

From: [Paul Murphy](#)
To: s22
Cc: s22; [Parliamentary Helpdesk](#); [Sally Box](#); [BCD Coord](#); [Kylie Jonasson](#); [Dean Knudson](#); s22
; [Geoff Richardson](#); [Monica Collins](#); s22
Subject: RE: Birds brief request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Thursday, 10 May 2018 4:04:44 PM
Attachments: [MB18-000269.docx](#)

Hi s22

Please find attached the brief on various bird issues, as requested urgently by the office and submitted in PDMS.

Cheers

Paul

From: s22

Sent: Tuesday, 8 May 2018 9:13 AM

To: Murphy, Paul

Cc: s22; [Parliamentary Helpdesk](#); [Box, Sally](#); [BCD Coord](#); [Jonasson, Kylie](#); [Knudson, Dean](#); s22

Subject: RE: Birds brief request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Paul,

After further discussion, the information would be appreciated as soon as possible, noting the complexity of the issues being covered.

There was an assumption that much of the information could be sourced from previous briefings.

Cheers,

s22

t: s22 m: s22 e: s22 @environment.gov.au

From: Murphy, Paul

Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 11:00 AM

To: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; [Parliamentary Helpdesk](#)

<s22 @erin.gov.au>; [Box, Sally](#)

<[Sally.Box@environment.gov.au](#)>; [BCD Coord](#) <s22 @environment.gov.au>; [Jonasson,](#)

[Kylie](#) <[Kylie.Jonasson@environment.gov.au](#)>; [Knudson, Dean](#)

<[Dean.Knudson@environment.gov.au](#)>; s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Birds brief request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

An extra week would be a great help. Thx

From: s22

Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 10:59 AM

To: Murphy, Paul <[Paul.Murphy@environment.gov.au](#)>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; [Parliamentary Helpdesk](#)

<s22 @erin.gov.au>; [Box, Sally](#)

<[Sally.Box@environment.gov.au](#)>; [BCD Coord](#) <s22 @environment.gov.au>; [Jonasson,](#)

[Kylie](#) <[Kylie.Jonasson@environment.gov.au](#)>; [Knudson, Dean](#)

<[Dean.Knudson@environment.gov.au](#)>; s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Birds brief request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Paul,

Not a problem, will discuss with s22

Do you have a timeframe in mind?

Cheers,

s22

s22

t: s22 | m: s22 e: s22 @environment.gov.au

From: Murphy, Paul

Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 10:58 AM

To: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; Parliamentary Helpdesk

<s22 @erin.gov.au>; Box, Sally

<Sally.Box@environment.gov.au>; BCD Coord <s22 @environment.gov.au>; Jonasson,

Kylie <Kylie.Jonasson@environment.gov.au>; Knudson, Dean

<Dean.Knudson@environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Birds brief request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

We will struggle to meet that deadline. There are many issues and the legislative settings and history is complicated. Is there scope please to push back the timeframe?

Thanks

Paul

From: s22

Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 10:18 AM

To: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; Parliamentary Helpdesk

<s22 @erin.gov.au>; Box, Sally

<Sally.Box@environment.gov.au>; Murphy, Paul <Paul.Murphy@environment.gov.au>; BCD

Coord <s22 @environment.gov.au>

Subject: Birds brief request [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22,

The Minister has requested a info brief on Birds.

The issues to be covered are:

s22

2) the continual sale of birds overseas, with cites permits issued by our department.

s22

s22

The Minister has requested this information by noon on Wednesday the 9th of May. I have created the PDMS item - MB18-000269 and will assign to the BCD Co-ord.

Should there be any questions on the above request, please let me know.

Cheers,

s22

s22

t: s22 | m: s22 e: s22 @environment.gov.au

To: Minister for the Environment and Energy (For Information)

BIRDS – VARIOUS MATTERS

Recommendation:			
1. That you note the issues covered in this brief.			
			Noted / Please discuss
Minister:			Date:
Comments:			
Clearing Officer: Sent 10 / 5 / 18	Paul Murphy	Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Trade and Biosecurity Branch	s22 Mob: s22
Contact Officer:	s22	Director, Wildlife Trade Assessments	Ph: s22 Mob: s22

Key Points:

The Department was requested to provide information on each of the following bird issues.

Export of Australian birds overseas

- Permits for the export of Australian native wildlife are issued under the EPBC Act. Australia does not permit the export of any live native birds for commercial purposes. All exports have been under permits issued by the Department for non-commercial exhibition purposes (overseas zoos).
- The Department has received allegations from some Australian bird breeders that live native Australian parrots exported to the Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots (ACTP), in Germany, are being sold commercially (refer MS17-001318). Allegations suggest that the large numbers of birds exported are to facilitate commercial-scale breeding operations to supply pet birds in Europe. It is also alleged that some of the birds were taken from the wild in Australia.
- No evidence to support the allegations has been provided to the Department. Separate inquiries by the Department have not found any evidence that commercial sales are occurring.

Red-fronted macaw from New Zealand

- s22
[Redacted]

s22

[Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

Trade in birds domestically

6. s22

[Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

Orange-bellied parrot breeding program, governance review and next steps

9. s22

[Redacted text]

[Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

- [Redacted text]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

- [Redacted list item]

- [Redacted list item]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

- [Redacted list item]

s22 [Redacted]

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]

- [Redacted]

- [Redacted]

- [Redacted]

- [Redacted]

From: s22
To: s22; [Office of Compliance](#)
Subject: FW: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, 18 July 2018 12:23:22 PM

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 18 July 2018 12:11 PM
To: s22 @environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22,

Thanks for the info. I note that we originally requested the info on the 6th of July and identified the need for it by the end of this week.

