

PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
2020 CPSG ANNUAL MEETING  
7 - 9 October, 2020



Hosted by San Diego Zoo Global.

For the first time in its 40 year history, CPSG held its Annual Meeting completely virtually. The meeting, held 7-9 October, was graciously hosted by San Diego Zoo Global, which provided invaluable technical support and encouragement as we navigated the new normal of virtual event planning. Special thanks to Debra Erickson and Andrew Schultz from San Diego Zoo for their dedication to our meeting!

The use of a virtual platform allowed for record-breaking participation – we welcomed a diverse group of 300 registrants from across the globe representing over 175 conservation organizations. We also had a record number of first-time CPSG Annual Meeting participants.



# Plenary Presentations

Over the course of the meeting, we looked at the past, present, and future of species conservation, and celebrated CPSG's 40-year anniversary. Recordings of the plenary presentations can be found by clicking on the titles below:

**CPSG: 40 Years of Changing the Future for Wildlife, *Kathy Traylor-Holzer, CPSG***

**Conservation Planning Works, *Caroline Lees, CPSG***

**Intro to CPSG Planning Principles & Steps, *Phil Miller, CPSG***

**The Scale of the Problem, the Planning Needs, and the Solution, *Jamie Copsey, CPSG***

**The Future of Virtual Meetings, *Bri Scully, Spatial***

**The Future of Conservation, the Use of Innovation Science, and Harnessing Frontier Science & Technology, *Alex Dehgan, Conservation X Labs***

**40 YEARS**



**40 years of changing the future for wildlife**  
Kathy Traylor-Holzer  
SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER, CPSG



**Moderator:**  
Kristin Leus, CPSG Europe & Copenhagen Zoo




**Conservation planning works**  
Caroline Lees  
PROGRAM OFFICER, CPSG



**Introduction to CPSG's planning principles and steps**  
Phil Miller  
SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER, CPSG

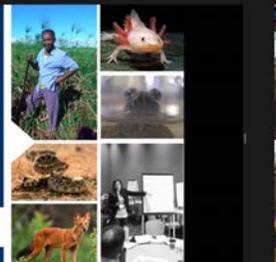


**The scale of the problem, the planning needs, and the solution**  
Jamie Copsey  
DIRECTOR OF TRAINING, CPSG



**Moderator:**  
Andrea Fidgett, San Diego Zoo Global.

**Scale of the problem & planning needs...**  
What's a solution...?




**The future of virtual meetings**  
Brianna Scully  
CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE MANAGER, SPATIAL



**Democratizing Innovation for End of Extinction**  
Alex Dehgan  
CEO, CONSERVATION X LABS



**Moderator:**  
Robert Lacy, Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative.



**Chat:**

- Do Allison Mulligan Clark para Traylor: Can Bri explain how she is interacting the software to check that really works? Does she have someone on her team for the software to pick up and monitor her responses?
- Do Ryan Schwartz para Traylor: Hi, you can contact Fernanda Albuca who is working on integrating content from your and other species' records to the software. Her email is fernanda@spatial.com/fernanda.albuca@spatial.com or a linkedin profile: linkedin.com/company/spatial-consulting/
- Do Jessica de Gollan para Traylor: Hi, we have a translation function for people with different languages?

# Working Groups

Three working groups were convened as part of the 2020 CPSG Annual Meeting:




## Assessing to Plan (A2P) training session



**Caroline  
Lees**

**Claudine  
Gibson**

The aim of this working group was to provide professionals involved in the IUCN Red List assessment process and/or species conservation planning with a sound understanding of the A2P process and the various stages of the IUCN SSC Assess-Plan-Act framework at which it can be brought in and applied to conservation planning for multiple species. A recording of the working group report presentation can be found [here](#) and the written report can be found [here](#).



# Working Groups



**Kate Rodriguez-Clark**



**Kathy Traylor-Holzer**

## Group Management



This working group focused on issues surrounding group-based population management (both *in situ* and *ex situ*) for taxa in which data may be collected and/or management actions conducted only on groups of organisms, rather than on specific individuals. It presented a summary of the Group Management Initiative, a collaborative process involving ~ 50 international population experts across diverse taxa to understand and organize existing tools and processes for group management, with the intent to eventually develop and implement new ones. A recording of the working group report presentation can be found [here](#) and the written working group report can be found [here](#).

