



# Species

ISSUE 62

## 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



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## The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) is a science-based network of thousands of volunteer experts from almost every country of the world, all working together toward achieving the vision of “a just world that values and conserves nature through positive action to both prevent the loss and aid recovery of the diversity of life on earth.”

Members of SSC belong to one or more of near 200 Specialist Groups, Red List Authorities, Action Partnerships, Task Forces, and Conservation Committees that make up the Network, each focusing on a taxonomic group (plants, fungi, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, and invertebrates), national species, or a disciplinary issue, such as sustainable use and livelihoods, translocation of species, wildlife health, climate change, and conservation planning.

Framed by the Species Conservation Cycle, SSC’s major role is to provide information to IUCN on biodiversity conservation, the inherent value of species, their role in ecosystem health and functioning, the provision of ecosystem services, and their support to human livelihoods. This information is fed into the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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### 2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan

The IUCN Species Strategic Plan encompasses the joint work of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and a number of partnerships to achieve more than 2,700 targets proposed by the Network during the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

To accomplish those targets, the Species Conservation Cycle was established, which is the conceptual framework for the Network activities. The Species Conservation Cycle’s main purpose is to guide efforts for valuing and conserving biodiversity through three essential components that are linked to each other:

**ASSESS:** Understand and inform the world about the status and trends of biodiversity.

**PLAN:** Develop collaborative, inclusive and science-based conservation strategies, plans and policies.

**ACT:** Convene and mobilise conservation actions to improve the status of biodiversity.



Their implementation requires two transversal components:

**NETWORK:** Enhance and support our immediate network and alliances to achieve our biodiversity targets.

**COMMUNICATE:** Drive strategic and targeted communications to enhance our conservation impact.

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### SSC Species Report

Annual progress in the implementation of the 2021-2025 Species Strategic Plan is documented in the SSC *Species Report*, which consists of a comprehensive description and analysis of the activities and results generated by the members of the SSC Network each year. Each SSC Group contributes to this document by providing a yearly summarised description of their achievements, which is presented in stand-alone reports.

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## Structure of the IUCN SSC Stand-alone Report

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

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### Title of the SSC Group

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### Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

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### Group information

Includes names of Chair / Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators and Program Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

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### Logo of the SSC Group

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### Mission statement

Includes the mission of the group.

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### Projected impact for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the description of the impact on species conservation resulting from the implementation of the targets formulated by the group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium.

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### Targets for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the targets planned by the SSC Group for the 2021-2025 quadrennium ordered alphabetically by component of the Species Conservation Cycle. Each target is labeled with a numerical code (e.g., T-001, T-012) that identifies it in the SSC DATA database and its status for the reported year is indicated (Not initiated, On track or Achieved).

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### Activities and results

Includes the targets for which activities were conducted and results were generated during the reported year, ordered alphabetically, first by component of the Species Conservation Cycle, and second by Activity Category. Description of activities and results includes the indicator that best describes progress, its associated quantitative or qualitative result, and the narrative description of the activity conducted or result obtained. Each activity or result reported is linked to the Key Species Result to which it is mainly associated (e.g., KSR#1, KSR#5).

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### Acknowledgements

Includes the acknowledgements to funding agencies, partners, and persons who contributed to the progress of the targets of the group.

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### Summary of achievements

Summarises information of the group's strategic plan for the quadrennium and progress achieved implementing targets for all the components of the Species Conservation Cycle during the reported year.

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### Example for the recommended citation:

King, C. 2023. 2022 Report of the Flamingo Specialist Group. In: Nassar, JM, García, L, Mendoza, L, Andrade, ND, Bezeng, S, Birkhoff, J, Bohm, M, Canteiro, C, Geschke, J, Henriques, S, Ivande, S, Mileham, K, Ramos, M, Rodríguez, A, Rodríguez, JP, Street, B, and Yerena, E (Eds.). 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. International Union for Conservation of Nature. 4 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

## 2022 Report

# IUCN SSC Flamingo Specialist Group



**CHAIR**  
Catherine King  
Parque Zoológico de  
Lagos, Portugal

**RED LIST AUTHORITY**  
**NUMBER OF MEMBERS**  
55

**SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE**  
Facebook: @FlamingoSpecialistGroup  
Twitter: @flamingospecgrp

### Mission statement

The mission statement of the IUCN SSC Flamingo Specialist Group is to actively promote flamingo research and conservation worldwide by developing conservation Action Plans for the most threatened species, and by encouraging information exchange and cooperation amongst flamingo specialists, and with other relevant organisations, particularly the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), Wetlands International, Ramsar Convention, WWF International and BirdLife International.

### Projected impact for 2021–2025

No further reduction in species conservation status and maintain Least Concern (LC) conservation status for applicable species.

### Targets for 2021–2025

#### PLAN

**T-011** Participate in a working group with AEWA, Wetlands International and the International Lesser Flamingo Working Group to plan for a simultaneous census of lesser flamingos, and to find funding for this.

