

IUCN/SSC

1974-1979

G.H. BALAZS FILE

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

93
Telephone: WELLINGTON 3-1500
Cable Address: ZOOPARK NEW YORK

THE ZOOLOGICAL PARK
Bronx Park
Bronx, N. Y. 10460

28 June 1974

George Balazs
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O. Box 1346
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744


Dear George:

Enclosed is a copy of the USDI contract for the research on the green turtle populations of French Frigate Shoals for which you are principle investigator. The contract has been given to the New York Zoological Society for this work since we charge no administrative overhead and the Office of Endangered Species wanted to see all of the money go into research.

There are some points concerning the handling of the funds which need to be clarified. For our records we will need receipts for expenses. These can be receipts either from the companies involved or from you. Normally money will be paid on presentation of receipts unless you request an advance. If you need the money ahead of time don't hesitate to ask for it. Concerning the compensation for your research assistant, this will normally be paid on a month by month basis unless you have some objection. If there are any questions at all feel free to either write or phone me. I think you will find that the Society is a lot easier to work with than most university accounting departments.

I am enclosing a recent copy of ANIMAL KINGDOM which will inform you about some of our conservation projects.

Sincerely,


Wayne King

/db
Enc.

Biographical Information - George H. Balazs

George H. Balazs earned both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of Hawaii and, since 1971, has been employed as a research biologist with the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, a division of the University of Hawaii. He is a member of the IUCN/SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group, having participated at meetings held in Miami in 1974 and Toronto in 1978. In March of 1979 he was also a participant at the IUCN Survival Service Commission meeting and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in San Jose, Costa Rica. More recently he was a member of a group that traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico to confer on the olive ridley problem.

Since 1973 he has conducted field research of the Hawaiian green turtle population, with emphasis placed on both the breeding colony at French Frigate Shoals and foraging pastures throughout the 2,450 km long Hawaiian Archipelago. This work has been supported by grants received from the Governor's office of the State of Hawaii, the University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Geographic Society, and the New York Zoological Society. He has also conducted research of sea turtles in the Phoenix Islands and at Enewetak Atoll in the Marshall Islands. In February of 1977 he served as a consultant to the South Pacific Commission to review and evaluate research activities with sea turtles in Fiji and the Cook Islands. Following the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation, he will serve as a consultant, along with Drs. Carr and Pritchard, to the South Pacific Commission/National Marine Fisheries Service Workshop on Sea Turtles which will be held in Noumea, New Caledonia.

Mr. Balazs has published 18 scientific papers and articles on sea turtles, and eight others dealing with the Hawaiian monk seal, crustacean nutrition and aquaculture.



University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
P.O.Box 1346 • Coconut Island • Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744
Cable Address: UNIHAW

October 30, 1978

Dr. Joseph R. Sylvester
SE Turtle Program Manager
National Marine Fisheries Service
Duval Building
9450 Koger Boulevard
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Joe:

In response to Regional Director Stevenson's letter of 20 October 1978, please be advised that I enthusiastically accept the offer to serve as an official consultant for the NMFS Southeast Region Sea Turtle Recovery Team. However, in order to serve efficiently, it would almost be essential that travel and per diem costs be provided in that there are no funds available to me for such purposes at the present time. You may want to discuss this point further with Director Stevenson before formally adding my name to the list. Also, at your earliest convenience, I would gratefully appreciate receiving a list of the persons who have been appointed as full members of your recovery team.

I was sorry to have missed you during your recent visit to Honolulu. I understand that your talk with Richard was productive.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist
and Member, IUCN Turtle Group

GHB:ec

cc: Richard Shomura
William H. Stevenson

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

Bronx Zoo
Bronx, New York 10460
Telephone: (212) 220-5100

Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

29 December 1978

Sir Peter Scott
The New Grounds
Slimbridge
Gloucester GL2 7BT

Dear Peter:

At the last SSC Steering Committee meeting, you asked me to smooth the way for the proposed changes in the chairmanship of the Marine Turtle Specialist Group. You will recall that the Steering Committee had agreed that Archie Carr should be Chairman and George Balazs should be Deputy Chairman, with Nicholas Mrosovsky becoming editor of the Group's Newsletter. I was further asked to explore ways in which the SSC could get Archie to be a better correspondent and thereby a more effective chairman.

To date I have had several pleasant and very productive telephone conversations with Archie and can report that he is happy with the proposed change in Mrosovsky's position. He also supports the Balazs appointment, although he humorously remarked that in George's effort to save the sea turtles he occasionally exhibits Wayne King's impetuosity. I agree, but feel certain any impetuosity can be overcome with a little guidance from Archie, you, Richard and Earl.

Archie recognizes that he is not a good correspondent. To correct that, he agrees that one of his graduate students should become a sort of "corresponding secretary." All communications to Archie should be copies to the students. Then after receiving instructions from Archie on the points in question, the student will either prepare an appropriate response for Archie's signature or will respond directly in his behalf. It is not yet agreed which of his graduate students will take on this task, but this will be agreed when Archie and I get together in the next couple of weeks.


I have also explored with Archie the best method in which to inform Nicholas Mrosovsky of the change in his appointment. I think we have arrived at the best possible solution, although there is bound to be some disappointment on his part. I am meeting with Nicholas on 4 January to discuss the changes in the turtle group. I will let you know how things went as soon as that meeting is concluded.

I quietly discussed the proposed changes in the Marine Turtle Group with George Balazs, and he is willing to serve as the Deputy Chairman, pending the outcome of my meeting with Mrosovsky and receipt of your invitation to serve in that capacity.

Since Australia and France are proposing that the Europa and Tromelin populations of green turtle should be transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II of the CITES, I have asked Archie and George to attend both the SSC and CITES meetings in Costa Rica. They are planning to be there, so this will give everybody the chance to meet George in person. Incidentally, several other members of the Turtle Group are planning to attend the CITES meeting as NGO representatives, and will probably attend the SSC meeting as well. By copy of this letter, I am asking Earl to be sure that Archie, George, Peter Pritchard, and Perran Ross receive announcements about the SSC/CITES meeting. Perran is now back in the U.S. and can be reached at c/o The Division of Reptiles, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02136.

At the moment, it looks as if an international conference to draft a worldwide conservation program for sea turtles will be convened in Washington, D.C. in the fall of 1979. A number of U.S. NGOs are pushing for such a meeting. Initial pledges of funding have been received from several private foundations, conservation organizations, and governmental agencies. Several members of the SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group are involved in the planning, and hopefully the SSC might be directly involved at some point. I will keep everyone informed as things progress.

Sincerely,


Wayne King

cc: A. Carr
G. Balazs
P. Pritchard
P. Ross
E. Baysinger
R. Fitter

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

New York Zoological Park
New York Aquarium

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Center for Field Biology and Conservation
Osborn Laboratories of Marine Sciences

2 January 1979

Coppelia G. Hays
Secretary General
Prodena WWF Peru
Pasaje Los Pinos 156 Of. 2
Edificio El Comodoro Alfredo Benavides
Miraflores, Lima 18

Dear Ms. Hays:

Your letter of 15 December to me (and Felipe Benavides's letter of 7 December to Nancy Hammond, WWF/USA) expresses some concern over who should serve as the supervisor of your survey of marine turtles in Peru. It was our intention that Dr. Antonio Brack-Egg would serve as your supervisor. He has served superbly in that capacity on the NYZS-funded survey of the endangered species of Peru, which was undertaken by several of his students.

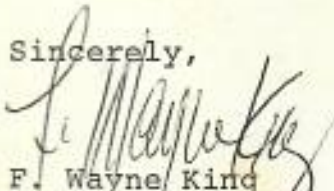
The Zoological Society funds the work of many expatriate conservationists, but we recognize the importance of building a local base of scientific expertise that remains to carry on the work after the expatriates have gone home. We think Dr. Brack and his students represent just such a base of expertise.

We encourage you to consult with Drs. Carr, Frazier, and Pritchard, and also George Balazs (University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, P.O. Box 1346, Coconut Island, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744), since each can assist you with scientific aspects of your project. We especially want you to keep in touch with Dr. Carr, since he is head of the IUCN Survival Service Commission's Marine Turtle Specialist Group. However,

day to day supervision should remain with Dr. Brack.

