



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:

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Animalia

Fungi

Plantae

National Species

Disciplinary

Action Partnership

Task Force

Red List Authority

Committee

Center for Species Survival

IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group



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NUMBER OF MEMBERS
140

Mission statement

The Cetacean Specialist Group (CSG) promotes and facilitates the conservation of cetaceans worldwide. It functions as a catalyst, clearing house and facilitator for cetacean-related research and conservation action. Our guiding premise is that conservation ultimately depends upon good science, and the group's credibility and value are based on maintaining high standards of scientific rigour. The advice we provide relates mainly to the status of populations, abundance, trends, the effects of current or potential threats, and the efficacy of mitigation. Our emphasis is on the recovery of threatened species and populations, but we also recognise the importance of maintaining the full diversity of the Cetacea, which includes just over 90 species, about 50 recognised subspecies and at least hundreds of populations.

Projected impact 2021–2025

Cetaceans are nominally protected under several international conventions and by national legislation in most countries, but they are affected by many human activities in marine and freshwater environments. Most of the conservation work by CSG

members is linked, directly or indirectly, to that of other bodies or groups with shared objectives, and this makes it impossible in most instances to tease apart the influence or 'impact' made 'by the CSG' *per se* (other than in the case of Red Listing). It also means that the targets, activities and results reported here are only a sample of the many areas of cetacean conservation work in which members are engaged, and which they are often leading or sharing the lead with others. The CSG regularly engages with bodies like the International Whaling Commission (IWC), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and US Marine Mammal Commission, with national government agencies, and with NGOs interested in conserving cetaceans. Our group's traditional focus on Endangered and Critically Endangered small cetaceans, particularly those outside North America, Western Europe, Australia and New Zealand, continues. Integrated Conservation Planning for Cetaceans (ICPC) is a team of experts formed to apply the IUCN One Plan Approach guidelines to selected species, subspecies and populations, prioritised according to conservation status, likelihood of catastrophic decline, and potential for effective mitigation.

Targets 2021–2025

ASSESS

- T-017** Publish a scientific paper on the Red List status of cetaceans.
Status: On track
- T-020** Ensure all freshwater cetacean species, subspecies and subpopulation assessments are up to date.
Status: On track
- T-021** Update Hector's Dolphin (*Cephalorhynchus hectori*) and Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) assessments (the last two species requiring update at the global level).
Status: On track
- T-022** Ensure that assessments of Endangered or Critically Endangered subspecies and subpopulations are up to date.
Status: On track
- T-023** Assess Yangtze River Dolphin (also known as Baiji; *Lipotes vexillifer*) using new methods to assess extinction.
Status: On track
- T-024** Develop transparent guidelines for the selection of subpopulations that should be assessed and include clear roles for CSG members in this process.
Status: On track



PLAN

T-025 Increase diversity, equity and inclusion in CSG membership and activities.

Status: On track

T-026 Advance recommendations from the Yangtze Finless Porpoise (*Neophocaena asiaeorientalis asiaeorientalis*) conservation symposium held in Wuhan, November 2019.

Status: On track

T-027 Support relevant government agencies, researchers, and NGOs in Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*) range states in conservation planning for the species as proposed in the IUCN SSC EDGE Grant proposal and terms of reference.

Status: On track

T-028 Advance the ICPC targets recommended at the December 2018 Nuremberg workshop and develop a method to choose other projects.

Status: On track

T-029 Provide expert advice on global and national conservation planning efforts for river dolphins in South America and Asia.

Status: On track

ACT

T-001 Continue to provide technical support for the IUCN Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (<https://www.marine-mammalhabitat.org/>).

Status: On track

T-002 Continue to provide support to South Korean conservationists to reduce massive bycatch of Endangered Narrow-ridged Finless Porpoises (*Neophocaena asiaeorientalis*).

Status: On track

T-003 Continue to support the Consortium for the Conservation of the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (CCAHD) to improve the conservation status of Critically Endangered Atlantic Humpback Dolphins in West Africa.

Status: On track

T-004 Help to expand and support the Arabian Sea Whale Network (see <https://iucn-csg.org/csg-special-projects/arabian-sea-humpback-whales/>).

