



NDF WORKSHOP
WG 6 – Birds
CASE STUDY 1 SUMMARY
Psittacus erithacus
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AFRICAN GREY PARROT *PSITTACUS ERITHACUS* CASE STUDY

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The African grey parrot occurs in 23 African countries and is exported from many of them in large numbers. Trade in the species has been of concern on several occasions and has been subject to three Significant Trade Reviews with the most recent being presented at the 22nd meeting of the Animals Committee in 2006. Concern over the trade has also resulted in other actions in various range States: species surveys being conducted; Notifications to the Parties concerning trade have been issued; and moratoriums have been imposed. To add to this concern, there is illegal trade that also has the impact of reducing wild population numbers. All of these factors make this species a fascinating case study for the Non-Detriment Finding process.

The most recent Significant Trade Review (AC 22 Doc 10.2 Annex 1) highlighted the challenges of making Non-Detriment Findings by indicating the extent to which the basis upon which quotas and NDFs were made was uncertain. Therefore, this case study will concentrate on illustrating the technical challenges that should be overcome before an appropriate administrative process can be proposed. These challenges arise from the difficulty of estimating population numbers, then assessing what impact offtake at various levels will have, and setting all of this against a background where illegal trapping will also have an (unknown) impact on wild populations. Furthermore, pre-export mortality of 15-60% (average 30-40) has been reported from five countries.

Determining that any harvest has no detrimental impact on a wild population of grey parrots requires the following:

- the population maintains its geographic distribution;
- numbers of breeding adults remain stable; and
- there are sufficient young birds being recruited into the adult population.