

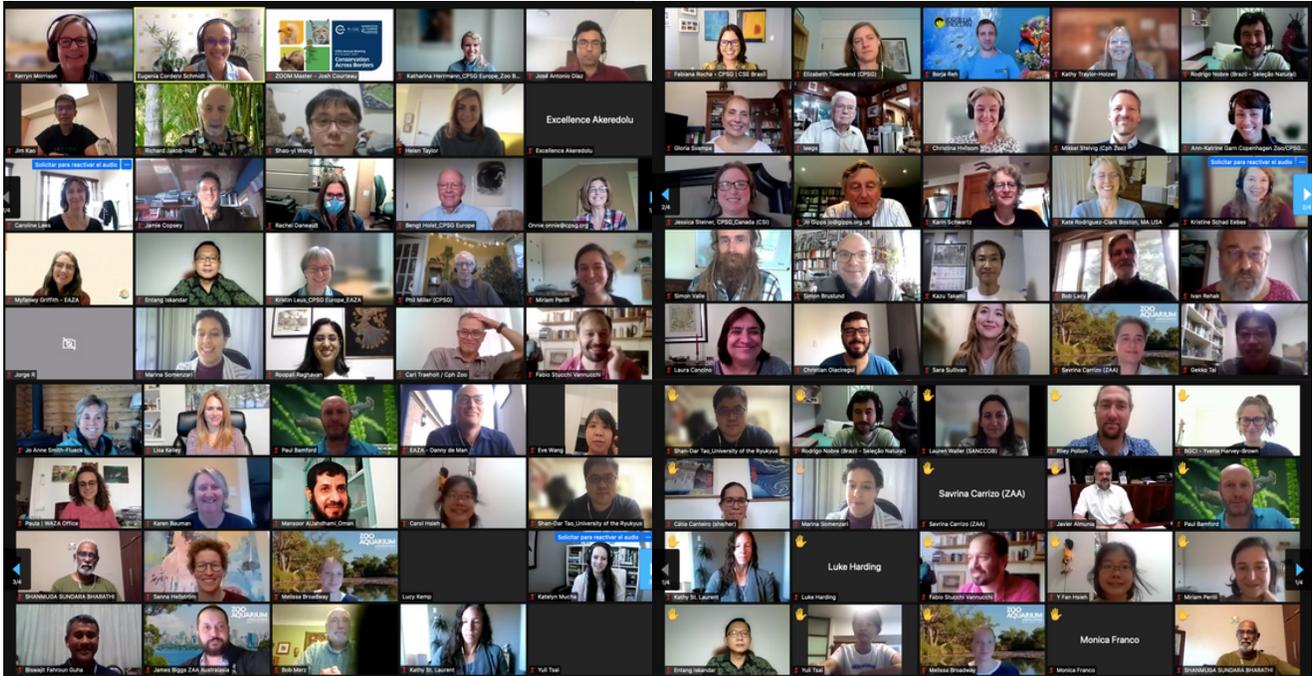
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
2021 CPSG Annual Meeting



CPSG Annual Meeting
6-8 October 2021

**Conservation
Across
Borders**

The 2021 CPSG Annual Meeting was held virtually, 6-8 October 2021. We welcomed 173 registrants from 35 countries. The theme of the 2021 CPSG Annual Meeting was "Conservation Across Borders" and was explored through plenary and working group sessions.