**FISH**

**TERRESTRIAL INVERTEBRATES**

**BIRDS**

**UNGULATES**

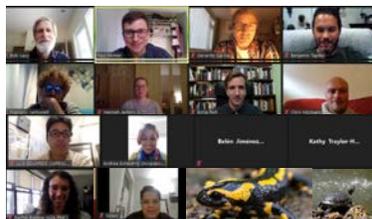


**CARNIVORES**

**HERPETOLOGY**

**AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES**

**SMALL MAMMALS**



**PLANTS**

**PRIMATES**



# Working Groups



**Jamie Copsey**

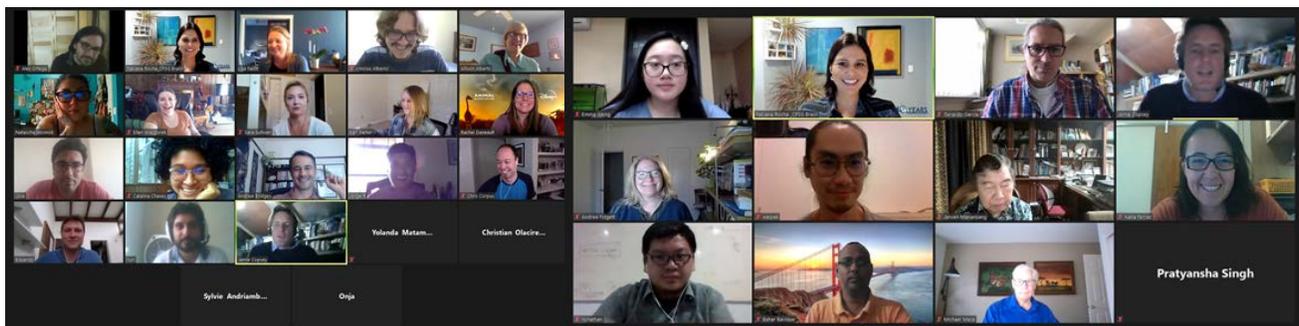


**Fabiana Rocha**

## Species Planning in a Virtual Environment: Think Tank



The aim of this working group was to provide an opportunity for participants to collectively share and learn about tips and tools for species conservation planning within a virtual environment. The results of the working group will be used in drafting guidelines for species conservation planning in a virtual environment. A recording of the working group report presentation can be found [here](#) and the written report can be found [here](#).



# Closing

The meeting closed with a celebration of CPSG's 40th Anniversary. Attendees had previously been asked to add their messages to one of four on-line anniversary cards, organized by region. For the unveiling of the cards, participants were asked to put on their party hats and unanimously wish CPSG a "happy anniversary" in their native language. The resulting cards and party hat line-up, along with an original song by CPSG Australasia's Richard Jakob-Hoff, can be viewed [here](#).

Dr. Lee Simmons, one of the original members of CPSG, gave reminiscences about the origins of CPSG: meeting Ulie Seal for the first time in 1968 aboard a Cessna airplane with an immobilized, 650 lb. gorilla; CPSG's founding in 1979 as the Captive Breeding Specialist Group, with Ulie Seal as Chair; and the roots of the unique philosophy, culture, and tools of present-day CPSG. Lee's full talk can be found [here](#).

It was heartwarming to see all of the new and familiar faces over the three meeting days (and the post-meeting Zoom happy hour!). We strove to maintain the collaborative and inclusive feel that comes with a typical in-person CPSG meeting and, based on the post-meeting feedback that we've received, we were successful.