It would be greatly appreciated if this could be provided by COB this Friday as it has been raised by the MO at various Advisers meetings, and the MO are keen to see a suggested outcome on this issue. I have cc'd s22 to assist in the consultation of this brief and escalating its priority.

Cheers,
s22

s22
t: s22 | m: s22 | e: s22 @environment.gov.au

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 18 July 2018 12:02 PM
To: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>
Cc: Office of Compliance <s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; Collins, Monica <Monica.Collins@environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

s22 is working on the brief as we speak – we are also seeking input from the relevant line areas within the wildlife trade branch. We are aiming to have the brief to you by Tuesday of next week (24 July).

s22
Acting Chief Compliance Officer

Office of Compliance
Department of the Environment and Energy
PO Box 787, CANBERRA, ACT 2601
T: 02 s22 M: s22
E: s22



The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 18 July 2018 9:54 AM
To: s22 s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22,

Can you please confirm the ETA on this brief?

Cheers,
s22

s22
t: s22 | m: s22 | e: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 9 July 2018 11:21 AM
To: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; Collins, Monica <Monica.Collins@environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; Office of Compliance <s22@environment.gov.au>
Cc: Murphy, Paul <Paul.Murphy@environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks, s22 – will do.

s22

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 9 July 2018 11:18 AM
To: Collins, Monica <Monica.Collins@environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; Office of Compliance <s22@environment.gov.au>
Cc: Murphy, Paul <Paul.Murphy@environment.gov.au>; s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi all,

For info. If we could have this brief by the end of next week, I realise Monica will be away, so appreciate if you could please clear s22.

Cheers,

s22

s22

t: s22 | m: s22 | e: s22 @environment.gov.au

From: Collins, Monica

Sent: Friday, 6 July 2018 5:21 PM

To: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>; Office of Compliance

<s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: Murphy, Paul <Paul.Murphy@environment.gov.au>; s22

s22 @environment.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

Could you please start working on this.

s22, can you please provide an indication of time frame? Note I will be on leave and returning 23 July. s22 will be acting in my role.

Thanks

Monica

Monica Collins

Chief Compliance Officer

Office of Compliance

Department of the Environment and Energy

P: 02 s22

M: s22

From: s22

Sent: Friday, 6 July 2018 2:40 PM

To: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22 @environment.gov.au>; Collins, Monica

<Monica.Collins@environment.gov.au>; Murphy, Paul <Paul.Murphy@environment.gov.au>

Subject: Bird export compliance [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

We discussed with Monica the other day the issue of native wildlife exports, especially birdlife

being exported to Germany.

Could we request a brief outlining what assurance we have that these animals are being exported under appropriate terms (those going to the German facility)? Brief should also canvass options available for escalating our enquiries should the need arise (letter of comfort, audit, site visit, etc).

Many thanks

s22

From: s22
To: s22
Cc: s22; Finn Pratt; Dean Knudson; s22; Monica Collins; s22; Office of Compliance; Paul Murphy; s22
Subject: Minister information brief - Bird Exports to Germany
Date: Friday, 20 July 2018 2:35:31 PM
Attachments: [ATT00001.htm](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)
[ATT00003.htm](#)
[Minister information brief - Office of Compliance - Bird Exports to Germany.docx](#)
[ATT00004.htm](#)

s22 and s22

As discussed with Monica Collins - attached is a brief regarding bird exports to Germany. We'll send the brief up in PDMS on Monday morning.

Happy to discuss.

s22
Acting Chief Compliance Officer

Office of Compliance

Department of the Environment and Energy
[PO Box 787, CANBERRA, ACT 2601](#)

T: s22 M: s22

E: s22@environment.gov.au

To: Minister for the Environment and Energy (For Information)

cc: Assistant Minister for the Environment

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE – EXPORT OF AUSTRALIAN NATIVE BIRDS TO GERMANY

Recommendation:			
1. That you note the issues covered in this brief.			
			Noted / Please discuss
Minister:		Date:	
Comments:			
Clearing Officer: Sent: 03/8/18	s22	A/g Chief Compliance Officer, Office of Compliance	Ph: s22 Mob: s22
Contact Officer:	s22	A/g Operational and Tactical Intelligence Manager, Office of Compliance	Ph: s22

Key Points:

1. Permits for export of Australian native wildlife are issued under the EPBC Act. Australia does not permit the export of any live native birds for commercial purposes. Eligible non-commercial purposes for export include research, education, exhibition, conservation breeding, or, for a limited number of species, as household pets.
 - a. In assessing relevant export permit applications, the Department determines whether the receiving organisation is suitably equipped to receive the birds. If the birds are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act, the Department confirms the birds are not needed for conservation purposes in Australia.
2. The Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots (ACTP) is a German-based non-government organisation involved in the conservation of avian species. ACTP maintains a breeding and exhibition facility outside Berlin, Germany.
3. ACTP has held five permits since 2015 to export Australian native birds to Germany for the purpose of non-commercial exhibition. The most recent export permit (PWS2017-AU-002381) was issued on 16 November 2017 and expired on 16 May 2018. This permit was issued for the export of 74 birds in total, including several different species of cockatoo, parrot and lorikeet.
 - a. Conditions on the permit require that the birds cannot be primarily used for commercial purposes after they are no longer needed for an exhibition by ACTP, and birds subject to the permit cannot be used in a breeding program that results in the commercial sale of progeny.