We hope your project gets underway on schedule -- by now you should have received our check which was mailed on 8 December. We look forward to receiving your first progress report.

Sincerely,


F. Wayne King
Director of Zoology
and Conservation

cc: G. Balazs ✓
F. Benavides
A. Brack
A. Carr
J. Frazier
N. Hammond
P. Pritchard

April 3, 1979

Dr. Archie Carr
Department of Zoology
223 Bartram Hall
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

Dear Archie:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some of my preliminary thoughts for membership in the Turtle Group. For reference purposes, I have enclosed a copy of the membership list that was previously in effect. This includes six "regular" members and 15 "corresponding" members. Of the individuals listed, I am not familiar with the present sea turtle research or conservation activities of: P. R. Bacon, R. Kaufman, T. Y. Pong, I. N. Sumestha, I. S. Suwelo and J. Lescure. Do you know if these people are indeed now involved in sea turtle research or conservation? Depending on the situation, we will probably want to make some deletions here.

I think we should give serious consideration to offering membership to the following additional individuals:

1. M. A. Barwani (Oman)
2. S. Bhaskar (Madras, India)
3. K. Bjorndal
4. J. Fretey (Tahiti)
5. J. Kowarsky
6. A. Meylan
7. E. Moll
8. J. Mortimer
9. L. Ogren
10. P. Ross

A total membership of 25 (following some deletions and additions) would not seem to be too large, in my opinion, if we appoint a steering committee to have responsibility for core work and decisions. The steering committee could consist of Limpus, Hughes, Marquez, Uchida, Ross, Pritchard, and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman. I propose that Mrosovsky also be on the Steering Committee, but only if he continues as editor of the newsletter.

Dr. Archie Carr

-2-

April 3, 1979

With this letter as a starting point, please give me some of your ideas at an early date so we can send a nomination list off to Wayne and Sir Peter.

Best regards - Aloha.

Sincerely,

GEORGE H. BALAZS
Assistant Marine Biologist

GHB:ec

Encl.

May 18, 1979

Dr. Archie Carr
Department of Zoology
223 Bartram Hall
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

Dear Archie:

In order to have the Marine Turtle Group names "inscribed in stone at Slimbridge," I would imagine that all you have to do is send a nomination list to Sir Peter along with a short cover letter. The list I previously suggested would be as follows: (1) Barwani, (2) Bhaskar, (3) Bjorndal, (4) Bacon, (5) Erenfeld, (6) Fretey, (7) Hirth, (8) Hughes, (9) Kaufman, (10) Kowarsky, (11) Lescure, (12) Limpus, (13) Marquez, (14) Meyland, (15) Moll, (16) Mortimer, (17) Mrosovsky, (18) Ogren, (19) Polunin, (20) Pong, (21) Pritchard, (22) Ross, (23) Schulz, (24) Siow, (25) deSilva, (26) Sumertha, (27) Suwelo, (28) Uchida. For the "steering committee" I suggested 8, 12, 13, 21, 22, 28 and 17 (17 only if he stays on as Editor of the IUCN/SSC Newsletter). As indicated in my earlier letter (3 April), I also had some questions about the present turtle activities of several individuals. If you feel that any deletions are warranted in these cases, please make them.

I was surprised and disappointed that Nick expressed reluctance to print my Kempi write-up. I mean really, my idea is so simplistic that I doubt if anyone would become confused because of "too many different plans."

I am growing weary of Nick's letters which keep shoveling responsibility in my direction.

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Assistant Marine Biologist

mk

December 5, 1979

Dr. F. Wayne King, Director
Florida State Museum
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611

Dear Wayne:

Not knowing at this time when the follow-up meeting of the WCSTC Scientific Advisory Committee will take place, I thought I would take this opportunity to offer some suggestions on the Conservation Strategy and other aspects of our Conference. On Thursday, December 6, I will depart for the SPC/NMFS Marine Turtle Workshop in New Caledonia, and will not return to Honolulu until approximately December 19. My comments are as follows:

1. Under "Highest priority by reason of population size" we should probably include the Philippines and Sabah turtle islands in view of our Action Projects 77 and 78. This point was emphasized to me by Ed Gomez shortly before leaving Washington, D. C.
2. Slow expressed considerable concern about Action Project 76 which urges that the incubation of leatherback eggs be increased, "up to 50 percent." He wanted this to be deleted and replaced with his own two project ideas of (a) more "sanctuaries" (Malay style), and (b) more hatcheries. While these two projects may very well be acceptable, I personally do not think that Action Project 76 should be removed. The current percentage of eggs being hatched seems dangerously low, and certainly 50% is a worthy figure to strive for, although we all realize that it will probably never be reached.
3. When the Conservation Strategy and Action Projects were being discussed, one of the conference participants from Japan objected to the use of the words "dishonorable practice" in Action Project 64. Russell Train responded that this would be deleted. In my opinion, the words should be retained. The dictionary definition of dishonorable is "shameful" or "disgraceful," certainly appropriate words for the decimation of hawksbill populations by Japanese international commerce. Let's tell it like it really is - the practice is dishonorable.

Dr. F. Wayne King
Page 2
December 5, 1979

4. The deadline of 1 January 1980 for submitting revised, final papers for the Proceedings is excellent. The Proceedings need to be published at the earliest possible date in order to maintain momentum. However, all invitational speakers may not have been present on Friday afternoon to hear the deadline announcement. Perhaps an immediate written notice should be sent out on this matter.

5. The "offer of assistance" by T.V.-newsman Andy Guthrie (18100 Scottsdale, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122) ^{should be formally} accepted by a written reply. This man's talents, connections and enthusiasm for sea turtles should not be allowed to fall by the wayside for lack of interest on our part. He has great potential for aiding in the conservation of sea turtles.

6. Please note that several of the scientific papers, including my own, contain recommendations that will need to be incorporated into the Conservation Strategy.

Wayne, at one point during the course of the conference you mentioned that we need to focus in on one isolated green turtle rookery and saturation tag for an extended period to determine, once and for all, recruit and mortality rates of adult females. This is an excellent suggestion, and certainly French Frigate Shoals would offer numerous advantages as the study area. Perhaps I should be considering the preparation of a research proposal along these lines.

We should all be proud of having played a part in what turned out to be a superb conference!

Sincerely,

George H. Balazs
Associate Marine Biologist

mk

cc: A. Carr, D. Ehrenfeld,
V. Silverstein



March 31, 1978

Dear Dr. Balazs,

This is to confirm that you are invited to attend a meeting of marine specialists in Toronto May 15-19. This meeting is being sponsored by the Marine Steering Committee of IUCN to help them in formulating their action plan for marine turtles. This action plan will also help in developing their World Conservation Strategy. *large booklet*

Among questions to be discussed will be:

- 1) What are the main problems in conservation of marine turtles today?
- 2) How might these problems be solved? *assign*
- 3) What critical information is most needed for devising sound management policies for the use of turtle resources?
- 4) How might this information be obtained? *assign special projects*
- 5) What are the priorities for funding?

W It would be useful if you could formulate your views on these and related topics before coming to the meeting. If you could send me a brief outline in advance about these matters, this would be much appreciated. As well as discussing problems for conservation of marine turtles in general, you will be asked to give a brief report on the situation in your own area.

Details of the meeting are given in the attached circular. I very much hope you will indeed be able to come and give IUCN the benefit of your expertise and experience in conservation of marine turtles.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Mrosovsky
Co-Chairman, IUCN Marine Turtle Group



UNIVERSITY of TORONTO RAMSAY WRIGHT ZOOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
DEPARTMENT of Zoology 25 HARBORD STREET TORONTO M5S 1A1, ONTARIO, CANADA

March 31, 1978

Dear Colleague,

This is to keep you up to date with matters concerning the marine turtle group. A meeting has been called at very short notice for mid-May in Toronto with the aim of helping the Marine Steering Committee formulate an action plan for turtles. Unfortunately, on account of limited funds, IUCN cannot sponsor attendance of more than a few people. However, if you have any views on the following questions, and could send me a brief written statement, they would be much appreciated and I will make sure they are considered at the meeting:

- 1) What are the main problems in conservation of marine turtle today?
- 2) How might these problems be solved?
- 3) What critical information is most needed for devising sound management policies for the use of turtle resources?
- 4) How might that information be obtained?
- 5) What are the priorities in funding?

