

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of *Larus leucophthalmus* in Appendix I

B. PROPONENT

Federal Republic of Germany

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

1.1 Aves

1.2 Charadriiformes

1.3 Laridae

1.4 *Larus leucophthalmus* Temminck, 1825

1.5 Common names: White-eyed gull (English)  
Weißaugenmöwe (German)  
Goeland à collier blanc (French)  
Beloglasnaja Čajka (Russian)

2. Biological data

2.1 Distribution: Breeding colonies lie on the islands of the Red Sea, also in the Gulf of Suez, the Strait of Tiran and in the Gulf of Aqaba; the migration range embraces the entire Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden as well as adjoining wetlands, where the bird frequents waterbodies. The species was rarely found to stay in more distant countries during migration.

2.2 Population: Hardly studied, but it is e.g. known that only about 50 pairs breed in the Egyptian part of the Strait of Tiran.

2.3 Habitat: Breeds in isolated tropical and sub-tropical coastal waters (especially on islands) with rocky or sandy underground.

2.4 Migrations: Outside the breeding season, the whole population migrates, the northern birds covering greater distances than the southern birds.

3. Threat data

- 3.1 Direct threat to the population: There are at least some breeding areas where the eggs are collected for culinary purposes.
- 3.2 Habitat destruction: Coastal beaches where the species breeds are affected by heavy shipping traffic and oil pollution.
- 3.3 Indirect threat: No data.
- 3.4 Threat especially connected with migration: No data available.

4. Protection status and needs

- 4.1 National protection status: Not known (probably not protected).
- 4.2 International protection status: -
- 4.3 Additional protection needs: To protect breeding colonies both against the destruction of habitats and against the taking of eggs.

5. Range states

Egypt, Ethiopia, Israel, Jemen, Jemen Dem. (?), Saudi Arabia, Sudan (accidental only: Greece, Jordan, Kenya, Mozambique, Oman, South Africa).

6. Comments from range states

None

7. Additional remarks

It is necessary to make an inventory of the population (distribution and size of breeding colonies, determination of growth rates).

8. References

Cramp, S., K.E.L. Simmons et al. (1983): The Birds of the Western Palearctic. Vol. III - Waders to Gulls. - Oxford (RSPB & Univ. Press) - see pages 701-705