

## 2016-2017 Report



Patricia D. Moehlman



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### Co-Chairs

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### Location/Affiliation

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### Number of members

60

### Social networks

Website:  
[www.equids.org](http://www.equids.org)



### Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN/SSC Equid Specialist Group (ESG) is to conserve biological diversity by developing and executing programs to study, save, restore, and manage wisely wild equids and their habitats. Our greatest challenge is to improve wild equid conservation status, to sustain their ecosystems and to enhance the livelihoods of local communities.

### Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

#### Barometer of life

##### ■ Red List

i. All Red List assessments are up to date with the exception of the Mountain zebra. This will be completed in 2018. (KSR #32)

#### Bolster work at national scales

##### ■ Conservation activities

i. The Ethiopian National Action Plan for Wild Equids (African wild ass, Grevy's zebra, Plains zebra) was completed and approved and implementation has started. (KSR #15)

ii. We assisted with production of the Road Map for the Conservation of African wild ass *Equus africanus* 2017-2027. CMS Technical Series Publication No.34 (KSR #15)

### Capacity building

#### ■ Research activities

i. An Ethiopian and an Eritrean national are enrolled and doing research for their PhD's on African wild ass distribution, population viability and habitat utilization. (KSR #39)

ii. An Eritrean national completed his MSc on African wild ass distribution and genetics and currently is Director of Wildlife in the Forestry and Wildlife Authority, Eritrea. (KSR #32)

### Communications

#### ■ Research activities

i. An edited book *Wild Equids: Ecology, Management and Conservation* (Johns Hopkins University Press) was published. Equid Specialist Group members contributed to almost all chapters. (KSR #43)

### Conservation action

#### ■ Capacity building

i. The Ethiopian National Action Plan for Wild Equids (African wild ass, Grevy's zebra, Plains zebra) was completed and approved and implementation has started. (KSR #18)

#### ■ Communication

i. Road Map for the Conservation of African wild ass *Equus africanus* 2017-2027. CMS Technical Series Publication No.34. (KSR #28)

#### ■ Proposal development and funding

i. Proposals were developed for listing the African wild ass as Appendix I and were submitted and approved at the CMS COP 12.

ii. Proposals were developed for the conservation of African wild ass in Ethiopia and Eritrea and submitted for funding to the IUCN Save our Species Fund.

Female and foal of Grevy's zebra (*Equus grevyi*), Endangered  
Photo: Patricia D. Moehlman



## Increasing diversity of SSC

### ■ Membership

- i. Members from 26 countries and composed of 22 women and 38 men.

### Policy

#### ■ Agreements

- i. Proposal to list the African wild ass on Convention for Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) Appendix I approved at COP12. (KSR #29)

#### ■ Technical advice

- i. Proposal to list the African wild ass on CMS Appendix I approved at COP12. (KSR #18)

## Acknowledgements

We thank the following donors that have provided funding for operations, research, training and conservation action: EcoHealth Alliance, Basel Zoo, IUCN/SSC Species Conservation Planning Sub-Committee, Knowsley Zoo, Plock Zoo, Sea-world Busch Gardens Conservation Fund and Little Rock Zoo. We thank Dr David Mallon for facilitating the Ethiopia National Wild Equid Action Plan workshop. We thank the Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority for hosting and organizing the Ethiopia National Wild Equid Action Plan workshop.

## Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

### Barometer of life

Red List: complete Red List assessments of all seven wild equid species.

### Bolster work at national scales

Capacity building: conduct scout training courses in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

### Capacity building

Capacity building: (1) Eritrean national to obtain PhD on African wild ass; (2) Ethiopian national to obtain PhD on African wild ass.

## Communications

Scientific meetings: convene an International Conference on Wild Equids in 2019.

## Conservation action

Conservation activities: (1) demarcate an African wild ass protected area in Eritrea; (2) Implementation of the Ethiopian national action plan for three wild equids; (3) continue working with all SG members towards conservation of wild equids.

Technical advice: CMS road map for African wild ass conservation.

## Policy

Policy advice: (1) African wild ass listed as CMS Appendix 1; (2) Przewalski's horse listed as CMS Appendix 1.

## Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By the end of 2020, we hope that the conservation status of the African wild ass (CR) is improved by capacity building in the two main range states, i.e. Ethiopia and Eritrea and the establishment of a protected area in Eritrea. The CMS road map for the Conservation of the African wild ass has been completed and the species is listed on Appendix I of CMS. Przewalski's horse (EN) populations are expected to increase in Mongolia, and further reintroduction sites may become necessary; a national Action Plan for the species will be developed. Equid species in Africa are at threat from catastrophic droughts (Grevy's zebra (EN), mountain zebra (VU), and plains zebra (NT). Conservation efforts in range states will aim to ameliorate these effects. In Asia, conservation efforts of Asiatic wild ass (NT) and kiang (LC) will continue, so we do not expect to see a decline in population numbers.



Plains zebra (*Equus quagga*), Near Threatened.  
Photo: Patricia D. Moehlman

## Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 7/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (1 activity)
- Bolster work at national scales (2 activities)
- Capacity building (2 activities)
- Communications (1 activity)
- Conservation action (4 activities)
- Increasing diversity of SSC (1 activity)
- Policy (2 activities)

Main KSRs addressed: 5, 18, 28, 29, 32, 39, 43

KSR: Key Species Result