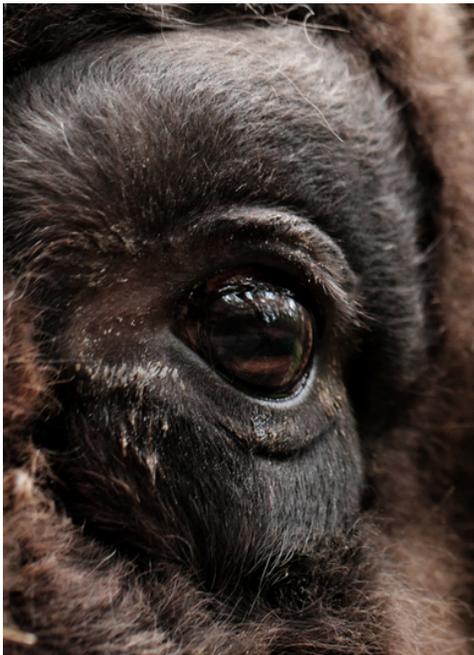
Thank you to our keynote speakers, **Luc Bas** and **Brian Mac Sharry** from the **European Environment Agency**, for their enlightening and thought-provoking talks about their experiences working for species conservation across borders (be they geographical, cultural, ideological, etc.) in Europe.

Working Groups

Five working groups were convened during the CPSG Annual Meeting:

- **Training in Disease Management Planning: How Do We Maximize Impacts?**
- **Spotlight on the Global Tree Assessment: A Model for Scaling Up Conservation Action for Plants**
- **Species Conservation Planning Across Borders: Case Studies, Challenges & Learnings**
- **Engaging IUCN Members in Species Planning to Promote Capacity Building & Planning to Act**
- **Facilitating Viability Analyses of *Ex Situ* Conservation Programs**

Summaries of the working groups, as well as links to the full working group reports, can be found in these proceedings.



What is a Working Group?

Working groups focus on **specific conservation topics** – issues of concern, innovative tools for conservation, new ideas, etc. – and, through presentations, group discussions, and brainstorming, advance the field of endangered species conservation.



CPSG Annual Meeting | 6-8 October | CONSERVATION ACROSS BORDERS

Working Group Summary

Training in Disease Management Planning: How Do We Maximize Impacts?

CONVENORS



Jamie Copsey,
CPSG



Sara Sullivan,
SCTI

Participants: James Biggs, Melissa Broadway, Simon Bruslund, Jamie Copsey, Mónica Franco, Don Gillespie, Myfanwy Griffith, Mikhail Goncharuk, Christina Hvilson, Richard Jakob-Hoff, Lucy Kemp, Daphne Kerhoas, Fabiana Lopes Rocha, Fernando Najera, Joko Pamungkas, Karin Schwartz, Sara Sullivan, Kazutoshi Takami, Shan-Dar Tao, Yuli Tsai, Eric Tsao, Steve Unwin, Kumiko Yoneda

Summary

This working group began with an introduction to two complimentary courses related to wildlife disease risk and management currently being developed in parallel. These were a virtual course led by CPSG on all aspects of the Wildlife Disease Risk Assessment (WDRA) process and a blended learning course led by the Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative (SCTI) on the utility of the infectious disease modeling tool Outbreak. Participants then divided into facilitated breakout rooms to discuss (i) strategies to maximize uptake of these new online training resources, (ii) measures of uptake success, and (iii) potential synergies between these and similar existing training resources and tools. Results from each breakout room discussion were presented in a plenary, during which participants collaboratively developed final recommendations for CPSG and SCTI to consider as they prepare to rollout their respective courses in the coming year.

Recommendations & Next Steps

1. Explore collaboration between CPSG and SCTI to enhance uptake and impact of the WDRA and Outbreak training courses, specifically, by collaborating on training materials for cross-cutting topics and by developing a case study that can be used across courses.
2. Target regionally-specific transboundary organizations (e.g., FAO, UNEP, OIE) and relevant government agencies for training in order to maximize impact on conservation policy; target trainees related to domestics as well as wildlife to emphasize a One Health system approach.

3. Enhance the Theory of Change for the WDRA course by linking Outbreak as an important quantitative tool and by emphasizing the level of collaboration and the wider ecosystem health needs the course is promoting.