Please note that this is not a meeting of the full turtle group, but an ad hoc meeting called by the Marine Steering Committee, in order to produce a document on specific topics. It does not preclude a meeting of the full group at some other time. Both Archie Carr and I would greatly like to see this happen, but we have not been able to obtain the necessary funds yet.

I fully appreciate that some members might have wished to be present at this meeting. It is impossible, unfortunately, to please everyone. Some people feel extremely strongly that we should not hold a meeting in Toronto because input will be weighted in favour of people with a N. American perspective. However, Toronto is actually the cheapest place for this particular meeting, and the only reasonable place given the very short notice I have had. Others say we should not have any meeting until we can have a meeting of the full group. In this case we diminish the scope for effective input to the Action Plan and World Conservation Strategy, and of responding to the initiative and opportunities offered by the Marine Steering Committee. In responding to these possibilities, we have tried to balance the composition of the meeting in such a way that we get opinions from a diverse spectrum of viewpoints, keep it financially viable, and streamlined enough so that the necessary document can be produced.

Nevertheless, I will try to keep you informed of what is happening, in as far as I know myself. Much effort has gone into the uphill task of trying to keep the newsletter afloat as a medium of communication between interested parties, and in getting some momentum in the turtle group. I still hope that in the not too distant future an opportunity will come for us all to meet together, and that in the meanwhile we can continue to work to keep each other informed of development, problems, and ideas.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Mrosovsky
Co-Chairman, Marine Turtle Group

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SURVIVAL SERVICE COMMISSION

Summarized Minutes of the 51st Meeting
held at San José, Costa Rica
12-17 March 1979

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Mr. M. Amur Al-Barwani	Dr. F. Wayne King
Mr. George H. Balazs	Mr. Warren B. King
Ms. Janet Barber	Dr. Anne LaBastille
Mr. Earl B. Baysinger	Prof. Paul Leyhausen
Dr. Gerard A. Bertrand	Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy
Ms. Mona F. Björklund	Mr. Grenville Lucas
Mr. John A. Burton	Dr. Ricardo Luti
Dr. Howard W. Campbell	Dr. Lee W. McGeorge
Prof. Archie Carr	Mr. Jeremy Mallinson
Ms. Patricia Chable	Prof. Federico Medem
Mr. G.S. Child	Dr. Russell A. Mittermeier
Mr. Harold J. Coolidge	Prof. Ken Myers
Mrs. Martha H. Coolidge	Dr. Paul Opler
Mr. Ralph Daly	Ms. Cristina Palacio
Dr. Marc J. Dourojeanni	Mr. John Perry
Ms. Nicole Duplaix	Dr. Peter C.H. Pritchard
Mr. Gerald Durrell	Dr. Robert M. Pyle
Dr. Richard S. Felger	Mr. Henry A. Reichart
Ms. Jane Fenton	Dr. J. Perran Ross
Mrs. Maisie Fitter	Mr. A.J.B. Rudge
Mr. Richard S.R. Fitter	Prof. Bernard Salvat
Mr. Richard Fyfe	Dr. J.P. Schulz
Mr. René Honegger	Dr. A.R.E. Sinclair
Prof. J. Ibarra	Dr. G. Stutzin
Mr. Tim Inskipp	Ms. Jane Thornback
Mr. Milton Kaufmann	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. OPENING	2
2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA	2
3. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE 50TH MEETING	2
4. SUPPORT OF THE COMMISSIONS	2
5. FUNDING OF PROJECTS	4
6. RECONSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATION OF SSC	6
7. RED DATA BOOKS	7
8. SPECIAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO BE TAKEN UP AT CITES MEETING	
a) Specimens bred in captivity	8
b) Treatment of Hunting Trophies	9
c) Treatment of Species Thought to be Extinct	9
d) Specimen Identification Manual	9
e) Minimum List of Parts and Derivatives	9
f) Procedure for the Exchange of Museum and Herbarium Specimens	9
g) Guidelines on the Preparation and Shipment of Live Specimens	9
h) Standardization of Appendices Taxonomy	10
i) Criteria for Addition of "Rare" Species to Appendix I	10
j) Report of Threatened Plants Committee	10
k) Proposal to Abandon the Use of Sub-Species as a Taxonomic Unit in the Appendices	10
l) Classification of Seeds and Cut Flowers	10
9. REPORTS FROM THE SPECIALIST GROUPS	
a) Antelope	10
b) Bear, Polar	10
c) Birds	11
Birds-of-Paradise	11
Birds-of-Prey	11
Bustards	11
Cranes	11
Flamingos	11
Parrots	12
Pheasants	12
Seabirds	12
d) Camelids	12
e) Cat	12
f) Chiroptera	12
g) Coral Reefs	12
h) Crocodiles	13
i) Crustaceans, Freshwater	13
j) Deer	13
k) Elephant, African	13
l) Elephant, Asian	13
m) Equids, African	13
n) Equids, Asian	13
o) Freshwater Fish	13
p) Genome Conservation	14
q) Insectivores	14
r) Lagomorphs	14
s) Lepidoptera	14
t) Marine Mammals	14
u) Oryx, Arabian	15
v) Otter	15

w) Threatened Plants	15
x) Primates	15
y) Rhino, African	15
z) TRAFFIC	16
aa) Turtles, Marine	16
10. JOINT SSC/CNPPA SESSION	16
11. NEXT MEETING OF THE SSC	16
APPENDIX -- RESOLUTIONS	
1) Gray Whale	17
2) Red Data Books	17
3) Hawaiian Islands	18
4) Otter pelts	18
5) Monarch butterfly	18

*** MINUTES ***

1. OPENING

Since the Chairman, Sir Peter Scott, was not able to attend, the Meeting was opened and chaired by Deputy Chairman Dr. F. Wayne King who expressed the Commission's appreciation to the Costa Rican hosts for their assistance in facilitating this Meeting of the Survival Service Commission.

The Chair also read a letter from the Chairman, Sir Peter Scott, expressing his regrets at being unable to attend.

The objectives of the SSC were restated as:

"The prevention of the extinction of species and thereby the maintenance of genetic diversity and the conservation of ecosystem".

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Since the format of the Meeting involved travel to three different locations and since travel times were not possible to predict accurately, there was no formal agenda per se. Instead, it was agreed that the "Provisional List of Subjects for Discussion" distributed on February 19th would be used as an Agenda and this document was adopted subject to modifications necessary to accommodate travel plans or conditions encountered during the shifts of location.

Decision
CSS 51/1

3. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE 50TH MEETING OF THE SSC

The Minutes of the Ashkhabad, USSR, Meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Decision
CSS 51/2

4. SUPPORT OF THE COMMISSIONS

There was considerable discussion concerning the apparent lack of support from IUCN for the effective functioning of the SSC. Despite the 14th General Assembly's clear intent to provide additional support for Commission functions, as expressed in General Assembly Paper CRP AIR, there is still little evidence that the essential

support identified in the SSC Chairman's Report to the General Assembly (Paper GA. 78/23) will materialize.

The Director General has indicated the availability of approximately SFrs. 10'000 (US\$ 5,882) in support of the activities of the Commission Chairman. An additional sum of about SFrs. 32'900.- (US\$ 19,353) is available to cover costs of the Commission representative on the IUCN Programme Planning Group (NOTE: the PPAG is comprised of about 12 Members, including a representative of each of the 6 Commissions).

In discussing the problem of support for SSC activities, the Executive Officer explained that IUCN's annual budget of approximately SFrs. 4'420'000.- (US\$ 2,600,000) derives from the following sources: United Nations Environment Programme - about 38 %, World Wildlife Fund - about 36 % (NOTE: this figure relates only to the WWF contribution toward the operations of the IUCN Secretariat - it does not include WWF monies made available to IUCN via other WWF funded contracts such as support of the Mammal Red Data Book Compiler, etc.), Membership Dues - about 25-30% and the balance from a variety of sources.

