

## 2021 Report

# IUCN SSC Marine Fishes Red List Authority



### RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

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### RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

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### NUMBER OF MEMBERS

27



The Marine Fishes RLA is providing first time Red List assessments for more than 15,000 marine fishes that are not included in other marine fish groups  
Photo: Beth Polidoro

### Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN Marine Fishes Red List Authority is to transform global, regional and local marine conservation capabilities by completing Red List assessments for all marine fishes.

### Projected impact 2021–2025

By the end of this quadrennium, we expect to continue towards the goal of completing IUCN Red List assessments for the more than 17,000 marine fishes. Our current focus is species in the marine ornamental fish trade, as well as supporting the work of the Snapper, Seabream and Grunt Specialist Group and the Tuna and Billfish Specialist Group. In 2022, we will undertake a project to update the assessments of all ~75 marine bony fishes endemic to the Galapagos. These assessments will help improve our knowledge of patterns in the conservation status of marine vertebrate biodiversity globally, which we are also working to highlight through the completion of several scientific publications summarising these patterns.

### Targets 2021–2025

#### ASSESS

T-003 Assess 100 marine gobies by 2022.

T-004 Assess 300 flatfishes by 2021.

T-005 Assess 275 marine fishes in the aquarium trade.

T-006 Publish one paper annually on the conservation status of marine fishes.

#### ACT

T-007 Provide two annual technical consultations to support conservation actions to organisations and institutions globally engaged with marine fish conservation.

#### NETWORK

T-001 Train 20 marine fish experts as Red List assessors.

T-002 Recruit at least 10 new members by 2024.

#### COMMUNICATE

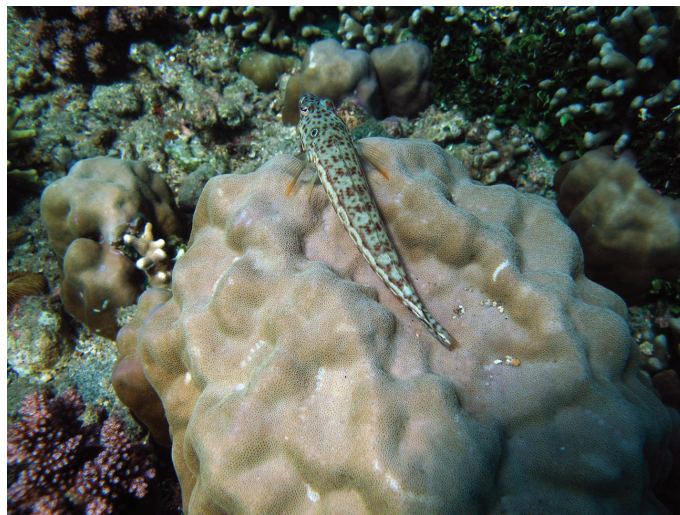
T-008 Organise one presentation annually to communicate the conservation work of the IUCN SSC and the Marine Fishes Red List Authority.

T-009 Develop a new website for the Marine Fishes Red List Authority.

Many damselfishes were recently assessed as part of the Aquarium Trade Red Listing project  
Photo: Beth Polidoro



Many coral reef fishes, such as those in the sandperch family, have yet to be assessed under Red List criteria  
Photo: Beth Polidoro



## Activities and results 2021

### ASSESS

#### Red List

T-003 (KSR 6)

**Number of new global Red List assessments completed:** 117

**Result description:** We assessed 64 species of gobies in the genus *Trimma* and 53 Gobiidae species that occur in the marine ornamental trade, via virtual consultations with Helen Larson.

T-004 (KSR 6)

**Number of global Red List reassessments completed:** 353

**Result description:** We submitted and published 353 flatfishes on the Red List, based primarily on virtual consultations with taxonomic experts from the US, Japan and Russia.

T-005 (KSR 6)

**Number of global Red List reassessments completed:** 275

**Result description:** We assessed 275 marine fishes in the aquarium trade through virtual consultations with taxonomic and regional experts.

### Research activities

T-006 (KSR 5)

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

**Result description:** In 2021, we published a paper on the conservation status of clupeiformes (herrings, anchovies and allies). We also contributed to two papers published in 2021 on the conservation status of marine fishes led by members of the Shark Specialist Group and the Seahorse, Pipefish and Seadragon Specialist Group. We are also leading papers on the conservation status of several other taxonomic groups to be completed in 2022.

### NETWORK

#### Membership

T-002 (KSR 2)

**Number of SSC members recruited:** 2

**Result description:** We recruited two new members to the Marine Fishes Red List Authority.

## Acknowledgements

We thank the Toyota Motor Foundation and the Government of Switzerland for their support of marine Red Listing. We also thank the IUCN SSC Chair's Office Internal Grant for funding assessments of the *Trimma* gobies. The continued partnership with the Oceanario de Lisboa, resulting in the hosting of a marine Red List Officer, has been most successful. We also thank the many scientists who, despite facing another difficult year dealing with direct and indirect effects of COVID-19, have made these marine Red List assessments possible.

## Summary of achievements

**Total number of targets 2021–2025:** 9

**Geographic regions:** 9 Global

**Actions during 2021:**

Assess: 4 (KSR 5, 6)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

**Overall achievement 2021–2025:**