Allegations of illegal avian trade

4. ACTP and its operators have been the subject of several previous allegations received by the Department in relation to illegal avian trade.
 - a. The allegations suggest that ACTP is exporting large numbers of birds to facilitate commercial-scale breeding operations to supply the pet trade in Europe. It is also alleged that some of the birds were taken from the wild in Australia.
5. The Department takes allegations of illegal wildlife trade seriously. The Department's Office of Compliance employs a risk-based, outcomes-focused approach to environmental compliance, and routinely undertakes a range of enquiries to assess allegations or intelligence regarding wildlife crimes.
6. To date, the Department has not identified evidence that confirms ACTP's non-compliance with export permit conditions.
7. In response to allegations of illegal avian trade received by the CITES Secretariat, officials from the German CITES Management Authority undertook a site inspection of the ACTP facility in October 2017. German officials did not detect any indicators of illegal avian trading or possession, and noted that ACTP operators had fulfilled their legal requirements to a high standard.

8. s33(a)(iii) [Redacted]

Office of Compliance

9. s47E(d) [Redacted]

10. s47E(d) [Redacted]

a. s47E(d) [Redacted]

11. To better understand the broader implications of wildlife crime to Australia, the Office of Compliance has established partnerships with international counterparts which will enable future collaboration and intelligence-sharing.

The Office of Compliance is a member of the INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group, and attended the 28th meeting of the Working Group in October 2017. The Working Group brings together operational managers from INTERPOL member countries to identify opportunities for multi-agency law enforcement operations targeting wildlife crime. We anticipate the Office of Compliance will be attending the 29th Working Group meeting later this year.

To: Minister for the Environment (For Information)

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE – EXPORT OF AUSTRALIAN NATIVE BIRDS TO GERMANY

Recommendation:			
1. That you note the issues covered in this brief.			
			Noted / Please discuss
Minister:			Date:
Comments:			
Clearing Officer: Sent: 16/10/18	Monica Collins	Chief Compliance Officer, Office of Compliance	s22 Mob: s22
Contact Officer:	s22 s	A/g Operational and Tactical Intelligence Manager, Office of Compliance	Ph: s22

Key Points:

1. Permits for the export of Australian native wildlife are issued under the EPBC Act. Australia does not permit the export of any live native birds for commercial purposes. Non-commercial purposes that are eligible for export include research, education, exhibition, conservation breeding, or, for a limited number of species, as household pets.
 - a. In assessing relevant export permit applications, the Department determines whether the receiving organisation is suitably equipped to receive the birds. If the birds are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act, the Department confirms the birds are not needed for conservation purposes in Australia.
2. The Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots (ACTP) is a German-based non-government organisation involved in the conservation of avian species. ACTP maintains a breeding and exhibition facility outside Berlin, Germany.
3. ACTP has held five permits since 2015 to export Australian native birds to Germany for the purpose of non-commercial exhibition. The most recent export permit (PWS2017-AU-002381) was issued on 16 November 2017 and expired on 16 May 2018. This permit was issued for the export of 74 birds in total, including several different species of cockatoo, parrot and lorikeet.
 - a. Conditions on the permit require that the birds cannot be primarily used for commercial purposes after they are no longer needed for an exhibition by ACTP, and birds subject to the permit cannot be used in a breeding program that results in the commercial sale of progeny.

4. ACTP and its operators have been the subject of several previous allegations received by the Department in relation to illegal avian trade.
 - a. The Department has no evidence to suggest that ACTP is not operating in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions.

Office of Compliance – Wildlife Crime

5. s47E(d) [Redacted]

6. s47E(d) [Redacted]

7. s47E(d) [Redacted]

a. s47E(d) [Redacted]

8. The Office of Compliance has undertaken a thorough review of the allegations regarding ACTP, and has no evidence that suggests that ACTP is not operating in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions.

9. In response to allegations of illegal avian trade received by the Department, officials from the German CITES Management Authority undertook a site inspection of the ACTP facility in October 2017. German officials did not detect any indicators of illegal avian trading or possession, and noted that ACTP operators had fulfilled their legal requirements to a high standard.

10. s47E(d) [Redacted]

11. s47E(d) [Redacted]

Further Information

12. s37(1)(a) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].
- a. Between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018, there have been five convictions for wildlife-related offences under the EPBC Act resulting from referrals to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) by the Department's Office of Compliance. These have resulted in total fines of \$10,900, as well as 50 hours of community service orders and four years of good behaviour bonds.
13. To better understand the broader implications of wildlife crime to Australia, the Office of Compliance has established partnerships with international counterparts which enables collaboration and intelligence-sharing.
- a. The Office of Compliance is a member of the INTERPOL Wildlife Crime Working Group, and attended the 28th meeting of the Working Group in October 2017 and the 29th meeting of the Working Group in October 2018. The Working Group brings together operational managers from INTERPOL member countries to identify opportunities for multi-agency law enforcement operations targeting wildlife crime.
14. s47E(d) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [Media](#)
To: s22
Cc: s22; s22; [Media](#)
Subject: RE: ACTP [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Friday, 21 December 2018 4:07:22 PM

