

AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of Pitta guajana in Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

The Kingdom of Thailand.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Aves
12. Order: Passeriformes
13. Family: Pittidae
14. Species: Pitta guajana
15. Common Names: English: banded pitta, blue-tailed pitta
French:
Spanish:
Thai: Nok Taew Laew Lye, Nok Ten Hua Sam Taew.
16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: Peninsular Thailand, West Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, Borneo and Bali.
22. Population: Still fairly common and widespread throughout its world range, but believed to be declining due to destruction of its rainforest habitat. In Thailand, the species is known from 6 of the 11 terrestrial, inland national parks and wildlife sanctuaries in its range. At least 83% of the area of forest habitat in the Thai range of this species has already been destroyed (Conservation Data Center, Mahidol University).
23. Habitat: The species is mainly restricted to the interior of primary rainforests and older, moist secondary growth. In Thailand and Malaysia, the species is primarily lowland, though it apparently ascends the hill slopes to a maximum of 600 m (Round, 1988). In Borneo, the species is primarily found in submontane rainforest, between 600 to 1200 m (Smythies, 1981).

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Possession of the species is permitted in Thai law, though sale and capture are illegal.
32. Legal International Trade:

33. Illegal Trade: The species occurs frequently in the illegal bird trade in Bangkok and elsewhere in Thailand. Most birds are believed to be dispatched by rail into Malaysia. Pitta guajana is numerically the third most frequently traded pitta in Thailand, its numbers being exceeded only by Pitta moluccensis and P. sordida. Some villagers are able to imitate the calls of this species and able to lure it into mist nets (Round, unpubl.)

34. Potential Trade Threats: Continued, unregulated international trade in this species poses a major threat to populations in the relatively restricted area of remaining habitat in southern Thailand.

4. Protection Status

The species was added to CITES Appendix III in 1987. The species is protected by domestic Thai legislation (WARPA).

5. Information on Similar Species

The species is variable, with the races inhabiting Peninsular Thailand (P. g. ripleyi) and Malaysia (P. g. irena) being darker, more richly coloured, with more flame-orange and deep blue in the plumage than are the races inhabiting Java and Bali (P. g. affinis and P. g. gujana) and Borneo (P. g. schwaneri), all of which are paler, yellower.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

Round, P.D. 1988. Resident forest birds in Thailand: their status and conservation. Monograph No. 2 ICBP, Cambridge.

Round, P.D. Unpublished memorandum to ICBP following the rediscovery of Gurney's Pitta, July 1986.

Smythies, B.E. 1981. The Birds of Borneo. Revised, third edition. The Sabah Society and the Malayan Nature Society, Kota Kinabalu and Kuala Lumpur.