



**West African Ornithological Society**  
**Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest**  
**Africain**



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## News & Letters — Nouvelles & Lettres

### Grants for post-graduate studies

BirdLife International, through a project funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, wishes to support existing or imminent post-graduate studies by promising young scientists and ornithologists in Africa, especially based in the Upper Guinea Forest area of West Africa. The project entitled *Sustaining and securing capacity for biodiversity conservation in the Upper Guinea Forest area of West Africa* is being implemented by BirdLife Network NGOs in Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea through the BirdLife Sub-regional Office in Accra, Ghana. The deadline for applications is 31 Oct 2009. Application forms and criteria are available from <paulinus@africaonline.com.gh> or <kwesianderson@gmail.com>.

Paulinus Ngeh  
BirdLife International

### Request for information on Ring-necked Parakeet

I am a researcher in ecology, currently working on the Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*. Ring-necked Parakeets have established feral populations worldwide and in order to elucidate the mechanisms that allow these birds to be so successful, I am collecting data on their current distribution, both in their native and in their introduced ranges. However, occurrence data for large parts of Africa are lacking. I am looking for detailed observations of Ring-necked Parakeets, ideally with coordinates (latitude and longitude). However, I realize that this might sometimes be difficult, so descriptions of the site where birds were observed (*e.g.* village name) are also very useful.

Countries of special interest are Nigeria, Niger, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia. Any information from these countries would be especially welcome. Also, contact information of birders or local guides would be appreciated.

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