



Species

ISSUE 65

2024-2025 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 that were generated during 2024 (full year) and 2025 (first quarter), 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:

Burfield, I. (2025). 2024-2025 Report of the Bird Red List Authority. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *Species: Annual Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat 2024-2025*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp

2024-2025 Report

IUCN SSC Bird Red List Authority



**RED LIST AUTHORITY
COORDINATOR**

Ian Burfield

BirdLife International,
Cambridge, UK

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

144

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES

Bluesky: [@birdlifeglobal.bsky.social](https://birdlifeglobal.bsky.social)

Facebook: [@BirdLifeInternational](https://www.facebook.com/BirdLifeInternational)

Instagram: [birdlife.international](https://www.instagram.com/birdlife.international)

X: [@BirdLife_News](https://twitter.com/BirdLife_News)

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

YouTube: [BirdLife International](https://www.youtube.com/BirdLifeInternational)

Mission statement

The BirdLife Partnership strives to conserve birds, their habitats and global biodiversity, working with people towards sustainability in the use of natural resources.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Reassessing the global extinction risk of all bird species by 2025, to inform the prioritisation and allocation of conservation resources.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-001 Complete comprehensive global Red List reassessment of all ca. 11,000 bird species by 2025.

Status: On track

Activities and results 2024-2025

ASSESS

Red List

T-001 Complete comprehensive global Red List reassessment of all ca. 11,000 bird species by 2025. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 4,742

Result description: During 2024, BirdLife International's Red List Team produced 4,742 global Red List reassessments for birds, which were published by IUCN and BirdLife in October. These included 101 species downlisted to lower threat categories (seven of which were genuine improvements) and 38 species uplisted to higher threat categories (25 of which were genuine deteriorations). The latter included: 16 species of migratory shorebird, due to population declines across the world's flyways; four Hawaiian honeycreepers, reclassified as Extinct; and African Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*), now Critically Endangered. One of the few genuine improvements, due to forest protection and control of invasive alien species, was Okinawa Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos noguchii*), now Endangered. The team used the results to update the Red List Index for birds.

Acknowledgements

BirdLife International acknowledges and thanks its Founder Patrons, Benjamin Olewine, the Aage V. Jensen Charity Foundation, the A. G. Leventis Foundation, the Tasso Leventis Foundation, the Japan Fund for Science, the Integrated

Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) and all BirdLife Species Champions for supporting its Red List assessments and the taxonomic work that underpins them. Thanks also to everyone who contributes information to the Red List assessments, especially via BirdLife's Globally Threatened Bird Forums, including members of IUCN SSC Bird Specialist Groups and the Red List Authority for Birds. The 2024 reassessments of Americas shorebirds were supported in part by Environment and Climate Change Canada (3000772668) and Manomet (FW-GNL-END).

Summary of achievements

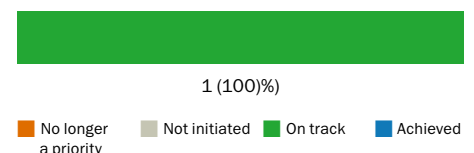
Total number of targets 2021–2025: 1

Geographic regions: 1 Global

Actions during 2024-2025:

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:





Rob Martin updating Bird Specialist Group Chairs on Red List progress and plans in Abu Dhabi, October 2024
Photo: Ian Burfield



Round table discussion on cross-cutting threats affecting Bird Specialist Groups in Abu Dhabi, October 2024
Photo: Ian Burfield



Break out session during SSC Bird Specialist Groups meeting in Abu Dhabi, October 2024
Photo: Ian Burfield

Suweon Treefrog
(*Dryophytes suweonensis*)
Photo: Amael Borzee



Marsh Cinquefoil
(*Comarum palustre*)
Photo: Magnus Goransson



Phallus aureolatus
Photo: Juliano Baltazar



Eurasian Griffon (*Gyps fulvus*)
Photo: Andre Botha



Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis*)
Photo: Save The Rhino Trust Namibia



Azores Nursery Spider
(*Pisaura acoreesins*)
Photo: Paulo A.V. Borges



Black and White Snapper
(*Macolor niger*)
Photo: David B. Snyder