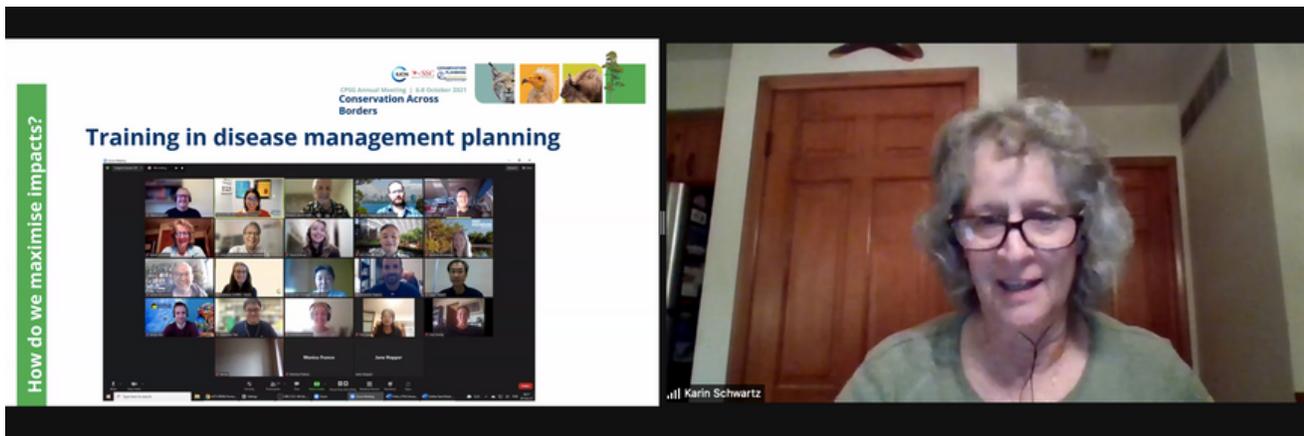
4. Improve uptake of the 2014:

IUCN SSC Guidelines for Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis

IUCN SSC Manual of Procedures for Wildlife Disease Risk Analysis

5. Expand academic links to explore modeling and training collaborations, for example, by contacting institutions with similar courses, leveraging existing academic contacts within the CPSG community, and analyzing the SCTI voluntary user registration database for more specific details on where Outbreak is being used.

The full working group report can be found [here](#).



Working Group Summary

Spotlight on the Global Tree Assessment: A Model for Scaling Up Conservation Action for Plants

CONVENORS



Kirsty Shaw,
BGCI



**Yvette
Harvey-Brown,**
BGCI



**Herbert
Ongubo,**
BGCI



Catia Canteiro,
Global Center for
Species Survival



Caroline Lees,
CPSG

Participants: Noelia Alvarez de Roman, Sylvie Renée Andriambololonera, Greetha Arumugam, Paul Bamford, Abubakar Bello, Shanmuga Sundara Bharathi, Joana Magos Brehm, Catia Canteiro, Charlotte Couch, Serene Hargreaves, Yvette Harvey-Brown, Olivier Hasinger, Mike Jordan, Caroline Lees, Yolanda Matamoros, Herbert Ongubo, Beata Papp, Marina Rabarimanarivo, Jorge Rodríguez, Kirsty Shaw, Philip Thomas, Omokafe Alaba Ugbogu, Stuart Young, Jean-Christophe Vié

Summary

To provide context to the working group, presentations were delivered outlining the Global Tree Assessment and the Global Tree Portal (Yvette Harvey-Brown, BGCI), how conservation action has been planned for Kenya's threatened trees (Kirsty Shaw, BGCI Africa) and recent progress with the implementation of these actions (Herbert Ongubo, BGCI Africa).

Workshop participants were then split into three breakout groups. In these working groups, participants shared their experiences with the Asses to Plan (A2P) model and discussed whether a national-level plant planning initiative would be possible for their taxon/group of interest. Actions where BGCI, CPSG or the plant conservation community could help support such initiatives were identified and discussed.

Recommendations & Next Steps

- Practical guidance on running a multi-species conservation planning workshop for plants (BGCI & CPSG)
- Support for conservation planning workshop facilitation (CPSG)
- Support for the delivery of conservation actions post-planning (BGCI)

The full working group report can be found [here](#).