Approximately 80 % of the SFrs. 4'420'000 (US\$ 2,600,000) is consumed by the IUCN Secretariat Staff and the remaining 20 % largely is committed to other Secretariat Staff expenses such as telephones, office expenses, etc.

Thus, even with the recent increase in IUCN's Membership dues, the likelihood that IUCN will be able to provide more support to the Commissions (without significant reductions in other costs) is unlikely.

A number of possible actions toward obtaining sufficient funds to enable the volunteer Specialist Group functions were discussed including:

- the "Adopt a Group" option now used by the Chiroptera Specialist Group whereby the Fauna Preservation Society has "adopted" that group and is able to provide some support to their activities. However, it was pointed that this option, if followed, would result in the various Groups being identified logically with other organizations (those who provide support) rather than the IUCN; or
- additional support from the World Wildlife Fund. It was pointed out that WWF now funds the activities of some Groups on a Project by Project basis (for example, the initial meeting of a newly-formed Specialist Group usually is funded, in part, by a WWF Project); that WWF already was providing such support as was available to the Red Data Book Compilers and that WWF makes a very substantial contribution towards support of the IUCN Secretariat.

5. FUNDING OF PROJECTS

While not an agenda item, the subject of funding of project proposals submitted to IUCN/WWF was discussed at length.

The Executive Officer explained that IUCN now screened all project proposals submitted to WWF for funding. New procedures were being developed within the two organizations that may help ensure more rapid action on such proposals. He stressed that the adoption of the concept of an "IUCN Programme" had great significance to those who plan to seek WWF funding since only in exceptional cases would projects falling in subject areas not included in the "Programme Document" developed by the Morges staff be considered for funding.

All SSC cooperators should become fully aware of the manner in which the "Programme Document" is prepared and insure that their views are made known to those who develop this document.

Queries concerning the significance or procedures surrounding the Programme Document should be addressed to: Mr. Adrian Phillips, Director of Programmes, IUCN, 1110 Morges, Switzerland. Adrian is the individual directly responsible for preparation of the Programme Document.

The Executive Officer also pointed out that IUCN and WWF were in the process of reviewing a very large backlog of Project Proposals, some dating back several years, and trying to identify those that are still current, match them with available funds and dispose of the remainder.

This backlog consists of proposals submitted to IUCN/WWF which had been screened and found to merit funding. In some cases, the commitment to fund the proposal was firm and in others only an implied commitment exists. In nearly all cases the commitment was contingent upon availability of funds and it is here that the problems arose.

Two general categories of funds are available to WWF for funding of such proposals:

1. So-called "Free Funds" or those funds donated to WWF for use in furthering its conservation work with essentially "no strings" attached; and
2. So-called "Ear-Marked" funds or those funds donated for a specific purpose or to be used in a specific area such as: Elephant Conservation or "Conservation Projects in Indonesia", etc.

At the time of the review under discussion:

- there were essentially no "Free Funds" available to WWF International;
- there were about US\$ 2,862,576 in Ear-Marked funds available to WWF and another US\$ 3,518,475 being held in the various WWF National Appeals as "Ear-Marked" funds available for international projects. While these numbers appear rather significant, the fact that many of the funds are "Ear-Marked"

for specific purposes make them difficult to match with Project Proposals. For example, of these funds about:

- \$ 900,000 must be spent on Raptors;
- 175,000 " " " " Elephants;
- 459,000 " " " " Marine Projects;
- 111,000 " " " " Rain Forest;
- 100,000 " " " " the Sahel;
- 139,000 " " " " Surinam;
- 584,000 " " " " Indonesia;
- 263,000 " " " " the Wadden Sea;
- 594,000 " " " " Project Tiger;
- 95,000 " " " " Coordination of Projects, etc;

- the "backlog" contained about US\$ 2,300,000 in "firm" commitments and another US\$ 2-3,000,000 in "implied" commitments; and
- the "Global Species Conservation Strategies" produced by several SSC Specialist Groups are not included in that backlog - that commitment is in addition to those mentioned above.

Thus, until this problem is resolved, the prognosis for funding of new proposals - unless they fall within the area of interest of "Ear-Marked" funds is low unless the current WWF fund-raising campaigns produce significant returns.

Questions then were raised concerning United Nations Environment Programme support of the IUCN and whether that support included activities such as the compilation of the Red Data Books, Support of Specialist Groups, support of Meetings of the SSC or its Specialist Groups and similar activities.

It was pointed out that:

- such support as was received by the Red Data Book Compilers derived from specific WWF funded projects or contributions by organizations such as the Fauna Preservation Society. In some cases, such as the "Fish Red Data Book" and the "Reptiles & Amphibians Red Data Book", the compiler is supported, in large part, by the organization for which he works.
- The Specialist Groups, in large part, generate their own support (except for partial support from WWF for the initial meeting of a Group); and
- the Meetings of the SSC also are self-supporting with most participants funding their own attendance.

The only identified support from the UNEP toward activities of the SSC have been payment of part of the salaries of two or three of the Secretariat Staff (not the current SSC Executive Officer or

his secretary) who devoted part of their time to overseeing some of the work of the publication of the Red Data Books (such as the Head of the External Affairs Division and the IUCN Technical Editor).

6. RECONSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATION OF SSC

The Chairman and the Executive Officer discussed the reconstitution of the SSC and pointed out that:

- the slightly modified SSC Organizational Structure outlined in a January 1, 1979 paper (copies available from the Executive Officer upon request) had been approved. Principal changes are:
 - establishment of several additional Regional Vice-Chairmen whose functions include: serving as the Commission expert and point-of-contact for a prescribed geographic area and advising the Commission on the geographic, ethnological and political aspects of conservation problems, opportunities and tactics.
 - establishment of a Vice-Chairman for Threatened Plant Matters and a Vice-Chairman for Marine Matters whose functions will be to assist the Chairman ensure that all elements of the SSC interested in these subjects are fully informed and that conservation problems and opportunities in these subject areas are handled in the most efficient manner.
- The Chairman had sent personal letters to nearly all the individuals who were being asked to become a Member of the Commission, a Chairman of a Specialist Group or an Honorary Consultant to the Commission. There are still some matters to be resolved concerning some individuals and those letters will go out shortly after the conclusion of this meeting. A list of those nominees who respond favourably will be submitted for ratification at the June meeting of the IUCN Council.
- Preparation of very generalized "Terms-of-Reference for Specialist Groups" would be helpful to Specialist Group Chairmen and that such documents should include helpful information concerning the procedures for establishing a Group as well as the operational aspects of coordinating such a group. It was agreed that the Executive Officer should prepare such a draft for consideration by the Steering Committee.

Decision
CSS 51/3

It was pointed out that considerable confusion was being created by the manner in which correspondence between the Morges Secretariat and some Specialist Groups was being handled. Some members of Specialist Groups write to different individuals in the Secretariat on the same subject, frequently copying other Secretariat members (sometimes, but not always, including your Executive Officer). As a result correspondence is sometimes misrouted, answered twice or sometimes not at all. To simplify matters, it was decided that all SSC-related correspondence between Specialist Groups and the Secretariat should be addressed to the Executive Officer who will ensure proper routing within the Secretariat and will thus be kept fully in the picture.

Decision
CSS 51/4

Decision
CSS 51/5

There was considerable discussion of the revival of an SSC Newsletter and it was decided that such should be sought. It is now envisaged that preparation of such a Newsletter should be one of the functions of the proposed Species Conservation Monitoring Unit discussed elsewhere.

