

Camille DeSisto

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EDUCATION

Duke University

PhD Candidate in Ecology, advisors: Dr. Charles Nunn, Dr. John Poulsen
Certificate in College Teaching
Expected graduation date: May 2025

Durham, NC
2020-Present

US Fulbright Program

Fulbright Student Researcher, Universidad Espíritu Santo

Guayaquil, Ecuador
2019-2020

Harvard University

B.A. in Integrative Biology, Cum Laude, High Honors within Major
Secondary in Environmental Science and Public Policy, Citation in Spanish

Cambridge, MA
2015-2019

PUBLICATIONS

8. **DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Zandry, Z., Feno, T., Zareiesafandabadi, B., Randrianasy, J., Tiamanana, J., Randrianasolo, D., Rasolofo, M., Raveloson, G., Zerimanana, F., Razafindratsima, O., Herrera, J., Poulsen, J.R. Functional traits and phylogenetic effects drive germination of lemur-passed seeds. (2025) *Ecology and Evolution*.
7. Molina-Moreira, N., Arias de López, M., Rodriguez, R., Medranda, P., Massuh, D., **DeSisto, C.** Evaluation of the damage caused by *Coccotrypes rhizophorae* in *Rhizophora* propagules along the Ecuadorian coast. (2024) *Madera y Bosques*.
6. Poulsen, J., Maicher, V., Malinowski, H., **DeSisto, C.** Situating Defaunation in an Operational Framework to Advance Biodiversity Conservation. (2023) *BioScience*.
5. Golden, C. D., **DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Borgerson, C., Randriamady, H.J. Hunting and the consumption of wildlife in Madagascar. In *The New Natural History of Madagascar*. Goodman and Benstead eds. (2022) *Princeton University Press*.
4. **DeSisto, C.** & Herrera, J. Drivers and Consequences of Structure in Lemur-Plant Ecological Networks. (2022). *Journal of Animal Ecology*
3. Golden, C.D., Koehn, Z.J., Shepon, A., Passarelli, S..., **DeSisto, C....** Thilsted, S.H. Aquatic foods to nourish nations. (2021) *Nature*, 598(7880), 315–320.
2. **DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Park, D., Davis, C. C., Ramananjato, V., Tonos, J.M., Razafindratsima, O.H. (2020). An invasive species spread by threatened diurnal lemurs impacts rainforest structure in Madagascar, *Biological Invasions*, 22(9), 2845-2858.
1. Ramananjato, V., Rakotomalala, Z., Park, D., **DeSisto, C.**, Raelinjanakolona, N., Guthrie, N., Fenosoa, Z., Johnson, S., Razafindratsima, O.H. (2020). The role of nocturnal omnivorous lemurs as seed dispersers in Malagasy rainforests, *Biotropica*, 52(4), 758-765.

