

# IUCN SSC Freshwater Plant Specialist Group

2019 Report



Richard Lansdown

## Chair

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## Red List Authority Coordinator

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## Location/Affiliation

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## Number of members

192

## Social networks

Facebook:

IUCN SSC Freshwater Plant Specialist Group



## Mission statement

The FPSG exists to promote and further the conservation of plant species which are dependent upon wetlands and the habitats upon which they depend.

## Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Unless the funding situation changes, we do not envisage any significant change in the conservation condition of freshwater plants as a result of action by the Freshwater Plant Specialist Group (FPSG).

## Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

### Assess

Red List: (1) complete a conservation assessment of wetland-dependent plants in the Indo-Burma region; (2) develop a baseline for a Red List Index of wetland-dependent plants in the Mediterranean; (3) complete Red List assessment of nationally endemic freshwater plants in Canada.

Research activities: (1) conduct research into reproductive strategies along water depth gradient of *Vallisneria natans* and *V. spinulosa* in shallow lakes of the Yangtze River, China; (2) conduct research into plant community patterns in Moroccan temporary ponds along latitudinal and anthropogenic disturbance gradients.

## Act

Conservation actions: (1) assess conservation requirements of *Crinum malabaricum*; (2) global conservation action for the genus *Isoetes*; (3) conservation of 'ferricretes' in Satara District, Western Ghats, India as Conservation Zones.

## Network

Capacity building: develop a decision support tool to improve restoration projects with emphasis on freshwater wetland vegetation.

## Communicate

Communication: (1) raise awareness of global conservation of freshwater wetland plants; (2) use of charophytes for description and monitoring of inland waters in Sicily; (3) global conservation assessment of the genus *Callitriche*; (4) global conservation assessment of the genus *Cryptocoryne*; (5) complete a wetland vegetation restoration literature review.

## Activities and results 2019

### Assess

#### Red List

- i.** Progress on the conservation assessment of wetland-dependent plants in the Indo-Burma region is frustrated by a lack of support in region. (KSR #1, 2, 3, 4, 7)
- ii.** Baseline of 500 taxon assessment for a Red List Index of wetland-dependent plants in the Mediterranean compiled. (KSR #1, 2, 3, 4, 7)
- iii.** Red List assessment of nationally endemic freshwater plants in Canada was accomplished. (KSR #1, 2, 3, 4, 7).

## Act

### Conservation actions

- i. Partial funding obtained to complete the work on assessment of conservation requirements of *Crinum malabaricum*. (KSR #27)
- ii. Funding sought for global conservation assessment of the genus *Cryptocoryne*, but not acquired. (KSR #1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22)

## Communicate

### Communication

- i. The Master's degree thesis on use of charophytes for description and monitoring of inland waters in Sicily is completed and due to be defended in March 2020. (KSR #28)
- ii. Work on global conservation assessment of the genus *Callitriche* is ongoing. An article clarifying taxonomy of South American taxa, including seven new species, was published; an article on species in Oceania is near completion. (KSR #28)

## Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 3/5

Assess **3** |||

Act **2** ||

Communicate **2** ||

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 15, 18, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28

Resolutions addressed: WCC-2016-Res-016, WCC-2016-Res-041, WCC-2016-Res-045

KSR: Key Species Result



Critically Endangered Malabar River-lily,  
*Crinum malabaricum*, Embate, Kerala 2017  
Photo: Richard Lansdown