Hi s22

Please see a response below:

1. Is the Australian government aware of this investigation by German prosecutors? If yes, has it been initiated in response to a complaint from Australian authorities? If yes, what was the nature of the complaint and from whom?
 - a. The Department has not been made aware of any current investigation of ACTP or Mr Guth by German Authorities.
2. Have Australian authorities made a complaint of any kind to their German counterparts since our story?
 - a. No.
3. Did the department issue a commercial permit of any kind for the birds that went to ACTP that would allow them to be sold? What is the government's response to Guth's claims he can sell Australian birds?
 - a. The six permits issued for the export of Australian native birds to ACTP were issued for non-commercial exhibition purposes. Non-commercial exhibition permits issued to the Australian exporter include strict conditions that do not allow the exported birds to be used for commercial purposes.
4. Is the government launching any kind of investigation of its own in the environment department?
 - a. The Department will review the information provided to assess if an investigation is warranted under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Kind regards

s22

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



From: s22
Sent: Friday, 21 December 2018 12:24 PM
To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; s22
s22@environment.gov.au
Subject: FW: ACTP [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi,

Can someone look into this urgently please?

s22

**Media Adviser | Office of the Hon Melissa Price MP
Minister for the Environment**

a: Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600

t: s22 | **m:** s22 | **e:**
s22 [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)

From: s11C(1)(a) [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)]

Sent: Friday, 21 December 2018 12:22 PM

To: s22 [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)>

Subject: ACTP

Hi s22 ,

Further to our conversation this morning: German prosecutors - specifically the Frankfurt Oder state prosecutor - have confirmed on record they have launched an early investigation into Martin Guth for breaches of the German nature act involving illegal trade of animals following the investigation we published last week, and follow up stories in German press including Tagesspiegel.

Martin has also appeared on German TV saying that in principle he can offer, pass on and sell any of his Australian birds <https://mediathek.rbb-online.de/tv/Brandenburg-aktuell/Illegaler-Papageienhandel-in-Tasdorf/rbb-Fernsehen/Video?bcastId=3822126&documentId=58688444>

You will need a German speaker to review the video. The relevant section I've mentioned above comes in about 2.20 mins on the video.

I was hoping we could, ideally, speak to Melissa today.

Is the Australian government aware of this investigation by German prosecutors? If yes, has it been initiated in response to a complaint from Australian authorities? If yes, what was the nature of the complaint and from whom?

Have Australian authorities made a complaint of any kind to their German counterparts since our story?

What is the government's response to Guth's claims he can sell Australian birds? We have seen rafts of correspondence between the department and ACTP, as well as the BfN, stating that the birds and offspring were not to be sold and ACTP stating that they would not sell them. Did the department issue a commercial permit of any kind for the birds that went to ACTP that would allow them to be sold?

Is the government launching any kind of investigation of its own in the environment department?

I would be grateful for a response as soon as possible today and, as mentioned, my

preference is to do an interview and I would appreciate if the Minister can make some time available.

Thank you very much and happy to discuss

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)[@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)

twitter: s11C(1)(a)



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[Melbourne VIC 3000](#)
theguardian.com/au

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From: s22 [redacted]
To: [Media](#)
Cc: s22 [redacted]
Subject: Re: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 3:16:10 PM

COB today please, cheers

Sent from my iPhone

On 9 Jan 2019, at 7:15 am, Media <Media@environment.gov.au> wrote:

Will do, thanks s22 [redacted].
Can you please check whether s11C(1)(a) [redacted] has a deadline?

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601
T: 02 6275 9880

From: s22 [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 10:05 AM
To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 [redacted] <s22@environment.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: native bird exports

Hi team,
Could you please prepare a response on behalf of the Department for s11C(1)(a) [redacted]
Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: s11C(1)(a) [redacted] <[s11C\(1\)\(a\)@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>
Date: 8 January 2019 at 1:22:33 pm AWST
To: s22 [redacted] <s22@environment.gov.au>
Subject: native bird exports

Hi s22 [redacted],
Hope you're doing well. I've had a few people contact me to say that exports to ACTP have been shut down.
Just wondering if the minister or department could confirm if this is the case?
If yes, does this affect the recent permit that was issued in November?
I'd be grateful for any specifics that can be provided and, if this is indeed true, a statement from the minister about it.
Happy to talk to Melissa directly if she has some time available.
Thanks very much

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

s11C(1)(a) [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)

twitter: s11C(1)(a)



[Level 8, 51 Queen St](#)
[Melbourne VIC 3000](#)
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From: [Media](#)
To: s22
Cc: s22; [Media](#)
Subject: FW: Guardian Australia enquiry (through MO): native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 4:39:35 PM

Hi s22

Are you okay with the below response to s11C(1)(a) media enquiry?

Question: I've had a few people contact me to say that exports to ACTP have been shut down. Just wondering if the minister or department could confirm if this is the case?

Final response: The export permit issued by the Department of the Environment and Energy in November 2018 remains valid. The Department has not been advised that exports to ACTP have been shut down by the German CITES Management Authority.

Kind regards

s22

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



From: s22

Sent: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 10:05 AM

To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>

Cc: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>

Subject: Fwd: native bird exports

Hi team,

Could you please prepare a response on behalf of the Department for s11C(1)(a)? Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: s11C(1)(a) <[s11C\(1\)\(a\)@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>

Date: 8 January 2019 at 1:22:33 pm AWST

To: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>

Subject: native bird exports

Hi s22,

Hope you're doing well. I've had a few people contact me to say that exports to ACTP have been shut down.

