

Wild populations of popular cage bird face catastrophic declines

December 22 2015

New research suggests that wild populations of Grey Parrots—one of the world's most popular cage birds—have been virtually wiped out by poaching and habitat loss.

Working in Ghana, scientists estimate that 90% to 99% of the species' population has been lost since 1992, and the same pattern is likely to hold true across the rest of the species' range.

"These are extremely serious losses in this iconic species. If we are not very careful, then wild Grey Parrots will be lost both from the landscapes of West Africa and from people's memories," said Prof. Stuart Marsden, author of the *Ibis* study.

More information: Nathaniel N. D. Annorbah et al. Trade and habitat change virtually eliminate the Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* from Ghana, *Ibis* (2015). [DOI: 10.1111/ibi.12332](https://doi.org/10.1111/ibi.12332)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Wild populations of popular cage bird face catastrophic declines (2015, December 22) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2015-12-wild-populations-popular-cage-bird.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private

study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.