

CPSG Europe Activities

October 2016 – September 2017

Studbook and Population Management Training Workshop

Members of the SEAZA Species Management Committee were the focus of a population management training workshop conducted by CBSG (main office, North American and Europe) and hosted by the Taipei Zoo on 23-26 October. Additional participants included studbook keepers and species coordinators in the region. Representatives from Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan spent four days in instruction, practice, and discussion of all aspects of population management, from studbook data collection and analysis to developing program goals and breeding plans. Attendees identified the conservation roles for their focal species as described in the IUCN *ex situ* guidelines. Group discussions outlined the challenges to population management in this region, which were grouped into three categories: data acquisition and quality issues; poor population status and management; and issues related to people and resources. Potential solutions and action steps were identified to begin addressing these challenges.

Facilitation skills for Conservation Managers Training

The Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, the International Rhino Foundation and CBSG Europe co-taught the 5-day course on Facilitation Skills for Conservation Managers as part of Durrell's International Conservation Training Programme. This edition took place 5-10 March at Durrell's International Training Centre on Jersey (Channel Islands, UK). The course is designed to develop the skills needed to facilitate meetings or workshops involving multiple stakeholders with potentially conflicting interests and to provide the participants with the confidence to organise and conduct their own meetings and workshops tackling complex and contentious issues. During the course the participants learned, and had ample time to practise, essential workshop facilitations skills, including decision making, conflict management, cross-cultural sensitivity, group dynamics, active listening and consensus building.

PVA Development for the Javan Leopard

CPSG was approached to provide species distribution modelling (SDM) and population viability analysis (PVA) modelling for the Javan leopard (*Panthera pardus melas*) to inform decisions that need to be taken to deliver the recommendations Indonesia's governmental Javan Leopard Conservation Strategy and Action Plan for 2015-2025 (e.g. meta-population management, priority areas for corridors/buffers, conflict mitigation strategies, and monitoring and research priorities). A two-day SDM and PVA development workshop was held at Taman Safari Indonesia in May 2017 and was attended by the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry and NGO and zoo biologists working on Javan leopard conservation. The CPSG team represented a blending of skills from CPSG HQ, CPSG Europe and CPSG Brasil to introduce spatial distribution and population modelling tools and how they might support management decisions. Model inputs were discussed and revised for both types of models. An overview of the *ex situ* population from the International Studbook was reviewed, and its conservation role and management will be considered as part of a One Plan Approach. Results will inform a multi-stakeholder PVA/PHVA workshop in Indonesia in early 2018 in collaboration with the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Javan leopard NGOs, *ex situ* conservation partners, and the IUCN Cat Specialist Group. Participants will use these quantitative analyses for making management decisions within the framework of the Javan Leopard Conservation Strategy and Action Plan.

Implementation of the masterplans for the Global Species Management Plans for Anoa, Babirusa and Banteng

In the capacity of EAZA population biologist and IUCN SSC Wild Pig Specialist Group deputy chair, and using her CBSG skills of facilitation of species conservation planning meetings and the One Plan Approach, Kristin Leus worked together with the IUCN SSC Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group, the IUCN SSC Wild Pig Specialist Group, the Indonesian Zoo and Aquarium Association (PKBSI), the relevant TAGs in both AZA and EAZA, the regional zoo association offices of AZA and EAZA and the Species Survival Commission on the implementation of the first masterplans for WAZA Global Species Management Plans for Banteng, Anoa and Babirusa. The GSMP committee members (and partners) of the three taxa made impressive progress towards implementation of action points identified in the masterplans. Among others over £70,000 was raised to fund GSMP activities; the first breeding and transfer plans were produced for all three taxa; a survey was conducted in 8 Indonesian zoos; a small grant scheme was established to fund field conservation initiatives and 3 *in situ* conservation projects were supported; 3 field trips to East Java and Sulawesi were conducted to prepare long-term *in situ* conservation involvement; a survey on the status of Babirusa on the island of Buru was conducted to enable red listing for this taxon.

