IUCN SSC Conservation Translocation Specialist Group



2019 Report



Axel Moehrenschlager

Chair

Axel Moehrenschlager

Location/Affiliation

Director of Conservation & Science, Calgary Zoological Society, Canada

Number of members

93

Social networks

Website: https://iucn-ctsg.org



Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Conservation Translocation Specialist Group (CTSG) is to empower responsible conservation translocations that save species, strengthen ecosystems, and benefit humanity.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Advancements of the Conservation Translocation Specialist Group in terms of conservation science, policy development, and action are integral to the mission of IUCN generally and the Species Survival Commission specifically. Strategic alignment of increased guideline translations, increased science, hosting the second global conference, and upscaling training programmes will result in more effective conservation translocations around the world. By 2020, responsible conservation translocations will continue to increase for more species, in more places, more of the time for benefits to nature and humanity. Such positive conservation actions, which help to restore species and ecosystems, will continue to increase global optimism that conservation is worthwhile, effective, and worthy of increased investments around the world.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Research activities: begin soliciting case studies for another Reintroduction Perspectives book, to be published in 2020.

Act

Conservation actions: (1) IUCN Reintroduction Perspectives book document will be submitted to the IUCN Editorial Board for sign-off by end of 2017 or early 2018; (2) encourage translation of the IUCN *Guidelines for Reintroductions* and *Other Conservation Translocations* into two more languages; (3) respond to global issues regarding conservation translocation policy or practice as they arise.

Network

Capacity building: run training courses on IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations on four continents by 2020.

Communicate

Scientific meetings: (1) host Reintroduction Conference in Chicago, US, 10 years after the first conference in 2008; (2) begin to work with individuals from the next host country to begin preparations of a 2022 conference outside North America.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Research activities

i. New Reintroduction Perspectives book: In alignment with original planning, 40+ case studies were compiled, and edited to be ready for publication in 2020. (KSR #43)

Act

Conservation actions

- i. In 2019, the 2018 book on Conservation Translocation Case Studies continued to be distributed worldwide, including to other SSC leaders at the Abu Dhabi Leaders' Meeting in October 2019. (KSR #24)
- ii. In alignment with original planning, the IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations were also translated into Czech and a revision of the French Guidelines has commenced. (KSR #24)



The Mauritius Fody, Foudia rubra, is a small passerine bird restricted to Mauritius. This Endangered bird was reintroduced successfully and one of the contributing factors was the dedication and motivation of the project personnel Photo: Jacques de Spéville



The Reticulated Python, *Malayopython reticulatus*, is one of the longest snake species worldwide. These species are rescued and rehabilated back into the wild in Singapore Photo: ACRES



The North American Lily is a plant of combined tall grass prairie, mixed grass prairie and short grass prairies. This habitat has drastically shrunk and few are in their natural state today. The tall grass prairie has declined 99.9% over the last 200 years, a decline exceeding that of any other plant community. Michigan Lily, *L. canadense* subsp. *michiganense*, Slipped into obscurity. The species is being restored to prairies Photo: Marge From



Fishers, *Pekania pennanti*, are a member of the weasel family that live in old-growth boreal forests across North America. The species disappeared from Washington State by the mid-1990s due to over-trapping and habitat loss. Since 2008, fishers have been reintroduced to their historical range in Washington, US Photo: Jason Ransom

iii. Over 20 global issues regarding conservation translocation policy or practice have been addressed. Examples include workshop training or funding support relevant to Leatherback Sea Turtles, Green Turtles, Scarlet Macaw, Great Green Macaw, Canary Island passerines, Formosan Clouded Leopard, Scottish Wildcat, Northern Bald Ibis, Loa frog, and Spanish sturgeon. (KSR #24)

Network

Capacity building

i. In alignment with original planning, the International Training Course on Structured Decision Making for Conservation Translocations was given in Costa Rica by CTSG leaders; a commitment was also made with Brazilian agencies to bring the course to Brazil in October 2020. (KSR #18)

Communicate

Scientific meetings

i. In collaboration with the Government of West Australia, a formal committee was formed in Australia to scope, outline, and drive forward planning for the next Global Conservation Translocation Conference which will occur in Perth in November 2021. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

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Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 4/5

Assess 1
Act 3
Network 1 |

Communicate **1** Main KSRs addressed: 18, 24, 28, 43

KSR: Key Species Result