

# Cape Parrot

## *Poicephalus robustus*

### Action Plan



**Final report from  
the stakeholder  
workshop held in  
November 2002,  
Pietermaritzburg,  
South Africa.**



**Edited by: Warburton, L., Mpindi, S.,  
Howells, B., Pienaar, K., Patterson, C.,  
Mattison, H., Whittington-Jones, C., Hughes,  
S., Fossey, A., O'Grady, J., Koekemoer, J.,  
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# **Cape Parrot Action Plan Cape Parrot Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop**

**13 – 15 November 2002, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.**

Workshop Report

Sponsored by:

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Sponsored by SASOL and BirdLife South Africa.

Cape Parrot Working Group Co-ordinator: Louise Warburton.  
Cape Parrot Working Group Chair: Mike Perrin.  
Workshop facilitator: Steven W. Evans.

**Cape Parrot Action Plan  
Species Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop**

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## **Acronyms/Definition**

BEEP: Biodiversity Environmental Education Programme.  
BSWG: Blue Swallow Working Group.  
CBD: Convention on Biological Diversity.  
CFMC: Community Forest Management Committees.  
CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.  
CP: Cape Parrot  
CPBBD: Cape Parrot Birding Big Day.  
CPWG: Cape Parrot Working Group.  
DEAET Eastern Cape:  
DEAT: National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.  
DFID: Department for International Development (United Kingdom).  
DNA testing: Deoxyribonucleic Acid testing  
DWAF: National Department of Water Affairs and Forestry.  
EC: Eastern Cape  
ECZNW CCO's: Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife Community Conservation Officers  
EE: Environmental Education  
EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment.  
IBA: Important Bird Areas.  
GTZ: Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit.  
IDP: Integrated Development Plan  
IUCN: The World Conservation Union.  
KZN: KwaZulu-Natal.  
KZNCF: KwaZulu-Natal Crane Foundation  
LP: Limpopo Province.  
LPWG: Law and Policy Working Group of the Endangered Wildlife Trust  
NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation.  
NIBACS: National Important Bird Area Conservation Strategies.  
OWG: Oribi Working Group.  
PAZAAB: Pan African Association, Zoos, Aquaria, Botanic Gardens  
Pbfd: Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease  
SAP: Species Action Plan.  
SIG: Species Interest Group.  
SACWG: South African Crane Working Group.  
SWG: Species Working Group.

## **Chapter 1.**

### **What is a Cape Parrot Action Plan?**

An Action Plan to conserve the Cape Parrot is a flexible working strategy that identifies and prioritises the problems and proposes practical solutions, specifies certain actions and responsibilities within agreed timeframes, based on specific objectives which are regularly monitored and revised.

### **Why an action plan for the Cape Parrot?**

The Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* was previously considered a subspecies of the Grey-headed Parrot complex and referred to as *Poicephalus robustus robustus*. With this change to its taxonomic status the Cape Parrot becomes one of South Africa's newest endemic species. The Cape Parrot is considered Endangered with fewer than 650 individuals remaining in its discontinuous Afromontane Yellowwood forest patches in the Eastern Cape, southern KwaZulu-Natal and small relict population in the Wolkberg Mountains of the Limpopo Province (Downs 2000). The Cape Parrot is listed on CITES Appendix II. A conservation plan compiled by all relevant stakeholders outlining the priority actions needed to conserve this species is therefore urgently needed.

### **Geographic Scope.**

The Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* is a South African endemic. This action plan is applicable to all provinces in South Africa, particularly with regard to trade controls and disease spread. However, certain actions are focused mainly on the three provinces - KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Limpopo provinces - in which the Cape Parrot occurs naturally.

## **Executive Summary and Recommendations.**

The Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* is endemic to South Africa. Key threats are habitat destruction, seasonally depleting food sources, low nest-site availability, illegal trapping for trade, and disease (Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease Virus). The distribution of the parrot is restricted to the fragmented afro-montane forests of southern KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape and Limpopo Provinces. The Cape Parrot population is classified as Endangered under IUCN/Birdlife International threat criteria, listed on CITES Appendix II, and has a declining population currently estimated at < 650 individuals. Cape Parrots are habitat and dietary specialists dependent on *Podocarpus* (Yellowwoods), and both the parrot and the trees are subject to illegal trade.

The Cape Parrot Working Group (CPWG) was formed in 2001 following on from the Ph.D research by the late Olaf Wirminghaus at the University of Natal, which identified the Cape Parrot as a separate species (from the Grey-headed Parrot *P.fuscicollis suahelicus* and Brown-necked Parrot *P.f.fuscicollis*) and its major ecological requirements and conservation threats. The Cape Parrot Working Group aims to conserve the Cape Parrot and its habitat in South Africa. The CPWG in conjunction with Birdlife South Africa organised a three day Action Planning workshop for the Cape Parrot which was held in November 2002 and which was facilitated by Steven Evans of Birdlife South Africa. Prior to the Action Planning workshop a meeting of the CPWG Executive Committee was held in August 2002 to identify the stakeholders who should be involved in the Action Planning workshop. The format for this workshop followed that of the successfully completed Action Planning Workshops for the White-necked Picathartes *Picathartes gymnocapulus* and Grey-necked Picathartes *P.oreas* Working Groups.

The primary aim of the Cape Parrot Action Planning Workshop was to assess the threats to the Cape Parrot and to prioritise required actions into a cohesive action plan in order to improve the survival chances of the species. The workshop was well attended by 28 participants representing all the major stakeholder groups including forest managers, local communities, aviculturists, nature conservation officials, academics, ecotourist guides, farmers, wildlife trade monitors, other rare species' working groups and bird clubs. All members participated well and overall the group's motivation level was sustained and remained interested and determined. Differences in language turned out not to be a problem as everyone was fluent in English although participants willing to act as translators were present.

The Action Planning Workshop process comprised a series of plenary and working group sessions in which mixed stakeholder groups worked through the tasks designed to facilitate ingenuity, brainstorming, debate, issue tackling and finally consensus building. After an initial group brainstorming session the key issues facing the survival of the Cape Parrot were listed and this gave rise to the following six working groups:

- Community involvement
- Public awareness and training
- Policy and legislation
- Species and habitat
- Research and monitoring
- Infrastructure and co-ordination

Each issue was tackled by a group, that drafted an overview of the problem by compiling problem trees, developing and prioritising solutions and goals and finally working out detailed action plans and steps which will achieve the goals developed for this Action Plan. Plenary sessions enabled each group to present the results of their discussions to the whole group and obtain the input of all participants present, which resulted in much debate and insight from the various interest groups. Results were recorded onto flip charts and cards which provided constant reference points and which formed the bulk of the final workshop report. The final task was to evaluate the workshop's process itself.

The major recommendations to come out of the Action Plan are to provide alternative development opportunities for the communities living close to the forests within the Parrot's range; to develop environmental education programmes; further ecological research; to improve policy and legislation and the law enforcement efforts to support this; reduce the rate of Yellowwood felling; initiate the planting of food source trees; and to develop the CPWG into an organisation which has the resources to handle and carry out the tasks detailed in the Action Plan. The Action Plan now details what we have to achieve within the next five years. Now is the time to begin, and we look to all the workshop's participants, their colleagues and beyond, to help us achieve the aim of conserving the Cape Parrot in the wild.



## Chapter 2.

### Introduction and overview

#### Background information for Cape Parrot Action Plan workshop Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus*

##### Fact file

**Family:** Psittacidae

**Distribution:** Endemic to South Africa. Associated with Afromontane *Podocarpus* forests with a discontinuous distribution from Fort Beaufort in the Eastern Cape through to the Karkloof in KwaZulu-Natal (Wirminghaus 1997; Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000b), with a small relict population in the Limpopo Province (Harrison *et al.* 1997; Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999). Breeds in Afromontane forests above 1000m (Skead 1964; Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999, Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). Important forests are those in the Eastern Cape (the Amatole forest complex, Mkambati Nature Reserve, Insikeni and forests around Umtata and Port St. Johns) and in the KwaZulu-Natal Mistbelt Forests (Barnes 1998; C.T. Downs, unpubl. data).

**Habitat:** Primarily associated with Afromontane forest, but are not confined to it, occasionally flying to other habitats in search of food (Skead 1964; Rowan 1983; Wirminghaus *et al.* in press a; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press e). Afromontane forests are dominated by *Podocarpus* species and occur at 1000-1500m altitude, on steep, south-facing slopes on dolerite ridges that receive frequent mist in the summer and mean annual rainfall of >1000mm. Yellowwood trees, particularly *Podocarpus falcatus* (a forest canopy tree), are important for breeding, feeding and social interactions (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a).

**Size:** Medium-large sized, 251-349mm; 260-329g.

**Plumage:** Sexually dimorphic. **Adult male:** Bill colour old ivory; forecrown dark earth brown in males, orange-red in females; crown olive-green; collar, nape and upper chest yellow-green; chin and throat orange-brown; cheek and ear coverts olive-green to yellow green; lore matt black; mantle colour (area between wings) dark green; edge of scapulars dark oily green; edge of upper wing coverts dark green; flight and tail feathers dark slate; shoulder edge orange-red; back, rump, upper-tail coverts, under-tail coverts, flank, belly and lower chest blue-green; tibiotarsal joint orange-red (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a). Aberrant yellow wing feathers are sometimes observed (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a). **Adult female:** Varied forecrown plumage patterns; some having orange across the forehead and others having none; none of the males have this forehead colouration (Davies 1907; Skead 1971; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a). **Juvenile:** Both sexes have orange-red colour on the forehead in their first plumage, but only have red on the tibia or on the edge of the wing when they moult to ad plumage (Rowan 1983; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). The colour is more salmon pink and extends further on the crown in juveniles than in adults. At 8-10 months this colour is replaced in males with colour corresponding to the hood plumage colour (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a). **Confusing species:** Distinguished from the Grey-headed Parrot *P. f. suahelicus* by head and neck colouration, body plumage colour and the size of the bill. Head and neck plumage colouring of *P. f. suahelicus* is silvery grey (Rowan 1983; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a) and the bill is heavier basally and the apex is longer and more tapered to a point, while culmen length measured from the cere is longer (Clancey 1997; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a). May be confused with Rameron Pigeons when in flight, but Cape Parrot usually call raucously.

**Nests:** Secondary cavities high up in dead forest canopy trees (snags), usually *Podocarpus* species. (Roberts 1940; Mackworth-Praed & Grant 1962; Johnson 1990; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). Nest holes are 6 -12 m above ground in main trunks, branches or in the top of dead trees. Hollows are used in consecutive years. Typical nest: tree circumference 250cm; nest hole entrance facing east, 10m above ground level (where tree circumference was 194cm), 17cm high and 7.5cm wide; nest chamber 66cm deep with a 20cm diameter at the base, unlined; containing only wood chips on the chamber floor.

**Eggs:** Variable clutch size (2-5 eggs) (Dean 1971, Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). Eggs are glossy white and rounded. Size: 30.4-39.2 x 26.0-30.2 (34.1x27.9) (n=27 - Maclean 1993); 32-34 x 26-28mm (Roberts 1940, Mackworth-Praed & Grant 1962); 33 x 27 mm (Tarboton 2001), 3.8-39.2 x 26.5-30.2 (35.1x28.8) (Winterbottom 1971).

**Diet:** Dietary specialists feeding primarily on endocarps of *Podocarpus* species in the wild (Skead 1964; Wirminghaus 1997; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press d; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press e). Also feed on the endocarps of a variety of forest fruit, however the number of other food species used is low. Seasonal changes in food species eaten reflects changing availability of the various fruiting plant species. They are food nomads moving locally between forest patches in search of food, and occasionally making long foraging forays to coastal forests or commercial orchards. Most often observed in the crowns of *P. falcatus* and *P. latifolius*, but also in the crowns of fruiting *Celtis africana*, and *Ptaeroxylon obliquum* with the fruiting climber *Scutia myrtina*. Fruit trees/fruit sources include: *Acacia mearnsii* (*alien species*), *Apodytes dimidiata*, *Calodendrum capense*, *Celtis africana*, *Chionanthus peglerae*, *Commiphora woodii*, *Eugenia zuluensis*, *Greyia sutherlandii*, *Ficus craterostoma*, *Harpephyllum caffrum*, *Melia azedarach* (*alien species*), *Erythrina lysistemon*, *Erythrina caffra*, *Mimusops caffra*, *Ocotea bullata*, *Olea capensis*, *Pittosporum viridiflorum*, *Ptaeroxylon obliquum*, *Podocarpus henkelii*, *Podocarpus falcatus*, *Podocarpus latifolius*, *Pseudolachnostylis maprouneifolia*, *Protea caffra*, *Prunus africana*, *Rapanea melanophloeos* and *Scutia myrtina* (Skead 1964; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press c; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press d).

**Alternative names:** Formerly known as LeVaillant's Parrot, as he first accurately described the species and habits (Le Perroquet a franges sourci, Levaill. Perroq. II; p. 91, pls 130-131, 1805 in Stark & Sclater 1903). Also known as the Brownnecked Parrot, Amatola Parrot, Pirie Parrot, Green Parrot, Knysna Parrot, Redcrowned Parrot, and Redshouldered Parrot (Rowan 1983). Zulu name is Isikhwenene (Woodward & Woodward 1897) and Xhosa name Isikweyiya (Stark & Sclater 1903).

## Introduction

The Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* is South Africa's only endemic parrot and it is regarded as rare (Downs 2000). Several factors are considered to have caused the decline of the Cape Parrot. These include forest degradation, food and nest-site shortages, low recruitment, removal of birds from the wild for the caged bird trade, and disease (Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease) (Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999, 2000a). The Cape Parrot only occurs in *Podocarpus* Afromontane forest patches from the Eastern Cape to southern KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa (Wirminghaus 1997), with a relic population in Limpopo Province (Wirminghaus 1997). Although restricted to Afromontane forest patches, the birds are food nomads and are highly mobile moving between yellowwood forest patches, visiting orchards and occasionally forest near the coast (Mboyti to Port St. Johns). The Cape Parrot's loud, often continuous, calling makes it conspicuous; it is active for several hours after dawn and before sunset, usually circling over the forest and calling loudly (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000b). Flock size varies: singletons, pairs, or groups of 5-6 birds are usually observed. However, at localised food sites flock size may increase to 20-70 birds caused by aggregation and giving a false impression of abundance (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2001a).

## Taxonomic Notes

Class: Aves  
Order: Psittaciformes  
Family: Psittacidae  
Genus: Poicephalus  
Species: *P. robustus*

Clancey's (1997) proposals are adopted with *P. robustus* (which is associated with Afromontane forest habitats) as a separate species from *P. fuscicollis*. This is based on morphological, biogeographical and ecological differences (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a). The arrangement of *P. fuscicollis* is revised; with two subspecies *P. f. fuscicollis* (which historically occurred in W Africa but is now only common in the Gambia) and the Grey-headed Parrot *P. f. suahelicus* (which occurs in low-lying woodland in south-central Africa) (Clancey 1997; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a).

The genus *Poicephalus* was proposed by Reichenow (1881) to replace *Psittacus* for the Cape Parrot. Latham (1781) first described the specimen as Robust Parrot (which is now lost) from J. Banks' collection which Gmelin (1788) used for his type description of *Poicephalus robustus* (then described as *Psittacus robustus*). *Psittacus* is the same genus as the African Grey Parrot *P. erithacus*. *Poicephalus robustus robustus* (Gmelin) was described as *Psittacus robustus* Gmelin Syst. Nat., vol. i, part 1, 1788 p. 344 no locality = Eastern Cape Province (Clancey 1963). *Poicephalus robustus* (Gurney, 1873 Ibis, p. 255 (Natal); Salvad. 1891 Cat. B. M. xx, p. 363; Shelley, 1896, B. Afr. I, p. 138; Woodward & Woodward,

1897, p. 125) (See Stark & Sclater 1903 for details). *Poicephalus robustus suahelicus* Reichenow was described as *Poicephalus suahelicus* Reichenow J. Ornithol. Vol. XLvi, 1898 p. 314: E Africa, the type from Msua, near Bagamoyo, Tanzania (Clancey 1963).

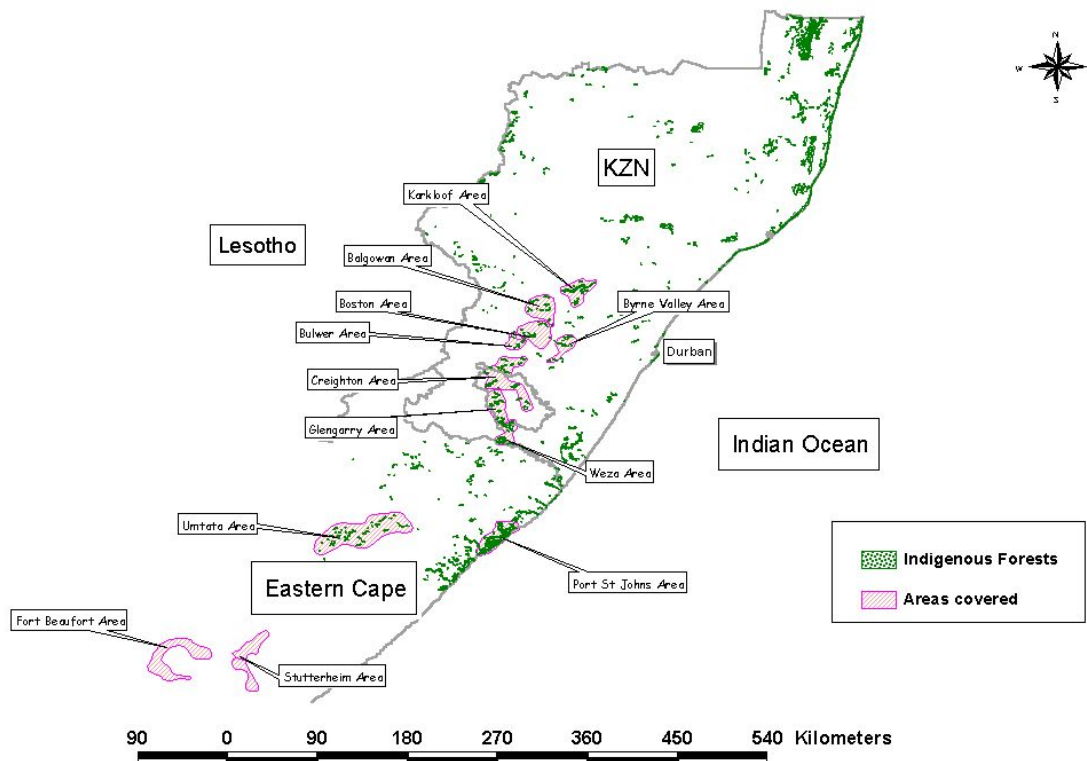
### Distribution and population status

Like all parrot populations, Cape Parrot numbers are difficult to estimate (Casagrande & Beissinger 1997). Birds fly long distances between nesting, roosting and feeding areas (Chapman *et al.* 1989, Casagrande & Beissinger 1997). They are often difficult to detect and mark-recapture methods are unsuitable (Casagrande & Beissinger 1997). Trends in the population size of the Cape Parrot are particularly important because of its Endangered status, and for its conservation (Downs 2000). Populations of the Cape Parrot have declined in the past fifty years, particularly in the Eastern Cape (know includes the ex-Transkei) (Skead 1964, 1971, Dalldorf pers. comm.), and in KwaZulu-Natal (Skead 1971, Kerr, Geekie pers. comm.) and little in the Northern Province, where it remains scarce (Brooke 1984). Accurate estimates of population size are difficult as standard bird census techniques are inappropriate because the birds are not predictable in their occurrence at particular forests.

Numbers and presence are determined during annual intensive national surveys which have been held since 1997 in the form of the Cape Parrot Big Birding Day. Presence of birds is unpredictable at forest patches in the Eastern Cape (know includes the ex-Transkei), Limpopo Province and KwaZulu-Natal. Present distributions in forest fragments reflect past distribution in a large mosaic of forest patches. Numbers are exceedingly low and the best estimate of numbers is 300-350 birds in the Eastern Cape, 150-170 in KwaZulu-Natal, and 50-60 in the Transvaal Drakensberg. This suggests about 500-600 Cape Parrots remain in the wild. Breeding success is low and populations are considered to be declining (Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000b).

