

Danushka S Weerasekera

Zoologist

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Location: 71, Mahaweli Uyana, Kundasale.

Professional Summary

Experienced zoologist with 17+ years in wildlife research, conservation, and management. Specializes in species recovery, ecosystem sustainability, and integrating GIS, drones, and eDNA into conservation strategies. Expertise in biodiversity monitoring, habitat restoration, and urban ecology. Proficient in R and Python for data analysis and environmental modeling.

Education

PhD in Zoology - Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Master of Science in Animal Science -

Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Bachelor of Science in Plantation management - Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

Professional Experience

Postdoctoral research Fellow Postgraduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya - January 2025- Present

Research Assistant Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia - February 2024 – January 2025

Visiting Lecturer Board of Study Animal Science, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka - January 2024 – Present

GIS Operator Suleco Pvt Ltd - January 2022 – December 2023

Visiting Lecturer BSc in Biotechnology, Horizon Campus, Malabe, Sri Lanka (in collaboration with Arkansas University, USA) - August 2019 – December 2020

References

Professor Mike Weston

Faculty of Sci Eng & Built Env,
School of Life & Env Sciences,
Melbourne Burwood Campus, Melbourne,
Australia.

Tel: +61 3 925 17433 | Mobile: +61 4 17344985

| Email: mike.weston@deakin.edu.au

Visiting Academic, External Supervisor/Invigilator

Open University of Sri Lanka, Nawala Nugegoda,
Sri Lanka - August 2012 – December 2020

Faculty Head Faculty of Agriculture and
Technology, Trinity College, Kandy, Sri Lanka -
August 2004 – January 2022

Short Courses and Diplomas

Certificate in Refined Mouse Handling | April 2024

Taxidermy and Maintenance of Museum

Materials - March 2023 – January 2024

Environmental DNA Metabarcoding and Data Analysis - February 2021

Drone Image Processing for Crop Health Mapping in QGIS - September 2021

Certificate in Predator Management in Livestock Farms - June 2020

Certificate in Scientific Writing - April 2020

Certificate in Biosecurity of Horses - September 2016

Certificate in Purchasing and Owning a Horse - July 2016

Certificate in Exposure to Basic Molecular Biological Techniques and Bioinformatics - February 2016

Diploma in Desktop Publishing and Graphic Designing - January 2009 – December 2010

Memberships in Professional Societies

Australian Society of Zoo Keeping - December 2022 – Present

Environmental DNA Society of Japan - December 2022 – December 2023

Young Zoologists Association, National Zoological Gardens, Dehiwala, Sri Lanka - January 2016 – December 2019

Sri Lanka Equestrian Association, Premadasa Horse Riding School, Victoria Golf Club, Maberithenna, Sri Lanka - April 2012 – December 2016

Professor K. B. Ranawana

Department of Zoology, University of
Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

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