

# IUCN SSC Snake and Lizard Red List Authority

2016-2017 Report



Philip Bowles

## Chair

Philip Bowles

## Red List Authority

Philip Bowles

## Location/Affiliation

IUCN Biodiversity Assessment Unit c/o  
Conservation International, Washington DC, US

## Number of members

43

## Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Snake and Lizard Red List Authority is to undertake and support IUCN Red List assessments for reptile groups not covered by other Specialist Groups, including most snakes and lizards and the New Zealand tuatara, and to curate IUCN's global taxonomy for these groups.

## Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

### Barometer of life

#### ■ Red List

i. Red List assessments were reviewed for all 197 snakes and lizard species found in Central Asia. Sixty five species endemic to this region (most others being non endemics) were subsequently submitted and published in 2017. (KSR #1)

ii. In total, assessments for 999 species of snakes and lizards were submitted by the end of 2016, followed by 59 species from Cuba following the completion of a remote assessment of this island's snakes and lizards in 2017. (KSR #1)

iii. Assessments finalised and submitted for all 46 Japanese endemic snakes and lizards (excluding vipers, handled in discussion with that Specialist Group) by the start of 2017. (KSR #1)

iv. Assessments finalised and submitted for 913 species of Australian snakes and lizards following assessment in early to mid 2017. Four hundred and fifty eight of these were published by the end of the year, the remainder will be in the first update of 2018. (KSR #1)

Reviews completed by the end of 2017 for 550 species of Southeast Asian lizards. Finalisation of outstanding issues and submission are planned for March 2018. (KSR #1)

## Acknowledgements

We thank Environment Abu Dhabi, which has supported the staff costs for the RLA Coordinator's role, and the following donors that have supported workshops in this quadrennium: Toyota Foundation, Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, and Trust for Mutual Understanding. We also want to thank the IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Unit, which leads the ongoing Global Reptile Assessment, and their host organisation Conservation International, as well as our long-term collaborator NatureServe for past and ongoing assistance with reptile assessments for the New World.

## Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

### Barometer of life

Red List: (1) support the completion of the Global Reptile Assessment (ca. 10,400 squamate species) through cleanup, review and submission; (2) identify new assessments needed and prepare reassessments for outdated assessments.

### Increasing diversity of SSC

Membership: expand the network of Snake and Lizard Red List Authority members and regional coordinators to support management of reptile assessments following the end of the Global Reptile Assessment.

Malagasy Ground Boa (*Acrantophis madagascariensis*), Least Concern, Akanin'ny nofy ('The Palmarium'), eastern Madagascar, 2017  
 Photo: Philip Bowles

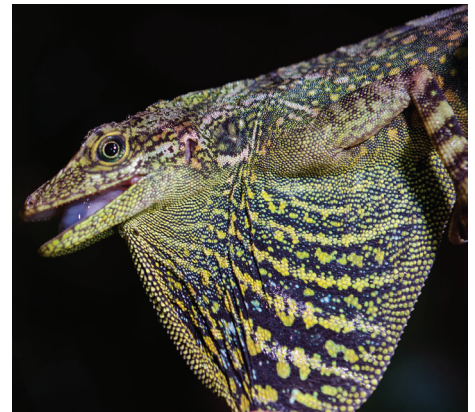


*Anolis proboscis*, Endangered, Mindo, Ecuador, 2014  
 Photo: Philip Bowles



Parson's Chameleon (*Calumma parsonii*), Near Threatened, Andasibe, Madagascar, 2017  
 Photo: Philip Bowles

*Anolis aequatorialis*, Mindo, Ecuador, 2014  
 Photo: Philip Bowles



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

By the end of 2020, the Global Reptile Assessment will have been both completed - insofar as every described species of reptile will have been assessed on the IUCN Red List at least once - and, with continued financial support, updated to ensure that no assessment is more than 10 years old. The Snake and Lizard Red List Authority, which has responsibility for the majority of reptile species, will be expanded and more formally structured around a series of regional Red List Coordinators, a process which is already underway. For the first time, it will be possible to evaluate the conservation status of reptiles globally and identify priority targets for reptile conservation at a global scale.

**Summary of activities (2016-2017)**

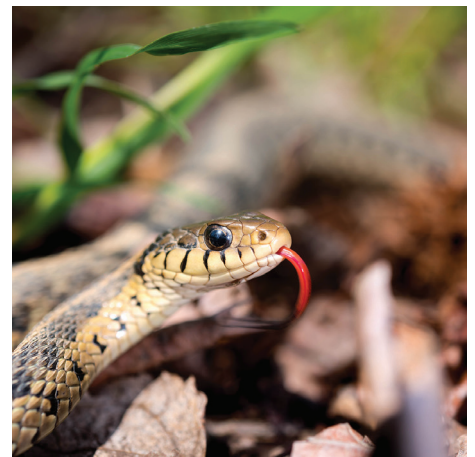
Key Priority Area ratio: 1/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (5 activities)

Main KSRs addressed: 1

KSR: Key Species Result



Common Gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*), Least Concern, Alexandria, Virginia, US, 2018  
 Photo: Philip Bowles