

IUCN SSC Equid Specialist Group



CO-CHAIR

Patricia D. Moehlman

EcoHealth Alliance,
New York, New
York, US; Columbia
University, Adjunct
Senior Research
Scientist, EICES,
New York, New York,
US; TAWIRI, Arusha,
Tanzania



CO-CHAIR

Sarah R.B. King

NREL, Warner
College of Natural
Resources, Colorado
State University, Fort
Collins, Colorado, US

**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**

Sarah R.B. King

NREL, Warner
College of Natural
Resources, Colorado
State University, Fort
Collins, Colorado, US

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

74

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE
Facebook: IUCN/SSC Equid Specialist Group
Website: www.equids.org

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Equid Specialist Group (ESG) is to conserve biological diversity by developing and executing programmes to study, save, restore and manage wisely wild equids and their habitats. Our greatest challenge is to improve wild equid conservation status, to sustain their ecosystems and to enhance the livelihoods of local communities.

Projected impact 2021–2025

The ESG assesses extinction risk of equid species by identifying threats and working with scientists, communities, organisations and governments to research, monitor and manage wild equid populations.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Complete Ethiopian PhD on African Wild Ass (*Equus africanus*).

T-002 Conduct taxonomic review of Equidae.

T-003 Document all known equid diseases and parasites.

T-006 Khomyn Talyn Takhi/Association TAKH (KTT/TAKH): Implement species monitoring programme that informs the trends and status of the population in Khomyn Tal National Park (KTNP).

T-008 KTT/TAKH: Develop and test hybrid Przewalski's Horse (*Equus ferus przewalskii*)/domestic detection in KTNP.

T-009 KTT/TAKH: Collaborate on a study of traditional pasture to rewilding.

T-015 Association Goviin Khulan: Research social composition and behaviour and water source use.

T-021 Grevy's Zebra (*Equus grevyi*): Complete analysis and publish results of 3rd Great Grevy's Rally.

T-024 Publish data on Serengeti Zebra causes of mortality and survival rates and reproductive rates.

T-025 Research on Asiatic Wild Ass (*Equus hemionus*) in Israel: Research association between social and genetic networks, and effect on vegetation.

T-028 Collect data on interaction between predators (lions and hyenas) and Grevy's Zebra to understand impact of predation.

T-030 African Wild Ass: Analyse data on population dynamics in relation to rainfall variability and diet.

T-032 Kiang (*Equus kiang*) and nomad livelihoods in Ladakh: Understand patterns and processes of kiang-pastoralist conflict to come up with specific mitigation measures to manage the negative interactions.

T-035 Conduct new Red List assessment of Asiatic Wild Ass based on surveys and rapid assessments 2014–2020, and information from workshop in Vilm (see Plan Component).

T-036 Based on experience of Green Status assessment of Iberian Lynx (*Lynx pardinus*), look into the potential for a Green Status assessment of the Asiatic Wild Ass.

T-044 Monitor and manage Grevy's Zebra population health.

T-045 Produce scientific publications on equid research and conservation.

PLAN

T-022 Grevy's Zebra: Organise and run 4th Great Grevy's Rally (then analyse and publish results).

T-026 Minimise the potential negative impacts of infrastructure development on Grevy's Zebra habitat and populations.



Grevy's Zebra (*Equus grevyi*) and foal
 Photo: Patricia D. Moehlman

T-027 Maintain connectivity within northern Kenya for free movement of Grevy's Zebra to enhance genetic diversity.

T-031 African Wild Ass: Convene a workshop to develop a conservation action plan for African Wild Ass in Eritrea.

T-033 Kiang and nomad livelihoods in Ladakh: Engage with key stakeholders to develop customised management strategies for selected hotspots.

T-037 Conduct conservation planning and development of a Khulan Action Plan for Mongolia – WCS and partners.

T-038 Develop action plan for the Asiatic Wild Ass based on experience gained from the Khulan Conservation Strategy for Mongolia; workshop slot reserved within the Convention on Migratory Species Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CMS/CAMI) framework on the Island of Vilm, Germany.

ACT

T-005 Designate protected areas for African Wild Ass.

T-007 KTT/TAKH: Translocate four individual horses from Hustai National Park to KTNP to maintain genetic diversity of the population in KTNP.

T-016 Association Goviin Khulan: Develop curriculum about ecology and conservation for protected area rangers and community citizen scientists.

T-019 Association Goviin Khulan: Work with border troops and local community to set camera traps for Khulan (*Equus hemionus hemionus*).

T-029 Enhance recruitment rate of Grevy's Zebra (maintain 30% proportion of foals and juveniles).

T-042 Enhance inter-regional Grevy's Zebra conservation.

T-043 Enhance Grevy's Zebra conservation and habitat management.

NETWORK

T-010 KTT/TAKH: Explore becoming a member organisation of IUCN.

T-012 KTT/TAKH: Improve communication strategy towards local people in KTNP.

T-013 KTT/TAKH: Organise a post-Congress visit/workshop at Le Villaret.

T-014 KTT/TAKH: Partnerships with other reintroduction sites and twinning of National Parks.

T-018 Association Goviin Khulan: Develop ecotourism in Gobi.

T-020 Grevy's Zebra: Train all data managers to use WILDBOOK to complete a National Grevy's Zebra Database.

Przewalski's Horse
(*Equus ferus ssp. przewalskii*) at the
Khomyn Tal reintroduction site
Photo: Sarah King/TAKH



T-023 Grevy's Zebra: Continue support of Kenya Wildlife Service's 'Grevy's Zebra Technical Committee'.

T-034 Maintain close cooperation with partners in Central Asia via CMS/CAMI.

T-041 Develop new stakeholder partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships.

COMMUNICATE

T-004 Organise Third International Wild Equid Conference.

T-011 KTT/TAKH: Implement national and international communication strategy for Przewalski's Horses.

T-017 Association Goviin Khulan: Publish scientific articles, brochures for children and a documentary.

T-039 Contribute to CAMI news.

T-040 Produce scientific publications and presentations on equid research and conservation.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Research activities

T-001 (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 1

Result description: Redwan Mohammed Yimer was awarded a doctorate from University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

T-030 (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 1

Result description: A scientific publication was published in *Journal of Mammalogy*.

T-044 (KSR 6)

Interventions taken to monitor/manage Grevy's Zebra health: Ongoing.

Result description: Due to extreme drought in Kenya, assessments of body condition were carried out and showed early signs of weakening. Supplementary feeding of hay at waterpoints was implemented with permission by Kenya Wildlife Services to support the most at risk subpopulations to weather the extreme conditions and to enable them to raise their foals.

PLAN

Planning

T-038 (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: The CMS/CAMI workshop was planned for spring 2022, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic will have to be postponed until spring 2023. Planning is ongoing with a possible workshop location either at the Island of Vilm, Germany or in Khovd Aimag, Mongolia.

NETWORK

Synergy

T-034 (KSR 1)

Number of 'in kind' partnerships established and maintained: 1

Result description: Updating the status and distribution of Asiatic Wild Ass (*Equus hemionus*) is ongoing as is the preparation for the CMS/CAMI workshop for the global action plan. The CMS/CAMI workshop is delayed due to the pandemic, and we are discussing where to organise it in spring 2023 (rather than as planned in 2022).

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-040 (KSR 12)

Number of presentations delivered in scientific events: 9

Result description: Nine publications focused on wild equids were published in peer-reviewed journals.

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Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 45

Geographic regions: 9 Global, 17 Africa, 21 Asia, 4 Europe

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 3 (KSR 5, 6)

Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Network: 1 (KSR 1)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

