

H S Sathya Chandra Sagar

Graduate (PhD) Researcher at [Sound Forest Lab](#),

Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology & The Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies,
University of Wisconsin – Madison, 1650 Linden Drive, Madison, WI53706, USA

E-mail: sathyachandrasagar@gmail.com | hsagar@wisc.edu

Website: [Conservation Chorus](#) | *Twitter:* [@Sagara_HSSC](#) | Contact: +91 7676528512

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Conservation science | Field biology | Effectiveness of conservation strategies – forest restoration, protected area, voluntary resettlement, payment for ecosystem services | Conservation planning and advocacy for effective ecological network under climate change and wildlife trade | Passive acoustic monitoring, economics and policy research.

ACADEMIC PROFILE

2016 – 2018: M.Sc., International Master's in Applied Ecology (IMAE)

Fellowship: European Commission - Erasmus Mundus Master Course (EMMC)

Sep 17 – Sep 18: University of East Anglia (UEA), UK [*specialisation*]

Mar 17 – Sep 17: Christian-Albrechts Universität zu Kiel (CAU), Germany

Feb 17 – Mar 17: Universidad San-Francisco de Quito (USFQ), Ecuador

Sep 16 – Feb 17: Université de Poitiers, France

GPA: 3.75 /4 with Distinction [*under the UK grading*]

2012 – 2015: B.Sc., Chemistry, Botany, Zoology

Christ University, Bengaluru, India

Fellowship: Karnataka Science and Technology Association (KSTA)

CGPA: 3.42 /4

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Sagar HSSC et al. 2020. Trade-driven trapping dampens the biodiversity benefits of forest restoration in Southeast Asia. *Biological Conservation*. (*under review*)

Sagar HSSC, Mrunmayee. 2020. A Highway to Hell: A proposed, inessential, 6-lane highway (NH173) that threatens the forest and wildlife corridors of the western ghats, India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 12 (14), 16944-16953

Punjabi G, ... **Sagar HSSC**, ... 2020. On the inadequacy of environment impact assessments for

projects in Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park of Goa, India: a peer review. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 12 (18), 17387-17454

Sagar HSSC, Mrunmayee, Chethan IN, Kumar M, Girish DV. 2019. Elusive, rare and soft: a new site record of Leith's Softshell Turtle *Nilssonia leithii* (Reptilia: Testudines: Trionychidae) from Bhadra Tiger Reserve, Karnataka, India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* - 11(13): 14770–1477.

Sagar HSSC, Mabano A, Roopa R, Sharmin M, Richard FJ, Clause J. 2019. India in the Oil Palm Era: Describing India's Dependence on Palm Oil, Recommendations for Sustainable Production, and Opportunities to Become an Influential Consumer. *Tropical Conservation Science*.

Sagar HSSC, Antoney PU. 2017. Measuring Indian Blackbuck Antelope *Cervicapra* (Mammalia: Cetartiodactyla: Bovidae) abundance at Basur Amruth Mahal Kaval Conservation Reserve, Chikkamagaluru, southern India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 9(7): 10468–10472.

Sagar HSSC, Girish DV, Bharath CV, Madhusudhan MC, Sharath IM, Kumar K, Amarnath B, Surya M.M. 2017. Indian Shrew: First record of Hill Shrew *Suncus niger* From the Baba-budan Hills, Chikkamagaluru District, Western Ghats, Karnataka, India. *Small Mammal #414. Zoo's Print* 32(11): 34:36

Sagar HSSC, Antoney PU. 2015. Diversity of Avifauna in Christ University Campus, Bangalore, India. *Zoological Survey of India - Zoology for Future Education and Research*, 103-110

Sagar HSSC, Antoney PU. 2015. Diversity of Butterflies in Christ University Campus, Bangalore, India. *Zoological Survey of India - Zoology for Future Education and Research*, 111-118

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

Hegde PV, **Sagar, HSSC**. 2016. *GUHANAGARI – A Book on Urban Wildlife*. Center for Publications, Christ University. Bengaluru. ISBN: 978-93-82305-93-4

EMPLOYMENT

Jan 2020 – Jun 2020: Research assistant at Indian Institute of Science (IISc)

Supervision: Dr Umesh Srinivasan, IISc

Description: Studied the mixed-species flocking of a hyper-diverse avian community along an elevation gradient in Eaglenest Wildlife Sancturay, eastern Himalayas.

Jun 2019 – Nov 2019: Conservation Scientist at Wildlife Conservation Action Team – Chikamagaluru (WildCAT-C)

Supervision: D V Girish, Conservation activist, WildCAT-C

Description: Worked with on-ground conservation practitioners to develop a landscape-level research and action plan, whilst building an evidence-based argument to support legal battles. Conducted field patrols to document illegal activities such as poaching,

encroachment and unsustainable tourism.

