

Mr Juan Carlos Riveros  
Applications for the WWF Prince Bernhard Scholarship for Conservation

FAX: 011 51 1 463 4459

28th February 2000

Dear Mr Riveros

I am writing to recommend the application of Lucila Pautrat of Asociación Cracidae de Perú to the WWF Prince Bernhard Scholarship for Conservation to support her attendance at the Jean Delacour Symposium in Breeding Birds in Captivity.

Undoubtedly, attendance at the symposium will be of great benefit to both Ms Pautrat and the important program she manages. The reintroduction of the White-winged Guan is a pioneering and vitally important conservation initiative on a national and international scale. The wild population is fragmented and totals approximately 200 individuals, it is therefore urgent that other populations are established from the captive stock of the project. As well as being important for the conservation of the white-winged guan the program is one of very few reintroduction programs in the Neotropics and is pioneering in Cracid reintroductions. It is likely that the lessons learned during this program will greatly benefit many other future reintroductions in other areas.

Everything I have seen of the project on my visit and from reports indicates that a carefully planned strategy, involving local people, which is being undertaken following the IUCN guidelines and I believe it has a high probability of success. Ms Pautrat has overseen these developments since her appointment as biologist to Asociación Cracidae de Perú and is undoubtedly now the key player in this exciting initiative. Of crucial importance to the reintroduction is the continued success of the breeding program and I believe that her participation in the symposium and the contacts she will undoubtedly make will enhance the captive breeding component of the reintroduction program.

I therefore unreservedly recommend supporting her application.

Yours sincerely

Dr Rob Williams

Ecuador and Tumbesian Program Coordinator  
Wildlife Conservation Society