

HOPELAND P , INDEPENDENT RESEARCHER &CONSULTANT

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Research Interests:
Biodiversity, Ecology, Conservation



EDUCATION

- M.Sc** Pondicherry University, Ecology & Environmental Sciences. 2010-2012
Thesis: “A study on isolated populations of Nilgiri Tahr in Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve and Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary and their conservation status”
Advisor: Priya Davidar
- B.Sc** Madras Christian College, Zoology 2007-2010
University of Madras.

RESEARCH/WORK EXPERIENCE

- Project lead. Christian Medical College, Chittoor Campus, Andhra Pradesh** 2018 onwards
Project: Biodiversity assessment of CMC, Chittoor campus, Andhra Pradesh.
 - Assess biodiversity, master planning spatial use by engagement with stakeholders.
 - Mitigation plans and course of action during infrastructure development.
 - Training of staff, community sensitization towards environmental responsibility.
- Lead fauna consultant. C P Ramaswamy Environmental Education Centre (C.P.R.E.E.C) , Chennai** 2017
Project: Survey of Faunal diversity in a Tropical Dry Evergreen Forest-Nanmanglam Reserve Forest. (Funded by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department)
Team lead: Dr. Narasimhan D.
 - Cross-taxa (birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies, moths, odonates) biodiversity assessment
- Ecologist Consultant. University of Cambridge, UK.** 2016-2017
Project: ‘Rethinking Urban Nature’ – the urban wildlife history of Chennai. (Funded by European Research Council advanced grant)
Principal investigator: Dr. Matthew Gandy
 - Cross-taxa (birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, butterflies, moths, odonates) examination of biodiversity in Chennai.
 - Identification of patterns of distribution and potential indicator species, political ecologies.
- Consultant. Department Of Environment, Government of Tamil Nadu.** 2015-2017
Project: Biodiversity and conservation history of Naraikadu
 - Biodiversity of Naraikadu- a community land in a Tiger Reserve
 - Archives research on 100 years of conservation history-a community led initiative.
 - Community book release on history of community led conservation that impacted Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve.

- Fauna consultant. *Environment Resource Management Group. Inc., Bangalore*** 2015-2017
Project: Biodiversity assessments and effect of Wind farms on wildlife.
Team lead: Dr. Chaitanya Krishna
- Six multi-season studies on effects of ‘development’, impact measurement and environment impact mitigation.
 - Studies were undertaken in the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh in India
- Research affiliate. *Pondicherry University, Pondicherry*** 2014 – till date
Project: Population genetics of Nilgiri Tahr.
Principal investigator: Dr. Priya Davidar; **Co-investigator:** Dr. P Anuradha Reddy (Centre for Molecular Biology)
- Genetic sample collection across the Nilgiri Tahr range.
 - Mapping
- Research affiliate. *Pondicherry University, Pondicherry*** 2012-2013
Project: Study on isolated populations of Nilgiri Tahr south of Shencottah gap. (Thesis follow up)
- Species distribution, conservation status assessment.
- GIS lab technician. *Pondicherry University, Pondicherry*** 2013
(Funded by the US Fish & Wildlife Service)
Project: Elephant habitats of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, locations, threats & managements maintaining connectivity for Elephants in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
Principal investigator: Dr. Priya Davidar; **Co-supervisors:** Dr. S. Jayakumar & Dr. Jean Phillipe Puyravaud
- Land-use and land classification and mapping connectivity using ERDAS and Arc GIS across states of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala
- Field technician. *Pondicherry University, Pondicherry*** 2012-2014
(Funded by an MOU with OHIO State University)
Project: Genetic diversity and population distribution of wild/weedy eggplant (*Solanum insanum* L., Solanaceae) in southern India: implications for *in situ* conservation.
- Mapping species distribution and genetic sample collection.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Life Hub School, Chennai, Tamil Nadu** (Freelance position) 2018
- Developed curriculum and course work in biology, ecology, wildlife conservation and geography for 5th – 8th grades
- Santhosha Vidyalaya, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu** (Freelance position) 2018-2019
- Developed curriculum and course work in ecology, wildlife conservation and geography for 7th to 12 grades.
 - Coordinated and trained staff.
- EcoLogin (a social enterprise), Chennai, Tamil Nadu** (Freelance position) 2009-2018
- Led field workshops on wildlife for adults and children.