The Cape Parrot is not represented by a metapopulation as the birds are able to visit various forests and the subpopulations do not seem isolated with the exception of those in the Limpopo Province (Meffe & Carroll 1997).

Figure 1. The areas covered on the Cape Parrot Big Birding Day excluding the Limpopo Province



## **Movements**

Fly as pairs or larger groups with the group breaking up into sub-groups of 1-5 birds, which move in different directions and then regroup. Sometimes fly as singletons (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Nomadic species, moving between forest patches depending on food availability. Sometimes make long distance (100km) feeding forays to coastal forests (Skead 1964; Skead 1971; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a.; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press d.).

## **Protection status**

The global Cape Parrot population is classified as Endangered, under IUCN/BirdLife International threat criteria (A1a; A2b; c; B1 + 2c; C2a). Category A1a lists species undergoing a rapid decline of >50% over 10 years or 3 generations and that the decline is directly observed to be happening. A2b;c lists species that are likely to decline in the near future, mainly due to a decline in the extent of occurrence, decline in area of occupancy and/or quality of habitat. Category B lists declining species with small ranges; B1 + 2c refer to severe fragmentation in area of occurrence estimated at < 5000 km<sup>2</sup> and a continuing decline and/or quality of habitat. Category C refers to species with a small and declining population, with no population with >250 mature individuals and a continuing decline of mature individuals and population structure.

The Cape Parrot is listed on CITES Appendix II. Although South Africa submitted a proposal to the 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (CoP), Santiago, Chile (November 2002) to transfer the South African population of the Cape Parrot to Appendix I, they withdrew the proposal before presenting it to the CoP. This decision was based on the lack of taxonomic clarification and the difficulties it would create for enforcement, especially with neighbouring States.

### *National status*

The Cape Parrot is recognised as Endangered in the South African Red Data Book (Barnes 2000). It is protected by general wildlife legislation in the provinces of South Africa where it occurs naturally. Afromontane yellowwood forest is similarly protected (although in theory rather than practice). The Cape Parrot is totally protected in terms of legislation, but not in terms of law enforcement.

## **Relationship with other SAP's and biodiversity strategies**

Most Afromontane forests where Cape Parrots occur are only partially protected; many are privately owned. Those in KwaZulu-Natal that have Cape Parrots resident or visiting regularly have been listed as part of the KwaZulu-Natal Mistbelt Forests (IBA SA071) (Johnson *et al.* 1998). Most of the important forests in the Eastern Cape have been identified as Important Bird Areas (IBA's) including the Amatole Forest complex (IBA SA092) and Mkambati Nature Reserve (IBA SA087) (Barnes 1998). Important forests around Umtata and Port St Johns in the former Transkei were however, omitted from the IBA network.

## **Birds in captivity**

Currently 124 Cape Parrots are recorded in the species studbook and are held by 21 aviculturists. The studbook currently includes only a few birds held in the Eastern Cape where there are likely to be more given that the region is home to the largest wild population.

The only legal trade in Cape Parrots relates to wild-caught birds collected before current legislation was implemented, since when collecting permits have been withheld, or their progeny. No permits have been issued for several years and currently there is no known overseas trade in the species.

Trade will be severely detrimental to the viability of wild populations of the Cape Parrot in the short to mid term. In the long term, trade in F2 captive raised birds could prevent poaching from the wild.

Only 5 Cape Parrots are on record overseas, in a collection in France, their contribution to captive breeding for the species is minimal numerically, although might be important genetically. It is believed by many conservationists that once

Cape Parrots appear on the international markets, extinction of the wild population will follow rapidly, because of the financial value generated by the bird's rarity, and foreign exchange rates.

### **Habitat requirements of the species**

Primarily associated with Afromontane forest, but not confined to it, occasionally flying to other habitats in search of food (Skead 1964; Rowan 1983; Wirminghaus *et al.* in press a; Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press e). Afromontane forests are dominated by *Podocarpus* species and occur at 1000-1500m altitude, on steep, south-facing slopes on dolerite ridges that receive frequent mist in the summer and mean annual rainfall of >1000mm. Yellowwood trees, particularly *Podocarpus falcatus* (a forest canopy tree), are important for breeding, feeding and social interactions (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a).

### **Biology and Ecology**

See 'fact file' for details on distribution, status, habitat, nests, eggs, diet and movements.

**Population and demography:** Flock size is rarely greater than 10. Larger flocks usually concentrate at roost sites, water points or fruiting trees, and represent an aggregation of several groups (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press c). Density estimates show that numbers are exceedingly low; about 500 Cape Parrots remaining in the wild (Downs & Symes 1998; Downs 2000). Breeding success is low and populations are considered to be declining (Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000b). In captive birds the ovaries are mature at  $\pm 2.5$  yrs. However, age at first breeding is usually at 4-6 yrs and longevity >35 yrs. Survivorship is not known. In captivity, sex ratio is very variable with some clutches being all female, others 1 male:2 females; 2 males:2 females or all male (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b).

**General habits:** Diurnal with activity concentrated in the first and last few hours of daylight when most feeding takes place (Wirminghaus 1997; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Between periods of activity the birds mostly remain perched; but also call, preen, allopreen, rest and occasionally feed (Skead 1964; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Pairing and gregarious flocking behaviour are common (Skead 1964; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Preening includes scratching and stretching behaviours (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). When preening, birds vocalise with small chirps, rattle their feathers, then stretch their shoulders back, before scratching the head, especially below and behind the eye. The sequence of behaviours sometimes includes forward leaning with a bill-cleaning action, fluffing of the feathers, and turning the tail to the sun. Backward extension of the shoulders and wings, referred to as the archangel display, is also used in sexual and aggressive contexts. A high-pitched screech is associated with the display (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Stretching behaviour is accompanied by wing-clips and tail-wags which are also included courtship displays (see Breeding). Cape Parrots are strong fliers, with an erratic (zig-zag) flight pattern (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Birds fly high above the forest canopy, wheeling and swerving about; or with fast and direct movement when moving between forests; or with a slow and fluttering movement before settling to feed or socialise. They circle (singly or in flocks), dive (after horizontal flight) and swoop. Circling is the most common flight pattern, with birds flying out from snags or trees, to circle before returning to perch. If disturbed, birds take flight, sometimes darting through trees, squawking or screeching loudly (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a).

Intra-specific behaviours include chasing, diving, tussling with beaks, regurgitating and feeding one another, perching and playing, and moving and vocalising. Groups are often "family" groups of birds (an adult pair with 2-4 juveniles or non-breeding birds) (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Few interspecific interactions have been recorded with other avian frugivores, namely Rameron Pigeons *Columba arquatrix* and Knysna Louries *Tauraco corythaix* when mixed groups forage in fruiting trees. African Goshawks *Accipiter tachiro*, Black Sparrowhawks *A. melanoleucus* and Lanner Falcons *Falco biarmicus* occasionally chase Cape Parrots (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a; D Forbes, pers. comm.). Will occasionally mob predators e.g. Gymonogene *Polyboroides typus* (D Forbes, pers. comm.). Roost sites are usually emergent snags or trees in the forest but sites adjacent to forest are also used (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a); usually tall *Eucalyptus* species.

**Voice:** Loud, often continuous, calling makes it conspicuous. Distinct vocal repertoire; calls heard most frequently include five distinct calls described as 'tzu-weee, zu-wee, zeu-wee, zz-keek' and a nasal 'zeek' (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). In flight, very vocal: calling before taking off, and calling continuously while flying; characteristic high-pitched call during flight. A raucous alarm call is given by disturbed Cape Parrots. It is rapid with a rasping tone, with up to 12 identifiable harmonics. When disturbed, they dart through canopy trees or fly out squawking or screeching loudly. Adult and juvenile birds threatened in the nest give an aggressive succession of 'zeeks'. Antiphony, probably mated pairs, show controlled synchrony (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Usually vocalise during periods of morning or evening activity. May

call briefly during the middle of the day. These are mostly contact calls and chirps (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a). Individuals occasionally chirp when settled in a snag or canopy tree whilst sunning, preening or feeding. Breeding pairs at the nest are usually quiet but infrequently chirp (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a).

**Breeding:** Mating system – appear to be no helpers, appears to be solitary, non-territorial nester. Degree of mate fidelity – unknown but appears high although will take a new partner if mate dies in captivity. During courtship, a typical male sequence is a quick wing-raise on arrival at a snag, then stretching of the wing (right then left) over a tail-extension, followed by stretching of the leg, rattling of the feathers, then looking around before half wing-raising with a tail-wag. Alternatively males give a tail-wag with the wings back, then do a wing extension followed by a head bob and a mandible rattle. The female responds with a wing stretch followed by a right wing or tail stretch. The male responds with a wing clip, a tail wag, and then a right wing extension (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000a).

**Laying dates:** Breeding usually occurs from August to February, but occurs in other months, particularly in captive birds (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). In the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, breeding in the Cape Parrot has occurred at varied times during the year (Mackworth-Praed & Grant 1962; Clancey 1964; Dean 1971).

**Incubation:** By the female and lasts 28-30days.

**Development and care of young:** At first nestlings have a pink appearance, covered with a sparse white down which gets thicker as the nestlings grow older. Bills have a distinct egg tooth. At 15 days old, pin feathers begin appearing on the forehead. At about 35 days of age, green tail feathers begin to break free of the quills. When chicks emerge from the nest, each resembles an adult female in colouring, with coral pink foreheads (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). First moult begins after 5-7 months. Time taken to moult into mature plumage is variable in both sexes. Both parents attend the nest and regurgitate food to the young. The female spends more time in the nest than the male. Chicks solicit food by chirping continually until fed. Nestlings fledge asynchronously. After fledging (55-79 days), chicks remain in groups with their parents and continue to be fed by regurgitation by both parents. Food given to chicks includes the kernels of *P. falcatus* and seeds of *Acacia mearnsii* (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b). There is much vocal contact between fledglings and ads. When leaving the nest, both parents appear cautious, before flying off. As chicks grow, they appear at the hole entrance and give 'zeek-zeek' calls (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b).

**Breeding success:** Dueting pairs did not appear to defend nest sites, but occasionally chased other avian frugivores away. There was no destruction of any observed clutches or broods by predators. Nesting requirements suggest that nest-sites are limiting (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b) as few nests have been found and consequently there is little recruitment (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press b).

**Moult:** No data.

**Geographical variation:** No recognised races, but appear to be some variation in vocalisations (C.T. Downs, pers. obs.).

**Measurements:** wing (24m) 210-230 (218.3), (14f) 205-219 (210.5); tail (25m) 90-98.9 (94.8), (16f) 79.6-97.2 (89.3); tarsus (25m) 18.2-23.5 (21.7), (16f) 19.9-22.4 (21.5); culmen (from edge of cere along curve to bill tip) (19m) 37-48 (40.8), (14f) 36-43 (38.3); mass (4 m) 295-329 (306), (3f) 260-328 (294) (Wirminghaus *et al.*, in press a).

## Threats and potential threats

### 1. Habitat destruction and degradation, which is mainly as a result of the following:

- Commercial afforestation;
- Historical (mostly selective) felling for timber and non-recovery of forests;
- Current selective felling for timber, in particular the removal of old (*Podocarpus*) trees which are most suitable for nest sites and/or fruit production;
- Material collection (timber for firewood and poles, and other products for muthi) by members of communities living close to forests;
- Disturbance to forest undergrowth (natural regeneration reduced) by cattle and other livestock in forests.

► Habitat fragmentation and loss which is confounded by the low rate of parrot population increase, and reduced geographical distribution. Studies of nesting requirements suggest that the nest-sites are limiting as few nests have been found; consequently, there is little recruitment (Wirminghaus *et al.* 2001 b).

## **2. Capture for illegal trade:**

Most capture appears to be ‘organised’ with local people employed to do the catching. Only a few incidents are known of local people catching parrots to sell on an ad-hoc no prior demand basis. Most birds appear to be caught outside natural forest areas at a food resource, post-fledging juveniles appear most vulnerable. Demand for Cape Parrots from overseas has reportedly increased in the last couple of years, probably largely due to the recognition of the separate species status and an appreciation of the species’ rarity (and rising value). Due to the critically low numbers of Cape Parrots remaining in the wild current legal off-take is prohibited by provincial nature conservation legislation. Consequently all trade in wild-caught birds is illegal. Some experts believe illegal trade to be the most significant cause of population decline quoting it as being intensive and impacting over a short time frame (a few years) whereas the effects of habitat fragmentation and loss are mid- to long-term factors. Habitat loss limits more severely the possibility of the population recovering naturally.

## **3. Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease:**

Some sub-populations of Cape Parrots appear to be infected with the Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease Virus. Ten birds confiscated at the roadside were found to be infected with the virus, for which there is currently no effective treatment. A few wild birds in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu\_Natal have also shown clinical symptoms which include abnormal feather loss (and sometimes regrowth in yellow), bill and nail growth, and in the late stages paralysis. The disease is usually fatal for nestling birds although adults may survive if well nourished.

## **4. Persecution:**

At certain times of the year, when natural forest fruit abundance is low, flocking of birds occurs in orchards, where they are vulnerable to capture and persecution. Parrots have been shot for crop protection i.e. as they were raiding pecan nut and soft fruit orchards. Also, some may be killed for food by members of local communities.

## **5. Climate change:**

Changes in rainfall patterns and seasonal temperatures are likely affecting fruiting patterns, disease and regeneration of new plants in the forest. At the moment, the effect of climate change on the Cape Parrot’s Afromontane habitat is not known.

## **6. Specialised habitat requirements:**

The distribution of Cape Parrots has been naturally fairly limited, which has been made substantially worse in the last 100 years by habitat destruction and degradation and capture for trade.

## **7. Target recommendations:**

Conservation action for Cape Parrots must include conservation of forest habitat, provision of nest-boxes, effective policing of the bird trade, and a captive breeding programme to supply the aviculturalist demand and prevent further removal of birds from the wild (Wirminghaus *et al.* 1999; Wirminghaus *et al.* 2000b). The annual Cape Parrot Birding Big Day encourages public involvement and conservation of this species (Downs 2000; Forbes & Downs 2000).

**Stakeholder analysis.**

**Stakeholder analyses by the Cape Parrot Working Group for the Cape Parrot in South Africa.  
Preparation for the Cape Parrot Action (Conservation) Plan workshop, 01 October 2002.**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Interests</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Impact ( + or - ) + positive - negative</b>	<b>Intensity * = low ** = medium *** = high **** = critical</b>	<b>What contribution(s) is each stakeholder going to make towards the implementation of the Cape Parrot Action Plan?</b>
Local communities / local populations / forest neighbours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Survival</li> <li>- Food source.</li> <li>- Over-utilization of resources</li> <li>- Wood harvesting.</li> <li>- Trapping of birds.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Subsistence farming</li> <li>- Harvesting forests</li> <li>- Trapping</li> <li>- Cutting trees</li> <li>- Harvest of flora to meet daily needs.</li> <li>- Tree felling – nest raiding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ &amp; -</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>****</li> <li>****</li> <li>****</li> <li>**</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education of communities.</li> <li>- Involvement in ecotourism, research etc.</li> <li>- Meet their fuel needs by planting wattle stands nearby (prevent forest removal).</li> <li>- Set-up multi-gardens etc.</li> <li>- Encourage ecotourism developments.</li> <li>- Site monitors.</li> <li>- Educate &amp; support viable sustainable alternatives.</li> <li>- Discuss alternatives to wood collecting.</li> </ul>
Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Food source.</li> <li>- Food production (pecan nuts and deciduous)</li> <li>- Habitat destruction.</li> <li>- Changed land-use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raise funds for pecan plantations.</li> <li>- Fruit production.</li> <li>- Killing birds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>****</li> <li>***</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Food source in a semi-protected environment that isn't a threat to income.</li> <li>- Educate, develop methods of crop protection.</li> <li>Provide information on alternative nesting, feeding etc.</li> </ul>
Ecotourism operators in parrot's range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ecotourism.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop trails.</li> <li>- Environmental education.</li> <li>- Collect data from parrot observations.</li> <li>- Informal policing network.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>****</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local employment opportunities, environmental education, law enforcement, research, maybe funding.</li> </ul>



General public	- Doing something for conserving an endemic.	- Don't support illegal trade markets. - Nest disturbance?	+ -	** **	- Pressurise government in terms of controlling logging, persecution by farmers etc.
Environmental Portfolio Committee in Parliament.	- Ensuring maintenance of biodiversity.	- Assist in having legislation passed through parliament	+	**	- Assist in presenting & exploring the need for legislation in parliament & winning support for it.
DEAT	- Conservation, education & landscape conservation - Legislation - Conservation - Tourism industry.  - National	Hydrology, Forestry Education, Protection.  - Logging - Conserving - Network down to all provincial Dept like forestry etc. to conserve parrot - National	- + - + + +	** *** **** **** *** ****	- Improve actions & policies re yellow-wood forests. - Become actively involved at all levels, from local officers on the ground to ministerial level. - Education of staff and communities. - Law enforcement - Check existing legislation. - Media support. - Advise as to international tourism worth of the birds. - Campaign to make this a national bird. - National support & involvement.
DWAF	- Conservation, Education & Landscape Conservation - Legislation - Conservation  - Manage forest used by communities (non commercial). - Protect indigenous forest. - Permits for afforestation. - Afforestation – extraction of timber. - Commercial.	- Hydrology, Forestry Education, Protection.  - Logging - Conserving - Site Control - Develop a national plan to allow all people access to forest products - Law enforcement  - Habitat destruction. - Possible source of funding Major land-owners & employer. - Environmental education possibilities.	- + - + + - + - + + +	** *** **** **** ** *** **** **** **** ****	- Improve actions & policies re yellow-wood forests. - Become actively involved at all levels, from local officers on the ground to ministerial level. - Education of staff and communities. - Law enforcement - Check existing legislation. - Media support. - People must be trained and made accountable. - Participate with the dev or provide comment before the DWAF proposal overtakes us. - Awareness campaign.  - Assist tree (yellow-wood, celtis, pecan) propagation & planting for parrot food on forest edge. - Assist law enforcement.

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding source.</li> <li>- Parrot survey manpower.</li> <li>- Access to land to researchers.</li> <li>- Local community education &amp; contact through Participatory Forest Management.</li> </ul>
Department of Education.	Imparting knowledge.	Teach locals.	+		Provide literature – poster etc.
Provincial Nature Conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conservation of biodiversity.</li> <li>- Biodiversity Conservation.</li> <li>- Conservation.</li> <li>- Habitat Conservation</li> <li>- Bird Conservation</li> <li>- Control over aviculture.</li> <li>- Habitat protection.</li> <li>- Research.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conservation</li> <li>- Law Enforcement</li> <li>- Public awareness &amp; conservation</li> <li>- Reserve management</li> <li>- Control of captive birds.</li> <li>- Regulate &amp; educate</li> <li>- Permits</li> <li>- Regulations</li> <li>- Law enforcement</li> <li>- Monitoring</li> <li>- Education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> <li>+</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>***</li> <li>****</li> <li>**</li> <li>****</li> <li>***</li> <li>**</li> <li>****</li> <li>****</li> <li>****</li> <li>****</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conviction of illegal traders is vitally important.</li> <li>- Step up law enforcement procedures.</li> <li>- Have regular checks on all permit holders.</li> <li>- Checking all international airports for illegal birds.</li> <li>- Gain formal support from the Provincial Conservation Authorities on their staffs input into Cape Parrot conservation.</li> <li>- To give law enforcement the needed powers.</li> </ul> <p>Parrots range + major trade routes.</p>
District / Local municipalities.	- See the IDP law integrated to the advantage of people and the environment.	- Govern developments in their areas of responsibility.	+	***	- Educate the new municipalities on their role in nature conservation using the Cape Parrot as the key.
Airport staff, customs officials / Customs / Quarantine facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- check airport consignments.</li> <li>- National &amp; international</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- monitoring or exports and imports.</li> <li>- Check permits, govern exports &amp; imports of parrots</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ &amp; -</li> <li>+</li> </ul>	****	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to be aware of the threat to Cape Parrots because of illegal exports.</li> <li>- Be able to identify Cape Parrot and Grey-headed Parrot.</li> <li>- Trade restrictions &amp; permit conditions.</li> </ul>
South African Police Service (Endangered Species Protection Unit).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law enforcement.</li> <li>- Investigations.</li> </ul>	- National	+	****	- Need to be aware of the threat to Cape Parrots because of illegal trade.
Tourism agencies (e.g. KZN Tourism).	Tourism		+	****	- Develop ecotourism ventures around Cape Parrots and yellow-wood forests.

