

ASHWIN WARUDKAR

M.Sc. Wildlife Science

Local contact -

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EDUCATION

2019 onwards	PhD student in Biology	IISER, Tirupati		
2015-2017	M. Sc., Wildlife Science	Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun	Saurashtra University, Rajkot	78.86%
2011-2014	B. Sc., Zoology	DES Fergusson College, Pune	Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune	77.52%

WORK EXPERIENCE

April 2019 – August 2019	Project Assistant Project: “Peninsular Indian Bird Biogeography” at IISER, Tirupati	Conducted field work for collection of genetic samples from different bird species in the Peninsular Indian hills.
January 2019 – March 2019	Research Assistant Project: “State of India’s Birds: A report assessing population and conservation status” at Wildlife Institute of India	Involved in the compilation of large dataset of ecological attributes (mainly feeding and nesting niche) of Indian bird species.
September 2017 – December 2018	Project Fellow, CAMPA- Endangered Species Recovery Programme, River Dolphin Project, Wildlife Institute of India	Conducted field and lab research pertaining to the ecology of the Gangetic river Dolphin in the Ganga and Brahmaputra river System, Assam.
August 2014 – June 2015	Project Trainee, Microbial Culture Collection, National Centre for Cell Science, Pune	DNA barcoding of spiders from Northern Western Ghats – Pune Region

May 2014 – June 2014	Volunteer, National Centre for Biological Science, Bangalore and World Wide Fund, India	Project on Insectivorous Bat Ecology in the Southern Western Ghats of Kerala, India (May 2014); Project PI: Kadambari Deshpande; Funded by WWF- India Small Grant Programme, 2013-14
April 2012 – June 2012	Field Investigator, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune and Vasantdada Sugar Institute, Pune	Led a team of 16 investigators for the Project 'System of Air Quality Forecasting And Research - Pune (Emission Inventory Campaign)'

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2015	WII fellowship for Masters program in Wildlife Science	Rs. 5,32,800/-
2014	UGC-CPE Grants for undergraduate project: 'Mapping of Flying Fox (<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>) colonies in Pune City.' Guided by Dr. S.B. Nalavade	Rs. 10,000/-
2014	UGC-CPE Grants for undergraduate project: 'Study of Diversity of Wild Mammals of Fergusson College Campus' Guided by Dr. R.V. Shinde	Rs. 8000/-
2013	UGC-CPE Grants for undergraduate project: 'Study of Diversity and Urbanization of Spiders in Fergusson College Campus' Guided by Dr. P.P. Phirke	Rs. 20,000/-

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- **Warudkar, A.,** Pandey, D.V., Narwade, S.S. (2019) Sightings of Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis* on the chapories of the Lohit River, Assam, India. *Birding Asia* 31: 43–45.
- Gaikwad, S., **Warudkar, A.,** & Shouche, Y. (2017). Efficacy of DNA barcoding for the species identification of spiders from Western Ghats of India. *Mitochondrial DNA Part A*, 28(5): 638–644.
- Nerlekar A., **A. Warudkar,** G. Gowande, S. Salve, A. Raut, S. Patankar and S. Nalavade (2016). A review of the faunal diversity of the Fergusson College campus, Pune, India. *Zoosprint*, 31: 4–25.
- **Warudkar, A. (2013).** Individual male *Argiope sp.* (Audouin, 1826) shows replacement between two types of stabilimenta. *Indian Journal of Arachnology* 2(2): 39–41.

Thesis

- **Warudkar, A. (2017).** Community organization of spiders in Central Nicobar Islands: Influence of habitat structure and Island heterogeneity. M.Sc. Thesis/Dissertation, Saurashtra University, Gujarat.
Supervisors: Prof. Qamar Qureshi, Dr. K. Sivakumar, Dr. V.P. Uniyal

Reports

- Contributed to “State of India’s Birds” report published in January 2020.
- Development of Conservation Action Plan for River Dolphins Annual report 2017-18 submitted to MoEFCC
- Contributed in the invertebrate and herpeto fauna section of the Mahindra United World College of India (MUWCI) campus Biodiversity Status Report: Call of the Sahayadris

Popular articles

- **Warudkar, A. & S. Patankar. (2013).** Butterflies in Fergusson College. *Fergusson College Magazine* 104: 3-4.

Reviewer for

Journal: Mitochondrial DNA Part A, Current Science, Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (Co-reviewed), Proceedings of National Academy of Science (Co-reviewed), Ecology and Evolution

Presentations

2019-December-07

IISER Tirupati

Presented poster: **Warudkar, A. Goyal, N., Joshi, V., Vinay, K.L., Vishnudas, C.K., and V.V. Robin (2019). Phylogeography of the Resident Indian Long-billed Pipit (*Anthus similis*).** at 2nd National Symposium on Avian Biology, IISER Tirupati, India, 7th to 10th December 2019. *Proceedings of the 2nd National Symposium on Avian Biology.* (Pp 69). Association for Avian Biologists, India.

2018-Sept-18

Wildlife Institute of India

Presented an original research work entitled ‘**Distribution and Abundance of River Dolphin *Platanista gangetica* in Brahmaputra river System**’ at the CAMPA Endangered Species Recovery Programme Seminar of the Wildlife Institute of India in 2018.

2017-Sept-06

Wildlife Institute of India

Presented an original research work entitled ‘**Community organization of spiders in Central Nicobar Islands: Influence of habitat structure and Island heterogeneity**’ at the XXXI Annual Research Seminar of the Wildlife Institute of India in 2017.

Outreach Programs and Non-Academic Activities

- Conducted many **Nature Trails, Nature Education Programs and** for schools, colleges and many likeminded organizations as well as for corporate companies like Mercedes Benz, Forbes Marshal, Tata Consultancy Services etc.
 - Conducted **Wildlife Training** for Forest Guards of Maharashtra at 'Forest guard training centre'.
 - Talks in **AIR** (All India Radio) on Wildlife
 - Worked as **Head Co-ordinator** of Rangers Eco Club in Fergusson College and worked on the campus biodiversity assessment and awareness activity.
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Personal Skills

Field/Lab related Skills

- Trapping birds using mist-nets
- Morphometric measurements and genetics sample collection of birds
- Experience in Riverine Faunal Survey
- Good bird watching and bird identification skills
- Received endowment prize for 'Encouraging efforts in mountaineering' from DES Fergusson college, Pune
- Good command on molecular biology techniques like DNA extraction, PCR, Gel electrophoresis, Sequencing

Communication skills

- Good communication skills developed from my experience in leading eco-tourism camps and conducting wildlife education workshops for schools through NGOs like Nature Walk outdoors and WWF-Mumbai

Organizational/Managerial skills

- Leadership skills gained as Head Co-ordinator (for 2 years) of 'Rangers: EcoClub' at DES Fergusson College (led a team of 15 students fo)
- Organizational skills gained as one of the organizer and co-ordinator of 'Heritage Katta' a weekly awareness activity on the behalf of Intach - Pune Chapter

Other Interests: Music (Classical and soft rock), Writing, Travelling, Anime & Manga