

Curriculum Vitae

Andrés Valenzuela Sánchez

I am a veterinarian, conservationist, and PhD in Conservation Medicine. I am co-founder and president of Ranita de Darwin NGO, a non-profit organization working on the conservation of Chilean amphibians and their habitats. I am also a Research Fellow in Wildlife Health at the Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London. I am particularly interested in basic and applied questions in disease ecology, wildlife diseases, and population ecology. I am also interested in the broad fields of conservation biology and translational ecology. I enjoy science communication; I have authored a popular science book about Darwin's frogs and I'm co-chair of the IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group working group on Communications and Education. I have been principal investigator in 15 conservation and research projects.

Formal education

2012 - 2017	PhD in Conservation Medicine (<i>summa cum laude</i>), Faculty of Ecology and Natural Resources, Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile and Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London, United Kingdom (Overseas PhD Student). Thesis: Is chytridiomycosis a threat to the Darwin's frog (<i>Rhinoderma darwinii</i>)? A multi-approach disease risk assessment.
2016	Internship at the Department of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies, University of Zurich with Dr. Benedikt Schmidt.
2006 - 2011	Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery, School of Veterinary Medicine, Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile.

Current posts

2023 - present	Research Fellow in Wildlife Health, Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London.
2024 - present	Deputy course director, MSc in Wild Animal Biology/Wild Animal Health, Zoological Society of London and Royal Veterinary College, United Kingdom.
2015 - present	President and co-founder, NGO Ranita de Darwin (www.ranitadedarwin.org).
2019 - present	Co-chair, Communications & Education Working Group, IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group.

Past posts

2021 - 2022	Honorary research associate, Instituto de Conservación, Biodiversidad y Territorio, Universidad Austral de Chile.
2018 - 2020	Postdoctoral researcher, Instituto de Ciencias Ambientales y Evolutivas, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Austral de Chile.
2012 - 2017	Academic collaborator, "Zoonoses and Emerging Diseases" module, School of Veterinary Medicine, Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile.
2012 - 2013	Instructor, "Laboratory of Zoology" module, Department of Ecology and Biodiversity, Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile.

Awards and highlights

2022	Alumni Award 2022 in Research, Universidad Andrés Bello, Santiago, Chile.
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2022	Research Highlight in Journal of Animal Ecology with the article “Interpopulation differences in male reproductive effort drive the population dynamics of a host exposed to an emerging fungal pathogen” (Hardy et al. 2022; 10.1111/1365-2656.13654).
2017	Future for Nature Award nominee, Future for Nature Foundation, The Netherlands.
2016	Scholarship to attend with an oral presentation the 8th World Congress of Herpetology 2016, China, provided by the congress organising committee.

Selected publications

I have published 30 peer-reviewed research articles in international journals (including two papers in Science), being the first or corresponding author in 43.4% of them (13 articles). I have edited or written three books about amphibian conservation in Chile and collaborated in several popular and scientific book's chapters. Our last popular science book (Descubriendo a la Ranita de Darwin, RiL Editores; illustrated by Soledad Delgado) is available at +30 bookstores across Chile. You can find a full list of my scientific publications at [my Google Scholar page here](#).

Selected scientific publications

- 2024 **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Miranda S, Moreno-González R, Gerding J, Catrileo R, Guillemot J, ... & Zapararte MB (2024) Partnerships between private landowners and conservationists to protect one of the most evolutionarily distinct amphibians. *Oryx* (published Early View).
- 2023 Sentenac H, **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Haddow-Brown N, Delgado S, Azat C, & Cunningham AA (2023) Accounting for bias in prevalence estimation: the case of a globally emerging pathogen. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 69: 2007–2017.
- 2022 Reinke BA, et al. (2022) Diverse aging rates in ectothermic tetrapods provide insights for the evolution of aging and longevity. *Science* 376: 1459–1466.
- Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Azat C, Cunningham AA, Delgado S, Bacigalupe LD, Beltrand J, Serrano JM, Sentenac H, Haddow N, Toledo V, Schmidt BR, Cayuela H (2022) Interpopulation differences in male reproductive effort drive the population dynamics of a host exposed to an emerging fungal pathogen. *Journal of Animal Ecology* 91: 308–319
- Azat C, Alvarado-Rybak M, Solano-Iguaran JJ, Velasco A, **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Flechas SV, Peñafiel-Ricaurte A, Cunningham AA & Bacigalupe LD (2022) Synthesis of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* infection in South America: amphibian species under risk and areas to focus research and disease mitigation. *Ecography* 2022: e05977.
- Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Agostini G, Maynard L, Cisternas J, Hansen-Hendrikx CM, & Márquez-García M (2022) Chapter 8: Communications & Education. In: IUCN SSC, A. (2022, July 18). Draft for Open Consultation. The Amphibian Conservation Action Plan (ACAP): A status review and roadmap for global amphibian conservation. <https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/brfas>
- 2021 **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Wilber MQ, Canessa S, Bacigalupe LD, Muths E, Schmidt BR, Cunningham AA, Ozgul A, Johnson PTJ, & Cayuela H (2021) Why disease ecology needs life-history theory: a host perspective. *Ecology Letters* 24: 876–890.
- Azat C, **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Delgado S, Cunningham AA, Alvarado-Rybak M, Bourke J, ... & Ariadne A (2021) A flagship for Austral temperate forest conservation: an action plan for Darwin's frogs brings key stakeholders together. *Oryx* 55: 356–363.

- 2018 O'Hanlon SJ, et al. (2018) Recent Asian origin of chytrid fungi causing global amphibian declines. *Science* 360: 621-627.
- Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, O'Hanlon S, Alvarado-Rybak M, Uribe-Rivera DE, Cunningham AA, Fisher MC, Soto-Azat C (2018) Genomic epidemiology of the emerging pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* from native and invasive amphibian species in Chile. *Transboundary and Emerging Diseases* 65: 309–314.
- 2017 **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Schmidt BR, Uribe-Rivera DE, Costas F, Cunningham AA, Soto-Azat C (2017) Cryptic disease-induced mortality may cause host extinction in an apparently stable host–parasite system. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 284: 20171176.

Selected outreach publications

- 2021 **Valenzuela-Sánchez A** & Delgado S (2021) Descubriendo a la ranita de Darwin, 2nd edition. RiL Editores, Santiago, Chile. 2nd Edition.
- 2018 IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group Chile (2018) Estrategia Binacional de Conservación de las Ranitas de Darwin. Santiago, Chile (in charge of the Species Status Review, edition, and design of the book).
- 2017 **Valenzuela-Sánchez A** & Delgado S (2017) Descubriendo a la ranita de Darwin. Acuarelas Nativas, Santiago, Chile. 1st Edition.
- 2015 Soto-Azat C, **Valenzuela-Sánchez A**, Ortíz JC, Díaz-Páez H, Castro C, et al. (2015) ASG Chile Leads Update of the Extinction Risk of Chilean Amphibians for The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. *FrogLog* 116:6-7.
- 2012 Soto-Azat, C & **Valenzuela-Sánchez A** (2012) Conservación de anfibios de Chile. Universidad Andrés Bello, Santiago, Chile.

Journal and book covers

