

PROPOSAL FOR INCLUSION OF SPECIES ON THE APPENDICES OF THE CONVENTION
ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

A. PROPOSAL: Inclusion of Burhinus senegalensis in Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT: Government of the Federal Republic of Germany

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxon

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1.1. Classis | Aves |
| 1.2. Ordo | Charadriiformes |
| 1.3. Familia | Burhinidae |
| 1.4. Genus/Species/Subspecies | <u>Burhinus senegalensis</u> (Swainson)
1837. ssp. <u>senegalensis</u> and
<u>inornatus</u> |
| 1.5. Common names | |
| English: | Senegal Thick-knee |
| Spanish: | Alcaravan Senegales |
| French: | Oedicneme du Senegal |

2. Biological data

2.1. Distribution

Two subspecies have been described, B. s. senegalensis from Senegal and southern Mauritania through the southern Sahel zone and coastal areas of West Africa to Chad and the Central African Republic, and B. s. inornatus from Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia to northern Uganda and northwestern Kenya, but these are poorly defined.

2.2. Population

Two populations are recognized, both probably containing a mixture of sedentary and migratory birds.

- West Africa (senegalensis): Unknown (over 10,000).
- Northeast and East Africa (inornatus): Unknown (over 10,000).

Almost no information is available on numbers. The species is reported to be common almost throughout its range (Urban et al. 1986). The only substantial numbers recorded during the African Waterfowl Census of January 1993 were 161 in Kenya and 68 in Senegal (Taylor 1993). No information is available on population trends.

2.3. Habitat

Inhabits sandy country near water, especially sandbanks in rivers with some vegetation cover suitable for roosting during the day. Also occurs on lake shores, on irrigated land and in mangroves. Mainly nocturnal, usually foraging along the water's edge, but occasionally up to one km or more from water (Urban et al. 1986).

2.4. Migrations

Some populations are sedentary, while others are intra-African rains migrants, moving northwards in the Sahelian zone during the wet season. In Nigeria, the bird makes local movements corresponding with changes in water level, but is not a true migrant. In other parts of its range it does migrate: in northeastern Zaire, it arrives in November after the rains, and leaves again in April or May; in Senegal and Gambia, it is present from December to March, while in Cote d'Ivoire it is present from November to April.

3. **Threat data**

3.1. Direct threats to the population

No information.

3.2. Habitat destruction

The widespread loss and degradation of freshwater wetlands are doubtless having a negative impact on populations in some parts of the species' range, but details are lacking.

3.3. Indirect threats

The widespread application of pesticides and other agricultural chemicals in and around wetlands may be having a harmful effect on some populations.

3.4. Threats connected especially with migrations

None known.

3.5. National and international utilization

No information.

4. **Protection status and needs**

4.1. National protection status

Fully protected under national legislation in Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland and Tanzania; partially protected as a game species in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo; partially protected in Rwanda.

4.2. International protection status

None known.

4.3. Additional protection needs

The populations in question are considered to have a favourable conservation status, and are not in need of any additional special protection measures at the present time.

5. **Range States**

See attached table.

6. **Comments from Range States**

7. **Additional remarks**

8. **References**

Cramp, S. & Simmons, K.E.L. (eds). (1983). Handbook of the Birds of Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Vol.3: Waders to Gulls. Oxford University Press. Oxford, London and New York.

Hayman, P., Marchant, J. & Prater, T. (1986). Shorebirds: An identification guide to the waders of the world. Croom Helm, London & Sydney.

Taylor, V. (1993). African Waterfowl Census 1993. IWRB, Slimbridge, U.K.

Urban, E.K., Fry, C.H. & Keith, S. (1986). The Birds of Africa. Volume II. Academic Press, London & Orlando.

Taxon: <i>Burhinus senegalensis</i> (ssp <i>senegalensis</i> & <i>inornatus</i>)		
Population		
(a) W Africa (ssp <i>senegalensis</i>)		
(b) NE & E Africa (ssp <i>inornatus</i>)		
State	Pop.	Status
Benin	a	?
Burkina Faso	a	?
Cameroon	a	?
Central African Republic	a	?
"	b	?
Chad	a	?
"	b	?
Cote d'Ivoire	a	?
Egypt	b	?
Ethiopia	b	?
Gambia	a	?
Ghana	a	?
Guinea	a	?
Guinea-Bissau	a	?
Kenya	b	?
Malawi	a	?
Niger	a	?
Nigeria	a	?
Senegal	a	?
Sierra Leone	a	?
Sudan	b	?
Togo	a	?
Uganda	b	?
Zaire	b	?

Key to Status	
S/s Breeding summer visitor	R/r Resident
W/w Winter visitor	V Vagrant
P/p Passage migrant	? Status uncertain
Upper case = primary status Lower case = secondary status	