**CURRÍCULUM VITAE**

# Personal data

#### Diego Martín Varela

**Date & Place of Birth**: 9 de octubre de 1973, Necochea, Buenos Aires Province, Argentina.

**Home address**: Salta 686, Puerto Iguazú (N3370FSC), Misiones Province, Argentina

**Office Address**: Instituto de Biología Subtropical (IBS), Bertoni 85, Puerto Iguazú (N3370FSC), Pcia. de Misiones, Argentina.

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***Affiliations:***

Associate Researcher at the Institute of Subtropical Biology (IBS-Iguazú node) / CONICET-UNaM

Founder member of the Research Center of the Atlantic Forest (CeIBA)

Founder member and Coordinator of projects at Conservation Argentina

Environmental consultant at Consultores del Guayrá SRL.

Registered in RCEIA No. 586 (Environmental consultant). Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development.

***University studies:***

Degree in Biological Sciences (Ecology) at the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, University of Buenos Aires (UBA). Graduate year: **2003**.

Postgraduate courses (see below)

***Main research & consultant focus:***

Road Ecology.

Conservation Planning and Management.

Impacts of Forest Plantations on Biodiversity.

Ecological Corridors.

Biodiversity Monitoring.

Mammal & Bird Ecology and Conservation.

Effects of Defaunation on Ecosystems.

Forest Restoration.

## *Experience*

Professional: Coordination and participation in projects for the study, monitoring, restoration and conservation of biodiversity since 1999. Responsible for or participating in project management and financing of national origin (public science and technical bodies, government, NGOs and companies) and international International NGOs and multilateral agencies). Participation in 20 environmental consultancies (EIAs, strategic environmental assessments and monitoring of biodiversity).

Field: Biodiversity surveys, mammals monitoring, bird monitoring, camera traps, wildlife tracks identification, bird point-counts, mist netting, GPS, 4x4 vehicle management, training courses, environmental education.

Utilities: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Indesign, Adobe Bridge, EndNote

Specialized software: R and statistical packages, RStudio, Presence, ArcGIS, QGIS, ExifPro, Garmin BaseCamp, Google Earth Pro, Android applications (Urubu, OruxMaps, AlpineQuest, others).

## Research and Conservation projects

**2017.** Effects of El Niño floods (December 2015 - July 2016) on the Marsh Deer population in the Paraná River Delta. Principal researcher. Funding: Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable de la Nación.

**2016-actual.** Mammal diversity in forest plantations: effects of landscape configuration between grassland and forest environments NE Argentina. Researcher. Project director: Dr. Mario Di Bitetti (Conicet). Funding: PICT, FONCYT, Agencia Nacional de Promoción Científica y Tecnológica, Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva.

**2016-actual.** Effects of different forest-livestock production systems at the landscape level on the diversity of mammals and birds of the Misiones Atlantic Forest. Researcher. Project director: Dr. Mario Di Bitetti (Conicet). Funding: Ministerio de Agroindustria/Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR).

**2015-2016.** Pantano Project. Project component: Marsh Deer (Blastocerus dichotomus) distribution and abundance in the Lower Paraná River Delta. Researcher. Project director: Dr. Javier Pereira (Conicet). Funding: Banco Mundial/Global Environmental Facility (GEF)-Ministerio de Agroindustria/Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR).

**2015-2017.** Forest restoration in the Urugua-í – Foerster Biological Corridor, Misiones. Conservación Argentina and Fundación Banco de Bosques. Funding: Villavicencio/Aguas Danone. Project coordinador.

**2015-2016.** Misiones Road Ecology: Development of a strategic plan to mitigate the impact road on wildlife in Iguazú National Park. Centro de Investigaciones del Bosque Atlántico. Funding: Fondo para Conservacion Ambiental (FOCA) Bank of Galicia.

**2014-2015.** Biodiversity Conservation in Productive Forestry Landscapes. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Biodiversity Monitoring Protocols in Mesopotamia and Paraná River Delta regions. Universidad Maimónides and Facultad de Ciencias Forestales, Universidad Nacional de Misiones. Researcher. Project director: Dr. Gustavo Zuleta and Ing.Ftal. Oscar Gauto. Funding: Proyecto GEF-TF090118. World Bank-Ministerio de Agroindustria/Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR).

