

# IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group

**2021**  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



*Stegostoma tigrinum* - EN ©WhitcombRD from Getty images via canva.com







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# Mission

CPSG saves threatened species by increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts worldwide.



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# Mantra

Each species that needs a conservation plan is covered by an effective and implemented conservation plan.



*Crax fasciolata* - VU ©Parque das Aves



# Letter from the Chair



Is it just me or are we all in a COVID-19 time warp? Some days take forever, while months are flying by. The sameness of each day, combined with a loss of routine and ritual, is changing our perception of time. At least for me, last year was a blur.

But as I reviewed CPSG's 2021 activities for this Annual Report, the weeks and months began to take shape. The many milestones that mark CPSG's outstanding progress came into focus. Every month, CPSG demonstrated our commitment to reducing the decline in threatened species and our dedication to scaling up our proven approach to conservation planning. Simply put, despite these pandemic challenges, we never stopped working for species survival.

What made that possible? The committed people of CPSG who worked collectively and collaboratively. We are particularly grateful to our 242 new and returning volunteer members who have pledged to support CPSG in the new IUCN quadrennium. We are proud of our 11 devoted CPSG Regional Resource Center teams that consistently demonstrate creativity and excellence in their delivery of CPSG activities. We are indebted to the guidance provided by the 37 members of our Strategic Committee and to our Financial Board. And we are humbled by the generosity and loyalty of our 124 donors.

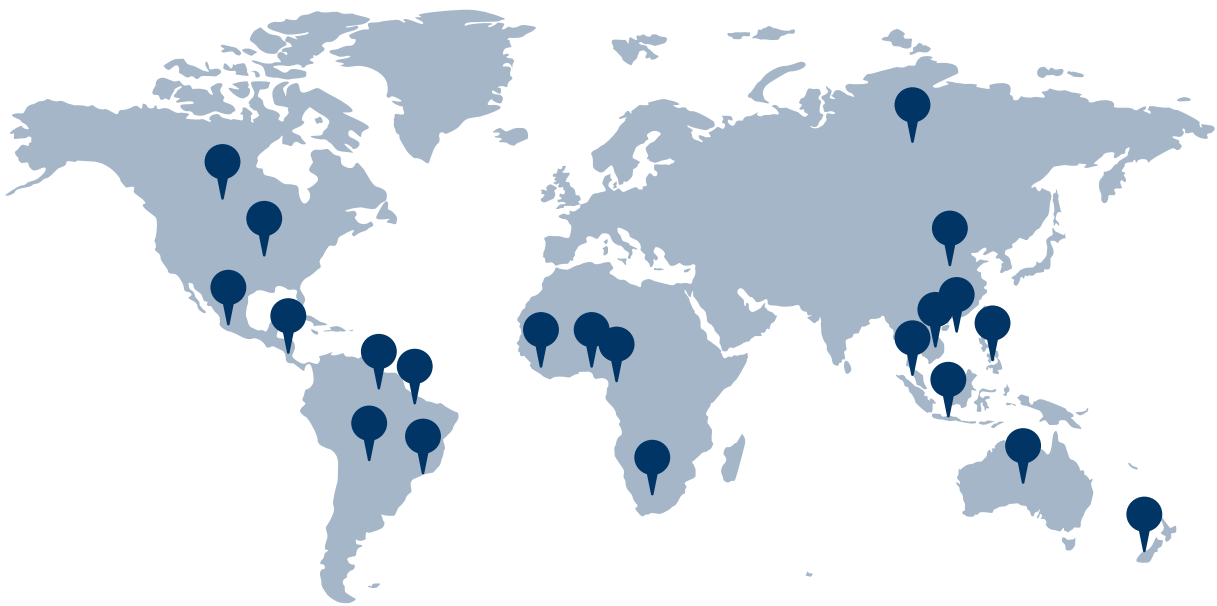
Whether measured by time, people or results, you will find a year of successes reflected in the pages of this report. In 2022, we will build on those successes as we slowly come back together determined to mark milestones and make memories. Together, we have thrived in spite of these challenging times. Together, we are poised for a future of continued success on behalf of the species with which we share our planet.

*Ormie Byers*



# 2021 at a Glance

- 24 Planning workshops
- 266 Species planned for
- 96% Planning activities held virtually
- 📍 21 Countries home to planned-for species



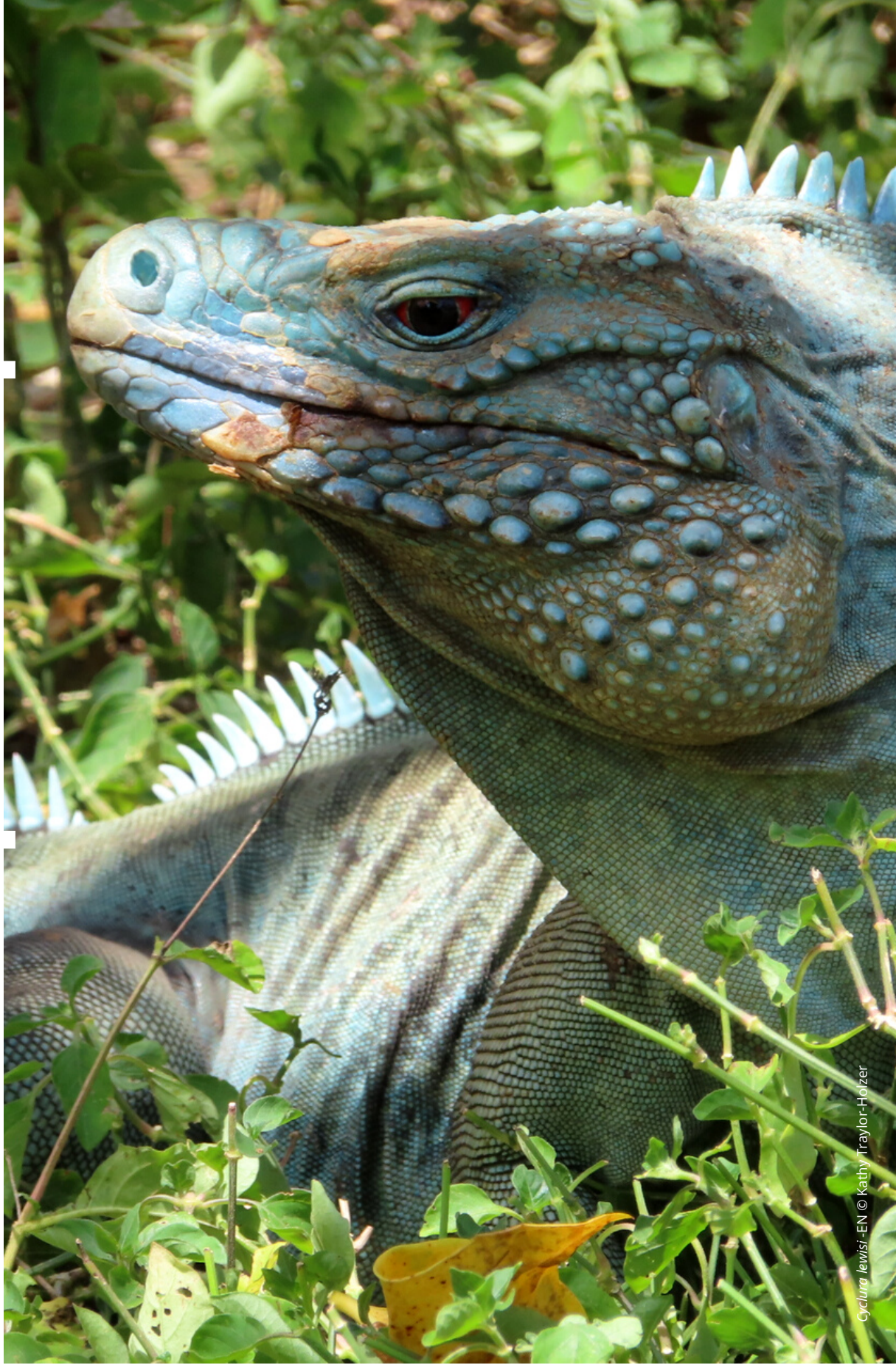
## NUMBER OF SPECIES PLANNED FOR:





