



Species

ISSUE 64

2023 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 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.

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.

Title of the group

Photograph(s) of the Chair/Co-Chairs

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.

Logo of the 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 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).

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.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

Example for the recommended citation:

Beck, H. and Reyna-Hurtado, R. 2024. 2023 Report of the Peccary Specialist Group. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 6 pp.

IUCN SSC Peccary Specialist Group



CO-CHAIR

Harald Beck

Department of
Biological Sciences,
Towson University,
Maryland, US

CO-CHAIR

Rafael Reyna-Hurtado

El Colegio de la
Frontera Sur,
Campeche, Mexico

RED LIST AUTHORITY

COORDINATOR

Richard Bodmer

Museum of Amazonian
Indigenous Cultures
FundAmazonia,
Iquitos, Peru

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

45

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

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 2021–2025

Comprehensive assessment of all peccary species utilising the assessments to develop guidelines and conservation strategies for NGOs, governments, and local communities. Work on rewilding opportunities whenever possible, especially for the Chacoan peccary. We also need to focus and quantify the effects of climate change on habitat, water cycle and peccary populations.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-003 Assess White-lipped Peccary (*Tayassu pecari*).

Status: Achieved

T-006 Complete an assessment of the population crashes of White-lipped Peccary across its range as a collaboration among group members.

Status: Achieved

T-007 Define mating systems of White-lipped Peccary.

Status: Achieved

T-009 Assess and mitigate the negative impacts of anthropogenic barriers, i.e. deforestation, roads, habitat alteration, on White-lipped Peccary herd and subherd social dynamics, spatial and population genetic structure, gene flow and genetic diversity.

Status: On track

T-011 Assess the current distribution pattern of the Chacoan Peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*) south of the distribution limit known until 2016 (northern Santiago del Estero province in Argentina) and the effect of land use change and hunting pressure on such patterns. Also, evaluate the isolation level of the newly discovered population.

Status: On track

T-012 Identify criteria on corridor use by White-lipped Peccary in a fragmented landscape.

Status: Achieved

PLAN

T-005 Create a Species Conservation Plan for White-lipped Peccary.

Status: On track

T-010 To include the National Ungulate Conservation Plan for threatened ungulate species within the Brazil Species Conservation Plan.

Status: Achieved

ACT

T-002 Continue the implementation in the field of the Chacoan Peccary conservation plan, which was published in 2016.

Status: On track

T-008 Develop priority conservation management actions to reverse the rapid range decline of White-lipped Peccary, a key Neotropical forest ungulate, in Brazil.

Status: On track

T-013 Implement the Brazil Species Conservation Plan: National Ungulate Conservation Plan for threatened ungulate species.

Status: On track

White-lipped Peccary (*Tayassu pecari*)
Photos: Rafael Reyna-Hurtado



NETWORK

T-001 Reach a wider audience by further developing a homepage and keeping an active Facebook group.

Status: Achieved

T-014 Expand and diversify membership.

Status: Achieved

COMMUNICATE

T-004 Expand environmental education programmes in the Chaco related to the conservation of the Chacoan Peccary.

Status: On track

Activities and results 2023

ASSESS

Red List

T-003 Assess White-lipped Peccary (*T. pecari*). (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 2

Result description: We organized a symposium and our members helped to assess the status of the White-lipped Peccary. There was information on the species from the Maya Forest in Mexico, from the whole area of Mesoamerica and Peru. This information will help to assess the status of the species at a global scale. Dr Richard Bodmer and collaborators finalised the report and will soon be available to the public. Additionally, in French Guiana, there is a monitoring program led by Dr Cecile Richard-Hansen and they are reporting an increase in the White-lipped Peccary populations across the country. Dr Galo Zapata-Rios and his team from Ecuador surveyed the White-lipped Peccary

populations, they provide needed data as populations in this region are considered Critically Endangered by the Ecuadorian Red List of Threatened Mammals.

Research activities

T-006 Complete an assessment of the population crashes of White-lipped Peccary across its range as a collaboration among group members. (KSR 5)

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

Result description: After years of collaboration and data analyses, a member of our group published a major paper spearheaded by Dr Frago: Frago, J.M.V. et al. (2022). 'Large-scale population disappearances and cycling in the white-lipped peccary, a tropical forest mammal'. *PLoS one* 17 (10), e0276297. Under the leadership of our Red List authority, Dr Richard Bodmer, we completed the assessment of the White-lipped Peccary, across its entire geographic range. This new assessment will be available soon.

