

CURRICULUM VITAE SEBASTIAN A. HEILPERN

Ecology, Evolution & Environmental Biology
Columbia University, New York, NY
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EDUCATION

- 2015 - 2020: **Ph.D Student, Columbia University.** Ecology, Evolution & Environmental Biology. Advisor: Dr. Shahid Naeem
- 2012 - 2015: **M.Sc., University of Chicago.** Ecology & Evolution. Advisor: Dr. Tim Wootton. Thesis title: "Cross-ecosystem exchanges of process catalyzers: The role of large woody debris in tropical floodplain river food web dynamics"
- 2007 - 2010: **B.S. Magna Cum Laude** with distinction in Research, **Cornell University.** Biology, concentration in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology. Advisor: Dr. Alex Flecker. Honors thesis: "The impacts of non-native grazers on community structure: Changes in macroinvertebrate communities in response to armored catfish invasion"

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- 2012 – 2015: **Department of Education GAANN Fellow in Quantitative Ecology,** University of Chicago
- 2010: **National Science Foundation REU Fellow,** School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences at SUNY Stony Brook
- 2008 – 2010: **Research Assistant,** Alex Flecker, Cornell University
- 2008: **Research Assistant,** Krista Capps, Cornell University
- 2007: **Research Assistant,** Alison Power, Cornell University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2010 – 2012: **Program Officer, Latin America and Caribbean Program,** Wildlife Conservation Society

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Grants

- 2013: National Geographic Society Young Explorer's Grant, \$4,200
- 2013: Center for Latin American Studies Travel Grant, University of Chicago, \$2,200
- 2009: Morely Student Research Award, Cornell University, \$1,500
- 2008: Latin America Studies Program Travel Grant, Cornell University, \$1,200
- 2008: Dextra Undergraduate Research Fund, Cornell University, \$1,500
- 2007: Dextra Undergraduate Research Fund, Cornell University, \$1,500

Fellowships

- 2015 – 2020: Columbia University Dean's Fellowship
- 2015: Dean's Diversity Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2014: IIE Fulbright Fellowship, Peru (*rejected*)
- 2012 - 2015: Department of Education GAANN in Quantitative Ecology Fellow
- 2013: Pilot Research Fellowship, Organization for Tropical Studies
- 2010: National Science Foundation, REU Fellow, SoMAS SUNY Stony Brook

Awards

- 2014 - 2016: AAAS/Science Program for Excellence in Science
- 2013: 3rd place, National Science Innovation in Graduate Education Challenge (Team leader: S.A. Heilpern; with C. Stepien, C. Kyle, B. Krinsky, and R. Arthur)

PUBLICATIONS

- Heilpern, S.A.**, and J.T. Wootton. *In prep.* Cross-ecosystem exchange of process catalyzers in Amazonian Floodplain river systems: understanding the role of large woody debris using experiments, observations and path analysis.
- N. Pitman, C. Vriesendorp, L. Rivera Chávez, T. Wachter, D. Alvira Reyes, Á. del Campo, G. Gagliardi-Urrutia, D. Rivera González, L. Trevejo, D. Rivera González, y/and **S.A. Heilpern**, eds. 2015. *Perú: Tapiche-Blanco*. Rapid Biological and Social Inventories Report 27. The Field Museum, Chicago.
- Heilpern, S.A.** 2015. Biodiversity: Include freshwater species. *Nature* 518: 167.
- Pitman, N., C. Vriesendorp, D. Alvira, J.A. Markel, M. Johnston, E. Ruelas Inzunza, A. Lancha Pizango, G. Sarmiento Valenzuela, P. Álvarez-Loayza, J. Homan, T. Wachter, Á. del Campo, D.F. Stotz y/and **S.A. Heilpern**. 2014. *Perú: Cordillera Escalera-Loreto*. Rapid Biological Inventories Report 26. The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago. 396 Pages.
- Capps, K. A. , L. G. Nico, M. Mendoza Carranza, W. Arevalo-Frias, A. J. Ropicki, **S.A. Heilpern**, R. Rodiles-Hernandez. 2011. Salinity tolerance of the exotic armored catfish (Siluriformes: Lorcaridae) in southern Mexico: potential new pathways for invasion. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 21: 528-540.

PRESENTATIONS

- Heilpern, S.A.**, and J.T. Wootton. 2015. Process catalyzers in rivers: Large woody debris and its impact on Amazonian floodplain rivers. Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Heilpern, S.A.** 2014. The influences of large woody debris in tropical floodplain river food web and ecosystem dynamics. University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- Heilpern, S.A.** 2014. Disentangling the ecosystem consequences of deforestation and overfishing in a Amazonian floodplain river, Cocha Cashu Biological Station, Peru.
- Capps, K., **S.A. Heilpern**, G. Ng, A. Fortman, R. Rodiles-Hernandez, and A.S. Flecker. 2009. Non-native grazers in novel environments: Consequences of introduced armored catfish in stream ecosystems. The Ecological Society of America, Austin, Texas.

TEACHING

- 2014: *Animal Behavior*, S. Pruett-Jones, University of Chicago
- 2013: *Tropical Ecology: Biodiversity and Human Impacts*, E. Larsen, University of Chicago
- 2010: *International Conservation and Development: Communities and the Management of Natural Resources*, J. Lassoie, Cornell University

SERVICE

- Peer Reviewer: *Conservation Biology*
- Member: Society for Conservation Biology, Ecological Society of America, Association for Tropical Biology, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Working groups/Professional workshops: Ríos Vivos Andinos (USAID)
- Volunteer:
- 2013 - 2015: Ecology and Evolution Graduate Student Representative, University of Chicago
- 2012 - 2015: Department Organizer, Graduate Students United, University of Chicago
- 2012 - 2015: Board Member, Multicultural Graduate Community, University of Chicago