



# Species

ISSUE 64

## 2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat



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## 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.

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### 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 trans-versal 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.

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### 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 and Centers for Species Survival (CSS) each year. Each SSC and CSS group contributes to this document by providing a yearly summarised description of their achievements, which is presented in stand-alone reports.

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## Structure of the IUCN SSC and CSS Stand-alone Reports

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC and CSS. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

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### Title of the group

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### Photograph(s) of the Chair/Co-Chairs

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### Group information

Includes names of Chair/Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators, Program Officers, Species Survival Directors, and Species Survival Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

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### Logo of the group

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### Mission statement

Includes the mission of the group.

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### 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.

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### Targets for the 2021-2025 quadrennium

Includes the targets planned by the SSC or CSS 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).

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### 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).

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### Acknowledgements

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

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### 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.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

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### Example for the recommended citation:

Almunia, J. and Canchal, M. 2024. 2023 Report of the CSS Macaronesia: Loro Parque Fundación. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. 2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 6 pp.

# CSS Macaronesia: Loro Parque Fundación



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## Mission statement

The Center for Species Survival Macaronesia (CSSM) based on Tenerife Island, was established in 2022. This Center aims to assess the current situation of biodiversity in Macaronesia, a geographical region that comprises five archipelagos in the Atlantic Ocean: the Azores, Madeira, the Selvagens Islands, Canary Islands and Cape Verde. This region is a biodiversity hotspot with a large number of endemic species, therefore important for conservation strategies and priorities. By understanding the extinction risk and threats of Macaronesian species, the CSSM aims to promote the conservation of key species and be part of the Reverse the Red movement to ensure the survival of wild species and reduce biodiversity decline.

## Projected impact 2021–2025

Not stated.

## Targets 2021–2025

### ASSESS

**T-001** Gap analysis: Assess the global status of the Macaronesia and first analysis (Canary Islands).  
Status: Achieved

**T-002** Gap analysis: Assess the status of the other islands of Macaronesia (Azores, Madeira and Cape Verde).  
Status: On track

**T-003** Gap analysis: Status of the Biodiversity in Spain 2023.  
Status: Achieved

**T-004** Collaborate in the Red List reassessment of three species found in the Canary Islands (*Galeorhinus galeus*, *Squatina squatina* and *Gymnura altavela*).  
Status: Not initiated

**T-005** Collaborate in the assessment of Critically Endangered (CR) snails from the Canary Islands.  
Status: On track

**T-024** Gap analysis: Status of the Biodiversity in Europe 2023.  
Status: Achieved

### PLAN

**T-006** Analyse existing conservation plans for threatened species in the Macaronesia.  
Status: Not initiated

**T-007** Create conservation plans for species that lack one in the Canary Islands.  
Status: Not initiated

### ACT

**T-008** Collaborate in the creation of the marine biodiversity sanctuary in Macaronesia.  
Status: On track

**T-009** Collaborate in the extension of the moratorium for the SONAR in Macaronesia.  
Status: On track

**T-027** Collaborate in the purchase and organization of the material for a rescue stranding network for cetaceans in the Macaronesia.  
Status: On track

### NETWORK

**T-010** Increase network with regional and national government in Spain to find support for reaching agreements.  
Status: On track

**T-011** Provide new tools and training for the staff of the center.  
Status: On track

**T-012** Interaction with the specialist group to share and review the gap analysis results and know the status of the conservation plan efforts.  
Status: Not initiated

**T-013** Propel the creation of the NSSG in Spain.  
Status: On track

**T-014** Participate in SSC Network annual key meetings/events.  
Status: On track

**T-015** Participate in Reverse the Red annual key meetings/events.  
Status: On track

**T-022** Improving the engagement and building network with local and regional zoos and aquariums in Spain.  
Status: On track



**T-026** Collaborate with the educational project 'En busca de los más amenazados' (*Looking for the most endangered ones*).  
 Status: Not initiated

#### COMMUNICATE

**T-016** Maintain regular communication with the CSS Network.  
 Status: On track

**T-017** Publish documents in different languages (Spanish, English, Portuguese) to compile the information regarding gap analysis.  
 Status: On track

**T-018** Maintain regular communication with the SSC Chair's Office.  
 Status: On track

**T-019** Communicate the CSS's work in annual meetings/events related to the SSC Network.  
 Status: On track

**T-020** Participate in Reverse the Red Day.  
 Status: On track

**T-021** Communicate the CSS's work in relevant meetings/events of the local governments and institutions.  
 Status: On track

**T-023** Media coverage of the projects developed by the CSSM.  
 Status: On track

**T-025** Communicate the CSSM work in relevant events/meetings with academic institutions and the community.  
 Status: Not initiated

### Activities and results 2023

#### ASSESS

##### Research activities

**T-003** Gap analysis: Status of the Biodiversity in Spain 2023. (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 18

Result description: Eighteen (18) documents analysing the status of the Biodiversity in Spain (one for each region plus a general one) were completed.

**T-024** Gap analysis: Status of the Biodiversity in Europe 2023. (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 1

Result description: A document analyzing how the species are distributed between the different IUCN categories and how are the Critically Endangered species geographically distributed in Europe was released.

#### ACT

##### Conservation actions

**T-008** Collaborate in the creation of the marine biodiversity sanctuary in Macaronesia. (KSR 10)

Number of areas under management for the species or group of species: 0

Result description: The center has developed the content and design of the exhibition: 'From Red to Green, Loro Parque Fundación preserving world's Biodiversity'

which will take place in the European Parliament and seeks to propulse the creation of a marine biodiversity sanctuary in the Macaronesia. The exhibition was done in collaboration with IUCN, WAZA and Reverse the Red. A parallel event related to this topic was also performed with the title 'Guardians of the Deep: Towards the declaration of a Marine Biodiversity Sanctuary in Macaronesia'.

