IUCN SSC
Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group

2018 Report

Chair
James Burton (1)

Programme Officer
Stu Young

Red List Authority Coordinator
Thomas Gray (2)

Location/Affiliation
(1) North of England Zoological Society, Global Wildlife Conservation, Center for Conservation of Tropical Ungulates, UK
(2) Wildlife Alliance, Cambodia

Number of members
80

Social networks
Facebook: IUCN Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group
Instagram: iucn_wildcattle
Twitter: @IUCN_WildCattle
Website: https://www.asianwildcattle.org/

Mission statement
The mission of the Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group (AWCSG) is to promote the long-term conservation of the Asian wild cattle species and their habitats by means of information-sharing, identification of conservation priorities and facilitation/delivery of these priority actions through collaborative conservation work.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium
By the end of 2020, we will have enhanced the partner network, planning and coordinated action for four wild cattle species. For the Tamaraw (Bubalus mindorensis), range-wide conservation actions will be defined, agreed amongst stakeholders, and being implemented, following a PHVA workshop in 2018. The One Plan approach for conserving Anoa (Bubalus depressicornis and B. quarlesi) and Banteng (Bos javanicus) in Indonesia will be implementing two site-based projects, while the ex situ status will have been improved with cooperative breeding efforts in Indonesian zoos. This programme (Action Indonesia Global Species Management Plans) will have built capacity of the national zoo association and set up cooperative breeding programmes for the first time that can be used as a model for other species. The most likely remaining locations of Saola (Pseudoryx nghetinhensis) will have been searched, and efforts conducted to capture individuals for a captive breeding programme.

Assess
Red List: Red List assessments completed for eight of nine species.
Research activities: (1) production of publications on Anoa and Babirusa (Babyrousa babyrussa, B. celebensis, B. togeanensis) genetics, Tamaraw, Kouprey (Bos sauveli), and hunting in Sulawesi; (2) Tamaraw population monitoring and improved assessment; (3) Banteng monitoring in east Javan park; (4) Anoa and Babirusa monitoring in Sulawesi park; (5) Saola camera trapping study.

Plan
Planning: (1) First planning workshop for Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa Global Species Management Plans (GSMPs); (2) host Saola working group biennial meeting; (3) participate in the Conservation Planning Specialist Group (CPSG) visioning workshop; (4) organize Sabah Banteng conservation planning workshop; (5) complete GSMP masterplan for Anoa, Banteng and Babirusa; (6) contribute to the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) Regional Collection Planning for wild cattle; (7) set up a programme to increase support for Tamaraw conservation.

Act
Conservation actions: (1) construction of Saola breeding centre in Viet Nam; (2) improve protection of Tamaraw population.

Network
Capacity building: (1) hold one training workshop for Indonesian zoo educators to set up network and test out materials; (2) hold a PHVA Tamaraw workshop and produce a report; (3) hold two animal husbandry training work-
shops for zoo keepers on Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa; (4) hold one animal husbandry training workshop for forest ranger staff on Anoa and Babirusa; (5) assess Indonesian zoo experts to plan future training.

Communicate
Communication: launch AWCSG newsletter.

Activities and results 2018

Assess
Red List
i. Red List assessments are completed and online, with one assessment remaining to be completed. (KSR #4)

Research activities
ii. A publication on Tamaraw is available at: https://www.asianwildcattle.org/newsletter.html (KSR #32)

Plan
Planning
i. The Global Species Management Plan for Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa was completed and approved by the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA). (KSR #15)
iii. The Regional Collection Plan for wild cattle and camelids was completed and approved by EAZA. (KSR #15)

Network
Capacity building
i. The PHVA Tamaraw Workshop was held and the report is being written. (KSR #15)

Communicate
Communication
i. The AWCSG newsletter was launched in December: https://www.asianwildcattle.org/newsletter.html (KSR #32)

Acknowledgements
We would like to acknowledge the IUCN SSC office: Jon Paul Rodriguez, Rachel Hoffmann, Kira Mileham and Orlando Salamanca, for all their support to help set up this collaboration and continued support to grow and strengthen our network. We are very grateful to the supporters of the AWCSG, in particular Mark Pilgrim, Simon Dowell, Scott Wilson, Tim Rowlands, Charlotte Smith at Chester Zoo; Wes Sechrest and Barney Long of Global Wildlife Conservation; and Jeff Holland and John Wortman of Center for Conservation of Tropical Ungulates. Also, thanks to all the active members of the AWCSG for their continuing hard work to conserve these species, and in particular, the species coordinators, Bill Robichaud, Paul Buzzard, Penny Gardner, Simon Hedges, Rahul Kaul, Tom Gray and Emmanuel Schultz. We acknowledge the hard work of the Saola Working Group members in their many areas of work. We also appreciate the dedication that all members of the GSMP Committees have contributed throughout the last year, especially the conveners/co-conveners and new Working Group Leaders and all the institutions supporting the GSMPs. We are grateful to those from the Philippine Government, NGOs and other partners that have made huge progress to conserve Tamaraw in the last year.