IUCN SSC Species Survival Commission

Species

ISSUE 62

2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat

Stand-alone report
IUCN SSC Croaker and Drum Fishes Red List Authority

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) is a science-based network of thousands of volunteer experts from almost every country of the world, all working together toward achieving the vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature through positive action to both prevent the loss and aid recovery of the diversity of life on earth."

Members of SSC belong to one or more of near 200 Specialist Groups, Red List Authorities, Action Partnerships, Task Forces, and Conservation Committees that make up the Network, each focusing on a taxonomic group (plants, fungi, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and invertebrates), national species, or a disciplinary issue, such as sustainable use and livelihoods, translocation of species, wildlife health, climate change, and conservation planning.

Framed by the Species Conservation Cycle, SSC's major role is to provide information to IUCN on biodiversity conservation, the inherent value of species, their role in ecosystem health and functioning, the provision of ecosystem services, and their support to human livelihoods. This information is fed into the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan

The IUCN Species Strategic Plan encompasses the joint work of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and a number of partnerships to achieve more than 2,700 targets proposed by the Network during the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

To accomplish those targets, the Species Conservation Cycle was established, which is the conceptual framework for the Network activities. The Species Conservation Cycle's main purpose is to guide efforts for valuing and conserving biodiversity through three essential components that are linked to each other:

ASSESS: Understand and inform the world about the status and trends of biodiversity.

PLAN: Develop collaborative, inclusive and science-based conservation strategies, plans and policies.

ACT: Convene and mobilise conservation actions to improve the status of biodiversity.

Their implementation requires two transversal components:

NETWORK: Enhance and support our immediate network and alliances to achieve our biodiversity targets.

COMMUNICATE: Drive strategic and targeted communications to enhance our conservation impact.

SSC Species Report

Annual progress in the implementation of the 2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan is documented in the *SSC Species Report*, which consists of a comprehensive description and analysis of the activities and results generated by the members of the SSC Network each year. Each SSC Group contributes to this document by providing a yearly summarised description of their achievements, which is presented in stand-alone reports.

Structure of the IUCN SSC Stand-alone Report

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

Title of the SSC Group

Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

Group information
Includes names of Chair / Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators and Program Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

Logo of the SSC Group

Mission statement
Includes the mission of the group.

Projected impact for the 2021-2025 quadrennium
Includes the description of the impact on species conservation resulting from the implementation of the targets formulated by the group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

Targets for the 2021-2025 quadrennium
Includes the targets planned by the SSC Group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium ordered alphabetically by component of the Species Conservation Cycle. Each target is labeled with a numerical code (e.g., T-001, T-012) that identifies it in the SSC DATA database and its status for the reported year is indicated (Not initiated, On track or Achieved).

Activities and results
Includes the targets for which activities were conducted and results were generated during the reported year, ordered alphabetically, first by component of the Species Conservation Cycle, and second by Activity Category. Description of activities and results includes the indicator that best describes progress, its associated quantitative or qualitative result, and the narrative description of the activity conducted or result obtained. Each activity or result reported is linked to the Key Species Result to which it is mainly associated (e.g., KSR#1, KSR#5).

Acknowledgements
Includes the acknowledgements to funding agencies, partners, and persons who contributed to the progress of the targets of the group.

Summary of achievements
Summarises information of the group's strategic plan for the quadrennium and progress achieved implementing targets for all the components of the Species Conservation Cycle during the reported year.

Example for the recommended citation:
Aguilera, O. and Seah, Y.G. 2023. 2022 Report of the Croaker and Drum Fishes Red List Authority. In: Nassar, JM, García, L, Mendoza, L, Andrade, ND, Bezeng, S, Birkhoff, J, Bohm, M, Canteiro, C, Geschke, J, Henriques, S, Ivande, S, Mileham, K, Ramos, M, Rodríguez, A, Rodríguez, JP, Street, B, and Yerena, E (Eds.). 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. International Union for Conservation of Nature. 4 pp.