# Species Updates

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## Grand Cayman Blue Iguana

### *Cyclura lewisi*

CPSG contributed to the publication of the *Strategic Species Action Plan for the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana 2021-2026*. Plan implementation in this first year has seen a record year in egg production and hatchling survival, field monitoring successes, facility construction, new public outreach initiatives, new grant awards, and training of the first volunteer group of Blue Iguana Guardians.

### *Bombus sylvarum*

Published following a series of workshops facilitated by CPSG, implementation of the *Conservation Strategy for the Shril Carder Bee 2020-2030* continues.

New materials are available to advise land managers on bee friendly management practices and have been used in the development of several site management and development plans. Additionally, the strategy is directly referenced and embedded into a range of local and regional initiatives, such as Wales Area Statements and local county pollinator action plans.

## Shrill Carder Bee



©Michael meijer from Getty images via canva.com





©Jamie Copsey

## Azorean Invertebrates

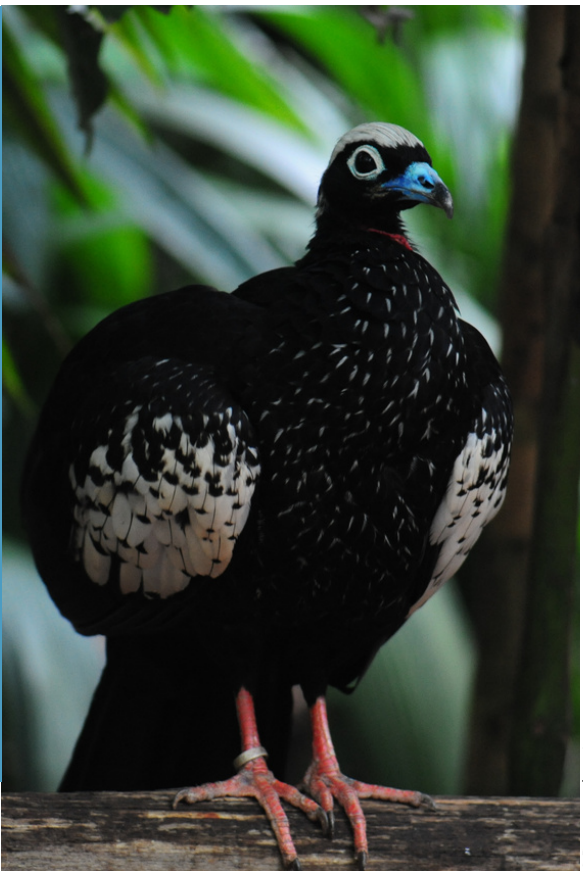
In 2020, CPSG participated in a conservation planning workshop for invertebrates (in particular mollusca and arthropoda) of Santa Maria Island in the Azores Archipelago. Funding has since been secured from the European Union’s LIFE Programme for a project focused on the conservation of snails endemic to Santa Maria Island that will facilitate the implementation of the multispecies invertebrate recovery plan for the island.

### *Aburria jacutinga*

Recommendations from a 2019 CPSG-facilitated PVA and a 2020 *ex situ* conservation assessment for the black-fronted piping-guan included population reinforcement and reintroduction.

In October 2021, four individuals from Parque das Aves’ expanding conservation breeding program were released by Projeto Jacutinga as part of a project led by SAVE Brasil to restore the species to the Atlantic Rainforest. Staff from Instituto Claravis and Parque das Aves are observing the released birds and making recommendations to improve pre-release management and post-release monitoring.

## Black-fronted Piping-guan



©Parque das Aves

©Frank Vassen



## European Hoverflies

In 2020, CPSG facilitated an Assess to Plan (A2P) process for 260 threatened species of European hoverflies that resulted in a multispecies plan for hoverfly conservation in Europe. Seeing the potential in the use of A2P to streamline national species planning, the Danish government invited CPSG to conduct a pilot project in 2022, applying A2P to develop a multispecies plan for Danish hoverflies.

## *Lynx pardinus*

CPSG facilitated a PHVA for Iberian lynx in 1998 and provided *ex situ* modelling and population management advice in 2004 and 2017. From 2011 to 2022, 338 captive-born individuals were reintroduced and the wild Iberian lynx population has grown from fewer than 100 individuals in 2002 to 1,365 in 2021, spread over 14 populations in Spain and Portugal.