University of Natal	Research. Conservation.	Census, research, etc.	+	****	- Co-ordinate ongoing research.
Research Centre for African Parrot Conservation	Fundamental Research	Population & demographic data – Ecology & behaviour, molecular genetics etc.	+	***	Molecular systematics Habitat manipulation Captive breeding
Ornithologists	Birding	Avian conservation	+	**	- Cape Parrot Census Day Involvement
Researchers	- Gain better understanding of Cape Parrot.	- Research and monitoring	+	****	- Develop ways to conserve Cape Parrot & its habitat. - Organise Cape Parrot Big Birding days.
Lab companies	- DNA	- Research into Psittacine Beak & Feather Disease, parentage, hybrids.	+ + -	**** *** ***	
Cape Parrot Working Group	Cape Parrot Conservation	Species preservation	+	****	Preparation of Action Plan. Cites upgrade. Policy, conservation & legislation
TRAFFIC.	- Control of trade nationally and internationally - Ensure trade is sustainable and well managed	- Monitoring of trade - Control of trade  - Assist in obtaining adequate legal protection. - Developing and implementing trade ,management systems	- + + +	*** *** ** **	- Prevent trade - Obstacles to CITES 1 listing – detailed data required - almost counter-productive. - Advisory capacity. - Assist with investigations into possible illegal trade.
BirdLife South Africa	- Birding - Bird & habitat conservation - Conservation	- Avian Conservation - Making people aware.	+ +	**** **	- Cape Parrot Census Day Involvement. - International networking e.g. Royal Society for the Protection of Birds & British Trust for Ornithology etc. - Become a major player in conserving & educating. - Train public on the fact that this bird is endangered.

					- - Support – info, logistics, funding, overall collaboration for conservation.
Bird Clubs: BirdLife Border BirdLife KZN Midlands BirdLife Southern KwaZulu-Natal BirdLife Petersburg BirdLife Port Natal Birdlife Northern Natal Birdlife Trogon BirdLife Sisonke BirdLife Soutpansberg BirdLife Zululand Eastern Cape Bird Clubs	- Birding. - Adding to tick list. - Doing something for conserving an endemic.  - Conservation. - Bird watching.	- Avian conservation. - Assist with Cape Parrot Big Birding Day (monitoring). - Don't support illegal trade markets. - Nest disturbance? - Making people aware. - Reports on decline in numbers. - Habitat destruction.	+ +  + - + + +	** **  ** ** **	- Cape Parrot Census Day Involvement - Assist with monitoring. - Pressurise government in terms of controlling logging, persecution by farmers etc. - Train public on the fact that this bird is endangered. - Get birders involved with providing info on sightings – habitat destruction etc.
Hiking Clubs.	Walking in natural areas.	Walking / seeing	+		- Awareness.
LPWG / The Contact Trust	- Ensuring maintenance of biodiversity.	- Assist in having legislation passed through parliament	+	**	- Assist in presenting & exploring the need for legislation in parliament & winning support for it.
Other NGO's interested / Blue Swallow Working Group / Oribi Working Group/ SA Crane Working Group / Wildlife and Environmental Society of South Africa	Conservation	- Habitat protection.	+	** - ****	- Provide support for Cape Parrot effort. - Help lobby for finance, increased media coverage, ecotourism ventures, etc. - Support – info, logistics, funding, overall collaboration for conservation.
Forestry (Sappi, Mondi)	- Conservation awareness “Flagships” - Forestry  - Afforestation – extraction of timber. - Commercial.	- Tree production - Forest Conservation? - Tree planting - Protection of forest patches - Habitat destruction - Possible source of funding - Major land owner & employer	- + + + - + + & -	**** * ** **  **** ****	- Planting yellowwoods – corridors therefore food trees for - Modify afforestation. - Assist tree (yellow-wood, celtis, pecan) propagation & planting for parrot food on forest edge. - Assist law enforcement. - Funding source. - Parrot survey manpower.

					- Access to land to researchers.
Timber merchants / loggers / timber industry / timber sawmills / furniture makers	- Commercial exploitation. - Timber harvesting - Wood production for furniture making. - Collecting wood. - Commercial.	- Harvesting forests.  - Removal of food & nests sites from indigenous forests. - Tree felling – replanting trees. - Profit from indigenous timber.	- + & - - - -	****  **** ****  ***	- Control use & exploitation “sustainably” - Conserve existing yellow-wood forests on their land. - Plant alternate food sources around plantations.. - Ensure logging leases are not renewed. - Obtain saplings and seeds for distribution. - Funding, educating them on parrots need for large, older trees.
Aviculturalists / parrot breeders / bird parks.	-Captive breeding - Bird breeding for profit - Financial gain - Captive breeding & selling. - Parrots in captivity.  - Commercial import and export of parrots.  - Release back to wild?.  - Breeding birds for money	- Stud Book Breeding  - Breeding & selling birds to pet market.  - Prevent cross breeding - Encouraging illegal trapping - Incentives to locals to bring Cape Parrots to them from the wild. - Captive breeding. - Trade (gene pool in time of crises - Trapping & dealing. - Breeding – illegal retention of birds. - Interbreeding (hybridization) -	+ + + & - - - - + + - - - + & -	*** **** ****  **** **** **  **** ***  ***  ****	- Produce healthy outbred birds. - Must make official statements in court. - All participate in studbook. - All come clean & report offences. Become a network of informants on illegal trade. - Assist in promoting legal acquisition of birds - Breeding birds to fulfil the supposed demand. - Employ “trapping techniques to bring offenders to court (legal). - Support - Control - Studbook- advice. - Funding. - Law enforcement.
Media (50/50 etc) / Newsmedia / Aviculture Magazine / media links	-Public awareness. - Conservation. - Publishing articles. - Journalism		+ + + & - +	**** ** *** ***	- Maintain public awareness levels. - If monetary value given encourage no value to be added. - World-wide awareness - Public education.
Veterinarians / medical researchers	- Avian health (captive) - Research Psittacine Beak and Feather	- Prevention of PBF - Looking for vaccine needs samples and funding	+ +	*** ***	- Prepare and distribute vaccine - Research collaboration.

	Disease.				
Studbook-keeper	- Develop a list of all breeders and birds	- Keep and monitor records & assist in genetic maintenance.	+	***	- Facilitate breeding and genetic maintenance -
Sponsors (e.g. First National Bank, Nedbank)		- Getting involved with conservation	+ & -	***	Get CP as flagship species.
Eskom	Generate & delivering power.	Source of funding & social development.	+	**	Could put power-lines into communities next to forest to reduce fire-wood need.
BirdLife International	- Bird & habitat conservation		+	****	- Become a major player in conserving & educating. - Support – info, logistics, funding, overall collaboration for conservation.
CITES.	- Control of trade nationally and internationally. - Law enforcement. - Ensure trade is sustainable and well managed.  - Control. - Trade monitoring.	- Monitoring of trade - Control of trade  - Assist in obtaining adequate legal protection. - Developing and implementing trade ,management systems  - Permits regulation.	- +  + + +  - +	*** ***  **** **  **  ***	- Prevent trade - Obstacles to Cites 1 listing – detailed data required - almost counter-productive. - List C.P. as CITES 1. - Advisory capacity. - Assist with investigations into possible illegal trade.
World Parrot Trust	- Conservation - Publishing articles		+ + & -	*** ***	- Funds to pay site monitors. - Build infrastructure for ecotourism type resorts. - World-wide awareness.
Zoos & PAAZAB	Conservation	Display captive parrots	+ -	** **	Awareness & education. Must not keep Cape Parrots (only Grey-headed & Brown-necked)

## **Opportunities and risks of the species action plan implementation.**

### **Opportunities**

Population densities are low and populations small. However, due to its scarcity and the international recognition of parrots as charismatic birds, the Cape Parrot is fascinating to birdwatchers and the more general national and international tourist. The Cape Parrot has the potential to become a symbol and flagship species for Afromontane forest conservation in South Africa.

Local expertise and interest in South Africa exists in Cape Parrot. A species interest group for Cape Parrots (Cape Parrot Working Group) and African parrots (Research Centre for African Parrot Conservation) is functioning and expanding its activities to promote and achieve the conservation of the Cape Parrot.

Provincial law protects against the capture of Cape Parrots from the wild.

Very few true Cape Parrots are held in captivity outside South Africa, which is an advantage for effective law enforcement activities. Identification materials have been developed to further assist enforcement activities.

### **Risks**

Most Afromontane forests where Cape Parrots occur are only partially protected by conservation legislation.

Aviculturalists report that the demand for Cape Parrots in aviculture has dramatically increased in recent years. Increasing scarcity of the bird in the wild increases their economic value. Currently, demand is greater than supply from birds already in captivity. The weakness of the Rand against many international currencies makes the potential for international trade in this species highly lucrative.

The need for resources use by poor local communities, who have little opportunity for alternative sources of income, is very large.

Protective legislation enforcement is minimal.

Capacity to maintain and adequately manage the protected areas where the species occurs is currently weak due to resources going to social issues (e.g. housing, AIDS etc.).

## Chapter 3.

### Action Plan.

<b>Vision.</b>	
To conserve the Cape Parrot in the wild and in captivity.	
<b>Aim</b>	<b>Indicator</b>
The aim of this five-year plan is to halt the decline of the Cape Parrot population, reduce the rate of habitat loss and improve the quality of available habitat in priority sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numbers of Cape Parrots have stabilised or preferably increased.</li> <li>• Illegal harvesting of yellowwoods stopped. Legal commercial harvesting reduced by 50%.</li> <li>• The quality of habitat available to the Cape Parrot has improved.</li> <li>• Available pristine habitat should be formally protected.</li> <li>• Evidence of reductions in utilization of yellowwoods by communities.</li> <li>• Community-based awareness programme operational at all priority Cape Parrot sites.</li> <li>• Cape Parrots are utilising fruit from trees planted to provide supplementary food sources in all priority Cape Parrot areas.</li> <li>• Successful nesting by Cape Parrots recorded in artificial nest box placed within forest.</li> <li>• Effective vaccine developed and in use against PBFDV.</li> </ul>
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Indicator</b>
1. Alternative development opportunities and sustainable participatory forest management committees in place by 2008 in two priority areas in order to enhance the livelihoods of adjacent communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At least two participatory forest management committees have been established and are functioning in priority Cape Parrot sites by 2008.</li> <li>• By 2008, alternative development opportunities have been identified and are making a meaningful difference to the livelihoods of relevant communities.</li> <li>• Reduced dependence by local communities on non-renewable or slow regenerating forest products by 2008.</li> </ul>
2. Develop and implement an environmental education programme, primarily focussed on the conservation of the Cape Parrot and its habitat, involving the relevant stakeholders, by 2008.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A number of environmental education programmes and resources, focussing on the Cape Parrot, have been developed (ongoing).</li> <li>• An environmental education programme has been implemented in at least 12 schools.</li> <li>• An environmental education programme has been implemented in at least three other sectors, i.e. traditional healers, farmers and</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aviculturalists</li> <li>• Awareness programme running in at least two priority Cape Parrot sites.</li> </ul>
3. By January 2004 a comprehensive national policy on the conservation and sustainable utilisation of the Cape Parrot in captivity and the wild has been distributed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comprehensive national policy has been developed.</li> <li>• The policy has been implemented in all nine provinces.</li> </ul>
4. Felling of yellowwood trees by legal commercial loggers reduced by 50% in 5 priority Cape Parrot sites by 2008.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five priority sites identified</li> <li>• Review of all commercial logging operations and permits for these areas.</li> <li>• Negotiations with relevant logging companies and authorities completed and 50% reduction in harvest quotas implemented and enforced by 2008.</li> <li>• Commercial loggers become partners in the project, assisting with funding/positively influencing those who do not reduce felling and those who are illegal.</li> </ul>
5. Increase food supply of Cape Parrots by planting a minimum of 5 species of food source trees (indigenous/exotic) in a minimum of 5 localities by December 2005.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five priority sites identified.</li> <li>• Five suitable fruiting tree species selected and stocks obtained</li> <li>• Planting of trees initiated at all five sites with fast maturing species having born fruit at least once by December 2005.</li> <li>• Community involvement in caring for trees.</li> </ul>
6. Successfully complete 50% of research projects investigating Cape Parrot movements, social organisation, breeding biology, status as a crop pest, disease, and habitat quality in terms of Cape Parrot requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All proposed research projects listed and prioritised by 2003.</li> <li>• Students and required funding for minimum of 50% of priority projects sourced.</li> <li>• Projects successfully completed with findings in process of publication and practical aspects informing Cape Parrot conservation efforts.</li> </ul>
7. Enable the Cape Parrot Working Group to develop an infrastructure to realise the objectives of the action plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An infrastructure has been developed and agreed upon.</li> <li>• Funding sourced for full-time regional coordinator.</li> <li>• Regional coordinator appointed.</li> <li>• Weekly, monthly and annual aims and objectives are set for achievement of Cape Parrot conservation.</li> <li>• The CPWG is housed with an appropriate organisation.</li> </ul>

**Projects Table.**

**Table 1. Objectives and project concepts.**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
<b>Community involvement.</b>						
<b>1) Alternative development opportunities and sustainable participatory forest management committees in place by 2008 in two priority areas in order to enhance the livelihoods of adjacent communities.</b>						
- Establishment of Community Forest Management Committees at 2 places – (forest management plans for 2 yellowwood rich forests).	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)	2003 – 2008		Trust and honesty established as the working foundation between all stakeholders. Cape Parrot sites prioritised. Community forest management committees active at two priority sites.	Risks: Hidden agendas of community leaders, political interference, too much to do by too few, over-expectation from community.
- Conduct a skills audit, organise relevant training, for the development of sustainable eco-tourism activities. (Environmentally friendly, economically feasible, incorporating the indigenous knowledge of people). Agroforestry.	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)	Audit: 2004 – 2005 Training: 2004 – 2006.		Report on skills audit available by 2005. Material for training prepared by 2004 and first workshops conducted by 2005.	Risks: Insufficient visitors for viability.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
- Maximise the value of non-wood products e.g. mushrooms, wild fruits, ferns etc.	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)	2003 – 2008		Completed assessment of non-wood products that can be harvested sustainably. Appropriate quotas for sustainable harvesting in place. Completed market research into viability of harvest and trade in non-wood products. Marketing strategies have been put in place where appropriate. Greater use of non-wood products by communities, less harvesting of yellowwood.	Risks: Less income from alternate development to stimulate conservation of the forests.
- Involvement of communities in farm activities e.g. apiculture, basket making, mats, nursery (wood-lot development) etc.	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)	2003 – 2006	seedlings	Cost-benefit analysis of the various farming activities including appropriate market research. Possible sources of funding investigated (e.g. DFID and	Opportunities: - Empowered communities. - Less friction with regulating agencies. - Full approval from municipalities for IDP process. - Benefit sharing. Risks: - Insufficient visitors for viability.

					GTZ). Craftmaking, bee-keeping and alternate fuel sources developed by communities close to priority Cape Parrot areas.	
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Project	Provinces	Agencies responsible	Time scale	Cost	Indicators	Risks and Opportunities
<b>Public awareness and training.</b>						
2) Develop and implement an environmental education programme, primarily focussed on the conservation of the Cape Parrot and its habitat, involving the relevant stakeholders, by 2008.						
- Linking with KwaZulu-Natal Biodiversity Environmental Education Programme in 12 schools, in Cape Parrot areas – with a view to expanding nationally.	KZN  EC & LP = future	KZN Wildlife, KZNCF, OWG, CPWG, BSWG, Sharenet, EC Nat. Cons.	2003 – ongoing Evaluation 2 yearly	R 50 000 pa. (KZN)	Material for education programmes prepared. Twelve schools in priority areas selected. Active education programme underway. List of schools and number of visits made per year	Risks: Education focus too broad, funding. Opportunities: Sharing of resources.
- Participatory farm workshops in priority problem areas to resolve conflict between Cape Parrots and farmers (re: crop predation).	EC, KZN	CPWG, Nat Cons. Dpt (EC & KZN), other NGO's, Farmer Associations, Africa Ext Officers.	Jan 2003 – December 2004	R 10 000 pa.	Problem areas identified. Nature and extent of problems in each area determined. Workshops held to identify workable solutions that are locally applicable.	Risks: Antagonism, personnel, funding. Opportunities: Links with farmers.
- Development of learning support material in relevant languages for use in specified projects.	EC, KZN, LP	CPWG, Nat Cons, Provincial Tourism Association.	2003 – ongoing.	R 20 000 pa.	Appropriate learning support material (resources) available.	Risks: Personnel, funding. Opportunities: Links / networking

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
- Provide training amongst traditional healers in medicinal plant propagation to reduce impacts on Cape Parrot habitat.	KZN (current) EC	Permaculture experts, CPWG, Nat Cons dept, NGO's INR, Agric Dpt.	Current – 2004 - ongoing	Set-up: R 20 000 R 10 000 pa thereafter	List of identified traditional healers amongst CP communities. Workshops held with traditional healers to identify needs and priority species. Seedlings and other appropriate stocks obtained. Training workshops conducted. Annual report on monitoring of quantities of resources collected from the wild and those propagated artificially.	Risks: 'Mistrust' Opportunity: Groundwork done, new partnerships.
- Compile and distribute a quarterly newsletter to update relevant stakeholders on Cape Parrot activities and issues.	South Africa	CPWG	2003 – ongoing quarterly	R 20 000 pa	Editor appointed. Funding for printing and distribution available. First newsletter distributed by 2003. Distributed four	Risks: Funds, personnel, postal service.

<p>- Consult with rural communities to identify their needs in relation to those of the Cape Parrot and its habitat, toward common resolution.</p> <p>- Develop a strategic partnership with communities to address their needs as well to benefit Cape Parrot conservation.</p>	EC, KZN	KZN Wildlife, EC Nat Cons., CPWG, NGO's, Business.	2003 end 2008	R 70 000	<p>time a year.</p> <p>1. List of community needs amongst at least 2 CP communities.</p> <p>2. Community based projects (documents) drawn up and implementation evident.</p>	<p>Risks: Mistrust, fear, funds, personnel.</p> <p>Opportunities: Partnerships.</p>

Project	Provinces	Agencies responsible	Time scale	Cost	Indicators	Risks and Opportunities
<b>Policy and legislation.</b>						
<b>3).</b> By January 2004, a comprehensive national policy on the conservation and sustainable utilisation of the Cape Parrot in captivity and the wild has been distributed.						
<p>- Draft the national policy in consultation with stakeholders, for the effective conservation of the Cape Parrot in captivity and it's habitat taking into account the principle of indigenous knowledge sharing.</p> <p>Explanatory note: The policy must include registration in the studbook, uniform permit conditions, Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease testing, DNE testing, permanent identification methods, safety flights, hybridisation elimination, disease and quarantine control, co-operation between the judiciary and law-enforcement officers and increased penalties for illegally dealing in Cape Parrot's.</p>	All nine provinces.	CPWG, Provincial Nature Conservation, ESPU.	<p>1) Start: Feb 2003 at CPWG meeting.</p> <p>2) Draft completed: 30 June 2003, approved by CPWG.</p> <p>3) Circulated to all provinces &amp; stakeholders, comments returned by: 31 August 2003.</p> <p>4) Revision completed &amp; final approval by CPWG: 30 October 2003.</p>		<p>Draft policy developed by end June 2003.</p> <p>Draft policy circulated to relevant stakeholders and provincial nature conservation offices by end August 2003.</p> <p>Document revised and approved by the CPWG by end October 2003.</p>	<p>Opportunities: Existing draft policy for Blue Crane. Cost mostly covered by provincial conservation budgets.</p> <p>Risks: Government bureaucracy may prevent time scale being met.</p>
- Ensure policy is nationally legislated.	All nine provinces.	DEAT (WG 1)	After 30 October 2003 (regular follow-up every 2 months by CPWG)		Policy is submitted to DEAT WG1. Follow-up is made regularly (record of contact kept).	



