§ 15.26 Approval of cooperative breeding programs.

Upon receipt of a complete application, the Director may approve cooperative breeding programs. Such approval will allow individuals to import exotic birds otherwise prohibited by section 15.11, with permits under section 15.24. Such approval for cooperative breeding programs shall be granted in accordance with the issuance criteria of this section.

(a) Application requirements for approval of cooperative breeding programs. Each application shall provide the following information and such other information that the Director may require:

1. A description of the exotic bird(s) to be imported or to be covered under the program, including the common and scientific names of the species, number, sex ratio (if applicable), and age class;

2. A statement of the reasons the applicant is justified in obtaining this approval, and a description of the cooperative breeding program requested for the exotic bird species, including:
   i. A breeding protocol, including a genetic management plan and breeding methods;
   ii. A statement on the plans for developing and maintaining a self-sustaining population in captivity of the exotic bird species;
   iii. Details on the system of record-keeping and tracking of birds and their progeny, including how individual specimens will be marked or otherwise identified;
   iv. A statement on the relationship of such a breeding program to the conservation of the exotic bird species in the world;
   v. Details on the funding of this program; and
   vi. Plans for disposition of the exotic birds and any progeny;

3. A qualification statement for each individual who will be overseeing the cooperative breeding program. This statement should include information on the individual’s prior experience with the same or similar bird species. Individuals overseeing the program will be required to demonstrate an affiliation with an avicultural, conservation, or zoological organization;

4. A statement of the oversight of the program by the avicultural, zoological, or conservation organization, including their monitoring of participation in the program, criteria for acceptance of individuals into the program, and the relationship of the cooperative breeding program to enhancing...
§ 15.31 Criteria for including species in the approved list for captive-bred species.

The Director will periodically review the list of captive-bred exotic bird species in paragraph 15.33(a), for which importation into the United States is approved. Any exotic bird species listed in paragraph 15.33(a) pursuant to this section must meet all of the following criteria:

(a) All specimens of the species known to be in trade (legal or illegal) are captive-bred;

(b) No specimens of the species are known to be removed from the wild for commercial purposes;

(c) Any importation of specimens of the species would not be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild; and

(d) Adequate enforcement controls are in place to ensure compliance with paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section.