

2021 Report

IUCN SSC Pigeon and Dove Specialist Group



CO-CHAIR
Joe Wood

Toledo Zoo, Toledo,
Ohio, US



CO-CHAIR
Charles Cerbini

Wildlife Conservation
Society/Bronx Zoo,
Bronx, New York, US

**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**
BirdLife International
(Simon Bruslund)

NUMBER OF MEMBERS
44

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: @IUCNSSCPigeonandDove

Instagram: @iucn_pigeons

Twitter: @IUCN_Pigeons

Mission statement

Columbiformes (pigeons and doves) currently rank as one of the most threatened avian orders in the world – a consequence of a range of pressures including habitat loss and degradation, invasive alien species, hunting and climate change. A determination to reverse this worrying trend was the impetus behind the creation of the IUCN SSC Pigeon and Dove Specialist Group (PDSG). Key activities of the group will include collaborating with BirdLife International to assess and monitor the status of Columbiform species, raising the profile of threatened pigeons and doves, and convening expertise for conservation. We intend to draft action plans for priority species, will seek to source the funding required for the implementation of these plans, and will prioritise monitoring and evaluation of conservation efforts.

Projected impact for 2021–2025

By the end of 2025, we will have established the Pigeon and Dove Specialist Group as a global force for the conservation of Columbiformes. This will include growing the group's membership (with a particular emphasis on increasing representation from the Global South), collaborating with the Bird Red List Authority to identify

species for updated assessment, and developing a communications strategy. A current priority is the Manumea (*Didunculus strigirostris*). We will be assisting with the implementation of a Recovery Plan for this species, beginning with the coordination of a Captive Breeding Feasibility Study.

Targets for 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Produce four annual submissions to BirdLife International, the Bird Red List Authority, which collate information relevant to the assessment of Columbiform species.

T-004 Identify 10 species for updated assessment on the IUCN Red List by 2022.

PLAN

T-003 By 2022, identify 10 priority species using a standardised methodology which incorporates 'Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered' (EDGE), 'Lost Species' and 'Flagship Species' frameworks.

T-005 By 2024, convene a workshop to review and update the Conservation Assessment and Management Plan for Pigeons and Doves (CBSG & ICBP, 1993).

T-006 Work with the Conservation Planning Specialist Group to organise at least one planning workshop for a priority species and draft the subsequent action plan by 2024.

ACT

T-008 Based on existing EDGE and IUCN Red List priorities, assist with the implementation of the Manumea Recovery Plan (MNRE & SCS, 2020), with an emphasis on mounting a large-scale search for Manumea (*Didunculus strigirostris*) by 2023 and progressing the other set goals.

T-009 Produce a feasibility study relating to an ex situ programme for Manumea by 2022.

T-010 Initiate direct support for at least two additional programmes focused on priority species by 2024.

NETWORK

T-001 Recruit at least 40 new members by 2025, with a focus on increasing representation from the Global South.

COMMUNICATE

T-011 Launch the Specialist Group website by 2022.

T-012 Establish an active social media presence by 2022.

T-013 Produce the first Specialist Group newsletter by 2022, with subsequent editions released every six months thereafter.



Negros Bleeding-heart (*Gallicolumba keayi*).
Negros Forest Park, Bacolod, Philippines
Photo: Corey Wyckoff



Blue-eyed Ground Dove (*Columbina cyanopsis*)
Photo: Simon Bruslund

Activities and results for 2021

ASSESS

Red List

T-002 (KSR 6)

Number of technical documents provided to support Red List assessments/reassessments: 1

Result description: PDSG Members, via the Red List Coordinator, contributed to discussions on Columbiform species being considered for reassessment under IUCN Red List Criteria during 2021.

T-004 (KSR 6)

Number of technical documents provided to support Red List assessments/reassessments: 1

Result description: Proposal submitted for Red List reassessment of the Bridled Quail-dove (*Geotrygon mystacea*), on the basis of peer-reviewed publications.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-009 (KSR 10)

Number of technical documents provided to support conservation actions: 0

Result description: A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the

PDSG and the Government of Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE). This states that the PDSG will take responsibility for coordinating a Captive Breeding Feasibility Study, will produce a comprehensive report for consideration by MNRE, and will commit to providing expertise and support, as agreed, for the implementation of ongoing actions.

NETWORK

Membership

T-001 (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 7

Result description: Seven new members have been admitted to the Specialist Group since the beginning of the quadrennium.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-012 (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 1

Result description: A Communications Working Group has been established, and active accounts have been created on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Acknowledgements

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the team at the SSC Chair's Office for all their assistance in getting the Specialist Group up and running, and to Toledo Zoo for acting as host organisation. Special thanks are also due to those members who have volunteered to play a core role in advancing the aims of the PDSG by serving in the group Steering Committee.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets for 2021–2025: 12

Geographic regions: 10 Global, 2 Oceania

Actions during 2021:

Assess: 2 (KSR 6)

Act: 1 (KSR 10)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