## Iberian Lynx



©Ramón Carretero from Getty Images via canva.com





## Florida Grasshopper Sparrow

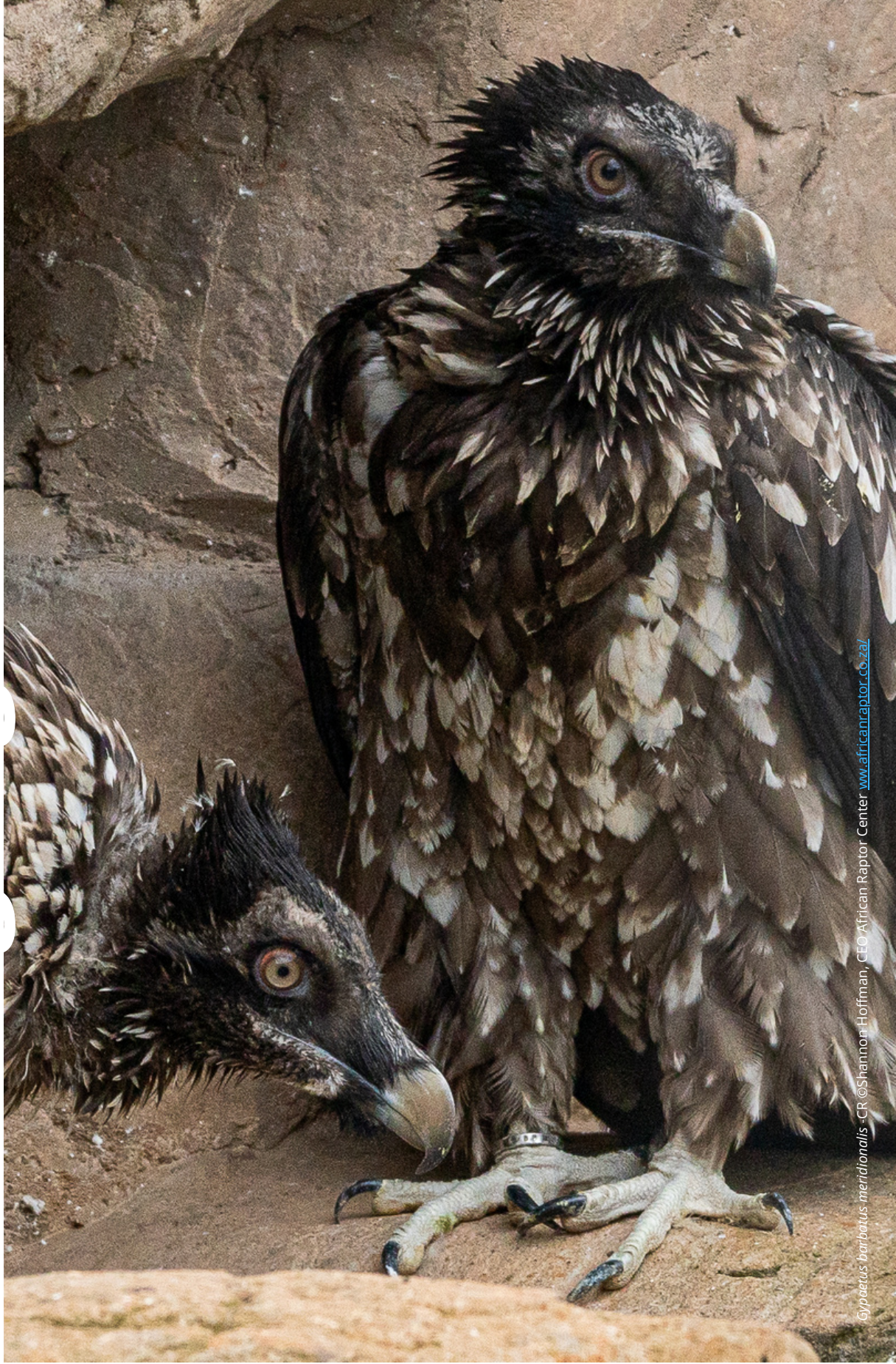
### *Ammodramus savannarum floridanus*

The outcome of a 2018 CPSG-facilitated wildlife disease risk analysis (WDRA) for the Florida grasshopper sparrow was a plan to release captive-bred birds into the wild following strict biosecurity protocols to reduce the risk of introducing novel pathogens. At that time, the wild population was estimated to be fewer than 80 birds. Between mid-2019 and 2021, nearly 500 sparrows have been released into the wild, with no evidence of pathogen introduction. These birds are surviving and breeding, boosting the wild population.



# Highlighted Stories

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# *Gypaetus barbatus meridionalis*

## Bearded vulture

South African subspecies



### Population Viability Analysis (PVA)



*Gypaetus barbatus meridionalis* - CR ©Shannon Hoffman, CEO African Raptor Center [www.africanraptor.co.za/](http://www.africanraptor.co.za/)

CPSG's work with stakeholders enabled them to decide jointly to increase their harvesting efforts of eggs from wild nests to support vital *ex situ* conservation efforts. As Shannon Hoffman, Manager of the breeding program, explained, ***"All our hard work has finally paid off and, for the first time, we have hit the annual harvest target of 6 chicks!"*** In 2022, CPSG will again work with stakeholders to help them plan for the long-term recovery of the wild population.

# Bearded vulture

## South African subspecies

**The species:** Bearded vultures play an important ecological role as scavengers. Their unique ability to digest bone means they help in the process of recycling nutrients from carcasses, particularly of dead ungulates. The Southern African population of this species is genetically distinct and found only in the Maloti-Drakensberg mountains of Lesotho and South Africa.

**The problem:** The Southern African subspecies of bearded vulture is in decline, with the current population estimated to be fewer than 400 individuals. A combination of poisoning, habitat loss, reductions in food availability, persecution, and collisions with power lines are driving this decline.

**Stakeholders:** Maloti Drakensberg Transfrontier Programme, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (South Africa), Ministry of Environment and Tourism (Lesotho)

**The process:** The Bearded Vulture Breeding Programme was initiated in 2015 with an aim to build up the *ex situ* population of Southern African bearded vultures that could, in turn, be used to supplement the wild population. Initially, a conservative approach was adopted to harvesting individuals from the wild for the captive breeding population, resulting in a slow growth of the captive population. A review was called for to look at whether or not to adopt a more assertive harvesting approach to build the captive population without putting further pressure on the already vulnerable wild population. A Population Viability Analysis (PVA) planning process was undertaken and, through a combination of population model development and comparing the likely impacts of different harvesting strategies on the trajectory of the wild population, along with a structured decision-making process, stakeholders reached agreement on a new harvesting strategy for the 2021-2022 season.

