

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

A. **PROPOSAL:** Inclusion of the total population of the Rufous-rumped Seedeater *Sporophila hypochroma* on Appendix II.

B. **PROPONENT:** Government of Paraguay.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT:

1. Taxon

1.1	Class:	Aves
1.2	Order:	Passeriformes
1.3	Family:	Emberizidae
1.4	Species:	<i>Sporophila hypochroma</i>
1.5	Common Names:	Gray-and-chestnut Seedeater, Guyra juru tu'í pytâ, Capuchino castaño, Rufous-rumped Seedeater

2. Biological Data

2.1 Distribution

Sporophila hypochroma has an apparently disjunct range in north-east Argentina (Buenos Aires, Chaco, Formosa, Corrientes and Entre Ríos), eastern Paraguay (including the humid Chaco), north and east Bolivia (Beni, La Paz and Santa Cruz) and south-west Brazil (Mato Grosso do Sul and Goiás).

2.2 Population

Little is known about this species' status. Its breeding area and migratory behaviour are poorly known, and even though the species is considered to be in decline, there is lack of data regarding its population size.

2.3 Habitat

It has been reported to occur near marshes and in seasonally flooded grasslands, pastures and savanna-like areas to 1100 m, though breeding appears to be restricted to low, seasonally wet grasslands.

2.4 Migrations

Southern breeding populations migrate north to winter in Brazil and possibly in Concepción, Paraguay. Populations in Bolivia are apparently sedentary, though there are no data from late autumn and early winter.

3 Threat data

This species qualifies as Near Threatened in the IUCN Red List (close to meeting Criteria A2c, A3c), owing to extensive habitat loss and capture for the cage bird trade.

3.1 Direct Threats

Trapping for the bird trade has caused serious declines of populations in Argentina.

3.2 Habitat destruction

Widespread destruction and modification of grasslands within the species' range for mechanised agriculture, intensive cattle-grazing and afforestation with species of *Pinus* and *Eucalyptus* suggest that the species is declining rapidly.

3.2 Indirect threats

Pesticides and other agrochemicals are carried by drainage and run-off directly into marshes.

3.4 Threats connected especially with migrations

The species is threatened by habitat loss throughout its range. Consequently, it depends on conservation action in its breeding and wintering areas and migration stopover sites.

3.5 National and International utilisation

The species is used as cage bird.

4. Protection status and needs

4.1 National protection status

The species occurs in the Iberá Nature Reserve and Mburucuyá National Park in Argentina, and Emas and Pantanal Matogrossense national parks in Brazil.

4.2 International protection status

The species is included on the CMS Appendix I, but it is not listed on the CITES appendices.

4.3 Additional Protection needs

This species would benefit from conservation actions coordinated across the four range states. Specific actions include the protection of key breeding, wintering and migration stopover sites, harmonious environmental policies between the four countries (such as the elimination of incentives to afforest natural grasslands), and cooperation in the enforcement of legislation prohibiting the trapping and trade of birds.

5. Range States

ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, Brazil and PARAGUAY.

6. Comments from Range States

7. Additional remarks

8. References

BirdLife International (2004) *Threatened Birds of the World*. CD-ROM. Barcelona & Cambridge, UK: Lynx Edicions and BirdLife International.

BirdLife International (2005) Species factsheet: *Sporophila hypochroma*. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 16/06/2005.

Collar N. J., Gonzaga, L.P., Krabbe, N., Madroño Nieto, A., Naranjo, L.G., Parker, T.A. III y Wege, D.C. (1992) *Threatened Birds of the Americas. The ICBP/IUCN data book*. 3rd edition, Part 2. Cambridge, UK: ICBP.