# ANNIVERSARY PARTY



# THANK YOU

to our

# DONORS

\$50,000+

The Estate of George B. Rabb



\$25,000+



\$15,000+



**\$10,000+**

Brad & Alice Andrews  
Auckland Zoological Park  
Dallas World Aquarium  
Detroit Zoological Society  
Global Conservation Associates  
Houston Zoo  
San Diego Zoo Global  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
World Association of Zoos & Aquariums  
Zoo Leipzig

**\$5,000+**

Al Ain Wildlife Park & Resort  
Association of Zoos & Aquariums  
Anne Baker & Robert Lacy  
Balcombe Charitable Trust  
Nordens Ark  
Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium  
Schönbrunner Tiergarten – Zoo Vienna  
Smithsonian National Zoological Park  
Taronga Conservation Society Australia  
Zoologischer Garten Rostock

**\$2,000+**

Allwetterzoo Münster  
Borås Djurpark  
Bristol Zoo Gardens  
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  
Fundación Parques Reunidos  
Givskud Zoo  
Gladys Porter Zoo  
Kansas City Zoo  
Peter & Nancy Killilea  
Laurie Bingaman Lackey  
Lincoln Park Zoo

Linda Malek  
Milwaukee County Zoo  
North Carolina Zoological Park  
Oregon Zoo  
Paignton Zoo  
Rotterdam Zoo  
Royal Zoological Society of Antwerp  
Royal Zoological Society of Scotland  
Sedgwick County Zoo  
Seoul 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+**

Aalborg Zoo  
Abilene Zoological Gardens  
Akron Zoological Park  
Mark Barone  
Susie Byers  
Cameron Park Zoo  
Central Zoo Authority, India  
Mark Craig  
Everland Zoological Gardens  
Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo  
GaiaZOO  
Helsinki Zoo  
Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens  
Little Rock Zoo  
Los Angeles Zoo  
Prudence Perry  
Perth Zoo

Phoenix Zoo  
 Riverbanks Zoo & Garden  
 Thrigby Hall Wildlife Gardens  
 White Oak Conservation Center  
 Wildlife World Zoo & Aquarium  
 Zoo & Aquarium Association  
 Zoo de la Palmyre

**\$500+**

Chris Byers & Kathy Vila  
 Cotswold Wildlife Park  
 David Traylor Zoo of Emporia  
 Kattegatcentret  
 Lisbon Zoo  
 Odense Zoo  
 Katey & Mike Pelican  
 Ed & Marie Plotka  
 Racine Zoological Society  
 Oliver Ryder  
 Safari de Peaugres  
 Tokyo Zoological Park Society  
 Wellington Zoo  
 Zoo Heidelberg

**\$250+**

African Safari, France  
 Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum  
 Jonathan Gipps  
 Julia Hanuliakova & Zoo Design, Inc.  
 Lee Richardson Zoo  
 Lion Country Safari  
 Vicky Meretsky  
 Roger Williams Park Zoo  
 Rolling Hills Zoo  
 Sacramento Zoo  
 Steinhart Aquarium  
 Jacqueline & Nick Vlietstra  
 Martin Zordan

**\$100+**

Alpenzoo Innsbruck  
 Jim Guenter  
 Steven J. Olson  
 Kathryn Rodriguez-Clark

**\$20+**

David Barnard  
 Richard Frankham  
 Mikko Jokinen  
 Connor Killilea for Eloise Sundal  
 Nancy Sather

**Regional Resource Center Hosts**

AMACZOOA & FUNDAZOO  
 Auckland Zoo  
 Copenhagen Zoo  
 Japan Wildlife Research Center  
 PAAZA  
 Parque das Aves  
 Royal Zoological Society of Scotland  
 Saint Louis Zoo  
 Taman Safari Indonesia  
 Wildlife Reserves Singapore  
 Zoo Outreach Organisation & WILD  
 Zoofari Mexico

The 2020 Annual Meeting proceedings are published by the Conservation Planning Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission (SSC). The opinions and recommendations expressed in this report reflect the issues discussed and ideas expressed by the participants in the meeting and do not necessarily reflect the formal policies of the IUCN, its Commissions, its Secretariat, or its members.

**CPSG**

*12101 Johnny Cake Ridge Road  
Apple Valley, MN 55124-8151 USA  
Email: [office@cpsg.org](mailto:office@cpsg.org)  
Website: [www.cpsg.org](http://www.cpsg.org)*