Working Group Summary

Species Conservation Planning Across Borders: Case Studies, Challenges & Learnings

CONVENORS



Kristin Leus,
Copenhagen
Zoo



Nina Mikander,
Finnish Ministry of
the Environment

Participants: Mansoor Al Jahdhami, Javier Almunia, Donna Bear, James Biggs, Melissa Broadway, Laura Cancino, Savrina Carrizo, Paula Cerdán, Amy Chabot, Eugenia Cordero Schmidt, Rodrigo de Almeida Nobre, Danny de Man, Nicole Duplaix, Don Gillespie, Myfanwy Griffith, Philippe Helsen, Katharina Herrmann, Carol Hsieh, Christina Hvilsom, Jim Kao, Lucy Kemp, Daphne Kerhoas, Kristin Leus, Fabiana Lopes Rocha, Yolanda Matamoros, Bob Merz, Nina Mikander, Miriam Perilli, Riley Pollom, Roopali Ragavan, Borja Reh, Jo Anne Smith-Flueck, Marina Somenzari, Jessica Steiner, Kathy St. Laurent, Gekko Tai, Kazutoshi Takami, Shan-Dar Tao, Helen Taylor, Yuli Tsai, Carl Traeholt, Eve Wang, Yonathan Yonathan

Summary

This workshop focused on species-level conservation planning for species with ranges crossing geopolitical borders – a situation that makes adhering to **CPSG's Conservation Planning Principles & Steps** even more important, but also more challenging. Two case study presentations highlighted some of the challenges and lessons learned from cross border planning experiences. Participants then engaged in three facilitated brainstorm sessions: i) to explore which biological and managerial issues/criteria would be important to take into consideration when determining the scope of a cross boundary species management plan; ii) to identify different ways to ensure all relevant stakeholders are included in a multinational planning approach (considering that the number of stakeholder groups is likely to increase as the number of geopolitical and cultural units covered by the plan increases); iii) to identify any existing guidance for such planning. Finally, the group formulated recommendations to help expand guidance on/development of this particular class of species conservation planning.

Recommendations & Next Steps

The working group members formulated recommendations that may help to expand guidance on/development of this particular class of species conservation planning. These recommendations will be discussed within CPSG HQ to determine which (components) can be taken up by CPSG (HQ and/or Regional Resource Centers) (given the content and priorities of CPSG's Strategic plan for the next quadrennium), and which can be directed towards other organizations to look into further:

1. Introduce CPSG and its principles, steps and tools, to Secretariats of treaties and conventions (e.g. CMS) and associated agreements (e.g. Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds) that involve cross border species conservation planning.
2. Make it easier for planners to determine the existence (or absence) of ongoing or retired plans, e.g. for the same species in neighboring or other range countries, regional level plans for the species, etc..
3. Investigate the value and feasibility of creating a 'cross border planning bucket' in the A2P process.

The full working group report can be found [here](#).

Working Group Summary

Engaging IUCN Members in Species Planning to Promote Capacity Building and Planning to Act

CONVENORS



Harriet Davies-Mostert,
Endangered
Wildlife Trust



**Ann-Katrine
Garn,**
Copenhagen Zoo

Participants: Javier Almunia, Anne Baker, Shanmuga Sundara Bharathi, Simon Bruslund, Onnie Byers, Peter Clarke, Jamie Copley, James Danoff-Burg, Harriet Davies-Mostert, José Antonio Diaz Luque, Nicole Duplaix, Katia Ferraz, Ann-Katrine Garn, Myfanwy Griffith, Entang Iskander, Lisa Kelley, Lucy Kemp, Esther Manansang, Riley Pollom, Borja Reh, Elodie Rey, Karin Schwartz, Lauren Waller, Shao-yi Weng, Stephanie Winton

Summary

The IUCN is the world's largest and oldest conservation union. However, many are unaware of the **IUCN's One Programme Charter**, adopted in May 2011 to guide how all parts of the Union – Members, Commissions, and the Secretariat – should work together to advance IUCN's program of work. This CPSG Annual Meeting working group was convened to catalyze more systematic engagement between CPSG and IUCN Member organizations.