Published Data

- Golden, C.D., Koehn, J.Z., Vaitla, B., **DeSisto, C.**, Kelahan, H., Manning, K., Fiorella, K.J., Kjellefold, M., Thilsted, S.H. (2021). Aquatic Food Composition Database, Harvard Dataverse.
- Ramananjato, V., Rakotomalala, Z., Park, D., **DeSisto, C.**, Raelinjanakolona, N., Guthrie, N., Fenosoa, Z., Johnson, S., Razafindratsima, O.H. (2020). Data from: The role of nocturnal omnivorous lemurs as seed dispersers in Malagasy rain forests, v2, Dryad.
- In Review/ In Revision/ Submitted/ In Prep. (PDF available upon request)*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Frappier-Brinton, T., Boos, E., Rasolofoson, R. Impacts of tourism on deforestation in protected areas across Madagascar. *In Review.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Herrera, J., Dimbiarijaonina, C., Randrianasolo, D., Rabevao, E., Mahazandry, E., Emerancine, Tsilanizara, E., Raveloson, G., Ranohianasy, J., Tiamanana, J., Njakandrina, J., Raharizafinirina, M.O., Rasolofo, Bezaralahy, R., Rakotoarisoa, S., Feno, T., Ramalanjaona, W., Zerimanana, Zandry, Z., Poulsen, J.R., Nunn, C. Structure and stability of lemur-tree ecological networks across primary and secondary forests. *In Review.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Herrera, J., Dimbiarijaonina, C., Randrianasolo, D., Rabevao, E., Mahazandry, E., Emerancine, Tsilanizara, E., Raveloson, G., Ranohianasy, J., Tiamanana, J., Njakandrina, J., Raharizafinirina, M.O., Rasolofo, Bezaralahy, R., Rakotoarisoa, S., Feno, T., Ramalanjaona, W., Zerimanana, Zandry, Z., Poulsen, J.R., Nunn, C. Ecological and human use traits shape lemur-tree interaction networks across human-modified landscapes. *In Review.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Kampe, J., Medjibe, V., Dunson, D., Gupta, A., Midoko Iponga, D., Malinowski, H., Poulsen, J. Imputing unobserved seed dispersal interactions to assess consequences of faunal degradation. *In Prep.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Kampe, J. Medjibe, V., Midoko Iponga, D., Gupta, A., Nunn, C., Poulsen, J.R. Anthropogenic and environmental factors associated with frugivore interaction diversity. *In prep.*
- Gupta, A., **DeSisto, C.**, Maicher, V., Medjibe, V., Malinowski, M., Midoko Iponga, D., Ngomanda, A., Poulsen, J.R. Size-Mediated Effects of Disturbance on Carbon Stocks in Tropical Forests. *In Prep.*
- Kampe, J., **DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Dunson, D. Covariate informed link prediction with extreme taxonomic bias. *In Prep.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Frappier-Brinton, T., Rabevao, E., Feno, T., Tsilanizara, E., Zandry, Z., Njakandrina, J., Randrianasy, J., Bezaralahy, R., Monique, S., Boos, E., Merritt, M., Satagopan, N., Herrera, J. Forest loss threatens lemur populations in northeast Madagascar. *In Prep.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Binder, R.A., Kauffman, K., Barrett, T., Pender, M., Kramer, R., Rabezara, J.Y., Soaeimalala, V., Moody, J., Nunn, C. Predictors of Centrality on Real-World Human Transmission Networks in Rural Madagascar. *In Prep.*
- DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Kolinski, L., Kauffman, K., Pender, M., Kramer, R., Rabezara, J.Y., Soaeimalala, V., Moody, J., Nunn, C. Predictors of human-animal contact networks in northeast Madagascar. *In Prep.*
- Vasenina, A., **DeSisto, C.M.M.**, Mucha, P., Sampling bias mediates the effects of functional traits on lemur dietary richness. *In Prep.*

Healey, L. B., Roberts, S. M., Malinowski, H., **DeSisto, C. M. M.**, Maicher, V., Mambocka Evong, C., Gwenaël Moundounga, C., Evina, S., Mouketou Mouketou, Y. S., Ehbebe, Y., Houg, Y., White, E. C., Rowley, C., Chavanna-Bryant, C., Swenson, J., Midoko Iponga, D., Ntie, S., Poulsen, J., Cagle, N. L. Examining the effects of faunal degradation on tropical forest aboveground biomass using terrestrial laser scanning. *In Prep.*

Bezeralahy, R., **DeSisto, C. M. M.**, Dimiarijaonina, C., Soazafy, M. R., Herrera, J. Ethnobotanical knowledge varies across communities and genders in northeast Madagascar. *In Prep*

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS *Collaborative Grant

Katherine Goodman Stern Fellowship (\$30,000 + tuition and fees)	2024
*Duke Climate Research Innovation Seed Program (CRISP) Research Award (\$99,995)	2024
Duke Graduate School Conference Travel Award (\$700, \$700)	2024, 2022
Bass Connections Student Grant (\$3,000, *\$5,000)	2024, 2022
Phipps Botany in Action Fellowship (\$6,000, \$5,000)	2024, 2023
Duke Evolutionary Anthropology Mentorship Funding (\$1,000)	2023
Duke Office of Global Affairs Student Research Fund (\$2,500)	2023
Preparing Future Faculty Fellowship	2023-2024
Rolex Explorers Club Grant (\$4,992)	2023
Primate Conservation Inc. Grant (\$1,800)	2023
Explorers Club Discovery Grant Finalist	2023
Bass Connections Award for Outstanding Mentorship Finalist	2023
Duke Lemur Center Director's Fund Grant (\$3,554)	2023
P.E.O Scholar Award (\$20,000)	2023
Garden Club of America Fellowship in Tropical Botany (\$5,500)	2023
Duke Competitive Summer Research Fellowship (\$8,415)	2023
*Duke Student Research Award (\$5,000)	2023
Duke Graduate School Conference Travel Award (\$700)	2023
* Bass Connections Grant (\$25,000, \$42,000)	2022, 2023
*Duke Graduate School Professional Development Grant (\$2,000)	2022
*Duke Africa Initiative Award (\$1,000)	2022
Duke Global Student Research Fund (\$1,500)	2022
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention	2022
Duke University Summer Research Fellowship (\$8,250)	2022
*Holohil Research Award (GPS collars, ~\$2,500)	2022
Duke International Dissertation Research Travel Award (\$3,000)	2022
*Duke Africa Initiative Award (\$1,000)	2022
Duke Graduate School Conference Travel Award (\$700)	2022
*Duke University Graduate Working Group on Global Issues (\$1,000)	2021
Duke University Summer Research Fellowship (\$6,500)	2021
Duke University Graduate Research and Travel Award (\$1,325)	2021
James B. Duke Fellowship (\$5000/ year)	2020-2023
Fulbright Student Research Fellowship (~\$13,000)	2019
Harvard College Hoopes Prize (\$5,000)	2019