**Meeting organizers:** Bearded Vulture Recovery Programme and Bearded Vulture Breeding Programme (Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife, African Bird of Prey Sanctuary, African Raptor Trust, Endangered Wildlife Trust).

**Region/countries where species primarily found:** Lesotho, South Africa





# Canadian snakes

39 snake taxa

## Integrated Collection Assessment and Planning (ICAP)



Chorino bottae - LC ©randimal from Getty images via canva.com

This process increased knowledge and understanding among all participants of the full spectrum of possible *ex situ* conservation roles. Recommended actions broaden existing *ex situ* roles and published recommendations, and complement *in situ* conservation efforts, enabling the development of more detailed integrated conservation plans for Canadian snakes. The results will help guide Canada's accredited zoos and aquariums in their snake conservation programs and in shaping future regional collection planning to be more cooperative.

# Canadian snakes

## 39 snake taxa

**The species:** 39 snake taxa in three families are considered native to Canada. Snakes provide many benefits to the ecological community, including controlling small animal populations, thereby controlling rodent-borne diseases, and are important prey for raptors and other predators.

**The problem:** Snakes in Canada face multiple threats, including habitat loss and degradation, persecution, disease, road mortality, and climate change. More than 60% of snake taxa are considered at risk nationally. No comprehensive assessment exists for the potential contribution of *ex situ* activities and partners to the conservation of snakes in Canada.

**Stakeholders:** Over 60 *in situ* and *ex situ* regional experts, including zoo staff, government and First Nations representatives, academics, and other species experts from across Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

**The process:** During the three-day virtual workshop, participants used the decision process of the *IUCN Guidelines on the Use of Ex Situ Management for Species Conservation* to assess all 39 Canadian snake taxa for potential *ex situ* conservation action, regardless of their current *ex situ* status. Each potential *ex situ* role was evaluated with respect to its conservation benefit and the feasibility of implementation. Based on a rapid species-by-species analysis of benefits versus feasibility and risks, participants identified priority recommendations for *ex situ* conservation roles that will directly benefit wild snake populations.

**Meeting organizers:** African Lion Safari, Canadian Species Initiative, Wildlife Preservation Canada

**Region/countries where species primarily found:** Canada





*Nemosia rourei*

# Cherry-throated tanager



## Conservation Action Planning



*Nemosia rourei* - CR ©Gustavo Magnago

Priority actions related to preserving, restoring, and expanding cherry-throated tanager habitat were identified during the workshop. As a result, several months after the workshop in July 2021, Instituto Marcos Daniel, in partnership with Rainforest Trust and American Bird Conservancy **acquired 285 hectares of land covering 20% of the territory of one of the two known groups of cherry-throated tanagers**, thereby protecting over 60% of the known population.

# Cherry-throated tanager

**The species:** The cherry-throated tanager is one of the rarest birds on the planet. It was first described in 1870 from a single specimen, not seen again until 1941, and then thought extinct until rediscovered in 1998. It lives high in the canopy of the Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest.

**The problem:** It is estimated that there are fewer than 50 individuals, restricted to the state of Espírito Santo in Brazil. Habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation due to agricultural conversion and urban encroachment are the primary threats to the species. The lack of basic knowledge about the species' natural history is an obstacle to the establishment of intensive management actions.

**Stakeholders:** Species experts, researchers, environmental agencies, public prosecutors, local communities, NGOs, universities, associations, and private institutions.

**The process:** The objective of the workshop was to develop an integrated conservation action plan for the cherry-throated tanager. The general objective of the conservation plan established by the participants was to contribute to an increase in the population of the cherry-throated tanager within five years. From this general objective, six specific objectives were identified:

- *Interventions to reduce mortality and increase the reproductive success of the species*
- *Integration with public policies*
- *Habitat conservation*
- *Creation of protected areas*
- *Efforts to increase knowledge about the species*
- *Communication and education activities*

Participants identified 50 specific actions with timelines and responsible parties that will be implemented by the organizers and collaborators within the scope of the Cherry-throated Tanager Conservation Program (PCSA) of Instituto Marcos Daniel, together with other collaborating institutions.

**Meeting organizers:** Instituto Marcos Daniel (IMD), IUCN SSC Center for Species Survival Brazil, National Center for Bird Conservation and Research (CEMAVE/ICMBio), Parque das Aves/Instituto Claravis & ALUPAR

**Region/countries where species primarily found:** Espírito Santo, Brazil





*Dermochelys coriacea*

# Eastern Pacific leatherback turtle



## Population Viability Analysis (PVA)



*Dermochelys coriacea* - EN ©AGAMI from Getty images via canva.com

The process brought together experts with a range of ideas and perspectives on the conservation of this Critically Endangered species, including both wild population managers and those considering the short-term protection of young turtles in *ex situ* environments before releasing them to the open ocean.

*Dermochelys coriacea*

# Eastern Pacific leatherback turtle

**The species:** The leatherback sea turtle is the largest turtle in the world. They lack scales and a hard shell and are named for their tough, rubbery skin. They have existed unchanged as a species since the age of dinosaurs and are therefore considered to be living fossils.

**The problem:** Once prevalent in every ocean except the Arctic and Antarctic, the leatherback turtle population is rapidly declining. The Pacific leatherback turtle populations are most at risk of extinction. The Eastern Pacific population has seen steep declines over the past 30 years due primarily to human activities – egg collection for consumption and incidental entanglement of subadults and adults in fishing gear.

**Stakeholders:** Researchers, fisheries biologists, conservationists, students, and supporters.

**The process:** The focus of the process was to determine the extent to which *ex situ* management activities – specifically headstarting and egg translocation across two subpopulations using nesting beaches in Mexico and Costa Rica – should be considered as complements to *in situ* conservation efforts for the species. A Population Viability Analysis (PVA) was undertaken that examined potential future trajectories for these subpopulations based on different conservation actions (both *in situ* and *ex situ*) taken. In the end, due to key knowledge gaps in the biology, ecology, and demography of these subpopulations, *ex situ* management activities were not recommended for the species at this time. However, a range of research themes were identified by the group to help fill these gaps so that, in future, the potential role of *ex situ* conservation activities for the species could be reexamined.