The session began with questions to identify where participants were from, which components of IUCN they were connected to, and a fact-check on their knowledge of IUCN structure. Two presentations covered the basics of the One Programme Approach and some personal experiences working across the IUCN. Participants then answered questions about how IUCN Members could contribute to the CPSG program and vice versa. Several volunteers were co-opted into a small Task Force to drive engagement forward.

Recommendations & Next Steps

1. Convene the Task Force to integrate the One Programme Approach into the CPSG.
2. Develop a plan of action based on input from the working group session at the CPSG Annual Meeting and existing IUCN frameworks to encourage greater alignment between Members and CPSG (e.g. Motion F - Role of Commissions in National and Regional Committees). This plan will identify success metrics for integration.
3. Engage with relevant IUCN networks to implement the action plan. These networks will include the CPSG and SSC leadership structures and IUCN Member networks such as the Global Group for National and Regional Committee Development.

Members of the Task Force

- Jamie Copsey, United Kingdom
- Harriet Davies-Mostert, South Africa (facilitator)
- Nicole Duplaix, United States of America
- Ann-Katrine Garn, Denmark (facilitator)
- Lisa Kelly, United States of America
- Danny de Man, the Netherlands
- Riley Pollom, United States of America
- Borja Reh, Spain
- Shanmuga Sundara Bharathi, India

The full working group report can be found [here](#).

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a poll titled "Which IUCN component do you represent?" is displayed. The poll results are shown in a donut chart with 7 segments, each representing a different IUCN component. The legend for the poll is as follows:

- 1: IUCN Member org + National/Regional Committee
- 2: IUCN Commission + Member organisation
- 3: IUCN Members organisation
- 4: Other
- 5: All 3 components
- 6: IUCN Commission
- 7: IUCN National/Regional Committee

On the right, a video feed shows a participant, Ann-Katrine Garn, wearing large headphones. The name "Ann-Katrine Garn Copenhagen Zoo/CPSG Europe" is visible at the bottom of the video feed. A button labeled "Eliminar destacado" is visible in the top left corner of the video feed area.

Working Group Summary

Facilitating Viability Analyses of *Ex Situ* Conservation Programs

CONVENOR



Bob Lacy,
SCTI

Participants: *Grant Abel, Excellence Akeredolu, Shanmuga Sundara Bharathi, Karen Bauman, Rebecca Biddle, James Biggs, Rachel Bladow, Kay Bradfield, Karolína Brandlová, Megan Brown, Simon Bruslund, Amy Chabot, Rachel Daneault, James Danoff-Burg, Candice Dorsey, Andrea Echeverry-Alcendra, Kristine Schad Eebes, Jeremie Fant, Gina Ferrie, Elmar Fienieg, Ashley Franklin, Peter Galbusera, Sanna Hellström, Philippe Helsen, Christina Hvilsum, Jamie Ivy, Ida Ayu Ari Janiawati, Bob Lacy, Amanda Lawless, Caroline Lees, Kristin Leus, Yolanda Matamoros, Phil Miller, Abby Montgomery, Katelyn Mucha, Rob Ogden, Christian Olaciregui, Asako Navarro, Riley Pollom, Andrea Putnam, Lakshminarasimha Ranganathan, Borja Reh, Ivan Rehak, Elodie Rey, Jorge Rodriguez, Kathryn Rodriguez-Clark, Alex Rutschmann, Oliver Ryder, Karin Schwartz, Paul Senner, Marina Somenzari, Jessica Steiner, Sara Sullivan, Shan-Dar Tao, Kathy Traylor-Holzer, Yuli Tsai, Eric Tsao, Simon Valle, Fabio Stucchi Vannucchi, Eve Wang, Shao-Yi Weng, Kumiko Yoneda*

