**PROPOSAL FOR A WILDLIFE TRADE OPERATION, FOR HARVESTING AND EXPORTING NATURALLY FALLEN (MOULTED) BIRD FEATHERS.**

**INDEX (Parts):**

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**1. INTRODUCTION:**

The applicant which 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 commence this business and operate successfully and responsibly, thus far in Australia.

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

The purpose of this new (updated) Wildlife Trade Operation proposal is to increase the number of feather species and quantities eligible for exporting outside of Australia.

**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 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.

MP&S holds a multiple consignment export licence in Western Australia, which allows the feathers from all legally held bird species to be freely exported from WA to MP&S in New South Wales.

This licence was 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 the feathers 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 feathers acquired by MP&S from bird-keepers within Australia become legally owned by MP&S before being supplied in 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 which 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 will only be sourced within Australia at this stage, from New South Wales and other Australian States.

**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 by MP&S (for the purpose of exporting overseas) are from CITES Appendix II listed species and none of these species are EPBC listed. They are currently sourced from bird keepers in NSW, QLD, VIC and WA.

**See table below (on next page):**

Australian Native Parrot & Cockatoo Species

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **CITES**  **Appendix** | **State** |
| *Alisterus scapularis* | King Parrot | II | QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |
| *Aprosmictus erythropterus* | Red-winged Parrot | II | WA |
| QLD |
| VIC |
| *Barnardius zonarius zonarius* | Port Lincoln Parrot | II | QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |
| *Cacatua galerita* | Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | II | WA |
| VIC |
| QLD |
| NSW |
| *Callocephalon fimbriatum* | Gang-gang Cockatoo | II | NSW |
| QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Calyptorhynchus banksii banksii* | Red-tailed Black Cockatoo | II | VIC |
| QLD |
| NSW |
| *Calyptorhynchus banksii macrorhynchus* | Red-tailed Black Cockatoo | II | QLD |
| NSW |
| VIC |
| *Calyptorhynchus banksii samueli* | Red-tailed Black Cockatoo | II | NSW |
| WA |
| VIC |
| QLD |
| *Calyptorhynchus funereus* | Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo | II | NSW |
| VIC |
| QLD |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Calyptorhynchus lathami erebus* | Glossy Black Cockatoo | II | NSW |
| *Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami* | Glossy Black Cockatoo | II | NSW |
| QLD |
| *Eolophus roseicapilla* | Galah | II | WA |
| VIC |
| QLD |
| *Lophochroa (Cacatua) leadbeateri* | Major-Mitchell's Cockatoo | II | WA |
| NSW |
| VIC |
| QLD |
| *Nymphicus hollandicus* | Cockatiel | II | WA |
| VIC |
| *Platycercus elegans* | Crimson Rosella | II | QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |
| NSW |

Australian Native Parrot & Cockatoo Species

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **CITES**  **Appendix** | **State** |
| *Platycercus eximius* | Eastern Rosella | II | NSW |
| WA |
| QLD |
| VIC |
| *Platycercus flaveolus* | Yellow Rosella | II | QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |
| *Platycercus icterotis* | Western Rosella | II | QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |
| *Platycercus venustus* | Northern Rosella | II | QLD |
| WA |
| *Purpureicephalus spurius* | Red-capped Parrot | II | WA |
| QLD |
| VIC |

Exotic (Non-Australian) Parrot Species

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **CITES**  **Appendix** | **State** |
| *Amazona aestiva* | Blue-fronted Amazon Parrot | II | NSW |
| VIC |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Amazona albifrons* | White-fronted Amazon Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Amazona amazonica* | Orange-winged Amazon Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Amazona autumnalis* | Red-lored Amazon Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Amazona lilacina* | Lilacine Amazon Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Amazona ochrocephala* | Yellow-crowned Amazon | II | NSW |
| *Amazona ochrocephala panamensis* | Panamensis Yellow-crowned Amazon | II | NSW |
| *Ara ararauna* | Blue-and-gold Macaw | II | NSW |
| WA |
| VIC |
| QLD |
| *Ara chloropterus* | Green-winged Macaw | II | NSW |
| WA |
| VIC |
| *Ara severus* | Chestnut-fronted Macaw | II | NSW |
| *Aratinga solstitialis* | Sun Conure | II | QLD |
| NSW |
| *Cyanoliseus patagonus* | Patagonian Conure | II | NSW |
| *Cyanoramphus auriceps* | Yellow-fronted/crowned Kakariki | II | WA |

Exotic (Non-Australian) Parrot Species

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **CITES**  **Appendix** | **State** |
| *Eclectus roratus* | Eclectus Parrot | II | QLD |
| NSW |
| VIC |
| WA |
| *Diopsittaca nobilis* | Hahn's Macaw | II | NSW |
| *Pionites melanocephalus* | Black-headed Caique | II | NSW |
| VIC |
| *Poicephalus gulielmi* | Jardine (Red-fronted) Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Poicephalus meyeri* | Meyer's Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Poicephalus rufiventris* | Red-bellied Parrot | II | QLD |
| NSW |
| *Poicephalus senegalus* | Senegal Parrot | II | NSW |
| *Primolius auricollis* | Yellow-collared Macaw | II | NSW |
| *Psittacula alexandri* | Moustached (Red-breasted) Parakeet | II | WA |
| VIC |
| *Psittacula columboides* | Malabar (blue-winged) Parakeet | II | WA |
| VIC |
| *Psittacula cyanocephala* | Plum-headed Parakeet | II | WA |
| QLD |
| VIC |
| *Psittacula derbiana* | Derbyan Parakeet | II | WA |
| VIC |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Psittacula eupatria* | Alexandrine Parakeet | II | QLD |
| WA |
| VIC |
| NSW |

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **CITES**  **Appendix** | **State** |
| Accipiter fasciatus | Brown Goshawk | II | WA |
| Accipiter novaehollandiae | White / Grey Goshawk | II | WA |
| Aquila audax audax | Wedge-tailed Eagle | II | WA |
| NSW |
| Aviceda subcristata | Crested Hawk (Pacific Baza) | II | WA |
| *Burhinus grallarius* | Bush stone-Curlew | II | NSW |
| Circus assimilis | Spotted Harrier | II | WA |
| Corvus coronoides | Australian Raven | II | WA |
| *Dacelo novaeguineae* | Laughing Kookaburra | II | NSW |
| Falco berigora | Brown Falcon | II | WA |
| Falco cenchroides | Nankeen Kestrel | II | WA |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **CITES**  **Appendix** | **State** |
| Falco hypoleucos | Grey Falcon | II | WA |
| Falco longipennis | Little Falcon | II | WA |
| Falco subniger | Black Falcon | II | WA |
| Haliaeetus leucogaster | White-bellied (breasted) Sea Eagle | II | WA |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Haliastur indus | Brahminy Kite | II | WA |
| Haliastur sphenurus | Whistling Kite | II | WA |
| Hamirostra melanosternon | Black-breasted Buzzard | II | WA |
| Hieraaetus morphnoides | Little Eagle | II | WA |
| Lophoictinia isura | Square-tailed Kite | II | WA |
| Milvus migrans | Black Kite | II | WA |
| *Ninox boobook* | Boobook Owl | II | WA |
| NSW |
| Ninox connivens | Barking Owl | II | WA |
| Ninox strenua | Powerful Owl | II | WA |
| *Nycticorax caledonicus* | Nankeen Night Heron | II | NSW |
| Podargus strigoides | Tawny Frogmouth | II | WA |
| NSW |
| Tyto delicatula | Eastern Barn Owl | II | WA |
| Tyto longimembris | Grass Owl | II | WA |
| *Tyto novaehollandiae novaehollandiae* | Masked Owl | II | NSW |
| Tyto tenebricosa multipunctata | Lesser Sooty Owl | II | WA |
| Tyto tenebricosa tenebricosa | 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.