

Luciano Rivas

MSc Ecology and Evolution, University of Groningen

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Research interests

Landscape ecology; Wildlife ecology; Ecological connectivity; GIS and remote sensing; Biodiversity monitoring; Biodiversity conservation in productive landscapes; Habitat fragmentation; Human-modified landscapes; Human-wildlife coexistence.

Education

MSc Ecology and Evolution - Rijksuniversiteit Groningen 2025-2027

- Focus on biodiversity conservation, ecological data analysis, sustainable landscapes, and conservation in productive systems.
- Research Project 1: The role of soil health in small-scale dairy farming under extensive and intensive management. This project is carried out in the Agroecology and Sustainable Landscapes group.

BSc/Biology degree - University of Belgrano, Buenos Aires, Argentina 2019-2024

- Biology degree with focus on Ecology and Conservation. GPA: 4.22/5.
- Thesis: Use of hair traps as a non-invasive method to collect hair samples from Patagonian carnivores for genetic studies.
- Advisor: Dr. Laura Fasola.

English certification

- C1 English - Cambridge Advanced Exam (CAE), Grade B. February 2023.

Technical skills

- RStudio
- Python
- Geographical Information Systems
- QGIS
- Google Earth Engine
- Remote sensing
- Ecological statistics
- Biodiversity monitoring
- Spatial data analysis
- Machine learning workflows for ecological data

Teaching experience

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant - University of Belgrano Aug 2024 - Nov 2024

Ecology and Conservation II, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences

- Assisted in undergraduate teaching activities related to ecology and conservation.
- Supported course organization, student learning, and academic activities within the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences.

Research experience

Research Intern - Experimental Medicine and Biology Institute, IBYME-CONICET

Behavioral Laboratory
Nov 2022 - Jun 2024

- Participated in research activities within the Behavioral Laboratory.
- Gained experience in experimental research, data handling, and scientific workflows.

Research Intern - Molecular Ecology Group, GIEM-INEDES, Lujan University

Aug 2024 - Nov 2024

- Worked within a molecular ecology research group.
- Contributed to research activities related to ecological and genetic studies.

Fieldwork Collaborator - Aves Argentinas, Patagonia Program

Feb 2024 - Apr 2024

- Collaborated in field surveys of hooded grebe (*Podiceps gallardo*) populations in Santa Cruz Province.
- Participated in fieldwork related to southern river otter (*Lontra provocax*) surveys in Nahuel Huapi National Park.

Publications

- Cassini, M. H., & Rivas, L. (2023). Lack of evidence of significant impact of European rabbits on Patagonian forest regeneration. *European Journal of Wildlife Research*, 69, 74. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10344-023-01710-1>
- Rivas, L., & Cassini, M. H. (2024). Origin matters? Comparing impacts of native and introduced ungulates in European protected areas. *Mammal Review*, 54, 299-309. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mam.12345>
- Cassini, M. H., & Rivas, L. (2024). Hyperpredation as a mechanism responsible for the impact of introduced populations on native biodiversity. *Acta Oecologica*, 125, 104035. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actao.2024.104035>

Presentations at scientific conferences

XXXV Argentine Meeting of Mammologists

Nov 2024

San Luis, Argentina

- Confirmed poster presentation.

Volunteering experience

Buenos Aires Ecological Park

Jul 2022 - Oct 2022

Assistant in conservation projects

- Assisted in conservation-related activities and wildlife-oriented projects.

Aguara Wildlife Conservation Center

Jan 2024

Wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, and care assistant

- Assisted in rescuing, rehabilitating, and caring for wildlife.

Profile summary

Ecologist with experience in wildlife conservation, biodiversity monitoring, agricultural landscapes, invasive species management, fieldwork, and spatial analysis. My work integrates ecological field data, GIS, remote sensing, and statistical tools to study biodiversity patterns, habitat fragmentation, ecological connectivity, and conservation challenges in productive and human-modified landscapes.

Currently seeking opportunities in biodiversity, landscape ecology, GIS, remote sensing, and ecological planning in Europe and Argentina.