

Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) (from their website www.cbsg.org)



What IS CBSG ?

The Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) is a global network of conservation professionals dedicated to saving threatened species by increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts worldwide. CBSG is recognized and respected for its use of innovative, scientifically sound, collaborative processes that bring together people with diverse perspectives and knowledge to catalyze positive conservation change.

CBSG is part of the Species Survival Commission of the IUCN-the International Union for Conservation of Nature-and is supported by a non-profit organization incorporated under the name Global Conservation Network. Our ties to the IUCN are essential to the strength of CBSG and its position as a vital link among governments, conservation organizations, and others in the conservation community.

CBSG's mission is to save threatened species by increasing the effectiveness of conservation efforts worldwide (by)

- *developing and disseminating innovative and interdisciplinary science-based tools and methodologies,*
- *providing culturally sensitive and respectful facilitation that results in conservation action plans,*
- *promoting global partnerships and collaborations, and*
- *fostering contributions of the conservation breeding community to species conservation, CBSG transforms passion for wildlife into effective conservation.*

CBSG's Statement of Vitality

"CBSG cares about saving endangered species and habitat. It bases its mission and activities on the development and implementation of scientifically sound processes. CBSG takes a leadership position in the conservation community based on cross-cultural, interdisciplinary and inter-sector partnerships. CBSG champions openness, inclusiveness, morality, ethics and risk-taking. It constantly evolves in response to the needs of all those concerned with conserving the planet's biodiversity. It depends on the warmth, support, acceptance and vitality of its extended community."

CBSG's History

Since its inception in 1979, CBSG has grown into a global volunteer network of 550 professionals, coordinated by a headquarters staff of six, assisted by nine Regional and National Networks on five continents. CBSG began as a liaison between IUCN and the zoo community, and was instrumental in developing the tools and processes for the scientific management of captive animal populations. As wildlife populations became increasingly threatened, CBSG recognized the need for similar intensive management for many species in the wild, and expanded its scope to small population management and the linking of *in situ* (in the wild) and *ex situ* (in zoos) scientific expertise.

Regional Networks

Regional Networks take CBSG tools and principles into the local institutions of a region or country, allowing stakeholders to work with our basic conservation techniques and adapt them to meet their own needs. This level of freedom to shape a Network according to the needs of the culture, society, and services of the individual country is a requirement for success. Regional and National Networks of CBSG are not just desirable but necessary due to the sheer magnitude of the problem of biodiversity loss on this planet, and to reflect the diversity in environment, culture and social systems, economic conditions, policy and governance, and philosophy in different countries and regions.

CBSG Australasia, Caroline Lees and Richard Jakob-Hoff, Convenors, Auckland Zoo

CBSG Brasil, Arnaud Desbiez, Convenor, Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

CBSG Europe, Bengt Holst, Convenor, Copenhagen Zoo

CBSG Indonesia, Jansen Manansang, Convenor, Taman Safari, Indonesia

CBSG Japan, Akira Murayama, Kanako Nishimoto

CBSG Mesoamerica, Yolanda Matamoros, Convenor, Simon Bolivar Zoo

CBSG Mexico, Amy Camacho (Founding Convenor), Frank Camacho (current)

CBSG South Asia, Sally Walker, Convenor, Zoo Outreach Organisation

CBSG Southern Africa, Mike Jordan, Convenor, Endangered Wildlife Trust

Relationship with IUCN/SSC

CBSG is a part of the Species Survival Commission of the IUCN, and is supported by a non-profit organization incorporated under the name Global Conservation Network. Our ties to the IUCN are essential to the strength of CBSG and its position as a vital link among governments, conservation organizations, and others in the conservation community.

IUCN- International Union for Conservation of Nature

Founded in 1948, the International Union for Conservation of Nature brings together states, government agencies and a diverse range of non-governmental organizations in a unique world partnership: over 1,000 members spread across some 150 countries. As a Union, the IUCN seeks to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically responsible.

The Species Survival Commission

The Species Survival Commission is the largest of IUCN's six volunteer Commissions, with a global membership of 8,000 experts. SSC advises IUCN and its members on the wide range of technical and scientific aspects of species conservation and is dedicated to securing a future for biodiversity.

Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, IUCN SSC Central Office Staff

Chairman: Bob Lacy

Executive Director: Onnie Byers

Senior Program Officer: Phil Miller

Senior Program Officer: Kathy Traylor-Holzer

Amphibian Program Officer: Kevin Zippel

Administrative Assistant: Virginia Lindgren

Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Townsend



CBSG Annual Meeting Conference Photo at Maritime Hotel, Koln

