

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

Other proposals

A. **Proposal**

Inclusion of Red-billed Leiothrix (*Leiothrix lutea*) in APPENDIX II in accordance with Article II 2 (a) & Conference Resolution 9.24.

B. **Proponents**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands

C. **Supporting Statement**

1. **Taxonomy**

- 1.1 Class: Aves
- 1.2 Order: Passeriformes
- 1.3 Family: Timaliidae
- 1.4 Genus, species, subspecies: *Leiothrix lutea* (Scopoli 1786)
- 1.5 Scientific synonyms:
- 1.6 Common names: Red-billed Leiothrix (Pekin Robin, Pekin Nightingale, Hill Tit)
Dutch: Japane Nachtegaal
French: Leiothrix jaune
German: Sonnenvogel
- 1.7 Code numbers:

2. **Biological Parameters**

2.1 Distribution

The Red-billed Leiothrix is found in: Bhutan; south Tibet, Gansu, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan, Hubei, Hunan, Anhui, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Zhejiang, Fujian, Guangxi, and Guangdong provinces of China; India; Myanmar; Nepal; and northern Vietnam. There is an introduced population in Hawaii (US).

2.2 Habitat availability

This bird may be found in the undergrowth of coniferous, deciduous and mixed forests, in secondary growth and in bamboo, grass or scrub up to 2,700 m. Habitat destruction in China is reported as very serious.

2.3 Population status

This species is described as a common resident bird in China. (Wang 1996)

2.4 Population trends

The population is reported to be declining in China (Wang 1996)

2.5 Geographic trends

Heavy habitat destruction in China has reduced the chances of seeing this species in parts of its range. (Wang 1996)

2.6 Role of the species in its ecosystem

2.7 Threats

The Red-billed Leiothrix is one of the most heavily traded bird species, with little information on the impact of such high levels of trade. It also suffers from a high degree of habitat destruction. (Wang 1996)

3. Utilisation and Trade

3.1 National utilisation

This species is a popular cage bird in China and its market price is between several to tens of dollars, and is increasing owing to its decreasing population. (Wang 1996)

3.2 Legal international trade

Records of 36,310 individuals in trade from 1986 to 1992 have been reported (Mulliken 1995). MAFF data shows that from 1988 to 1992 18,779 were imported into the UK alone.

A TRAFFIC Southeast Asia survey noted 2,100 individuals in 27 trade locations in Singapore. Between 17th October 1991 and 31st January 1992 9,700 individuals from China, 2,400 from Hong Kong, and 5,470 from Malaysia are recorded as passing through Indonesia's Soekarno-Hatta International airport. (Nash 1993)

Hong Kong exports of Red-billed Leiothrix were as follows:

1990	1991	1992
37,015	25,030	5,120

Chinese exports are now routed through Changsha or Tianjin rather than Guangzhou, via Hong Kong for markets in Japan and Europe. (Wang 1996)

3.3 Illegal trade

3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

3.5 Captive breeding (outside country of origin)

The Red-billed Leiothrix has been bred by birdkeepers. ISIS records 226 individuals in collections of which 18% were captive born. Nash recommends that captive breeding at commercial levels be encouraged.

4. Conservation and Management

4.1 Legal status

4.1.1 National

This species is protected in Gaoligong Shan reserve of Yunnan province in China.

4.1.2 International

4.2 Species management

4.2.1 Population monitoring

4.2.2 Habitat conservation

4.2.3 Management measures

4.3 Control measures

4.3.1 International trade

The Red-billed Leiothrix is proposed for listing on Annex B of the draft EU CITES Regulation.

4.3.2 Domestic measures

5. Information on Similar Species

The proposal for the Silver-eared Mesia should be considered in parallel with this.

6. Other Comments

7. Additional remarks

8. References

8.1 Cheng Tso-hsin (1987), *A Synopsis of the Avifauna of China*, Science Press, Beijing.

8.2 Cheng Tso-hsin, Long Zeye, and Zheng Baolai (1987) *Fauna Sinica Aves Vol. 11: Passeriformes Muscicapidae II Timaliinae*, Science Press, Beijing.

- 8.3 Cheng Guang-mei, (1996) *Red Lists of Endangered Species in China - Aves*, in press.
- 8.4 International Species Information System (1993) *ISIS Bird Extract*, ISIS, Apple Valley MN USA
- 8.5 Lindley A (1996) *Analysis of MAFF Import Data 1988-1992*, pers. corres.
- 8.6 Mulliken T A , (1995) *Responses to Questions Posed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*, TRAFFIC International, Cambridge UK
- 8.7 Nash SV, (1993) *Sold for a Song ... The Trade in Southeast Asian Non-CITES Birds*, TRAFFIC International, Cambridge UK
- 8.8 Ripley S D II, (1982), *A Synopsis of the Birds of India and Pakistan*, Smithsonian Institute, Washington US
- 8.9 Rutgers A , (1964), *The Handbook of Foreign Birds Their Care In Cage and Aviary*, Blandford Press, London
- 8.10 Wang, Sung, 1996, pers corres.

