

## AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

### Other Proposals

#### A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of *Phymaturus flagellifer* in Appendix II.

#### B. PROPONENT

The Republic of Chile.

#### C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

##### 1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Reptilia
12. Order: Squamata
13. Family: Tropiduridae
14. Species: *Phymaturus flagellifer* Bell, 1843
15. Common Names:  
English:  
French:  
Spanish: Matuasto (Sensu Núñez & Jaksic, 1992)
16. Code Numbers:

##### 2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: This species is distributed from the region of Atacama (Tercera Región) to Tierra del Fuego Island; the taxonomy of the group is currently under study. It lives always at an altitude above 1,500 m, and is an altiplano species, although Núñez (1992) documented its occurrence in the locality of Los Andes (Chile) at an altitude of 900 m. In Argentina it is a relatively common species. It is characterized by its peculiar flattened body form and a collar with sharp pointed scales. The other particularity which characterizes the species is its diet strictly of plants, the reason for its intestinal and dental morphological adaptation (Tamayo, 1991).
22. Population: There are no population estimates. However, in specific places, the populations have totally disappeared (H. Núñez, pers. obs.) such as in Farellones in the Cordillera de Santiago. This is the result of heavy capture by exporters.
23. Habitat: Occurs in dry areas of the Cordillera, associated with high rocks between which it finds shelter. It establishes its territory which it defends vigorously against individuals of the same species.

##### 3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: Not used, either for handicraft or as a pet animal.

32. Legal International Trade: There is no export. Until 1992, specimens were heavily captured for export. The export records include 160 specimens in 1988, 45 in 1989, 589 in 1992. Between 1985 and March 1993, 1,723,177 reptiles were exported. Due to the fact that it is difficult to identify the live specimens exported from Chile, it is possible that exports of this species were more significant than reported.

33. Illegal Trade: At the present time, there is no evidence of trade in this or another species.

34. Potential Trade Threats

341. Live Specimens: No trade or capture of this species is authorized; however, it should be protected because of its low reproduction rate (only two young per season) and the recovery of the population may be slow. Thus, twenty years of protection may not be sufficient to return the population of this species to its previous level.

342. Parts and Derivatives: There are no indications of past use of parts and derivatives.

4. Protection Status

41. National: The Hunting Law (Ley no. 4.601) includes a regulation (Decreto Supremo no. 133) which prohibits the keeping, capture, and transport of and trade in parts or live animals of any Chilean vertebrate.

42. International:

43. Additional Protection Needs:

5. Information on Similar Species

In Argentina, there are similar species but they are not protected.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

The protection of the species is proposed, although it would be desirable that the Argentine Government protect its populations too, in particular those which occur in the Cordillera de Uspallata.

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

Núñez, H. and F. Jaksic. 1992. Lista comentada de los reptiles terrestres de Chile continental. Boletín del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural (Chile). 43:63-91

Núñez, H. 1992. Geographical Data of Chilean Lizards and Snakes from the Collections in the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural Santiago, Chile. Smithsonian Herpetological Information Service. 91:1-29.

Tamayo, M. 1991. Morfología comparada del intestino de *Callopistes palluma* y de *Phumaturus flagellifer* (Reptilia, Lacertilia). Tesis de Magister en Ciencias Biológicas. Universidad de Chile. Facultad de Medicina. Departamento de Morfología Experimental.