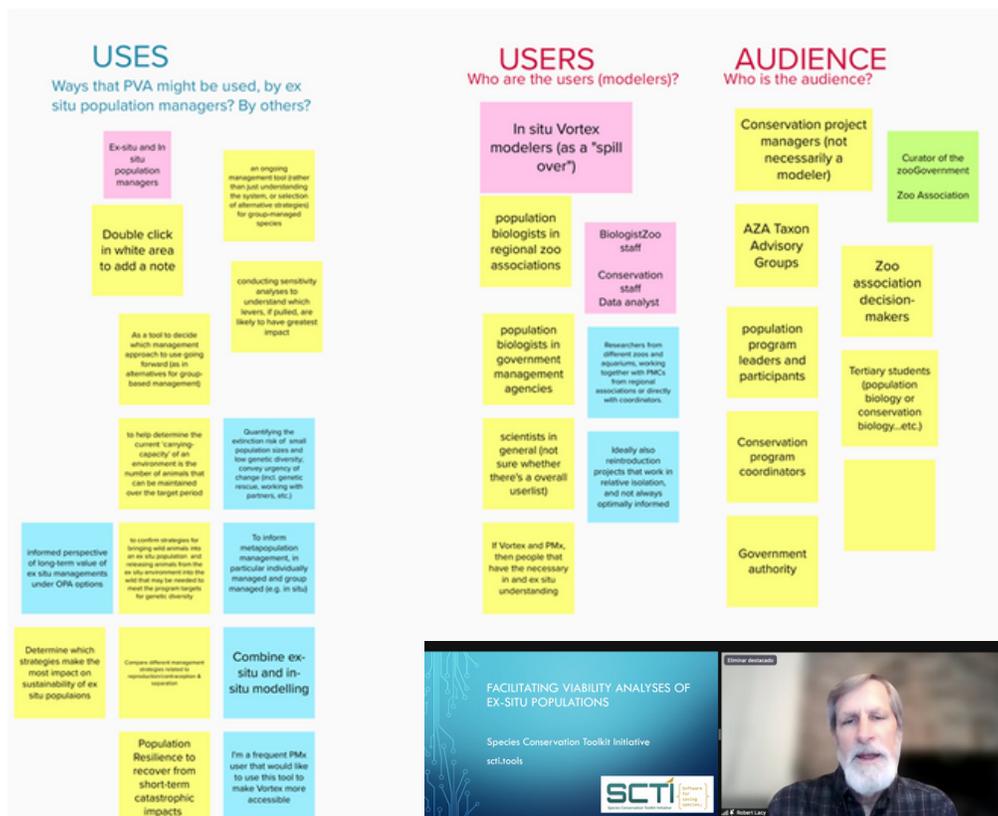
Summary

This working group began with overviews of ways in which Population Viability Analyses (PVA) have been used to guide conservation planning for managed ex situ populations. Then a new tool was described that is being developed by the Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative (SCTI) to facilitate PVA of ex situ populations. The tool extracts population data from a PMx project and exports a Vortex project for PVA. After a Q&A session about the new tool, the working group tallied ways that they envisioned the tool and Vortex analyses of ex situ populations could be used; identified the types of users that would likely be doing such PVA modeling; identified the communities of managers (the “audience”) that would make use of the results of such analyses; and discussed what training and support users would need to be able to use the tool and then PVA effectively for ex situ populations.

Recommendations & Next Steps

- A basic working PMx->Vortex export is expected to be available for testing by the end of the year. More complex options that could include building better integrated metamodels for wild and captive populations are at least a year away.
- Initial functionality for the PMx->Vortex export is intended to offer a tool that offers more complex stochastic demographic projections than PMx currently offers. The next stage in the export would be to better explore how to then extend and modify that base model in Vortex.
- We should include both experienced PMx AND Vortex users in future discussions, development, and testing. Some of the working group participants have offered to be part of a beta-testing team that will test and provide feedback on the tool as it is developed.
- Presentations from the working group session are to be made available ([here](#) and [here](#)). Initial documentation for the tool is now available [here](#), but more extensive documentation will be needed. Consider creating a resource page or OneDrive folder with additional information, including information about best practices to be contributed by various partners.
- Reach out to the SSC Translocation Specialist Group, which would also be interested in the tool under discussion.

