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# CURRICULUM VITAE: DANIEL J NICHOLSON

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## Zoologist – Tropical Ecologist - Conservationist

### Academics

PHD ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY | LONDON NERC DTP | QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY | 2016 - 2020

• **Thesis:**

- **Supervisors:** Dr Rob Knell – *Queen Mary University*, Dr Trent Garner – *Institute of Zoology* and Dr Michael Logan - *University of Harvard/Smithsonian*.

MRES BIODIVERSITY & CONSERVATION | GRADE: MERIT | UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS | 2012 - 2013

- **Focused on:** Invasive biology, statistics, GIS, habitat suitability models, population dynamics and community ecology.
- **Research Project 1:** Resource competition between co-occurring UK invasive crustaceans, based in the Dunn Group Lab; University of Leeds.
- **Research Project 2:** Comparative study of invasive/native reptile population abundance, morphology and reproductive output, based on the Cayos Cochinos archipelago: Honduras

BSC(HONS) ZOOLOGY | GRADE: 2:1 | UNIVERSITY OF DERBY | 2009 - 2012

- **Focused on:** Conservation, behavioural ecology, management, vertebrate and invertebrate biology.
- **Research Project:** Population distribution and body condition investigation of insular Boa constrictor populations on the Cayos Cochinos archipelago: Honduras.

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### Publications

NICHOLSON, HASSALL, & FRAZIER | JOURNAL OF TROPICAL ECOLOGY | 2015

- Nicholson, D.J. Hassall, C. Frazier, J.A., 2015. Comparison of a native and a non-native insular reptile species. *Journal of Tropical Ecology*, 31(6), pp563-566.

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### Experience

IN-COUNTRY PROJECT MANAGER | ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON | OCT 2015 – JULY 2016

**Dominican Mountain Chicken Project; Dominica.**

- Flagship conservation project for the Mountain Chicken Frog (*Leptodactylus fallax*).
- Captive husbandry of a critically endangered amphibian.
- Research on remaining wild population and chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*) prevalence.
- Public outreach to prevent human predation/promote conservation.
- Working in conjunction with the Dominica Forestry Division as well as representing the ZSL in Dominica.
- Contributing to publications associated with the project.

SCIENCE LEADER | BRITISH EXPLORING SOCIETY | JULY-AUG 2015

**Manu National Park; Peru.**

- Biodiversity monitoring in Manu National Park, to contribute to data collected by the CREES Foundation.
- Amphibian, mammal, invertebrate sampling including large mammal camera trapping.
- In-situ education of students, topics including: tropical ecology, conservation, field ecology and climate change.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT | AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY | SEP-DEC 2014

**Christmas Island; Indian Ocean Australia.**

- Island wide investigation into the threat of species invasion (rats, centipedes and snakes) on endangered endemics.
- Development of future threat mitigation plans.
- Work alongside Christmas Island National Parks on island surveys and reptile breeding programmes.

SCIENCE LEADER | BRITISH EXPLORING SOCIETY | JULY-AUG 2014

**Namib Desert; Namibia.**

- Teaching and supervisory role, educating, leading and mentoring young explorers in the Namib Desert.
- Topics of education: African ecology, human – animal conflict, field ecology, conservation and research methods.
- Co-leading a week long expedition across the Namib Desert to the Skeleton Coast.

TROPICAL ECOLOGIST | OPERATION WALLACEA | JUNE-JULY 2014

**Cusuco National Park; Honduras.**

- Research of a post chytrid population of amphibians (abundance, distribution and population size).
- Working as part of a multi-disciplinary team to investigate the effects of deforestation on the region and the biodiversity.
- Pit viper morphology and stable isotope research.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT | NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE | JAN-APR 2014

**Khao Sok National Park/Khlong Saeng Wildlife Sanctuary; Thailand.**

- Investigating the effect of forest fragmentation, due to a hydroelectric dam, on biodiversity and species abundance.
- Responsible for reptile biodiversity project design, research, and management.
- Extensive camera trapping methods to observe and monitor abundance and diversity of endangered large mammals.

TROPICAL ECOLOGIST | OPERATION WALLACEA | JUNE-AUG 2013

**Cayos Cochinos archipelago; Honduras.**

- Teaching/supervising undergraduate dissertation students.
- Organization of data collection, project design and data analysis for several UG research projects.
- Extensive work with endangered reptile morphology, behaviour, ecology and population distribution.

RESEARCHER | UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS | JAN-APR 2013

**Based in Dunn Invertebrate Lab as part of my MRes degree.**

- Researching the threat to the UK ecosystem by co-occurring invaders.
- Behavioural investigation of two UK invasive crustaceans.
- Investigating resource competition rates between the two species.

TROPICAL ECOLOGIST | OPERATION WALLACEA | JULY-AUG 2012

- Same roles as 2013 (see above).

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## Affiliations and Presentations

BRITISH ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM | POSTER PRESENTATION | 2013

- Comparative life histories of the invasive *Hemidactylus frenatus* and the Honduran endemic *Phyllodactylus palmensis*: morphology, activity and reproduction.

- Population Distribution and Body Condition of *Boa constrictor imperator* on the Cayo Cochinós Archipelago: Honduras.

**CURRENT AFFILIATIONS**

- **British Ecological Society** – Member.
- **Scientific Exploration Society** – Member.