**Meeting organizers:** Upwell

**Region/countries where species primarily found:** Pacific coast of Central and South America





# *Stegostoma tigrinum* Zebra shark



## Population Viability Analysis (PVA)



*Stegostoma tigrinum* -EN ©richcarey from Getty Images via canva.com

This PVA project used general shark life history traits and expert opinion from both field and *ex situ* experts to develop a population model for the zebra shark in Raja Ampat to assess future trends with and without conservation translocations. These results will guide the StAR Project in developing its augmentation strategies, timelines, and research, as well as promoting collaborations and support, to promote effective restoration of zebra sharks in the Raja Ampat archipelago.

# *Stegostoma tigrinum*

## Zebra shark

**The species:** Zebra sharks are typically found within a narrow band of shallow coral reef habitat and soft bottom. Their reluctance to cross deep, open water leads to population isolation and impedes natural recolonization of available habitat.

**The problem:** The zebra shark is a broadly distributed but Endangered shark species that is thought to be locally extinct throughout much of Indonesia and functionally extinct in the Raja Ampat archipelago. Wild populations of zebra sharks have seen dramatic declines in recent decades due to habitat degradation and overfishing. Natural recovery is unlikely, even in marine protected areas, while data gaps hinder the development of effective restoration efforts.

**Stakeholders:** Aquarium, university, and NGO species experts in the United States, Australia, and Indonesia.

**The process:** The StAR Project is a multinational collaborative initiative to reestablish a healthy, genetically diverse, and self-sustaining wild population of zebra sharks, starting with the Raja Ampat archipelago in Indonesia. In 2021, CPSG worked with the StAR Project to conduct a Population Viability Analysis (PVA) to evaluate the conservation benefit and feasibility of population augmentation strategies to transport captive-bred egg cases from American aquariums to Indonesia for hatching, rearing, and release in Raja Ampat. Vortex model results suggest that augmentation is both beneficial and feasible, even across data uncertainty. If successful, the StAR Project could serve as a model for the conservation translocation of captive-bred sharks into the wild.

**Meeting organizers:** *Stegostoma tigrinum* Augmentation and Recovery (StAR) Project

**Region/countries where species primarily found:** Indo-West Pacific





## Celebrating a Development Journey!

In 2018, we launched the CPSG Planner Development Path program, designed to equip a select group of inductees with the competence and confidence they need to design and facilitate species conservation planning processes. In our 2020 Annual Report, we reported on the progress made by our first cohort of seven mentees in their professional development, taking on leadership roles for a range of species conservation planning processes. In 2021, we were delighted to celebrate the completion of this development process for all seven mentees, each of whom is now recognized as a CPSG Species Conservation Planning Facilitator. These individuals have greatly expanded CPSG's ability to respond to requests for conservation planning support around the world.

Evaluation of our past training efforts (Bruyere, Copsey & Walker, in press) indicates that several factors are key for mentees putting their conservation skills into practice. These include having a supportive, professional network, and a sense of self-efficacy – a personal belief in their ability to plan effectively. The CPSG Planner Developer Path combines training, practice opportunities, and ongoing mentoring to provide this support and help mentees build their skills and confidence.

### 2021 CPSG Planner Development Path Graduates



In 2021, we expanded our Development Path with a new cohort of 16 mentees spread across 5 continents. This includes four mentees on our new Technical Development Path\*, focused on developing skills in the Population Viability Analysis (PVA) process. Our aim is to foster linkages across all past and current mentees, helping to further their professional networks and identify additional opportunities to apply their skills. These mentees are already using their skills in conservation planning projects, including those for cranes in South Africa and primates in Brazil.

## Celebrating a Development Journey!

### 2022 CPSG Planner Development Path Mentees



Eugenia Cordero Schmidt (Brazil)



\*Fabio Stucchi Vannucchi (Brazil)



Marina Somenzari (Brazil)



Amy Chabot (Canada)



Jessica Steiner (Canada)



\*Christina Hvilsom (Denmark)



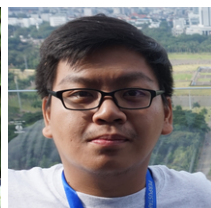
Mikkel Stelvig (Denmark)



Ann-Katrine Garn (Denmark)



Katharina Herrmann (Germany)



Yonathan Yonathan (Indonesia)



Sally Wren (New Zealand)



Claire Raisin (England, UK)



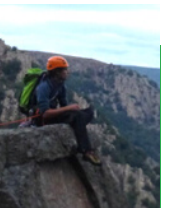
Paul Bamford (England, UK)



Helen Taylor (Scotland, UK)



\*Simon Valle (Wales, UK)



\*Alexis Rutschmann (New Zealand)



CPSG also runs an online training course in species conservation planning. In CPSG's 2021 annual survey of all trainees, more than 90% of respondents reported that their CPSG training had expanded their professional support network. 65% percent of respondents used the skills they learned to design and/or facilitate species conservation planning workshops for 215 species, including nine species of Indonesian gibbon, 62 elasmobranchs, and 38 Colombian primate species.

In many cases, specific planning approaches are needed to support species recovery. In response, CPSG is expanding our training support to include assessment for disease and *ex situ* conservation actions. In late 2021, we piloted the initial modules of our new online, eight-week course on Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis (WDRA), demonstrating how to apply the *IUCN Guidelines for Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis*. We also began development of our new course in *ex situ* conservation assessment based on the *IUCN Guidelines on the Use of Ex situ Management for Species Conservation*. Both courses will be launched in 2022!

\*Technical Development Path Mentees



# Measuring CPSG's Impact on Reversing Species Declines

In 2017, CPSG expanded its role within the IUCN SSC to lead on the “Plan” component of the IUCN SSC’s “Assess-Plan-Act” conservation cycle. In doing so, CPSG became more closely connected to the IUCN Red List assessment process and, as a result, more acutely aware than ever of the escalating numbers of species declining towards extinction.

Helping to reverse these declines is a priority for CPSG. As we moved into our new conservation planning leadership role, we wanted to be sure that the shorter-term, post-planning benefits often reported to us by conservation practitioners were being matched by positive, species-level changes in extinction risk over time. While we know that some of our planned species have improved in status (see *Species Updates*), we wanted to evaluate this more systematically and statistically.