Just wondering if the minister or department could confirm if this is the case?

If yes, does this affect the recent permit that was issued in November?

I'd be grateful for any specifics that can be provided and, if this is indeed true, a statement from the minister about it.

Happy to talk to Melissa directly if she has some time available.

Thanks very much

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter

The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com

twitter: s11C(1)(a)



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From: s22
To: s22; [Media](#)
Cc: s22; s22
Subject: RE: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Thursday, 10 January 2019 11:25:13 AM

Sorry s22 we have sent a response on this on. I am assuming that we will just deal with things that you send to us without checking with you.

From: s22
Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2019 10:49 AM
To: Media
Cc: s22; s22; s22
Subject: Re: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Ok, can you send to s11C(1)(a) please? Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On 9 Jan 2019, at 9:53 am, Media <Media@environment.gov.au> wrote:

Hi all –
Suggested response from Department:
The Department of the Environment and Energy has not been advised that exports to ACTP have been shut down.

Thanks s22
s22
Media Manager
Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601
s22
s22@environment.gov.au

The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

From: s22
Sent: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 10:05 AM
To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 @environment.gov.au
Subject: Fwd: native bird exports

Hi team,
Could you please prepare a response on behalf of the Department for s11C(1)(a)
Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: s11C(1)(a) @theguardian.com>
Date: 8 January 2019 at 1:22:33 pm AWST
To: s22 " <s22 @environment.gov.au>
Subject: native bird exports

Hi s22 ,

Hope you're doing well. I've had a few people contact me to say that exports to ACTP have been shut down.
Just wondering if the minister or department could confirm if this is the case?
If yes, does this affect the recent permit that was issued in November?
I'd be grateful for any specifics that can be provided and, if this is indeed true, a statement from the minister about it.
Happy to talk to Melissa directly if she has some time available.
Thanks very much

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com

twitter s11C(1)(a)



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From: s22
To: [Media](#)
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Thursday, 10 January 2019 12:46:33 PM

Can we put it into the present tense – ie the Department is reviewing the information that has recently been provided

From: Media
Sent: Thursday, 10 January 2019 12:46 PM
To: s22
Cc: s22 ; Media
Subject: FW: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22 ,
Are you okay for us to provide the below response to a further query from s11C(1)(a)

Question:

Why is the department keeping this permit valid when Martin Guth has appeared on German television stating he is allowed to sell any Australian birds - something which the department says it did not give permission for - and German prosecutors are investigating him to see if there is grounds for charges for illegal trade?

Response:

The Department will review the information provided to assess if an investigation is warranted under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Many thanks,

s22

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601

T: s22



From: Media

Sent: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 5:12 PM

To: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>

Cc: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>; s22

<s22@environment.gov.au>

Subject: FW: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22

FYI – we will start preparing a response to s11C(1)(a) follow up question.

Thanks

s22

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



From: s11C(1)(a) <[s11C\(1\)\(a\)@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 5:02 PM

To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>; s22

s22

Subject: Re: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi,

Thanks for the response. A follow up question, and perhaps to be directed to the minister also, why is the department keeping this permit valid when Martin Guth has appeared on German television stating he is allowed to sell any Australian birds - something which the department says it did not give permission for - and German prosecutors are investigating him to see if there is grounds for charges for illegal trade?

I would be grateful for a response on Thursday.

Kind regards,

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)@[theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)

twitter: s11C(1)(a)



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On Wed, 9 Jan 2019 at 16:57, Media <Media@environment.gov.au> wrote:

Hi s11C(1)(a)

Please find a response below from the Department of the Environment and Energy:
The export permit issued by the Department of the Environment and Energy in November 2018 remains valid. The Department has not been advised that exports to ACTP have been shut down by the German CITES Management Authority.

Kind regards

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



From: s11C(1)(a) <[s11C\(1\)\(a\)@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>

Date: 8 January 2019 at 1:22:33 pm AWST

To: s22 "s22" <s22@environment.gov.au>

Subject: native bird exports

Hi s22,

Hope you're doing well. I've had a few people contact me to say that exports to ACTP have been shut down.

Just wondering if the minister or department could confirm if this is the case?

If yes, does this affect the recent permit that was issued in November?

I'd be grateful for any specifics that can be provided and, if this is indeed true, a statement from the minister about it.

Happy to talk to Melissa directly if she has some time available.

Thanks very much

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com

twitter:s11C(1)(a)



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From: s22
To: [Media](#); s22
Subject: RE: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Monday, 14 January 2019 4:07:46 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)

Ok thanks

From: Media
Sent: Monday, 14 January 2019 3:11 PM
To: s22
Cc: Media
Subject: FW: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

Hi all,

Received this from s11C(1)(a) Our suggested response:

- Consistent with the Compliance and Enforcement policy, the Department does not release information on compliance and enforcement activities.
- In particular, no disclosure will be made that may prejudice an investigation or any past or future actions of the Department. Even after completion, the details of compliance and enforcement activities normally remain confidential.
- A copy of the policy is available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/about-us/accountability-reporting/compliance-enforcement-policy>

Thanks s22

s22
Media Manager
Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601
s22
www.environment.gov.au



