



Member Announcements

July 2010

Annual Meeting

The 2010 CBSG Annual Meeting is being hosted by the Cologne Zoo on 14-17 October and YOU ARE INVITED!

We are extremely pleased that this year's Annual Meeting agenda includes plenary presentations by Wendy Foden, IUCN's Climate Change Program Officer, and Kevin Zippel, Amphibian Ark Program Director. Ours is a working meeting with most of the time spent in groups focused on issues of high priority to the international species conservation community. This year is no exception with working groups on:



- Climate Change
- Amphibian Conservation
- 'Assisted Colonisation': Moving Species For Conservation Purposes
- Review and Reconsideration of the IUCN Technical Guidelines on *Ex situ* Population Management
- The Intensive Management of Populations for Conservation
- Demonstration and discussion of Species Conservation Planning Tools
- Exploration of the Species Conservation Congress Concept
- The potential establishment of CBSG Standing Committees for assisting zoos with welfare and standards, and for promoting conservation change through education

We hope you'll join us for what is sure to be an interesting, productive and enjoyable meeting.

To register, click here: [Annual Meeting Registration](#)

Please note that early registration ends 31 July.

Recent CBSG Publications

These new publications are available for download from the [CBSG website](#).

- *Wattled Crane PHVA Review*
- *Analysis of Issues Facing Confiscated Costa Rican Wildlife* (Spanish)
- *Bovine Tuberculosis Disease Risk Assessment*



IUCN International Year of Biodiversity

2010 provides a unique opportunity for IUCN to make progress towards delivering on its long term goals - alleviating the extinction crisis and maintaining ecosystem integrity - as it is not only the UN International Year of Biodiversity (IYB), but also the year in which the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) aim to finalize negotiations and agree on a post-2010 biodiversity target framework and a revised Strategic Plan for the next 10 years.

The [Policy Influencing Strategy](#) focuses on the biodiversity policy changes at the global level that IUCN wishes to achieve in the International Year of Biodiversity and specifically concentrates on actions that fall within the scope of or are targeting the CBD and its processes. This strategy is a "living" document that will evolve over time in accordance with the global policy processes, the status of negotiations, technical findings and on-going discussions about the Union's biodiversity policy priorities. It aims to provide strategic direction and identify the global policy result(s) to be achieved during this year, the theory of change, the target audience and events, the planned products, capacity building and resource needs (as appropriate), with the view to frame IUCN's collective actions towards the agreed expected result(s).



Recent CBSG Projects

Southern Paraiba River Conservation Workshop

A workshop to create an action plan for the Conservation of Threatened Species of Freshwater Fish and Turtles of the Southern Paraiba River Basin took place on 24-27 May 2010 in Pirassununga, São Paulo, Brazil. Forty-three participants from 20 different institutions attended this workshop, which was the second and final step in creating this action plan. The first workshop was held six months earlier in November 2009 at the Estação de Paraibuna, São Paulo, Brazil. Some of the actions recommended during the workshop are already being implemented. A new partnership between a professor from a museum in São Paulo and staff from CEPTA has been created as a result of the workshop. Less than a month after the workshop an expedition to inventory the fish species in the upper Paraiba region is being conducted by this new partnership.

The workshop was organised and funded by two centers of Instituto Chico Mendes de Conservação da Biodiversidade (ICM Bio), which is the Brazilian government institution responsible for biodiversity conservation: CEPTA (Centro Nacional de Pesquisa e Conservação de Peixes Continentais) which is the government institution responsible for managing and conserving freshwater fish) and RAN (Centro Nacional de Pesquisa e Conservação de Repteis e Anfíbios), which is the government institution responsible for managing and conserving reptiles and amphibians), and received support from CESP (Companhia Energetica de Sao Paulo)- an Electric company from São Paulo state.

