



Species

ISSUE 63

2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



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.

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.

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.

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.

Title of the SSC Group

Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

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.

Logo of the SSC Group

Mission statement

Includes the mission of the group.

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.

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).

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).

Acknowledgements

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

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.

Example for the recommended citation:

Burton, J. 2023. 2022 Report of the Asian Wild Cattle 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. 6 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

2022 Report

IUCN SSC Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group



CHAIR
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North of England
Zoological Society,
Re:wild, Center for
Conservation of
Tropical Ungulates,
UK

**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**

Thomas Gray
Wildlife Alliance,
Cambodia

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

97

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

Facebook: IUCN Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group

Instagram: @iucn_wildcattle

Twitter: @IUCN_WildCattle

Website: <https://www.asianwildcattle.org>

Mission statement

The mission of the Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group (AWCSG) is to promote the long-term conservation of the Asian wild cattle species and their habitats by means of information-sharing, identification of conservation priorities and facilitation/delivery of these priority actions through collaborative conservation work.

Projected impact 2021–2025

In this quadrennium, we are working with partners in Indonesia to collect genetic and population trend data that will inform a Population and Viability Analysis for Javan Banteng (*Bos javanicus*) and Anoa (*Bubalus depressicornis* and *B. quarlesi*). The long-term goal, in future quadrennia, is meta-population management for these taxa to ensure they are viable. We coordinate *ex situ* partners globally to increase breeding to maintain the greatest genetic diversity for these taxa as a backup population. For Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*), we support the implementation of the Tamaraw Conservation and Management Plan by the Philippine government's Tamaraw

Conservation Program that will achieve more effective conservation in cooperation with partners contributing to population monitoring and protection of tamaraw. For other Asian wild cattle species, with our partners, we strive to improve their conservation status as much as possible through direct action and raising awareness about their status.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-004 Global Red List Assessment completed for Wild Water Buffalo and review need for other species assessments.
Status: On track

T-005 Assess population trend of Tamaraw in Iglit-Baco Natural Park annually.
Status: On track

T-010 Monitor population trend of Banteng in Alas Purwo National Park over two years.
Status: On track

T-011 Monitoring population trend of Anoa in one protected area over two years.
Status: On track

T-012 Coordinate Saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*) detection efforts to improve data collection and dissemination.
Status: On track



Infographic of key achievements
Photo: Action Indonesia



T-013 Publish paper on population genetics of anoa.

Status: On track

T-014 Publish a paper on patterns and trend in wildlife hunting in Sulawesi.

Status: Not initiated

PLAN

T-001 Complete the 3rd Global Species Management Plan (GSMP) master plan document for Anoa, Banteng and Babirusa (*Babyrousa* sp.).

Status: On track

T-007 Develop Saola Working Group partners' 1–2-year strategy.

Status: Not initiated

ACT

T-009 Improve protection for Tamaraw through effective patrolling and improved protected area management.

Status: Not initiated

NETWORK

T-006 Improve capacity of conservation breeding facility staff through training to achieve improved animal welfare.

Status: On track

T-008 Implement the Tamaraw Conservation Management and Action Plan coordinated by Tamaraw Conservation Coordination Council through the Philippine government.

Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-002 Publish four Action Indonesia GSMP newsletters and four annual reports.

Status: On track

T-003 Publish six Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group newsletters.

Status: On track

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-004 Global Red List Assessment completed for Wild Water Buffalo and review need for other species assessments. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 1

Result description: The Banteng Red List Assessment was planned and initiated by the RLA Coordinator and a small team.

Research activities

T-005 Assess population trend of Tamaraw in Iglit-Baco Natural Park annually. (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 1

Result description: The annual population monitoring of Tamaraw was again conducted in Mts. Iglit Baco Natural Park in October with partners DENR Tamaraw

Conservation Program, DABOVILLE

Foundation, MIBNP staff and local volunteers. This activity used the original and new more effective transect method to have comparable results for multiple years. A review and analysis of the data from the last 20 years was accepted for publication this year in the *Animal Conservation* journal.

T-010 Monitor population trend of Banteng in Alas Purwo National Park over two years. (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 1

Result description: Completion of two seasons of camera trapping for Banteng across Alas Purwo National Park, by Park staff; results will be finalised and shared in early 2023.

T-011 Monitoring population trend of Anoa in one protected area over two years. (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 0

Result description: Protected area and university partners were identified in 2022, to begin surveying in 2023.



