

# **PROPOSAL - TO CONTINUE AN APPROVED WILDLIFE TRADE OPERATION, FOR HARVESTING AND EXPORTING NATURALLY FALLEN (MOULTED) BIRD FEATHERS.**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

The applicant, that has submitted this proposal - is: Mark's Products and Services and referred to hereinafter as MP&S.

The proprietor of MP&S has extensive knowledge in many bird species, with a specialty in Australian and Exotic Cockatoos, Parrots and Raptors.

In addition for a love and passion of the bird species, MP&S also has excellent knowledge in business operations, e-commerce, Australian law, animal conservation and in many other areas, which has been valuable to operate successfully and responsibly to date.

MP&S is licensed in New South Wales, where it's based and has been legally acquiring and supplying these protected feathers throughout Australia - since 2014. MP&S also has an existing approved Wildlife Trade Operation (small scale) and a CITES commercial export permit for all the Cockatoo, Parrot and Raptor species as in Part 6 of this proposal - and has been legally exporting feathers from these species overseas since July 2015.

## **2. LICENSING AND COMPLIANCE:**

MP&S operates from New South Wales and holds a NSW Licence, which is provided to MP&S in accordance with the provisions of Part 2 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.

Prior to this new (2016) Act, since 2014 it was in accordance with Section 120 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974. **Species covered:** All protected (including endangered) Australian native bird species.

There is no licence required in NSW to harvest and sell feathers within Australia from exotic (non-native) CITES Appendix II or Appendix I listed bird species. Bird keepers in NSW are not required to have a licence for keeping and selling these exotic bird species. This also applies in most Australian States.

Feathers from protected Australian native bird species can be acquired from licensed bird keepers all over NSW by MP&S under this licence and also from licensed bird keepers in other Australian States via a separate interstate import/export permit or movement advice, where applicable.

Under the Biodiversity Act 2016 (2018 regulation) the State of Western Australia does not require any export permit or movement advice into NSW for naturally shed (moulted) bird feathers that are from the species listed in Part 6 of this proposal. Prior to this recent Act, MP&S did hold a multiple consignment interstate feather export permit, issued to MP&S by the Western Australian Department of Parks and Wildlife, in accordance with the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950, Regulation 18.

Under regulations 53 and 54 (Victorian Wildlife Regulations 2013) the State of Victoria does not require any export permit or movement advice into NSW for naturally shed (moulted) bird feathers that are from the species listed in Part 6 of this proposal.

Under Schedule 1, Part 2, section 6(f) of the Wildlife Management Regulation 2006, the State of Queensland does not require any export permit or movement advice into New South Wales for naturally shed bird feathers which are from the species listed in Part 6 of this proposal, only if the species are legally kept in captivity and are not NCA or EPBC listed. If the feathers are from NCA or EPBC listed species then they can still be exported into New South Wales to MP&S with a movement advice, issued by the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

The State of South Australia allows the export of naturally shed feathers into New South Wales, from the species in Part 6 of this proposal, only if the species are legally kept in captivity. A movement advice may be required.

The feathers acquired by MP&S from bird-keepers within Australia become legally owned by MP&S before being supplied within Australia or exported overseas. MP&S only acquires feathers from licensed bird keepers (with the majority being large, reputable and well known bird breeders.)

All bird keepers supplying MP&S with feathers are aware that MP&S is licensed and operates strictly within Australian State and Federal Government laws and regulations. This is also why MP&S only appeals to (and trades with) reputable and law-abiding bird keepers.

### **3. HARVESTING METHODS:**

Only feathers that have naturally fallen off the birds (from moulting) are harvested. The feathers are collected from inside the aviaries by the bird keepers, within their property and sent to (or collected by) MP&S. These feathers are purchased from the bird keepers by MP&S, as they do dedicate their time to collect the feathers from inside the aviaries. This is the only harvesting method used for all the bird species held by private bird keepers and wildlife parks. For the bird species in Part 6 of this proposal held by licensed bird carers and rehabilitators, the feathers are harvested using exactly the same method as used by the other types of suppliers (as above) at most times, but occasionally may include a different harvesting method that's also humane and legal.

### **4. SEASON AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF HARVEST:**

Feathers can be harvested at any time of the year since they are not always collected immediately after they fall from the birds, but the majority of harvesting will take place during the moulting season and after the birds finish moulting - which is in the warmer months. In Australia it's usually between October and February - and this is the period the birds usually shed the most feathers.

The feathers are only sourced from New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia.

### **5. ANNUAL HARVESTING QUOTA:**

There is no annual quota, due to the nature of the harvesting method.