Status: On track

T-005 Assist efforts to prevent extinction of Taiwanese Humpback Dolphins (*Sousa chinensis taiwanensis*; see <https://iucn-csg.org/csg-special-projects/eastern-taiwan-strait-humpback-dolphins/>).

Status: On track

T-006 Continue to assist efforts to prevent extinction of the Vaquita (*Phocoena sinus*).

Status: On track

T-007 Continue to provide technical support to efforts to conserve the three Critically Endangered freshwater subpopulations of Irrawaddy Dolphins (*Orcaella brevirostris*) in Southeast Asia.

Status: On track

T-008 Provide technical support to integrated conservation planning for the Yangtze Finless Porpoise metapopulation kept within the semi-natural reserves.

Status: On track

T-009 In coordination with the IWC Conservation Management Plan, support collaborators in Brazil and Argentina to incorporate integrated conservation planning options into a conservation action plan for the Franciscana (*Pontoporia blainvillei*).

Status: On track

T-010 Provide support to existing programmes that attempt to rescue canal-entrapped Indus and Ganges River Dolphins (*Platanista minor* and *Platanista gangetica*) by training local veterinarians and scientists to conduct comprehensive health assessments.

Status: On track

T-030 Provide expert advice on efforts to reduce bycatch of River Dolphins, and advise on and assist in efforts to reverse and prevent impacts of water development on River Dolphins in South America and Asia with an emphasis on site-based and population-level initiatives.

Status: On track

NETWORK

T-011 Continue involvement in the work of the International Whaling Commission's Scientific and Conservation Committees, Conservation Management Plans and Small Cetacean Task Teams.

Status: On track

T-012 Collaborate with the Convention on Migratory Species to advance Concerted Actions for threatened cetaceans.
Status: On track

T-013 Respond to requests for advice and feedback (e.g. to CITES and various IUCN bodies and Specialist Groups) .
Status: On track

T-014 Continue involvement in work of the Society for Marine Mammalogy's Conservation Committee.
Status: On track

T-015 Expand professional resources for integrated conservation planning.
Status: On track

COMMUNICATE

T-016 Maintain and regularly update the Cetacean Specialist Group website: <https://iucn-csg.org/>.
Status: On track

T-018 Prepare monthly social media communications (Facebook, Twitter and website news) on the role of the CSG, CSG activities, process of Red Listing and Red List status of cetaceans.
Status: On track

T-019 Host a CSG Cetacean Red List webinar for the general cetacean conservation community.
Status: Not initiated

Activities and results 2022

ASSESS

Red List

T-020 Ensure all freshwater cetacean species, subspecies and subpopulation assessments are up to date. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 2

Result description: Updated assessments for the Indus and Ganges River Dolphins were published in 2022. A draft reassessment was prepared for the Mekong Irrawaddy Dolphin subpopulation with plans to finalize it during a consultation in Cambodia in January 2023. Similarly, a reassessment of the Songkhla Lake Irrawaddy Dolphin subpopulation is being prepared with plans to finalize it with local input during a workshop in Bangkok also in January 2023. The Mahakam River Irrawaddy Dolphin subpopulation update has been initiated but will be completed once a new abundance estimate has been published in 2023. The planned update of the Ayeyarwady Irrawaddy Dolphin subpopulation assessment was delayed due to political unrest in Myanmar.

T-021 Update Hector's Dolphin (*Cephalorhynchus hectori*) and Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) assessments (the last two species requiring update at the global level). (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: Reassessments of Hector's Dolphin and the Sperm Whale are underway but not yet complete. A key paper providing a new estimate of global abundance of Sperm Whales, which is needed to update the Red List assessment of that species, was published late in 2022.

T-022 Ensure that assessments of Endangered or Critically Endangered subspecies and subpopulations are up to date. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 3

Result description: In 2022 an assessment of the newly recognized cetacean species – Ramari's Beaked Whale (*Mesoplodon eueu*) – was published, as was a reassessment of True's Beaked Whale (*Mesoplodon mirus*) in the light of a taxonomic change. Draft reassessments of the Indian Ocean Humpback Dolphin and the Baltic Harbour Porpoise subpopulation are also in review. The Vaquita (CR) assessment was updated in 2022.

