

IUCN SSC Conifer Plant Specialist Group

2018 Report



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Chair

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Location/Affiliation

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Number of members

42



Mission statement

The Conifer Specialist Group helps promote the long-term survival of the world's conifers through rigorous conservation assessments, which help to guide conservation planning and conservation action.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: complete Red List assessments of 50 conifer species.

Act

Conservation actions: (1) continue the *ex situ* conifer conservation programme in the UK; (2) restore the forests of the threatened conifer *Glyptostrobus pinsilis* in Laos.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

i. Forty reassessments of conifers are in draft form ready for review. (KSR #1)

Act

Conservation actions

- i. The network of *ex situ* sites for threatened conifers has grown to 190 sites and contains 285 conifer species. (KSR #25)
- ii. Restoration work on the degraded *Glyptostrobus* stands in central Lao PDR are due to start in June 2019, when approximately 250 young trees will be planted by the project team in collaboration with local villagers. An *ex situ* plantation on a 23-hectare site will also be started at the same time in the town of Nakai as part of National Tree Planting Day. (KSR #12)

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following people who have helped with the restoration work of the degraded *Glyptostrobus* stands in Lao PDR: Professor Vichith Lamxay (National University of Lao PDR); Daophone Suddychanh (Nam Theun Power Company); Dr Gretchen Coffman (University of San Francisco); Dr Brendan Buckley (Columbia University, New York) and De Liang Ming Gao (Kunming Institute of Botany).

Taiwan Catkin Yew (*Amentotaxus formosana*), Vulnerable
Photo: Martin Gardner



Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 2/5

Assess **1** |

Act **2** ||

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 12, 25

KSR: Key Species Result

Atlas Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*), Endangered
Photo: Martin Gardner

