

IUCN SSC Butterfly Specialist Group

2018 Report



Monika Bohm

Chair

Monika Bohm

Red List Authority Coordinator

Monika Bohm

Location/Affiliation

Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London, London, UK

Number of members

50

Social networks

Twitter:

@IUCNButterflySG



Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Butterfly Specialist Group is to increase knowledge on the taxonomy, ecology and conservation status of butterflies and moths around the world and promote their long-term conservation.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, the group will be re-established with an active membership driving forward the assessment of species' conservation status. By the end of 2020, the group will have completed its first major assessment project by publishing the findings of a status assessment of the world's swallowtails. The group will have also re-established its presence on social communication platforms, built a membership throughout the world's regions and pinpointed additional projects for the next quadrennium.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Green List: complete assessment of 1-2 species of butterfly for the IUCN Green List testing process.

Proposal development and funding: establish a collaboration with Butterfly Conservation to inventory butterfly monitoring schemes and available data worldwide (time series of abundance data and presence/absence data, to help us assess data gaps, capacity needs and build a Living Planet Index for butterflies). The first target is to secure funding for this.

Red List: (1) complete assessment of ~550 species of swallowtail butterfly (comprehensive assessment); (2) assessment of 29 species of North American prairie butterfly, led by Minnesota Zoo; (3) implement assessment of 400 South Asian endemic butterflies, in conjunction with the South Asian Invertebrate Specialist Group.

Network

Capacity building: carry out capacity building for Red Listing within the group via targeted Skype or online sessions/have members sign up for the online Red List training course.

Membership: build a global network of members, covering at least 20% of Lepidoptera range countries.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

- i. We have already completed 80 assessments for Australasia and the Neotropics, with a further 100 assessments submitted or in review. (KSR #1)
- ii. Two Minnesota Zoo focus species assessed for the Red List (and published on IUCN Red List 2019.2). (KSR #1, 2)

Network

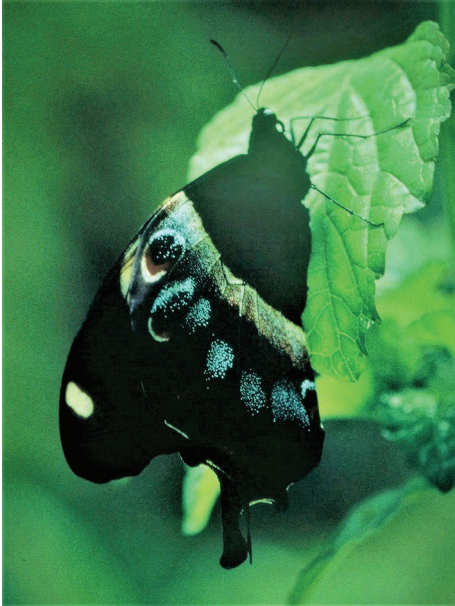
Membership

- i. We interacted and built relationships with around 50 species experts, primarily from Australasia, Indomalaya and the Neotropics. We started formalising membership within the IUCN Commission system as soon the Chair got access to all the available information needed in early 2019.

Atrophaneura aristolochiae, Common Rose (Papilionidae),
Least Concern
Photo: Shawan Chowdhury



Papilio homerus (Papilionidae), one of the most
threatened swallowtails in the world
Photo: Peter Hall



Acknowledgements

We want to thank the Toyota Foundation for supporting the assessment of swallowtails.

Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 2/5

Assess **2** ||

Network **1** |

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 2

KSR: Key Species Result



Eurytides bellerophon (Papilionidae), Least Concern
Photo: Augusto Rosa