T-009 Assess and mitigate the negative impacts of anthropogenic barriers, i.e. deforestation, roads, habitat alteration, on White-lipped Peccary herd and subherd social dynamics, spatial and population genetic structure, gene flow and genetic diversity. (KSR 5)

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

Result description: During 2023 a couple of papers were published that deal with the behaviour of White-lipped Peccary groups in fragmented areas surrounded by soybean and other crops. These papers highlight the

need for design management strategies that incorporate species conservation and species control also at the landscape level and to devise strategies to solve the human-wildlife conflicts that exist in these areas of Brazil.

T-011 Assess the current distribution pattern of the Chacoan Peccary (*C. wagneri*) south of the distribution limit known until 2016 (northern Santiago del Estero province in Argentina) and the effect of land use change and hunting pressure on such patterns. Also, evaluate the isolation level of the newly discovered population. (KSR 5)

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

Result description: A group of researchers, several from the Specialist Group, worked on an article that looks at the effects of hunting, habitat loss and climate change on the species distribution: Torres, R. et al. (2023) 'Partitioning the effects of habitat loss, hunting and climate change on the Endangered Chacoan Peccary'. *Diversity and Distributions*.

[SSC Grant awarded]

PLAN

Planning

T-005 Create a Species Conservation Plan for White-lipped Peccary. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: In the Colombia symposium of peccaries there were three presentations relevant to the creation of national plans in Bolivia, Brazil and Peru. These presentations were: 'Peccary Harvests in Amazonia by André Antunes';

Researcher Andrea Neme training local people in the use of GPS
Photo: Proyecto Quimilero



'Landscape population dynamics of peccaries in the Peruvian Amazon' by Richard Bodmer and Daniel Whiting, and 'The peccary populations at three long-term sites in Bolivia' by Drs Rob Wallace, Guido Ayala and Maria Viscarra. We hope that this information soon reaches the Government level and can be useful for the creation of national plans in these respective countries. Dr Cecile Richard-Hansen and her team assessed the status of the White-lipped Peccaries in French Guiana. These are critical data to develop a more comprehensive conservation plan for this species. Dr Galo Zapata-Rios and his team from WCS-Ecuador surveyed the White-lipped Peccary population in northwestern Ecuador, in the Chocó Biogeographic region. Their density estimations provided the latest data for conservation especially because the species is considered Critically Endangered by the Ecuadorian Red List of Threatened Mammals. Dr José Manuel Vieira Fragoso and other 24 authors coauthored: 'Large-scale population disappearances and cycling in the white-lipped peccary, a tropical forest mammal'. This large-scale data will help us to develop better conservation strategies for the species.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-002 Continue the implementation in the field of the Chacoan Peccary conservation plan, which was published in 2016. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 3

Result description: The 'Asociación Proyecto Taguá - Centro Chaqueño para la Conservación e Investigación Toledo, Paraguay' led by Dr Juan Campus had several highlights this year. For example, one major achievement was the expansion and improvement of the infrastructure of the captive breeding center. In total 18 births were recorded, clearly reflecting the effectiveness of this facility and the team members. Field research included setting up wildlife game cameras to assess the status of the Chacoan population in their regions. In collaboration with a local zoo 'Proyecto Quimilero', led by Drs Micaela Camino, Hugo Correa, and Mariana Altrichter, is starting to design research to assess the *ex situ* populations, genetics, and opportunities to work together in conservation *in situ*. In partnership with governmental institutions and local communities, Proyecto Quimilero is starting the development of a national conservation strategy and an action plan for the conservation of the Chacoan Peccary in Argentina. This document is a product of very intensive workshops, talks and agreements between communities, government and NGOs. Ongoing research includes a peccary nutrition study in the dry Chaco region, assessing the effects of hunting on the ingenious communities including cultural and spiritual effects. Some of their publications include: (1) Camino, M. *et al.* (2023). '[Indigenous lands with secure land-tenure can reduce forest-loss in deforestation hotspots](#)'. *Global Environmental Change* 81, 102678; (2) Camino, M. *et al.* (2023). '[New global alliance to help improve the practice of biodiversity conservation](#)'.