In short, we were interested in the question, “Can we expect a CPSG-facilitated planning initiative to improve the extinction trajectory of a species?”

To consider this question, we drew from our CPSG in-house database of all species-level planning projects that took place before 2008 (to allow for at least 10 years of post-planning changes) and for which the species involved had been assessed for the IUCN Red List multiple times and, importantly, both before and after a CPSG conservation planning workshop. For the 45 species projects that met the criteria, we were able to calculate an aggregate group extinction trajectory before and after planning. This took the shape of a steep decline before the planning workshop, followed by a period of continued but shallower decline after the workshop, and culminating in an upturn within 15 years. No species went extinct. For comparison, and for the same group of species, we simulated a “without planning” trajectory based on patterns of change in extinction risk prior to planning. This trajectory declined throughout the post-planning period and resulted in the extinction of around eight species. The difference between these two trajectories was statistically significant at both the 10- and 15-year marks.

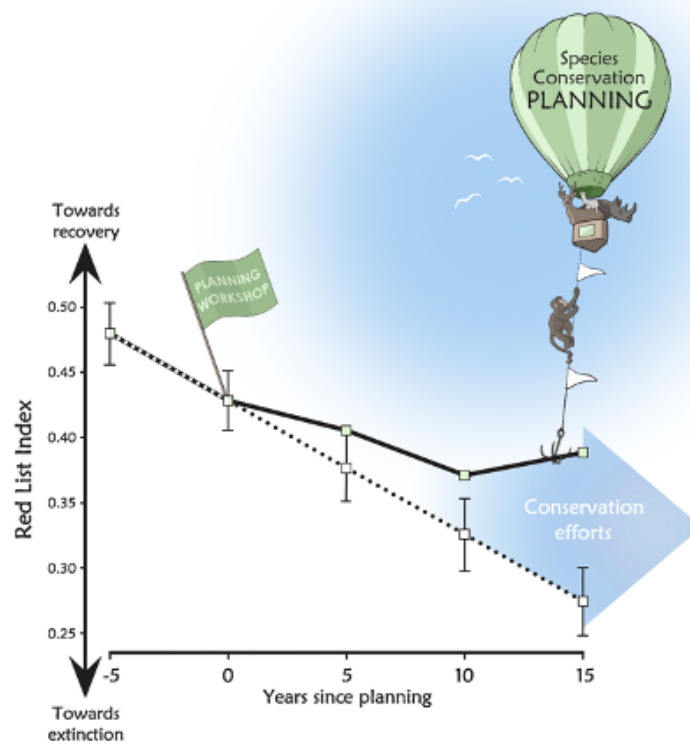


Rhinoceros unicornis - VU ©Rahgu\_Ramaswany via canva.com

# Measuring CPSG's Impact on Reversing Species Declines

It has taken many years to accumulate the data for this study, and we will continue to expand the sample in the years to come. Nevertheless, the results to date are clear and are consistent with our view that CPSG-style conservation planning can be a turning point for a species, helping those involved in its conservation to transition to more effective ways of working together. Full details of this study are provided in [Lees et al. 2021](#).

The study described was a collaboration between CPSG and the University of Auckland, New Zealand.



CPSG-style planning helps to reverse the decline of threatened species.



# Workshop Sponsors

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# Workshops

WORKSHOPS	SPONSORS
Aussie Ark Population Models for Priority Re-wilding Projects	Aussie Ark
Bearded Vulture Population Viability Analysis (PVA)	Global Conservation Network
Brazilian Parrot National Action Planning (Monitoring Meeting)	CEMAVE/ICMBio
Canadian Snake Integrated Collection Assessment & Planning (ICAP) Workshop	Wildlife Preservation Canada
Cherry-Throated Tanager Conservation Planning	Alupar; Instituto Marcos Daniel; Transmissora Caminho do Café
Cobble Skink Population Viability Analysis (PVA)	Auckland Zoo; New Zealand Department of Conservation
Eastern Loggerhead Shrike Conservation Planning	Bluearth Renewables, Loyalist Solar LP
Eastern Pacific Leatherback Turtle Conservation Planning	Upwell
<i>Ex Situ</i> Conservation Assessment for 15 Primates and the Maned Sloth	ICMBio/CPB
Great-Billed Seed Finch Conservation Planning	CEMAVE/ICMBio
Korean Stumpy Bullhead Population & Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA)	IUCN
Liberian Chimpanzee Conservation Planning & Analysis	The Jane Goodall Institute
Mala Recovery Planning	Australian Government – Department of Agriculture, Water, & the Environment
Assess to Plan (A2P) for Terrestrial Vertebrates of the Philippines	Mandai Nature
Planning for Human-Jaguar Coexistence in the Caatinga	ICMBio; World Wildlife Fund
Poweshiek Skipperling Population Viability Analysis (PVA) Extension	Minnesota Zoo; US Fish & Wildlife Service
Population Viability Analyses (PVAs) for Threatened Species of the Annamite Range in Vietnam	USAID; World Wildlife Fund
Red Wolf Recovery Planning	US Fish & Wildlife Service
Southern Mountain Caribou DU9 Population Viability Analysis (PVA)	Province of British Columbia
West African Vulture Conservation Planning	IUCN Species Survival Commission; Re:Wild
Zebra Shark Reintroduction Population Viability Analysis (PVA)	Seattle Aquarium



# Trainings

TRAININGS	SPONSORS
Capacity Building for Species Conservation Planning in Lebanon	IUCN
CPSG Species Conservation Planning Clinic	Global Conservation Network
CPSG Species Conservation Planning Tools Practice Session	Global Conservation Network
Facilitating Species Conservation Planning Online Training Course 1	Global Conservation Network; The Nature Conservancy
Facilitating Species Conservation Planning Online Training Course 2	Global Conservation Network; The Nature Conservancy
Vortex & Population Viability Analysis (PVA) Training Course	Global Conservation Network
Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis (WDRA) Online Training, Pilot Course	Global Conservation Network; The Nature Conservancy