The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

From: Media
Sent: Monday, 14 January 2019 1:43 PM
To: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>
Cc: s22 <s22@environment.gov.au>; Media <Media@environment.gov.au>
Subject: FW: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi s22,

Please see below from s11C(1)(a)

Ta,

s22

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601
T: 02 6275 9880



From: s11C(1)(a) [redacted] [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)]

Sent: Monday, 14 January 2019 1:37 PM

To: s22 [redacted] [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)>; Media <Media@environment.gov.au>

Cc: s11C(1)(a) [redacted] [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>

Subject: Re: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi,

I don't quite understand this response. Could I please speak to someone in the department or with the minister directly when she is back from leave? It seems strange to me that the department's response to issues that have been brought to your attention as a result of our investigation would remain confidential and probably that alone is worth reporting on. I'm happy to wait to speak to the minister when she is back from leave, or with someone within the relevant line area itself, but I would like a more comprehensive response to this query. Especially if the intention is to not release information.

Could we please set up a time for a discussion?

Thank you

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

On Mon, 14 Jan 2019 at 1:16 pm, Media <Media@environment.gov.au> wrote:

Hi s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

Please see a response below from the Department of the Environment and Energy below: Consistent with its Compliance and Enforcement Policy, the Department does not release information on compliance and enforcement activities. Even after completion, the details of compliance and enforcement activities normally remain confidential.

Kind regards

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



From: s11C(1)(a) [redacted] [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)]

Sent: Friday, 11 January 2019 9:42 AM

To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>

Cc: s11C(1)(a) [redacted] [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>; s22 [redacted]

s22 [redacted] [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)>

Subject: Re: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thank you s22 [redacted]. Can you please keep me updated on when this review is finished and what the decision is? When does the department expect to make a decision about this?

Kind regards,

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a) [redacted]

s11C(1)(a) [redacted] [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)

twitter: s11C(1)(a) [redacted]



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On Thu, 10 Jan 2019 at 15:12, Media <Media@environment.gov.au> wrote:

Hi ^{s11C(1)(a)} [redacted]

Please see a response below attributable to a department spokesperson:

The Department is reviewing the information provided to assess if an investigation is warranted under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Kind regards,

s22

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601
T: 02 6275 9880



From: s11C(1)(a) [redacted] [@theguardian.com](#)]

Sent: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 5:02 PM

To: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>; s22 [redacted]
<s22 [redacted] [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)>

Subject: Re: native bird exports [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi,

Thanks for the response. A follow up question, and perhaps to be directed to the minister also, why is the department keeping this permit valid when Martin Guth has appeared on German television stating he is allowed to sell any Australian birds - something which the department says it did not give permission for - and German prosecutors are investigating him to see if there is grounds for charges for illegal trade?

I would be grateful for a response on Thursday.

Kind regards,

^{s11C(1)(a)} [redacted]

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

^{s11C(1)(a)} [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)

twitter: s11C(1)(a)



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On Wed, 9 Jan 2019 at 16:57, Media <Media@environment.gov.au> wrote:

Hi ^{s11C(1)(a)} [redacted]

Please find a response below from the Department of the Environment and Energy:
The export permit issued by the Department of the Environment and Energy in November 2018 remains valid. The Department has not been advised that exports to ACTP have been shut down by the German CITES Management Authority.

Kind regards

Media Team

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



From: s11C(1)(a) [@theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)>
Date: 8 January 2019 at 1:22:33 pm AWST
To: s22 [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)>
Subject: native bird exports

Hi s22 ,
Hope you're doing well. I've had a few people contact me to say that exports to ACTP have been shut down.
Just wondering if the minister or department could confirm if this is the case?
If yes, does this affect the recent permit that was issued in November?
I'd be grateful for any specifics that can be provided and, if this is indeed true, a statement from the minister about it.
Happy to talk to Melissa directly if she has some time available.

Thanks very much

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

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--

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

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From: s22
To: s22
Cc: [Media: Adam Carlon](#)
Subject: Heads up: s11C(1)(a) query to NSW Government [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, 9 January 2019 11:26:11 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)

Hi both,

Just FYI at this point but one of my NSW counterparts has been in touch with me today, saying he also got a parrot query from s11C(1)(a) Follows from information we provided to s11C(1)(a) back in December.

Query from s11C(1)(a)

Hi s22,

Understand. I've been writing about native bird trade since December - you would have seen a six-month investigation we published (two links below) - and I am doing further research on bird trade at a state level. I am looking at some specific trades that have occurred of specific species that have been traded by two dealers: one in NSW and one in Western Australia. I'm happy to discuss further with more specifics over the phone as it is a complex story, if you would like to give me a call on the number below. I have one quick call in the next 15 minutes and then will be free after that.