T-023 Assess Yangtze River Dolphin (also known as Baiji; *Lipotes vexillifer*) using new methods to assess extinction. (KSR 6)

Number of global Red List reassessments completed: 0

Result description: Travel restrictions and COVID lockdowns delayed planned research considered key to completing an extinction assessment of the Yangtze River Dolphin (Baiji).

T-024 Develop transparent guidelines for the selection of subpopulations that should be assessed and include clear roles for CSG members in this process. (KSR 6)

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

Result description: The CSG Red List Authority was expanded to include a much larger number of people in 2022. Guidelines for the selection of subpopulations that should be assessed were finalised and will be published as supplementary information in the Red List status of cetaceans paper mentioned in Target 017. Orientation meetings were held to familiarise the Red List Authority with the new subpopulation selection criteria, and the process of selecting subpopulations for assessment will begin in 2023.

Research activities

T-017 Publish a scientific paper on the Red List status of cetaceans. (KSR 5)

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

Result description: A paper summarising the Red List status of cetaceans has been submitted to Conservation Biology and is now undergoing peer review.

PLAN

Planning

T-025 Increase diversity, equity and inclusion in CSG membership and activities. (KSR 8)

Clear membership policy articulated in writing, increase in membership from under-represented groups: 25%

Result description: The CSG membership was expanded in 2022 to include additional members from Asia. In addition, the Red List Authority was expanded to include representatives from Asia and Australia, and more members from South America.

T-026 Advance recommendations from the Yangtze Finless Porpoise (*Neophocaena asiaeorientalis asiaeorientalis*) conservation symposium held in Wuhan, November 2019. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 0

Result description: The planned workshop to conduct a population viability analysis (PVA) for Yangtze Finless Porpoises (YFP) in the wild and in oxbow reserves continued to be on hold due to limited resources and COVID-related travel restrictions in China. The PVA is intended to help determine how many individuals would need to be present in an *ex-situ* metapopulation in order to meet the goals of the Chinese government's 2016 YFP conservation action plan.

T-027 Support relevant government agencies, researchers, and NGOs in Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*) range states in conservation planning for the species as proposed in the IUCN SSC EDGE Grant proposal and terms of reference. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 1

Result description: The EDGE grant was implemented in 2021 and all reporting and follow-up were completed by early 2022. However, engagement with *Sousa teuszii* range country stakeholders continued through other activities of the Consortium for the Conservation of the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (CCAHD), which includes many CSG members (see sousateuszii.org).



A government and industry stakeholder workshop was held in Oman in November 2022 to discuss conservation management of Endangered Arabian Sea humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*)
Photo: Environment Society of Oman



Photos of an IUCN SSC EDGE-grant funded government stakeholder engagement meeting held in Gabon in June 2021. The meeting raised awareness of the conservation needs of Atlantic humpback dolphins and catalysed collaboration between government agencies
Photo: Judicael Régis Kema Kema

T-028 Advance the ICPC targets recommended at the December 2018 Nuremberg workshop and develop a method to choose other projects. (KSR 8)

Number of conservation plans/strategies developed: 1

Result description: The updates provided for targets 003, 008, 010, 015, 026 and 027 relate to this overarching target by providing information on specific ICPC initiatives and/or focal species. The ICPC is continuing the primary projects identified in 2018 and has added Lahille's Dolphin as a focal subspecies. Ongoing fieldwork and the August 2022 workshop helped to address knowledge gaps for many focal species and populations. For more details visit: <https://iucn-csg.org/integrated-conservation-planning-for-cetaceans-icpc/>.

T-029 Provide expert advice on global and national conservation planning efforts for river dolphins in South America and Asia. (KSR 8)

Participation in workshops, meetings and stakeholder engagement involved in River Dolphin conservation planning actions: 1

Result description: CSG members continue to provide expert advice on an ongoing *ad hoc* but ongoing basis.

