



# Species

ISSUE 65

## 2024-2025 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 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).

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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:

Bohm, M, and Gerlach, J. (2025). 2024-2025 Report of the Terrestrial and Freshwater Invertebrate Red List Authority. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *Species: Annual Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat 2024-2025*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 6 pp.

## 2024-2025 Report

# IUCN SSC Terrestrial and Freshwater Invertebrate Red List Authority



### RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

Monika Bohm

Global Center for  
Species Survival,  
Indianapolis Zoo,  
Indianapolis, US



### RED LIST AUTHORITY COORDINATOR

Justin Gerlach

Peterhouse,  
Cambridge, UK

### NUMBER OF MEMBERS

38

### SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES

X: @tirla1

### Mission statement

To support the expansion of invertebrates assessed for the IUCN Red List.

### Projected impact 2021–2025

Through increases in species Red List assessments, improve the awareness on threatened invertebrates and provide the basis for species conservation plans. Improve capacity for species assessments through networking with academic and other institutions.

### Targets 2021–2025

#### ASSESS

**T-002** Facilitate – lead, review, support – at least 50 invertebrate Red List assessments per year for invertebrate species not currently covered by any Specialist Group. Status: Achieved

**T-004** Fill gaps in invertebrate Red List coverage and priorities and opportunities based on available expert networks. Status: On track

#### NETWORK

**T-001** Build a global network of invertebrate experts, covering at least 30 countries

and several taxa, to drive assessments of species not covered by existing Specialist Groups.

Status: Achieved

**T-003** Engage effectively with the Invertebrate Conservation Committee to establish new priorities for the Red List Authority.

Status: Achieved

**T-007** Develop a model to increase Red List output for Terrestrial and Freshwater Invertebrate Red List Authority (TIRLA) via engagement of new members and student assessors.

Status: Achieved

**T-008** Provide access to Red List training workshops to TIRLA members and partners. Status: On track

**T-009** Hold a Red List workshop in the Philippines to attract new members and collaborators.

Status: Not initiated

#### COMMUNICATE

**T-005** Build a presence on Twitter about invertebrates.

Status: On track

**T-006** Produce – or assist the production of – regular outreach relevant to invertebrate conservation.

Status: On track

### Activities and results 2024-2025

#### ASSESS

##### Red List

**T-002** Facilitate – lead, review, support – at least 50 invertebrate Red List assessments per year, for invertebrate species not currently covered by any Specialist Group. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 103

Result description: In 2024, we reviewed 202 species assessments that came into the IUCN Red List, the vast majority for the Greek National Red List project (not yet published). Of these assessments, only three were published in 2024. However, another 100 species of Hymenoptera that were signed off by TIRLA in 2021 were published on the IUCN Red List in 2024.

#### Research activities

**T-004** Fill gaps in invertebrate Red List coverage and priorities and opportunities based on available expert networks. (KSR 5)

Number of research projects completed or supported by SSC members per taxonomic group and region: 4

Result description: South African Onychophora were assessed by collaborators but still need to be fed into SIS and

reviewed by TIRLA. We also submitted an SSC Internal Grant proposal for assessing South African *Colophon* beetles but were unsuccessful. We also started the assessment of beetles of the genus *Tetraopes* with a new member in the US. Moreover, in 2025, we prioritised an assessment/reassessment of the burying beetle genus *Nicrophorus*, which at the very least will lead to the submission of a long-overdue reassessment of the American burying beetle to the IUCN Red List. We are also working with researchers on goliath beetles to assess this group of species for the IUCN Red List (five species, plus potentially some subspecies).

