



Species

ISSUE 63

2022 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 each year. Each SSC 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 Stand-alone Report

Stand-alone reports summarize the activities conducted and results generated by each group member of the SSC. Following, is the structure of the stand-alone report and the contents under each session.

Title of the SSC Group

Photograph(s) of the Chair / Co-Chairs

Group information

Includes names of Chair / Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Deputy Chairs, Red List Authority Coordinators and Program Officers, their institutional affiliations, number of members and social networks currently active.

Logo of the SSC 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 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 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).

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.

Recommended citation:

Carpenter, K and Polidoro, C. 2023. 2022 Report of the Marine Fishes Red List Authority. In: Nassar, JM, García, L, Mendoza, L, Andrade, ND, Bezeng, S, Birkhoff, J, Bohm, M, Canteiro, C, Geschke, J, Henriques, S, Ivalde, S, Mileham, K, Ramos, M, Rodríguez, A, Rodríguez, JP, Street, B, and Yerena, E (Eds.). 2022 Report of the IUCN Species Survival Commission and Secretariat. International Union for Conservation of Nature. 8 pp.

Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

2022 Report

IUCN SSC Marine Fishes Red List Authority



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**RED LIST AUTHORITY
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
27

Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN Marine Fishes Red List Authority is to transform global, regional, and local marine conservation capabilities by completing Red List assessments for all marine fishes.

Projected impact 2021–2025

By the end of this quadrennium, we expect to continue towards the goal of completing IUCN Red List assessments for the more than 17,000 marine fishes. Our current focus is species in the marine ornamental fish trade, as well as supporting the work of the Snapper, Seabream, and Grunt Specialist Group and the Tuna and Billfish Specialist Group. These assessments will help improve our knowledge of patterns in the conservation status of marine vertebrate biodiversity globally, which we are also working to highlight through the completion of several scientific publications summarising these patterns.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

- T-003** Assess 100 marine gobies by 2022.
Status: Achieved
- T-004** Assess 300 flatfishes by 2021.
Status: Achieved

T-005 Assess 275 marine fishes in the aquarium trade.
Status: Achieved

T-006 Publish one paper annually on the conservation status of marine fishes.
Status: On track

T-010 Complete global Red List assessments of 170 Philippine marine bony fishes.
Status: Not initiated

T-011 Complete global Red List assessments of 42 species in the family Pseudochromidae.
Status: Not initiated

T-012 Complete global Red List assessments of 37 species of blennioids.
Status: Not initiated

T-013 Complete global Red List assessments of 50 species of gobioids.
Status: Not initiated

T-014 Complete global Red List assessments/reassessments of the 77 endemic marine bony fishes of the Galapagos.
Status: On track

ACT

T-007 Provide two annual technical consultations to support conservation actions to organisations and institutions globally engaged with marine fish conservation.
Status: Not initiated

NETWORK

T-001 Train 20 marine fish experts as Red List assessors.
Status: On track

T-002 Recruit at least 10 new members by 2024.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-008 Organise one presentation annually to communicate the conservation work of the IUCN SSC and the Marine Fishes Red List Authority.
Status: On track

T-009 Develop a new website for the Marine Fishes Red List Authority.
Status: Not initiated

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-003 Assess 100 marine gobies by 2022.
(KSR 6)

Number of new global Red List assessments completed: 68

Result description: We assessed 68 species of gobies with help from Dr. Helen Larson as part of a Red List initiative to assess fishes of the global marine ornamental trade managed by members of the Marine Fishes RLA.



Galapagos fish
Photo: Christi Linardich



Galapagos fish
Photo: Christi Linardich

T-005 Assess 275 marine fishes in the aquarium trade. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 174

Result description: We assessed 174 marine fishes in the aquarium trade through virtual consultations with taxonomic and regional experts.

Research activities

T-006 Publish one paper annually on the conservation status of marine fishes. (KSR 5)

Number of scientific publications about species research that acknowledge SSC affiliation: 1

Result description: A journal article on the conservation status of the world's eels and one on the status of the sciaenids of the world are currently in preparation.

T-014 Complete global Red List assessments/reassessments of the 77 endemic marine bony fishes of the Galapagos. (KSR 6)

Number of species that have been assessed through the different tools: 77

Result description: A Red List workshop was held from September 12-16 2022 in the Galapagos with funding from the Galapagos Conservancy to assess all 77 species of endemic marine fishes. Members of the Marine Fishes RLA facilitated these assessments and provided training in the Red List methodology to 15 local fish scientists.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-001 Train 20 marine fish experts as Red List assessors. (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in assessment tools: 15

Result description: Fifteen fish scientists were trained in applying the Red List methodology during a September 2022 Red List workshop to assess Galapagos marine bony fishes.

COMMUNICATE

Communication

T-008 Organise one presentation annually to communicate the conservation work of the IUCN SSC and the Marine Fishes Red List Authority. (KSR 13)

Number of SSC members' presentations developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 4

Result description: Members of this RLA are planning to present the results of the global assessment of Flatfishes, the global assessment of Microgobies, the global reassessment of Tunas and Billfishes and the reassessment of all Galapagos endemic fishes at the annual conference of the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists that will convene 12-16 July 2023 in Norfolk, Virginia, USA.

Acknowledgements

Recognition goes to our specialists, who volunteer their time to further the goals of the Marine Fishes RLA. We gratefully acknowledge the organizations that have supported our work to date, including IUCN, the IUCN Species Survival Commission, Conservation International, The Deep, Oceanário de Lisboa, Old Dominion University, Arizona State University, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Agence Française de Développement, Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, MAVA Fondation pour la Nature, Moore Family Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Ocean Park Conservation Fund, HK, Qatar National Research Fund, Thomas W. Haas Foundation, Total Foundation, Toyota Motor Corporation, UAE MoCCA, Swiss Confederation and Galapagos Conservancy.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 14

Geographic regions: 13 Global, 1 America

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 4 (KSR 5, 6)

Network: 1 (KSR 2)

Communicate: 1 (KSR 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