ACT Conservation actions

T-001 Continue to provide technical support for the IUCN Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (<https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org/>). (KSR 10)

Number of areas under management for the species or group of species: 2

Result description: Two regional IMMA workshops were held, one in Costa Rica in June 2022, and one in Brazil in December 2022. The Costa Rica workshop resulted in the designation of 36 new IMMAs in the South East Tropical and Temperate Pacific Ocean (<https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org/36-new-important-marine-mammal-areas-immas-approved/>), and an additional 36 candidate IMMAs in the Southwest Atlantic Ocean were undergoing review at the end of 2022 following the Brazil workshop (<https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org/36-new-candidate-immas-announced-in-the-south-west-atlantic-ocean/>).

T-002 Continue to provide support to South Korean conservationists to reduce massive bycatch of Endangered Narrow-ridged Finless Porpoises (*Neophocaena asiaeorientalis*). (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 1

Result description: CSG members participated in a second symposium to promote regional collaboration on research, conservation, and reduction of bycatch of Narrow-ridge Finless Porpoises. The symposium was organised by the South Korean IUCN focal point for the WCC resolution on this species and was attended by scientists, NGOs, and government stakeholders from South Korea, China, and Japan.

T-003 Continue to support the Consortium for the Conservation of the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (CCAHD) to improve the conservation status of Critically Endangered Atlantic Humpback Dolphins in West Africa. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 2

Result description: CSG members continued to lead, participate and support the CCAHD. Field-based research has taken place in Guinea, Senegal, Congo and Gabon, while interview surveys were initiated in all of these countries as well as Gambia,

Cameroon, and Liberia. Materials produced for these projects were made available to the wider network through the CCAHD website: <https://sousateuszii.org>. Members of CSG were also involved in drafting a regional Concerted Action Plan for the species under through the Convention on Migratory Species.

T-004 Help to expand and support the Arabian Sea Whale Network (see <https://iucn-csg.org/csg-special-projects/arabian-sea-humpback-whales>) (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 2

Result description: CSG members were involved in a government and industry stakeholder workshop held in Oman in November 2022 with the aim of promoting a national conservation plan, and preparing the ground for Oman to participate in a Joint IWC-CMS Regional Conservation Management Plan. Members of CSG were also involved in organising and delivering training courses in the region on cetacean survey methodology and stranding response.

T-006 Continue to assist efforts to prevent extinction of the Vaquita (*Phocoena sinus*). (KSR 10)

Number of intervention letters addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 1

Result description: In addition to supporting the CSG website as an outlet for Vaquita news, several CSG members continued their intensive involvement in (a) monitoring Vaquitas and illegal fishing efforts in Vaquita habitat, (b) advising international and multilateral bodies (e.g. the trilateral Mexico-Canada-US trade agreement, CITES, World Heritage Committee), and (c) lobbying the Mexican government to improve enforcement of the gillnet ban and to support efforts to convert fishers to Vaquita-safe gear or to adopt alternative livelihoods.

T-007 Continue to provide technical support to efforts to conserve the three Critically Endangered freshwater subpopulations of Irrawaddy Dolphins (*Orcaella brevirostris*) in Southeast Asia. (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 1

Result description: CSG Regional Coordinators have been providing advice to the World Bank regarding the potential impacts and required conservation measures for Irrawaddy Dolphins in relation to a planned development project in Songkhla Lake (Lagoon), Thailand. A new Red List

assessment for this Critically Endangered population is underway. The CSG continues to play a strong role in advising on the conservation of Irrawaddy Dolphins in the Mekong, engaging in a virtual meeting with WWF in November 2022 and making plans for a field program/training/consultation in January 2023.

T-009 In coordination with the IWC Conservation Management Plan, support collaborators in Brazil and Argentina to incorporate integrated conservation planning options into a conservation action plan for the Franciscana (*Pontoporia blainvillei*). (KSR 10)

Number of actions addressing major drivers/emerging threats of species or population loss: 1

Result description: In 2022 CSG members participated in an IWC-led workshop to review Franciscana status with the aim of updating the research, monitoring and conservation goals of the Franciscana Conservation Management Plan (CMP). This review will be completed with an in-person workshop in 2023. Members of CSG also participated in field-based research and modelling exercises to conduct and correct abundance estimates for the population, resulting in a peer-reviewed publication demonstrating that previous estimates from aerial surveys may have underestimated the true abundance by 4-5 times (<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2022.1016444/full>).