CBSG's Species Conservation Planning Initiative

In light of the need for continued evolution of CBSG's planning tools, the advancements provided by the SSC's recently developed guidelines for creating a Species Conservation Strategy, and the complex challenge of applying these tools, CBSG is committing time and resources to the development of Species Conservation Planning Tools. The new tools will combine strategic planning methods developed in the business sector, with the lessons from social science about how to forge effective partnerships among diverse interests, and with the latest developments in quantitative risk assessment and robust decision analysis. The primary goal of this initiative is to determine how CBSG and its global network of species conservation planning experts can most effectively contribute to the improvement and implementation of species-based conservation planning.

The initiative was launched in a workshop in May. CBSG's global team of facilitators and invited participants from the SSC and other leading conservation NGOs met in Italy's Abruzzo National Park to share and evaluate the components of diverse species planning processes. The 22 participants from 9 countries and representing 14 institutions - including 5 SSC Specialist Groups and the SSC Species Conservation Planning Subcommittee – came together to describe a wide suite of processes and tools available for species conservation planning and the relationships between them, to evaluate situations in which different processes and tools will support effective species conservation planning to identify the need for tools.



This analysis is ongoing and will result in a tool kit that defines these various process design elements and the conditions under which each might be most appropriately applied, not only by CBSG and other Specialist Groups within the SSC, but by conservation practitioners worldwide.

CIMFauna Conference

CBSG Brasil Arnaud Desbiez participated in the IX International Congress of Wildlife Management in the Amazon and Latin America (IX CIMFauna) on 9-14 May in Santa Cruz, Bolivia and presented a poster on the Latin American CBSG networks and action planning for species conservation.

Bat Captive Population Feasibility Workshop

North American insectivorous bats are at risk due to White Nose Syndrome (WNS), a fungus that is spreading in the eastern US and results in high mortality in many wild bat colonies. On 14-16 July CBSG facilitated a workshop at the Saint Louis Zoo, organized by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Bat Conservation International, and The Nature Conservancy, to explore the potential value and feasibility of various captive management options for bat species under threat of WNS. Questionnaire data were gathered prior to the workshop to assess current expertise on managing insectivorous bats across the globe. At the workshop, 34 attendees from universities, zoos, rehabilitation facilities and NGOs categorized relevant life history traits and husbandry expertise for the 40 North American bat species; explored the potential benefits and risks of various short- and long-term captive management options (including the option of no captive program); and assessed the feasibility of those options based on challenges, data gaps, resources needed, and other factors. The results of these discussions will aid the FWS in determining a course of action for bats, especially for species at high risk of being affected by WNS.



Upcoming Meetings

Tiger SSP Masterplan Meeting

As the regional studbook keeper for captive tigers and population management advisor for the AZA Tiger Species Survival Plan (SSP), Kathy Traylor-Holzer from CBSG is working with the tiger species coordinators to prepare the population analyses and other data for the upcoming masterplan meeting. The annual Tiger SSP meeting will be held at the Toronto Zoo in late July to develop breeding and other management recommendations for tigers held in AZA zoos.

Red Panda PHVA

CBSG's South Asia Regional Network, in collaboration with the International Red Panda Management Committee, the National Trust for Nature Conservation and the Department of Nature and Wildlife Conservation, Government of Nepal is organizing a Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal from 2-6 September 2010.

This PHVA will focus primarily on Nepalese localities of Red Panda and the populations of Red Pandas which occupy the localities nearby including the India/Nepal border. The workshop is the first in a series for the species throughout its range. Future workshops will include Bhutan and China. The workshop is sponsored by WWF, Germany, Rotterdam Zoo, EAZA and others.



CAZG Scientific Conference

CBSG has been invited to attend the 2010 Science Work annual conference of the Chinese Association of Zoological Gardens (CAZG) to be held 26-29 August at Shijiazhuang Zoo. CBSG and ISIS will be discussing the continued development of population management for CAZG's *ex situ* populations, building upon previous training courses and collaborative work with the managed programs for giant pandas and South China tigers in China.

Mate Choice Research Meeting

As a follow-up to the Mate Choice Symposium held at the Saint Louis Zoo last March, CBSG will be participating in a discussion of potential research projects to investigate mate choice, its implications, and its potential use in the management of *ex situ* populations. This workshop will be held 10-11 August at the Saint Louis Zoo as part of an IMLS National Leadership grant.