

# ELIZABETH TAPANES, PH.D.

*Wildlife and Conservation Biologist*

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Elizabeth has over 12 years of experience in wildlife and conservation biology, including planning, conducting, and directing projects on fish and other endangered wildlife. She is an expert data analyst and communicator. She has traveled and worked internationally, is multi-lingual, and is an expert in collaborating with diverse teams and stakeholders. She is an up-and-coming leader in her field, and has successfully led efforts to acquire research funding ( $\approx 300,000$  total) and publish science manuscripts (seven total).

## MOST RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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**NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Biology, UC San Diego; La Jolla, CA – 2021 to present**

- Secured \$138,000 in research funding.
- Trained and mentored four other individuals in data analysis and project development, using skills in data analysis and management, which tripled the research productivity in the lab.
- Prepared results of research for written publication and written decimation via oral communication at conferences.

**Ph.D. Researcher, The George Washington University; Washington, DC 2016 to 2021**

- Secured  $\approx \$145,000$  in research funding.
- Two field seasons working in Madagascar (total time of two months).
- Led team of six diverse researchers with distinct expertise (i.e., genomics, field work, macroevolution, GIS) through stages of funding acquisition, biological sample acquisition/transport/storage, data analyses, and publication of manuscripts.
- Collaborated with international Malagasy NGO's and institutions to obtain work permits and establish ongoing scientific collaborations.
- Successful acquisition of one US Fish & Wildlife permit to import biological samples for CITES regulated mammal listed as Critically Endangered, as well as securing of export permits from the country of origin (Madagascar).
- Acquired training in mark-recapture techniques for threatened mammalian species.
- Used my expertise in written communication to develop three manuscripts and one book chapter published with implications to conservation biology.

- Five oral presentations and two poster presentations at national and international conferences
- Trained and mentored six other individuals in project development, data curation, statistical analyses, grant applications.

**Master’s Researcher, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL**

**2013 to 2016**

- Secured ≈\$8,000 in research funding.
- Two field seasons working in Tanzania (total time of six months).
- Managed and supervised a field team in Tanzania for five months, which included three international field-assistants that were not primarily English speaking.
- Led efforts for capacity building with three Tanzanian scientists, which involved teaching the basics in Microsoft, email, biological sample collection and curation, monitoring and surveying the population of monkeys using handheld GPS units, and behavioral data collection.
- Increased the productivity of the field team by 50% by establishing dusk to dawn monitoring seven days a week, based on a rotating schedule of groups of two.
- Developed: one thesis on Tanzanian wildlife, one manuscript on zoonotic disease transmission, and two oral podium presentations on Tanzanian wildlife.

**EDUCATION**

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<b>Ph.D.</b> , Human Paleobiology, The George Washington University	2021
<b>M.Phil.</b> , Human Paleobiology, The George Washington University	2019
<b>M.A.</b> , Anthropology, Florida Atlantic University	2016
<b>B.S.</b> , Biological Sciences, Florida International University	2012

**HARD SKILLS**

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- **Statistical data analysis:** R, Python, Snakemake, Git, GitHub, Google Earth
  - **Data visualization:** Photoshop, Adobe, Keynote, & Microsoft Suite
  - **Research:** project development, data collection, database management, literature evaluations

**SOFT SKILLS**

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- **Leadership:** Strong ability to lead by consensus & by example
  - **Management:** Expert ability to collaborate with a diverse team, & to train and mentor others
  - **Oral communication:** presenting scientific data, science outreach & communication
  - **Written communication:** scientific writing, blog writing, grant writing, reports
  - **International work experience:** Madagascar, Tanzania
  - **Social science:** make arguments, question assumptions, critical evaluations, decision making
  - **Collaboration with distinct stakeholders:** NGOs, academia, international governments
  - **Flexible, adaptable, and excels in non-structured work environments**

**NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES KNOWN**

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- **Spanish:** bilingual (native)
  - **Malagasy:** elementary
  - **Swahili:** elementary