

# DIEGO J. LIZCANO

I help people and organizations to evaluate with data their success and impact on biodiversity conservation.

"The mountains are calling and I must go."

- John Muir -



## CONTACT

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## SKILLS

### Programming

R       
Python        
HTML/CSS         
LaTeX        
SQL

### Operating Systems

Linux       
MacOS        
Windows

### Statistics

LM, GLM, GLMM, GAM       
Random forest        
JAGS, STAN, NIMBLE        
(Bayesian methods)

### Software & Tools

Visualisation       
(e.g. plotly.js, ggplot, Shiny, ...)  
Data handling        
(e.g. dplyr, tidyverse, ...)  
MS Office

### Geographic Information System

QGIS       
ArcGis        
PostGIS

### Wildlife Techniques

Telemetry UHF/GPS       
Occupancy modeling        
Bio-acoustics

### Languages

English       
Portuguese

## ABOUT ME

I am a Biologist interested in wildlife ecology and conservation. I have extensive field experience working in the neotropics.

## WORK HISTORY

📅 Apr. 2021 **Biodiversity Monitoring Specialist**  
📍 Awake Travel, Bogotá, CO  
Monitoring biodiversity on 27 nature tourism destinations using acoustics methods. Deployment and analysis of 100 AudioMoth recorders.

📅 2016 - 2020 **Biodiversity Specialist**  
📍 The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Bogotá, CO  
Biodiversity monitoring in several projects of the northern Andes using several methods for birds, mammals, insects and plants. Additional tasks: Supervising two TNC's employees, supervising five consultant organizations, acquisition of monitoring equipment and relationship with universities.

📅 2014 - 2016 **Researcher Type III**  
📍 ULEAM University, Manta, Manabí, EC  
Director of the project: Wildlife in Protected and Fragmented Areas of Manabí, Ecuador <http://faunamanabi.github.io>. Additional tasks: Supervising two biologists and four students. Teaching Ecology and statistics. Equipment acquisition and scientific production.

📅 2013 - 2014 **Research Fellow**  
📍 Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF), Washington, DC, USA  
Identification of theoretical and econometric models driving deforestation patterns in the Colombian Amazon <https://conservationstrategy.org/en/profile/diegojlizcano>.

📅 2012 - 2013 **Visiting Scientist**  
📍 Conservation International, Arlington, VA, USA  
Analyzing five years of camera trap data from Costa Rica, using Bayesian statistics and occupancy models. Supporting the identification of Neotropical species for the TEAM network. Supervisor: Jorge Ahumada, Ph.D.

📅 2012 **GIS Consultant**  
📍 World Bank, Washington, DC, USA  
Vegetation change analysis (2000-2010) using MODIS satellite images (product 44) for the protected areas: Pench, Periyar, Palamau, Buxa, Ranthambhore, and Kanha in India.

📅 2006 - 2012 **Assistant Professor**  
📍 Universidad de Pamplona, Pamplona, N. de Sant. CO  
Subjects taught: Ecology, Evolution, Vertebrate Biology, Biogeography, Experimental Design. 12 Undergrad Students Advised. Research Group Director (5 year). Biology and Chemistry Department Director (1 year).

📅 1997 - 2000 **Research Assistant**  
📍 Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, CO  
Mountain Tapir Project. Funded by Corporación Autónoma Regional de Risaralda (CARDER), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and Banco de la Republica.

## EDUCATION

📅 07/2001 - 05/2006 **Ph.D. Biodiversity Management**  
📍 University of Kent, Canterbury, UK  
Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology, (DICE)

📅 01/1990 - 01/1996 **BSc. Biology**  
📍 Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, CO

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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### Publications

#### Book Chapter

Montenegro, O. L., López-Arévalo, H. F., Mora-Beltrán, C., Lizcano, D. J., Serrano, H., Mesa, E., & Bonilla-Sánchez, A. (2019). *Tropical Ungulates of Colombia* (S. Gallina-Tessaro, Ed.). doi:10.1007/978-3-030-28868-6\_9

Bravo, A., Lizcano, D. J., & Alvarez-Loayza, P. (2016). *Mamíferos medianos y grandes/Large and medium-sized mammals* (N. Pitman, A. Bravo, S. Claramunt, C. Vriesendorp, D. Alvira Reyes, A. Ravikumar, ... R. C. Smith, Eds.). Chicago: The Field Museum.

Lizcano, D. J. [Diego J.], Ahumada, J. A., Nishimura, A., & Stevenson, P. R. (2014). *Population Viability Analysis of Woolly Monkeys in Western Amazonia* (T. Defler & P. R. Stevenson, Eds.). doi:10.1007/978-1-4939-0697-0\_15

Cavelier, J. [J.], Lizcano, D. J., Yerena, E., & Downer, C. (2011). *The mountain tapir (Tapirus pinchaque) and Andean bear (Tremarctos ornatus): two charismatic large mammals in South American tropical mountain cloud forest* (L. A. Bruijnzeel, F. N. Scatena, & L. S. Hamilton, Eds.). doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/CBO9780511778384.019

#### Journal Articles

Cepeda-Duque, J. C., Andrade-Ponce, G., Montes-Rojas, A., Rendón-Jaramillo, U., López-Velasco, V., Arango-Correa, E., ... de Oliveira, T. G. (2023). Assessing microhabitat, landscape features and intraguild relationships in the occupancy of the enigmatic and threatened Andean tiger cat (*Leopardus tigrinus pardinoides*) in the cloud forests of northwestern Colombia. *PLOS ONE*, 18(7), e0288247. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0288247

