

## CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

## Other proposals

## A. PROPOSAL

Transfer of *Eunymphicus cornutus uvaeensis* from Appendix II to Appendix I

## B. PROPONENT

Germany

## C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

## 1. Taxonomy

1.1	Class:	Aves
1.2	Order:	Psittaciformes
1.3	Family:	Psittacidae
1.4	Genus:	Eunymphicus
	Species:	<i>E. cornutus</i>
	Subspecies:	<i>E. c. uvaeensis</i>
1.5	Scientific synonyms:	<i>Cyanoramphus cornutus</i>
1.6	Common names:	English:Ouvea Horned Parakeet, Ouvea Parakeet French:Perruche d'Ouvéa German:Uvaeasittich
1.7	Code numbers:	A-218.003.022.001 (All subspecies of <i>E. cornutus</i> )

## 2. Biological Parameters

## 2.1. Distribution:

*Eunymphicus cornutus uvaeensis* is an endemic subspecies of the Horned Parakeet in Uvea (New Caledonia). It occurs mainly in one remaining bigger forest section on the island of the size of 15-25 km<sup>2</sup>. According to a more recent study the subspecies is found in the northern as well as the southern part of the island, where it had been announced extinct (COLLAR et al. 1994). It is found in primary forests of 10-15 m height.

## 2.2 Habitat Availability

A comparison to aerial pictures taken in 1954 shows that big chunks of the original habitat have been lost. Moreover, the remaining forest areas have become isolated and fragmented (ROBINET et al. 1995). 22% of the island was still covered with forests in 1974. Today only 18% are left (= 300.000 ha) (BREGULLA 1993).

## 2.3 Population Status

It was thought originally that 70-90 specimen survived in the remaining forests (HAHN 1993). LAMBERT et al. (1993) also state that the total population numbers less than 200 specimens. Recent studies reveal a much higher population size. The current estimate is between 617 and 814 specimen (ROBINET 1995).

## 2.4 Population Trends

As previous population estimates used different methods population trends are not clear (vgl. ROBINET et al. 1995). It can be assumed that the subspecies has declined drastically in the last decades due to habitat loss. HAHN (1993) was able to register a population decline since 1978 during several visits to the island.

## 2.5 Geographic Trends

## 2.6 Role of the Species in its Ecosystem

## **2.7 Threats**

In-breeding could be a problem because of the small remaining population (COLLAR et al. 1994). The subspecies might also be threatened in the future by the possible introduction of *Rattus rattus* and *R. norvegicus* which do not occur on the island yet. Illegal trade threatens the subspecies of the Horned Parakeet too (ROBINET et al. 1995). The continuing loss of habitat, in particular because of ore mining and agriculture constitute further threats (Bregulla 1993).

Threat status according to Collar et al. (1994): Vulnerable: D1 (*Eunymphicus cornutus*)

The subspecies meets the following criteria in accordance with the "Criteria for Admendment of Appendices I and II, Annex 1": A i, iii, v, B iii, iv.

## **3. Utilization and Trade**

### **3.1 National Utilization**

The subspecies is traditionally caught and kept as a pet on the island.

### **3.2 Legal International Trade**

6 young birds were exported to Germany in 1980. 2 more birds were exported to Germany in 1992 and a further four in 1993 (BREGULLA 1993). The trade in captive bred animals can not be analysed because no reference is made in regards to subspecies.

### **3.3 Illegal Trade**

Illegal trade is known to take place. It is estimated that more than 50 specimen have been exported illegally mainly into Europe in the period between September 1992 and Februar 1993 (ROBINET et al. 1995).

### **3.4 Actual or Potential Trade Impacts**

### **3.5 Captive Breeding for Commercial Purposes (Outside Country of Origin)**

## **4. Conservation and Management**

### **4.1 Legal Status**

#### **4.1.1 National**

Protected under decision 387 of the Congress of the territory of New Caledonia of April 26 , 1972. It is forbidden to hunt, capture and keep the species.

#### **4.1.2 International**

Listed in CITES Appendix II.

### **4.2 Species Management**

#### **4.2.1 Population Monitoring**

Current population estimate, population monitoring and radio telemetry are conducted by "The Association for the Conservation of the Ouvea-Parakeet" (ROBINET 1995).