Oryx 57(3): 284-285, and (3) Torres, R. *et al.* (2023). '[Partitioning the effects of habitat loss, hunting and climate change on the Endangered Chacoan Peccary](#)'. *Diversity and Distributions* 00: 1-15. Some conference contributions done in 2023 included: (1) Camino, M. 'El rol clave de los pueblos indígenas y las comunidades locales en la investigación y conservación de mamíferos'. Conferencia Magistral en las Jornadas Argentinas de Mastozoología (JAM), de la Sociedad Argentina de Mastozoología (SAREM); (2) Camino, M. 'Riqueza biológica, riqueza cultural y conservación inclusiva'. Conferencia Magistral de cierre en el Congreso de Conservación de Biodiversidad de Argentina; (3) Camino, M. 'Mamíferos del chaco seco, conservar e investigar junto a comunidades locales'. [Jornadas Científicas de Ecología y Paleontología](#) (EcoPal, III). Community outreach was focused on 'Monitoreo de fauna silvestre con las trampas cámara en el Tuichi-Hondo y huellas a lo largo del camino San Buenaventura-Ixiamas, intercambio de experiencias sobre sistemas de monitoreo y sistemas de control en territorios indígenas'. In a workshop, they address: 'Occupancy workshop at National Mastozoology conference in Bolivia'. One major presentation was 'Identificación de Corredores de Vida Silvestre usando el Conocimiento Local y el Método de Ocupación a lo largo de la Carretera San Buenaventura - Ixiamas, La Paz, Bolivia', IX Congreso Boliviano de Mastozoología, Simposio: Uso de Modelos de Ocupación para el Monitoreo y Estudio de Mamíferos en Bolivia.



Proyecto Quimilero working with local people
Photo: Proyecto Quimilero



Researcher Andrea Neme, community-based wildlife monitoring training
Photo: Proyecto Quimilero

T-008 Develop priority conservation management actions to reverse rapid range decline of White-lipped Peccary, a key Neotropical Forest ungulate, in Brazil. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 1

Result description: There have been talks about the White-lipped Peccary living in agro-industrial areas such as the cerrado of Brazil. There are a couple of papers published about it and there are efforts to reconcile the conservation of the species and the damage that it causes to the soybean fields in the area.

NETWORK

Membership

T-014 Expand and diversify membership. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 4

Result description: We have currently around 45 members, primarily from Central and South America. Some members are from the US, EU, and Australia. Some members work for NGOs, others in academia, zoos, government, or local constituency with an interest in peccary conservation. Overall, we have a diverse group and just need to maintain our current membership strategies.

Synergy

T-001 Reach a wider audience by further developing a homepage and keeping an active Facebook group. (KSR 2)

Creation of a Group website: Achieved

Result description: The [Facebook page of the group](#) is up and running. Numerous

members use additional social media to reach out to their circles. Dr José Manuel Vieira Fragoso and his team have reached out to communities in their 'Unini River Inhabitants Association, Amazonas, Brazil' project. Dr Juan Campos and his team at the CCCI Asociación Proyecto Tagua Project, Toledo, Paraguay did some critical outreach while expanding their conservation efforts. The Proyecto Quimilero, led by Drs. Micaela Camino, Hugo Correa, and Mariana Altrichter continued to build further capacity in conservation for indigenous and local communities of the dry Chaco Region. This close collaboration and outreach is critical for their success and diversity in the Chaco region. Drs Richard Bodmer, Rafael Reyna-Hurtado, and Harald Beck organised an international symposium at the XV CIMFAUNA - Congreso Internacional de Manejo De Fauna Silvestre de la Amazonia y Latinoamerica, Colombia. Their effort attracted many speakers and contributions from local communities and researchers.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-004 Expand environmental education programmes in the Chaco related to the conservation of the Chacoan Peccary. (KSR 13)

Number of print communications materials distributed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 2

Result description: Proyecto Quimilero is constantly doing educational activities with local people living in the rural areas of the Argentine Chaco and is developing educational material: flyers, banners, and

posters. In addition, and to empower communities they have successfully fostered cultural identity and empowered three rural communities, including 40 young leaders and 20 adults of the forests of the Argentine Dry Chaco. Of the participants, 30 belong to an indigenous Wichí community, while 40 are from Criollo families organised into two distinct groups. Local participants acquired knowledge of rights, laws, wildlife, hunting monitoring techniques, mapping techniques, and options for sustainable development within their territories. Finally, they did activities with youth in rural communities toward a sustainable life.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 14

Geographic regions: 1 Global, 13 America

Actions during 2023:

Assess: 4 (KSR 5, 6)

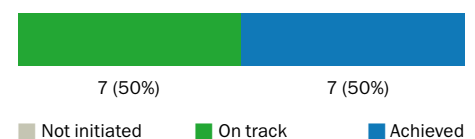
Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 2 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (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