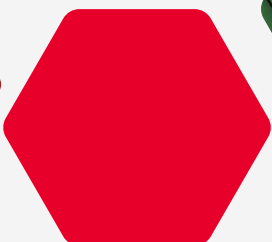




Species

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:

Wood, J, and Cerbini, C. (2025). 2024-2025 Report of the Pigeon and Dove 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.

IUCN SSC Pigeon and Dove Specialist Group



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RED LIST AUTHORITY

COORDINATOR

BirdLife International
(Simon Bruslund)

NUMBER OF MEMBERS

44

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES

Facebook: @IUCNSSCPigeonandDove

Instagram: @iucn_pigeons

X: @IUCN_Pigeons

Mission statement

Our mission is to assess and monitor the status of Columbiform species, work to raise the profile of threatened pigeons and doves, and convene expertise for their conservation. We work with partner organizations to draft action plans for priority species, assist with sourcing the funding required for the implementation of these plans, and prioritize monitoring and evaluation of conservation efforts.

Projected impact 2021–2025

By the end of 2025, we will have established the Pigeon and Dove Specialist Group as a global force for the conservation of Columbiformes. This will include growing the Group's membership – with a particular emphasis on increasing representation from the Global South –, collaborating with the Bird Red List Authority to identify species for updated assessment, and developing a communications strategy. A current priority is the Manumea (*Didunculus strigirostris*). We will be assisting with the implementation of a Recovery Plan for this species, beginning with the coordination of a Captive Breeding Feasibility Study.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

T-002 Produce four annual submissions to BirdLife International, the Bird Red List Authority, which collate information relevant to the assessment of Columbiform species. Status: On track

T-004 Identify 10 species for updated assessment on the IUCN Red List by 2022. Status: No longer a priority

PLAN

T-005 By 2024, convene a workshop to review and update the *Conservation Assessment and Management Plan for Pigeons and Doves* (CBSG & ICBP, 1993). Status: No longer a priority

T-006 Work with the Conservation Planning Specialist Group to organise at least one planning workshop for a priority species and draft the subsequent action plan by 2024. Status: No longer a priority

ACT

T-008 Based on existing EDGE and IUCN Red List priorities, assist with the implementation of the Manumea Recovery Plan (Samoan Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources – MNRE – and SCS, 2020), with an emphasis on mounting a large-scale search

for Manumea (*D. strigirostris*) by 2023 and progressing the other set goals. Status: Achieved

T-009 Produce a feasibility study relating to an *ex situ* programme for Manumea by 2022. Status: Achieved

T-010 Initiate direct support for at least two additional programmes focused on priority species by 2024. Status: Achieved

T-019 Maintain commitment to supporting conservation efforts for Manumea (*D. strigirostris*) until 2028. Status: On track

NETWORK

T-001 Recruit at least 40 new members by 2025, with a focus on increasing representation from the Global South. Status: No longer a priority

T-014 Recruit at least 40 new members by 2028, with a focus on increasing representation from the global south. Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-012 Establish an active social media presence by 2022. Status: Achieved



Pacific Imperial Pigeon (*Ducula pacifica*), Samoa
Photo: Kasper Berg



Crimson-crowned Fruit Dove (*Ptilinopus porphyraceus*), Samoa
Photo: Kasper Berg

T-013 Produce the first Specialist Group newsletter by 2022, with subsequent editions released every six months thereafter.

Status: No longer a priority

T-020 Launch the Specialist Group website by 2028.

Status: Not initiated

T-013 Produce and distribute the first Specialist Group newsletter by June, 2025, with subsequent editions released every six months thereafter.

Status: Not initiated

Activities and results 2024-2025

ASSESS

Red List

T-002 Produce four annual submissions to Birdlife International, the Bird Red List Authority, who collate information relevant to the assessment of Columbiform species. (KSR 6)

Number of technical documents provided to support Red List assessments/reassessments: 1

Result description: PDSG Members, via the Red List Coordinator, contributed to discussions on columbiform species being considered for reassessment under IUCN Red List Criteria during 2024.

ACT

Conservation actions

T-010 Initiate direct support for at least two additional programmes focused on priority species by 2024. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 0

Result description: Two programmes have received funding from Toledo Zoo following recommendations made by the PDSG Steering Committee. These are: (1) Grenada Dove (*Leptotila wellsi*); \$11,895 provided to the University of Chester for an investigation into the impact of nest predation by invasive mammalian predators. PDSG members will also be participating in a conservation planning workshop for this species, scheduled to take place in October, 2025; (2) Tuxtla Quail-dove (*Zenytgon carrikeri*). \$7,000 provided to Red de Monitoreo Comunitario de Aves Huilotl Toxtlan for community-based research to determine population size and remaining habitat. The Specialist Group has also continued to provide expert guidance for efforts to establish a captive population of Blue-eyed Ground Doves (*Columbina cyanopsis*).

T-019 Maintain commitment to supporting conservation efforts for Manumea (*D. strigirostris*) until 2028. (KSR 10)

Number of threatened species benefiting from *in situ* conservation action: 0

Result description: Following a recommendation from the PDSG Steering Committee, a grant of \$20,000 was provided to Birdlife International by Toledo Zoo as a contribution to the continued search for remnant populations of Manumea carried out in collaboration with the Samoa Conservation Society and the Samoan Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The PDSG was also instrumental in securing co-funding from Colossal Biosciences and the Waddesdon Foundation via the Zoological Society of London. Members of the PDSG directly participated in fieldwork, which in March, 2024 produced a confirmed sighting of Manumea in the Uafato Conservation

Area. Camera trap data supports the hypothesis that feral cats are a primary threat to this species, and the PDSG is advising on a strategy to address this.

NETWORK

Membership

T-001 Recruit at least 40 new members by 2025, with a focus on increasing representation from the Global South. (KSR 2)

Number of SSC members recruited: 5

Result description: Five new members were recruited during 2024. Three of these, including a new member also elected to the Group steering committee, are from the global south.

Acknowledgements

The Specialist Group would like to acknowledge Toledo Zoo for their role in supporting the Group's activities and extend our sincere thanks.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021-2025: 14

Geographic regions: 12 Global, 2 Oceania

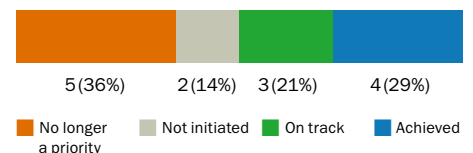
Actions during 2024-2025:

Assess: 1 (KSR 6)

Act: 2 (KSR 10)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

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