

## **RUBEN DARIO PALACIO**

Founder and Scientific Director, Fundación Ecotonos.

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## **EDUCATION**

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2016 - 2022                      Ph.D., Conservation Biology: Duke University, Durham, NC, USA.  
(*Fulbright PhD scholar 2016-2021*)

2014                                B.S., Biology: Universidad Icesi. Cali, Colombia.

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING:**

2018                                Graduate Field course. Tropical Ecology and Conservation. Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS). Costa Rica and Panama.

2014                                Online course. Introduction to the Ecology and Strategies for Tropical Forest Restoration in Human-Modified Landscapes. Environmental Leadership Training Initiative (ELTI).

2012                                Course. Introduction to techniques, methods, and research questions in bioacoustics. Instituto Von Humboldt. Reserva Natural Cañón del Río Claro, Colombia.

2012                                Workshop. Functional and phylogenetic diversity: a functional perspective on dry forests. Universidad Icesi- Instituto Humboldt. Cali, Colombia.

2011                                Course. Forests and Climate Change: the importance of permanent plots for monitoring. Universidad del Valle. Cali, Colombia.

## **CAREER**

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2014 - Present                      Founder and Science Director. Fundación Ecotonos.

*Areas of Expertise:* Conservation biology, restoration ecology, ornithology.

*Skills:* Field methods in ecology/biology, Geographic Information Systems (SIG), R programming language, Git and GitHub, Grant writing, Wilderness First Responder + CPR.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### PEER-REVIEWED

- 2021 **Palacio, R.D.**, Negret, P.J., Velásquez-Tibatá, J., & Jacobson, A.P. A data-driven geospatial workflow to map species distributions for conservation assessments. *Diversity and Distributions*, 27 (12): 2559– 2570.
- 2020 Juan Sebastián Moreno, Stephania Sandoval-Arango, **Rubén Darío Palacio**, Nestor Fabio Alzate, Milton Rincón, Karen Gil, Nicolás Gutiérrez Morales, Patricia Harding, Nicolás A Hazzi. Distribution models and spatial analyses provide robust assessments of conservation status of orchid species in Colombia: the case of *Lephanthes mucronata*. *Harvard Papers in Botany*, 25 (1):111-121.
- 2019 **Palacio, R.D.**, Kattan, G.H. & Pimm, S.L. Bird extirpations and community dynamics in an Andean cloud forest over 100 years of land-use change. *Conservation Biology*, 34 (3): 677-687.
- 2018 Hazzi, N.A., Moreno, J.S., Ortiz-Movliav, C., & **Palacio, R.D.** Biogeographic regions and events of isolation and diversification of the endemic biota of the tropical Andes. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 115 (31): 7985-7990.
- 2017 **Palacio, R.D.**, Vidal-Astudillo, V., Cárdenas G., & Luna-Solarte J. Aves del municipio de Santiago de Cali, Valle del Cauca, Colombia. *Biota Colombiana*, 18 (2): 228–238.
- 2016 **Palacio, R.D.**, Valderrama-Ardila, C. & Kattan, G.H. Generalist Species have a central role in a highly diverse plant frugivore network. *Biotropica*, 48 (3): 349–355.
- 2014 **Palacio, R.D.**, Muñoz-Londoño, A.M. & Mantilla-Meluk, H. Primeros registros de la comadreja de cola larga *Mustela frenata* (Carnivora: Mustelidae) para el departamento del Quindío, Andes Centrales de Colombia. *Revista Biodiversidad Neotropical*, 4 (2): 170-176.

### BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2019 Prado-Castillo, Luis F., Forero-Medina, G., **Palacio, R.D.**, & Sabogal-González, A. Caso de estudio: Restauración del hábitat de la tortuga montañera *Mesoclemmys dahli*. Pages 451–475 in F. Vargas-Salinas, J. A. Muñoz-Avila, and M. E. Morales-Puentes, editors. *Biología de los anfibios y reptiles en el bosque seco tropical del norte de Colombia*. Editorial UPTC.

- 2016 Diaz-Pulido A., Acevedo-Charry O.A., Hernández-Schmidt M., León-Lleras J.S., Santacruz A.M., Muñoz A., **Palacio R.D.**, Rincón D. y Villareal E. 2016. Aves. Pp 284-342. *En*: Barriga J.C., Diaz-Pulido A., Santamaria M. y H. García. (Eds.) Catálogo de biodiversidad de las regiones andina, pacífica y piedemonte amazónico. Nivel Local. Volumen 2 Tomo 2. Serie Planeación ambiental para la conservación de la biodiversidad en áreas operativas de Ecopetrol. Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt - Ecopetrol S.A. Bogotá D.C., Colombia. 423 p

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

- 2020 **Palacio, R. D.** Towards a Duke Forest Habitat Connectivity Plan. Presented to the Office of the Duke Forest, Durham, NC, USA.
- 2017 **Palacio, R. D.** A conservation study tour to Ecuador: Nature Protected through land purchases. IUCN Netherlands.
- 2015 **Palacio, R. D.** Informe técnico: Potencial de compensación mediante restauración ecológica en dos sitios intervenidos en la cuenca del río Nus, Antioquia. Presented to the Wildlife Conservation Society – Colombia.
- 2014 **Palacio, R.D.** Informe final de actividades desarrolladas y resultados obtenidos: componente avifauna - ventanas Filandia y Dagua. Planeación Ambiental para la Conservación de la Biodiversidad en las áreas operativas de Ecopetrol. Presented for the Alexander von Humboldt Biological Resources Research Institute.

