

Workshop environmental crime

Monday May 23, 2011, University of Twente, Building: Ravelijn, room 1501

Programme

- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 Opening by Kees Aarts (Scientific Director IGS)
- 13:40 Prof. Ron Clarke (Rutgers University) and Dr. Rolf de By (ITC)
Poaching and Habitat Loss: Their Relative Contribution to the Decline of Neotropical Parrots
Biologists and conservationists generally believe that habitat loss plays a larger part than poaching in the decline of birds. An exception may be the parrots, the most endangered of all birds. Parrots are targeted by poachers because they are valued as pets and can sometimes sell for very high prices. Our study attempts to determine the contribution of poaching to the endangerment of parrots, while controlling for habitat loss. Using digital maps of the distribution of bird species, we match each of the 148 parrot species in Central and South America with a best-fitting control species that occurs in the same general area. Because the two groups of birds (parrots and controls) occur in the same area, we assume that they will be equally affected by habitat loss and that any differences between them in conservation status (as measured by the IUCN listings of endangered species) are due to poaching.
- 14:10 Dr. Andrew Lemieux (NSCR)
Poached, Traded, and Transported: The Life Course of Ivory Products
During the 1980s, more than half a million elephants were killed to supply the world's ivory markets. In many cases, animals were poached by a hunter or hunting party interested in the extraordinarily high value of "white gold". In this paper, the life course of ivory products is discussed from harvest to final consumption. This approach produces a better picture of the actors involved in the illicit cultivation, trade and shipping of ivory. In short, the supply of and demand for ivory products will depend on local circumstances and thus "one-size fits all" prevention techniques and policies are ineffective. African elephant population data is used to investigate the effect of local ivory market regulations on increases or decreases in the number of elephants country has. The paper also includes a discussion of how the value of ivory changes over the product's life course as it moves in and out of international and domestic markets.
- 14:40 Coffee/tea break
- 15:00 Jan van Hoevelaak (Unit Transport en Milieucontrole van de Dienst Verkeerspolitie van het KLPD)
Integrale transportcontrole (Integrated Transportcheck)
Jan van Hoevelaak will show a film about how the police, in particular special investigation services, perform controls and road side checks. Thanks to collaboration between different units, a lot of knowledge is available nowadays to achieve higher levels of efficacy.
- 15:30 Comments given by
Dr. Karen S. Buchanan (University of Twente) and Prof. Andrew Skidmore (University of Twente)
- 16:00 Discussion by
Dr. Karen S. Buchanan (University of Twente) and Prof. Andrew Skidmore (University of Twente)
- 16:30 Drinks

Please register at www.utwente.nl/igs or call: (053-489)3423