Frolic Boonies Nature Camp for Children, Bangalore, Karnataka 2008-2019
(Freelance position)

- Developed curriculum and course work in ecology, wildlife conservation and geography for 5th - 12 grades, honours students and adults
- Created a team, trained and led staff.
- Led and taught several batches of students.

Invited talks (Select list of institutions) 2013-2019
Madras Christian College, Madras School of Social Work, Woman's Christian College, The Indian Public School, The School-KFI (Krishnamurthy Foundation India), Al Qamar

PUBLICATIONS

Books

S.S.Richard, **Hopeland P** "The Grey Forest- an eden in the Western Ghats: Then and Now". The story of a 100 years of stewardship of a community land and their conservation impact within Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve. Funded by Department of Environment, Government of Tamil Nadu. Published by EAST.2017.

Journal Publications

Hopeland P, Jean-Philippe Puyravaud, and Priya Davidar. "The Nilgiri Tahr (Mammalia: Cetartiodactyla: Bovidae: Nilgiritragus hylocrius Ogilby, 1838) in the Agastyamalai range, Western Ghats, India: population status and threats." *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 8, No. 6 (2016): 8877-8882.

Mutegi, Evans, Allison A. Snow, Muthu Rajkumar, Remy Pasquet, Hopeland P, Marie-Christine Daunay, and Priya Davidar. "Genetic diversity and population structure of wild/weedy eggplant (*Solanum insanum*, Solanaceae) in southern India: Implications for conservation." *American Journal of Botany* 102, no. 1 (2015): 140-148.

Conference and Workshop Presentations

Hopeland P, S. S. Richard and Arul Sekar P. 2019. Environmental care and stewardship: Are shared territories possible? - A case from Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh. *Spatial and Environmental Justice / Environmental Care and Stewardship: Theoretical Dialogues among schools of thought*. French Institute of Pondicherry. (Accepted Abstract, Presentation).

Andrea Luis, Deepak Madappa, **Hopeland P**, Abdul Rahim, Krishnakumar B.M., Samriddha Ghosh, Jean-Philippe Puyravaud, Priya Davidar, Anuradha Reddy "Genetic Diversity and Population Structure of Nilgiri Tahr across the Western Ghats, India" at the 6th World Congress on Mountain Ungulates, Cyprus. 2016.

Hopeland P, Jean-Philippe Puyravaud, and Priya Davidar. "Fragmented populations of Nilgiri Tahr in Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve & Kanyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary". Student's Conference on Conservation Science. 2013. <https://sccs-bng.org/archive/abstract/59>

Jean-Philippe Puyravaud ,Priya Davidar, **Hopeland P**, Pratheesh C Mammen, Rajeev Srivastava, S.Jayakumar. “Maintaining connectivity for elephants in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve” International Workshop on Landscape Ecology. Land-use optimization for coordinating regional development with conservation of endangered species. Pondicherry University, USFWS, Indo-US Science & Technology Forum, French Institute of Pondicherry, World Wide Wildlife Fund for Nature. 2013.

Hopeland P “The World of Snakes” The Organization for Studies on Literature and Environment. Madras Christian College, Chennai 2009.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Merit based scholarship Pondicherry Central University	Semester 1 2010
Merit based scholarship Pondicherry Central University	Semester 2 2010
Merit based scholarship Pondicherry Central University	Semester 3 2011
Young researcher award Madras Christian College	2008

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Field surveys:

Avifaunal

- Marine avifauna survey, Chennai. *(Participated)* 2017
 - Asian Waterfowl Census, Pallikaranai (Chennai), Kalivelli, Bahour lake, Ousteri (Pondicherry) *(local organizer)* 2010-2014
- Co-organisers: Care Earth (Chennai), Pondicherry university, Pondicherry Forest department, FERAL(Pondicherry) & NCBS(National Centre for Biological Sciences).

