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EDUCATION

- 2017- 2022 **Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Policy**, Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami, Florida, USA
- 2014- to 2017 **M.Sc. in Fish and Wildlife Management**, Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (GPA – 3.66)
- 2009-2012 **B.Sc. Upper Second-Class Honors (GPA - 3.32)** Majored in Zoology in Faculty of Science, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

EXPERIENCE

- January 2023- Present **Postdoctoral Associate**, Institute of Environment, Florida International University, Miami, FL, USA
- June 2023- Present **International Management Office- Officer**, International Long-Term Ecological Research Network (ILTER), Florida International University, Miami, FL, USA
- August 2017- December 2022 **Graduate Fellow, Teaching, and Research Assistant**, Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami, FL, USA
- August 2016- July 2017 **Research and Projects Officer**, Environmental Foundation (Guarantee) Limited, Sri Lanka

RELEVANT RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Ph.D. Dissertation

- **Hewavithana, D. K.** (2022). *Planning for the future: Ecological impacts of Sri Lanka's growing linear infrastructure network*. University of Miami.

Full papers

- **Hewavithana, D.K.**, Weerakoon, D. K., & Roy, S. S. (2023). Assessing the extent and impacts of linear infrastructure on Sri Lanka's natural and protected areas: Implications for future development planning. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*, 195, 1281.
- Mothes, C. C., Clements, S. L., **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Howell, H. J., David, A. S., Leventhal, N. D., & Searcy, C. A. (2019). *Use of standardized methods to improve extinction-risk classification*. *Conservation Biology*. 34-3.

Manuscripts in preparation

- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, van der Ree, R., & Searcy, C. A. Global patterns in the existing literature on ecological impacts of habitat fragmentation caused by linear infrastructure.
- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Weerakoon, D. K., Wijesinghe, M. R., & Searcy, C. A. Linear infrastructure drives biotic homogenization among bird species of a tropical dry forest.
- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Weerakoon, D. K., & Searcy, C. A. Spatiotemporal patterns in vertebrate road mortality and their implications for mitigation measures.
- **Hewavithana, D. K.** Stakeholder perspectives on infrastructure development and conservation in Sri Lanka.

Communications

- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Weerakoon, D. K., Wijesinghe, M. R., Searcy, C. A., Weerakoon, D. K., Wijesinghe, M. R., Searcy, C. A., (Abstract- talk) 2021 (12-14th January). Do culverts contribute to reducing the number of roadkills? A study on roadkills along the Habarana-Polonnaruwa road, Sri Lanka. *IENE 2020 International Conference "LIFE LINES – Linear Infrastructure Networks with Ecological Solutions"*, Évora, Portugal.
- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Weerakoon, D. K., Wijesinghe, M. R., Searcy, C. A., (Abstract- talk) 2021 (12-14th January). Level and spatial scale of impact from different linear development types. *IENE 2020 International Conference "LIFE LINES – Linear Infrastructure Networks with Ecological Solutions"*, Évora, Portugal.
- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Weerakoon, D. K., Searcy, C. A., (Abstract- talk) 2021 (12-14th January). Making the road more permeable to wildlife using existing infrastructure. *IENE 2020 International Conference "LIFE LINES – Linear Infrastructure Networks with Ecological Solutions"*, Évora, Portugal.
- **Hewavithana, D. K.**, Peries, T. N., Weerakoon, D. K., Wijesinghe, M. R., Searcy, C. A., (Abstract-poster) 2019 (11th to 13th September). Are current roadkill mitigatory measures adequate? *Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ATBC) Asia Pacific Conference held in Thihariya, Sri Lanka*.

RELEVANT MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- Member of the Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group (CCSG), and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)
- Member of the CCSG thematic working groups- Transport Working Group (TWG) the Asian Elephant Transport Working Group (AsETWG)