

# IUCN SSC Marine Conservation Committee

2018 Report



Amanda Vincent

## Chair

Amanda Vincent

## Location/Affiliation

Project Seahorse - Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, The University of British Columbia, Canada

## Number of members

12

## Social networks

Twitter:

@SSCmarine

Website:

[www.iucn-sscmarine.org](http://www.iucn-sscmarine.org)

## Mission statement

The mission of the IUCN SSC Marine Conservation Committee is to support, enhance and mobilise expertise in marine species conservation for a better future. Its mandate is to ensure that decisions on marine species are directed at long-term population health and based on sound technical knowledge. Specifically, it helps and links volunteer experts from the IUCN Species Survival Commission's (SSC) network who have special knowledge of particular taxa or of cross-cutting concerns. It also advocates the use of SSC marine knowledge and skills in the broad global community, particularly by policy makers and resource managers.

## Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

The SSC Marine Conservation Committee (MCC) makes a difference by encouraging and advancing SSC excellence in marine taxa and issues, energising IUCN's engagement with the ocean, and ensuring SSC marine expertise is put into service effectively around the world. The MCC assists SSC Specialist Groups, stand-alone Red List Authorities and Task Forces to meet their Assess-Plan-Act objectives. We are particularly determined that the World Conservation Congress theme of Restoring Ocean Health will mark real change. The MCC is also energetically promoting far better coverage of ocean concerns in the post-2020 Biodiversity Targets. A key focus of the MCC is to develop tools and approaches to connect SSC expertise with management and policy initiatives globally.

## Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

### Plan

Planning: ensure that the Marine Conservation Committee (MCC) is working effectively.

Policy: support the World Conservation Congress theme of Restoring Ocean Health.

### Act

Policy: promote and mobilise SSC marine expertise to advance ocean conservation globally.

### Network

Policy: advance IUCN capacity for marine conservation.

Synergy: support and connect SSC marine expertise.

## Activities and results 2018

### Plan

#### Planning

**i.** Created and presented a framework for MCC action to the SSC Steering Committee. Appointed 12 new members with broad geographic, taxonomic and skills expertise. Developed a mission statement and Terms of Reference for the MCC as well as a draft work plan for the Committee. Established an MCC social media presence, by setting up a website and Twitter page, and held an inaugural virtual MCC meeting. (KSR #21, 28, 29, 30)

### Act

#### Policy

**i.** The MCC ensures that priority SSC marine concerns are taken to the SSC Chair and Steering Committee and that marine concerns are well represented in SSC planning and priorities by consulting all marine Specialist Groups and Red List Authorities (RLAs) on concerns, priorities, successes, needs and ideas. To help advance Specialist Group effectiveness



in planning, Specialist Group Chairs were consulted on engagement and planning and issues of cross-cutting importance across multiple Specialist Groups/RLAs. The MCC has also consulted the Marine Biodiversity Unit (MBU) on the need for new Specialist Groups. (KSR #21, 28, 29, 30)

**Network**

Policy

i. Assisted IUCN to help develop and secure strong marine positions for Aichi post-2020 targets by contributing a briefing on ocean issues. (KSR #21, 28, 29, 30)

Synergy

i. Held one hour consultation with each marine-related Specialist Group to discuss and determine priorities for the MCC.

**Acknowledgements**

The MCC thanks the SSC Chair’s Office – and particularly Jon Paul Rodriguez, Domitilla Raimondo and Rachel Hoffman – for their great support. We also thank Olivier Hasinger from the Global Species Programme for his valuable assistance. The MCC benefits enormously from the tremendous efforts from all SSC marine leaders and experts, and is ever grateful for their energy, insights and excellence.

**Summary of activities 2018**

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 3/5

Plan	1	
Act	1	
Network	2	

Main KSRs addressed: 21, 28, 29, 30

KSR: Key Species Result