Mammals' census:

- All mammals Census Anamalai Tiger Reserve Tamil Nadu Forest Department & OSAI. 2011
- All mammals Census Mudumalai Tiger Reserve Tamil Nadu Forest Department & Shola Trust. 2011
- Nilgiri Tahr Census in the Nilgiris & Theni Forest Division Nilgiri Wildlife & Environment Association, Worldwide Fund for Nature & Tamil Nadu Forest department. 2011

Reptiles

- “Preliminary survey of Flora and Fauna between Neelankarai and Adyar River mouth with special focus on Nesting of Olive ridley turtles ” 2010
- Member Student’s Sea Turtle Conservation Network (SSTCN) 2009-2010
- Volunteer Madras Crocodile Bank Trust. 2008-2010

Social Survey

- How fishermen’s perceptions affect trends of sustainability in Indian fisheries. 2010
Led by Dr. Divya Karnad, National Centre for Biological Sciences

Biodiversity

- Biodiversity of Officers Training Academy, Indian Army, Chennai through the Tamil Nadu Forest Department. 2017
(organizer) 2010
- Fauna of Sendirakillai Sacred grove. *By the order of State High Court ,Chennai, Tamil Nadu*
- Photo and video documentation of Flora and Fauna at Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS), Pt.Calimere WLS, Nanmanglam, Madras Christian College, 2008-2010

Vandaloor Forests, Pallikarnai Marshlands, Pulicat Lake
• Volunteer Arignar Anna Zoological Park.

2007-2010

Conference and Workshop attended

- Rethinking Urbanization and the right to the City. Citizen Consumer & Civic Action Group. Oct 2018
- Dr. Gift Siromoney Endowment Lecture- History of settlements in Chennai and Tamil Nadu. Hosted by Roja Muthiah Research Library. Sept 2018
- Chennai Mobility Workshop. Hosted by World Resources Institute Ross Centre for Sustainable Cities & Urban Design Collective. Aug 2018
- Urban Ecology & Resilience: The case of a soaking city- Chennai. Hosted by Anna University, Chennai. An initiative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Aug 2018
- Humanities and Social Sciences Conference- Displacing History of Science/Fashioning a Fauna for British India. IIT Chennai. Feb 2018
- Marine Mammal stranding Workshop. Marine Mammal Conservation Network of India 2017
- Rethinking Urban Nature - the case of geography and biodiversity in Chennai. Hosted by Indian Institute of Technology Chennai & University College London. 2016
- Dragonfly India Meet. Hosted by Biodiversity India. 2015
- Student's conference on Conservation Science, IISC, Bangalore. . 2013,2014
2018
- Orientation Course in Insect Taxonomy. Department of Entomology, University of Agriculture Sciences, Bangalore. Nov.2014
- International Workshop on Landscape Ecology. Pondicherry University. 2013.
- Land use optimization for coordinating regional development with conservation of endangered species. Pondicherry University. 2013
- Young Ecologists Talk & Interact. IISC, Bangalore 2012
- Workshop on Ecological Restoration of Pulicut Lake. Madras Christian College 2010
- "Teachers Conference on Teachers involvement for Biodiversity Conservation Awareness" by Tree Foundation and Jane Goodall International Network Aug 2010
- National symposium on "New facets of Evolutionary Biology" Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi & Madras Christian College 2010
- Green Campuses Conference, Madras Christian College. 2010
- Conference on Human –Animal Conflict. Department of Zoology, Stella Maris College, Chennai. 2009

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Life member of Madras Naturalist Society 2014-till date
- Life member of Bombay Natural History Society 2014-till date

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Symposium Volunteer

- International Workshop on Landscape Ecology. Pondicherry University. 2013
- Land use optimization for coordinating regional development with conservation of endangered species. Pondicherry University. 2013

LANGUAGES

English: Fluent

Tamil: Read, speak, and write.

Oriya: Speak

SKILLS

GPS, ERDAS Imagine, ArcGIS, photography; field work, cross-taxa species taxonomy and identification of birds, mammals arachnids and reptiles, amphibians, lepidoptera and odonates , safe reptile removal techniques. Science communication, mentoring.

REFERENCES

Dr. Priya Davidar

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Pondicherry University, Retired]
[Sigur Nature Trust]
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