**T-009** Collaborate in the extension of the moratorium for the sonar in the Macaronesia. (KSR 10)

Number of miles of extension of the moratorium in the Macaronesia from where cetaceans are present: 0

Result description: The center has developed the content and design of the exhibition: 'From Red to Green, Loro Parque Fundación preserving world's biodiversity' which will take place in the European Parliament and seeks to propulse the extension of the moratorium for the sonar in the Macaronesia. The exhibition was done in collaboration with IUCN, WAZA and Reverse the Red. A parallel event related to this topic was also performed with the title 'Echoes of Protection: Extending the Military Sonar Moratorium to Macaronesia'.

#### NETWORK

##### Capacity building

**T-011** Provide new tools and training for the staff of the center. (KSR 2)



Presentation of the project "Status of the Biodiversity in Spain 2023"  
Photo: Loro Parque Foundation

Number of people trained in assessment tools: 1

Result description: 'Red List assessment', 'Green Status of Species' and 'Learning for a sustainable future: Live at COP28' courses have been completed by the conservation officer of the center. The conservation officer was also invited to participate in an in-person workshop in Málaga (Spain) regarding the KBAs: KBA identification and delineation technical workshop (14-16 Dec 2023).

#### Membership

**T-013 Propel the creation of the NSSG in Spain.** (KSR 2)

Number of new SSC groups established: 0

Result description: The director of the CSSM assisted to the meeting: XVII Foro Internacional sobre la Conservación de la Naturaleza, organized by the Spanish Committee of the IUCN. The Spanish Representative of the Species Survival Commission, Luis Santiago Cano Alonso introduced the necessity and progress in the creation of a NSSG in Spain.

#### Synergy

**T-022 Improving the engagement and building network with local and regional zoos and aquariums in Spain.** (KSR 4)

Number of governments supported to develop species conservation policies: 18

Result description: Different institutions (18) helped us presenting our project 'Status of the Biodiversity in Spain 2023' (institutions: AIZA, Centro de Conservación Zoo de Córdoba, Oasys MiniHollywood , Acuario de Sevilla, Parque Faunístico Lacuniacha , Fundación Acuario de Zaragoza por la Biodiversidad, Fundación Maroparque fundación Canaria, Loro Parque fundación, Poema del Mar, Racho Texas Lanzarote Park, Oasis Wildlife Fuerteventura, Aquarium de Barcelona , Zoo de Barcelona, AMUS (Acción por el mundo salvaje), Faunia, Zoo de Madrid, Aquarium San Sebastián, Parque de Cabárceno.

## COMMUNICATE

### Communication

**T-016 Maintain regular communication with the CSS Network.** (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 0

Result description: In 2023, bimonthly meetings were held with the SSC Network. One meeting with CSS Oceanario de Lisboa was held in order to find common points and overlap (May 4).

**T-020 Participate in Reverse the Red Day.** (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 2

Result description: Posts about Reverse the Red, the CSSM, and the Loro Parque Foundation were shared on the Loro Parque Foundation social networks during Reverse the Red Day.

**T-021 Communicate the CSS's work in relevant meetings/events of the local governments and institutions.** (KSR 13)

Number of SSC members' presentations developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 7

Result description: The project 'Gap analysis: Status of the Biodiversity in Spain 2023' was introduced to the members of AIZA during their annual conference in Poema del Mar (Gran Canaria, 3rd of March 2023). Disseminate among Spanish regional/local governments and institutions on the 22nd of May 2023 results (5 presentations: Canary Islands, Vasque country, Andalucía, Aragón and Cantabria regions). During the exhibition at the European Parliament ('From Red to Green: Loro Parque Fundación protecting World's Biodiversity') a parallel event 'Preserving Biodiversity: Zoos as Catalysts for the European Biodiversity Strategy 2030', was celebrated, where the work of the CSS and IUCN was shared with Members of the European Parliament.

**T-023 Media coverage of the projects developed by the CSSM.** (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 67

Result description: Gap analysis results (Status of the biodiversity in Spain 2023) were shared by 45 different media. The project 'From Red to Green, Loro Parque Fundación protecting world's biodiversity' presented at the exhibition at the European Parliament was shared by 22 different media.

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### Summary of achievements

**Total number of targets 2021–2025:** 27

**Geographic regions:** 6 Global, 4 Africa, 2 Body of water, 21 Europe

#### Actions during 2023:

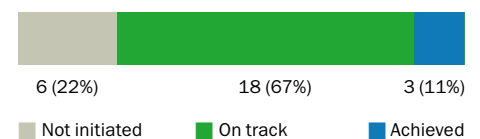
Assess: 2 (KSR 5)

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 3 (KSR 2, 4)

Communicate: 4 (KSR 13)

#### Overall achievement 2021–2025:





*Nothobranchius fuscotaeniatus*  
Photo: Csenge Nagy



*Tetra Parnaiba*  
Photo: Karina Molina



*Trioceros hoehnelii*  
Photo: Christopher V. Anderson



*Sternberia lutea*  
Photo: Hayri Duman



*Egretta rufescens*  
Photo: Ernesto Gómez



*Lactifluus neotropicus*  
Photo: Aida Vasco



Mayfly nymph (*Ecdyonurus* sp.)  
Photo: Astrid Schmidt-Kloiber and Wolfram Graf