In situ Anoa and Babirusa monitoring meeting at BKSDA South Sulawesi
Photo: PKBSI

T-012 Coordinate Saola (*P. nghtinhensis*) detection efforts to improve data collection and dissemination. (KSR 5)

Number of publications produced in internal journals of SSC groups: 0

Result description: Saola Knowledge review document has not been completed yet due to changes in coordination.

T-013 Publish paper on population genetics of Anoa. (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 0

Result description: Data analysis is underway by academic partners with the aim of publishing in 2023.

PLAN

Planning

T-007 Develop Saola Working Group partners' 1-2-year strategy. (KSR 8)

Number of species conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: The SWG supports distinct approaches that are being taken for the detection of Saola in each range countries. A plan is therefore not required. However, SWG is supporting and working with partners in both countries to develop an emergency response team and plan for an accidentally captured Saola.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-006 Improve capacity of conservation breeding facility staff through training to achieve improved animal welfare. (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in conservation action: 3

Result description: The Action Indonesia GSMP supported the increase of population management capacity in the Indonesian Zoo Association (PKBSI) through the recruitment and training of an additional staff member to coordinate the process, as well as training another Indonesian Zoo staff to support the banteng population management in Indonesia. This will greatly increase the efficiency and capacity of implementing the breeding and transfer recommendations. The capacity of PKBSI is being further increased through developing a postgraduate degree opportunity for the PKBSI-GSMP officer in animal welfare. This MRes will begin in 2023 and will focus on best practice animal welfare assessments for Indonesian species, i.e. Banteng, Anoa and Sumatran Tiger, in Indonesian zoos.

Synergy

T-006 Improve capacity of conservation breeding facility staff through training to achieve improved animal welfare. (KSR 1)

Number of people trained in conservation action: 10

Result description: We have strengthened partnerships with Chester Zoo, Re:Wild, ZSL and Leipzig Zoo in technical and core financial support. To support our field activities, we have continued partnerships with Cologne Zoo, St Louis Zoo, CERZA, Port Defiance Zoo and Aquarium, Artis Zoo, West Midlands Safari, as well as others.

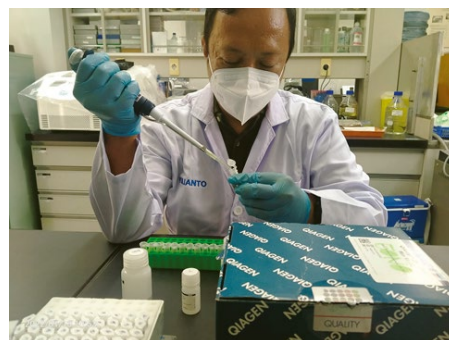
T-008 Implement the Tamaraw Conservation Management and Action Plan coordinated by Tamaraw Conservation Coordination Council through the Philippine government. (KSR 4)

Number of governments supported to develop species conservation policies: 1

Result description: The Tamaraw Conservation Program, of DENR, is using the Tamaraw Conservation and Management Action Plan (TCMAP) as a structure for their work and financial plans each year. This means that although a coordinating and review body has not been established, the plan is being implemented in part by TCP and with support in other aspects from our partner D'ABOVILLE Foundation and Demo Farm Inc.



Action Indonesia Newsletter 2022
Photo: Corinne Bailey



DNA extraction for genetic assessment of Indonesian zoo population of Banten and Anoa
Photo: BRIN

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-002 Publish four Action Indonesia GSMP newsletters and four annual reports.

(KSR 12)

Number of Species e-bulletin, Save Our Species newsletter, SSC Groups' newsletter editions produced: 1

Result description: One GSMP newsletter and one annual report were published in 2022.

T-003 Publish six Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group newsletters. (KSR 12)

Number of Species e-bulletin, Save Our Species newsletter, SSC Groups' newsletter editions produced: 1

Result description: One AWCSG Bulletin Newsletter was published in February of 2022.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the multi-year collaboration with technical and financial support from core partners of AWCSG: Chester Zoo, Re:Wild, ZSL and Leipzig Zoo. To achieve our field and programmes we also acknowledge the support from many funding partners, including Cologne Zoo, Port Defiance

Zoo and Aquarium, Artis Zoo, CERZA, Miami Zoo, West Midlands Safari, Nuremberg Zoo, St Louis Zoo, Wroclaw Zoo, Audubon Zoo, Muenster Zoo, ZGAP, Tierpark Berlin, French Association of Zoos. The technical support and collaboration with many field and academic partners is also much appreciated.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 14

Geographic regions: 2 Global, 12 Asia

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 6 (KSR 5, 6)

Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Network: 3 (KSR 1, 2, 4)

Communicate: 2 (KSR 12)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

