



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.

Example for the recommended citation:

Le Breton, T, and Gallagher, R. (2025). 2024-2025 Report of the Australia Plant Specialist Group. In: IUCN SSC and Secretariat. *Species: Annual Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat 2024-2025*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. 4 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

2024-2025 Report

IUCN SSC Australia Plant Specialist Group



CO-CHAIR
Tom Le Breton
University of New
South Wales (UNSW),
Sydney, New South
Wales, Australia



CO-CHAIR
Rachael Gallagher
Western Sydney
University, Sydney,
New South Wales,
Australia

NUMBER OF MEMBERS
27

Mission statement

The Australia Plant Species Specialist Group is a national collective of plant conservation experts, collaborating across institutions and sectors to provide science-based support for assessment and conservation efforts and to prevent the extinction of Australia's unique flora.

Projected impact 2021–2025

The IUCN SSC Australia Plant Specialist Group is committed to building on existing national efforts to assess and conserve Australian plant species. We will achieve this by using tools and training including the IUCN Red List and Green Status assessments while also facilitating closer connections and collaborations between groups already working toward this goal. We are and will continue to be actively engaged with state, territory and federal governments to achieve this.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-006 Initiate translation of current threatened plant assessments under Australian legislation to Red List Assessments.
Status: On track

NETWORK

T-001 Register all current members on IUCN SSC portal.
Status: On track

T-002 Recruit additional members from under represented regions with a focus on early career researchers and practitioners.
Status: On track

T-004 Engage with government to promote collaboration and communicate value of red listing.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-003 Develop a group logo to aid in recognition of the Group and communicating our work.
Status: On track

T-005 Publish a paper communicating the value of comprehensive threatened plant assessments in Australia.
Status: On track

Activities and results 2024-2025

ASSESS

Red List

T-006 Initiate translation of current threatened plant assessments under Australian legislation to Red List Assessments. (KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 0

Result description: We are currently meeting with a subsection of the Group to develop a workplan for these assessments and to identify suitable candidates for Red List Authority.

NETWORK

Membership

T-002 Recruit additional members from under represented regions with a focus on early career researchers and practitioners. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 3

Result description: Three additional members have been recruited so far including two from Queensland State Government, a state which previously only had a single member representing it, and one new member from NSW Royal Botanic Gardens, increasing representation of members with Botanical Gardens expertise and connections.



Gnarled Mossy Cloud Forest on Mount Gower, Lord Howe Island, Australia. This forest is a Critically Endangered ecosystem with endemic flora including the Critically Endangered Little Mountain Palm (*Lepidorrhachis mooreana*)
Photo: Tom Le Breton

Synergy

T-004 Engage with government to promote collaboration and communicate value of red listing. (KSR 3)

Meet with government representatives/ employees to establish communication and build relationships: Ongoing.

Result description: Several members of the Group are part of the Common Assessment Methodology working group and are working with the rest of the APSG to develop a communication strategy ahead of approaching the broad CAM working group to set up a meeting. This will likely take place in the third or fourth quarter of 2025.

COMMUNICATE
Communication

T-003 Develop a group logo to aid in recognition of the Group and communicating our work. (KSR 13)

Develop a group logo: Ongoing.

Result description: Graphic designer has been engaged to deliver draft logos following consultation with group on design concepts. Draft due early June 2025.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 6

Geographic regions: 6 Oceania

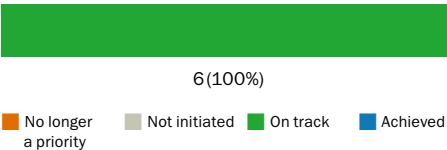
Actions during 2024–2025:

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

Network: 2 (KSR 2, 3)

Communicate: 1 (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 acoreensis*)
Photo: Paulo A.V. Borges



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