[https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/australia-endangered-parrots-german-zoo-actp?](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/australia-endangered-parrots-german-zoo-actp?fbclid=IwAR3Bveb4I51QB5MXIsqyBUJiKBO7JDIL1fo_leVMxfJGErqPb5a0ybllIMQ)

[fbclid=IwAR3Bveb4I51QB5MXIsqyBUJiKBO7JDIL1fo_leVMxfJGErqPb5a0ybllIMQ](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/legitimate-zoo-obscure-german-group-endangered-parrots-actp?fbclid=IwAR03cL5CpaXH38hb9ZBubcSUMtgW-vjrb1L_PODAsjPicEIBQs-6XVhYhZl)

https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/dec/11/legitimate-zoo-obscure-german-group-endangered-parrots-actp?fbclid=IwAR03cL5CpaXH38hb9ZBubcSUMtgW-vjrb1L_PODAsjPicEIBQs-6XVhYhZl

Thank you again

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)

Environment Reporter
The Guardian | Australia

s11C(1)(a)

s11C(1)(a)@[theguardian.com](mailto:s11C(1)(a)@theguardian.com)

s22

Media Manager

Communications and Engagement Branch
Department of the Environment and Energy
GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601

s22

s22 [@environment.gov.au](mailto:s22@environment.gov.au)



The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

From: Media
To: s22 : Media
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: Media enquiries - follow up [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Monday, 14 January 2019 12:47:23 PM

Thanks s22 !
 Cheers
 s22

From: s22
Sent: Monday, 14 January 2019 12:46 PM
To: Media
Cc: s22
Subject: RE: Media enquiries - follow up [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
 Sorry team – ok to go with one edit to the s22 request.

From: Media
Sent: Monday, 14 January 2019 11:53 AM
To: s22 <@environment.gov.au>
Cc: Media <Media@environment.gov.au>; s22 <@environment.gov.au>
Subject: Media enquiries - follow up [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
 Hi s22

Understand you were flat out on Friday with the Kakadu/Jabiru announcement – just following up on a few outstanding media enquiries from last week before we start receiving more for this week – grateful if you could please let us know which responses are okay to go back to the journalists:

MEDIA ENQUIRIES				
Enquiry	Questions	Draft response provided to MO	SES clearance	Final response provided to journalist
FRIDAY 11/1/19				
s22	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted] 3:38pm
s22	[Redacted]	[Redacted]	s22	s22
s11C(1)(a) The Guardian	Can you please keep me updated on when this review is finished and what the decision is? When does the department expect to make a decision about this?	Consistent with its Compliance and Enforcement Policy, the Department does not release information on compliance and enforcement activities. Even after completion, the details of compliance and enforcement activities normally remain confidential.	s22	Sent to MO 10.54am

Thanks
 s22
Media Team
 Communications and Engagement Branch
 Department of the Environment and Energy
 GPO Box 787, CANBERRA ACT 2601



		Export 1 PWS2015-AU- 001190	Export 2 PWS2016-AU- 002072	Export 3 PWS2017-AU- 000470	Export 4 PWS2017-AU- 000823	Birds acquired from other sources	Birds Bred at ACTP	Current total	Proposed Export 5 (WT2017- 001072)	Possible Total incl Proposed Export 5
Permit applicant:		[REDACTED]	s47F [REDACTED]	s47F [REDACTED]	s47F [REDACTED]				s47F [REDACTED] s47F [REDACTED] s47F [REDACTED]	
Permit issue date:		20/07/2015	8/12/2016	17/03/2017	15/05/2017				31/05/2017	
Permit expiry date:		2/01/2016	8/06/2017	17/09/2017	15/11/2017					
Species	Common Name									
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i>	Glossy black cockatoo	7	9				1	3	20	20
<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	Yellow-tailed black cockatoo			6			5		11	7
<i>Calyptorhynchus latirostris</i>	Carnaby's Cockatoo*			5					5	2
<i>Calyptorhynchus baudinii</i>	Baudin's cockatoo*			1					1	1
<i>Psitteuteles versicolor</i>	Varied lorikeet			20				3	23	23
<i>Glossopsitta porphyrocephala</i>	Purple-crowned lorikeet			20	6			6	32	32
<i>Northiella haematogaster narethae</i>	Blue bonnet			8	1				9	9
<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang				11		6		17	17
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii samueli</i>	Red-tailed black cockatoo								0	4
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii machrorhynchus</i>	Red-tailed black cockatoo						1		1	11
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii magnificus</i>	Red-tailed black cockatoo						1		1	3
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii naso/samueli</i>	Red-tailed black cockatoo						3		3	3
<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	Galah								0	16
<i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	Australian King Parrot								0	11
<i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma macleayana</i>	Red-browed fig parrot								0	2
<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little lorikeet								0	14
<i>Probosciger atterimus atterimus</i>	Palm Cockatoo						4		4	4
<i>Probosciger atterimus goliath</i>	Palm Cockatoo						2		2	2
TOTALS		7	9	60	18				129	70
NOTES		Acquitted as per permit - shipment date 7 Oct 2015	Not acquitted	Acquitted as per permit - shipment date 10 April 2017	Acquitted as per permit - shipment date 28 June 2017					

* = EPBC Act threatened species

Timeline of events – export of Australian birds to ACTP, Germany.

