



July 15, 2009

**Mr. Willem Winjstekers**  
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ACTION . . . COPY

16 JUL 2009

REPLY . . . FILE

**SUBJECT: Philippines' Objection to CITES Notification No. 2009/016**

Dear Sir,

We have reviewed the applications for registration of Mr. David Knutson and Mr. Hollister Longwings in the United States of America under CITES Notification No. 2009/016 dated April 17, 2009. These applications seek to register the commercial captive-breeding operations of Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*); Peregrine-Gyrfalcon hybrids (*F. peregrinus* x *F. rusticolus*) and Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). The CITES Management Authority of the Republic of the Philippines opposes the registration of these operations for said bird species because we need some clarifications on the following observations, to wit:

- a) We found that some of the forms (e.g. Form 3-186A) provided by Mr Knutson and Mr Longwings have no initials and dates received by the USFWS on the space provided under "USFWS Use Only". We noticed and concluded that these forms did not go through the USFWS office for verification and confirmation purposes. It is not, therefore, certain if indeed the dates of stock acquisition and the bird species acquired, as declared by the proponents, are verified true and correct by the USFWS office.
- b) We need further clarification on the statements indicated below under the registration of Mr. Longwings, such as:
  - b.1 Under item 4, he stated that "all parental stock was bred in captivity in the United States of America between 1997 and 2007";
  - b.2 Under item 9, "all offspring produced in the last 20 years had been F2 or greater....."

Therefore, we are unable to support the approval of these operations for the said bird species. On the other hand, we would be willing to reconsider our position if the USA can provide satisfactory details and clarification of the above-mentioned observations.

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Sincerely,

  
**DR. ANTONIO C. MANILA**  
 Assistant Director  
 In-Charge, Office of the Director