Herchel Smith Harvard Undergraduate Science Research Fellowship (\$8,300)	2018
Garden Club of America Scholarship (\$3,000, \$3,000)	2018, 2017
Harvard University Herbaria Grant (\$2,500, \$4,824)	2018, 2017
Field Projects International Scholarship (cost of tuition)	2017
Weissman International Internship Program Grant –Harvard College (\$7,000)	2017
Roy Family Environmental Internship – Harvard Kennedy School (\$4,000)	2016
Henry David Thoreau Foundation Environmental Scholarship (\$5,000/ year)	2015-2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Biocultural Sustainability in Madagascar SAVA Region, Madagascar/Durham, NC
Project Co-Lead, Supervisor: James Herrera, Ph.D. December 2021-Present

Pathogens to Pachyderms NSF Project Ivindo National Park, Gabon/ Durham, NC
Student Researcher, Supervisor: John Poulsen, Ph.D. June 2021-Present

Stanford Center for Ocean Solutions/ Harvard School of Public Health Boston, MA
Research Assistant, Supervisor: Christopher Golden, Ph.D. April 2020 – August 2020

Fulbright Student Program Guayaquil, Ecuador
Student Researcher, Collaborator: Natalia Molina Moreira, PhD. September 2019-March 2020*
 *Completed early due to COVID-19

Ants and Canopy Boot Camp Antananarivo/Ankarafantsika, Madagascar
Research Assistant, Supervisors: Brian Fisher, Ph.D., Bonnie Blaimer, Ph.D. July 2019

The Davis Lab, Harvard University Herbaria Cambridge, MA
Research Assistant, Advisor: Charles Davis, Ph.D. September 2017- May 2019

The Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard Cambridge, MA
Research Assistant, Supervisor: Christopher Golden, Ph.D. December 2018- May 2019

Independent Field Research, Harvard University Various locations, Madagascar
Student Researcher, Advisor: Onja Razafindratsima, PhD. May 2018-August 2018
 June 2017- July 2017

Planetary Health Alliance Madagascar/ Cambridge, MA
Undergraduate Scholar, Supervisor: Christopher Golden, Ph.D. January 2017- December 2017

FIRST AUTHOR PRESENTATIONS/ POSTERS

Ecological Society of America. *Effects of faunal degradation on aboveground biomass across Gabon* (presentation), 2024.

North American Congress for Conservation Biology. *Impacts of tourism on deforestation across Madagascar* (presentation), 2024.

*Student Award Finalist

New Phytologist Next Generation Scientists. *Land use change drives the structure and function of single-layer and multilayer ecological networks* (poster), 2024.

P.E.O. State Chapter Conference. *Conservation and Community* (presentation), 2024.

Fortin Foundation Bass Connections Showcase. *Biocultural Sustainability in Madagascar* (poster), 2024.

Student Conference on Conservation Science. *Effects of faunal degradation on aboveground biomass across Gabon* (presentation), 2024.
*Talk prize, 3rd place

International Society of Tropical Foresters. Land-use change drives structure and function of single-layer and multilayer ecological networks (poster), 2024.

British Ecological Society Annual Meeting. *Effects of faunal degradation on aboveground biomass across Gabon* (presentation), 2023.

Fortin Foundation Bass Connections Showcase. *Biocultural Sustainability in Madagascar* (poster), 2023.