7. RED DATA BOOKS

Decision
CSS 51/6

The February issue of the IUCN Bulletin had been received by some participants and questions were raised concerning an article describing the newly signed IUCN/UNEP agreement in which it is stated: "... the development of a 'new generation' of Red Data Books. UNEP support here is a little less than \$ 150,000..." It was agreed that the Executive Officer should look into the details of the availability of this money and report back to the Commission. /NOTE: it has since been learned that of the \$ 150,000, \$ 90,000 already had been committed within the Secretariat. Of the remaining \$ 60,000 about \$ 20,000 will be used to contract for the development of a prototype Invertebrate Red Data Book and the remaining \$ 40,000 will be used in partial support of the establishment of the Species Conservation Monitoring Unit (discussed elsewhere)/.

Considerable concern was expressed over the extraordinarily long delays in getting updated Red Data Book pages through the system in Morges and distributed. It was pointed out that the revised Fish volume had been submitted to Morges nearly 20 months ago; the revised Bird volume had required about 8 months; the Mammal volume 10 months and the Reptile/Amphibian volume over 12 months. Such delays greatly reduce the utility of the data when they are distributed and thus hinder efforts aimed at the conservation of species.

Decision
CSS 51/7

It was agreed that the SSC should emphasize the importance of the dissemination of current data on the status of species and the need to give the processing of such data a high priority within the IUCN.

The Executive Officer explained that the problem stemmed from a heavy workload within those elements of the Secretariat that handled the manuscripts. This was aggravated by competing demands on the equipment and personnel used to prepare the manuscripts - particularly the editing and typing of the various drafts of the World Conservation Strategy; the IUCN/UNEP contract and related documents; the IUCN Programme Documents and Papers required by the General Assembly, IUCN Bureau Meetings and other IUCN Administrative needs - which were considered of higher priority by the Secretariat.

This was followed by a discussion of the status of the proposed Red Data Book Unit (NOTE: this proposed Unit is now referred to as the "Species Conservation Monitoring Unit" or "SCMU") and the NEEDS/APX systems that were discussed at Ashkhabad.

It was pointed out that:

- the NEEDS forms had been "tested" on some Specialist Groups and appeared workable - some individuals who tested the forms provided very helpful comments that will be used in refining the form and system;
- the Executive Officer would be pleased to provide any interested person a copy of the current draft NEEDS form PROVIDED the individual agrees to fill it out and provide constructive criticism;
- the concept of the Species Conservation Monitoring Unit had been presented to the Senior Officers of the IUCN/WWF and had been received favourably. A formal funding proposal would be prepared during the meeting in San José for presentation to WWF;
- if the SCMU can be established, most of the problems of delayed handling of Endangered Species data and related matters would be minimized.

Decision
CSS 51/8

It was agreed that the SSC still regarded establishment of a Species Conservation Monitoring Unit and implementation of a system to accomplish the aims of the NEEDS/APX proposal to be of high priority. It was further agreed that the 'New Generation' of Red Data Books should be aimed at satisfying the data needs of organisations such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) so that these data can be of assistance in furthering the conservation of Threatened Species.

Decision
CSS 51/9

Decision
CSS 51/10

It was also agreed that the SCMU, if or when it comes into existence, should be encouraged to accept contractual work in those areas in which it is competent and which do not conflict with its intended primary purpose of assimilating and disseminating current, factual data concerning the conservation status of threatened taxa and of identifying priority actions to reduce such threats.

8. SPECIAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO BE TAKEN UP AT CITES MEETING

The Second Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora were to meet in San José two days after the close of the Meeting of the SSC. As a number of SSC participants planned to also participate in the CITES Meeting, a number of items on the CITES agenda that fell within the area of interest of the SSC were discussed so that the views of the SSC could be made available to the participants at the CITES Meeting. These subjects and a summary of the SSC views follow:

a) Specimens bred in captivity:

The SSC felt this phrase should be interpreted to insure that such specimens derive from "self-contained" captive populations and therefore cause no drain on the wild populations.

Decision
CSS 51/11

- Decision
CSS 51/12
- b) Treatment of Hunting Trophies:
The SSC felt that import and export of hunting trophies should be controlled by the CITES.
- Decision
CSS 51/13
- c) Treatment of Species Thought to be Extinct:
It was recognized that removal of a species from the appendices to CITES because the species was thought to be extinct could be hazardous in view of the difficulty and cost of documenting the existence of some very rare species. If the species were removed prematurely and then found still to exist, those few remaining animals would not be afforded the protection of the CITES since the species would have been removed from the appendices as "Extinct". The SSC felt it desirable to develop criteria for "Extinction" which could be used to guide the actions of administrators who must make such decisions. Such criteria should include a significant period of time (depending upon the species) since the last reliable record during which period concerted efforts by qualified individuals should have been made to locate the species.
- Decision
CSS 51/14
- d) Specimen Identification Manual:
This manual, a prototype of which is being prepared under the auspices of CITES, is intended to assist customs officers in their detection of specimens covered by the CITES. The SSC felt such a document would be of value to enforcement of the CITES but that it should be kept practical enough to be used by the customs officers and not be allowed to become so technical that one would have to be a trained taxonomist to use it. It also was felt that updating of such a publication was an example of a contractual service that could be performed by the Species Conservation Monitoring Unit in conjunction with its preparation of Red Data Book pages.
- Decision
CSS 51/15
- e) Minimum List of Parts and Derivatives:
The CITES was to consider adoption of a proposal to establish a list of those parts and derivatives of taxa on the appendices which all Parties would agree were "readily identifiable" and all Parties would control commerce in those products in accordance with the CITES. The SSC felt such a "minimum list" would, in fact, become a "maximum list" and that customs officers would look only for products that had been placed on the "minimum list" thus over-looking other products from endangered species and generally weakening the effectiveness of the Convention. The SSC, therefore, opposed the establishment of a "minimum list of parts and derivatives".
- Decision
CSS 51/16
- f) Procedure for the Exchange of Museum and Herbarium Specimens:
The SSC agreed that scientists should be allowed to move accessioned scientific specimens of species on the CITES appendices between bona-fide institutions for legitimate purposes with as little inconvenience as possible.
- Decision
CSS 51/17
- g) Guidelines on the Preparation and Shipment of Live Specimens:
The SSC endorsed, provisionally, the recommended Guidelines for shipment of living animals prepared by the British Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in conjunction with the TRAFFIC Group. The Chairman, John Burton, was commended for an excellent job of coordinating the preparation of these recommended Guidelines.

h) Standardization of Appendices Taxonomy:

The Deputy Chairman, Dr. F. Wayne King, reported that the Committee he chaired under the CITES had made considerable progress in developing a comprehensive taxonomy for use in the administration of the CITES. The list was about 80 % complete for birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians and 50-60% complete for fish. The SSC agreed that this was an important task that the CITES should continue and expand upon.

Decision
CSS 51/18

i) Criteria for Addition of "Rare" Species to Appendix I:

The SSC agreed that the CITES criteria for addition of taxa to Appendix I should remain flexible enough to add "Rare" species even though the species was not presently in trade. This rationale was based on the fact that such species could become critically endangered if they became involved in trade before the requirement for getting them on the Appendices could be complied with.

Decision
CSS 51/19

j) Report of Threatened Plants Committee:

Grenville Lucas, Secretary of the SSC Threatened Plants Committee summarized the Report he would present to the CITES Meeting and stressed the need for countries to do more toward implementation of the CITES as it applies to plants.

k) Proposal to Abandon the Use of Sub-species as a Taxonomic Unit in the Appendices:

Difficulties in separating and identifying sub-species was recognized but the SSC felt it important to insure that a Threatened Species is protected throughout its range and the use of sub-species helps insure this ability to provide protection to those populations that need it.

Decision
CSS 51/20

l) Classification of Seeds and Cut Flowers:

The SSC felt that control of seeds is desirable but recognizes the identification difficulties. The SSC also supports the view that cut flowers should be subject to the provisions of CITES.

Decision
CSS 51/21

(NOTE: final decisions on the above topics taken by the Parties at the CITES Meeting were compatible with the SSC positions).