The full working group report can be found [here](#).



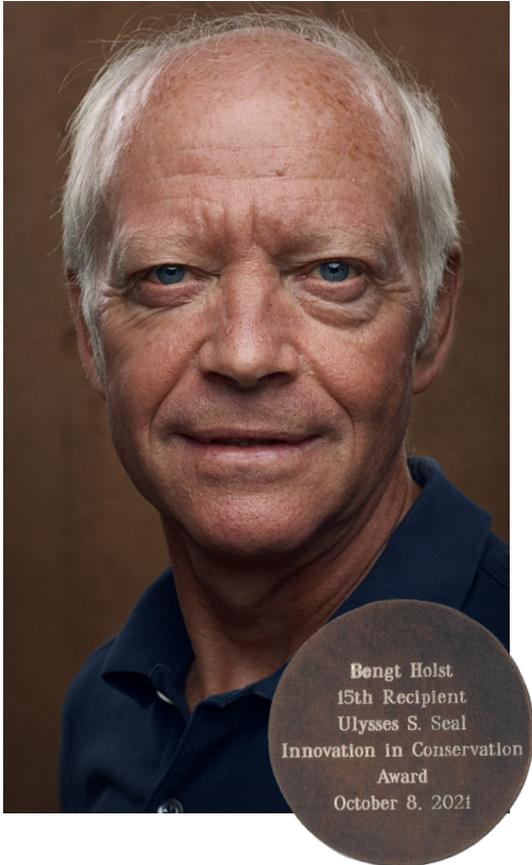
CPSG's Planner Development Path

We celebrated our first group of graduates from the **CPSG Planner Development Path program**. This is an 18-month program during which a select group of individuals are trained in CPSG's conservation planning processes and tools, and then mentored through real-world applications of these skills. Congratulations to **Claudine Gibson, Karen Goodrowe Beck, Jim Kao, Lucy Kemp, Fabiana Lopes Rocha, Kerry Morrison, and Roopali Raghavan**.



Congratulations!
Class of 2021

2021 Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation Recipient: Bengt Holst



It is with particular pleasure that we announce that this year's award committee has selected **Bengt Holst** as the recipient of the **2021 Ulysses S. Seal Award for Innovation in Conservation**.

Bengt began his career at Copenhagen Zoo in 1983. From 1994 until his retirement in 2020, he was the zoo's Scientific Director and Deputy Director. Bengt's work at Copenhagen Zoo helped to establish it as the conservation powerhouse that it is today.

Bengt's first experience with CPSG came in 1990. His initial impression of a CPSG meeting was of borderline anarchy and, in his own words, "a big mess with a lot of flip charts going back and forth and up on the wall and down again". But he saw that the CPSG process got results, and he was hooked. In 2003, Bengt helped establish the CPSG Europe Regional Resource Center.

Bengt has long worked with EAZA, including as Chair of EAZA's EEP Committee, the Tapir and Suiform Taxon Advisory Groups, and Co-Chair of the EAZA Conservation Committee. Among the many accolades Bengt has received for his work, in 2019, Bengt received the the EAZA Lifetime Achievement Award. In his retirement, Bengt has been appointed by the Danish Minister of the Environment to chair the Danish Nature Foundation.

Perhaps the group who nominated Bengt for this year's Ulie Seal Award put it best:

His ability to see the greater picture and focus on the cause rather than personal agendas makes him an extremely valuable figure in the world of conservation. He is a compassionate visionary with faultless integrity. Having built a team...Bengt encourages these teams to dare to dream big about how things can be done better, to dare to be bold - and then be persistent enough to build a path towards that dream and stick with it. Add kindness and support to this mix and you end up with many trusting and enduring partnerships for conservation. As such, Bengt has increased the effectiveness of countless conservation teams, large and small, in situ and ex situ, globally and locally.

THANK YOU

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CPSG

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