<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
- Promote compliance and enforcement of the policy.	All nine provinces.	CPWG, Provincial Nature Conservation.	Ongoing		Meetings to discuss compliance have been held with all provincial nature conservation bodies. Action is being taken by provincial nature conservation bodies to implement policy. Training provided to relevant permit and law enforcement staff at Provincial conservation staff and govt staff (DEAT) get out to Cape Parrot areas more and establish a definite presence in these areas by end of 2004.	
- Monitor compliance with the policy.	All nine provinces.		Ongoing		Annual report to CPWG detailing e.g. results of cage inspections	

					and incidence of illegal trade/keeping of this species.	
- Regular review of the policy (every 3 years).	All nine provinces.		Ongoing		Workshops held every 3 years to review policy and modify as appropriate. Amendments to policy to be incorporated into provincial ordinances.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
<b>Species and habitat.</b>						
<b>4) Felling of yellowwood trees by legal commercial loggers reduced by 50% in 5 priority Cape Parrot sites by 2008.</b>						
- Determine the number of operations nationally.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	January 2003 – June 2003	R 500	Number of operations determined and where.	Risk: Outdated information.
- Determine the geographic location of logging operations in relation to Cape Parrot habitat.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	January 2003 – June 2003	R 500	Logging operations and priority Cape Parrot habitat mapped.	Risk: Outdated information.
- Prioritise Cape Parrot habitat sites.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	July 2003 – December 2003	R 500	Suitable Cape Parrot habitat mapped and prioritised.	Risk: Inaccuracy
- Determine the criteria used by loggers to select trees (size, age etc.)	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	January 2003 – March 2003	R 10 000	Review of logging criteria and legislation.	Risk: False info. Opportunity: Increase membership of the CPWG.
- Determine volumes / quota / history for last 10 years.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	January 2003 – June 2003	R 1000	Review of available logging records and official quotas.	Risk: False info. Opportunity: Acceptance by loggers.
- Status of current policies / quotas.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	July 2003 – June 2004	R 1000	Review of status of current policies/ quotas.	Opportunity: Strengthen relationship with DWAF. Risk: Rejection by DWAF

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
- Submit to quota-planners recommended annual volumes to be felled.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG	December 2003	R 200	Sustainable yellowwood logging investigated in terms of Cape Parrot habitat requirements. Revised logging quotas motivated and submitted to DWAF. Document containing annual logging volumes.	Opportunity: Successful project. Risk: Rejection of proposal.
<b>5) Increase food supply of Cape Parrots by planting a minimum of 5 species of food source trees (indigenous/exotic) in a minimum of 5 localities by December 2005.</b>						
- Identify primary Cape Parrot food sources.	EC, KZN, LP	Researchers, field volunteers, forest & conservation officers. Community members.	January 2003 – 30 June 2003	R 5 000	Available literature reviewed. Diet of Cape Parrot flocks in priority areas investigated.	Risk: Raising expectations. Opportunities: Obtaining valuable information.
- Identify & prioritise Cape Parrot localities. [Note; This is an essential component of several other project concepts. Liaison needed between various groups to avoid duplication]	EC, KZN, LP	Researchers, field volunteers, Forest Conservation Officers. Community members.	January 2003 – 30 June 2003	R 10 000	Cape Parrot localities identified, prioritised and mapped.	Opportunity: Community support. Risk: of offending local structure
- Identify & select compatible secondary alternative food-source trees	EC, PMB	Botanists, nurseries	January 2003 – 30 June 2003	R 1000	Alternative food sources reviewed and prioritised.	Opportunities: Develop info.
- Establish participatory forest management committees.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest Conservation Officers	July 2003 – December 2005	R 50 000		Risk: Community rejection, polarisation & opportunists. Opportunity: Success.

Project	Provinces	Agencies responsible	Time scale	Cost	Indicators	Risks and Opportunities
<b>Research and monitoring.</b>						
<b>6)</b> Successfully complete 50% of research projects investigating Cape Parrot movements, social organisation, breeding biology, status as a crop pest, disease, and habitat quality in terms of Cape Parrot requirements.						
- Research into the movements and spatial ecology of the Cape Parrot.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003-2005	R 150 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Defining optimal habitat quality (food, nest sites & disturbance) of the Cape Parrot to increase abundance.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2005 - 2007	R 150 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
- Determination of the effects of social behaviour on the feeding success and population dynamics of the Cape Parrot in the wild and in captivity.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2006 - 2008	R 150 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Estimation of the effect of Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease on survivorship and breeding success in the Cape Parrot.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 - 2005	R 150 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Time scale</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Risks and Opportunities</b>
- Quantify the impact of the Cape Parrot as a pest of crops and make recommendations to prevent the problem.	EC, KZN, EC	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2004 - 2006	R 24 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Quantify the impact of Cape Parrot off-take rates for the bird and muthi trade and as food.	EC, KZN, EC	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 – 2005	R 20 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Provide alternative, in addition to the current, nest boxes to supplement possible shortage of nest sites by December 2004.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 - 2005	R 15 000	Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical	

						application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation. Written list of alternate boxes available. Boxes available.	
- Review the species status and advocate for acceptance globally.	EC, LP	KZN,	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 - 2005	R 12 000	Prepare a review document. IUCN accepted red data ranking.	
- Review the Cape Parrots conservation status. Currently it is regarded to be Endangered.	EC, LP	KZN,	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2005 - 2008	R 12 000	IUCN accepted red data ranking.	



Project	Provinces	Agencies responsible	Time scale	Cost	Indicators	Risks and Opportunities
<b>Infrastructure and co-ordination.</b>						
7) Enable the Cape Parrot Working Group to develop an infrastructure to realise the objectives of the action plan.						
- Employ a dedicated paid regional co-ordinator.	N/A	CPWG	2003 - 2008	Fax, phone, PC, printer, scanner etc R 14 000 Vehicle R 100 000, Vehicle running R 24 000 pa, Salary R 75 000, Stationary, postage, phone etc. R 12 000 pa.	Funding available. Dedicated CPWG coordinator employed.	Opportunity: Greater capacity and efficiency.
- Investigate becoming partnered to a national/international conservation group.					Document of organisations with whom options were discussed.	
- Obtain the necessary resources and volunteer network.					Resources available. Well integrated and enthusiastic network of volunteers.	
- Develop and maintain links with supporters.					Regular contact between CPWG coordinator and other members of the CPWG	

**Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.**

**Who?** It was agreed that this is the task of the Cape Parrot Working Group Co-ordinator. It was further agreed that this could only occur once resources had been secured to employ a full-time Cape Parrot Working Group Co-ordinator. On reviewing the newly completed Cape Parrot Action Plan the members of the Cape Parrot Working Group agreed that the complexity of the tasks at hand over the next 5 years could no longer be adequately undertaken by a part-time Cape Parrot Working Group Co-ordinator.

**How & How often?** Every six months. The Cape Parrot Working Group Co-ordinator would circulate the table for monitoring and evaluating implementation of the Cape Parrot Action Plan to the agencies responsible for the different components. Each agency would fill in updated information based on their progress and return the table to the Co-ordinator. The Cape Parrot Working Group Co-ordinator would then collate the information into one table for distribution to all members and stakeholders of the Cape Parrot Working Group and other interested organisations and individuals. The Co-ordinator should also use the most up to date table to report on progress to meetings of the Cape Parrot Working Group.

**Table 2. Monitoring and evaluating implementation of the Cape Parrot Action Plan.**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Community involvement.</b>						
<b>1) Alternative development opportunities and sustainable participatory forest management committees in place by 2008 in two priority areas in order to enhance the livelihoods of adjacent communities.</b>						
- Establishment of Community Forest Management Committees at 2 places – (forest management plans for 2 yellowwood rich forests).	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)		2003 – 2008	Trust and honesty established as the working foundation between all stakeholders. Cape Parrot sites prioritised. Community forest management committees active at two priority sites.	
- Conduct a skills audit, organise relevant training, for the development of sustainable eco-tourism activities. (Environmentally friendly, economically feasible, incorporating the indigenous knowledge of people). Agroforestry.	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)		Audit: 2004 – 2005 Training: 2004 – 2006.	Report on skills audit available by 2005. Material for training prepared by 2004 and first workshops conducted by 2005.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
- Maximise the value of non-wood products e.g. mushrooms, wild fruits, ferns etc.	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)		2003 – 2008	Completed assessment of non-wood products that can be harvested sustainably. Appropriate quotas for sustainable harvesting in place. Completed market research into viability of harvest and trade in non-wood products. Marketing strategies have been put in place where appropriate. Greater use of non-wood products by communities, less harvesting of yellowwood.	
- Involve in farm activities e.g. apiculture, basket making, mats, nursery (wood-lot development) etc.	EC, KZN, LP	KZN Wildlife, East Cape Nature Conservation, CPWG, NGO, DWAF, Municipalities (Ingwe)		2003 – 2006	Cost-benefit analysis of the various farming activities including appropriate market research. Possible sources of funding investigated (e.g. DFID and GTZ).	

					Craftmaking, bee-keeping and alternate fuel sources developed by communities close to priority Cape Parrot areas.	

Project	Provinces.	Agencies responsible	Indicators	Time scale.	Completion date.	Remarks
<b>Public awareness and training.</b>						
2) Develop and implement an environmental education programme, primarily focussed on the conservation of the Cape Parrot and its habitat, involving the relevant stakeholders, by 2008.						
- Linking with KwaZulu-Natal Biodiversity Environmental Education Programme in 12 schools, in Cape Parrot areas – with a view to expanding nationally.	KZN  EC & LP = future	KZN Wildlife, KZNCF, OWG, CPWG, BSWG, Sharenet, EC Nat. Cons.		2003 – ongoing	Material for education programmes prepared. Twelve schools in priority areas selected. Active education programme underway. List of schools and number of visits made per year	
- Participatory farm workshops in priority problem areas to resolve conflict between Cape Parrots and farmers (re: crop predation).	EC, KZN	CPWG, Nat Cons. Dpt, other NGO's, Farmer Associations, African Ext Officers.		Jan 2003 – December 2004	Problem areas identified. Nature and extent of problems in each area determined. Workshops held to identify workable solutions that are locally applicable.	
- Development of learning support material in relevant languages for use in specified projects.	EC, KZN, LP	CPWG, Nat Cons, Provincial Tourism Association.		2003 – ongoing.	Appropriate learning support material (resources) available.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
- Provide training amongst traditional healers in medicinal plant propagation to reduce impacts on Cape Parrot habitat.	KZN (current) EC	Permaculture experts, CPWG, Nat Cons dept, NGO's INR, Agric Dpt.		Current – 2004 - ongoing	List of identified traditional healers amongst CP communities. Workshops held with traditional healers to identify needs and priority species. Seedlings and other appropriate stocks obtained. Training workshops conducted. Annual report on monitoring of quantities of resources collected from the wild and those propagated artificially.	
- Compile and distribute a quarterly newsletter to update relevant stakeholders on Cape Parrot activities and issues.	South Africa	CPWG		2003 – ongoing quarterly	Editor appointed. Funding for printing and distribution available. First newsletter distributed by 2003. Distributed four time a year.	
- Consult with rural communities to identify their needs in relation to those of the Cape Parrot and its habitat,	EC, KZN	KZN Wildlife, EC Nat Cons., CPWG, NGO's, Business.		2003 end 2008	1.List of community needs amongst at least 2 CP communities.	

toward common resolution. - Develop a strategic partnership with communities to address their needs as well to benefit Cape Parrot conservation.					2. Community based projects (documents) drawn up and implementation evident.	



Project	Provinces.	Agencies responsible	Indicators	Time scale.	Completion date.	Remarks
<b>Policy and legislation.</b>						
3). By January 2004, a comprehensive national policy on the conservation and sustainable utilisation of the Cape Parrot in captivity and the wild has been distributed.						
<p>- Draft the national policy in consultation with stakeholders, for the effective conservation of the Cape Parrot in captivity and its habitat taking into account the principle of indigenous knowledge sharing.</p> <p>Explanatory note: The policy must include registration in the studbook, uniform permit conditions, Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease testing, DNE testing, permanent identification methods, safety flights, hybridisation elimination, disease and quarantine control, co-operation between the judiciary and law-enforcement officers and increased penalties for illegally dealing in Cape Parrots.</p>	All nine provinces.	CPWG, Provincial Nature Conservation, ESPU.		<p>1) Start: Feb 2003 at CPWG meeting.</p> <p>2) Draft completed: 30 June 2003, approved by CPWG.</p> <p>3) Circulated to all provinces &amp; stakeholders, comments returned by: 31 August 2003.</p> <p>4) Revision completed &amp; final approval by CPWG: 30 October 2003.</p>	<p>Draft policy developed by end June 2003.</p> <p>Draft policy circulated to relevant stakeholders and provincial nature conservation offices by end August 2003.</p> <p>Document revised and approved by the CPWG by end October 2003.</p>	
- Ensure policy is nationally legislated.	All nine provinces.	DEAT (WG 1)		After 30 October 2003 (regular follow-up every 2 months by CPWG)	Policy is submitted to DEAT WG1. Follow-up is made regularly (record of contact kept).	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
- Promote compliance and enforcement of the policy.	All nine provinces.	CPWG, Provincial Nature Conservation.		Ongoing	Meetings to discuss compliance have been held with all provincial nature conservation bodies. Action is being taken by provincial nature conservation bodies to implement policy. Training provided to relevant permit and law enforcement staff at Provincial conservation staff and govt staff (DEAT) get out to Cape Parrot areas more and establish a definite presence in these areas by end of 2004.	
- Monitor compliance with the policy.	All nine provinces.			Ongoing	Annual report to CPWG detailing e.g. results of cage inspections and incidence of illegal trade/keeping of this species.	
- Regular review of the policy (every 3 years).	All nine provinces.			Ongoing	Workshops held every 3 years to review policy and modify as	

					appropriate. Amendments to policy to be incorporated into provincial ordinances.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Species and habitat.</b>						
<b>4) Felling of yellowwood trees by legal commercial loggers reduced by 50% in 5 priority Cape Parrot sites by 2008.</b>						
- Determine the number of operations nationally.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		January 2003 – June 2003	Number of operations determined and where.	
- Determine the geographic location of logging operations in relation to Cape Parrot habitat.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		January 2003 – June 2003	Logging operations and priority Cape Parrot habitat mapped.	
- Prioritise Cape Parrot habitat sites.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		July 2003 – December 2003	Suitable Cape Parrot habitat mapped and prioritised.	
- Determine the criteria used by loggers to select trees (size, age etc.)	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		January 2003 – March 2003	Review of logging criteria and legislation.	
- Determine volumes / quota / history for last 10 years.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		January 2003 – June 2003	Review of available logging records and official quotas.	
- Status of current policies / quotas.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		July 2003 – June 2004	Review of status of current policies/ quotas.	
- Submit to quota-planners recommended annual volumes to be felled.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest & Conservation Officers. CPWG		December 2003	Sustainable yellowwood logging investigated in terms of Cape Parrot habitat requirements. Revised logging quotas motivated and submitted to DWAF. Document containing annual logging volumes.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>5) Increase food supply of Cape Parrots by planting a minimum of 5 species of food source trees (indigenous/exotic) in a minimum of 5 localities by December 2005.</b>						
- Identify primary Cape Parrot food sources.	EC, KZN, LP	Researchers, field volunteers, forest & conservation officers. Community members.		January 2003 – 30 June 2003	Available literature reviewed. Diet of Cape Parrot flocks in priority areas investigated.	
- Identify & prioritise Cape Parrot localities.	EC, KZN, LP	Researchers, field volunteers, Forest Conservation Officers. Community members.		January 2003 – 30 June 2003	Cape Parrot localities identified, prioritised and mapped.	
- Identify & select compatible secondary alternative food-source trees	EC, PMB	Botanists, nurseries		January 2003 – 30 June 2003	Alternative food sources reviewed and prioritised.	
- Establish participatory forest management committees.	EC, KZN, LP	Forest Conservation Officers		July 2003 – December 2005		

Project	Provinces.	Agencies responsible	Indicators	Time scale.	Completion date.	Remarks
<b>Research and monitoring.</b>						
<b>6) Successfully complete 50% of research projects investigating Cape Parrot movements, social organisation, breeding biology, status as a crop pest, disease, and habitat quality in terms of Cape Parrot requirements.</b>						
- Research into the movements and spatial ecology of the Cape Parrot.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003-2005		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Defining optimal habitat quality (food, nest sites & disturbance) of the Cape Parrot to increase abundance.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2005 - 2007		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
- Determination of the effects of social behaviour on the feeding success and population dynamics of the Cape Parrot in the wild and in captivity.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2006 - 2008		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Estimation of the effect of Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease on survivorship and breeding success in the Cape Parrot.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 - 2005		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Quantify the impact of the Cape Parrot as a pest of crops and make recommendations to prevent the problem.	EC, KZN, EC	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2004 - 2006		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	

<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
- Quantify the impact of Cape Parrot off-take rates for the bird and muthi trade and as food.	EC, KZN, EC	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 – 2005		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation.	
- Provide alternative, in addition to the current, nest boxes to supplement possible shortage of nest sites by December 2004.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	2003 - 2005		Students and funding obtained. Annual research reports to the CPWG. Final published report. Practical application of research findings to improve Cape Parrot conservation. Written list of alternate boxes available. Boxes available.	
- Review the species status and advocate for acceptance globally.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs		2003 - 2005	Prepare a review document. IUCN accepted red data ranking.	
- Review the Cape Parrots conservation status. Currently it is regarded to be Endangered.	EC, KZN, LP	Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs		2005 - 2008	IUCN accepted red data ranking.	



<b>Project</b>	<b>Provinces.</b>	<b>Agencies responsible</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Time scale.</b>	<b>Completion date.</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>Infrastructure and co-ordination.</b>						
7) Enable the Cape Parrot Working Group to develop an infrastructure to realise the objectives of the action plan.						
- Employ a dedicated paid regional co-ordinator.	N/A	CPWG		2003 - 2008	Funding available. Dedicated CPWG coordinator employed.	
- Investigate becoming an national/international conservation group co-ordinator.					Document of organisations with whom options were discussed.	
- Obtain the necessary resources and volunteer network.					Resources available. Well integrated and enthusiastic network of volunteers.	
- Develop and maintain links with supporters.					Regular contact between CPWG coordinator and other members of the CPWG	

### **Acknowledgements.**

We are very grateful to all those individuals who contributed their time and efforts towards the success of this workshop. Also, Bill Howells for arranging use of the KwaZulu\_Natal Wildlife facilities and accommodation at Midmar Dam free of charge. Colleen Downs, Steven Evans, Malcolm Gemmell, Meoseleni Jakavula, Mike Perrin & Louise Warburton for helping to compile a contact list of stakeholders. Gill Pryke and Jenny Truter for catering, Malcolm Gemmell and Meoseleni Jakavula who were kind enough provide lifts to others who would otherwise not have been able to attend. Funding was provided by BirdLife South Africa. Thank-you to Alison de Smidt for assisting with much of the typing and layout and other support required for successful production of this action plan.

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- Wirminghaus JO, Downs CT, Symes CT, Perrin MR In press e. Fruiting in Two Afromontane Forests in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: the Habitat Type of the Endangered Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* S. A. J. Bot.