MINISTRY OF FORESTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
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Bezuïdenhoutseweg 73
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Jakarta, 7 October 1996.
No. 1031/W/BKFF/1/196

Re : Consultation on CITES Proposal

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for your letter dated 26 June 1996 Ref. No.N96Vm10 concerning the above mentioned subject.

After its consultation with the Scientific Authority and BirdLife International-Indonesia Program, the CITES Management Authority of Indonesia is pleased to summarize the information that we have on the status of the four species : Pycnonotus zeylanicus, Padda oryzivora, Leiothrix argentauris and Gracula religiosa.

To our knowledge no detailed surveys have yet been conducted on the status of any of these species in Indonesia, therefore, our information is anecdotal. However, we believe it is sufficient to make decision on CITES status.

1. Cucak Rawa (Straw-headed bulbul) Pycnonotus zeylanicus

The distribution of this species covers South Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, West Indonesia (Sumatera, Kalimantan and Java). The habitat include forest and forest edge, usually in wet area, near rivers and swamps.

In Indonesia, this species is now believed locally to be extinct on Java, in Sumatera it is now rare, and on Kalimantan there are just a few places where it can still be seen.

This is a very popular cage bird in Indonesia. Now that it is rare here, wild birds caught in Thailand are apparently imported to Indonesia. Captive (commercial) breeding is not yet established. Therefore, Indonesia supports the proposal to include this species on CITES Appendix II.

2. Pancawarna (Silver-eared Mesia) Leiothrix argentauris

This species is distributed widely from Himalaya, South China, all of South-East Asia and Malaya Peninsula to Sumatera Indonesia. It inhabits dense thickets and scrub in montane area between 700 m and 2200 m.

Our information is that this species is still quite common in montane areas of Sumatera. This species is very common in bird markets on Java, and we believe most are imported from other countries. In my view the information is not sufficient to justify including this species on CITES Appendix. If it was, then the same argument could be made for including many more (e.g. of Garrulax). I would rather see a status assessment made of this species before they are proposed for CITES.

3. Beo (Hill Myna) Gracula religiosa

The distribution of this species covers wide areas which include India to China, S.E Asia, Palawan (Philippines), Malaya Peninsula, and Indonesia (Sumatera, Kalimantan, Java and Nusa Tenggara). It inhabits lowland forest.

The status in Indonesia is that it is now very rare and local in Java, but apparently still quite common in the extreme lowlands on Kalimantan and Sumatera. In Nusa Tenggara it is quite rare.

It is believed that the population is declining because of capture from the wild and degradation of lowland forest.

The sub-species of G.r. robusta from the island of Nias is in danger and has been protected.

Because of the declining population, Indonesia supports its inclusion in CITES Appendix II.

4. Gelatik Jawa (Java Sparrow) Padda oryzivora

This species is endemic to Java, Kangean and Bali, but there are introduced populations in Sumatera, some countries in S.E. Asia and Australia. It formerly inhabits towns gardens and cultivated fields.

It's still wide spread in Java, but the population has undergone a massive decline and is now rare throughout its natural range. This is believed to be a combination of capture for the trade, and pesticide/herbicides. The introduced populations in Sumatera and Kalimantan are also thought to be declining.

Considering its worrying status on Java, Indonesia supports the proposal to include this species on CITES Appendix II. However, it would be advisable to consult the views of other countries that have introduced populations of the species.

While still seeking other supporting information on these species, Indonesia supports the proposal and invites the Netherlands to go ahead with its proposal, taking into account comments from other range states.

I hope this short information can be of some use.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dwiatmo Siswomartono, MSc.
Director,
Nature Reserve Management and
Fauna Flora Conservation.

cc. : 1. CITES Scientific Authority of Indonesia
2. Dr. Henk Jenkins, Animal Committee.

The CITES Scientific Authority of China
Endangered Species Scientific Commission

19 Zhongguancun Lu, Haidian
Beijing 100080

Fax Cover Sheet

Date: August 13, 1996 Time: 9:56 AM
To: Dr. Ir. van Asperen Phone: 070-3793911
Fax: 070-3478228
Phone: 070-379 39 11
From: Dr. WANG Sung Phone: 010-62562717
Fax: 010-62562717
RE: Consultation on CITES-proposals
CC: The CITES Management Authority of China

Number of pages including cover sheet: 3

Message

China is one of the countries of origin for the bird species: Gracula religiosa, the Hill Myna, Leiothrix argenteauris, the Silver-eared Mesia, Leiothrix lutea, the Red-billed Leiothrix and Liocichla omeiensis, the Omei Shan Liocichla. China can support these four proposals to be enlisted in appendix II.

China would wish to be a proponent for these proposals jointly with the Netherlands.

The comments on the draft-proposals and additional data to improve the proposals are on the following pages. The trade data will be presented by China CITES Management Authority.

