

IUCN SSC Snapper, Seabream and Grunt Specialist Group

2018 Report



Barry Russell



Ken Lindeman

Co-Chairs

Barry Russell ⁽¹⁾
Ken Lindeman ⁽²⁾

Red List Authority Coordinator

Barry Russell ⁽¹⁾

Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin, Australia

⁽²⁾ Sustainability Studies Program, Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Florida, US

Number of members

70

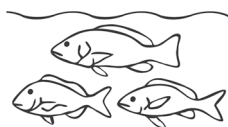
Social networks

Facebook:

[facebook.com/GreenPawPrint](https://www.facebook.com/GreenPawPrint)

Website:

<https://www.iucn.org/commissions/ssc-groups/fishes/snapper-seabream-and-grunt-specialist-group>



Snapper, Seabream, Grunt
Specialist Group — IUCN SSC

Mission statement

To achieve conservation and sustainable use of snappers, seabreams, grunts and associated coastal fish species through the application of improved scientific knowledge and community engagement in management decision-making.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

By the end of 2020, the Snapper, Seabream and Grunt Specialist Group (SSG) aims to complete over 90% of the Red Listing of all snapper, seabream and grunt (SSG) families (more than 400 species), with conservation planning and actions underway for at least two species in two regions (with implementation beginning by 2021). There is a focus on the conservation of threatened spawning aggregations of major SSG species. We also plan to develop Red List training workshops and assessments in understudied regions with diverse SSG species, some of which are highly vulnerable and need species conservation planning linked to applied fishery management. We also envision climate change research on key species in the SSG as well as continued efforts to bring fishers and other sources of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) into fishery management and conservation.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) complete global assessment of Family Nemipteridae (target completion of total 73 species); (2) complete global assessment of Family Lutjanidae (target completion of total 113 species); (3) complete global assessment of Family Haemulidae (target completion of total 136 species); (4) complete global assessment of Family Lethrinidae (target completion of total 44 species); (5) complete global assessment of Family Caesionidae (target completion of total 23 species); (6) update global assessment of Family Sparidae (target completion of total 166 species).

Research activities: (1) assessment of climate change impacts on 20 haemulid and lutjanid species; (2) develop collaborative guidelines on TEK in SSG Science and Management.

Plan

Planning: build marine components of the Species Conservation Planning Guidelines as a representative on the Species Conservation Planning Sub-Committee (SCPSC) production of IUCN *Guidelines for Species Conservation Planning*: IUCN – SSC Species Conservation Planning Sub-Committee. (2017). *Guidelines for Species Conservation Planning*. Version 1.0. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. xiv + 114 pp.

Act

Conservation activities: assist Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) implementation of five new spawning reserves.



Sorting commercial catch of snappers (*Lutjanus* spp) and threadfin breams (*Nemipterus* spp), Visakhapatnam fish market, India
Photo: B.C. Russell

Trap boat that fishes SSG species, Bluefields, Nicaragua
Photo: K. Lindeman



Network

Capacity building: foster training of at least two members per region using species conservation planning tools, with preliminary development of new conservation planning efforts in two regions.

Communicate

Communication: (1) complete and maintain a website for the Specialist Group; (2) produce guides in three languages for common, difficult to identify early life history stages of nearshore snappers, grunts, and seabreams.

Activities and results 2018

Assess

Red List

- i.** Family Nemipteridae: in conjunction with the Global Marine Species Assessment Project (GMSA), completed assessment of 20 species; 42% of species remain to be assessed. (KSR #1)
- ii.** Family Lutjanidae: in conjunction with GMSA, completed assessment of 16 species; 8% of species remain to be assessed. (KSR #1)
- iii.** Family Haemulidae: in conjunction with GMSA, completed assessment of 26 species; 27% of species remain to be assessed. (KSR #1)
- iv.** Family Lethrinidae: in conjunction with GMSA, completed assessment of 4 species; 16% of species remain to be assessed. (KSR #1)
- v.** Family Caesionidae: in conjunction with GMSA, completed assessment of 5 species; 13% of species remain to be assessed. (KSR #1)

Research activities

- i.** Assessment of climate change impacts on 20 haemulid and lutjanid species is underway, with green listing work on both families. (KSR #12)
- ii.** Development of collaborative report on TEK in SSG Science and Management is near completion with partners of report on TEK in coastal fishery management and in Red Listing. Separate document in prep with partners. (KSR #32)

Plan

Planning

- i.** Publication of marine components of the Species Conservation Planning Guidelines completed. (KSR #18)

Act

Conservation activities

- i.** Assisted production of reporting on the monitoring and early performance results of the five South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) Amendment 36 spawning reserves. (KSR #22)

Network

Capacity building

- i.** Identification of priority regions and species aided by advances in species Red Listing; we are now scoping potential projects. (KSR #17)

Communicate

Communication

- i.** Website developed and updated to reflect current activities of the SSG SG. (KSR #28)
- ii.** Text and drawings produced for graphical keys of guides for common but difficult to identify life history species of nearshore snappers, grunts, and seabreams. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

We thank the many members of the Snapper, Seabream and Grunt Specialist Group for their input, particularly for efforts on the first Red List assessments of hundreds of species among diverse global regions. We appreciate the assistance of the Marine Biodiversity Unit at Old Dominion University, as well as offices of the IUCN Global Species Programme. We also greatly appreciate the assistance of Rob Bullock and the coordination efforts of Amanda Vincent and the Marine Conservation Subcommittee.

Summary of activities 2018

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 5/5

Assess	7	
Plan	1	
Act	1	
Network	1	
Communicate	2	

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 12, 17, 18, 22, 28, 32

KSR: Key Species Result