**6. BIRD SPECIES:**

The feathers legally and humanely harvested in Australia by MP&S, for the purpose of exporting overseas are all (except for six species) from CITES Appendix II listed bird species and none of these species are EPBC listed. The six bird species that aren't CITES listed are protected Australian native species. These particular species are highlighted in a **bold, blue** text. See table below:

**Australian Native Parrot & Cockatoo Species**

Scientific Name	Common Name	CITES Appendix	STATE
<i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	Australian King Parrot	II	QLD
			WA
			VIC
			SA
<i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i>	Red-winged Parrot	II	WA
			QLD
			VIC
			SA
			VIC
<i>Barnardius zonarius zonarius</i>	Port Lincoln Parrot	II	WA
			QLD
			VIC
<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	II	VIC
			QLD
			NSW
			WA
			NSW
			QLD

<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo	II	
			WA
			VIC
			SA
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii banksii</i>	Red-tailed Black Cockatoo	II	NSW
			QLD
			SA
			VIC
			WA
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii macrorhynchus</i>	Red-tailed Black Cockatoo	II	NSW
			QLD
			VIC
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii samueli</i>	Red-tailed Black Cockatoo	II	NSW
			WA
			VIC
			QLD
			NSW
			NSW
			QLD

<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	II	VIC
			WA
			SA
<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus xanthanotus</i>	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	II	QLD
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami erebus</i>	Glossy Black Cockatoo	II	NSW
			QLD
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i>	Glossy Black Cockatoo	II	VIC
			SA
			NSW
			QLD
<i>Eolophus roseicapillus (Eolophus roseicapilla)</i>	Galah	II	WA
			VIC
			QLD
<i>Lophochroa (Cacatua) leadbeateri</i>	Major-Mitchell's Cockatoo	II	WA
			SA
			VIC
			QLD
			NSW
<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	Cockatiel	NA	WA
			VIC
			QLD
			WA

<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Crimson Rosella	II	VIC
			NSW
<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	Eastern Rosella	II	NSW
			WA
			QLD
			VIC
<i>Platycercus elegans flaveolus</i>	Yellow Rosella	II	QLD
			WA
			VIC
<i>Platycercus icterotis</i>	Western Rosella	II	QLD
			WA
			VIC
<i>Platycercus venustus</i>	Northern Rosella	II	QLD
			WA
			SA
<i>Purpureicephalus spurius</i>	Red-capped Parrot	II	WA
			QLD
			VIC

### Exotic (Non-Australian) Parrot Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	CITES Appendix	STATE
<i>Amazona aestiva</i>	Blue-fronted Amazon Parrot	II	NSW
			VIC
<i>Amazona albifrons</i>	White-fronted Amazon Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	Orange-winged Amazon Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>	Red-lored Amazon Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Amazona autumnalis lilacina</i>	Lilacine Amazon Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	Yellow-crowned Amazon	II	NSW
<i>Amazona ochrocephala panamensis</i>	Panamensis Yellow-crowned Amazon	II	NSW

<i>Ara ararauna</i>	Blue-and-gold Macaw	II	NSW
			WA
			QLD
			VIC
<i>Ara chloropterus</i>	Green-winged Macaw	II	NSW
			WA
			VIC
<i>Ara severus</i>	Chestnut-fronted Macaw	II	NSW
<i>Aratinga solstitialis</i>	Sun Conure	II	QLD
			NSW
<i>Cyanoliseus patagonus</i>	Patagonian Conure	II	NSW
<i>Cyanoramphus auriceps</i>	Yellow-fronted/crowned Kakariki	II	WA
<i>Eclectus roratus</i>	Eclectus Parrot	II	QLD
			NSW
			VIC
			WA
<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i>	Hahn's Macaw	II	NSW
			QLD
<i>Pionites melanocephalus</i>	Black-headed Caique	II	NSW
			VIC
<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>	Jardine (red-fronted) Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>	Meyer's Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Poicephalus rufiventris</i>	Red-bellied Parrot	II	QLD
			NSW
<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	Senegal Parrot	II	NSW
<i>Primolius auricollis</i>	Yellow-collared Macaw	II	NSW
<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>			WA

	Moustached (Red-breasted) Parakeet	II	VIC
<i>Psittacula columboides</i>	Malabar (blue-winged) Parakeet	II	WA
			VIC
<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	Plum-headed Parakeet	II	WA
			QLD
			VIC
<i>Psittacula derbiana</i>	Derbyan Parakeet	II	WA
			VIC
<i>Pyrrhura molinae</i>	Green-cheeked Conure	II	NSW
<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	Alexandrine Parakeet	II	QLD
			WA
			VIC
			NSW

