



# 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 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.

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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:

Weisenberger, L. 2024. 2023 Report of the Hawaiian Islands Plant Specialist Group. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *2023 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

## 2023 Report

# IUCN SSC Hawaiian Islands Plant Specialist Group



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Matthew Keir  
State of Hawaii  
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and Natural  
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of Forestry and  
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**NUMBER OF MEMBERS**  
203

### Mission statement

The mission of the Hawaiian Islands Plant Specialist Group (HIPSG) is to prevent the extinction of native Hawaiian plants, provide for their recovery through a cooperatively administered off-site plant conservation system – in collaboration with on-site management partners to sample, propagate, and reintroduce rare plants – and to advance the preservation of native plants and their habitats through effective communication and public education.

### Projected impact 2021–2025

Continue to work collaboratively to prevent species extinctions through *in situ* management and *ex situ* propagation, develop best management practices to support those efforts, communicate urgent needs and work together to address them, and identify the next steps for the conservation of native habitats in Hawaii.

### Targets 2021–2025

#### ASSESS

**T-002** Red List single island endemic species.  
Status: Achieved

#### PLAN

**T-003** Complete recovery plans for federally endangered species.

Status: On track

#### ACT

**T-005** Manage species (monitor, collect, outplant, protect).

Status: On track

#### NETWORK

**T-001** Recruit 10 new members.

Status: Achieved

#### COMMUNICATE

**T-004** Share best management practices (BMP) documents among members.

Status: On track

### Activities and results 2023

#### ASSESS

##### Red List

**T-002** Red List single island endemic species. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 49

Result description: Forty-nine assessments were published in 2023 on the IUCN Red List website. There are approximately 100 additional assessments that have

been submitted and are under review.

Most of these are trees that were red listed as part of the Botanical Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) Global Tree Assessment Project.

#### PLAN

##### Planning

**T-003** Complete recovery plans for federally endangered species. (KSR 8)

Number of plans invited/endorsed by national governments/conservation authorities: 57

Result description: The US Fish and Wildlife Service finalised two Recovery Plans in 2023 that included plants in Hawai'i protected by the US Endangered Species Act. This includes 13 plants in the Recovery Plan for 15 Species from the Island of Hawai'i and 40 plants in the Recovery Plan for 44 Species from Maui Nui. There are an additional 24 species for which planning and research have started for drafting a recovery plan.

#### ACT

##### Conservation actions

**T-005** Manage species (monitor, collect, outplant, protect). (KSR 10)

*Clermontia hanaulaensis*  
Photo: Hank Oppenheimer



*Clermontia hanaulaensis*  
Photo: PEPP



Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 50  
Result description: The Plant Extinction Prevention Program conducted *in situ* management activities for over 100 plant species. This includes propagule collection from 118 species, threat control for 62 species, and translocations for 41 species. The Lyon Arboretum and Mid-elevation Rare Plant Nursery Facilities conducted propagation and genetic storage for over 350 plant species.

**NETWORK**

**Membership**

**T-001 Recruit 10 new members.** (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 15

Result description: Fifteen new members joined in 2023. Some members have also left, and the total number of members is now 203.

**COMMUNICATE**

**Communication**

**T-004 Share best management practices (BMP) documents among members.** (KSR 12)

Number of BMPs published or revised: 0

Result description: Two revisions of BMPs were ongoing, one for Propagule Collection

and Handling, and another for Nursery Management and Phytosanitation. Both are anticipated to be finalised in 2024.

**Acknowledgements**

Mahalo nui loa to the conservation community in Hawai'i for your protection of and dedication to native habitats and plants. Mahalo to all the partners of the Hawai'i Rare Plant Restoration Group and Laukahi, the Hawai'i Plant Conservation Network for your contributions and time.

**Summary of achievements**

**Total number of targets 2021–2025:** 5

**Geographic regions:** 5 America

**Actions during 2023:**

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

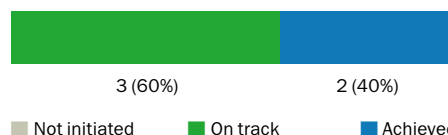
Plan: 1 (KSR 8)

Act: 1 (KSR 10)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 12)

**Overall achievement 2021–2025:**



■ Not initiated   ■ On track   ■ Achieved



*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