**2010-2015.** Misiones Road Ecology Program.Wildlife road-kill monitoring and Wildlife Crossings monitoring in Misiones Province roads. Partnership agreement: Conservación Argentina and Dirección Provincial de Vialidad (DPV). Principal researcher. Funding: DPV.

**2012-2014.** Effects of Exotic Forest Plantations on Mammals and Birds communities in the Atlantic Forest of Misiones, Argentina. Biodiversity Conservation in Productive Forestry Landscapes project (PIA-10102) – Instituto de Biología Subtropical (IBS-Puerto Iguazú), Researcher. Project director: Dr. Mario Di Bitetti (Conicet). Funding: Ministerio de Agroindustria/Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR).

**2008-2010.** Linking conservation, agroecology, and ecotourism in the Urugua-í – Foerster Biodiversity Corridor: a model of participatory management plan in the Atlantic Forest of Misiones, Argentina. Conservación Argentina, Funding: IUCN-Netherlands, EGP program. Project coordinador.

**2006-2008.** Green Corridor Consolidation: Biodiversity Conservation with Social Involvement in the Atlantic Forest of Argentina. Conservación Argentina. Funding: Conservation Leadership Programme. Project coordinador.

**2005-2007.** Effects of ungulate defaunation in the Atlantic Forest of Argentina: predicting long term consequences of hunting on rainforest trees. Funding: CONICET, Cleveland Metropark Zoo and WWF-EFN. Principal researcher.

**2005-2007.** Creating a Small Protected Area to Consolidate a Large Block of Atlantic Forest in Misiones, Argentina. Partnership between Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina and Conservación Argentina. Funding: IUCN-Netherlands.

**2004-2005.** The Green Corridor Project: Linking landscapes, people and institutions in the Atlantic Forest of Argentina. Conservación Argentina. Funding: Conservation Leadership Programme. Project coordinador.

**2002-2003.** Urugua-í Green Corridor 2002: Conserving the ecological corridor between Urugua-í and Horacio Foerster provincial parks in the Interior Atlantic Forest of northern Misiones, Argentina. Conservación Argentina. Funding: BP Conservation Programme. Project coordinador.

**2002.** Conservation and Ecology of Dwarf Brocket deer (*Mazama nana*) in the Atlantic Forest of North Argentina. Funding: IUCN/SSC/Deer Specialist Group. Principal researcher.

**2001.** Effects of exotic plantations on the Atlantic Forest bird communities, Misiones, Argentina. Researcher. Universidad de Buenos Aires. Project director: Dra. Isabel Bellocq.

**1997-2001.** Distribution, Abundance and Conservation of Marsh Deer *(Blastocerus dichotomus*) in the Lower Paraná River Delta, Argentina”. Asociación para la Conservación y el Estudio de la Naturaleza (ACEN). Funding: BP Conservation Programme y IUCN/SSC/Deer Specialist Group. Project coordinator.

## Environmental consultancies (more than 20, 11 selected)

**2017. L**andscape conservation assessment along NR 34 in Jujuy (Argentina), and propose connectivity points for safe fauna passages in Group 2 of civil works. Short term consultant for the World Bank.

**2016.** Biodiversity consultant. Analysis of High Conservation Values Areas in forest regions of Argentina. For Esteban Carabelli/NEPcom.

**2016.** EIA RP-19 road, Urugua Provincial Park - Biotic Environment Assessment and mitigation measures (ecoducts and wildlife crossing), Dirección Provincial de Vialidad, Misiones.

**2014.** Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) & Biodiversity Monitoring Protocols: Biodiversity Conservation in Productive Forestry Landscapes. GEF-TF090118. World Bank-Ministerio de Agroindustria/Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR).

**2013.** Proposal of wildlife passages and other mitigation measures in the RN 14, Corrientes. Establecimiento Las Marías.

**2012.** Wildlife crossing proposal in the RP-3 road, Chaco Province, section: Pampa del Indio - Villa Río Bermejito. DVP-Chaco, World Bank, Burgwardt Cia S.A. y Decavial S.A.I.C.A.C.

**2011.** Wildlife crossing proposal for a new railway line, Potasio Rio Colorado Project (Mendoza, Neuquén, Rio Negro). URS Corp Consultant.

**2010.** EIA RP-15 road: biodiversity assessment and wildlife crossing proposal. Dirección Provincial de Vialidad, Misiones.

