



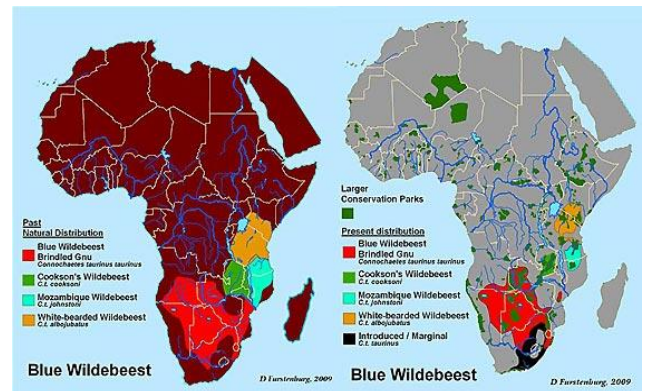
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WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT



AN INTRODUCTION TO MODELLING

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The Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species (LaCONES), a part of CSIR – Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology is organizing a workshop titled, “An Introduction to Modelling Species Distributions”. It will be held in LaCONES campus from **25th June 2018 to 29th June 2018**. This workshop is being conducted in collaboration between Colorado State University and CCMB, as a part of US – India 21st Century Knowledge Initiative programme by United States – India Educational Foundation (USIEF).

LaCONES was established in 2007, with support from Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, New Delhi, Central Zoo Authority of India (CZA), New Delhi and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), New Delhi and Government of Andhra Pradesh. Main aim of the Laboratory is to support conservation efforts of various species through in situ habitat preservation, species protection

and ex situ conservation (captive breeding in controlled environment to restock original wild populations), along with developing and utilizing biotechnological tools and techniques to achieve this end.

The workshop will involve both, theoretical introduction to quantitative aspects of modelling and hands-on training on the data. Participants are must to have a laptop, as well as some basic understanding of statistics and ecology.

All students with research interest in biology/ecology/wildlife science/eco-informatics are encouraged to apply. Maximum capacity of workshop is 15 students. Interested applicants should upload a Statement of Purpose, outlining clearly her/his research work, underscoring the importance this workshop in furthering their research. Applicants also need to send a Reference letter from a person who is in capacity to assess academic suitability of the applicant. Applicants who are employed full-time should furnish a Letter of No-objection from their employer to attend the workshop, in the event of their selection. This letter should be furnished at the time of the application.

Shared accommodation will be provided to all the selected applicants - from the evening of 24th June 2018 (Sunday) to the afternoon of 29th June 2018 (Friday) - with charges Rs 2500/- each applicant, including breakfast, lunch and dinner. Those who do not require accommodation will be charged Rs 1500/- each that includes tea and lunch.

Introduction to the Workshop

Wildlife conservation is increasingly dependent on improved understanding of how species are distributed across landscapes. There are a variety of statistical tools available for conservationists to estimate both fundamental (potential) and realized (actual) species niches. In this introductory workshop we will first cover the basics of statistical inference and sampling, followed by traditional presence-only species distribution modeling (i.e., for estimating species' fundamental niche or potential distribution), and occupancy modeling for estimating realized niches when detection of species is imperfect. Attendees will have a chance to work with their own data at the end of the workshop, or explore practice datasets provided.

Introduction of the instructors



Danny Martin is a researcher in the Graduate Degree Program in Ecology at Colorado State University. His dissertation research investigates reptile distributions in the Great Plains ecoregion (short and mixed-grass steppe). This project includes modeling distributions using historical occurrence records (presence-only models using GLM, BRT, RF, MARS) and occupancy modeling of observations collected using standardized field protocols and a probabilistic sampling design. As part of his occupancy survey effort, Danny evaluated 5 visual encounter survey standards for use in future landscape-scale monitoring of reptiles in semi-arid grasslands. His B.S. was in Wildlife Biology from Kansas State University (2000), and he has a M.S. in Biology from Minnesota State University (2007) where he studied Nearctic river otters. Prior to his dissertation work, Danny also worked for state and federal government agencies in the U.S., and has experience working on diverse taxa and conservation issues including black-footed ferrets, coyotes, grizzly bears, swift fox, bighorn sheep, mule deer, and short-horned lizards. He is interested in almost any issues related to conservation of vertebrate and invertebrate taxa in arid and semi-arid ecosystems.



Rekha Warriier is also a researcher in the Graduate Degree Program in Ecology at Colorado State University. Her dissertation research explores opportunities to expand the scope of large carnivore conservation beyond protected area boundaries. Specifically, she studies how tigers and associated prey species use sugarcane farmlands in the Terai landscape of Uttar Pradesh. She is well-versed in the use of quantitative methods to model species distributions and abundance patterns. Rekha's bachelor's degree is in Veterinary Science from Bombay Veterinary College, and her master's degree was in Wildlife Science from the Wildlife Institute of India. Prior to starting her doctoral studies, she worked as a research scientist for WWF-India on a tiger population estimation and monitoring project in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve.

Interested applicants can apply by filling the form in the link given below, latest by **20th May 2018**. Reference letters must be sent to indousworkshop17@gmail.com, also by the above date.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBOxE9iNUvO_N_CjtajEO5O-3f3aygtSMmkn4JT24O6KxG9A/viewform?usp=sf_link

Details of payments will be informed to selected participants, after screening.

Only applications complete in all respects will be taken up for selection process. Selected applicants shall be intimated by **26th May 2018**.

Any queries should be addressed to Mihir Trivedi, via mihir@csircmb.org or phone – 8860867633.