

IUCN SSC Peccary Specialist Group

2019 Report



Harald Beck



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Co-Chairs

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Red List Authority Coordinator

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Location/Affiliation

- ⁽¹⁾ Department of Biological Sciences, Towson University, Maryland, US
- ⁽²⁾ Prescott College, Prescott, Arizona, US
- ⁽³⁾ Museum of Amazonian Indigenous Cultures FundAmazonia, Iquitos, Peru

Number of members

42

Social networks

Facebook: IUCN Peccary Specialist Group

Website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/wildpigspecialistgroup/iucnssc-wild-pig-specialist-group/suiform-soundings-2>;

<https://sites.google.com/site/wildpigspecialistgroup/iucnssc-wild-pig-specialist-group>



Mission statement

The overall aim of the Peccary Specialist Group is to promote the long-term conservation of peccaries and their natural habitats, and the recovery or restoration of peccary species, populations and communities. The specific objectives are: (1) contribute to peccary conservation through management and research; (2) consolidate the group of researchers and other people interested in the biology, conservation and management of peccaries; and (3) foster communication, coordination, collaboration and exchange of information.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

We are focusing on the most endangered, endemic species in the Chaco region. We are uniting efforts with organisations that are addressing large scale deforestation and land title issues. We aim at promoting more awareness about the importance of this and the other species as ecosystem engineers.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: reassess threat levels for White-lipped Peccary (*Tayassu pecari*).

Research activities: (1) obtain the most recent population density estimates of White-lipped Peccary across their geographical range; (2) conduct a research project on the mating system of White-lipped Peccaries utilising genetic samples from a large geographical region; (3) complete an assessment of the population crashes of White-lipped Peccary across its range as a collaboration among group members.

Plan

Planning: create a Species Conservation Plan for White-lipped Peccary.

Act

Conservation actions: (1) continue the implementation in the field of the Chacoan Peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*) Conservation Plan, which was published in 2016; (2) conduct a research project on the reintroduction of Collared Peccaries (*Pecari tajacu*) in South America; (3) expand environmental education programmes in the Chaco related to the conservation of the Chacoan Peccary.

Network

Capacity building: develop a Peccary Symposium at the XIV Congreso Internacional de Manejo de Fauna Silvestre de la Amazonía y Latinoamérica (CIMFAUNA, a Latin American wildlife conference) in November 2020.

Synergy: have a new Red List Coordinator as soon as possible.

Communicate

Communication: reach a wider audience by further developing a shared homepage with the Hippo Specialist Group and keeping an active Facebook group.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

i. The assessments of the conservation status for White-lipped Peccary (*Tayassu pecari*) started for the Mesoamerica region and Brazil. Plans are being developed for a re-assessment to be done during the XIV CIMFAUNA Latin American wildlife conference in November 2020. (KSR #2)

Training local people in wildlife monitoring and use of camera traps
Photo: Peter Sherman



Research activities

i. Two papers were published with new findings about the mating system of the White-lipped Peccary: one defining the White-lipped Peccary mating system, and the other a collaborative work indicating genetic diversity and gene flow between three different biomes in Brazil. (KSR #12)

ii. Many group members shared information on population crashes of White-lipped Peccaries across its range and one member is coordinating the effort. A paper co-authored by several group members is in the process of review. (KSR #32)

Act

Conservation actions

i. There are active research and education programmes carried out in the Argentine Chaco responding directly to the goals identified in the Chacoan Peccary species conservation plan. (KSR #27)

ii. In 2019, we delivered one publication about the performance and monitoring of a Collared Peccary reintroduction project in Argentina. Another paper with more information on the follow up of the reintroduced herds is under review. (KSR #24)

iii. Environmental education programmes related to the conservation of the Chacoan Peccary: A local environmental educator is visiting local schools and giving talks about the Chacoan Peccary and its habitat. During this year, we accomplished 25 visits to local schools. In the process, several printed educational materials were made (one banner and two flyers with information on the species). This material was bilingual, in Spanish and the Wichi indigenous language. (KSR #28)



Environmental education program in the Argentine Chaco



Flyers with bilingual information on the chacoan peccary distributed among rural households in the Argentine Chaco
Photo: Hugo Correa

Network

Synergy

i. Richard Bodmer offered to be the Red List Coordinator and the rest of the group approved. Richard started to train himself in the process.

Communicate

Communication

i. We opened a space for the group within the Hippo and Wild Pigs Specialist Group website and we keep an active Facebook page. We have about 2,850 followers and users of our Facebook group. The homepage however is not getting visitors. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the Mohamed Bin Zayed Fund for supporting conservation efforts for the Chacoan Peccary.

Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 4/5

Assess	3	
Act	3	
Network	1	
Communicate	1	

Main KSRs addressed: 2, 12, 24, 27, 28, 32

KSR: Key Species Result