**2009.** EIA RP-27 road: biodiversity assessment and wildlife crossing proposal. Dirección Provincial de Vialidad, Misiones.

**2007.** EIA RP-8 road: biodiversity assessment and wildlife crossing proposal. Dirección Provincial de Vialidad, Misiones.

**2004.** Gas pipeline NEA. Biodiversity assessment and conservation measures. URS - Dames & Moore.

## Publications

***Articles:***

**2006.** ZURITA G.A., N. REY, **D. VARELA**, M. VILLAGRAand M. I. BELLOCQ.Conversion of the Atlantic Forest into native and exotic tree plantations: effects on bird communities from the local and regional perspectives. Forest Ecology and Management 235:164-173

**2005. VARELA D.** Effects of hunting defaunation on the structure and dynamics of the Atlantic forest of the Upper Paraná, Misiones, Argentina: The role of peccaries and other ungulates. Suiform Sounding IUCN PPHSG Newsletter 5(1):8-10.

## 2002. PEREIRA J., D. VARELA and N. FRACASSI. Pampas cat in Argentina: is it absent from the Pampas? Cat News 36:20–22

**2001. VARELA D.**, F. GAGLIARDI, S. D’ALESSIO, B. LARTIGAU, G. APRILE, C. MONACO.Conservation of marsh deer in Paraná delta, Argentina. IUCN Deer Specialist Group News 16:6-8

***10 Book chapters (4 selected):***

**2010. VARELA D.,** R.G. TROVATI, K. RIVERO GUZMAN, ROGÉRIO VIEIRA ROSSI and J.M.B. DUARTE. Chapter 15: Red Brocket Deer, *Mazama americana* (Erxleben 1777). En: Neotropical Cervidology. Eds: S. González and J.M.B. Duarte.

**2010.** VOGLIOTTI A., **D.** **VARELA** and A. ANDRIOLO. Chapter 32: Camera traps. En: Neotropical Cervidology. Eds: S. González and J.M.B. Duarte.

**2010.** PIOVEZAN U., L.M. TIEPOLO, W.M. TOMAS, J. M.B. DUARTE, **D. VARELA** and J.S.M. FILHO. Chapter: Marsh Deer, *Blastocerus dichotomus* (Illiger, 1815). En: Neotropical Cervidology. Eds: S. González y J.M.B. Duarte.

**2010.** ABRIL V.V.,A.VOGLIOTTI, **D.** **VARELA,** J.M.B. DUARTE andJ.L. Cartes. Chapter: Dwarf Brocket Deer, *Mazama nana*. En: Neotropical Cervidology. Eds: S. González and J.M.B. Duarte.

**36 trabajos presentados en reuniones cientificas en Argentina y el exterior (6 selected)**

**2016. VARELA, D.** Long-term monitoring of wildlife crossings structures in the Atlantic Forest, Argentina. Proceedings of the First Ibero-American Congress on Biodiversity and Road Infraestructure, and IV Road Ecology Brazil 2016. November, Lavras, Brazil.

**2015.** IEZZI, M.E., CRUZ, P., **VARELA, D.**, DE ANGELO, C., DI BITETTI, M.S. Effects of Forest Plantations on Mammals in the Atlantic Forest of Misiones, Argentina. Society for Conservation GIS (SCGIS) Annual Conference. July, Monterrey, USA.

### 2014. VARELA, D. Road ecology in a Neotropical biodiversity hotspot: monitoring effectiveness of wildlife crossings in the Atlantic Forest, Argentina. Infra Eco Network Europa (IENE). International Conference on Ecology and Transportation , 16 - 19 September 2014, Malmö, Suecia.

**2012.** **VARELA, D.,** S. Ciccioli. Impact of asphalted roads on mammals: wildlife passages as environmental mitigation measures. XXIV Argentine Conference on Mastozoology, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

2006. ZULETA, G. A., N. REY, D. VARELA, R. SCANDALO, A. MONJEAU, A. PÉREZ, J. OTERO, S. TORRUSIO,A. RESCIA, M.I. BELLOCQ y C. NIKLAS. Determinación de áreas críticas para la conservación de la biodiversidad en Mesopotamia. XXII Reunión Argentina de Ecología, Córdoba, Argentina, 22-25 de agosto.

