

## Petition History

On January 31, 2008, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received a petition dated January 29, 2008, from Friends of Animals, as represented by the Environmental Law Clinic, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, requesting that the Service list 14 parrot species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). On July 14, 2009 ([74 FR 33957](#)), the Service published a 90-day finding in which the agency determined that the petition presented substantial scientific and commercial information to indicate that listing may be warranted for 12 of the 14 parrot species.

In the Service's 90-day finding on this petition, the agency announced the initiation of a status review to list as threatened or endangered under the ESA, the following 12 parrot species: blue-headed macaw (*Primolius couloni*), crimson shining parrot (*Prosopeia splendens*), great green macaw (*Ara ambiguus*), grey-cheeked parakeet (*Brotogeris pyrrhoptera*), hyacinth macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*), military macaw (*Ara militaris*), Philippine cockatoo (*Cacatua haematuropygia*), red-crowned parrot (*Amazona viridigenalis*), scarlet macaw (*Ara macao*), white cockatoo (*C. alba*), yellow-billed parrot (*Amazona collaria*), and yellow-crested cockatoo (*C. sulphurea*). The Service initiated this status review to determine if listing each of the 12 species is warranted, and initiated a 60-day information collection period to allow all interested parties an opportunity to provide information on the status of these 12 species of parrots. The two species of parrots deemed not warranted as part of this petition were the thick-billed parrot (it is already listed as endangered throughout its range) and the blue-throated macaw (it is already listed as a candidate species). The public comment period closed on September 14, 2009.

On March 2, 2010, Friends of Animals and WildEarth Guardians filed suit against the Service for failure to make timely 12-month findings within the statutory deadline of the Act on the petition to list the 14 species (Friends of Animals, et al . v. Salazar, Case No. 10 CV 00357 D.D.C.).

On July 21, 2010, a settlement agreement was approved by the Court (CV-10-357, D. D.C.), in which the Service agreed to submit to the *Federal Register* by July 29, 2011, September 30, 2011, and November 30, 2011, determinations whether the petitioned action is warranted, not warranted, or warranted but precluded by other listing actions for no less than 4 of the petitioned species on each date.

On August 9, 2011, the Service published in the *Federal Register* a 12-month status review finding and proposed rule for the following four parrot species: crimson shining parrot, Philippine cockatoo, white cockatoo and yellow-crested cockatoo ([76 FR 49202](#)).

On October 6, 2011, a 12-month status review finding was published for the red-crowned parrot ([76 FR 62016](#)).

On October 11, 2011, a 12-month status review and proposed rule was published for the yellow-billed parrot ([76 FR 62740](#)), and on October 12, 2011, a 12-month status review was published for the blue-headed macaw and grey-cheeked parakeet ([76 FR 63480](#)).

On September 16, 2011, an extension to the settlement agreement was approved by the Court (CV-10-357, D. D.C.), in which the Service agreed to submit a determination for the remaining four petitioned species to the *Federal Register* by June 30, 2012. On July 6, 2012, the Service published a 12-month status review and proposed rule to list the great green macaw and military macaw ([77 FR 40171](#)), hyacinth macaw ([77 FR 39965](#)) and scarlet macaw ([77 FR 40221](#)).

The blue-throated macaw was previously placed on the list of candidate species as it was warranted but precluded by higher priority actions. However, listing this species was determined to be warranted

based on new information and findings on the decline of the species. This was published in our Annual Notice of Review in the Federal Register on May 3, 2011. On January 10, 2013, the Service proposed listing the blue-throated macaw as endangered and opened a 60-day public comment period ([78 FR 2239](#)). On October 3, 2013, the Service published the final rule listing the blue-throated macaw as endangered ([78 FR 61208](#)).

The yellow-billed parrot was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act throughout its range because of continued threats from deforestation, the pet trade, the risk of disease transmission, predation, inadequate regulatory mechanisms, and hurricanes. The species is only found on the island of Jamaica and has a fragmented and declining population. The rule published in the Federal Register on March 12, 2013 ([78 FR 15624](#)) and goes into effect on April 11, 2013. In addition, a special rule published that allows the import into and export from the United States of certain captive-bred yellow-billed parrots, and certain acts in interstate commerce of yellow-billed parrots, without a permit under the Act.