Status: On track

**T-013** Assist the Grupo para la Conservación del Flamenco Caribeño with organizing and fundraising for the first simultaneous census of the American flamingo in 2024.

Status: On track

#### NETWORK

**T-001** Plan UK flamingo keeper's workshop for 2021 or 2022.

Status: Achieved

**T-004** Increase FSG membership by 4 members by the end of 2021.

Status: On track

**T-014** Partner with European Association of Zoos and Aquaria and African BirdLife Partnership to support Lake Natron Communities.

Status: On track

**T-015** Implement and further develop FSG Small Grants Fund.

Status: On track

**T-016** Partner with European Association of Zoos and Aquaria and others to prepare a proposal focussing on wetland conservation, creation and restoration for the EAZA 2026-2027 Conservation Campaign.

Status: On track

**T-017** Survey (potential) FSG members regarding their possibilities to contribute to the FSG workload.

Status: On track

**T-018** Develop a global database for flamingo ringing programs.

Status: Not initiated

#### COMMUNICATE

**T-002** Publish the next edition of Flamingo - the FSG's newsletter.

Status: On track

**T-003** Plan a new email list forum if needed for effective and secure communication for members.

Status: Achieved

**T-006** Continue to run International Flamingo Day.

Status: On track

**T-007** Participate in International Flamingo Day 2022.

Status: Achieved

**T-009** Organize flamingo symposiums at regional ornithological conferences.

Status: On track

**T-010** Organize and/or attend meetings of flamingo specialists, including the 4th International Flamingo Symposium.

Status: On track

**T-019** Develop a new FSG website with expanded capabilities.

Status: On track

### Activities and results for 2022

#### PLAN

##### Planning

**T-011** Participate in a working group with AEWA, Wetlands International and the International Lesser Flamingo Working Group to plan for a simultaneous census of Lesser Flamingos, and to find funding for this. (KSR 8)

Number of plans for species census and fundraising developed: 8

Result description: In 2022, the Flamingo SG attended 8 MEA meetings.



Catherine King - FSG Chair giving a talk at the PAOC in Zimbabwe, November 2022  
Photo: Koen Brouwer



Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*) in flight  
Photo: Melissa Lewis

## NETWORK

### Capacity building

#### T-001 Plan UK flamingo keeper's workshop for 2021 or 2022. (KSR 2)

Increase capacity for evidence practice for *ex situ* flamingo management: 1

Result description: An ABWAK workshop was held on 14 July 2022 in Bristol UK, and 59 people attended. Presentations were given on both global flamingo conservation and practical hands-on flamingo management.

### Membership

#### T-004 Increase FSG membership by 4 members by the end of 2021. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 1

Result description: The group is continuously growing, in 2022, one new member was added. We keep working to include new members.

## COMMUNICATE

### Communication

#### T-002 Publish the next edition of Flamingo - the FSG's newsletter. (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 0

Result description: A double issue of the Flamingo is being prepared for 2022-2023, appearing in January 2024.

#### T-003 Plan a new email list forum if needed for effective and secure communication for members. (KSR 12)

New email group created: Ongoing.

Result description: The email list to secure communications among members was created, and the number of people included in the list continues to grow.

#### T-006 Continue to run International Flamingo Day. (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 1

Result description: In 2022, one communication was developed and shared through social media and website.

#### T-007 Participate in International Flamingo Day 2022. (KSR 12)

Engagement on FSG social media pages and website: Ongoing.

Result description: The engagement rate was increased compared to 2021.

### Scientific meetings

#### T-009 Organize flamingo symposiums at regional ornithological conferences. (KSR 12)

Number of scientific events organized: 1

Result description: The Flamingo symposium was held at the Pan-African Ornithological Conference PAOC on 25 November 2022, which provided an opportunity to explain about the work of the FSG and assess what support the FSG can offer.

Number of presentations delivered in scientific events: 5

Result description: Five presentations on flamingos were delivered at the Pan-African Ornithological Conference PAOC in November 2022 and these presentations highlighted the latest developments in our understanding of intra-African movements of Flamingos, the tools for estimating flamingo populations, and other flamingo conservation issues.

#### T-010 Organize and/or attend meetings of flamingo specialists, including the 4th International Flamingo Symposium. (KSR 12)

Number of scientific events coordinated: 1

Result description: Organized a side meeting with African flamingo specialists on 24 November 2022, a great opportunity for furthering collaborations and gaining insight into current projects ongoing in Africa and discussing the proposal for a simultaneous Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*) survey.

### Acknowledgements

We thank the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums for its support to the Flamingo Specialist Group and for administering the FSG Small Grants Fund.

### Summary of achievements

Total number of targets for 2021–2025: 16

Geographic regions: 1 Europe, 15 Global

#### Actions during 2022:

Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Network: 2 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 7 (KSR 12, 13)

#### Overall achievement 2021–2025:

