

Over 1,000 bird species face extinction: group

BONN (Reuter) More than 1,000 species of bird are in danger of extinction unless action is taken to protect them, a conservation group said Friday.

Birdlife International said the latest revision of its official list of threatened species shows 1,111 bird types, or 11 percent of the world's 8,500 species, could die out.

"Reasons for this include habitat destruction and damage to forests," Birdlife spokeswoman Georgina Green said. "Protecting all these birds is a huge task."

The threat to the birds was the main subject of a conference in the Bavarian town of

Rosenheim organized by Birdlife International, an umbrella group of conservation organizations based in Cambridge, England.

Green said one bird species under threat, the Bannermann turaco, a green bird with a bright red crest, is found in just one forest in Cameroon's Mount Kilum.

Birdlife is running a project there to stop forest clearance and improve agricultural methods.

On Halmahira island, Indonesia, which has 26 rare bird species, it is helping the government to set up national parks and nature reserves.

14/8/94 Japan Times