

2021 Report

IUCN SSC Freshwater Crustacean Specialist Group



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

25

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Freshwater Crustacean Specialist Group (FCSG) is to work towards all aspects of the long-term conservation of freshwater decapods (freshwater crabs, crayfish, freshwater shrimps and aeglids) worldwide. Specific goals are: (1) to act as the Red List Authority and to update IUCN Red List species assessments; (2) to promote their long-term conservation worldwide by management of habitats and by the development of conservation strategies and, where necessary, the recovery of populations; (3) to promote integrated research on biodiversity and conservation; (4) to educate non-specialists about all aspects of the group; and (5) to create and maintain an FCSG website that will provide up-to-date world species lists, keep track of the discovery of new species, and list the Red List status for each species.

Projected impact 2021–2025

By the end of 2025, we hope to have completed updates across the freshwater crabs, crayfishes and shrimps, including the addition of newly described species, updates in taxonomy, and reassessments of those species in need based on lacking an initial assessment and/or new data relevant to assessments. We will also complete the global conservation assessment of the Aeglidae. We will identify key species in each of these four main freshwater crustacean groups (crabs, crayfishes, shrimps, and aeglids) to highlight as in need of conservation priority and target conservation efforts and plan development as part of our Specialist Group. Like many invertebrate groups, the first and fundamental impediment to conservation of freshwater crustaceans is simply documenting the species and having an assessment. Thus, our focus for the next quadrennium will be also to link efforts with related IUCN Specialist Groups, especially the Cave Invertebrate, South Asian Invertebrate, Terrestrial and

Freshwater Invertebrate organismal Groups as well as many of the relevant cross-cutting groups such as Asian Species Action Partnership, Climate Change Specialist Group, Biodiversity and Protected Area Task Force, Conservation Genetics Specialist Group, Conservation Planning Specialist Group and Phylogenetic Diversity Task Force.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Update *Euastacus* Red List status based on reassessments.

T-007 Update crayfish taxonomy with Red List assessments where applicable.

T-009 Update North American Crayfish Red List.

T-012 Update South American Crayfish Red List.

T-013 Conduct Red List assessments for *Aegla* species (family Aeglidae).



Procambarus orcinus from Florida caves
Photo: Nelson & Crandall

T-015 Update freshwater crab taxonomy with Red List assessments where applicable.

T-016 Complete a global Red List reassessment of the freshwater crabs.

PLAN

T-006 Plan reassessment meetings for the coming years: (1) crabs, (2) shrimp, (3) crayfish.

T-008 Develop concepts for Marine Crustacean Specialist Group(s).

NETWORK

T-005 Increase membership in FCSG.

COMMUNICATE

T-003 Develop multiple communication channels for the FCSG.

T-014 Support Freshwater Conservation Committee communications highlighting freshwater species at risk and threats to freshwater systems.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Red List

T-013 (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 0

Result description: We enlisted the help of the Global Center for Species Survival to support the assessments of these species, in particular the transfer of data into the IUCN Species Information Service (SIS), with the help of the Global Center intern. The work will commence in January 2022. Mapping will be supported by the IUCN Freshwater Biodiversity Unit and the Global Center for Species Survival.

PLAN

Planning

T-008 (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: This target is no longer a priority. After discussion with the Global Center for Species Survival, it appears there are several other players, including the Global Center, who can push forward the development of marine crustacean Specialist Groups or Red List Authorities.

NETWORK

Membership

T-005 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 25

Result description: We have recruited 25 members to the group of the 15 targeted.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-014 (KSR 12)

Contribute to and disseminate communications from Freshwater Conservation Committee's Species at risk report (in partnership with Shoal) within and outside SSC: ongoing

Result description: At the end of 2021, the group – on request from the Freshwater Conservation Committee – nominated 11 freshwater crustacean species for consideration in the publication. Subsequently, five of these were selected for inclusion in the report: Alabama Cave Shrimp (*Palaemonias alabamae*), Mallacoota Burrowing Crayfish (*Engaeus mallacoota*), Singapore Freshwater Crab (*Johora singaporensis*), White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*) and Tree Hole Crab (*Globonautes*

macropus). The group continues to contribute to the report with information and review of species information and other content for the species selected to be highlighted.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 10

Geographic regions: 6 Global, 3 America, 1 Oceania

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