### Australian Raptors & \*Other (\*Non-Parrot) Australian Bird Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	CITES Appendix	STATE
<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	Brown Goshawk	II	WA
<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>	White / Grey Goshawk	II	WA
<i>Aquila audax audax</i>	Wedge-tailed Eagle	II	WA
			NSW
<i>Aviceda subcristata</i>	Crested Hawk (Pacific Baza)	II	WA
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush stone-Curlew	NA	NSW
<i>Circus assimilis</i>	Spotted Harrier	II	WA
<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	Australian Raven	NA	WA
<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	Laughing Kookaburra	NA	NSW
<i>Falco berigora</i>	Brown Falcon	II	WA
<i>Falco cenchroides</i>	Nankeen Kestrel	II	WA
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon	II	WA
<i>Falco longipennis</i>	Little Falcon	II	WA
<i>Falco subniger</i>	Black Falcon	II	WA
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied (breasted) Sea Eagle	II	WA
<i>Haliastur indus</i>	Brahminy Kite	II	WA
<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	Whistling Kite	II	WA
<i>Hamirostra melanosternon</i>	Black-breasted Buzzard	II	WA
<i>Hieraetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	II	WA
<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Square-tailed Kite	II	WA
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite	II	WA
<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i> ( <i>Ninox boobook</i> )	Boobook Owl	II	WA
			NSW



<i>Ninox connivens</i>	Barking Owl	II	WA
<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl	II	WA
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	Nankeen Night Heron	NA	NSW
<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	Tawny Frogmouth	NA	WA
			NSW
<i>Tyto alba (Tyto alba delicatula)</i>	Eastern Barn Owl	II	WA
<i>Tyto longimembris</i>	Grass Owl	II	WA
<i>Tyto novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Masked Owl	II	NSW
<i>Tyto tenebricosa multipunctata</i>	Lesser Sooty Owl	II	WA
<i>Tyto tenebricosa tenebricosa</i>	Sooty Owl	II	WA

## 7. FEATHER TREATMENT:

Before any feathers are sold to any customer they are washed at the MP&S facility, using hot water and a non-flammable specific chemical agent - which also removes faecal matter. The process is done in several stages, which ensures the feathers are thoroughly cleaned and rinsed. This cleaning technique will also remove any mites (if present) and their eggs (if present). Proper cleaning will ensure that the feathers are compliant to clear quarantine in most (and most likely all) countries. This also allows MP&S to declare the feathers as washed / treated when exporting.

## 8. TARGET MARKET:

MP&S sells feathers via it's website and online store, using a state-of-the-art order processing technology and invoice management system. Customers of MP&S benefit from these feathers, since many of these feathers have unique colourings and properties in them that makes them useful and on demand by many foreigners - for use in fly-tying, crafts, art, education, ceremonies and medicinal purposes.

People looking for such feathers, via internet search will find the MP&S website via exact matched keywords. The website targets only people looking to buy feathers from the species as listed in Part 6 of this proposal. Anyone looking for the feathers of such species does already know they exist and is looking for a place to buy them.

## 9. IMPACT ON THE SPECIES:

There is no negative impact on the bird species, whether in captivity or in the wild. This is because the feathers are only harvested humanely from legally held captive birds. If these feathers were not acquired from the bird keepers by MP&S they will remain in the aviary to be eaten/chewed by pests or thrown out in the rubbish. For the nicer feathers, possibly inside a vase of the bird keeper's house or given away by the bird keeper to people that visit them. If these feathers were collected from the wild then there can be an argument for causing some small negative impact to wild populations of other bird species and animals, since in the wild some birds and animals use the fallen feathers for nest building. Due to the fact that there is absolutely no impact on birds and other animals in the wild or in captivity, then no study or scientific research report is required.

## 10. CONSERVATION BENEFITS:

By MP&S exporting overseas the naturally fallen (moulted) feathers does benefit conservation of all CITES listed bird species, but especially Australian native bird species - as listed in Part 6 of this proposal.

Australian bird feathers are currently (and well before MP&S existed) being illegally exported from Australia by other entities and then traded overseas, with no control by authorities in other countries since the protection status of Australian birds (and their parts, such as feathers) doesn't apply overseas like it does in their native country, Australia.

MP&S will continue to have an impact in reducing the illegal exporting of feathers from protected Australian birds, by making these feathers available overseas to the people that need them, legally, at lower prices and with documentation.

In the best interest of conservation, MP&S has set a very high standard sourcing feathers from licensed bird keepers and supplying them to people in Australia and in other countries. MP&S encourages other traders of such feathers to apply the same high standard.

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Completed and Signed on January 4, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Khoury', written in a cursive style.

Mr. Mark Khoury

Mark's Products and Services. ABN 90 457 441 028