cannot be protected sufficiently.

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

Anonymous, 1984. ICBP World Working Group on Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills. Report Nr. 2.

Anonymous, 1985. Endangered birds thriving in Sumatra. IUCN Bulletin 16(1-3): 12.

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