# Meetings

MEETINGS	SPONSORS
AZA Mid-Year Committee Meetings	Global Conservation Network
AZA Reproductive Management Center Board Meeting	Global Conservation Network
AZA Small Population Management Advisory Group Meeting	Global Conservation Network
AZA Tiger Species Survival Plan Annual Meeting	Global Conservation Network
Biobanking in Southeast Asia	Mandai Nature
Biodiversity & Health (Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis) Webinars 1 & 2	Global Conservation Network; Parque das Aves
CPSG Brasil Meeting	Global Conservation Network; Parque das Aves
CPSG Species Conservation Planning Principles & Steps Presentation	Global Conservation Network
EAZA Population Management Advisory Group Meeting	Global Conservation Network
Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders Mentoring	Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders
Grand Cayman Blue Iguana Species Action Planning	Global Conservation Network
Group Management Initiative Review	Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
IUCN World Conservation Congress	Global Conservation Network
Jasper Caribou Conservation Breeding Proposal Review	Global Conservation Network
Medical Genomics Center Planning	Zoo New England; Broad Institute
Risk Assessment & Feline Prevention Measures in Parque das Aves	Global Conservation Network; Parque das Aves
SEAZA Annual Conference	Global Conservation Network
SEAZA Science for Zoos Webinar	Global Conservation Network
Sumatran Rhino Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Review	Re:Wild
Upper Mississippi Aquatic Vegetation Vulnerability Assessment	US Geographical Survey
Utah Prairie Dog Population Analysis Review	Utah State University
WAZA Annual Conference	WAZA
WAZA Sumatran Tiger Global Species Management Plan	Zoological Society of London



**\$25,000 and above**

Copenhagen Zoo\*  
Disney's Animal Kingdom  
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi  
Minnesota Zoo (CPSG Office Sponsor)  
Omaha Zoo Foundation  
Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo  
Zoo Berlin



**\$10,000 and above**

Brad & Alice Andrews\*  
Auckland Zoological Park  
Aussie Ark  
Anne Baker & Robert Lacy  
Chester Zoo\*  
Dallas World Aquarium  
Detroit Zoological Society  
The George & Mary Rabb Fund for Conservation  
Global Conservation Associates\*  
Houston Zoo\*  
Saint Louis Zoo  
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
World Association of Zoos & Aquariums  
Zoo Leipzig\*

**\$5,000 and above**

Al Ain Zoo  
Mark Barone  
Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium  
Nordens Ark\*  
Schönbrunner Tiergarten – Zoo Vienna\*  
Taronga Conservation Society Australia  
Zoo Zürich  
Zoologischer Garten Rostock

\*Denotes CPSG Chair sponsor

## **\$2,000 and above**

Akron Zoological Park  
Allwetterzoo Münster  
Anonymous  
Laurie Bingaman Lackey & Steven Lackey  
Borås Djurpark\*  
Bristol Zoo Gardens  
British & Irish Association of Zoos & Aquariums  
Chris Byers & Kathy Vila  
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, CREW  
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo  
Dickerson Park Zoo  
Dublin Zoo  
European Association of Zoos & Aquaria  
Fort Wayne Children's Zoo  
Fota Wildlife Park  
Givskud Zoo  
Gladys Porter Zoo  
Helsinki Zoo  
Kansas City Zoo  
Peter & Nancy Killilea  
Lincoln Park Zoo  
The Living Desert  
Milwaukee County Zoo  
North Carolina Zoo  
Oregon Zoo  
Rotterdam Zoo  
Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp  
Sedgwick County Zoo  
Lee & Marie Simmons  
Swedish Association of Zoos & Aquaria  
Taipei Zoo  
Twycross Zoo  
Verband der Zoologischen Garten  
Wilhelma Zoo  
Woodland Park Zoo  
Zoo Frankfurt  
Zoological Society of Wales, Welsh Mountain Zoo  
Zoologischer Garten Köln  
Zoos South Australia

## **\$1,000 and above**

Aalborg Zoo  
Everland Zoological Gardens  
Fundación Parques Reunidos  
Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens  
Richard & Maggie Jakob-Hoff  
Little Rock Zoo  
Los Angeles Zoo  
Ocean Park Conservation Foundation, Hong Kong

*\*Denotes CPSG Chair sponsor*

Perth Zoo  
Prudence Perry  
Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens  
White Oak Conservation Center  
Wildlife World Zoo & Aquarium  
Zoo & Aquarium Association (ZAA)  
Zoo de la Palmyre

## **\$500 and above**

Cotswold Wildlife Park  
David Traylor Zoo of Emporia  
Kattegatcentret  
Lisbon Zoo  
Odense Zoo  
Katey & Mike Pelican  
Ed & Marie Plotka  
Racine Zoological Society  
Tokyo Zoological Park Society  
Wellington Zoo  
Zoo Heidelberg  
Martín Zordan, in honor of Prudence Perry

## **\$250 and above**

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
Lee Richardson Zoo  
Roger Williams Park Zoo  
Rolling Hills Zoo  
Zoo African Safari

## **\$100 and above**

Alpenzoo Innsbruck  
David Barnard  
Shanmuga Sundara Bharathi  
Jim Guenter  
Vicky Meretsky  
Roopali Raghavan  
Ivan Rehak & Katarina Rehakova  
Kathryn Rodriguez-Clark  
Oliver Ryder  
Gloria Svampa  
Frank Zeigler

## **\$50 and above**

Nicole Duplaix  
Luke Harding  
Nina Mikander

## **\$20 and above**

Karen Bauman  
Jose Antonio Diaz Luque  
Jo-Elle Mogerman  
Paul Pearce-Kelly  
Rebecca Spindler

## **\$20 and above**

Mansoor AlJahdhami  
Catherine King  
Clare Stringer

**Thank you to our  
generous donors!**



# About CPSCG

**CPSG**  
**2021**  
ANNUAL  
REPORT







## CPSG

The Conservation Planning Specialist Group saves threatened species by increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts worldwide. We bring together the right people and information to engage in collaborative conservation planning that produces practical management recommendations for conservation action. In the over 40 years since our founding, we have helped develop conservation plans for over 1,100 species through more than 900 projects in over 85 countries. We have 242 individual members with unique expertise and knowledge who help us fulfill our conservation mission.

We are a Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, supported by the 501c3 non-profit organization Global Conservation Network.



## IUCN SSC

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is an international organization working for the conservation of nature and the sustainable use of natural resources. The IUCN is made up of six commissions, the largest being the Species Survival Commission (SSC). The SSC is a science-based network of 9,000+ volunteer experts working towards the conservation of nature and maintaining the planet's biodiversity. The SSC is made up of over 160 Specialist Groups, Red List Authorities, and Task Forces. CPSG is one of the SSC's 8 Disciplinary Specialist Groups.