THE DIRECTOR FOR CHINA CITES SCIENTIFIC AUTHORITY

Dr. WANG Sung

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Final
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CITES LISTING PROPOSALS

A. Inclusion of Hill Myna (*Gracula religiosa*) in APPENDIX II in accordance with Article II 2(s) and Conference Resolution 9.24.

A.a Biological Parameters

The subspecies *G. r. religiosa* of Hill Myna is distributed in Yunnan, Guangxi and Hainan provinces of China.

It is resident bird in China.

A.b Utilization

It is common in China. Usually caged-young-bird is trained to mimic people's sound.

Its market price can be tens to hundreds of dollars. Some of which comes from Vietnam.

No captive breeding is reported.

B. Inclusion of Omei Shan Liocichla (*Liocichla omeiensis*) in APPENDIX II in accordance with Article II 2(a) and Conference Resolution 9.24.

B.a Biological Parameters

The Omei Shan Liocichla is known only from Erlang Shan, Ya'an, Omei Shan and Obian in Sichuan province.

It is found in forest from 1,800-2,150 m. It breeds among bushes with scattered trees at the edge of forest in hill valleys. No information about its habitat destruction is available.

Its population is rare.

B.b Utilization

Usually trade bird is *Liocichla phoenicea*. The prices is over ten dollars. Sometimes *Liocichla omeiensis* is also sold.

No captive breeding is reported.

C. Inclusion of Silver-eared Mesia (*Leiothrix argenteauris*) in APPENDIX II in accordance with Article II 2 (a) and Conference Resolution 9.24.

C.a Biological Parameters

The Silver-eared Mesia is distributed in Tibet, Yunnan, Guizhou and Guangxi provinces of China.

It is found in Plains, in forests and scrub, in bamboo about 1,000 m.

Its population is not as big as the Red-billed Leiothrix.

As a resident bird in China, no information about its habitat destruction is available.

C.b Utilization

The Silver-eared Leiothrix is common as cage-bird.

Its market price is over ten dollars, higher than the Red-billed Leiothrix because of its fewer population.

Usually adult individuals are captured for captivity.

No captive breeding is reported.

C.c Conservation

The Silver-eared Leiothrix is protected in Gaoligong Shan reserve of Yunnan province.

D Inclusion of Red-billed Leiothrix (*Leiothrix lutea*) in APPENDIX II in accordance with Article II 2 (a) and Conference Resolution 9.24.

D.a Biological Parameters

The Red-billed Leiothrix is distributed in south Tibet, Gansu, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan, Hubei, Hunan, Anhui, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Zhejiang, Fujian, Guangxi and Guangdong provinces.

It is found in undergrowth of coniferous, deciduous, mixed forests, bamboo groves about 900-3,300 m.

Habitat destruction is very serious.

As a kind of resident bird, it is fairly common in China.

D.b Utilization

The Red-billed Leiothrix is a popular cage-bird with the Chinese on account of its beautiful plumage and bill.

Usually adult individuals are captured for captivity.

Its market price varies between several to tens of dollars and is increasing owing to its decreasing population.

Originally, most individuals are exported to overseas from Changsha or Tianjin instead of Guangzhou right now. The birds are re-exported to Japan and Europe through Hong Kong.

Due to heavy habitat destruction, this bird is not easy to be seen in some parts of its distribution.

There are some report about its captive breeding.

D.c Conservation

The Red-billed Leiothrix is protected in Gaoligong Shan reserve of Yunnan province.

References

a. Cheng Tso-hsin, (1987) *A Synopsis of the Avifauna of China*, Science Press, Beijing, p528, 704-707

b. Cheng Tso-hsin, Long Zeyu and Zheng Baolai, (1987) *Fauna Sinica Aves Vol. 11: Passeriformes Muscicapidae II. Timaliinae*, Science Press, Beijing, p150-162

c. Cheng Guang-mei, (1996) *Red Lists of Endangered Species in China-Aves*, in press Fauna Sinica Editing Committee

d. Zhejiang' (1989) *Zhejiang*, Zhejiang Science and Technology Press

中国野鸟图鉴 *Fauna Sinica III*

云南鸟类分布名录

浙江动物志编辑委员会, 1989, 浙江动物志(鸟类), 浙江科学技术出版社

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Hanoi 16 July 1996

Dear Dr. Van Asperen,

Thank you very much for sending the draft proposal for inclusion of the Hill Myna, silve- eared Mesia and Red- billed Leiothrix in App.II of CITES.

After attentive examine we are agreed your proposal. We should comment something.

L. lutea has restrict area in North part of Vietnam only. Moreover population of this species is lower than two first species. Therefore it needs pay more attention to this species.

Thank you for confidence to our institute and I hope to collaborate and join with your organization on conservation and management of birds and nature in general./.

Director IEBR
CITES scientific authority



Prof.Dr. Cao Van Sung