9. REPORTS FROM THE SPECIALIST GROUPS

A number of Specialist Group representatives submitted verbal or written reports on their Group's activities, problems and progress. These reports are not reproduced here in detail due to space limitation. Further details on any Group Report can be obtained from the Executive Officer.

a) Antelope:

A new group to be chaired by Dr. Richard Estes is being formed.

b) Bear, Polar:

The Group met in January 1979, is the only inter-governmental Specialist Group and reports favourably on the conservation status of the Polar Bear.

c) Birds:

Mr. Warren B. King summarized the reports of a number of the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) Working Groups which work closely with the SSC Specialist Groups. Many of the ICBP Working Groups are being re-structured following the recent ICBP General Assembly.

i) Birds-of-Paradise:

These species are not totally protected and some can be legally taken with primitive weapons such as bow and arrow; The Government of Papua New Guinea is now participating in the Group's activities; it was reported that about 2,000 skins (some from Papua New Guinea) had been observed in trade recently.

ii) Birds-of-Prey:

Richard Fyfe, Chairman of this Group reported: a great increase in interest in the conservation of this group of birds over the past few years; that the Group has drafted a World Conservation Strategy for Birds of Prey; a recent conference on falconry held in Abu-Dhabi indicates a high level of interest in raptors in the Arab states; the group is drafting a position paper on falconry and another on the captive-breeding of raptors and that recent proclamation of the President of the Phillipines changing the name of the "monkey-eating eagle" to the "Phillipine eagle" may have a salutary effect on the conservation status of that species.

iii) Bustards:

Three meetings concerned with the Great Bustard have been organized in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary respectively; a sub-species of the Great Bustard has been reported from the Canary Islands; the houbara bustard still is under great pressure much of which derives from falconers; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is supporting a two-year project in India aimed at enhancing the status of the Great Indian and Houbara bustards; and the Sultan of Oman has gone to great lengths to provide necessary protection to that species in his country. It was agreed that the Chairman should write the Sultan and commend him.

Decision
CSS 51/22

iv) Cranes:

The status of the Siberian crane is being investigated in China; only 42 (41 adult & 1 young) wintered in Bharatpur in 1978; birds may be shot in northern India or Afghanistan; attempts are being made to locate wintering areas in China; status of black-necked crane also being investigated in China; only 7 Japanese Crested Ibis appear still to exist, and no indication of successful breeding since 1973; it was agreed that this population should be captured and used to establish a breeding population in captivity.

Decision
CSS 51/23

v) Flamingos:

The Caribbean flamingo was among those species to be proposed for inclusion on Appendix II of CITES at the Meeting of the Parties, SSC agreed the proposal should be supported even though this species was not in the Red Data Book

Decision
CSS 51/24

Decision
CSS 51/25

vi) Parrots:

The Working Group is scheduled to meet in St. Lucia in 1980 and will focus attention on the parrots of St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Dominica; the Australian Government had proposed deletion of the Night Parrot and the Paradise Parakeet from the appendices of the CITES since they assumed them to be extinct. Members of the Commission had received unconfirmed reports of the Night Parrot and it was decided to oppose the proposal to delist this species as being premature (NOTE: since the meeting reports of the sighting of the Night Parrot in South Australia have been received).

vii) Pheasants:

There are now 40 white-eared pheasants known to be in captivity.

viii) Seabirds:

ICBP has now formed a Seabird Group.

d) Camelids, South American:

Dr. M. Dourojeanni gave a detailed briefing on the status of the vicuna in Peru. Populations have made a very significant come-back; drought has reduced carrying capacity of the range and threatens a number of animals; costs of translocation are very high; Peru now wishes to start harvesting their herds with the wool or products made from it going into the international trade. Before this can legally be done, the Peruvian population must be transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II of the CITES. The 4 nation (Peru, Argentina, Bolivia and Chile) agreement on the conservation of the vicuna will be re-negotiated in September 1979. The SSC agreed that the Peruvian authorities should be congratulated on their success at the restoration of the Peruvian vicuna population.

Decision
CSS 51/26

e) Cat:

No improvement in the status of the Iriomote cat from that reported a year ago; the U.S. had added this cat to its Endangered Species List; the Chairman of the Cat Group reported on the Tiger Symposium recently held in India and observed that most of the recommendations in the Holloway, Singh, Leyhausen report are to be implemented; and the re-introduction of the Asian lion into Iran had been suspended.

f) Chiroptera:

The captive population of the Rodrigues fruit bat at the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust has increased from 10 to 19 individuals; there seems to be heavy exploitation of fruit bats in Guam, 40,000 being exported for food in 1976; and an apparent decline in seed production of the agave in New Mexico appears due to a decline in populations of bats which pollinate the agave.

g) Coral Reefs:

This group is now organized and functioning well; it now produces a quarterly newsletter; some major threats to coral reefs include: oil pollution and specimen collection. A more

comprehensive identification of threats to coral reefs is nearing completion.

h) Crocodiles:

Status surveys of the American and Estuarine crocodiles have been completed and copies are available; the Group was invited by the Government of Nepal to undertake an ecological and management study of the Garial.

i) Crustaceans, Freshwater:

The Group has been formed, under the chairmanship of Dr. Raymond W. Bouchard and held its first meeting at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in April 1978.

j) Deer:

Proceedings of the Symposium on Threatened Deer have been published and are available from IUCN; the Smithsonian Institution will sponsor an international meeting on deer in Virginia, USA, this year.

k) Elephant, African:

The work of this Group is reported fully in their newsletter, copies of which are available from Morges; the continent-wide survey has resulted in an extensive report, details of which are available from the Chairman of the Group; and the study on the ivory trade is progressing very satisfactorily.

l) Elephant, Asian:

A distribution and status report by Dr. Robert Olivier, Co-chairman of the Group was published in the November 1978 issue of "ORYX". Consideration is being given to the establishment of an Asian Elephant Secretariat.

m) Equids, African:

There is a modest sum of money available for conservation action for the Grevy's zebra - suggestions on how these funds can be most effectively used are welcome; the UK had a proposal before the CITES to place Hartmann's and Grevy's zebra on Appendix I and it was agreed that SSC supported that proposal.

n) Equids, Asian:

It was agreed to establish a Specialist Group to deal with the problems of establishing a coordinated breeding programme for the captive populations of the Przewalski Horse with the eventual goal of producing suitable stocks for release into the wild. The Chairman of the Asian Equid Group, Dr. Bannikov, has agreed to this proposal. It was suggested that a representative of the Captive Breeding Specialist Group should serve on the Przewalski Horse Captive Breeding Group.

o) Freshwater Fish:

It was agreed that it would be desirable to establish a number of additional Fish Groups in order to provide more thorough coverage, these groups could be formed along taxonomic (i.e. an Ictalurid Group, a Centrarchid Group, etc.) or geographic (i.e. European Freshwater Fish Group, Central American Freshwater Fish Group, etc.) lines. Suggestions for Groups to be established

Decision
CSS 51/27

Decision
CSS 51/28

Decision
CSS 51/29

or for persons to serve as Chairman or Members of such groups would be welcome. It was reported that a heavy trade in wild-caught fish (for the aquarium trade) was from Latin America and that stricter control was needed. It was agreed that the SSC should take action on this.

Decision
CSS 51/30

p) Genome Conservation:

It was agreed at the Ashkhabad Meeting to establish this Group under the Chairmanship of Professor B.N. Veprintsev of the USSR. The Group will deal with the conservation aspects of techniques such as cloning, ova-transplantation etc. The Threatened Plants Committee and the Captive Breeding Group should be represented on the Genome Conservation Group.

Decision
CSS 51/31

q) Insectivores:

The Chairman of this Group recently visited the Dominican Republic and has put forth a number of proposals for the establishment of solenodon sanctuaries for consideration by governmental authorities.

r) Lagomorphs:

This newly-formed Group, under the Chairmanship of Professor Kenneth Myers, will hold its first meeting in conjunction with a World Conference on Lagomorphs to be held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada, in August 1979; names and addresses of potential members of the Group from Africa, Indonesia and the USSR would be welcome.

s) Lepidoptera:

Additional protection is needed for the newly-discovered Mexican wintering grounds of the Monarch butterfly as large numbers of these over-wintering insects are being used for cattle food. It was agreed that the Chairman of the SSC should write to the President of Mexico to bring this problem to his attention. Dr. Paul Opler of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Endangered Species pointed out that his Office was interested in receiving reliable information concerning the status of any invertebrate taxa that seemed in trouble. It was agreed that all Specialist Groups should be encouraged to establish contact with the Office to ensure access to relevant information concerning the status of Threatened Species. The mailing address is: Office of Endangered Species, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240, USA.