2022 Report

IUCN SSC Croaker and Drum Fishes Red List Authority

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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
55

Mission statement

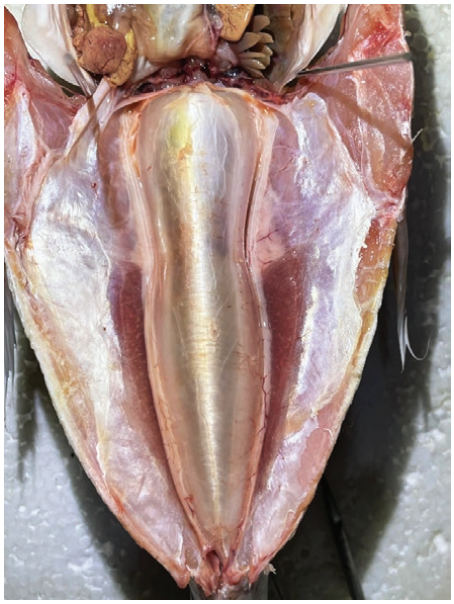
The mission of the IUCN SSC Croaker and Drum Fishes Red List Authority is to revise and submit the assessments of all 300 species of croakers and drum fishes and to redefine the goal of the second phase of the Global Sciaenidae Conservation Plan.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Artisanal marine fisheries provide household income and food supply in tropical America and Asia, representing the most important activity in large marginal communities along the coast. These fisheries occur daily throughout the year with commercial sizes and juveniles of sciaenid species as primary targets. However, low importance undersize species without natural commercial value represent a significant bycatch, mostly in shallow, brackish and estuarine water environments. To date, official statistical records for the artisanal fisheries along the Meso- and South American coast and Southeast Asia region are deficient in accurately establishing fisheries production targets, regulations and conservation strategies.

Boesemania microlepis aquaculture is still in experimental phase
Photo: CDFRLA

The beauty of the *Boesemania microlepis* swim bladder
Photo: CDFRLA



Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-005 Organise international panel discussions on threatened species, biodiversity, and conservation.
Status: Achieved

T-006 Reassess threatened croakers and drums species.
Status: On track

PLAN

T-009 Formulate and submit the proposal to establish the IUCN SSC Croaker and Drum Fishes Specialist Group.
Status: Achieved

ACT

T-007 Enhance collaborations with governmental agencies of conservation and fisheries, academics, NGOs, and scientific society partnerships.
Status: Achieved

NETWORK

T-001 Submit applications for funding partners to establish and maintain new assessments and training programmes.
Status: Achieved

T-002 Interact with the Marine Fish expert groups network to improve the criteria for species reassessment and explore the best option for measuring the effectiveness of SSC's actions on biodiversity conservation.
Status: Not initiated

T-004 Enhance collaborations with governmental agencies of conservation and fisheries, academics, NGOs, and scientific society partnerships.
Status: Not initiated

COMMUNICATE

T-008 Catalyse sustainable use practices to improve governance for people and nature.
Status: Not initiated

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Research activities

T-005 Organise international panel discussions on threatened species, biodiversity, and conservation. (KSR 5)

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

Result description: One scientific paper published in 2022: (1) Samor Lopes, M., Dufour, E., Sabadini-Santos, E., Gaspar, M., Macario, K., Neto, B., . . . Aguilera, O. (2022). 'Stable isotopic analysis and radiocarbon dating of *Micropogonias furnieri* otoliths (SCIAENIDAE) from Southeastern Brazilian coast: seasonal palaeoenvironmental insight. *Radiocarbon*, 64(5), 1109-1137.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-007 Enhance collaborations with governmental agencies of conservation and fisheries, academics, NGOs, and scientific society partnerships. (KSR 11)

Number of threatened species benefited directly or indirectly by sustainable use programs: 1

Result description: To support the development of a Species Conservation Strategy for three *Argyrosomus* spp. in southern Africa, by Matthew Farthing, a postdoctoral fellow working with Prof. Kerry Sink (SANBI).

NETWORK

Synergy

T-001 Submit applications for funding partners to establish and maintain new assessments and training programmes. (KSR 1)

Number of funding partners established and maintained: 0

Result description: The funding includes USD 20,000 from Bio-Amazonia Conservation International (Prof. Chao); support with paperwork from Xiamen University Prof. Liu, Mr. Yan, Bahaba, and a larger sciaenid culture company; support with paperwork from Dr. Chang Chih-Wei, Prof. Chen, Sciaenidae Conservation Network, NMMBA, Taiwan; and a small grant of less than USD 2,000 for travelling, available to students, with 1-2 people per year, personally provided by Prof. Chao.

Acknowledgements

We thank the International Union for Conservation of Nature; the Species Survival Commission; the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi; the Global Sciaenidae Conservation Network; the National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, Taiwan; Boston Bio-Amazonia Conservation International; Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil; Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, Malaysia; the National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium, Taiwan; the National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan, and Xiamen University, China.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 8

Geographic regions: 6 Global, 2 America

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 1 (KSR 5)
Act: 1 (KSR 11)
Network: 1 (KSR 1)

Overall achievement 2021–2025: