

# IUCN SSC Peccary Specialist Group

2020 Report



Harald Beck



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## Co-Chairs

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## Location/Affiliation

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## Number of members

42

## Social networks

Facebook: IUCN Peccary 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 its 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: replace the previous Red List coordinator, Arnaud Desbiez.

### Communicate

Communication: reach a wider audience by developing a homepage and keeping an active Facebook group.



Researcher Mariana Altrichter doing field work on peccaries in the Argentine Chaco  
Photo: Peter Sherman

Environmental education in the Argentine Chaco  
Photo: Mariana Altrichter



Distribution of bilingual educational material in Indigenous communities in the Chaco  
Photo: Mariana Altrichter



Local criollo participating at the wildlife monitoring program in the Argentine Chaco as part of the Chacoan Peccary conservation effort  
Photo: Hugo Correa

## Activities and results 2020

### Assess

#### Red List

**i.** The assessments of the conservation status for White-lipped Peccary (*Tayassu pecari*) started for the Mesoamerica region and Brazil. Plans for a re-assessment to be done during the XIV CIMFAUNA Latin American Wildlife conference in November 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A team of researchers is working online to restart the process. (KSR #2)

#### Research activities

**i.** A paper is being written on population density estimates of White-lipped peccary across its geographical range by several group members and other non-members. This group has compiled the most recent information on the species' population density. (KSR #12)

**ii.** A collaborative effort of about 23 researchers from different countries continues to complete an assessment of the population crashes of White-lipped Peccary across its range. The team is working on writing a paper for publication. (KSR #32)

### Plan

#### Planning

**i.** The production of a Species Conservation Plan for White-lipped Peccary is restarting because the reassessment of the White-lipped Peccary had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (KSR #15)

### Act

#### Conservation actions

**i.** There are two active research and education programmes carried out in the Argentine Chaco responding directly to the goals identified in the conservation plan of the Chacoan Peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*). Another research and conservation project is being implemented in the Paraguayan Chaco. A scientific paper was just published addressing the hunting situation of the species. (KSR #27)

**ii.** A paper on spatial patterns of the first groups of Collared Peccaries (*Pecari tajacu*) reintroduced in South America was published in *Journal of Tropical Ecology* at the end of 2020. (KSR #24)

**iii.** A local environmental educator is visiting local schools and giving talks about the Chacoan Peccary and its habitat. The team completed 45 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 Wichí indigenous language. (KSR #28)

### Communicate

#### Communication

**i.** The space we had in the Hippo and Wild Pigs Specialist Group website no longer exists. We keep an active Facebook page. We have about 3,400 followers and users of our Facebook group. We would like to continue working on developing a website. (KSR #28)

### Acknowledgements

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

### Summary of activities 2020

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 4/5

Assess	3	
Plan	1	
Act	3	
Communicate	1	

Main KSRs addressed: , 12, 15, 24, 27, 28, 32

KSR: Key Species Result