Cepeda-Duque, J. C., Gómez-Valencia, B., Alvarez, S., Gutiérrez-Sanabria, D. R., & Lizcano, D. J. (2021). Daily activity pattern of pumas (*Puma concolor*) and their potential prey in a tropical cloud forest of Colombia. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation*, 44, 267–278. doi:10.32800/abc.2021.44.0267

Lizcano, D. J. [Diego J.], Álvarez, S. J., Díaz-Giraldo, V., Gutierrez-Sanabria, D. R., & Mantilla-Meluk, H. (2021). Elevation as an occupancy determinant of the little red brocket deer (*Mazama rufina*) in the Central Andes of Colombia. *Caldasia*, 43(2), 392–395. doi:10.15446/caldasia.v43n2.85449

Suarez-Castro, A. F., Ramirez-Chaves, H. E., Noguera-Urbano, E. A., Velásquez-Tibatá, J., González-Maya, J. F., & Lizcano, D. J. (2021). Vacíos de información espacial sobre la riqueza de mamíferos terrestres continentales de Colombia. *Caldasia*, 43(2 SE -). doi:10.15446/caldasia.v43n2.85443

Schank, C., Cove, M., Kelly, M., Nielsen, C., O’Farrill, G., Meyer, N., ... Miller, J. (2019). A Sensitivity Analysis of the Application of Integrated Species Distribution Models to Mobile Species: A Case Study with the Endangered Baird’s Tapir. *Environmental Conservation*, 46(3). doi:10.1017/S0376892919000055

Pedraza, C., Clerici, N., Forero, C., Melo, A., Navarrete, D., Lizcano, D., ... Galindo, G. (2018). Zero Deforestation Agreement Assessment at Farm Level in Colombia Using ALOS PALSAR. *Remote Sensing*, 10(9), 1464. doi:10.3390/rs10091464

Schank, C. J., Cove, M. V., Kelly, M. J., Mendoza, E., O’Farrill, G., Reyna-Hurtado, R., ... Miller, J. A. (2017). Using a novel model approach to assess the distribution and conservation status of the endangered Baird’s tapir. *Diversity and Distributions*, 23(12), 1459–1471. doi:10.1111/ddi.12631

Acevedo, A. A., Martínez, M. P., Armesto, L. O., Florez, L. S., Perez, K. S., & Lizcano, D. J. (2016). Detection of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* in Amphibians from Northeastern Colombia. *Herpetological Review*, 47(2), 220–226.

Cervera, L., Lizcano, D. J., Parés-Jiménez, V., Espinoza, S., Poaquiza, D., De la Montaña, E., & Griffith, D. M. (2016). A camera trap assessment of terrestrial mammals in Machalilla National Park, western Ecuador. *Check List*, 12(2), 1868. doi:10.15560/12.2.1868

Lizcano, D. J. [Diego J.], Cervera, L., Espinoza-Moreira, S., Poaquiza-Alava, D., Parés-Jiménez, V., & Ramírez-Barajas, P. J. (2016). Medium and large mammal richness from the marine and coastal wildlife refuge of Pacoche, Ecuador. *Therya*, 7(1), 137–145. doi:10.12933/therya-16-308

Cervera, L., Lizcano, D. J., Tirira, D. G., & Donati, G. (2015). Surveying Two Endangered Primate Species (*Alouatta palliata aequatorialis* and *Cebus aequatorialis*) in the Pacoche Marine and Coastal Wildlife Refuge, West Ecuador. *International Journal of Primatology*, 36(5), 933–947. doi:10.1007/s10764-015-9864-y

Ortega-Andrade, H. M., Prieto-Torres, D. A., Gómez-Lora, I., & Lizcano, D. J. (2015). Ecological and Geographical Analysis of the Distribution of the Mountain Tapir (*Tapirus pinchaque*) in Ecuador: Importance of Protected Areas in Future Scenarios of Global Warming. *PLOS ONE*, 10(3), e0121137. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0121137

Ahumada, J. A., Hurtado, J., & Lizcano, D. (2013). Monitoring the Status and Trends of Tropical Forest Terrestrial Vertebrate Communities from Camera Trap Data: A Tool for Conservation. *PLoS ONE*, 8, e73707. doi:DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0073707

Setina, V., Lizcano, D. J., Brooks, D. M., & Silveira, L. F. (2012). Population Density of the Helmeted Curassow (*Pauxi pauxi*) in Tamá National Park, Colombia. *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*, 124(2), 316–320. doi:10.1676/11-097.1

Lizcano, D. J. [D J], Pizarro, V., Cavelier, J., & Carmona, J. (2002). Geographic distribution and population size of the mountain tapir (*Tapirus pinchaque*) in Colombia. *Journal of Biogeography*, 29(1), 7–15. doi:10.1046/j.1365-2699.2002.00654.x

Lizcano, D. J. [Diego J.], & Cavelier, J. [Jaime]. (2000). Daily and seasonal activity of the mountain tapir (*Tapirus pinchaque*) in the Central Andes of Colombia. *Journal of Zoology*, 252(4), 429–435. doi:10.1017/S0952836900000182