## DIVULGATION

- 2014 Forero-Medina, G., Gallego, N. & **Palacio, R.D.** Working to conserve Colombia's most imperiled turtle species. Turtle Survival Alliance Magazine August 2014.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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- 2020 **Palacio, R.D.**, Negret, P.J., Velásquez-Tibatá, J., & Jacobson, A.P. A data-driven geospatial workflow to improve mapping species distributions and assessing extinction risk under the IUCN Red List. Poster Presentation at the VII North American Ornithological Conference (*virtual*).
- 2018 **Palacio, R.D.**, Vidal-Astudillo, V., Cárdenas G., & Luna-Solarte J. Aves del municipio de Santiago de Cali. Primer Simposio Vallecaucano de Ornitología. Santiago de Cali, Colombia.

- 2017 **Palacio, R.D.**, Kattan, G.H & Pimm, S.L. Bird extinctions and drivers of change: San Antonio 100 years later and beyond. Oral Presentation at the International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB 2017). Cartagena, Colombia. (*Best Student Oral Presentation*)
- 2016 **Palacio, R.D** & Kattan, G.H. San Antonio 100 years later: Bird Extinctions and Climate Change. Oral Presentation at the IV North American Ornithological Conference. Washington D.C, USA.
- 2015 **Palacio, R.D** & Forero-Medina, G. Restoring the habitat of the Dahl's toad-headed turtle: an endangered species in the threatened dry forests of Northern Colombia. Oral Presentation at the 6th World Conference on Ecological Restoration. Manchester, UK.
- 2014 **Palacio, R.D**, Valderrama-Ardila, C.H., & G.H. Kattan. Redes complejas en estudios ornitológicos: Análisis de una red de interacciones mutualistas en un bosque andino de la cordillera occidental. Oral presentation at the IV Colombian Zoology Conference. Cartagena, Colombia.
- 2014 **Palacio, R.D** & Forero-Medina, G. Herramientas de conservación en bosques secos: restauración del hábitat de la tortuga montañera (*Mesoclemmys dahl*) en el Caribe Colombiano. Videopresentation at the IV Colombian Zoology Conference. Cartagena, Colombia.
- 2013 **Palacio, R.D** & Vargas, W.G. Las aves insectívoras de sotobosque como bioindicadores: el caso de los corredores de conexión entre los bosques de Barbas y Bremen, Filandia-Quindio. Oral presentation at the IV Colombian Ornithology Conference. Santiago de Cali, Colombia. (*Outstanding student oral presentation*)
- 2013 **Palacio, R.D** & Vargas, W.G. Biological corridors connecting two large forest remnants promote evenness in a subandean avian assemblage. Poster presentation at the 5th World Conference on Ecological Restoration. Madison, USA.
- 2013 **Palacio, R.D** & Vargas, W.G. Los Insectívoros de sotobosque como indicadores de la efectividad de los corredores de conexión entre los bosques de Barbas y Bremen, Filandia-Quindio. Poster presentation at the III Iberoamerican and Caribbean Conference on Ecological Restoration. Bogotá, Colombia.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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- 2021 Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research Award.

2016 - 2020	Colciencias-Fulbright Ph.D Scholarship.
2020	Provost Graduate Assistantship. Duke Forest Governance and Land Use Intern. Duke University, Durham.NC, USA. Summer 2020.
2017	IUCN Netherlands. Land purchases for conservation: Study tour to Ecuador. Summer 2017.
2017	International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB 2017). Travel Grant. Society for Conservation Biology. Cartagena, Colombia
2016	IV North American Ornithological Conference. Travel Grant. Washington D.C, USA.
2015	Environmental Leadership and Training Initiative (ELTI). Travel Grant. 6th World Conference on Ecological Restoration. Manchester, UK.
2014	Colombian Association of Zoology. Conference Grant. IV Colombian Zoology Conference. Cartagena, Colombia.
2013	Colombian Association of Ornithology. Conference Grant. IV Colombian Ornithology Conference. Santiago de Cali, Colombia.
2009-2012	Academic Excellence, Icesi University. Cali, Colombia.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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2020	Teacher's Assistant at <i>Integrating Environmental Science and Policy (ENV201)</i> course. Professor: Charlotte Clark, PhD. Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Fall Semester.
2020	Teacher's Assistant at <i>Environmental Internship (ENV268)</i> course. Professor: Rebecca Vidra, PhD. Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Fall Semester.
2019	Teacher's Assistant at <i>Seabird Survival and Dispersal Analysis (ENV 336A/836A)</i> field-course (Dry Tortugas National Park). Professor: Stuart Pimm, PhD. Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Spring Semester.
2018	Teacher's Assistant at <i>Environmental Science and Policy (ENV102)</i> course. Professor: Rebecca Vidra, PhD Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Fall Semester.

2017                      Teacher's Assistant at *Conserving the Variety of Life (ENV210D)* course. Professor: Stuart Pimm, PhD. Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Fall Semester.

## **SERVICE**

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2020 – Present              Reporting literature updates on neotropical ornithology to Ornithology Exchange (NEOORN birds forum)

2015 – 2018                eBird Reviewer. Cornell Lab of Ornithology. New York, USA.

2015                         Volunteer coordinator and birdwatching guide. I Colombia BirdFair - Colombia 2015. Santiago de Cali, Colombia.

2015                         Volunteer. British Birdfair. Rutland, UK.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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- Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)
- Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)
- Colombian Association of Zoology (ACZ)
- Colombian Association of Ornithology (ACO)
- Colombian Network for Ecological Restoration (REDCRE)