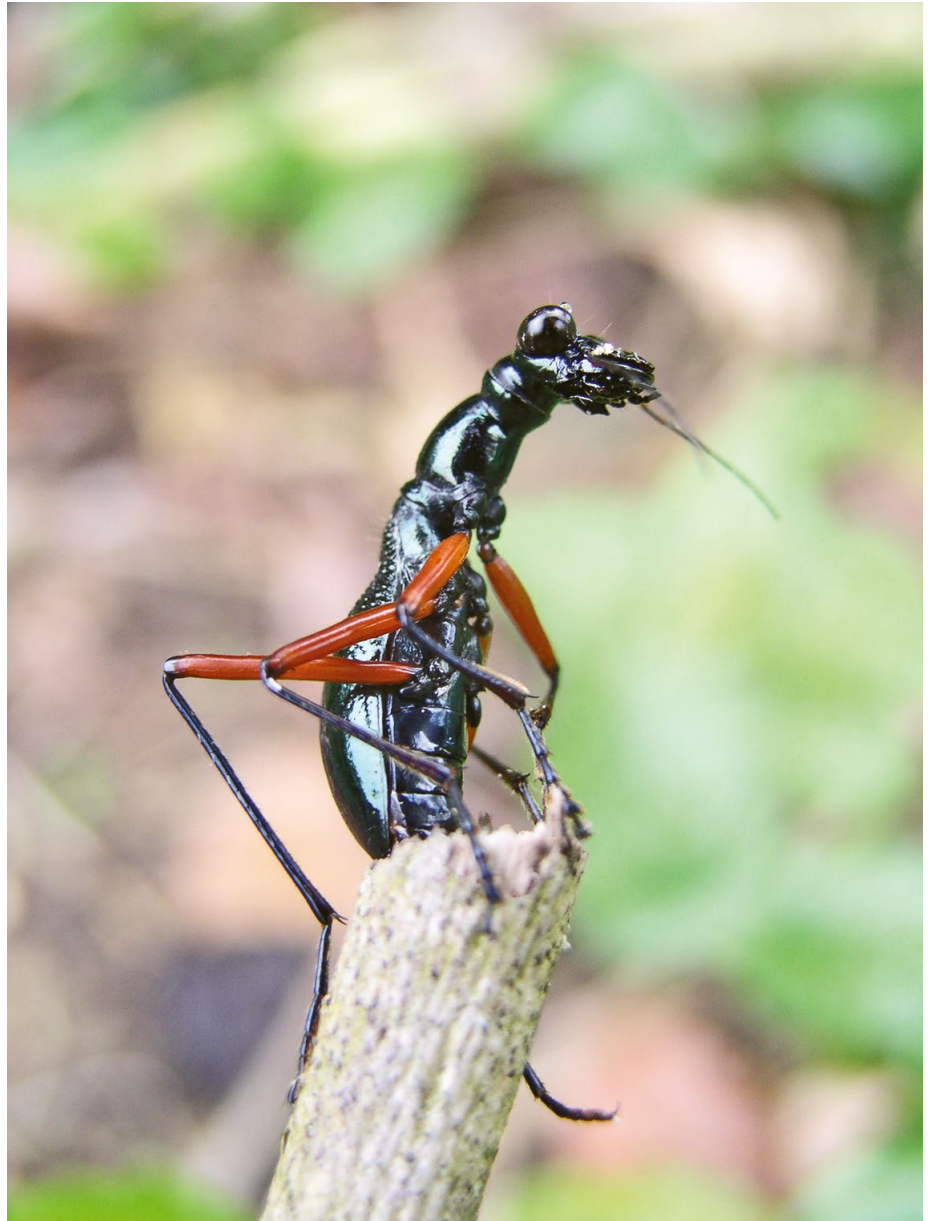
## **NETWORK**

### **Capacity building**

**T-007 Develop a model to increase Red List output for TIRLA via engagement of new members and student assessors. (KSR 2)**

Number of people trained in assessment tools: 51

Result description: Monni Bohm took part in the second annual meeting (virtual, January, 2024) of the [Status of Insects Research Coordination Network](#). She presented a plenary lecture on IUCN work, including presenting about this assessment model. She also took part in two



