

TRAFFIC Recommendations on the Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices at CoP15

	Species	Comment	Recommendation
7	<i>Anas oustaleti</i>	<p>CoP15 Prop. 7 [Switzerland (as a Depository Government, at the request of the Animals Committee)]. Deletion from Appendix I.</p> <p>There is considerable doubt over the validity of <i>Anas oustaleti</i> as a distinct species. Most authorities consider it a hybrid of <i>A. platyrhynchos</i> (Mallard) and <i>A. superciliosa</i> (Pacific Black Duck). The inclusion of hybrids in the Appendices is permitted under the Convention, but only if they form distinct and stable populations in the wild. Given <i>A. oustaleti</i> apparently occurs in differing forms, some closely resembling one or other of its parent species, this would appear to be a valid reason for deleting <i>A. oustaleti</i> from the Appendices. Furthermore, recent extensive searches for <i>A. oustaleti</i> in its former range have failed to locate any individuals, and it is considered most likely to be extinct. Even if individuals were to be found, only two specimens of <i>A. oustaleti</i> have been reported in international trade (possibly, in fact, both the same specimen). The issue of “look-alikes” may arise if <i>A. oustaleti</i> remained in the Appendices, because of its similarity to recognized <i>Anas</i> spp., and because of the hybridization of introduced <i>A. platyrhynchos</i> with the native <i>A. s. superciliosa</i> in New Zealand.</p>	ACCEPT