



Wild Bird Conservation Act Summary of Effects

The Wild Bird Conservation Act (Act), a significant step in international conservation efforts to protect exotic birds subject to trade, became effective on October 23, 1992.

The Act focuses on bird species listed on the Appendices to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). If you import birds, you must now meet requirements imposed by this new law in addition to existing requirements imposed by CITES, the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, or other regulations that may apply.

It is important to note that the Act does not cover exotic bird products or all birds. The following birds are exempt from the provisions of the Act:

- birds native to the 50 States and the District of Columbia;
- domestic poultry, sport-hunted birds, museum specimens, and dead scientific specimens; and
- birds in the families Phasianidae (pheasants and quail), Numididae (guineafowl), Cracidae (guans and curassows), Meleagrididae (turkeys), Megapodidae (megapodes), Anatidae (ducks, swans and geese), Struthionidae (ostrich), Rheidae (rheas), Dromaiinae (emus), and Gruidae (cranes).

Importation Allowed Under the Act Permit Required

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) may issue permits to allow importation of otherwise prohibited species if the Service determines the importation does not undermine the species' survival. A permit must be issued by the Service prior to

importation. Permits may be issued only for the following purposes:

- scientific research;
- zoological breeding or display;
- pet importation when owners are returning to the United States after at least a year's absence; and cooperative breeding programs, if the programs have been approved by the Service.

In addition, the Service allows birds listed under CITES that were exported from the United States by their owners to return to the United States. These importations are allowed provided the birds were exported legally with a CITES permit and a copy of that permit is presented when the birds are to be returned to the United States. Also, owners must accompany these birds when they are returned to the United States.

Permit Not Required

The Act provides for certain otherwise prohibited importations without a permit provided the species is on the list approved by the Service, the Service has approved the captive breeding facility, or the Service has approved a scientifically based management plan for the species. The Service has not yet approved any breeding facilities or management plans to allow for imports without a permit. An approved list of captive bred species follows. In the future, the Service will publish an approved list for the following categories:

- certain species from approved foreign captive breeding facilities, and
- certain wild-caught species from countries with approved management plans.



Applying for a Permit to Import Birds

Permit applications and any other information you may need are available from the Division of Management Authority.

Approved Captive-Bred Species

Order Falconiiformes:

Buteo buteo (European buzzard)

Order Columbiformes:

Columba livia (Rock dove)

Order Psittaciformes:

Agapornis personata (Masked lovebird)

Agapornis roseicollis (Peach-faced lovebird)

Aratinga jandaya (Jendaya conure)

Barnardius barnardi (Mallee ringneck parrot)

Bolborhynchus lineola (Lineolated parakeet-blue form)

Bolborhynchus lineola (Lineolated parakeet-yellow form)

Bolborhynchus lineola (Lineolated parakeet-white form)

Cyanoramphus auriceps (Yellow-fronted parakeet)

Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae (Red-fronted parakeet)

Forpus coelestis (Pacific parrotlet-lutino form)

Forpus coelestis (Pacific parrotlet-yellow form)

Forpus coelestis (Pacific parrotlet-blue form)

Forpus coelestis (Pacific parrotlet-cinnamon form)

Melopsittacus undulatus (Budgerigar)

Neophema bourkii (Bourke's parrot)

Neophema chrysostoma (Blue-winged parrot)

Neophema elegans (Elegant parrot)

*Neophema pulchella** (Turquoise parrot)

*Neophema splendida** (Scarlet-chested parrot)

Nymphicus hollandicus (Cockatiel)

Platycercus adelaide (Adelaide rosella)

Platycercus adscitus (Pale-headed rosella)

Platycercus elegans (Crimson rosella)

Platycercus eximius (Eastern rosella)

Platycercus icterotis (Western (stanley) rosella)

Platycercus venustus (Northern rosella)

Polytelis alexandrae (Princess parrot)

Polytelis anthopeplus (Regent parrot)

Polytelis swainsonii (Superb parrot)

*Psephotus chrysopterygius** (Golden-shouldered parakeet)

Psephotus haematonotus (Red-rumped parakeet)

Psephotus varius (Mulga parakeet)

Psittacula eupatria (Alexandrine parakeet-blue form)

Psittacula eupatria (Alexandrine parakeet-lutino form)

Psittacula krameri manillensis (Indian ringneck parakeet)

Purpureicephalus spurius (Red-capped parrot)

Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus (Scaly-breasted lorikeet)

Order Passeriformes:

Aegintha temporalis (Red-browed finch)

Aidemosyne modesta (Cherry finch)

Chloebia gouldiae (Gouldian finch)

Emblema guttata (Diamond sparrow)

Emblema picta (Painted finch)

Lonchura castaneothorax (Chestnut-breasted finch)

Lonchura domestica (Society (Bengalese) finch)

Lonchura pectoralis (Pictorella finch)

Neochmia ruficauda (Star finch)

Poephila acuticauda (Long-tailed grassfinch)

Poephila bichenovii (Double-barred finch)

Poephila cincta (Parson finch)

Poephila guttata (Zebra finch)

Poephila personata (Masked finch)

Serinus canaria (common canary)

* **Note:** Permits are still required for these species under Part 17 (species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act).

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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