Symposium on Ecological Networks: *Drivers and Consequences of Lemur-Plant Interaction Networks* (presentation), 2021.

Congreso Manglares de America: *La dinámica del carbono en los manglares de Ecuador* (presentation), 2021.

Association for Tropical Conservation Biology. *Animal-mediated spread of the invasive strawberry guava (*Psidium cattleianum*) in Madagascar* (presentation), 2019.

Association for Tropical Conservation Biology. *The invasive strawberry guava (*Psidium cattleianum*) reshapes rainforest community structure in Madagascar* (poster). 2019.

National Collegiate Research Conference. *Impacts of the Invasive Strawberry Guava on Plant Community Structure in Madagascar's Rainforests* (poster), 2018.

Garden Club of America Regional Annual Meeting. *The Spread and Consequences of the Invasive Strawberry Guava in Madagascar* (presentation), 2018.

Seed Dispersal in the Anthropocene Workshop. *The Spread and Consequences of the Invasive Strawberry Guava in Madagascar* (presentation), 2018.

Garden Club of America Regional Annual Meeting. *A multidimensional analysis of the invasive strawberry guava in Madagascar* (presentation), 2017.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Environment 759: Biocultural Sustainability in Madagascar (Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022)

Environment 872: Environmental Data Analytics (Spring 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2023)

Environment 710: Applied Data Science for the Environmental and Natural Sciences (Fall 2021)

Environment 102: Introduction to Environmental Science and Policy (Spring 2021)

Environment 201: Integrating Environmental Science and Policy (Fall 2020)

SELECT OUTREACH AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Building a Better Fieldwork Future	Durham, NC
<i>Certified Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Trainer</i>	August 2021- Present
Malagasy Working Group	Durham, NC
<i>Founder and President</i>	September 2020 – May 2022
Duke University Program in Ecology	Durham, NC
<i>Executive Committee Student Representative</i>	October 2023- Present
<i>Seminar Planning Committee</i>	September 2020- May 2023

Reach the World	Guayaquil, Ecuador
<i>Educational Outreach Volunteer</i>	September 2019- December 2019
Conservation Society, Harvard College	Cambridge, MA
<i>President</i>	September 2015- May 2019
Harvard First-Year Outdoor Program	Cambridge, MA
<i>Leader</i>	February 2016- May 2019
Harvard Outing Club	Cambridge, MA
<i>Leader</i>	September 2016- May 2019
Environmental Action Committee, Harvard College	Cambridge, MA
<i>Outreach Chair</i>	September 2015- May 2018

SELECT WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

End-to-End Google Earth Engine by Spatial Thoughts, Online	2024
Phipps Conservatory Science Engagement Week, Pittsburgh, PA	2023
Women in Network Science Collabathon, Boston, MA	2023
Winter Workshop on Complex Systems, Amsterdam, Netherlands	2023
Decolonizing Ecology Workshop, Durham, NC	2022
Social Networks and Health, Online	2021
Taxonomía y ecología de arañas e insectos para la conservación de manglares, Ecuador	2019
Seed Dispersal in the Anthropocene, Andasibe, Madagascar	2018

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Duke Society of Fellows
 Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation
 Association for Women in Science
 Women in Network Science Society
 British Ecological Society
 Society for Conservation Biology

MENTORING

Roméo Bezaralahy, University of Antsiranana, Master's Thesis	June 2023-Nov. 2024
Dedriek Whitaker, Duke University, Undergraduate Independent Study	Jan. 2023-Dec. 2024
Allie Monahan, NCSU, Undergraduate Research Credit	Jan. 2023-Jan 2024
Borna Zareiesfandabadi, UNC Chapel Hill, Undergraduate Research Credit	Jan. -Sept. 2023
Sedraniaina Rasolomihaja, University of Antananarivo, Master's Thesis	Aug. 2022- Oct. 2023

OTHER RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Resource Efficiency Program, Harvard Office of Sustainability	Cambridge, MA
<i>Pfozrheimer House Representative</i>	September 2016- May 2017
Conservation International Suriname	Paramaribo, Suriname
<i>Research Assistant, Supervisor: John Goedschalk</i>	June 2016- August 2016

SKILLS

Language: Advanced Spanish, advanced Malagasy, beginner French

Technical: R and R Studio, ArcGIS, Git and GitHub, LaTeX, Google Earth Engine