**2006. VARELA D.**, G. ZURITA, y S. CASERTANO. Linking scientific research, education and promotion of sustainable activities to consolidate a biological corridor in the Atlantic forest of Argentina. 20th Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology, San José, California (USA), 24-28 de junio.

**Project Grants & Awards**

**2017.** **Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable de la Nacion.** Argentina.

**2015. PIA-Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR).** Argentina.

**2014. Fondo para la Conservación Ambiental (FOCA) – Banco Galicia (5ta. Edición).** Argentina.

**2014. PICT-FONCYT.** Argentina.

**2011. PIA-Unidad de Cambio Rural (UCAR). PIA 10102-2011.** Argentina.

**2009. Becas Conservar la Argentina 2009 – Aves Argentinas.** Argentina.

**2008. Ecosystem Grant Program – IUCN Netherlands Commeette.** Netherlands.

1. **Conservation Leadership Award 2006. BP Conservation Programme.** USA & Great Britain.
2. **Kate Stokes Memorial Award 2006. BP Conservation Programme.** USA & Great Britain.
3. **Scott Neotropical Fund.** USA.

**2005. Russell E. Train Fellowship, WWF Education for Nature Program.** USA.

1. **Follow Up Award 2004. BP Conservation Programme.** USA & Great Britain.
2. **Gold Award 2002. BP Conservation Programme.** Great Britain.
3. **Deer Specialist Group SSC/IUCN – The Wildlife Trust .** USA.
4. **Runner Up Award. BP Conservation Programme.** Great Britain.
5. **Deer Specialist Group SSC/IUCN - The Friends of the National Zoo (FONZ).** USA.

**Fellowships**

**2007. Organization of Tropical Studies (OTS).** La Selva Biological Station, Costa Rica.

**2007. CONICET.** 2007-2009. Argentina.

## Postgraduated courses

**2016. Models and Data in Ecology (Maximum Likelihood and Bayes)**

**2016. Special Topics in Generalized Linear Models (GLMM).**

**2015. Introduction to generalized linear models: an applied approach using R.**

**2015. Fundamentals of R. Programming for exploration, manipulation, and analysis of data.**

**2012. Introduction to Occupancy Models.**

**2012. Landscape connectivity analysis through Conefor Sensinode: methodological foundations and examples of application.**

**2012. GIS tools for Ecology and Conservation.**

**2011. Using GIS in Biology and Conservation.**

**2011. Interdisciplinary leadership for the conservation of biodiversity.**

**2009. Experimental design and data analysis.**

**2009. Plant invasions in terrestrial ecosystems.**

**2008. Ecosystem restoration**.

**2007. OET – Tropical Ecology & Conservation 2007-2**. Costa Rica.

**2004. II Latin American Course on Quantitative Ecology (Biostatistics) applied to Conservation Biology.** Brazil.

**2003. IV Latin American Course on Conservation Biology and Wildlife Management.** Brazil.

**1999. Large Vertebrate Survey Techniques.** Brazil.

**1998. Techniques of Population Assessment and Coordination of Field Work in South American Deer.** Brazil.

# Workshops, Seminars & Technical meetings (More than 30, 4 selected)

**2016. Giant anteater (Myrmecophaga tridactyla) roadkill in the RN-16 road, Chaco Province, mitigation measures proposals.** Chaco.

**2016. National Strategic Plan for Jaguar Conservation.** Chaco.

**2015. Road Infrastructure and Biodiversity Conservation in northern Argentina.** Misiones.

**2012. Road Infrastructure in Norte Grande region,** Buenos Aires.

## Internships

**2000/2001** **University of Buenos Aires – Government of Buenos Aires City.** *Aedes aegypti* monitoring in Buenos Aires city.

**1998/1999** **Argentine National Park Administration**. Designing ecological corridors in Yungas forests, NW Argentina.

##### Memberships (scientific & conservations groups)

* Transport Working Group (TWG), Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group (CCSG), World Commission on Protected Areas, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (Since 2017).
* Latin American Network BioInfra – Biodiversity & Infraestructure. (since 2016).
* Deer Specialist Group, SSC, IUCN (since 1999).
* Tapir Specialist Group, SSC, IUCN (since 2006).
* Conservación Argentina (Argentine Conservation, NGO) (Since 2001).
* Centro de Investigaciones del Bosque Atlántico (Atlantic Forest Research Center, NGO) (Since 2005)

**May 2017**