*Tricondyla aptera*  
Photo: Gregory Setliff

*Sternuchopsis praeustus*  
Photo: Gregory Setliff



additional panel sessions discussion, 'IUCN SSC work' and 'How researchers can get involved in IUCN SSC Specialist Group/RLA work' – for example, with Anna Walker from the IUCN SSC Firefly Specialist Group and collaborators from the Xerces Society. Monni Bohm was also invited to take part in a symposium session at Entomology 2024 in Phoenix, Arizona, again presenting on IUCN SSC work and how researchers and students can get involved in IUCN SSC Specialist Group/RLA work. The invite came out of previous interactions with the Status of Insects Research Coordination Network. As part of a Conservation Biology class at William and Mary, TIRLA member Dave Waldien engaged around 15 students on Philippine Beetle assessments and likely another 35 on other invertebrates, mostly beetles and butterflies. This included IUCN Red List training. Waldien also continued to grow the project in the Philippines. As we mourned the loss of our dear friend and member Ann Cabras in late 2024, we embarked on a project to publish as many Philippine Beetle assessments as possible by 2025 in her honour. The project involves several in-country students. Overall, around 50 students/collaborators were trained and involved in IUCN red listing in 2024, with around 10 of them continuing to be actively involved in the process. Additionally, in 2025, Butler student Natalie Zagorski joined the Global Center for Species Survival as intern, focusing on supporting the Philippine Beetle project via assessment and mapping support. As part of this, she completed her IUCN Red List Assessor Training.



*Xixuthrus heros*, assessed in 2020 as Endangered  
Photo: Hilda Waqa

## Membership

**T-001 Build a global network of invertebrate experts, covering at least 30 countries and several taxa, to drive assessments of species not covered by existing Specialist Groups.** (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 1

Result description: We did not increase the Group size in 2024 due to ongoing projects and commitments. While we have not achieved the expected country coverage this quadrennium, we have exceeded the number of new SSC member's target. In April, 2025 we welcomed one new member to the Group. We also appreciate that the Group is only a loose and not well-connected network of people and have taken steps to improve communication by instigating quarterly meetings (two sessions for different time zones per meeting) to increase cohesion in the Group and elicit further assessment projects from the membership.

**T-003 Engage effectively with the Invertebrate Conservation Committee to establish new priorities for the Red List Authority.** (KSR 3)

Membership on Invertebrate Conservation Committee: 0

Result description: Our [book chapter on conservation planning](#) for the Routledge Handbook of Insect Conservation was published in 2024, in collaboration with Axel Hochkirch, Chair of Invertebrate Conservation Committee (ICC) and Vicky Wilkins, Co-Chair of the Atlantic Island SG and member of ICC. Other outputs such as the ICC on Guidelines for Invertebrate Management for Conservation are still ongoing.

## COMMUNICATE

### Communication

**T-005 Build a presence on Twitter about invertebrates.** (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 1

Result description: In late 2024/early 2025 we increased our focus on the assessments of Philippine Beetles, following the passing of our friend, colleague and group member Dr Ann Cabras. As a further tribute to Ann, we expect to communicate about the project and Philippine Beetles as the assessments are published on the IUCN Red List. While we are not yet sure what format this communication will take in detail, we expect this to add at least one focused digital communication to our Group's portfolio.

Social media accounts created for Philippines outreach project, with at least 50 posts per year: 5

Result description: The previous SSC Internal Grant proposal for the Philippine project was unsuccessful and we did not resubmit a funding proposal for this in 2024. We are looking to rework the proposal for submission to another funding stream in 2025. We have also begun an intensive drive to assess Philippine Beetles for the IUCN Red List, in memory of Dr Ann Cabras. We will produce some social media outputs as part of this increased activity in 2025, although we are as of yet unclear as to how many (we expect at least around five posts). We have also added a Bluesky account to our social media portfolio.

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our members for their continued engagement in TIRLA, and all our collaborators, especially our students, who are supporting our assessment work.

## Summary of achievements

**Total number of targets 2021–2025: 9**

**Geographic regions: 1 Asia, 8 Global**

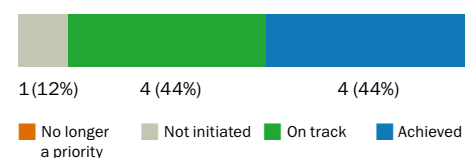
**Actions during 2024–2025:**

Assess: 2 (KSR 5, 6)

Network: 3 (KSR 2, 3)

Communicate: 2 (KSR 13)

**Overall achievement 2021–2025:**



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