Decision
CSS 51/32

Decision
CSS 51/33

t) Marine Mammals:

It was reported that a complete revision of the IUCN Marine Mammal involvement was underway. The term of the IUCN Interim Committee on Marine Mammals was drawing to a close and there was a need to maintain the momentum established by that Committee. The SSC is the logical IUCN Unit to assume the functions of the ICMM. Dr. Sidney Holt, present Chairman of the ICMM would be consulted by the Chairman of the SSC as to how the expanded marine-oriented responsibilities could be best fit into the SSC. It was agreed that the SSC should support the proposal of the UK that all cetaceans not on Appendix I of CITES should be placed on Appendix II. The UK has prepared an excellent summary of the status of Cetaceans.

Decision
DSS 51/34

u) Oryx, Arabian:

The process of securing the permits and other documentation needed to ship 4 females to join the 4 males in Jordan is now underway. The San Diego Wild Animal Park may be able to provide the animals needed for the Oman re-introduction programme by 1980.

Decision
CSS 51/35

v) Otter:

The Proceedings of the Meeting of the Otter Group held in Suriname are now available and it was agreed that the SSC supported the Group's recommendation that all the South American species should be retained on Appendix I of CITES.

w) Threatened Plants:

The Secretariat is being swamped with data and will have to increase its capacity to handle these properly; botanical gardens are showing excellent cooperation in examining their collections to identify rare plants and insure they are properly cared for; the "Plant Red Data Book" is now published and available - it is in a different format from the animal volumes but represents a major step forward in plant conservation; the Council of Europe will incorporate the updated list of Threatened Plants into their Endangered Species Conservation efforts; the Palm Group has now sorted out the palms and their conservation priorities.

Looking to the future, the TPC plans to focus on Central and South America and to stimulate habitat studies of European species.

Decision
CSS 51/36

It was agreed that the TPC was doing an outstanding job and were to be congratulated.

x) Primates:

This Group has been extremely active; it is now re-organised and has produced a comprehensive strategy for the Global conservation of primates, several parts of which have already been funded; 45 active primatologists are involved; Madagascar and its unique lemur fauna is a number one priority. A comprehensive report of the work of this Group was presented and copies are available from Morges. It was agreed this Group and its Chairman, Dr. Russel A. Mittermeier, should be congratulated for their activity and effectiveness.

Decision
CSS 51/37

y) Rhino, African:

A new Chairwoman, Dr. Kes Hillman, has been nominated; it is estimated that only around 20 rhinos remain in Uganda and the species probably is doomed in that country; both black and square-lipped rhinos are in serious trouble throughout Africa; rhino horn is now bringing about \$ 260-750 per kg, the average Game Ranger earns about \$ 55 per month; an estimated 4 metric tons a year are exported from Africa, about 15 % from Kenya; China, Hong Kong and North Yemen are big importers but Hong Kong has recently announced a ban on the import of rhino horn; horn is used extensively for dagger handles in North Yemen and as a fever depressant in Hong Kong and China, most demand for horn as an aphrodisiac comes from India. It was agreed that the Hong Kong Government should be congratulated on their decision to halt trade in rhino horn.

Decision
CSS 51/38

z) TRAFFIC

This Group is very active and is now concentrating on the harp and hooded seal trade; mollusc trade in Kenya; fur trade in the Federal Republic of Germany; the ivory and coral trade; and has just completed a report of the cacti trade in the UK. The Group plans to hold a meeting in 1981.

aa) Turtles, Marine:

Mexico is the most pressing conservation area; population of the black turtle on the Pacific Coast of Mexico is estimated to have dropped from about 13,000,000 animals to about 500,000; this alarming decline is due to commercial over-harvest; an excellent turtle conservation programme being carried out in Oman includes active research, public education, films, booklets, posters, etc.; the status of the Kemp's Ridley Turtle is still the poorest in the world, it nests only in one area and there are probably only 4-500 left despite good protection; a review of the global status of sea turtles had just been completed by Dr. J. Perran Ross who reported that there were more populations of sea turtles than previously thought and that their status was worse than thought - the majority of the separate populations now should be considered Endangered. There will be a major International Symposium on the Sea Turtles in Washington, D.C. around the end of November 1979 - open to anyone interested.

10. JOINT SSC/CNPPA SESSION

A joint meeting was held with the CNPPA to discuss the Resolutions prepared by the two Commissions during their separate meetings. It was agreed that action should be taken on the following Resolutions (Appendix).

Decision
CSS 51/39

The President of the Republic of Costa Rica, Lic. Rodrigo Carazo Odio, attended the final session of the joint CNPPA/SSC meeting and addressed the participants and the Chairman of the CNPPA, Dr. Kenton Miller, the Deputy Chairman of the SSC, Dr. F. Wayne King and Dr. Thomas Lovejoy, representing the WWF, responded.

11. NEXT MEETING OF THE SSC

The next meeting of the SSC will be held at King's College, Cambridge, UK, from 10-13 September 1979.

CS/2/9
EBB/pc

APPENDIX

The following RESOLUTIONS were passed at the SSC meeting and will be acted upon:

1. GRAY WHALE

(Resolution to be forwarded to the Government of Mexico, joint resolution of SSC and CNPPA)

We commend the Government of Mexico for having established one of the first great whale sanctuaries in the world at Ojo de Liebre (Scanmons) Lagoon to protect one of the most important of several vital Baja California Gray whale calving lagoons.

However, we note that developmental activities adjacent to Ojo de Liebre and several other Baja California Calving lagoons, may in the future, present threats to the viability of these critical areas.

We respectfully urge the Government of Mexico to continue its pioneering protection of this highly migratory species of high international interest by designating Guerrero Negro and San Ignacio Lagoons, as well as Ojo de Liebre as Gray Whale Sanctuaries, including other calving lagoons as appropriate. Water approaches and wide bands of surrounding land should be included within the boundaries of the sanctuary areas. We define cetacean sanctuaries as places where the target species may not be taken alive, killed or harrassed and where suitable living conditions are maintained (e.g. food, water quality), these conditions to be assured by appropriate regulation of human use in the sanctuary (water, seabed and air space) and in the water outside it and adjacent coastal zone.

2. RED DATA BOOKS

The SSC wishes to remind and draw particular attention of the IUCN (Bureau and Council) to the importance of the Red Data Books both in the successful functioning and as a working tool of the Commissions and as an essential voice for IUCN in the conservation of species.

The Commission is disturbed by the continuing delays over publication and feels the need to emphasise that they wish IUCN, at all levels, to accord highest priority to the finance, production and publication of the Red Data Books in the future.

In particular a strict time table should be set up for those outstanding volumes ready for the press. Ideally these volumes should appear as follows: the Mammal volume within four months, the Bird volume within 6 months and the Fish volume within 8 months of the 1st April 1979. To ensure this target sufficient and appropriate manpower should be made available now, if necessary by the Commission being given responsibility for editorial and support matters with an appropriate budget to fulfill those targets.

3. HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

RECOGNIZING that the small oceanic islands and atolls which comprise the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands constitute critical breeding and feeding areas for the endemic monk seal, numerous species of sea-birds, three endemic land birds, and a population of green turtles;

RECALLING that most of these areas were declared a bird sanctuary in 1909 by the President of the United States, with the areas later being designated as the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge;

REALIZING that the ecosystems of such oceanic island areas are particularly vulnerable to degradation and species extinction as a result of human intrusion;

BEING AWARE that consideration is presently being given to the development of various commercial fisheries in waters close to the Hawaiian Islands;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the joint meeting of the CNPPA/SSC request the Director General of IUCN to transmit to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service and the State of Hawaii an expression of support that the breeding and feeding areas of the wildlife species of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands continue to be maintained in an undisturbed and protected state.