## Chapter 4.

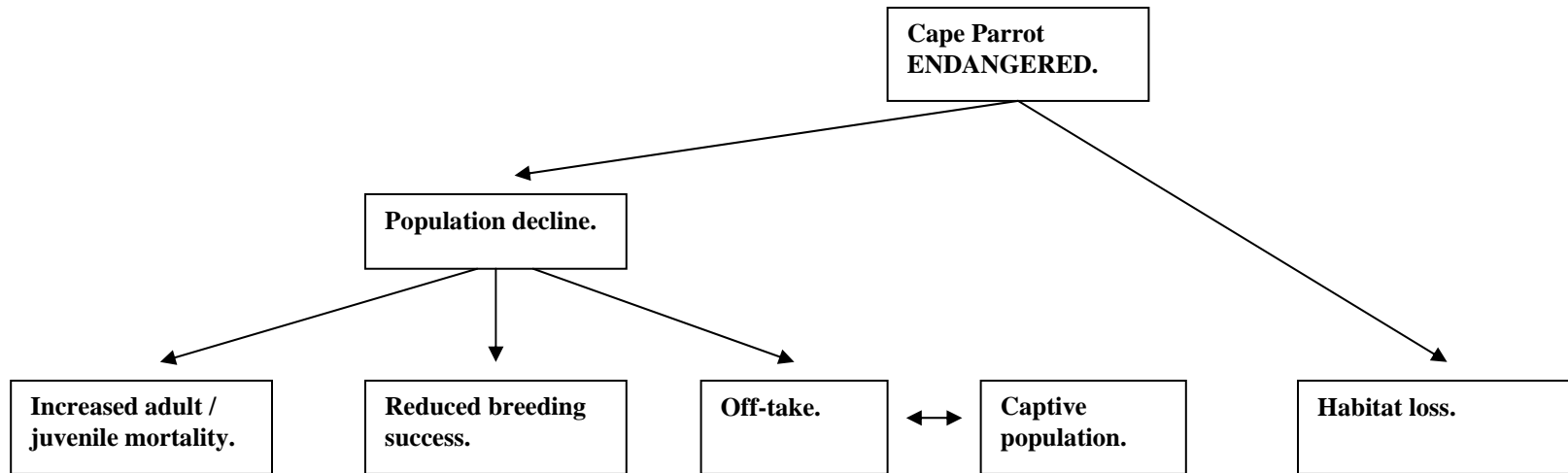
### Prioritised issues (threats) affecting the conservation of the Cape Parrot at highest level in the problem trees.

Each category heading (in bold) was prioritised in relation to each other. The sub-headings within each category were prioritised in relation to each other and not between categories.

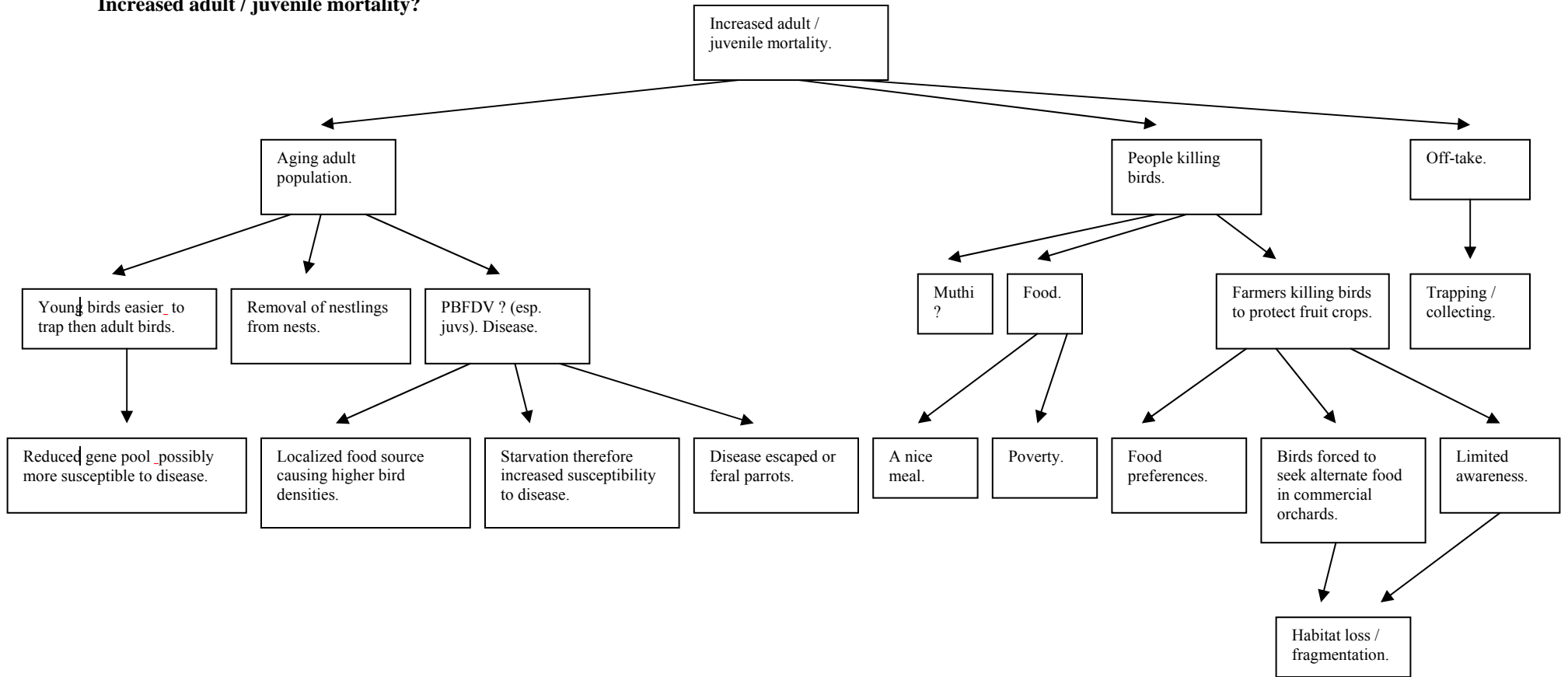
Rating of threats from 1 star to 4 stars as follows: \* = low, \*\* = medium, \*\*\* = high and \*\*\*\* = critically important.

Category 1	Rating	Category 2	Rating	Category 3	Rating	Category 4	Rating	Category 5	Rating
<b>Habitat Loss.</b>	****	<b>Off-take.</b>	***	<b>Reduced breeding success.</b>	**	<b>Increased adult / juvenile mortality.</b>	*	<b>Captive population.</b>	*
Commercial muthi needs.	***	Economic (commercial).	****	Fecundity (# chicks / clutch).	**	People killing birds.	***	Poor policing.	***
Land clearing for development.	**	Unstructured captive breeding.	**	Lack of nest sites.	**	Ageing adult population.	***	Collectors value.	***
People cutting trees (sell, fire, build).	****	Pet's (self).	*	Social factors of Cape Parrot.	*			Disease.	**
Climate change.	*	Research & education.	*	Demographics (Population structure).	**			Impact on genetic purity.	**
Uncontrolled grazing by cattle.	**	Food.	*	Disease.	***			Poor control over the captive population.	*** - ****
Change in water regimes from plantations.	*	Cultural usage.	*	Reduce gene pool.	*				
Clearing of indigenous forests for plantations.	*								
Destruction of forest by fire.	*								