Date	Event
24 May 2015	Application received for ACTP as a 'recognised zoological organisation'
15 July 2015	Approval as a 'recognised zoological organisation'.
15 July 2015	Application received from s47G(1)(a) s47F to export glossy black cockatoos to ACTP
21 July 2015	Permit #1 PWS2015-AU-001190 issued.
7 October 2015	Shipment under PWS2015-AU-001190 occurs
11 November 2016	Application received from s47F to export glossy black cockatoos to ACTP
8 December 2016	Permit #2 PWS2016-AU-002072 issued. (Progeny not included in permit conditions)
29 December 2016	Shipment under PWS2016-AU-002072 occurs
9 February 2017	s47E(d)
12 February 2017	Application received from s47F to export black cockatoos and lorikeets to ACTP
8 March 2017	Advice requested from German CITES Scientific Authority regarding ACTP facility being commercial vs non-commercial, or other pertinent information re issuing a CITES permit
16 March 2017	Advice received from German CITES Scientific Authority regarding ACTP – registered non-commercial operation.
17 March 2017	Permit #3 PWS2017-AU-000470 issued.
10 April 2017	Shipment under PWS2017-AU-000470 occurs
23 April 2017	Application received from s47F to export gang gangs and lorikeets to ACTP
16 May 2017	Permit #4 PWS2017-AU-000823 issued.
23 May 2017	Application #5 WT2017-AU-001072 received – s47F export black cockatoos, galahs, king parrots, fig parrots, lorikeets to ACTP.
28 June 2017	Shipment under PWS2017-AU-000823 occurs
5 July 2017	s47E(d)
1 August 2017	Info request of applicant s47F WT2017-001072
3 August 2017	Info request of applicant WT2017-001072 received
7 August 2017	s47E(d)
10 August 2017	s47E(d)
31 July and 11 August	Further information of s47F WT2017-001072 request sent (mail and email respectively)
18 August 2017	Further information of s47F WT2017-001072 response received
4 September 2017	Meeting b/w Department and s47F

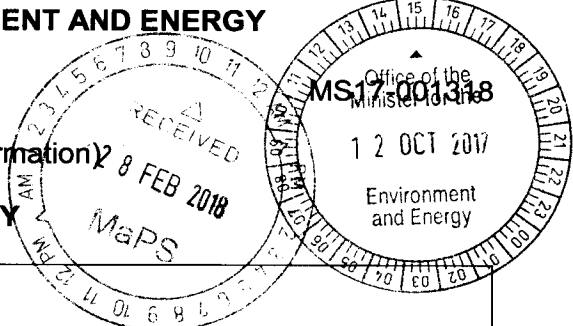
Copy to:

Mr Knudson
Ms Jonasson

Chief of Staff
Josh Thomas
Mark Richards

To: Minister for the Environment and Energy (For Information)

NATIVE PARROT EXPORTS TO A ZOO IN GERMANY



Recommendation:

1. That you note the exports of live native parrots to the Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots in Germany.

Noted / Please discuss

Minister:

Date:

Comments: **Noted by the Minister's Office**

Clearing Officer: Sent 12/10/2017	Paul Murphy	Assistant Secretary, Wildlife Trade and Biosecurity Branch, Biodiversity Conservation Division	s22 s22
Contact Officer:	s22	A/g Director, Wildlife Trade Assessments, Wildlife Trade and Biosecurity Branch	s22

Key Points:

1. Australian bird breeders have raised concerns that live native Australian parrots exported to the Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots (ACTP) in Germany are being sold commercially.
2. Permits for export of Australian native wildlife are issued under the EPBC Act. Australia does not permit the export of any live native birds for commercial purposes. All exports to ACTP have been under permits issued by the Department for non-commercial exhibition purposes.
3. There have been four exports of captive bred parrots from Australia to ACTP since 2015 (comprising 94 individuals of eight species). The Department is currently assessing a fifth application to export a further 70 individuals, including seven new species (**Attachment A**). A timeline of events is at **Attachment B**.

4.

s47E(d)

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5. ACTP holds birds from around the world. The ACTP website states that it breeds birds and contributes to ex-situ conservation to conserve endangered parrots and their habitats.
6. ACTP is open to the public by appointment only. They aim to have enough of each bird species to form self-sustaining populations. Exported birds or their offspring cannot be imported back to Australia due to biosecurity risks.
7. The number of birds requested for ACTP is unusual for a zoo. Most zoos are open to the public and only hold enough of a species to form a single display group.
8. There is no provision in the EPBC Act or regulations which prevents export of large numbers of parrots for exhibition.
 - a. ACTP has been assessed as meeting the legislative requirements of a non-commercial organisation to receive live native parrots for exhibition (**Attachment A**).
 - b. The Department has directly advised ACTP that offspring of exported specimens cannot be sold. ACTP has stated that the offspring of exported birds will not be sold.
9. Australian parrots are popular as pets. Some of the species exported to ACTP are rare in the pet market and would attract high sale prices.
10. The EPBC Act regulates the export of Australian native animals and animals listed on Appendix I and II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). All native Australian parrots except for budgerigars and cockatiels, are listed under CITES. Exports of live parrots may be permitted for non-commercial purposes under limited circumstances, such as exhibition, conservation breeding, or as household pets. Specimens exported for exhibition purposes cannot be primarily used for commercial purposes after they are no longer needed for exhibition. Exported birds may not be used as breeding stock for the commercial breeding and sale of offspring.

Sensitivities and Handling

11. Talking Birds magazine has published information recently about exports of native birds to Germany. The article seeks any information from its readers for a future report, and states that the Department is investigating allegations about bird exports.
12. A decision to issue the next permit is likely to be made by the delegate soon, subject to completion of the assessment. The Department will include conditions on the export permit to specify that the offspring of exported birds cannot be used commercially.

Consultation: YES

13. Communications, Innovation and Partnership Branch were consulted. Inquiries were also made with the Germany Government's CITES Scientific Authority, who confirmed the legitimacy of ACTP's operations.

Attachments

- A:** Overview of export permits and holdings of native parrots at ACTP
B: Timeline of events

