

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Paroaria capitata and Paroaria coronata in Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

The Argentine Republic.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Aves
12. Ordre: Passeriformes
13. Family: Emberizidae
14. Species: a) Paroaria coronata (Muller, 1776)
b) Paroaria capitata capitata, (D'Orbigny and Fresnaye, 1837)
15. Common Names: English: a) red-crested cardinal
b) yellow-billed cardinal
French:
Spanish: a) Cardenal, cardenal común, cardenal copete rojo, cardenal copetón
b) Español: Cardenilla, cardenal sin, copete, cardenal chico, cardenal cabecirrojo o cabeza roja

16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution:

- a) In Argentina from the northern border to La Pampa, Mendoza and Buenos Aires. In addition in Uruguay, Bolivia, Paraguay and southern Brazil.
- b) In Argentina from the North, except Misiones, to Tucumán, Santiago del Estero, Córdoba and Buenos Aires. Also in the Paraguayan Chaco, South-East Bolivia and Matto Grosso in Brazil.

22. Population: There is no accurate information, but it seems that both species are very rare in the southern part of their range and very abundant in the Chaco region.

Paroaria coronata is, however, common in the Selva de Montiel in the north of the Entre Ríos Province. In Córdoba, both species are scarce, a rule that applies also to the Buenos Aires populations.

23. Habitat: Xerophil woods of the Chaco type with many thorny plant species. Paroaria capitata seems more associated with water courses, either running (rivers and streams) or still (lagoons and marshes).

A large proportion of their range has been modified by excessive extraction of hardwood, tanning and fuel wood, vast regions having been replaced by cotton cultures and, in marshes, by rice cultures. Extensive husbandry has considerably disturbed the habitat, the pasture pressure having altered the original vegetation structure. Intentional fires are frequently used to open new areas for pastures.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Both species are very much sought after as ornamental or singing birds and there is a continuous trade in live animals. Young specimens are captured using singing adults or bird-lime.
32. Legal International Trade: No information available, but it exists.
33. Illegal Trade: Continuously existing. In 1978, 9 specimens of Paroaria capitata entered into the United States of America from Bolivia, and 1,450 specimens of Paroaria coronata (1,375 from Argentina, 8 from Bolivia, 50 from Paraguay and 17 from Sweden). (Nilsson, 1981).
34. Potential Trade Threats:
341. Live Specimens: Although neither of the two species seems threatened with extinction, in view of their progressive depletion in some localities of Argentina, added to the great numbers which are exported and traded in markets such as those of Nueva Pompeya (Buenos Aires) and Villa Domínico (Avellaneda), strict control of their trade and export is recommended.

To illustrate traffic in the species within Argentina in 1977, 12 Paroaria capitata were seized in Córdoba and 119 Paroaria coronata from 1977 to 1985. In Tucumán 425 Paroaria coronata were seized in 1978 and 133 from 1984 to 1986 and, finally, in Chaco we know of the seizure of 6,000 specimens of Paroaria coronata in 1981 and 100 specimens in 1985. In Buenos Aires a total of 138 Paroaria coronata were confiscated in 1983, 1984, 1985 and 1986. In Salta, in 1984, 10 specimens of the same species have been confiscated. In Santa Fe, 254 Paroaria coronata and 72 Paroaria capitata have been confiscated from May 1981 to July 1986, and there is additional information on prosecution made between 1983 and 1986 which resulted in the confiscation of 329 Paroaria coronata and 102 Paroaria capitata.

4. Protection Status

41. National: Currently, the Resolución No. 62 of the Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería de la Nación is in force and totally prohibits the trade in live animals of the native fauna of Argentina and, therefore, protects both species.

In Jujuy, capture of both cardinals is prohibited by Ley 3014/73 and Decreto Reglamentario 842/14 of the Ley de Caza No. 1723; in Corrientes, it is the same under Ley No. 1863/54 and Decreto Reglamentario No. 2249/55; in Córdoba, the Decreto-Ley No. 4046-C-58 which totally prohibits the trade in birds is in force; in Salta, they are protected by Ley Provincial No. 5513/79; in la Pampa, Paroaria coronata capture is prohibited by Ley No. 502/69 and its Decreto Reglamentario 147/70 and Disposición No. 1/86; and in Santa Fe, netting of, and trade in both species are prohibited by Ley No. 48380, Ley No. 22421 and Decreto-Ley No. 04218, Article 9. In Buenos Aires, they are protected by Decreto No. 110/81 and Article 287 of the Código Rural (Decreto-Ley 10081/83).

42. International: There are no regulations in force.

43. Additional Protection Needs: It is urgently needed to make serious population studies to determine to what extent the bulk trade in these birds (in particular in juveniles) is detrimentally affecting the population dynamics.

5. Information on Similar Species

The numbers of the yellow cardinals (Gubernatrix cristata) are seriously decreasing. See the other proposal.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

None.

7. Additional Remarks

None.

8. References

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