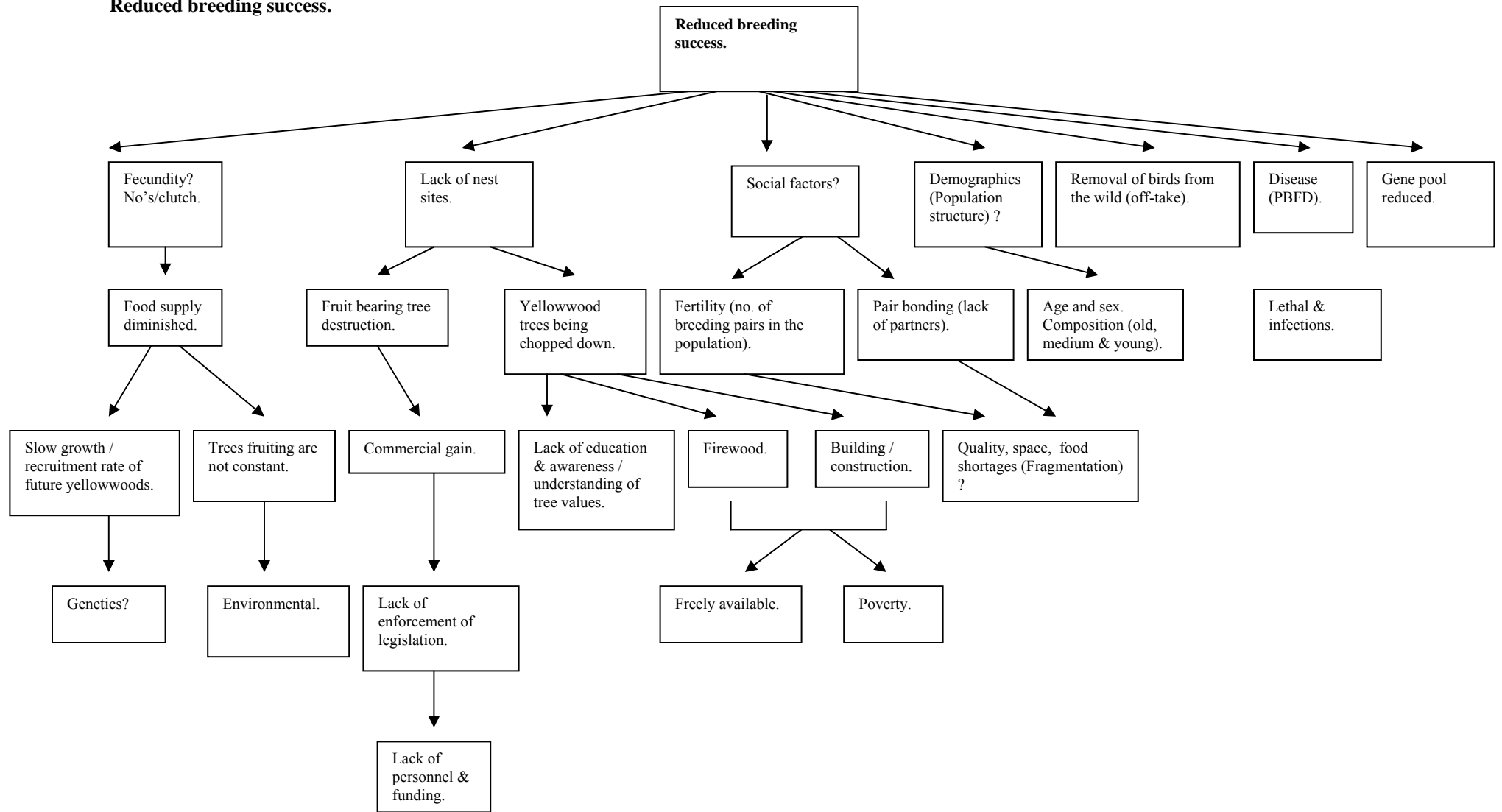
**Chapter 5.  
Problem tree.**

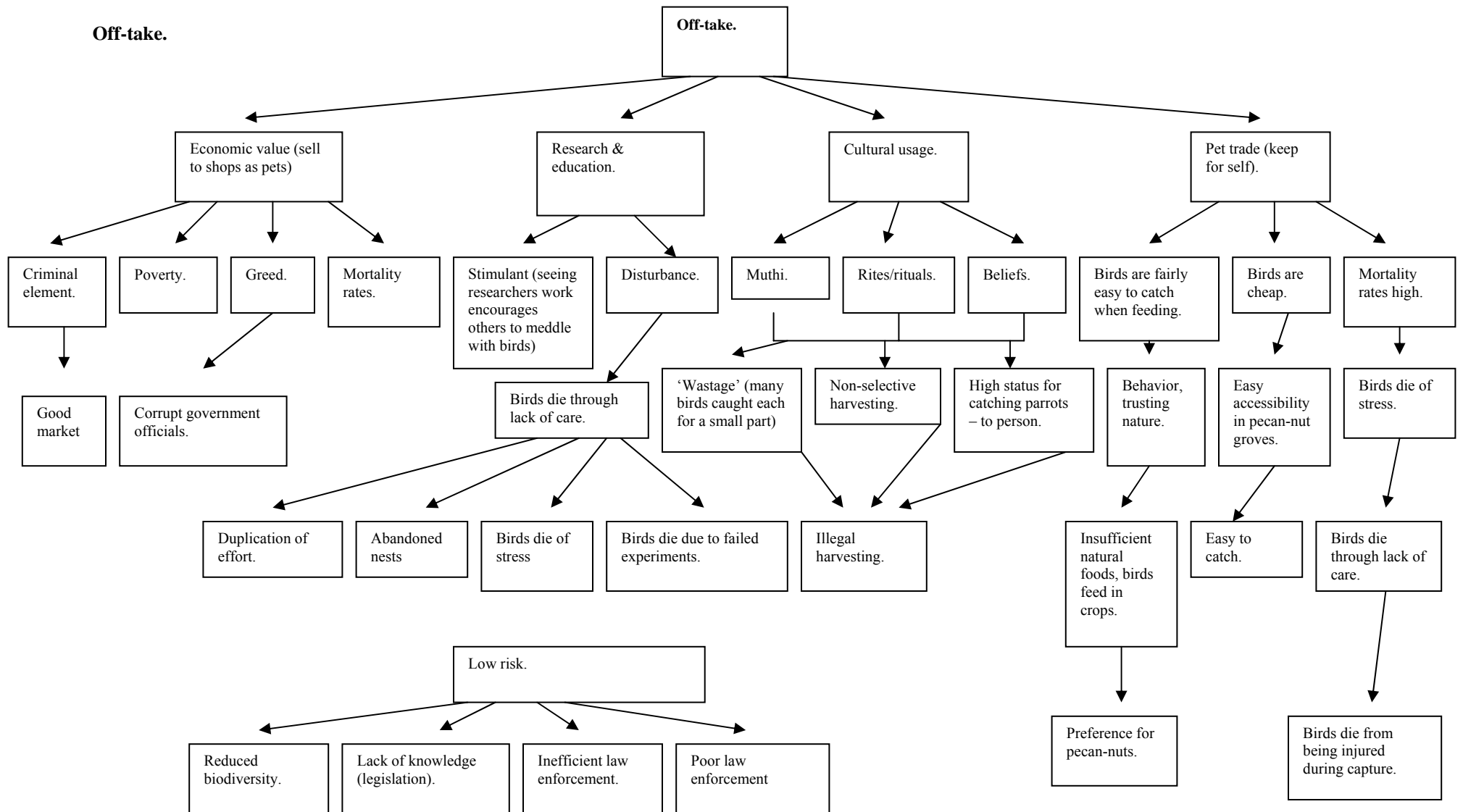


**Increased adult / juvenile mortality?**



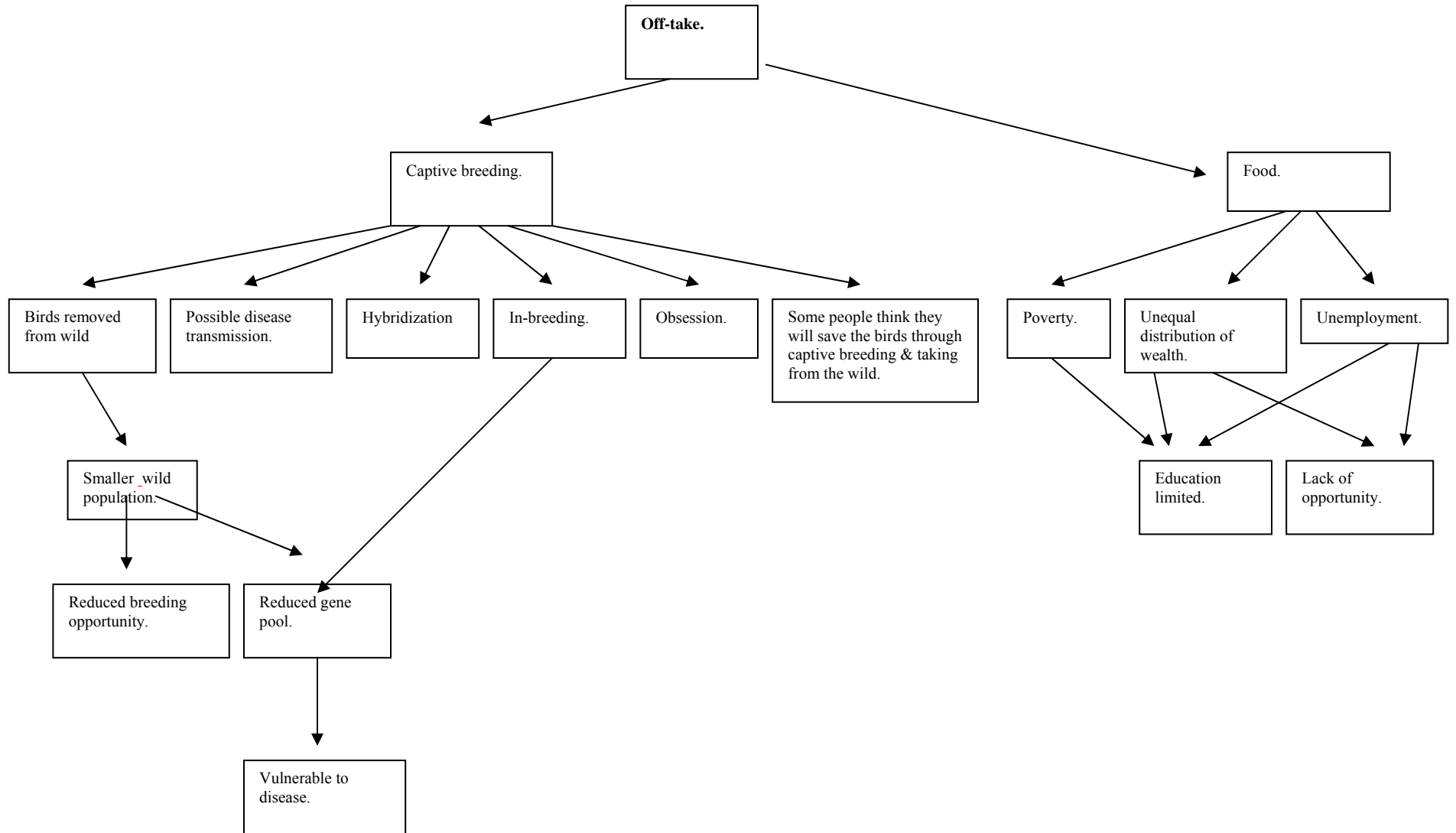
**Reduced breeding success.**



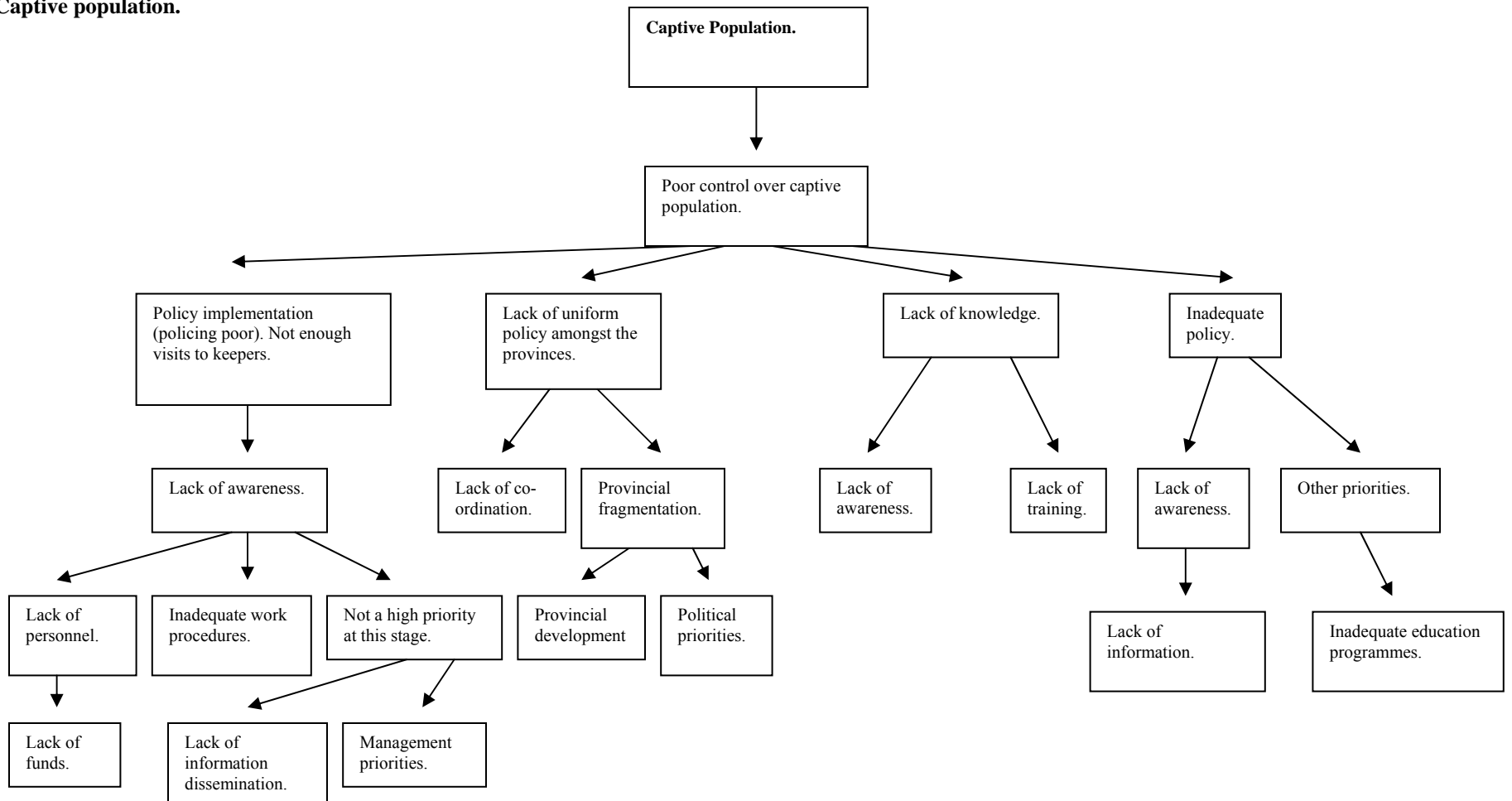




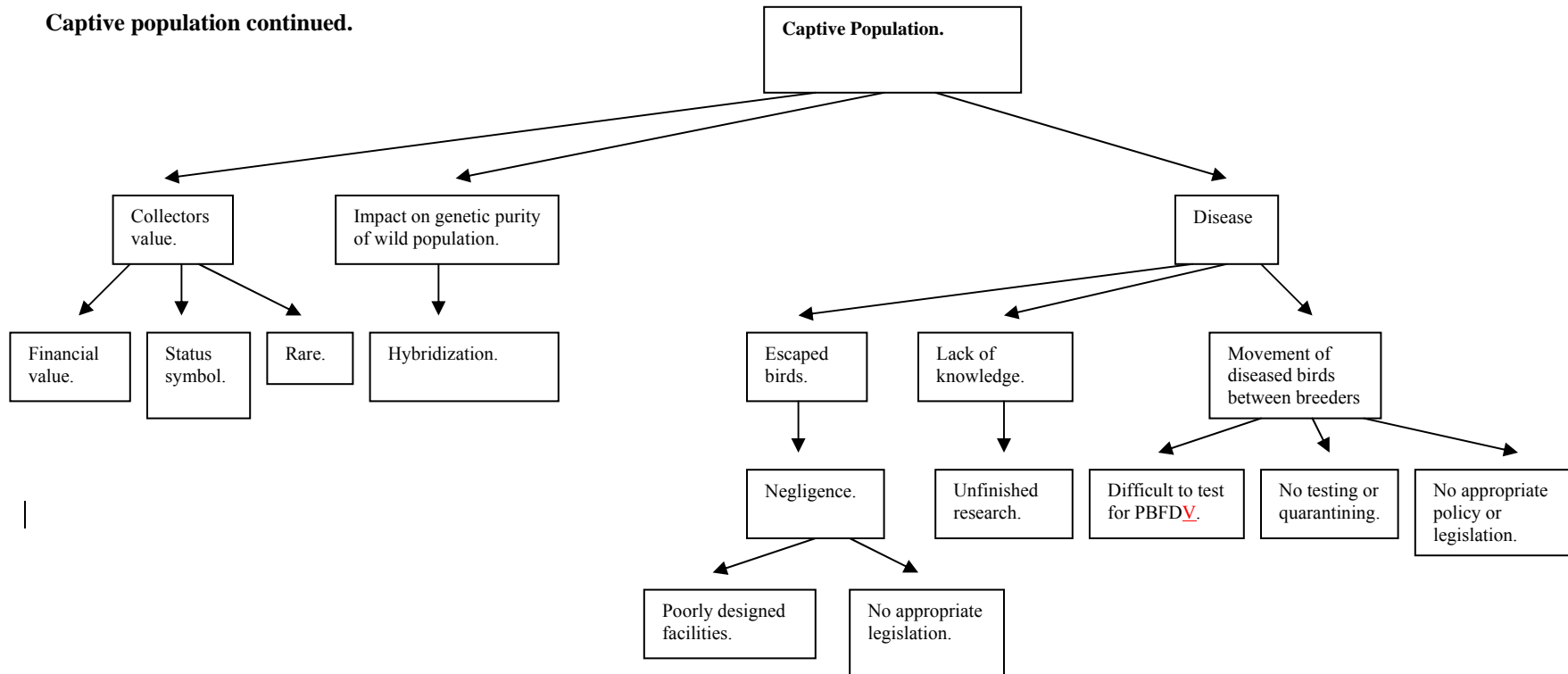
**Off-take continued.**



**Captive population.**

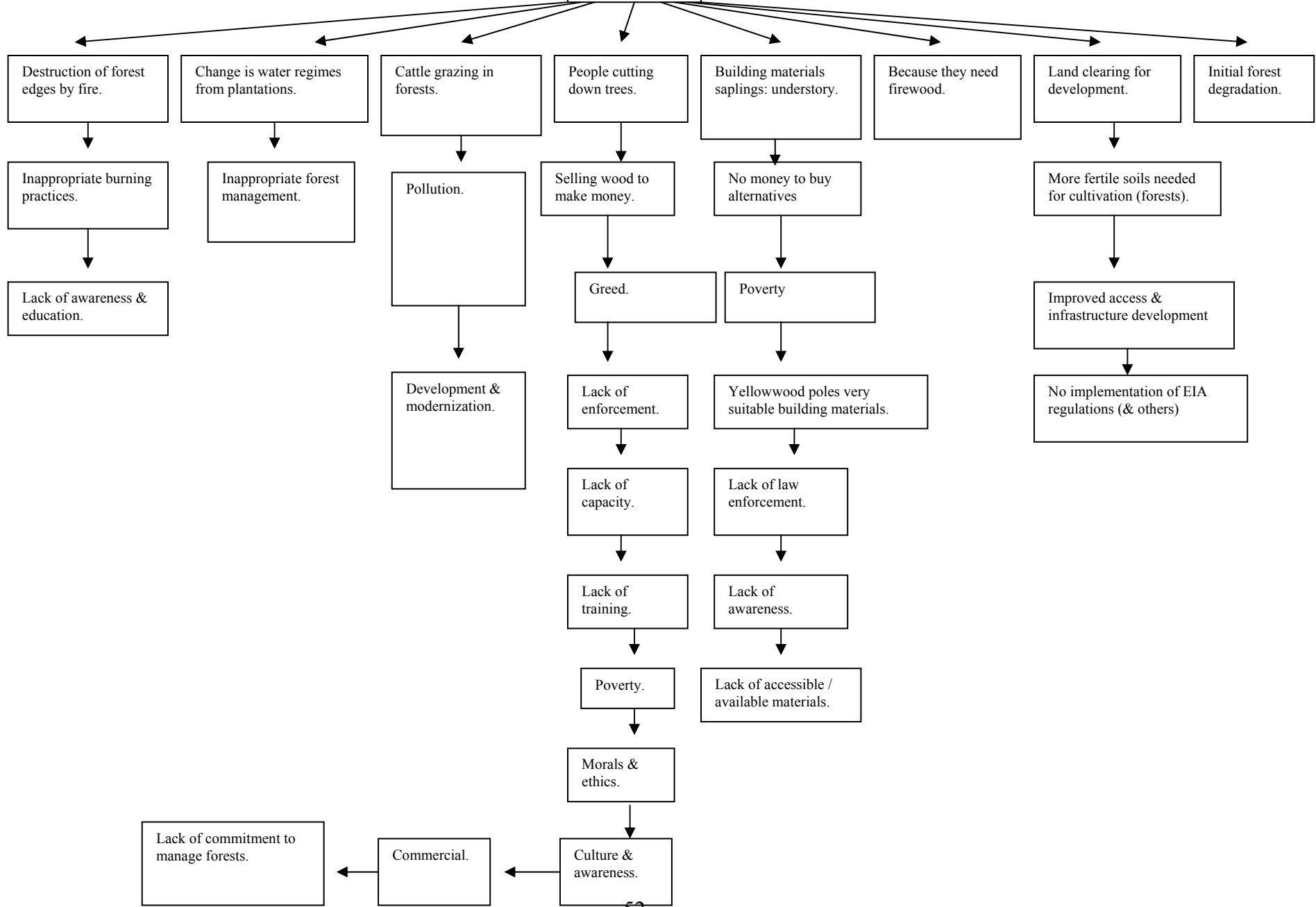


**Captive population continued.**



**Habitat loss.**

**Habitat loss.**



## Chapter 6.

### Issues / threats affecting the conservation of the Cape Parrot.

DISEASE	HABITAT	RESEARCH	EDUCATION	INTERACTIONS	PET TRADE	COMMUNITIES
Disease	Population explosion i.e. people encroach on the places of the bird.	Lack of knowing how many birds contribute to the gene-pool (breeding pairs).	Lack of awareness	Lack of techniques to reduce landowner – parrot conflict.	Positive and negative threat – highlighting the value of the C.P.	Lack of community incentives
PBFD	Human disturbance	Limited genetic variation.	Lack of knowledge in communities.	Movement of birds into unsafe places / areas for feeding.	Monetary value associated to the spp.	People sell CP to others because of poverty.
Psittacine Beak & Feather Disease Virus	Habitat loss due to persistent over exploitation – un-sustainability	Left the issue to long, lack of genetic diversity.	Humans – lack of awareness, + indifference and+ egotism.		Illegal trade	Bad experience by local communities with outcomes of development programmes e.g. REE's
	Habitat fragmentation	Lack of adequate knowledge on breeding biology & disease threat.	Lack of knowledge about the birds by communities.		Collectors value of new species.	Limited involvement in and ownership of forests by communities group forest.
	Destruction of habitat	Lack of projects in relation with the spp.			Insufficient conservation status	
	Climatical conditions which have recently changed	Lack of full understanding of ecological, biological aspects – what makes them tick?			Direct & indirect persecution – trade for food, muthi etc.	
	Scarcity of mature yellowwoods	Assessment of status			Illegal harvesting	
	Habitat destruction and degradation. Loss of food & nest site resources.				Demand for species by aviculturalists	
	Forest				Illegal trade & muthi	

	degradation / loss thus less food / shelter for Cape Parrots.					
	Modification of nesting area.				Trade – illegal capture from wild – giving the birds an economic value.	
	More access to habitat				The greatest threat to this bird is the White Nation that associates parrots with money (trade).	
	Illegal harvesting of the yellowwoods and habitat				Selling the birds.	
	Shortage of food for Cape Parrots.				Trade has to be controlled	
					Capture of Cape Parrot for trade.	
	Demands on forest by local population.					
	Habitat modification by human nature.					
	Habitat loss through cutting of yellowwoods: poles and firewood.					

## Chapter 7.

### Issues affecting successful implementation of a Cape Parrot Action Plan.

<b>STRENGTHS</b>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b>	<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<b>THREATS</b>
Holding criteria for birds in captivity	Lack of expertise from some stakeholders / Habitat destruction	Networking with other stakeholders	Are we in time. Will people be able to work together
National priority as sustainability is on international issue	Awareness is not enough to bring about change/ there seems to be not enough staff to do the job	BEEP in progress / Links already made with KZNW/SACWG/BSWG/OWG	Human interference with CP scientific and environmental education
Some form of co-ordination in place i.e. CPWG	Little funding currently available & manpower for implementation	Creation of new knowledge / Education youngsters in SA about conservation	Bird is a difficult thing to study etc due to fact that it flies
Extensive knowledge base many willing people some organization (CPWG)	No local structures yet	The rate at which our tourism industry grows / get funding for the realisation of the plan	Illegal trading of CP
CP are charismatic & rare International & national interest	Protective legislation enforcement is minimal	Education	Shortage of yellowwood
Presence of organisation & specifically looking after conservation of care parrot	Funding (lack of)	We have to create the necessary opportunities	Pop numbers already too low
Knowledge/research Base	Personnel	BLSA involvement	Permanent administrative body to keep up momentum
Identifiable marking of all birds in captivity	More networking is needed	Better networking amongst all stakeholders & sharing	Not understand real issue because of a lack of knowledge
Tribal authorities involvement in the action plan	Lack of legislation	Links with swallows, cranes and oribi WG's	Poaching is illegal trade
Well represented	Financial incentives / Formal linkages / Institutional frame work	Sharing resources with other conservation groups	Deforestation
Cape Parrots symbolize flagship conservation	Lack of knowledge / Funding / Implementation of people	Local people participation in the conservation of CP & management of forests	Inability to control illegal harvesting from the wild
Large group of people working towards the conservation of CP's	Lack of trained staff	Workshopping of communities adjacent to district Ranges	Likelihood to get powerful groups with subversive interests
Co operation from stakeholders and local people will bring about success conservation status of CP will improve	Budget constraints	Formulation of provincial CP working groups involving communities	Illegal trading of SPP
Diverse group represented at this meeting with most stakeholders involved	Lack of knowledge about the CP	International collaboration	Limited genetic foundation
Local expertise & interest already	Lack of funding	Tourism potential	How to improve poverty status of

			groups living around the CP
Local communities should be involved in CP counts	Fragmented localities & distribution	B.L.I 2004	PBFD
Expertise	Insufficient tourism trade in some CP areas / No ecotourism opportunities for communities	Develop partnerships with those most impacting the future of the CP	With the majority of world population in poverty there will always be threat to interfere with the environment
Involvement of different stakeholders interested on the issue	No conservation plan for CP	Improving tracking of birds through the studbook	The dept of justice also need to be enlightened about the importance of CP conservation
Good collaboration & info sharing through CPWG	Corruption at Government level	Good co-operation of all stakeholders	The Dept of environmental affairs should stop issuing captivity permits
Community involvement in place	Ineffective communication due to the diversity of languages in SA	Conservation	Lack of co-ordination on policy formulation
BirdLife SA/ International	Laxity in the part of the dept. of justice	Proposing a viable working document based on the experience & skill of the participants	Provincial Issues and loss of transparency
Good integration between captive & conservation stakeholders	Not enough data	Better future for the new generation	Protection of forest habitats
Involved in the CPWG (DWAF)	Finance	Awareness raising	Maintaining the balance b/n the conservation efforts of community & benefit from development
Environmental education DWAF P.F.M	Lack of local communities knowledge	Highlight the importance of smaller species in danger	Economic pressure on habitat
Co-ordinated approach to solving the problem	No structure closer to the forest concern	Research on the SPP & areas	Local population demands
There is indigenous knowledge in place	Genetic base	Ecotourism	Lack of ecological understanding
Due to international concern on preserving the environment there is general awareness of conservation issues	Antagonism from those people who use indigenous forests	Cape Parrot flagship spp of forest	Lack of knowledge by the public and the press
Well represented stakeholder group	Historically a risk-filled species	Gathering of info through research	Habitat degradation due to development /settlement
Extensive network of people	Remoteness to services	Political support via IDP's	Lack of adequate legislation i.e. law enforcement e.g. trade/prosecution of yellowwood thieves
Presence of good national & international legislation	Poverty levels of forest neighbours	National law protects against the capture of C.P from the wild	
Stud book in place	Fragmentations of habitat	Predicative modelling	
Increased processes of participation with rural people	Lack of community awareness	Pull in more affected structures	
Commitment	Limited CPWG staff		



There is a group of willing people ready to do the job	Insufficient resources funds		
Community participation in the plan	Local people not being co-operative funding		
	Lack of funding / Conflict of interest / Lack of information out flow / Lack of well trained staff		
	Not enough awareness		
	Funds for microchips		
	Communications liaison by all stakeholders		
	Logistics		
	Logistics of sharing samples for research purposes		
	Corruption everywhere concerning parrots		
	Need ethics & values back		
	Species conservation is not recognised as a national priority / concern		
	Lack of policy		
	Lack of policing of existing laws		
	Unable to address the interests of local communities living close to the habitat of the CP		
	Political interference indirect		
	Lack of inclusion (conservation) in curricula		
	What do we know about the illegal trade in the CP		

## Chapter 8

### Workshop Participants & Apologies.

NAME	ORGANIZATION	POSTAL ADDRESS
D. Mashele	DWAF	Private Bag X 3522, Kokstad 4700
A.J Melushi	DWAF	Private Bag X561, Eshowe, 3815
Livio Heath	UCT	Dept. Molecular & Cell Biology UCT P.O Box 1, Rondebosch, 7701
Jaco Koekemoer	ESPU (SAPS)	Private Bag 31237, Wonderboom Park, 0033, Pretoria
Kobus Pienaar	Environmental Affairs Limpopo	Box 3174, Nylstroom, 0510
Craig Whittington-Jones	Gauteng Nature Conservation	P.O Box 8769, JHB, 2000
Helena Mattison	EWT- Blue Swallow Working Group	Box 78, Ixopo, 3276
Janis O'Grady	KZN Wildlife	P.O Box 13053, Cascades, 3202
Bill Howells	KZN Wildlife	P.O Box 13053, Cascades, 3202
Benfred Dlamini	KZN Wildlife	P.O Box 13053, Cascades, 3202
Robert Shezi	KZN Wildlife	Box 378, Kokstad
Mioseleli Jakavola	DWAF	Private Bag 7485, King Williams Town 5600
Simo Mpindi	K.K Hoek L.T.O	Box 48, Keiskama Hoek 5670
Sipho Mgugulwa	Pirie Village Sanco	Box 397, King Williams Town
Carriot Kameni	DWAF (IFM Staff)	Private Bag X32, Stutterheim
Douglas MacFarlone	Sappi Forest	P.O Box 13124, Cascades, 3202
John Roff	National Botanical Institute	Box 21667, Mayorswalk,

		3208
Aster Tefera	Ethiopian Wildlife & Natural History Society	13303 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Craig Archibald	Independent ?DAWF BirdLife Sisonke	Box 129, Dannybrook 3237
Msekelwa Dlamini	BirdLife Sisonke	Box 259, Centocow
Malcolm Gemmell	BirdLife Sisonke	Box 60, Creighton, 3263
Ralph Correja	Behoboth Biras	Postnet Suite 239, P/Bag X9118, PMB, 3200
Elaine Whitwam	Aviculturist	Box 10 Umtentwen, 4235
Claire Patterson	Traffic	P/Bag X11, Parkview, 2122
Sharron Hughes	KZN Wildlife	Box 13053, Cascades 3202
Solly Duna	Eastern Cape Nature Conservation	P/ Bag X3 Amalinda 5252
Wiseman Zibele Mondl	Eastern Cape Nature Conservation	P/Bag X3 Amalinda; 5252
L.Warburton	CPWG Co-ordinator	School of Botany & Zoology, University of Natal P/Bag X01 Scottsville 3209

### List of apologies:

Pat Brenchley, Mark Brown, Stuart Charlton, Brian Colahan, Vera Dennison, Div de Villiers, John Duff, Chris Kingsley, Xander de Kock, Colleen Downs, Callum Forsyth, Mike Fryer, Rick Hanaan	David Pretorius, Moshibudu Rampedi, William Horsfield, David Johnson, Rob Little, Athol Marchant, Peter Mayther-Pike, Cameron McMaster, Meriel Mitchell, Mark Penning, Dries Pienaar, Ricky Pott, Jaap Pienaar,	Ed Rybicki, Coreen Sabbagha, Owen Sanders, Kevin Shaw, Dudley Smith, Jill Thompson, Jeanne-Marie Van den Berg, Sarah Venter, Jan van Wyk, Graham Winch, Pete Wood, Louis Van Zyl
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## Chapter 9.