Oct 2018 – Jan 2019: Research Assistant at University of Cambridge Conservation Research Institute (UCCRI), David Attenborough Building.

Supervision: Dr Fangyuan Hua & Prof. Andrew Balmford, UCCRI

Description: Studied the impact of bird trapping on the wild bird population; devised a new conservation action plan for Harapan rainforest management in collaboration with RSPB

May 4, 2016 – May 26, 2016: Project Assistant at Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary

Supervision: Dr Umesh Srinivasan, Assistant Professor, CES, Indian Institute of Science

Description: Mist-netting understory forest bird community to study their population dynamics at Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, Arunachal Pradesh, India.

Feb 2016 – May 2016: Project Assistant at Nature Conservation Foundation (NCF)

Supervision: Dr Rohit Naniwadekar, Scientist, NCF

Description: Capturing hornbills for telemetry project in North-eastern Himalayas

June 2015 – Feb 2016: Research Assistant at Centre for Wildlife Studies (CWS) / Wildlife Conservation Society – India Program (WCS-India)

Supervision: Dr N Samba Kumar, Additional Director (former), WCS-India

Description: Studied the meta-population dynamics of tigers and their prey in Southern India using Capture-Recapture analyses and distance sampling.

PUBLIC LECTURES

2019: “Dampened recovery – Impact of pet trade on restoration efforts in Southeast Asia”
Annual general meeting, WildCAT-C, Chikkamagaluru, India

2019: “Decade-long recovery in a Forest of ‘Hope’ – An opportunity silenced?”
Cambridge Conservation Initiative, David Attenborough Building, Cambridge

2018: “A Silenced Recovery? – My research on bird trapping for pet trade”
Annual General Meeting Oriental Bird Club (OBC), Cambridge

2015: “Wildlife Ecology and Conservation as a career option”
Alpine Public School, Bengaluru, India

2015: “What is Wildlife Conservation? And the role of Media”
Department of Media Studies, Christ University, Bengaluru, India

2015: “GUHANAGARI – Our three years of Wild-Life at Christ University”
Workshop on Environmental Science, Christ University, Bengaluru, India

2014: “A Falcon Tale: Amur Falcon Conservation Project”
Workshop on Environmental Science, Christ University, Bengaluru, India

CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2019: National Symposium on Avian Biology – Association of Avian Biologists
Student talk, IISER Tirupart, India
“Decade-long recovery in a Forest of “Hope” – An opportunity Silenced?”
- 2019: Student Conference in Conservation Science – Cambridge 2019 (SCCS-Cam 2019)
Student talk, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
“A Decade Long Recovery in a Forest of HOPE – An Opportunity Silenced?”
- 2016: Young Ecologist Talk and Interact (YETI)
Student talk, Amity University, Noida, Delhi
“Measuring Indian Blackbuck abundance at Basur Kaval Conservation Reserve”
- 2015: National Conference on Environmental Pollution, Urban Waste Management and
Public Health Security
Student talk, Christ University, Bengaluru, India
“Impact of Lantana camara on the grasslands of Basur Kaval Conservation Reserve”
- 2014: Novel approaches in Biodiversity and its Conservation
Student talk, Maharani Lakshmi Ammanni College for women
“Wetland Bird community in Ambale Lake, Chikamagaluru”
- 2014: National Conference on Zoology for Future Education and Research
Student talk, Queen Mary’s College, Chennai
“Diversity of Avifauna and Butterflies in Christ University Campus”

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- 2020: Graduate research assistantship to conduct my PhD research
Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2019: Honourable mention under student conservation talks
Student Conference on Conservation Science – Cambridge 2019 (SCCS-Cam 2019).
- 2019: Travel bursary and post-conference internship
Student Conference on Conservation Science – Cambridge 2019 (SCCS-Cam 2019).
- 2016 – 2018: Erasmus Mundus Masters Course (EMMC) Fellowship
To study 2-year International Master in Applied Ecology in EU, Ecuador and the UK

COMMUNITY WORK

- 2010 - present: Wildlife Conservation Action Team – Chikamagaluru (WildCAT-C)

Through WildCAT-C, I have actively involved myself in on-ground conservation particularly through patrolling our reserves, wildlife surveys and education programmes. We regularly conduct awareness activities on wildlife and conservation issues to students, teachers, media personals and management staff, through various activities such as field camps, nature walks and seminars.

2012 - present: Green Army

I worked with my then classmate Pradeep Hegde (currently a conservation filmmaker) and our professor PU Antony, towards reforming 'Green Army', a student-led conservation education group, at Christ University. Here we trained our fellow classmates and other students in the basics of wildlife research and created a network to reach out to scientists and practitioners beyond our university. It has now become a major stepping stone for students interested in taking up wildlife conservation as a career or be part of an environmental movement.