

IUCN SSC Mushroom, Bracket and Puffball Specialist Group



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Mushrooms, Brackets, and
Puffballs Specialist Group



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

50

Mission statement

The mission of the Mushroom, Bracket and Puffball Specialist Group is to advance fungal conservation by raising awareness of the importance of fungi and the need to conserve them, building capacity among the mycological community, and greatly increasing the number of fungi on national and the global Red Lists.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Fewer than 2% of described mushrooms, bracket and puffball fungi have had their conservation status assessed at the start of the quadrennium. Completing and publishing Red List assessments is a key activity of the Specialist Group to identify species in need of conservation action. Completing assessments is not the only activity of the Specialist Group, as efforts across the full Conservation Cycle will be undertaken to ensure that action to raise the profile of fungi, have fungi included in policies and action plans, and efforts to mitigate the decline of endangered species are being undertaken.



Cultivation of morels is an efficient way to conserve wild morels
Photo: Zhu L. Yang



Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Produce and submit 1,600 global assessments for the IUCN Red List.

T-002 Produce global, comprehensive assessments of genus *Cantharellus*.

Activities and results 2021

ASSESS

Red List

T-001 (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 300

Result description: Several virtual Red List workshops were held: Brazil, Colombia, Thailand, Europe. Additionally, funding was obtained to assess nearly 200 western US species. Over 100 of these species assessments were reviewed and processed in time to be published in 2021. The rest are being reviewed and updated as needed. It is anticipated that most will be published in 2022.

T-002 (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 0

Result description: Pre-assessments of *Cantharellus* species were created through several projects. A project lead by Specialist Group member Noah Siegel on a set of western US fungi treated all US and Canadian species. The putative species list has been compiled and data on contemporary European and African species obtained. Species from the remaining geographic regions will be targeted next. Application of the historical names, geographic distributions, and population trends are being reviewed. Reviewed assessments are being submitted for publication in 2022 Red List updates.

Acknowledgements

The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund provided essential support for several of the Red List workshops. Funding for assessing a set of western US macrofungi was provided by the IUCN Global Species Programme. Funding from these programmes is gratefully acknowledged.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 2

Geographic regions: 2 Global

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 2 (KSR 6)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

