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Galliformes Specialist Group Annual Report 2019

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IUCN SSC Galliformes Specialist Group

2019 Report



Simon Dowell



John Carroll

Co-Chairs

Simon Dowell (1)
John Carroll (2)

Red List Authority Coordinator

BirdLife International

Location/Affiliation

(1) Science Director, Chester Zoo, Cedar House, Caughall Road, Chester, CH2 1LH, UK
(2) School of Natural Resources, University of Lincoln, Nebraska, HARH 903, UNL, 68583-0989, US

Number of members

163

Social networks

Facebook: Galliformes Specialist Group
Twitter: @galliformes_SG
Website: <https://galliformes.org>



Galliformes Specialist Group

Mission statement

The Galliformes Specialist Group (GSG) is committed to the worldwide conservation and sustainable management of all native populations of Galliformes species and their habitats.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

We expect to improve the protection of a suite of Galliformes species in Southeast Asia through a regionally focused action planning approach. This will be designed to influence conservation policy in one of the countries of this region containing important Galliformes species, most probably Myanmar, securing better protection for species and their habitats and leading to population recovery. In addition, we aim to use the expertise of the conservation breeding community together with field conservationists and partners to develop a 'one plan' approach that will enhance the population of the Critically Endangered Edwards's Pheasant (*Lophura edwardsi*, also known as Viet Nam Pheasant, probably our most threatened extant species). Enhanced communications and support provided by the GSG will stimulate new conservation project work on the ground for threatened Galliformes in other regions of the world, designed to raise awareness and improve protection that will ultimately lead to population recovery. We aim to use the Green Listing process to predict and evaluate success.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Green List: actively participate in the development of the Green List by offering Galliformes species for piloting and being at the forefront of the introduction of the Green Listing process.

Plan

Conservation actions: produce one regional action plan covering Galliformes species.

Act

Conservation actions: bring together the captive (conservation) breeding community and field conservationists by encouraging the development of more 'one plan' thinking towards the conservation of Galliformes.

Network

Proposal development and funding: develop and implement a proactive scheme for encouraging the Galliformes community to secure funding for the conservation of our species, including provision of a service to review, improve and endorse funding proposals.

Synergy: develop a more formalised relationship between GSG and related groups, especially the Grouse Group.

Communicate

Communication: improve communications via online and virtual methods.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Green List

i. We were part of the pilot Green List assessments and a PhD student at Newcastle University, Garima Gupta, included Green List assessment as part of her thesis. Green List assessments were completed for 12 Himalayan Galliformes species. Several GSG members and one of the Co-Chairs are co-authors on the initial Green List scientific paper which has been submitted. (KSR #11, 27)



Tuan Anh Pham of Viet Nature explains plans to recover the critically endangered Vietnam Pheasant at the seventh international Galliformes Symposium in Dong Hoi, Vietnam, September 2019
Photo: Simon Dowell

Plan

Conservation actions

i. No progress with the regional action plan covering Galliformes species. Our main focus has been on the Viet Nam Pheasant species recovery plan. (KSR #11)

Planning

i. A Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP) for Viet Nam Pheasant was drafted (final published version released 2020). Progress was made on developing a species recovery plan for the Viet Nam Pheasant, involving both the *in situ* and *ex situ* community, including meetings held in September as part of a Galliformes conference held in Viet Nam. Workshops were held for Green Peafowl (*Pavo muticus*) and Cheer Pheasant (*Catreus wallichii*) at the World Pheasant Association conference in September. (KSR #31)

Act

Conservation actions

i. The GSG Co-Chair joined the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Recovery Team for Masked Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus ridgwayi*). USFWS and the Sutton Center continue a captive rearing programme. Birds are transitioned at Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona and imprinted on wild male Masked Bobwhites. (KSR #25, 31)

Network

Proposal development and funding

i. Further funding reviews were received and processed via the Co-Chairs. A service to review, improve and endorse proposals is not yet achieved. (KSR #30)

Synergy

i. The Co-Chair is on the Scientific Advisory Committee for the World Pheasant Association. Co-Chairs are also on the USFWS Masked Bobwhite Recovery Team. (KSR #29)

Communicate

Communication

i. The group remains active on social media. Our website continues to be managed internally and links to our membership and social media. Facebook has 1,218 followers and 30–40 views per day. In 2019, we had 1,170 page likes and our posts typically had reach of 100–300. The Twitter account has 111 followers and in 2019 had 974 impressions. (KSR #28)

Acknowledgements

Thanks to the World Pheasant Association for organisation of a successful Galliformes conference in Viet Nam in September. Thanks to Viet Nature for their work on species recovery for the Viet Nam Pheasant and to other partners in this endeavour, including BirdLife, Berlin Zoo, Antwerp Zoo, Wild Planet Trust (Paignton Zoo) and North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo). Thanks to colleagues at Newcastle University, UK, for helping to test Green List with Galliformes.

Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 5/5

Assess	1	
Plan	2	
Act	1	
Network	2	
Communicate	1	

Main KSRs addressed: 11, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31

KSR: Key Species Result