

A. PROPOSAL

Inclusion of *Pelecanus crispus* in Annex I.

B. PROPONENT

European Economic Community

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class: Aves

1.2 Order: Pelicaniformes

1.3 Family: Pelicanidae

1.4 Genus: *Pelecanus crispus* (Bruch, 1832)

1.5 Common names: Dalmatian Pelican (English)
Pélican frisé (French)

2. Biological Data

- 2.1 Distribution: the Dalmatian pelican nests in colonies in some 19 scattered localities from south-east Europe to central-eastern Asia: Yugoslavia, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, USSR, Turkey, Iran, China. Formerly it was more common in the west as a nesting bird; it used supposedly to nest in west Europe and disappeared recently from Albania and Hungary. It winters from south-east Europe to South Asia (Pakistan, India, Bangladesh).
- 2.2 Population: the world population is thought to be from 530 to 1,380 nesting pairs. USSR: perhaps half of the world nesting population (260-690 pairs); besides that, 4,000 to 5,000 non-nesting birds summer in the Volga delta (Dr. Gavrilov, F. Roux and A. Tamisier). Greece, 1984-1985: 140 nesting pairs and more than 100 non-nesting birds. Romania, 1971: 60 nesting pairs; Bulgaria, 1960: 70 to 90; Yugoslavia, 1983: 15. Turkey, 1970, 1971: 100. Iran: 5-10; Mongolia: about 40. The world population has decreased substantially since last century (many colonies have disappeared: Romania had 13,300 nesting birds in 1950).

- 2.3 Habitat: inland waters or brackish estuarine waters, preferably warm, shallow and rich in fish. Nests far from sources of disturbance, often on islands in river systems.
- 2.4 Migration: the northern and eastern populations are all migratory and winter in southern Asia. Part of the south-western populations are migratory and part resident, the breeding and wintering areas being in the Balkans, in Turkey, Iraq and Iran. Some individuals go as far as Egypt in winter.

3. Threat data

- 3.1 Direct persecution: the species is very vulnerable to taking; it used to be greatly persecuted and still is locally by fishermen or hunters.
- 3.2 Habitat and food: several breeding summering or wintering sites have been lost through drainage; pollution and over-fishing can reduce food supplies locally.
- 3.3 Contamination: the influence of pesticides is possible, but not proven. It has been seen in a related species (*Pelecanus occidentalis*).
- 3.4 Disturbance: the Dalmatian pelican is very sensitive to disturbance, which can come from tourism (especially in the west of the distribution range), fishermen (everywhere) and, currently, from the war between Iraq and Iran.
- 3.5 Threats related to migration: the species is vulnerable to the above-mentioned factors everywhere it travels; consequently, migration of the species outside protected areas always entails a high threat to its conservation.

4. Protection status and needs

- 4.1 In the range States: several colonies are protected by a status of nature reserve and hunting is generally prohibited. Floating rafts for breeding have been constructed in Turkey and the USSR. In the European Economic Community, the species is the subject of special conservation measures (Annex I of the Council Directive on the conservation of wild birds) and specific actions include monitoring, guarding and deviation of a road.
- 4.2 International protection: this species is already in Annex II of the present Convention.
- 4.3 Additional protection needs: more complete protection of the frequented areas, prohibition of persecution and disturbance, and a more rigorous application of existing protection laws are necessary, particularly in south-west Asia. Monitoring must include the non-nesting birds, and research on the dynamics of populations, which takes into account movements in all the range States, is needed. Contamination by pesticides should be monitored. Development of some breeding sites would be useful, including possibly the construction of rafts, the creation of islands, measures against disturbance, to enable a larger number of birds to be bred.

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5. Range States

Afghanistan, Albania, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, China, European Economic Community (Greece), Egypt, India, Iran, Iraq, Mongolia, Pakistan, Romania, Turkey, USSR, Yugoslavia.

6. Comments from range States

None

7. Additional remarks

This species is listed in the "ICBP Bird Red Data Book" (classified as "vulnerable") and in the "Red Data Book of Endangered Species of the USSR".

8. References

Cheng, Tso-Hsin (1976): *Distributional List of Chinese Birds*, Peking.

Cramp, S. and K.E.L. Simmons (1980): *The Birds of Western Palearctic, Vol II - Hawks to Bustards*, Oxford (RSPB and Univ. Press).

King, W.B. (1981): *Endangered Birds of the World*, Washington (Symthe. Inst. and ICBP).

Parslow, J.L.F. and M.J. Everett (1981): *Birds in need of special protection in Europe - Strasbourg (Nature and Envir. Series No. 24)*.

USSR Ministry of Agriculture (1978): *Red Data Book of USSR*, Moscow (Lesnaya Prom.).