**Onnie Byers**  
*Chair*



**Phil Miller**  
*Senior Program Officer*



**Kathy Traylor-Holzer**  
*Senior Program Officer*



**Caroline Lees**  
*Senior Program Officer*



**Fabiana Lopes Rocha**  
*Program Officer*



**Eugenia Cordero Schmidt**  
*Program Officer*



**Jamie Copsey**  
*Director of Training*



**Elizabeth Townsend**  
*Finance Officer*

# CPSG Regional Resource Centers & Convenors

## CPSG Regional Resource Centers

### CPSG Australasia

*Richard Jakob-Hoff*



### CPSG Brasil

*Fabiana Lopes Rocha*



### CPSG Canada

*Amy Chabot & Jessica Steiner*



CANADIAN  
SPECIES  
INITIATIVE

### CPSG Europe

*Kristin Leus*



### CPSG Indonesia

*Esther Manansang*



### CPSG Japan

*Kumiko Yoneda*



### CPSG Mesoamerica

*Yolanda Matamoros*



### CPSG Mexico

*Luis Carrillo*



### CPSG South Asia

*Sanjay Molur*



### CPSG Southeast Asia

*Roopali Raghavan &  
Sonja Luz*



### CPSG Southern & East Africa

*Kerryn Morrison &  
Harriet Davies-Mostert*



Thank you to our Regional Resource  
Center hosts!



## Committee Members

**Brad Andrews**, Humane Conservation, USA  
**Anne Baker**, Amphibian Ark, USA  
**Mark Barone**, The Gates Foundation, USA  
**Kevin Buley**, Auckland Zoological Park, New Zealand  
**Mark Craig**, Australia  
**Carmel Croukamp**, Parque das Aves, Brazil  
**Rachel Daneault**, Disney's Animal Kingdom, USA  
**Danny de Man**, EAZA, The Netherlands  
**Candice Dorsey**, AZA, USA  
**Lee Ehmke**, Houston Zoo USA  
**Nate Flesness**, Species360, USA  
**Jo Gipps**, Global Conservation Network, United Kingdom  
**Alejandro Grajal**, Woodland Park Zoo, USA  
**Myfanwy Griffith**, EAZA, The Netherlands  
**Jim Guenter**, Species360, USA  
**Sanna Hellström**, Helsinki Zoo, Finland  
**Mats Höggren**, Nordens Ark, Sweden  
**Bengt Holst**, Bengt Holst Consulting, Denmark  
**Mike Jordan**, Chester Zoo, United Kingdom  
**Andreas Knieriem**, Zoo Berlin, Germany  
**Bob Lacy**, Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative, USA  
**Sonja Luz**, Mandai Nature, Singapore  
**Phil McGowan**, Newcastle University, United Kingdom  
**Lance Miller**, Chicago Zoological Society, USA  
**Jo-Elle Mogerman**, Saint Louis Zoo, USA  
**Dao Nguyen**, IUCN, United Kingdom  
**Theo Pagel**, Zoologischer Garten Köln, Germany  
**Paul Pearce-Kelly**, Zoological Society of London, United Kingdom  
**Mark Pilgrim**, Zoos Victoria, Australia  
**Ivan Rehak**, Prague Zoo, Czech Republic  
**Alex Rübel**, Zoo Zürich, Switzerland  
**Lee Simmons**, Omaha Zoo Foundation, USA  
**Kazutoshi Takami**, Toyohashi Zoo & Botanical Park, Japan  
**Pat Thomas**, Wildlife Conservation Society, USA  
**John Werth**, PAAZA, South Africa  
**Jonathan Wilcken**, United Kingdom  
**Martín Zordan**, WAZA, Spain

## Board Members

**Brad Andrews**, Humane Conservation, USA

**Carmel Croukamp**, Parque das Aves, Brazil

**Lee Ehmke**, Houston Zoo, USA

**Nate Flesness**, Species360, USA

**Jo Gipps**, Global Conservation Network, United Kingdom

**Jim Guenter**, Species360, USA

**Sanna Hellström**, Helsinki Zoo, Finland

**Bengt Holst**, Bengt Holst Consulting, Denmark

**Lena Lindén**, Rewilding Europe, Sweden

**Sonja Luz**, Mandai Nature, Singapore

**Mark Pilgrim**, Zoos Victoria, Australia

**Lee Simmons**, Omaha Zoo Foundation, USA

**Pat Thomas**, Wildlife Conservation Society, USA

**Simon Tonge**, Paignton Zoo, United Kingdom

CPSG is supported by a USA non-profit organization incorporated under the name **Global Conservation Network (GCN)**.



# 2021 Financial Report

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

### SUPPORT & REVENUE

Contributions	\$575,784
Workshops & contracts	\$172,658
Investment income	\$133,513
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>	<b>\$881,955</b>

### EXPENSE

Program services	\$581,083
Support services:	
Management & general	\$115,479
Fundraising	\$44,925
Total support services	\$160,404
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$741,487</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT DECEMBER 31, 2021

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

Cash & cash equivalents	\$823,849
Grants receivable	\$54,736
Prepaid expenses	\$5,839
Total current assets	\$884,424

Investments	\$764,094
Property - net	\$1,005

**TOTAL ASSETS** \$1,649,523

### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$6,958
Accrued salaries	\$14,075
Accrued vacation	\$22,428
Funds held for others	\$28,883
Due to (from) affiliated organization	\$(16,790)
Total current liabilities	\$55,554

#### Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$1,528,276
With donor restrictions	\$65,693
Total net assets	\$1,593,969

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** \$1,649,523

## Notes to the 2021 Financial Statements

The finances to support the work of CPSG are held and managed by the Global Conservation Network (GCN), a USA 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. GCN had an overall surplus from operations of US \$140,468 for the year in 2021. As of December 31, 2021, we had a net asset reserve of US \$1,593,969, or approximately 27 months of operating expenses. The information on this page was taken from the 2021 audit. Copies of the full audit can be obtained by contacting the CPSG office.

# IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group

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*Saguinus bicolor* - CR ©bellizar73 from Getty Images via canva.com

**Together, we can plan a future for wildlife**

## CONNECT

Follow us on social media:   

Or, send your questions to [office@cpsg.org](mailto:office@cpsg.org)

## SUPPORT

Visit us at [cpsg.org/support-cpsg](https://cpsg.org/support-cpsg)