

2021 Report

IUCN SSC Conifer Specialist Group



CHAIR
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**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**
Philip Thomas
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
32

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Website: <https://threatenedconifers.rbge.org.uk>

Mission statement

The Conifer Specialist Group (CSG) helps promote the long-term survival of the world's conifers through rigorous conservation assessments, which help to guide conservation planning and conservation action.

Projected impact 2021–2025

The Conifer Specialist Group is in the process of re-assessing all the world's conifers for the third time and aims to have all assessments completed by June 2023. Following on from that, the group will be focusing on producing an updated Conifer Action Plan.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-003 Review, update and revise existing taxonomic framework; add and assess new taxa.

T-004 Submit 300 revised assessments with appropriate maps.

T-005 Submit 500 revised existing assessments.

PLAN

T-006 Workshop to discuss planning/outline for new Conifer Action Plan.

T-007 Draft new Conifer Action Plan.

T-008 Publish new Conifer Action Plan.

ACT

T-009 Support funding applications from national and regional organisations for conifer conservation activities.

NETWORK

T-001 Add 20 new members who have expertise not previously available within the group, e.g. pathology, genetics, forest ecology, climate change.

T-002 Re-invite previous members who want to be active during the next quadrennium.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Red List

T-003 (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 0

Result description: This is an ongoing process that depends on new information becoming available, reviewed and discussed within the Specialist Group and other relevant Red List Authorities before changes are made to IUCN taxonomy. Changes that have been made are at genus level. The target will be reset for 2022 and will include up to 20 new taxa/revised species concepts that will require new/revised assessments.

T-004 (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 100

Result description: There have been delays caused by COVID-19 disruptions and problems with re-establishing membership of the group. The remainder of the target is to be achieved by 31 January 2022. One species was reviewed for potential Green Status assessment.

T-005 (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 150

Result description: The target should be completed by November 2022.

PLAN

Planning

T-006 (KSR 9)

Agreement on major thematic areas to be covered: ongoing

Result description: A potential publisher has been identified.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-009 (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from in situ conservation action: 2

Result description: Two supporting letters were provided from the CSG Chair for work on Wollemi Pine (*Wollemia nobilis*) and *Taxus* in Nepal.



Fruit of Least Concern Buddhist Pine,
Podocarpus macrophyllus
Photo: Yong Yang

NETWORK

Membership

T-001 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 2

Result description: Problems with the renewal process and with inviting new members mean that this target will not be achieved by 31 December 2021. The CSG Chair and RLA Coordinator will renew efforts.

T-002 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 2

Result description: Problems with the renewal process mean that this target will not be achieved by 31 December 2021. The CSG Chair and RLA Coordinator will renew efforts to re-enlist former members and contact new members.

Acknowledgements

The Co-Chairs would like to acknowledge the support provided by Nanjing Forestry University. The Red List Coordinator acknowledges support from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 9

Geographic regions: 9 Global

Actions during 2021:

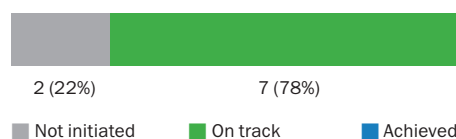
Assess: 3 (KSR 6)

Plan: 1 (KSR 9)

Act: 1 (KSR 10)

Network: 2 (KSR 2)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:



■ Not initiated ■ On track ■ Achieved