

IUCN SSC Deer Specialist Group



2019 Report



Susana González



Noam Werner

Co-Chairs

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Red List Authority Coordinators

Mariano Giménez Dixon ⁽¹⁾ (New World species)
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Location/Affiliation

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Number of members

116

Social networks

Website: www.icneotropical.org/home.htm



Mission statement

The mission of the Deer Specialist Group (DSG) is to contribute to biodiversity conservation through improvement of the welfare and sustainability of deer populations around the world. Our challenge is to find conservation alternatives to mitigate conflicts and to enable rare and threatened species to survive.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

We aim to explore new collaborations to evaluate possible monitoring methodologies to survey the deer species of the world. We will be seeking to share experiences and survey methodologies and how to create a database. We will be focused on promoting capacity building of new field deer biologists to obtain biological data to update the species information and advise policy makers on critical species and ecosystems, as well as problematic overabundant populations, and generate appropriate management guidelines.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: complete reassessment of 71 deer species (20% increase in knowledge of species).

Research activities: conduct genetic analysis of widespread species (20% of deer species analysed).

Plan

Planning: contribute to the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) Deer Taxon Advisory Group Regional Collection Plan (RCP) Workshop.

Act

Conservation actions: contribute to the West Visayas Conservation Planning Workshop.

Network

Capacity building: hold three workshops to train field biologists to collect data on deer species and to provide capacity building to the Estación Fauna Cría Autóctona (EFCA) personnel. We plan to offer two workshops in 2018 and one in 2019.

Communicate

Communication: publish an annual newsletter.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Research activities

i. We have published an article in which we describe the species and the genetic identification (González and Duarte, in press). Neotropical deer species have broad geographic ranges in vulnerable Latin American ecosystems. Habitat destruction and overhunting have limited deer species to a portion of their historical ranges. Our aims are to provide an overview of the current state of knowledge of Neotropical deer species systematics and evolutionary history, and to discuss their current conservation status. Genetic methods lead to a reassessment of earlier systematics, largely based only on morphological analyses, and revealed several cryptic species. (KSR #25)



Estación de Fauna de Cría Autóctona (EFCA)
pampas deer female
Photo: Susana González



Female pampas deer wildlife
at Salto Department
Photo: Susana González

Plan

Planning

i. The EAZA RCP process will in essence consist of two parts: (1) a process leading to a decision as to which species will be managed in an EAZA *ex situ* Programme, and with which roles; (2) the completion of EAZA *ex situ* Programme application forms, because all existing, as well as any new, *ex situ* programmes will have to be converted into a new style EAZA *ex situ* Programme set up. (KSR #25)

Act

Conservation actions

i. The Talarak Foundation, from Negros Island in the Philippines, had started the first exploratory releases of Visayan Spotted Deer (*Rusa alfredi*) following a workshop that was held earlier in the year and which Noam Werner attended. The workshop was aimed at planning future steps for five West Visayan endemic species. (KSR #24)

Network

Capacity building

i. The Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente (DINAMA) will be funding the Action Plan for the Pampas Deer (*Ozotoceros bezoarticus*) population in Uruguay. This will be the initial step to implement this to the South American Pampas Deer populations. (KSR #17)

Communicate

Communication

i. The newsletter is published annually with the voluntary contribution of the membership, contributing and peer reviewing the articles. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

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Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 5/5

Assess	1	█
Plan	1	█
Act	1	█
Network	1	█
Communicate	1	█

Main KSRs addressed: 17, 24, 25, 28

Resolutions addressed: WCC-2016-Res-085

KSR: Key Species Result