4. OTTER PELTS (for importing countries and CITES)

RECOGNIZING the continuing commercial demand for otter pelts which directly threatens remaining populations, including the more isolated areas in which law enforcement is difficult, the IUCN/SSC Otter Specialist Group recommends that the Commission urge major consumer countries which are currently Germany, France, Italy, Great Britain and Japan, to curtail the importation of pelts and finished products.

RECOGNIZING that the skins of many otter species can not be identified with certainty unless they are examined in their entirety, we recommend that all the South American Species, namely Pteronura brasiliensis, Lutra felina, L. provocax, L. enudris, L. annecteus, L. platensis, should remain on Appendix I of the CITES and the North American species L. canadensis be maintained on Appendix II.

5. MONARCH BUTTERFLY

WHEREAS the wintering colonies of Monarch butterflies in Mexico have been uniformly recognized as the largest regular aggregation of migratory butterflies known;

AND WHEREAS potential threats to these Monarchs exist in the form of logging the roost trees, accidental fire, eventual tourist development if unplanned, and possible commercial exploitation for their wings;

THEREFORE the SSC meeting in San José, Costa Rica, on 17 March, 1979, RESOLVES THAT:

The Mexican Government be encouraged to consult with Mexican lepidopterists and international scientists to develop a long-term plan to ensure the safety of the main Monarch butterfly wintering grounds; that such a plan address future as well as present potential threats; and that the plan take into consideration existing compatible uses of the landscape concerned, while addressing necessary management actions and constraints to protect the essential qualities of the Monarch wintering territory.

EBB/pc



Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
Servicio de Parques Nacionales
Apartado 40099 - Teléfono 21-96-31 - Cable: "Minagri"
San José, Costa Rica

JOINT MEETING CNPPA/SSC
March 12-28, 1979

PROGRAM, ITINERARY AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

ING. MARIO A. BOZA
COORDINATOR



Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería
Servicio de Parques Nacionales
Apartado 10094 - Teléfono 21-96-31 - Cable: "Minagri"
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PROGRAM AND ITINERARY

Sunday, 11 March 1979

Arrival of participants to Juan Santamaría Airport, Costa Rica. Transport in Park Service vehicle to Hotel Cariari.

Registration in vestibule of Hotel.

Monday, 12 March 1979

- 7 a.m. Breakfast
- 8 a.m. Departure for Auditorium of National Insurance Institute
- 9 a.m. Opening of the Joint Meeting
- 9:30 AM 1. Presentation by Biologist Alvaro Ugalde, Director of National Parks
2. Presentation by Dr. Kenton R. Miller, Chairman, CNPPA *Commission of National Parks and Protected Areas*
3. Presentation by Sir Peter Scott, Chairman, SSC
4. Presentation by Dr. Hernán Fonseca, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock *200,000,000 were paid along length of Parangaricutlán, Costa Rica*
- 11 a.m. Visit to the Gold Museum, Central Bank of Costa Rica; presentation by the archeologists of the Museum
- 12 m. Transport to Hotel Cariari
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 2-6 p.m. Working Session for Commissions
- 7 p.m. Dinner
- 8 p.m. Talk "The National Parks of Costa Rica", by Alvaro F. Ugalde



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2

Tuesday, 13 March, 1979

- 6 a.m. Breakfast
- 7 a.m. Departure to Liberia, Guanacaste
- 10 a.m. Arrival to Hotel Centroamericano, Liberia. Install personal effects
- 11 a.m. Departure for Santa Rosa National Park
- 12 a.m. Lunch at the "Los Higuerones" picnic site
- 1-6 p.m. Tour of the Park; explanation by Dr. Kenton R. Miller; bath in the Pacific Ocean
- 6 p.m. Return to Liberia
- 7 p.m. Dinner in Liberia, Hotel Centroamericano
- Free evening

Wednesday, 14 March, 1979

- 7 a.m. Breakfast. Leave Hotel
- 8 a.m. Departure for Santa Rosa National Park
- 8:30-12 a.m. Working Session for Commissions
- 12 m. Lunch
- 1-5 p.m. Working Session for Commissions
- 5 p.m. Dinner in Liberia, Hotel Centroamericano
- 6 p.m. Departure for San José
- 10 p.m. Arrival at Hotel Cariari, San José



Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería

Servicio de Parques Nacionales

Apartado 10097 - Teléfono 21-96-31 - Cable: "Minagri"

San José, Costa Rica

3

Thursday, 15 March, 1979

- 6 a.m. Breakfast
- 7 a.m. Departure for Puerto Limón
- 11 a.m. Arrival to Hotel Humac, Puerto Limón; install personal effects
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Departure for Cahuita National Park
- 1-6 p.m. Tour of the Park; explanation by Dr. Carlos Villalobos; bath in Atlantic Ocean
- 6 p.m. Departure for Hotel Humac
- 7 p.m. Dinner
- 8 p.m. Talk "The Conservation Situation in Central America" by Dr. Craig MacFarland, CATIE

Friday, 16 March, 1979

- 7 a.m. Breakfast
- 8-12 a.m. Working Session for Commissions, Hotel Humac
- 12 m. Lunch
- 1-3 p.m. Working Session for Commissions
- 4 p.m. Departure
- 8 p.m. Arrival at Hotel Cariari, and Dinner



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4

Saturday, 17 March, 1979

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|---------|--|
| Morning | Free. Optional: shopping in San José, visit to National Theater, National Museum and other sites of interest; guide Ing. Mario A. Boza |
| 2 p.m. | Closing sessions |
| 8 p.m. | Barbecue presented courtesy of the National Park Service. Folklore Ballet, courtesy of the Costa Rican Institute of Tourism |

Sunday, 18 March, 1979

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 6 a.m. | Breakfast |
| 7 a.m. | Departure for Poás Volcano National Park |
| 9 am-1 p.m. | Tour of the Park; hike down into crater (optional); explanation by Juan Cevo and Mario A. Boza |
| 2 p.m. | Lunch |
| 3 p.m. | Informal meeting with employees of the National Park Service |
| 4 p.m. | Departure for Sarchí |
| 5 p.m. | Visit to Sarchí Factory of typical wooden objects |
| 6 p.m. | Return to Hotel Cariari |
| 7 p.m. | Dinner at Hotel Cariari |
| | Free evening. |

Monday, 19 March, 1979

Departure of participants.



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San José, Costa Rica

RECOMMENDATIONS AND GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

1. Clothing: bring a full suit for the formal occasions, and sufficient light clothing for visits to the parks. For the Poás Volcano, bring a jacket. A pair of field boots or shoes with lug soles. Do not forget to bring your bathing suits. An umbrella should hopefully not be necessary.
2. Bring sufficient film since it is quite expensive in Costa Rica.
3. The Costa Rican National Park Service will send to your home addresses via airmail, all literature gathered during the meeting on a gratis basis. Please feel free to bring relevant materials to the meeting since colleagues will not be responsible for mailing the material to their homes. Please bring 100 copies of materials which are to be distributed to all participants.
4. Miss Anabelle Mora, Mr. Guillermo Canessa and Mr. Alberto Salas have been assigned to collaborate with the General Coordinator in providing adequate attention to participants. Any small problems should be referred to them. The General Coordinator will be with the Group during the entire session to ensure that all matters function smoothly.
5. The U.S. dollar can be utilized in all shops and hotels to cover purchases. All other currencies, including pound sterling, french or swiss francs, marks, pesetas and bolivares, can be exchanged for colones in the hotels or banks. The current exchange rate for the U. S. dollar is 8.5 colones.
6. In the Hotel Cariari there is an office of LACSA, the National Costa Rican Airlines, which will attend to your needs for reservations, confirmations, etc.
7. Two large buses have been contracted for the excursions such that all wives (or husbands) may participate throughout the program. However, if wives (or husbands) are to attend, please inform Harold Eidsvik accordingly.
8. For any general information on the country, in addition to literature which each participant shall receive, please write to: Instituto Costarricense de Turismo, San José, Costa Rica. The address of the hotel is: Hotel Cariari, San José, Costa Rica.