Technical advice

T-008 Provide technical support to integrated conservation planning for the Yangtze Finless Porpoise metapopulation kept within the semi-natural reserves. (KSR 10)

Number of technical consultations provided to support conservation actions: 1

Result description: The Integrated Cetacean Planning for Cetaceans (ICPC) initiative continues to participate in, and provide technical support for the Yangtze Finless Porpoise programme. Goals and an agenda have been developed for a Population Viability Analysis workshop which will be held as soon as Covid19 restrictions for travel into and within China relax.

T-010 Provide support to existing programmes that attempt to rescue canal-entrapped Indus and Ganges River Dolphins (*Platanista gangetica* and *Platanista gangetica*) by training local veterinarians and scientists to conduct comprehensive health assessments. (KSR 10)

Number of technical consultations provided to support conservation actions: 1

Result description: Two different grants were received in 2022 to support veterinary capacity building in Pakistan. In November 2022, a cetacean veterinarian visited Pakistan to plan for a training programme that will be conducted in 2023 and identify Pakistani veterinarians to participate in the programme.

T-030 Provide expert advice on efforts to reduce bycatch of River Dolphins, and advise on and assist in efforts to reverse and prevent impacts of water development on River Dolphins in South America and Asia with an emphasis on site-based and population-level initiatives. (KSR 10)

Number of technical consultations provided to support conservation actions: 1

Result description: CSG members provided support to the WWF River Dolphin initiative to bring together governments from Asian countries with river dolphins to make a joint declaration to tackle bycatch.

NETWORK

Capacity building

T-015 Expand professional resources for integrated conservation planning. (KSR 2)

Number of people trained in other fields: 1

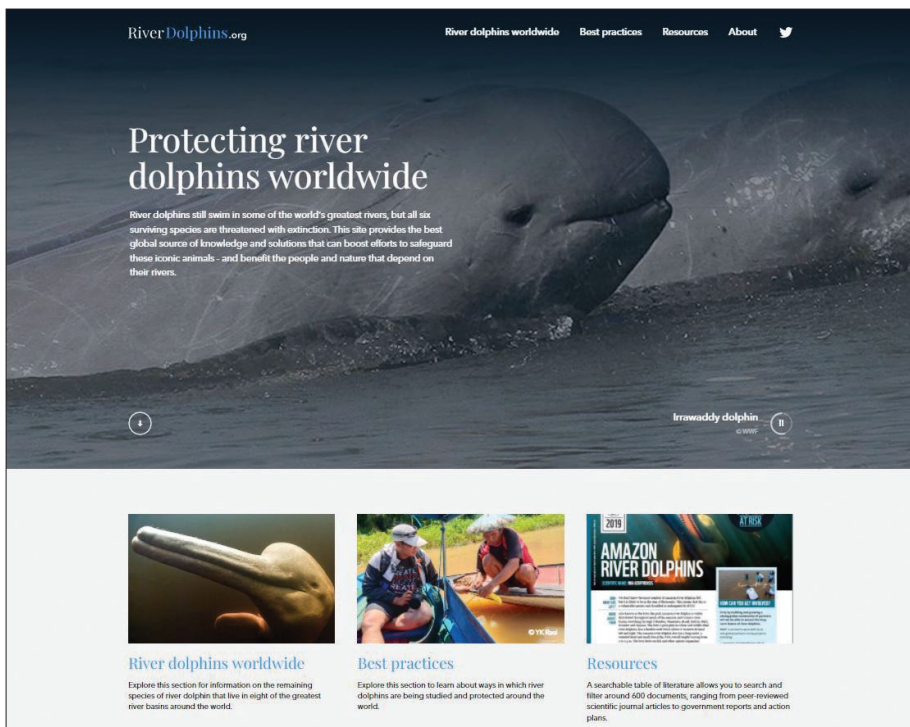
Result description: Presentations on ICPC focal species and processes, including the One Plan Approach, were given during webinars and in-person conferences at the Marine Mammal Care Center based in Los Angeles, the International Marine Animal Trainers Association (IMATA) and the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine (IAAAM). An ICPC workshop was held at the Society for Marine Mammalogy biennial conference in Florida, introducing participants to the IUCN/SSC-CPSG One Plan Approach and expertise available through IUCN specialist groups. Representatives from ICPC participated in a workshop titled 'Human Dimension for Cetacean Conservation' in Nuremberg in December. The workshop focused on the need to integrate social scientists into the ICPC process and generated plans for a follow-up workshop in 2024.

