

IUCN SSC Croaker and Drum Fishes Red List Authority

2019 Report



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Co-Chairs

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Location/Affiliation

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Number of members

55

Mission statement

The mission of the Croaker and Drum Fishes Red List Authority is to revise and submit the assessment of all 300 species of Sciaenidae, and in addition, to redefine the goal of the second phase of Global Sciaenidae conservation.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, we will complete the first global assessment of sciaenid fishes and will submit it to IUCN for final publication. A significant threat to Sciaenidae conservation has become more prominent since 2016 due to the popularity of Sciaenid Maws (dried gas bladder) for food and medicinal use in Asian countries. Larger species of Sciaenidae are sought to extract their gas bladders for the luxury market demand. The case of the Gulf of California Totoaba (*Totoaba macdonaldi*), a Critically Endangered species, has caused the near extinction of the endemic Vaquita (*Phocoena sinus*). Several large Sciaenidae species of the genus *Argyrosomus* and *Boesemanina* are greatly sought after in Southeast Asia and conservation actions are urgently needed. Sciaenid species are popular food fish and are mostly captured for local food supplies. It is a very difficult resource for which to enforce policies regulating the capture of threatened species.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) organise a Red List assessment and training workshop, planned for 25–29 September 2018, at the University of Malaysia, Terengganu, Malaysia (expecting 50 members to participate); (2) complete revision and new data for global Sciaenidae Red List assessments; (3) submit final draft reviews (proposed) of Sciaenidae Red List reassessments.

Network

Synergy: strengthen relationships among SSC Leaders, as well as develop new collaborations with other IUCN Commissions and open discussion for strategies, priorities and opportunities. Participate in the Fourth International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission (SSC) Leaders' Meeting, 6–10 October 2019, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

- i.** One hundred and eleven Sciaenidae reassessments were accomplished. An update of Sciaenidae data and new information for reassessments' discussion was completed. Consultations and discussions were held with Sciaenidae expert group collaborators to improve the species reassessments. (KSR #1)
- ii.** Final reviews of Sciaenidae Red List reassessments will be submitted to the members of the Sciaenidae Group in early 2020 for criticism, corrections, and the reviewers' criteria for conservation. (KSR #1)



Croaker maws were extracted for luxury products and meats were cut and sold to local peoples
 Photo: Archives of the SRLA



Visiting fish maws dealer with special arrangement
 Photo: Archives of the SRLA



Collaborate with seafood dealer to observe market of Giant Croaker
 Photo: Archives of the SRLA

Network

Synergy

i. Both Co-Chairs participated in the panel of discussions of the Fourth International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission (SSC) Leaders' Meeting; oral presentations and exposition of a poster of IUCN SSC Sciaenidae group strategies for conservation were given. Meetings took place with the participation of more than 300 IUCN species conservation experts; one poster discussion: 'Fisheries impacts on marine and freshwater biodiversity of Meso and South America: Sciaenidae'. Interaction took place with the Marine Fish expert groups network to improve the criteria for species reassessment and explore the best option to measure the effectiveness of SSC's actions on biodiversity conservation. (KSR #1)

Acknowledgements

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Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 1/5

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| Assess | 2 | |
| Network | 1 | |

Main KSRs addressed: 1

KSR: Key Species Result