

# IUCN SSC Galapagos Plant Specialist Group



2018 Report



Alan Tye

## **Chair**

Alan Tye

## **Red List Authority Coordinator**

Alan Tye

## **Location/Affiliation**

IUCN, UK

## **Number of members**

11



## **Mission statement**

The Galapagos Plant Specialist Group promotes the conservation of all Galapagos native plants and plant-like organisms (including algae, fungi, lichens and similar taxa), with the intention to be inclusive rather than exclusive.

## **Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium**

By the end of 2020, we expect to have draft reassessments for at least 10 vascular plants and at least 50 lichens submitted to the IUCN Red List Unit, and to have increased the effort directed to threatened plant conservation by the Charles Darwin Research Station and the Galapagos National Park Directorate.

## **Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium**

### **Assess**

Red List: (1) begin re-evaluation of endemic vascular plants; (2) Red Listing of all ca. 200 endemic species of lichenised fungi.

Research activity: (1) evaluate the conservation status of the *Scalesia* forests on the islands of Santa Cruz and Isabela; (2) assess the value of water-saving technology on the recovery of threatened plant populations.

### **Plan**

Planning: contribute to research and conservation planning in Galapagos.

### **Act**

Conservation activities: restore threatened and endangered plant populations within protected and populated areas.

## **Activities and results 2018**

### **Assess**

#### **Red List**

**i.** Reassessment of endemic vascular plants begun (in collaboration with the Crop Wild Relative Specialist Group); two Galapagos endemic crop wild relatives reassessed. (KSR #1)

**ii.** One endemic species of lichenised fungus assessed (in collaboration with the Lichen Specialist Group); research student employed for data entry and funding requested. (KSR #1)

#### **Research activity**

**i.** Progress with field work to evaluate the conservation status of the *Scalesia* forests on the islands of Santa Cruz and Isabela. (KSR #27)

**ii.** Assessment of the value of water-saving technology for restoration of farms and urban areas with endemic and native species. (KSR #16)

### **Plan**

#### **Planning**

**i.** Planning workshop on research and conservation in Galapagos held in March 2018. (KSR #18)

### **Act**

#### **Conservation activities**

**i.** Action Plan produced for ecological restoration on Baltra and Plaza Sur islands (KSR #24)

**ii.** Fully restored Mina de Granillo Negro site, Floreana Island. (KSR #24)



*Scalesia pedunculata* forest  
Photo: Alan Tye



Vulnerable *Scalesia pedunculata* flowers  
Photo: Alan Tye

### Acknowledgements

The group's activities depend heavily on the staff and programmes of the Charles Darwin Research Station in Galapagos and we are grateful for their support, including financial support for attendance at planning workshops. Arizona State University (Tempe) contributed to lichen Red Listing and conservation workshops. Many others in and outside Galapagos contribute importantly to plant conservation in the islands, especially the Galapagos National Park Directorate, local authorities, schools and private individuals, as well as the institutions that employ Galapagos Plant Specialist Group members and enable them to work on Galapagos plant conservation, too numerous to name individually. We are grateful to them all.

### Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 3/5

Assess	4	
Plan	1	
Act	2	

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 16, 18, 24, 27

KSR: Key Species Result