Synergy

T-011 Continue involvement in the work of the International Whaling Commission's Scientific and Conservation Committees, Conservation Management Plans and Small Cetacean Task Teams. (KSR 3)

Number of IWC Scientific Committee Meetings attended: 1

Result description: Numerous CSG members attended the 2022 IWC Scientific



CSG members contributed to the development of the Riverdolphins.org website, that compiles a range of resources and information on conservation threats and priorities
Photo: Riverdolphins.org

Committee meeting. In addition to contributing to discussions on a range of topics during the meeting, CSG members submitted papers with updates on both the IUCN Red Listing process for cetaceans and Integrated Conservation Planning for Cetaceans.

T-012 Collaborate with the Convention on Migratory Species to advance Concerted Actions for threatened cetaceans. (KSR 3)
Number of CMS Scientific Council meetings attended: 1

Result description: CSG members were closely involved in the implementation of the CMS Concerted Actions for Arabian Sea Humpback Whales and Atlantic Humpback Dolphins. A workshop was held in Oman to advance the former, and a draft Action Plan was written in 2022 for the latter. Members of CSG were also involved in the implementation of the Concerted Action for the Ganges River Dolphin.

T-013 Respond to requests for advice and feedback (e.g. to CITES and various IUCN bodies and Specialist Groups) as requested. (KSR 3)

Number of requests answered: 1

Result description: CSG members continued to provide advice and feedback on an *ad hoc* basis to other international bodies, including the World Bank.

T-014 Continue involvement in work of the Society for Marine Mammalogy's Conservation Committee. (KSR 3)

Number of meetings and joint letters or consultations on cetacean conservation issues of shared concern: 1

Result description: The SMM Conservation Committee is chaired by a CSG member and 7 of the 15 current members of the committee are also CSG members. In 2022 the committee focused on facilitating exchanges of researchers, institutions and countries, with limited resources and support, involving many CSG members.

COMMUNICATE Communication

T-016 Maintain and regularly update the Cetacean Specialist Group website: <https://iucn-csg.org>. (KSR 12)

Number of updates posted to CSG website: 5

Result description: CSG has posted regular articles/news items on the website. These can be viewed here: <https://iucn-csg.org/>.

T-018 Prepare monthly social media communications (Facebook, Twitter and website news) on the role of the CSG, CSG activities, process of Red Listing and Red List status of cetaceans. (KSR 13)

Number of digital communication outputs developed in relation to specific taxonomic groups: 3

Result description: Regular social media posts were created throughout 2022.

T-019 Host a CSG Cetacean Red List webinar for the general cetacean conservation community. (KSR 13)

Number of communication products using innovative tools: 0

Result description: If and when the peer-reviewed paper has been published, a webinar may be organized as a means to disseminate the results.

Acknowledgements

The Cetacean Specialist group is grateful to the US Marine Mammal Commission (Bethesda, Maryland) for its support of the Chair, and to The Marine Mammal Center (Sausalito, California) for administering the group's limited budget.

Summary of achievements

Total number of targets 2021–2025: 30

Geographic regions: 17 Global, 2 Africa, 4 America, 8 Asia, 1 Body of water

Actions during 2022:

Assess: 6 (KSR 5, 6)

Plan: 5 (KSR 8)

Act: 10 (KSR 10)

Network: 5 (KSR 2, 3)

Communicate: 3 (KSR 12, 13)

Overall achievement 2021–2025:

