

IUCN SSC Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group

2016-2017 Report



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Chair

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Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ North of England Zoological Society, Global Wildlife Conservation, Center for Conservation of Tropical Ungulates, UK

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Number of members

50

Social networks

Facebook:

IUCN Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group

Twitter:

@IUCN_WildCattle

Instagram:

@iucn_wildcattle



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.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Bolster work at national scales

■ Agreements

i. An agreement made with the Philippine Government to hold a PHVA workshop in 2018/19 for the Critically Endangered Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*). (KSR #29)

■ Conservation activities

i. A two-year Global Species Management Plan (GSMP) was drafted for three Indonesian species, Banteng (*Bos javanicus*), Anoa (*Bubalus depressicornis* and *B. quarlesi*) and Babirusa (*Babirusa babyrussa*, *B. celebensis*, *B. togeanensis*), as well as agreeing to form committees to coordinate actions. (KSR #15)

ii. A partnership has been developed between two new partners to continue with the existing work in improving the assessment and conservation of Tamaraw, together with government approval of this work. (KSR #27)

iii. An annual plan has been produced and disseminated for Saola Working Group activities and its implementation is underway. (KSR #31)

iv. A Banteng workshop held in Sabah including a PVA assessment and conservation plans drafted for 10 years of future activities. (KSR #18)

Capacity building

■ Capacity building

i. More than 50 zoo keepers were trained in improved husbandry of Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa.

ii. More than 25 forest rangers were trained in immediate care of confiscated Anoa and Babirusa.

iii. More than 35 Indonesian zoo educators were trained in enhancing zoo based education activities.

■ Technical advice

i. Expert input to enhance standards of seven Indonesian zoos, including capacity building and facilities. (KSR #27)

ii. Contributed experiences of wild cattle conservation planning to a Conservation Planning Specialist Group 4-year visioning workshop. (KSR #18)

Acknowledgements

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Anoa (*Bubalus depressicornis*), Endangered
Photo: Chester Zoo

Simon Hedges, Rahul Kaul and Emmanuel Schultz. We acknowledge the hard work of the Soala Working Group members and 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 now supporting the GSMPs.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Bolster work at national scales

Red List: Red List assessments completed for 8 of 9 species.

Research activities: production of publications on Anoa and Babirusa genetics, Tamaraw, kouprey and hunting in Sulawesi.

Communications

Communication: (1) one training workshop for Indonesian zoo educators to set up network and test out materials; (2) SG newsletter launched.

Conservation activities: PHVA Tamaraw workshop and report.

Conservation action

Conservation activities: (1) 1st planning workshop for Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa Global Species Management Plans; (2) hosting Saola working group 2 year meeting; (3) participate in CPSG visioning workshop; (4) Sabah banteng conservation planning workshop; (5) Global Species Management Master Plan completed for Anoa, Banteng and Babirusa; (6) contributing to EAZA Regional Collection Planning for wild cattle; (7) program set up to increase support for Tamaraw conservation.

Policy

Policy advice: (1) two animal husbandry training workshops for zoo keepers on Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa; (2) one animal husbandry training workshop for forest ranger staff on Anoa and Babirusa; (3) experts Indonesian zoo assessment to plan future training.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By the end of 2020, we will have enhanced the partner network, planning and coordinated action for four wild cattle species. For the Tamaraw, 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 and banteng 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 GSMPs) 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 will have been searched, and efforts conducted to capture individuals for a captive breeding programme.

Summary of activities (2016-2017)

Key Priority Area ratio: 2/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Bolster work at national scales (5 activities)
- Capacity building (5 activities)

Main KSRs addressed: 15, 18, 27, 29, 31

KSR: Key Species Result