

2021 Report

IUCN SSC Iguana Specialist Group



SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE
Website: <https://iucn-isg.org>



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
93

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Iguana Specialist Group (ISG) is to prioritise and facilitate conservation, science and awareness programmes that help ensure the survival of wild iguanas and their habitats. To achieve this we implement, advise and fundraise for programmes that include population surveys, protected areas management, invasive species control, field research, genetic studies, education, and captive breeding/headstarting initiatives. Headstarting, in which hatchling iguanas are raised in a safe, captive environment until they reach a larger, less vulnerable size, is proving invaluable in rescuing several Critically Endangered iguanid taxa from the brink of extinction.

Projected impact 2021–2025

We will increase in situ conservation action, advance conservation action plans, hold annual meetings, complete additional Red List assessments and Green Status of Species assessments, increase the use of our specialist group listserv, add resources to our virtual library, and publish newsletters, protocols and papers focusing on iguanas.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Complete Red List assessment updates.

PLAN

T-004 Complete species conservation action plans.

T-005 Update conservation action plans.

T-010 Develop rapid response protocol for hurricanes.

ACT

T-009 Compile and curate outreach assets.

T-011 Execute actions outlined in the action plans.

T-012 Conserve and manage threatened iguanas prior to action plan development.

NETWORK

T-003 Hold annual meetings.

COMMUNICATE

T-007 Increase publications in the ISG virtual library.

T-008 Maintain and increase the use of the ISG listserv.

T-013 Publish scientific and other literature on iguanas.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Red List

T-002 (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 2

Result description: We completed one Red List assessment and one Green Status of Species assessment.

PLAN

Planning

T-004 (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 1

Result description: One new action plan was published in 2021 for the Utila Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura bakeri*).

T-005 (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies updated: 2

Result description: We updated two action plans in 2021 for the Turks and Caicos Rock Iguana (*Cyclura carinata*) and the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*).

T-010 (KSR 8)

Protocol completed: 0

Result description: We are still in the process of developing this protocol.



San Esteban Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura conspicuosa*); assessments for the Gulf of California iguana species were added to the Red List for the first time in 2018
Photo: Victor Reynoso



Jamaican Rock Iguana, *Cyclura collei*, nesting in the Hellshire Hills
Photo: Joey Markx

ACT

Conservation actions

T-012 (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from in situ conservation action: 15

Result description: We have 15 iguana species benefiting from in situ conservation actions, including Fiji Crested Iguana (*Brachylophus vitiensis*), Fiji Banded Iguana (*Brachylophus bulabula*), Galápagos Land Iguana (*Conolophus subcristatus*), Utila Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura bakeri*), Black-chested Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura melanosterna*), Roatán Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura oedirhina*), Motagua Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura palearis*), Turks and Caicos Rock Iguana (*Cyclura carinata*), Jamaican Rock Iguana (*Cyclura collei*), Hispaniolan Rhinoceros Iguana (*Cyclura cornuta*), Grand Cayman Blue Iguana (*Cyclura lewisi*), Clouded Rock Iguana (*Cyclura nubiila*), Anegada Rock Iguana (*Cyclura pinguis*), Ricord's Rock Iguana (*Cyclura ricordii*) and Lesser Antillean Iguana (*Iguana delicatissima*).

Synergy

T-009 (KSR 10)

Number of resources compiled: 0

Result description: We are still in the organizational stage of this target.

NETWORK

Synergy

T-003 (KSR 2)

Number of meetings: 2

Result description: Our 2021 meeting was held virtually and we are in the planning stages for our 2022 meeting.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-007 (KSR 13)

Number of communication products using innovative tools: 55

Result description: We have added 55 new publications to the library. Although this reached our planned goal, it remains active and we will continue to add publications each year.

T-008 (KSR 12)

Percentage increase in listserv use: 24%

Result description: We have maintained our listserv and its use has increased 24% from 2020 to 2021.

T-013 (KSR 13)

Number of print communications materials distributed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 17

Result description: Our members have published 17 papers focusing on iguanas.

Acknowledgements

We thank the International Iguana Foundation (IIF) and their donors, for the financial support of eleven projects awarded for the 2021/2022 cycle, totalling US\$ 97,392, focused on iguana conservation in Central America, the Caribbean, the Galapagos and Fiji. Further, we are grateful to the IIF for the End of Year campaign focusing on protecting the Critically Endangered Utila Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura bakeri*), which raised over US\$ 36,000 for these efforts. We thank the Fort

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Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 11

Geographic regions: 11 Global

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

Plan: 3 (KSR 8)

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 3 (KSR 12, 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