### Participant Goals and Hope.

<p><b>Name:</b> Simo Mpindi  <b>Organization:</b> Keiskammahoek Local Tourism Organization  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Local Community</p>		
<b>What is your prior Experience of Cape Parrots?</b>	<b>What are your expectations of the Cape Parrot Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop?</b>	<b>What can you contribute to the Cape Parrot Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop?</b>
None. Rather interest to learn & understand wild life in general, Cape Parrot in particular	To discuss the present condition regarding livelihood of Cape Parrots. Then to suggest ways to protect this condition (collective approach) i.e. all stakeholders involved.	To highlight the importance of working with local communities towards the conservation of the Cape Parrots.
<p><b>Name:</b> Aubrey Nsuntsha  <b>Organization:</b> Ezemvelo K Z N WildLife  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife</p>		
No direct experience	Concrete plans to achieve improved conservation of Cape Parrots and their habitat	EKZNW has a legislated mandate to conserve Cape Parrots and its habitat in partnership with stakeholders. We therefore need commitment more than anything to translate plans from the workshop into action.
<p><b>Name:</b> Jaco Koekemoer  <b>Organisation:</b> E S P U [ SAPS]  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent? :</b></p>		
None	That all of us walk out here and make a difference. That the ESPU will be well informed at the real problem. Law enforcement.	After this workshop I will be able to tell you that
<p><b>Name:</b> John Roff  <b>Organization:</b> National Botanical Institute  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent? :</b> Environmental Education / Interpretation</p>		
Viewing them in several different forests in KZN	To develop achievable actions. To meet people	Environmental Education, expertise, experience of forests
<p><b>Name:</b> Steven Evans  <b>Organization:</b> BirdLife South Africa  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent? :</b> NGO</p>		
I have seen them once in the Woodbush Forest Represent BLSA on the CPWG St. com	To produce a realistic 3-5 year plan for the cons of the Cape Parrot	Facilitate the 3 day workshop process
<p><b>Name:</b> Douglas Macfarlane  <b>Organization:</b> Sappi Forests (Pty) Ltd  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Landowners – large forestry estates</p>		
All I know is what I've read about these birds	I would like to know what the broad plan for the parrot's conservation is and how we (Sappi) can fit in. Recommendations for managing forests with cape parrots would be useful – if there are any. It would be great to meet the people involved – links for future interaction.	We own numerous large mist belt forests including a portion of the Karkloof forest, Woodbush Forest amongst others. By managing these areas and assisting in implementary conservation measures, I believe we can assist in Cape Parrot conservation. By patrolling these areas we can probably assist in preventing some poaching
<p><b>Name:</b> Mashele Dniza  <b>Organization:</b> DWAF  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> IFM</p>		
None	To improve conservation status or C.P. To develop hands on strategies on reducing the rate of Cape Parrot poaching	Through coming up with ideas on how habitat destruction of Cape Parrots can be minimized

<p><b>Name:</b> Azwinndini Joyce Melushi  <b>Organization:</b> DWAF  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Indigenous Forest Management KZN</p>		
I never saw them in my working area but I just heard that are endangered and I want to know and learn much about this and as from now I will try to investigate if they occur in our area KZN (Eshowe) and would like to integrate and contribute on their protection for the benefit of all of us and the coming generations	Means of controlling this. To find out their importance and knowledge from local people about this bird and contribute in the protection of their habitats	Awareness raising
<p><b>Name:</b> Louise Warburton  <b>Organization:</b> Cape Parrot Working Group &amp; University of Natal  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Co-ordinator CPWG</p>		
Field work research– Co-CPBBD co-ordination 1992-3 – designing & conducting educational workshops for forest rangers & school children in range of parrot – organized CPWG workshops for last year	Expectation is the production of a species action plan. – Hoping for an innovative and realistic input from the range of attendees present at the meeting, and commitment form each person present to fulfill the objectives in the AP	Knowledge of the Cape Parrot in the field and other African Parrot Species in the wild and the network of people already involved with the CPWG - An international perspective of the trade in parrots and other interests involving parrots in ecotourism etc.
<p><b>Name:</b> Kobus Pienaar  <b>Organization:</b> Limpopo Environmental Affairs  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Provincial Conservation Authority</p>		
Involved with regard to the captive population permitting and regulating	That we will be able to find workable solutions ‘/ Action plans for the protection of the habitat and species /	Experience towards regulation captive populations legislative knowledge 20 years of conservation work for various species
<p><b>Name:</b> Livio Heath  <b>Organization:</b> University of Cape Town  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Academies and Research</p>		
We’ve had very little prior experience with Cape Parrots. We’ve only been working on PBFDO for a year and in that time were introduced t o the Cape Parrot’s plight	To get a general idea of what is being done by the group and to meet the people involved with the group.	We are probably well positioned to contribute to the workshop in the area of disease management and other areas of molecular biology of the birds
<p><b>Name:</b> Annebel Fossey  <b>Organization:</b> University of Natal (SMCB)  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Cape Parrot Working Group – Research and Forensics</p>		
2 Year from research perspectives	New projects. Find out where I can fit into contribute to breeding and forensics	Science Knowledge – Molecular biology Genetics – breeding / consultation
<p><b>Name:</b> Craig Wittington-Jones  <b>Organization:</b> Dacel-directorate of Nature Conservation  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Provincial Conservation</p>		
Permit related issues and policy	To provide a comprehensive plan for the conservation of Cape Parrots including management of captive and wild populations and habitat	Policy development and related issues involving captive populations
<p><b>Name:</b> Elaine Whitwam  <b>Organization:</b> Stud Book Keeper  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Aviculturist</p>		
Breeding – Counting – Monitoring the numbers in captivity	To save this birds from extinction - to formulate a way of stopping the decline - to stop illegale activity - increase fines – provide alternate food – protect habitat	Input of ideas and/or knowledge assist authorities with info - ... keeping species pure
<p><b>Name:</b> Claire Patterson  <b>Organization:</b> TRAFFIC.  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> NGO</p>		
Trade requirements, monitoring & investigations.	To see a comprehensive plan developed to assist in the effective in situ conservation of the Cape Parrot whilst allowing well controlled & managed trade in captive bred birds. To define the roles different stakeholders will play in Cape Parrot conservation efforts.	Knowledge of legislation, international conventions & trade requirements. Assist with certain aspects of investigations.

<p><b>Name:</b> Sharon Hughes  <b>Organization:</b> KZN Wildlife  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Conservation / Law Enforcement</p>		
As a member of the CP working group I have been exposed to all aspects threats to the Parrots, law enforcements/conservation measures which have been put in place to try to improve the lot of the parrots	My expectations are that we will come away with some concrete measures to 1) conserve the habitat in which they live 2) Strengthen measures to stop illegal trade 3) create awareness amongst those who share the habitat with the Parrots	Info in conservation measures, law enforcement and lesser degree education
<p><b>Name:</b> Solly Duna  <b>Organization:</b> Eastern Cape Nature Conservation – Special Investigating Unit  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Investigating officer</p>		
In the Eastern Cape, CP is in dire need of conservation because some individuals regard them as some means of making money.	This workshop should come up with a plan of stopping / controlling this.	As a law-enforcing officer I do my best to control this.
<p><b>Name:</b> Wiseman  <b>Organization:</b> DEAET Eastern Cape  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> DEAET /</p>		
Been involved in counting there of – Also inspected numerous properties where in such birds are kept under permits – Confiscated some where it need be	To come out with a solution that will ensure the continual survival of our CP	Encourage educational campaigns
<p><b>Name:</b> Siphon M Giyulwa  <b>Organization:</b> SANCO of Zeleni  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Local Community</p>		
I have seen the CP during all my early years. They used to fly in groups feeding on wild fruit. Used to see them mostly in the afternoon towards sunset gathering in groups	I expect that there should be a plan made to bring back the CP. We can't find them. School children should be educated to understand the need of protecting these birds.	I think trees like yellowwood should be grown and protected. Interference with the place where these birds are found should be stopped.
<p><b>Name:</b> Carriot Kameui  <b>Organization:</b> DWAF Indigenous Forests Management  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Primary State ....</p>		
These birds like mild rainy weather and appear active in the early morning and late afternoon – I have experience of sighting three nests in the Amatola Mountain forest, one still there – The habit of CP flocking in orchards appear to be the greatest threat to their survival.	To bring up a plan to address the illegal trade of these birds – De commercialise the sale of the CP by stopping sales – Get more data on their natural habitat.	My knowledge about the natural habitat of the CP / helping in counts
<p><b>Name:</b> Meoseleli Jackuula  <b>Organization:</b> DWAF (IFM)  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Government (IFM) Eastern Cape</p>		
Conservation of CP certain tree state forest area – Monitoring	Come up with a clear conservation plan for the next generations on the CP – If possible look at the presentation of the CP – Improve working relations with the working group	Look after the habitat of the CP Awareness raising in the communities
<p><b>Name:</b> Aster Tefera  <b>Organization:</b> Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b></p>		
No experience on the species	All stakeholders will discuss the problems / constraints & develop a workable, time bound plan to protect the birds & its habitat – develop strategies to benefit from the conservation of the birds by the stakeholder to support their own livelihood	It will depend on the discussion for the next few days – I will see the loopholes in which I can contribute
<p><b>Name:</b> Craig Archibald  <b>Organization:</b> Private BirdLife Sisonke  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b></p>		
We have CP in the nearby Ximeni Indigenous forest which I have been observing & developing (researching) a walking trail through he forest. Malcolm Gemmell introduced me to the CP in	I wish to learn more about the CP and its habitat Also what is being done to protect them. CP education of local communities.	I can observe the Parrots in the wild and record my observations in Ximeni forest - monitoring

Jan when I returned to the Donnybrook Area. The Parrots visited our farm in Jan to feed on our pear tree for about 1 week		
<b>Name:</b> Msekelwa Dlamini <b>Organization:</b> CPWG <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Guiding and community educator		
Seeing the diminishing number of the CP in my place	A plan that will bring about the survival of this species and its growth	To help implement the action plan Educate the community about the habitat importance
<b>Name:</b> Tim Wood <b>Organization:</b> BLSA & BLSA KZN RPC <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> BLSA KZN		
2 x annual counts Birding expeditions	Better coverage and Management of sites Improve overall coverage – improve management of overall actions - involve local communities in management – Open up sites to a... to .. Local communities see a	Very limited due to time constraints and other pressures but possibly management and assist with annual counts 2003. Very limited due to BLI World Congress
<b>Name:</b> Malcolm Gemmell <b>Organization:</b> CPWG <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Regional co-coordinator / Avi Tourism		
Monitor since 1995	Deliver a sustainable program to provide for more data re-status of <i>Poicephalus robustus</i> – Establish a network to connect with international interest and support group – Link up CPWG and any funding on offer or not yet on offer – Ensure that <i>Poicephalus robustus</i> features on BLI 2004	Field Education Monitoring
<b>Name:</b> Benfred Dlamini <b>Organization:</b> KZN Wildlife <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Conservation of Biodiversity		
I have been conducting CP awareness with school in the Ukhahlamba midlands for a period of six months. Since I had that CP are critically endangered.	I would like to have more information in CP so that my education will be more effective	I would like to see all people participating in the protection of the CP
<b>Name:</b> Bill Howells <b>Organization:</b> KZN Wildlife <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> KZNW – the interest of the public who I serve as a civil servant		
Very limited biological experience, know the bird and the brown necked parrot – Have a wide experience base with general bird biology, ecology	To participate in the development of a practical plan which will firstly stop the decline (perceived) in members and secondly see their future secured	Experience in action plan development for other species (Cranes) Bring a management perspective from the EKZNW side. I gain support for increased effort in KG
<b>Name:</b> Ralph Correia <b>Organization:</b> Rehoboth Birds CPWG <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Aviculture		
Captive breeding, counting, husbandry, rearing.	Give us direction on the way forward with such an endangered species – Tighten law enforcement certification – trade reinstatement of food sources	As much as I can Fund raising in avi community
<b>Name:</b> Janis O’Grady <b>Organization:</b> KZN Crane Foundation <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Conservation & Environmental education / awareness / media		
Environmental education program starting now i.e. BEEP (Biodiversity Environmental Education Program) involving EKZNW, KZNCF, Cape Parrot WG, Blue Swallow WG, Sharenet (WESSA) Awareness re CP and indigenous forests amongst rural schools and communities	To see the future of the bird set up by all EE, breeding, conservation, community involvement etc. A strategy to ensure no’s rise and indigenous forests are protected for all stakeholders.	Environmental education ideas and networking according to above. Link with ECZNW CCO’s and EE already being done on cranes

<p><b>Name:</b> Robert Shezi.  <b>Organization:</b> KZN Wildlife  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> CP Working Group</p>		
It is that they are endangered species, which needs to be look out or taken care of	What can be done to increase the number of CP in our province	I can by all means to teach local communities and children to conserve these parrots
<p><b>Name:</b> Helena Mattison  <b>Organization:</b> EWT – Blue Swallow Working Group  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Conservation NGO with similar objectives re: conserving habitats and species</p>		
Participated in two counts – didn't see any parrots either time, but saw them with M. Gemmell and local farmer. Recent linking up with CPWG/OWG/CWG/BSWG/KZN Wildlife with the biodiversity environmental education program	To identify the priority conservation actions that need to be taken over the next few years, that will aid in the conservation of the species and its habitat	Have attended similar workshops & processes with other species i.e cranes & blue swallows, so hope to be able to contribute with whatever experience / expertise I may have gained over the last few years.
<p><b>Name:</b> Kevin McCann  <b>Organization:</b> Endangered Wildlife Trust - SACWG  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> NGO Conservation Group</p>		
Very little, apart from assisting the CPWG with past experience in establishing a working group of this nature	Development of a well-structured action plan, which will result in the long-term conservation of the CP & its habitat. Development of a plan to efficiently share resources with similar NGO conservation groups to achieve overall conservation goals	Experience with establishing and managing a similar NGO organization on cranes. Developing on action plan for the above group.
<p><b>Name:</b> Mike Perrin  <b>Organization:</b> CPWG, RCAPC &amp; University of Natal  <b>Which Stakeholder Group do you feel you represent?:</b> Conservation Biology</p>		
Ten years supervising field research projects National and international workshops. Research and popular publications like WPT, AFA and parrot biologists locally and overseas.	An integrated & effective strategy for the conservation of the CP in the wild and in captivity.	Academia & research experience, perhaps exec and policy development Formulat.....



## Chapter 10.

### Appendices.

#### **APPENDIX 1 : Do we need co-operation between different specialist groups (e.g. Blue Swallow Working Group, Oribi Working Group and South African Crane Working Group)?**

- Need fanatics.
- Need co-operation to best utilise available resources.
- Retain focus on Cape Parrot.
- Risk of dilution of impact if Cape Parrot / Blue Swallows / Oribi / Cranes linked together.
- Frustrating for land-owners and managers if different independent people are pushing their agenda (“deurmekaar”).
- Easy Programme.
- EE must be correctly handled/responsible.
- The action plan will indicate what degree of dilution the Cape Parrot can afford.
- Includes habitats = forests, grasslands and wetlands.
- Activities to conserve each of the species (Cape Parrot / Blue Swallows / Oribi / Cranes) can be viewed as a set of interlocking circles. Activities common to two or more species are included in the areas where the circles overlap. Activities unique to a species are included in the areas where the circles do not overlap.
- The Cape Parrot Action Plan will identify the appropriate opportunities where co-operation between different specialist groups (Cape Parrot / Blue Swallows / Oribi / Cranes) is necessary (appropriate) and where not.

**APPENDIX 2 : National Cape Parrot Action Planning workshop invitation.**

CPWG, School of Botany and Zoology,  
University of Natal, Pvt. Bag X01,  
Scottsville 3209.  
Tel: 033 260 6032 / 072 469 8360  
Fax: 033 260 5105  
Email: warburtonL@nu.ac.za



Hello,

You have been identified by members of the Cape Parrot Working Group's Executive Committee as an important stakeholder in the fate of the Cape Parrot. As such you are cordially invited to attend a 3 day workshop being held at Midmar Dam (first 2 days) and Umgeni Valley (3<sup>rd</sup> day), approximately 25km north of Pietermaritzburg. The workshop will run over 3 full days on Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and end around 18:00 on Friday 15<sup>th</sup>. Steve Evans from BirdLife South Africa will convene the Workshop. Most attendees are expected to be self-funded (in terms of travel and catering for meals outside of workshop hours) although there is some additional funding available from BirdLife South Africa, which will be used to cover workshop meals, and limited transport costs of those without their own transport. Where possible I will try and inform you of possible lift-shares where people are travelling from the same areas.

The purpose of the workshop is to draw up a detailed Action Plan for the conservation of the Cape Parrot. Everyone will take an active role in achieving this, and by bringing together as many of the issues and points of view as possible we should achieve a realistic and workable plan. Stakeholders will include national conservation bodies, foresters, farmers, local community members, aviculturists, timber merchants, avian vets, academics, conservation organisations, wildlife trade regulators, ecotourism operators etc.

Accommodation will be available for the nights of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> (ie the night before the workshop begins) and for each night of the workshop. From Tuesday until Thursday accommodation will be based at the fully equipped chalets at Midmar Dam on a sharing basis, and the Friday night will be confirmed, but likely either at Rehoboth Cottages in Pietermaritzburg, or Umgeni Valley in Howick. Attendees are expected to provide their own food for breakfast on each day, but during the 3 days of the workshop food for lunch and an evening meal will be provided. Please fill in the following form to confirm whether you need accommodation and your dietary preferences. Thanks.

Once I have a list of attendees I will send out directions.

**\*\*\*PLEASE reply to me at the latest by Monday November 3<sup>rd</sup>\*\*\***

Regards,  
Louise Warburton  
Co-ordinator,  
Cape Parrot Working Group.

**\* Application form follows \***

PLEASE would everyone fill in the following form and return asap. Thanks. (I suggest copy and pasting it into an email message).

**1. Name:**

**2. Contact number (cell preferably):**

**3. Do you need accommodation?** YES or NO

If yes please specify which nights:

- Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>

**4. Food**

Please indicate if you will require an evening meal during the workshop (which days?) (I will assume everyone wants lunch).

- Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup>
- Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>

**5. Do you have any special dietary requirements?** Meat-eater or vegetarian?

**6. Do you have any health problems which you think we should be aware of?** (eg. diabetes).

**APPENDIX 3.1 : Participants Programme for the National Cape Parrot Action Planning Stakeholder Workshop.**



**Species Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop, Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus*.  
Pietermaritzburg 13 – 15 November 2002.**

**Workshop Programme.**

	<b>13 November</b>	<b>14 November</b>	<b>15 November</b>
<b>8:30 – 13:00</b>	<p>Welcome (MP/LW).                      Introductions &amp; Expectations (SE).                      Explanation of workshop techniques (SE)                      What is a Species Action Plan (SE)                      Overview of the workshop programme (SE)</p> <p>Presentation of background information (LW)</p>	<p>Recap of day 1 (SE)</p> <p><b>Group work:</b>                      Problem tree analyses.</p> <p><b>Group presentations and discussions:</b>                      - Report back on problem tree.                      - Review brainstorm of issues.                      - Prioritise issues at highest level.</p>	<p>Recap of day 3.                      Agree the Vision and Aim of the Action Plan. (SE)</p> <p><b>Group work:</b>                      Formulation of Project Concepts.</p> <p><b>Group presentations and discussions:</b>                      - Report back on Project Concepts.</p>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>		
<b>14:00 – 18:00</b>	<p>Response to presentation (LW/SE)                      - any gaps?                      - questions &amp; answers?</p> <p>Identify main issues affecting implementation of a Cape Parrot Action Plan? (SE)</p> <p>What are the main issues affecting the conservation of the Cape Parrot? (SE)</p> <p>Evaluation (ALL).</p>	<p><b>Group work:</b>                      Draft the Objectives.                      - Consider the life-span of the Action Plan (3 – 5 years).</p> <p><b>Group presentations and discussions:</b>                      - Report back on Objectives.                      - Prioritise the Objectives.</p> <p>Evaluation (ALL).</p>	<p><b>Group work:</b>                      Completion of Projects Table.</p> <p><b>Group presentations and discussions:</b>                      - Report back on completed Projects Table.</p> <p>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation Plan.                      - Why? / How? / Who? / When?</p> <p>Adoption of the Cape Parrot Action Plan.</p> <p>Evaluation (All).</p>

**MP** = Mike Perrin, **LW** = Louise Warburton, **SE** = Steven W. Evans, **ALL** = everyone.

**APPENDIX 3.2 : Facilitators Programme for the National Cape Parrot Action Planning Stakeholder Workshop.**

**Cape Parrot Action Plan stakeholder workshop, 13 – 15 November 2002.**

**Programme:**

<b>Date &amp; Time.</b>	<b>Time (min)</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Person responsible</b>
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2002: Day 1.</b>				
08:30 – 08:45	15	Welcome	Plenary. Brief welcome to everyone by a member of the Cape Parrot Working Group. Introduction of the facilitator.	Mike Perrin / Louise Warburton
08:45 – 09:45	60	Introductions & Expectations?  Use expectations to set workshop objectives.	Plenary – Flipchart. Go around and have everyone introduce themselves. Each participant states their expectations at being at the workshop.	Steven W. Evans
09:45 – 10:00	15	Explanation of workshop techniques.	Plenary – Powerpoint. Explain rationale behind: - Brainstorm first; only then open discussion. - Use of Cards & flipchart.	Steven W. Evans
<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>		
10:30 – 11:15	45	What is a Species Action Plan?	Plenary - Flipchart. Compile a definition.	Steven W. Evans
11:15 – 11:30	15	Workshop programme.	Brief overview of the entire workshop programme.	Steven W. Evans
11:30 – 12:30	60	Presentation of background information.	Plenary – Powerpoint. Presentation of the information contained in the background document prepared for the workshop.	Louise Warburton
<b>12:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>		
14:00 – 15:00	60	Response to presentation.	Plenary – Flipchart. Questions and answers session. Identify any gaps in knowledge. Not done for threats. This will be covered by the problem tree analyses.	Steven W. Evans
15:00 – 16:00	60	What are the main issues that will affect successful implementation of the Cape Parrot Action Plan?	Plenary – Cards (PowerPoint). Brainstorm the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & risks. Group and discuss.	Steven W. Evans
<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>		
16:30 – 18:00	90	What are the main issues (threats) affecting the conservation of the Cape Parrot?	Plenary – Cards. Brainstorm, group and discuss cards.	Steven W. Evans
18:00 – 18:05		Evaluation	Happy, medium, sad face.	Steven W. Evans
<b>19:00 -</b>		<b>DINNER</b>		

<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2002: Day 2.</b>				
08:30 – 09:00	30	Recap of day 1.		
09:30 – 11:30	120	Problem tree analyses.	Groups – Cards. Group 1: Decreased breeding success and increased adult mortality. Group 2: Decrease in habitat quantity and quality. Use IUCN criteria as the starting point. Tea/Coffee available at 10:30.	Steven W. Evans
11:30 – 12:30	60	Report back on problem trees. Review brainstorm on threats cards – are they all captured in the problem tree.	Plenary – Cards. Each group presents their problem tree. Discussion refinement and agreement.	Steven W. Evans
12:30 – 13:00	30	Prioritise issues (threats) at highest level.	Rating of 1 (most important) to 4 (least important).	Steven W. Evans
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>		
14:00 – 15:30	90	Draft Objectives Consider the life-span of the Action Plan (3 – 5 years).	Group – Cards. Each group drafts (3 – 4) Objectives. Discusses the life-span of the Action Plan.	Steven W. Evans
<b>15:30 – 16:00</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Teal/Coffee</b>		
16:00 – 17:30	90	Report back to plenary on Objectives.	Plenary. Each group presents their Objectives. Should be 4 – 8 Objectives in total. Discussion & refinement.	Steven W. Evans
17:30 – 18:00	30	Prioritise the Objectives.	Plenary. Rating of 1 (most important) to 4 (least important).	Steven W. Evans
18:00 – 18:05		Evaluation	Happy, medium, sad face.	Steven W. Evans
<b>19:00 -</b>		<b>DINNER</b>		

<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2002: Day 3.</b>				
08:30 – 09:00	30	Recap of day 2.		
09:00 – 10:00	60	Agree the Vision and Aim of the Action Plan.	Plenary – Flipchart. Use a change in the threat status of the species as a measurable outcome.	Steven W. Evans
10:00 – 11:30	90	Formulation of Project Concepts.	Groups – Cards. Project Concepts must be directed at achievement of each Objective. Should be 4 – 8 Project Concepts per Objective. Tea/Coffee available at 10:30.	Steven W. Evans
11:30 – 12:30	60	Report back to plenary on Project Concepts.	Plenary – Cards. Each group presents their Project Concepts.	Steven W. Evans
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>		
14:00 – 15:00	60	Completion of Projects Table	Groups – Cards Headings: Policy & Legislation, Species & Habitat, Monitoring & Research, Public Awareness & Training, Community Involvement. Tea/Coffee available at 15:30.	Steven W. Evans
15:00 – 16:00	60	Report back to plenary on completed Projects Table.	Plenary – Cards. Each group presents their Project Table.	Steven W. Evans
16:00 – 17:00	60	Action Plan Monitoring & Evaluation Plan.	Plenary. Participants consider who & how and how often the Action Plan implementation will be monitored and evaluated.	Steven W. Evans
17:00 – 17:30	30	Adoption of the Action Plan.	The entire plan is reviewed. Any changes needed are discussed and made. A participant proposes the plan be adopted and seconded by another participant.	Steven W. Evans
17:30 – 17:45	15	Workshop close.	Votes of thanks.	Mike Perrin / Louise Warburton/ Steven W. Evans
17:45 – 18:00	15	Final Evaluation	Happy, medium, sad face	Steven W. Evans

**Notes:**

- 1) Put up a sheet of flipchart paper (with a heading) in one corner for people to anonymously record their complaints / concerns during the workshop.
- 2) Put up a sheet of flipchart paper (with a heading) for those wanting to serve as editors of the draft Cape Parrot Action Plan to record their full names.

**APPENDIX 4: Considerations when describing objectives.**

**Cape Parrot Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop, 13- 15 November 2002.**

**OBJECTIVES:**

The objectives that are determined appropriate for the Cape Parrot Action Plan must be **SMART**.

**Specific** – it must be clear to everyone what needs to be done, avoid any vagueness or ambiguity.

**Measurable** – what you measure what you get. If you cannot measure whether you have achieved an objective how will you know that you have achieved it or be able to tell others that it has been achieved?

**Agreed** – consensus should be reached on each objective.

**Realistic** – can the objective be achieved in the available time, are the resources needed available or can they needed be secured in the available time?

**Timely** – a definite end time for when achievement of the objective is expected must be specified.



## **APPENDIX 5: Considerations when describing project concepts.**

### **PROJECT CONCEPTS.**

The following filters should be considered when developing project concepts for the Cape Parrot Action Plan.

- Is the project relevant?
- Does it contribute to achieving the overall aim of the Cape Parrot Action Plan?
- Does it contribute to finding a solution to a priority problem(s)?
- Does it fall within the core competencies of those responsible for implementation?
- Does it fall within the mandate of those being considered responsible for its implementation?
- Is the capacity available to do it?
- Will the project have the desired impact?
- Can funding be obtained to complete the project?
- Is the project scientifically sound?
- Are all the appropriate role players (stakeholders) involved?

Each project concept contributes to achieving an objective. Each objective contributes to achieving the aim of the Cape Parrot Action Plan. The Action Plan contributes to conserving Cape Parrots.

## APPENDIX 6 : Profile of the Cape Parrot Working Group.

**By Louise Warburton,  
CPWG Co-ordinator**

Cape Parrot Working Group,  
School of Botany & Zoology,  
University of Natal,  
Private Bag X01,  
Scottsville 3209. KZN.  
South Africa.

Tel: + 27 (0) 33 260 6032  
Fax: + 27 (0) 33 260 5105  
E-mail: [cpwg@nu.ac.za](mailto:cpwg@nu.ac.za)  
[Http://www.cpwg.unp.ac.za](http://www.cpwg.unp.ac.za)



Registration Number 020-639-NPO

CPWG mission statement:

*'To conserve the Cape Parrot in its natural habitat'*

The Cape Parrot *Poicephalus robustus* is South Africa's only endemic parrot species, and is facing extinction in the wild. The species is endemic to South Africa, i.e. occurring nowhere else. Their range is restricted to the Afromontane yellowwood forest regions of southern KZN, E.Cape and Limpopo provinces. The Cape Parrot formerly occurred in greater numbers, but they have now declined significantly and birds are currently found in small groups at isolated and fragmented forest patches. There are < 650 individuals remaining, likely with less than 100 actively breeding pairs.

Present threats include illegal capture for the avicultural trade, habitat destruction (the parrots are specialised for feeding on yellowwood fruits and breed in yellowwood trees), and disease. They are extremely sensitive to habitat change and are unable to survive without large old yellowwood trees, which provide food and naturally form nesting cavities. The parrots, particularly the juveniles, are easily caught by trapping, liming trees and catapulting, particularly when they occasionally visit orchards to feed. Parrots from a wide area often flock to localised food resources. Trapping (or shooting) at one site may decimate parrot populations from a wide area of the total range.

### **History and development**

In 1992 a Ph.D study of the biology of the Cape Parrot was initiated by the late Olaf Wirminghaus, under the supervision of Prof. Mike Perrin who established the Research Centre for African Parrot Conservation at the University of Natal, S. Africa. The study resulted in 8 published papers covering taxonomic relationships, status, habitat type, feeding ecology, vocalisations, breeding biology, and conservation of the species. Olaf's research was the first detailed study of an African parrot species, and the first to recognise the Cape Parrot as a separate species (Wirminghaus, Downs, Perrin & Symes 2002). Prior to this study little was known about the species in the wild.

Since the completion of the fundamental ecological research project, work has continued led by Dr Colleen Downs and Prof. Mike Perrin, largely concentrating on the conservation of the species, which in 2001 led to the formation of the Cape Parrot Working Group (CPWG). The working group, consists of provincial nature conservation officers, academics from the University of Natal, aviculturalists, forest managers, conservation bodies, veterinarians, environmental lawyers, bird guides, interested birders and laymen. The CPWG is currently involved in ongoing projects including the erection and monitoring of nestboxes, the annual Cape Parrot Big Birding Day, monitoring nests, developing tree planting programmes, outreach education programmes in conjunction with BEEP reaching local communities within the parrot's range, and a wider national and international audience through bird clubs and academic conferences.

## Overall aims

The overall aims of the CPWG are to:

1. Promote the conservation of the Cape Parrot;
2. Ensure the conservation of the habitat of the Cape Parrot;
3. Guarantee an effective law enforcement system for protecting the Cape Parrot;
4. Develop local community, national, and international awareness of the Cape Parrots plight;
5. Establish a captive breeding programme of the Cape Parrot, as part of an international studbook;
6. Develop sustainable development and poverty eradication for communities local to the Cape Parrot's range.

With secondary objectives being:

1. Effective landscape management and wise use of natural resources within the Cape Parrots range;
2. Promotion of environmentally sound social development projects for local communities within the Cape Parrots range, through educational workshops, particularly encouraging schools participation;
3. Identification and increased protection of priority conservation areas relevant to the Cape Parrot;
4. Provision of a channel to voice environmental concerns relating to the Cape Parrot;
5. Collation of existing knowledge and ecological processes relating to the Cape Parrot.

CPWG Executive committee as agreed at Midmar meeting, July 2002

Position		Name	Central/Regional
Chairman		Mike Perrin	Central
Co-ordinator		Louise Warburton	Central
Research		Mike Perrin & Colleen Downs	Central
Studbook keeper		Elaine Whitwam	Central
Aviculturists		Ralph Correia, William Horsfield, Jill Thompson	Central & Regional
NGO's	Birdlife SA TRAFFIC	Steven Evans Claire Patterson	Central
Provincial representatives	- KZN - E. Cape - Limpopo - Gauteng - W. Cape - Free State - Mpumalanga - ?	Bill Howells & Sharron Hughes Jaap Pienaar & Rick Haanan Kobus Pienaar Craig Whittington-Jones Kevin Shaw Brian Colahan Dries Pienaar Mark Anderson	Regional
DWAF representative		Meoseleli Jakavula	Regional

## Cape Parrot Big Birding Day

Every year since 1997, the Cape Parrot Big Birding Day (CPBBD) has attempted to survey the entire range of the Cape Parrot (for one afternoon and one morning) to try and determine just how many parrots survive in the wild. In addition the survey also monitors the state of the last remaining fragments of Afro-montane forests, home to the Cape Parrot, and also records all other wildlife species seen during the time of the parrot count. Standard techniques are not suitable for counting parrots because they are highly nomadic feeders and their behaviour is unpredictable. The parrot's range has been subdivided, and for each area the count is managed by a regional coordinator who assigns groups of volunteer observers to good vantage positions at selected localities. The presence (or absence) of parrots is recorded together with the time and direction of travel the parrots' take. Results are scrutinised to avoid double-counts. Positions and numbers of parrots are then plotted onto digitised maps. The big birding day brings together a wide range of people including farmers, keen bird-watchers, students, provincial nature conservators and foresters, and also local communities living adjacent to forest areas. Both before and after the day nationwide publicity is generated to gain the attention of observers and offer

some feedback from the event. Each year an attempt is made to expand the scope of the area covered and increase the number of observers, particularly in the former Transkei and Wild Coast regions. The aim of the CPBBD is to monitor the population size thereby assessing the effectiveness of conservation efforts. The 2003 count will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Colleen Downs for future dates.

Cape Parrot Big Birding Day regional co-ordinators (as of 2003)

Area	Name
<b>Overall co-ordinators</b>	Louise Warburton Colleen Downs
Zululand (Nkandla & Qudeni)	Pat Brenchley
Newcastle (Ncandu)	Tony Roberts
Karkloof	John Robinson
Nottingham road/Balgowan/Dargle	Vernon Green
Byrne Valley	Malcolm Anderson
Boston	Barbara & Glyn Bullock
Bulwer	Russell Hill
Creighton/Donnybrook	Malcolm Gemmell
Weza	Graham Acheson
Kokstad	Pat Lowry
Umtata	Don Kemp
Hogsback	Pat Shepherd
Stutterheim	Dan Dekker Louis Nel
Wild Coast (Port St Johns)	Kathryn Costello
Mbotyi	John Duff
KWT/Alice	Gertie Griffith Peter Mayther-Pike
Northern Province	Coenraad Van Zyl

## **APPENDIX 7 : Profile of BirdLife South African.**

**By: Dr Aldo Berruti**  
**Director, February 2002.**

### **Description and Mission**

BirdLife South Africa is an 8000-member strong nationwide conservation and birding non-government organisation, with 24 branches and 18 affiliates around South Africa. Founded in 1930 as the South African Ornithological Society, it changed its name to BirdLife South Africa in 1996.

The mission of BirdLife South Africa is to promote the enjoyment, conservation, study and understanding of wild birds and their habitats. Increasingly, the context of BirdLife South Africa is about taking action for birds through people at all levels of South African society.

### **History and development**

Founded as a scientific society for the study of ornithology, the membership grew in the 1970s and 1980s to include a huge component of recreational birders, organized through local branches. In 1995, the Council of the Society determined a new direction to develop education and conservation action programmes, to be given effect through the appointment of a professional executive. A full-time director was appointed from 1 January 1996. The impetus and funding for action programmes increased with links to BirdLife International partnership that began in 1996.

The Society has developed rapidly. Since 1996, budgets have grown from about R300 000 annually to nearly R5 million in 2002, from 4 part-time staff members in 1995 to 27 full-time and part-time staff in 2002. Programmes have increased from none to five with a further two currently under development. The Society now plays a significant role in training and education. It operates internationally in Africa and beyond. The Society owns its own headquarters (the Lewis House, donated by the Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation) in Johannesburg, with an office in Cape Town and second office in KwaZulu-Natal in late 2002.

### **BirdLife International**

BirdLife South Africa is the Partner in South Africa of BirdLife International, which is the world's largest voluntary coalition of nationally based conservation organisations, represented by 2.5 million members in 103 countries. A secretariat based in Cambridge United Kingdom provides the central administration for regional partnerships within BirdLife International. The African Partnership, in which BirdLife South Africa plays a vital role, includes 20 African countries.

BirdLife South Africa subscribes to the mission and values of BirdLife International, encapsulated through the themes of "species, sites, habitats and people". BirdLife South Africa is represented by its Director on the African Regional Committee and he represents Africa on the Global Council of BirdLife International.

The international links allow BirdLife South Africa to influence international conservation action through the collective strength of this organization.

BirdLife South Africa runs the Global Seabird programme for BirdLife International through an office based in Cape Town. BirdLife South Africa is one of the Partners in a ten-country African programme - the Important Birds Areas Conservation programme. A further two programmes the Richards Bay Rio Tinto programme and the African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement Wetland Sites of International Importance are two more programmes organised through BirdLife International which are under development.

The RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - the United Kingdom Partner of BirdLife International) runs an in-country support with BirdLife South Africa, and this is conducted within the context of the BirdLife International Partnership.

## **Publications and media**

BirdLife South Africa publishes its own national newsletter four items quarterly to its 8000 members. This is a well-read 40-page A5 word-heavy newsletter with advertising that updates members on all BirdLife's activities. BirdLife South Africa publishes 8 pages in each issue of Africa Birds and Birding. This magazine, which relies on superb illustrations and excellent text, has a current circulation of 16000 with a readership of 100 000, and received the PICA award for best magazine in 1999 and 2000. Since 1930, BirdLife South Africa has published the Ostrich, the premier scientific journal of ornithology in Africa. The ostrich has been the medium of choice for the publication of the Proceedings of the four-yearly Pan-African Ornithological Congresses.

BirdLife South Africa also has a website at [www.birdlife.org.za](http://www.birdlife.org.za), funded by Sasol that contains much information.

BirdLife South Africa has published, with the Avian Demography Unit; the Atlas of Southern African Birds, the Directory of Important Bird Areas in Southern Africa, and the Eskom Red Data Book of Birds of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. There have also been a number of other one-off publications such as the Nature and Value of Birding in South Africa.

## **Structure**

BirdLife South Africa's constitution designates a Council, which meets 2-3 times annually and includes member representatives and specialised members. Certain responsibilities and financial management have been delegated to the Board of Management, which meets six times annually. Members include branch representatives.

Essentially, branches run recreational birding programmes with central elements of outings, indoor meetings and a newsletter. However many branches make significant contributions to conservation and education action from time to time.

The secretariat provides administration of membership and provides the administration for running national programmes, fundraising, publications and formal meetings.

## **Programmes**

BirdLife South Africa has five programmes

The Important Bird Areas programme (African NGO-Government Partnerships for Sustainable biodiversity) is a Global Environmental Facility programme which began in 1998. The programme officer is Steven Evans. The programme seeks to improve the conservation status of Important Birds Areas (IBAs) in South Africa.

The Learning for Sustainable Living Programme was founded in 1998 and is funded by the British National Lottery fund, sourced by and managed in partnership with the RSPB. Managed by Sibongile Mokoena, the programme has created a resource for all South African 9-13 year-olds using the environment to deliver various learning areas in the context of Outcomes-based education. The programme aims to train teachers and subject advisers to use the resource in schools throughout South Africa.

The Wakkerstroom Programme was founded in 1998 with a grant of R1 million from Sappi. The Wakkerstroom programme is a multi-functional conservation, education and awareness programme situated adjacent to the Wakkerstroom wetland in Mpumalanga, in the heart of the proposed Grassland Biosphere Reserve. The centre promoted ecotourism and offers accommodation and camping, and is a training centre for the Guide-training programme. Andre Botha currently manages the programme.

The Guide-training Programme was founded by funding from Sasol in 1999 and has since trained 72 persons from previously disadvantaged communities as bird guides. The program is evolving very rapidly in association with government-driven initiative to regulate the guiding industry in South Africa. Ecotourism, and bird-guiding in particular is a strong focus of sustainable development programmers in South Africa, and BirdLife South Africa is seeking to involve the broader South African community in bird conservation by creating ownership and economic development relating to birds through birding tourism. The programme is run by Andre Botha and John Isom.

The Global Seabird programme, founded in 1997, has now moved directly under the umbrella of BirdLife South Africa in 2001 on behalf of the BirdLife International. It is a truly global programme with involvement by many countries and focussing on international action. Funded initially by the RSPB, then the British Birdwatching Fair, the Global Seabird program is focused on reducing the incidental deaths of albatrosses and petrels as a bycatch of the longlining industry. Principally the programme's focus is on the fisheries in the Southern Hemisphere, although the focus has moved toward Northern Hemisphere fisheries. The programme is viewed as a long-term programme that will evolve to tackle other conservation issues in the course of time. The programme is coordinated by Leon - David Viljoen and Deon Nel is the specialist seabird officer.