Sumatran tiger Global Species Management Plan Meeting

The WAZA Sumatran Tiger Global Species Management Plan (GSMP) was established in 2008 and has held periodic meetings to discuss population status, needs and recommended actions. Kristin Leus and Kathy Traylor Holzer (CBSG main office) co-facilitated the master planning session of the most recent Sumatran tiger GSMP meeting, which was held on 28-29 October at Taman Safari Indonesia near Bogor, Indonesia. Participants included species coordinators and studbook keepers from all five regional programs as well as Indonesian government, NGO, and zoo representatives. Workshop participants identified four conservation roles for the *ex situ* tiger population, outlined progress and issues for each role, and developed goals and actions for the next few years. Workshop recommendations are currently being reviewed by PKBSI and government agencies in Indonesia. Care was taken to ensure continuity between the 4 GSMPs currently involving Indonesia.

CBSG meetings:

Bengt Holst and Kristin Leus participated in the CBSG Strategic Committee meeting, the Regional Resource Centres meeting as well as the CBSG Annual meeting in Puebla, Mexico, 06-09 October. Bengt also participated in the CBSG Strategic Planning workshop in Minneapolis 27 February – 01 March and in the CBSG Strategic Committee midyear meeting in Auckland 06-07 April.

For information:

As EEP committee chair and EAZA Executive Office staff member, Bengt Holst and Kristin Leus have been, and are working with their EAZA colleagues to develop the new EAZA breeding programme structure on the basis of the One Plan Approach, the IUCN Guidelines on the Use of *Ex situ* Management for Species Conservation and the Integrated Conservation Assessment and Planning (ICAP) process.

Publications:

Altrichter M, S Salvidar, J Decarre, M Camino, A Yanosky, JM Campos Krauer, A Desbiez, K Leus, KM Ferraz, CC Silva Angelieri, RL Cuéllar, F Arévalos, JL Cartes, AJ Giordano, J Thompson, M Velilla, R Torres, N Neris, H Cabral. Situación de conservación del pecarí del Chaco o tagua (*Catagonus wagneri*): distribución, aptitud de hábitat y viabilidad poblacional. *Paraquaria Natural*, 4(2), 2016, 30-39.

Leus K. Modelo de Simulación Poblacional – Vortex. In: Altrichter M, A Desbiez, M Camino, J Decarre (eds) 2016. Pecarí del Chaco o Taguá *Catagonus wagneri*. Una estrategia para su conservación.

Revisión de situación, análisis de viabilidad poblacional y aptitud del hábitat. UICN Grupo Especialista en Pecaríes, SSC, Guyra Paraguay, CCCI, Asunción, Paraguay, 2016, 41-55.

Leus K. Chapter 37 - Ex situ conservation of wild pigs and peccaries: roles, status, management successes and challenges. In: Melletti M, E Meijaard (eds) Ecology, Conservation and Management of Wild Pigs and Peccaries. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, in press.

Leus K, M Altrichter, A Desbiez, M Camino, AJ Giordano, JM Campos Krauer, DM Brooks, J Thompson, MN Regueiro. A vortex population viability analysis model for the Chacoan peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*). Suiform Soundings, (15)1, 2016, 64-76.

Leus K, J Holland, J Nugroho, G Semiadi, T Sumampau, T Kauffels, AH Mustari, E Meijaard, J Burton, J Rode-Margono. Global collaboration to conserve three threatened Indonesian animal taxa: Babirusa, Anoa and Banteng. Suiform Soundings, 15(1), 2016, 27-31.

McGowan PJK, K Traylor-Holzer, K Leus. IUCN Guidelines for Determining When and How Ex Situ Management Should Be Used in Species Conservation. Conservation Letters, 10(3): 361–366.

Traylor-Holzer K, K Leus O Byers. Integrating ex situ management options as part of a One Plan Approach to species conservation. In: Minter BA, J Maienschein, JP Collins (eds) The Ark and Beyond. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, in press.