#### **4.2.2 Habitat Conservation**

#### **4.2.3 Management Measures**

Attempts to release some birds on the neighbouring island Lifu in 1925 and 1963 failed (ROBINET et al. 1995). The conservation project 'The Association for the Conservation of the Ouvea-Parakeet' was founded in 1992 under the supervision of the Foundation Avifauna Protecta and the Zoologische Gesellschaft für Arten- und Populationsschutz ( Zoological Society for the Protection of Species and Populations) (ROBINET 1995, ROBINET et al. 1995).

Amongst other things, nesting boxes were put up for the species and preventive measures were taken so that rats would not colonise the island. Public Awareness campaigns were conducted with the local communities. Laws protecting the species are still not sufficiently enforced (ROBINET et al. 1995). The

'Association pour le Sauvegarde de la Nature Neo-Caledonienne' is currently looking into the possibility of captive breeding enclosures (LAMBERT et al. 1993).

#### **4.3 Control Measures**

##### **4.3.1 International trade**

Controls have increased on the international airports since 1992 (ROBINET et al. 1995).

##### **4.3.2 Domestic Measures**

Controls have increased on the national airports since 1992 (ROBINET et al. 1995).

#### **5. Information on Similar Species**

#### **6. Other Comments**

The CITES Management Authority of France and the Secretary General of New Caledonia have been contacted in October 1996. In response the French Management Authority has approved the proposal (annex 1).

#### **7. References**

- BREGULLA, H.L. (1993): Die Papageien Neukaledoniens. Gefied. Welt 117: 310-313, 349-351, 381-384, 412-416.
- COLLAR, N.J., CROSBY, M.J. & STATTERSFIELD, A.J. (1994): Birds to watch 2: The world list of threatened birds. Cambridge, U.K.: BirdLife Conservation Series 4
- FORSHAW, J.M. (1989): Parrots of the world. Third (revised) edition. London: Blandford Press.
- HAHN, P. (1993): Anmerkungen zur Situation des Hornsittichs *Eunymphicus cornutus* auf Neukaledonien und Ouvéa. Papageien 6: 189-192.
- LAMBERT, F., WIRTH, R., SEAL, U.S., THOMSEN, J.B. & ELLIS-JOSEPH, S. (1993): Parrots: an action plan for their conservation 1993-1998. Cambridge, U.K.: BirdLife International and International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (draft 2).
- ROBINET, O., BEUGNET, F., DULIEU, D. & CHARDONNET, P. (1995): The Ouvea Horned Parakeet, *Eunymphicus cornutus* *uvaensis*: state of knowledge and conservation status. *Oryx* 29: 143-150.
- ROBINET, O. (1995): Das Schutzprojekt für den Ouvea-Hornsittich. *Mitt. Zool. Ges. f. Arten- u. Populationss.* 11 (2): 12-14.





Annex

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Eing.: 1 2. NOV. 1996

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1. *Blanke*  
2. *Ma*

Objet : Propositions de la République Fédérale Allemande d'amendements des Annexes de la CITES, en vue de la X Conférence des Parties (Harare/Zimbabwe, juin 1997).

*Dan*  
*Annexes*  
*n. 1*  
*et. 14/12/11*

Cher Collègue,

Je vous prie de trouver ci-joint les avis de l'Autorité scientifique française relatifs à des propositions d'amendements des Annexes de la CITES, émanant de votre établissement, en vue de la prochaine Conférence des Parties.

Avec l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs

Dr. Geneviève HUMBERT  
Responsable des conventions internationales



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AVIS SCIENTIFIQUE  
de l'Autorité scientifique française pour la CITES

Convention concernée : CITES

Objet : Transfert de *Cacatua sulphurea citrinocristata* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Amazona agilis* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Vini peruviana* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Aceros waldeni* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Euwymphicus cornutus waeensis* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Amazona viridigenalis* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Vini ultramarina* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Transfert de *Vini kuhlii* de l'Annexe II à l'Annexe I  
Inscription de *Tangara fastuosa* à l'Annexe II.

Avis : favorables sur toutes les propositions.

Expert consulté : C. ERARD (Laboratoire de Zoologie Mammifères & Oiseaux).

Date : 08/11/1996.