



**West African Ornithological Society
Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
Africain**



**Join the WAOS and support
the future availability of free
pdfs on this website.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/member.htm>

If this link does not work, please copy it to your browser and try again.
If you want to print this pdf, we suggest you begin on the next page (2) to conserve paper.

**Devenez membre de la
SOOA et soutenez la
disponibilité future des pdfs
gratuits sur ce site.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/adhesion.htm>

Si ce lien ne fonctionne pas, veuillez le copier pour votre navigateur et réessayer.
Si vous souhaitez imprimer ce pdf, nous vous suggérons de commencer par la page suivante
(2) pour économiser du papier.

W.A.O.S. Research Grant No. 2

An award of £300 has been made to Mr A. Tamungang, towards his research on the behavioural ecology of Grey Parrots *Psittacus erithacus* in Korup National Park and environs, Cameroon. Mr Tamungang, is a Cameroonian graduate student at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria; his research is taking place in association with the Korup National Park authority and the World Wide Fund for Nature. The fieldwork has been completed and was financed almost entirely by the student himself; the W.A.O.S. grant will assist in the analysis of the data. A brief description of the research appears below.

Bourse de Recherche de la S.O.O.A. no. 2

Une allocation de £300 a été décernée à M. A. Tamungang, en contribution à l'étude des Perroquets gris *Psittacus erithacus* dans le Parc National de Korup et ses environs au Cameroun. M. Tamungang est un étudiant camerounais de 3ème cycle à l'université d'Ibadan, Nigéria; ses recherches se déroulent en association avec la direction du Parc National de Korup et le Fonds Mondial pour la Nature (WWF). Le travail de terrain est achevé et a été financé presque entièrement par l'étudiant lui-même; la bourse S.O.O.A. aidera à couvrir les frais de traitement des données. Un bref exposé des recherches est publié ci-dessous.

W.A.O.S. Research Grant report. The vanishing Grey Parrots of Cameroon: conservation prospects.

The African Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* is limited to the remaining patchy rainforests of West and central Africa. The worldwide demand for it, mainly as a household pet, coupled with habitat loss, menaces its survival.

Information gathered so far, in a study undertaken by the author, indicates that the Grey Parrot is the most hunted bird in Cameroon, Tens of thousands are captured yearly, for local consumption and export. Since 1993, Cameroon has restricted export quotas under CITES, which has asked the government to declare the population status in the wild, in order to justify export figures. However, little is known about population trends and the ecology of the species, so the basic information necessary for planned sustainable use is lacking. The present study was established to address this dearth of information.

Conservation and sustainable use depend on the cooperation of individuals, local communities and public institutions. To help achieve this, the Korup National Park and its Support Zone were chosen as the study site. Here, parrot population trends and habitat use are monitored, and parrot use and local knowledge of the bird are evaluated. Interestingly, it appears that parrots may find human-disturbed habitat richer in vital resources.

Results should enable action to be taken to redress the imbalance between the rate of exploitation and the parrots' rate of replenishment. Habitat data collected should be relevant to exploitation of the forest resources, and the project should also improve conservation awareness among the local communities. Effective bird conservation can probably not be totally separated from traditional hunting and use of other forest resources.

Awafor Tamungang

Dept of Wildlife and Fisheries Management, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Auditor required

Our former auditor has resigned owing to pressure of work. Is there a member of the Society with accounting experience who would like to volunteer for this task?

R.E. Sharland, Treasurer

Photograph errata

Was Kees Hazevoet the only person to have spotted the non-deliberate error in the photo caption on p. 52 of the last issue (Vol. 15)? The bird pictured is quite clearly an ordinary Redshank *Tringa totanus*. Congratulations to him; one is tempted to make this a regular feature.

Also, apologies to Michael Gore, whose photographs in that issue were inadvertently blown up by the printer beyond their best. The Redshank photo lost the boot-print intended to give it scale, while the kingfisher on p. 116 should have stood out strikingly in the centre of a clear background.

Alan Tye