



Species

ISSUE 63

2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



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

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.

Recommended citation:

Grace, M and Long, B. 2023. 2022 Report of the Green Status of Species Task Force. 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.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

2022 Report

IUCN SSC Green Status of Species Task Force



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS

23

Mission statement

To develop a 'Green List of Species' to document and incentivise successful species conservation and recovery.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Launch and implement the Green Status of Species (GSS) to quantify species recovery and conservation impact.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Launch the Green Status of Species.
Status: Achieved

T-002 Establish Green Status team within the Red List Unit of IUCN.
Status: On track

T-003 Update Red List infrastructure (IUCN Species Information Service (SIS) and website) to provide integrated delivery of Red List and Green Status assessments.
Status: On track

T-005 Complete 5,000 GSS assessments by 2025.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-004 Develop GSS assessment training materials and delivery method.
Status: Achieved

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Green Status

T-002 Establish Green Status team within the Red List Unit of IUCN. (KSR 6)

Team of at least two people hired: 0

Result description: Funding to support a Green Status staff member within the Red List Unit secured, but the person is yet to be hired.

T-003 Update Red List infrastructure (IUCN Species Information Service (SIS) and website) to provide integrated delivery of Red List and Green Status assessments. (KSR 6)

SIS and Red List website able to hold GSS data and assessments: 1

Result description: Funds and staff to update SIS by end of 2023.

T-005 Complete 5,000 GSS assessments by 2025. (KSR 6)

Number of new Green Status of Species assessments completed: 64

Result description: We obtained funding to hire a postdoc who has helped lead complete assessment of 64 species. A working group has been funded through the Conservation Paleobiology Network that will generate draft indigenous ranges of species, which will greatly facilitate assessment uptake. Combined with the ability of assessors to directly upload data to SIS

– coming in 2023 – as well as the availability of the online training course, this should generate a sharp upswing in assessments over the next two years.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-004 Develop GSS assessment training materials and delivery method. (KSR 2)

Training materials developed and online training videos produced: Achieved.

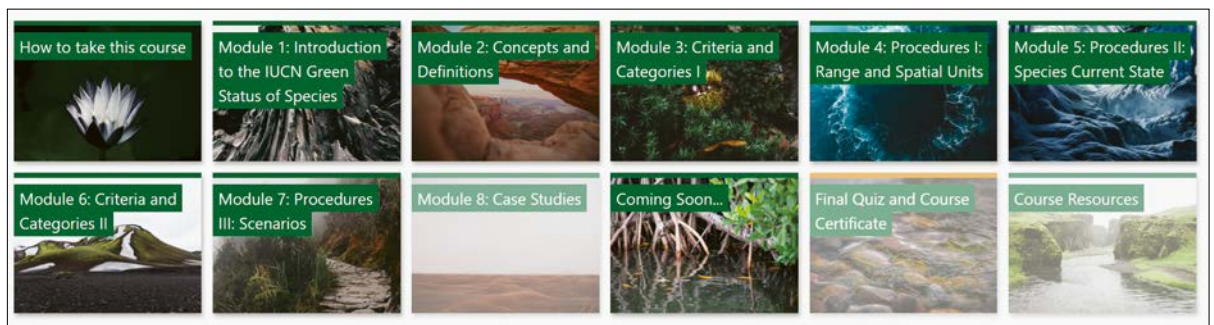
Result description: A beta version of the training course has been launched at <https://www.conservationtraining.org/> comprising seven modules and fifteen lessons. Although some tweaks may be made – we are currently soliciting user feedback – and additional content added, including video content and translations, the initial responses to the course have been very positive and the current version provides all of the training necessary for a learner to undertake a Green Status of Species assessment. This work was done in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy, ZSL, and the Red List Unit.



Cover of Green Status of Species Standard
Photo: Species Conservation Success Task Force

ANIMALIA – MAMMALIA	Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<NT>	<LD>
ANIMALIA – AVES	Cheer Pheasant	<i>Catreus wallichii</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<VU>	<LD>
ANIMALIA – CHONDRICHTHYES	White Shark	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<VU>	<MD>
ANIMALIA – MALACOSTRACA	Giant River Prawn	<i>Macrobrachium rosenbergii</i>	Unknown	Global	LC	ND
ANIMALIA – MAMMALIA	Pygmy Hog	<i>Porcula salvania</i>	Unknown	Global	<EN>	<CD>
ANIMALIA – MAMMALIA	Royle's Pika	<i>Ochotona roylei</i>	— Stable	Global	LC	<SD>
ANIMALIA – AVES	Mauritius Kestrel	<i>Falco punctatus</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<EN>	<CD>
ANIMALIA – REPTILIA	Jamaican Rock Iguana	<i>Cyclura collei</i>	↑ Increasing	Global	<CR>	<CD>
ANIMALIA – MAMMALIA	Saiga	<i>Saiga tatarica</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<CR>	<LD>
ANIMALIA – AMPHIBIA	Mountain Chicken	<i>Leptodactylus fallax</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<CR>	<CD>
ANIMALIA – MAMMALIA	Alpine Ibex	<i>Capra ibex</i>	— Stable	Global, Europe	LC	<MD>
ANIMALIA – MAMMALIA	Vicuna	<i>Vicugna vicugna</i>	↑ Increasing	Global	LC	<MD>
ANIMALIA – AVES	African Penguin	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>	↓ Decreasing	Global	<EN>	<LD>
ANIMALIA – AVES	Pale-headed Brush-finch	<i>Atlapetes pallidiceps</i>	— Stable	Global	<EN>	<CD>
ANIMALIA – AVES	Greater Prairie-chicken	<i>Tympanuchus cupido</i>	↑ Increasing	Global	<NT>	<LD>

A sample of the species with published Green Status assessments on iucnredlist.org
Photo: Molly Grace



Beta version of the IUCN Green Status of Species online training course at conservationtraining.org
Photo: Molly Grace

Acknowledgements

The IUCN SSC Green Status of Species Working Group gratefully acknowledges the support of the Lyda Hill Foundation in developing online tools, including the Green Status of Species online training course, and the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance in supporting our work to develop programme-level assessments.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 5

Geographic regions: 5 Global

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 3 (KSR 6)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

