



CLP Alumni Reviewer Guidelines – For Applicants

CLP has selected a group of volunteers from our alumni network to support applicants as you prepare to apply for a CLP Future Conservationist Award. CLP Alumni Reviewers are not employed by the CLP partnership. They are conservationists from a range of countries, with a range of expertise, who have an interest in supporting the next generation of conservation leaders around the world. Please read the following guidelines prior to contacting an Alumni Reviewer. If you have any questions about the program, write to CLP staff at clp@birdlife.org. **Having a proposal reviewed by a CLP Reviewer and/or CLP staff does not guarantee that the proposal will be funded, but it will likely make your proposal more competitive in our review process.**

1. Reviewer emails, biographies, language, and taxonomic areas are listed at the bottom of this document. Please review the profiles for each Reviewer and contact the person you would like to receive support from. All Reviewers have experience reviewing applications so they will have valuable feedback even if their taxonomic expertise is different from yours.
2. Please engage with one Reviewer at a time; do not initiate simultaneous conversations with more than one Reviewer.
3. Reviewers may provide feedback in the following areas: clarity of concept, English grammar, feasibility, and research design (if within Reviewer's area of expertise). Reviewers will **not** write proposals for applicants and will review a proposal at most two times.
4. You will receive Reviewer comments via email.
5. Please read the [CLP eligibility criteria](#) carefully **before** contacting Reviewers. Reviewers may advise on eligibility, however if there is any uncertainty on the eligibility of a project, contact CLP staff directly for a final decision (clp@birdlife.org).
6. Reviewer feedback will likely improve the quality of applications. However, you **are not required** to incorporate Reviewer recommendations into your proposal. Each applicant is 100% responsible for the content of their proposal and must decide whether or not to incorporate Reviewer advice.
7. Alumni Reviewers volunteer their time to review proposals. Please be respectful and patient. Reviewers aim to acknowledge receipt of proposals within 48 hours and provide detailed feedback within one week. If you are unsure of the status of your proposal with a Reviewer, contact CLP (clp@birdlife.org).
8. Plan ahead! The sooner you start developing your proposal and soliciting feedback, the better!
9. If you encounter any challenges when working with a Reviewer, contact CLP (clp@birdlife.org).
10. Applicants may send proposals to CLP staff and/or Reviewers for review **up to two weeks before the CLP application deadline – by 26th September**. You may request feedback from both a Reviewer and CLP staff member. If you choose to contact both, please conclude the review process with one person before contacting someone else.
11. If you contact a CLP Alumni Reviewer, your name, email and basic information on your project will be shared with the CLP management team in order to track usage of this program and ensure applicants are engaging with one CLP Alumni Reviewer at a time. You may receive a survey from CLP at the conclusion of the process with a request for feedback on your experience working with an Alumni Reviewer.
12. CLP Alumni Reviewers agree to keep your draft proposal confidential and delete it at the conclusion of the process this year.

Thank you and good luck!

Alumni Reviewer Biographies

Alfonso Hernandez- alfonso.clpalumreview@gmail.com



Born and raised in Mexico, Alfonso is a biologist with graduate studies at the University of Cambridge and the National University of Mexico. He has led marine ecosystems' conservation initiatives for NGOs in North America and West Africa. Currently he manages the Conserva Aves programme for BirdLife International. Conserva Aves is a novel initiative that supports local and indigenous communities in establishing and managing new sub-national protected areas in priority geographies for threatened resident and migratory birds throughout nine Latin American countries. Main interests: birds, reptiles, amphibians, protected areas, local-community-lead conservation initiatives.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alfonso-hernández-ríos-b718a717b/>

Dr. Federico Kacolis- Federico.CLPalumReview@gmail.com



Ph.D. in Natural Sciences. Field conservationist, researcher, and director of a grassroots NGO. I am focused on but not restricted to vertebrates' conservation, habitats, and ecological processes in Patagonia. I have experience in species recovery and habitat restoration. I am based at La Plata Museum, hired by the National Council of Scientific and Technical Researches in Argentina and leading Fundación Somuncura.

Alice Reifeld – alice.clpalumreview@gmail.com



My name is Alice Reifeld and I am a Brazilian conservationist, based in São Paulo, Brazil. I am a Conservation Leadership Programme (CLP) alumna and I am very proud to be part of this network. I have been working at SAVE Brasil (BirdLife in Brazil) since 2013 and my current role is Programme Manager. In this position, I am responsible for overseeing eight bird conservation projects and a team of 16 conservationists spread across five locations in the country. I am also an alumna of BirdLife International's Graeme Gibson Fellowship of 2022, focused in conservation leadership.

Mohammad Firoz Ahmed – assamensis@gmail.com



Firoz has carried out extensive research on amphibians and reptiles, large carnivore and habitats in northeast India, along with conservation action in protected areas and community forests. Currently, he is focused on community based participatory natural resource management on private and community lands to secure habitats, connectivity and livelihoods of local communities. His current position is Conservation Scientist at Aaranyak ([www,aaranyak.org](http://www.aaranyak.org)). He has managed over 70 projects until now, including receiving one grant from CLP which was successfully completed and contributed significantly towards conservation planning of turtles and tortoises of Northeast India.

Reshu Bashyal – reshu.clpalumreview@gmail.com



Reshu Bashyal is a conservation biologist with a focus on wildlife trade research and community-led conservation. She is passionate about conserving plants, fungi, and other lesser-known species threatened due to their excessive use in different medicinal traditions. She has an interdisciplinary profile, having worked in areas as diverse as project management of illegal wildlife trade challenge fund-supported projects, and capacity development in UNDP, as well as an Environmentalist at the Ministry. Reshu holds two MSc degrees (MSc in Environmental Science from CDES-TU and MSc in Conservation and International Wildlife Trade from DICE-Kent, UK as a Chevening Scholar).

Sethu Parvathy – sethu.clpalumreview@gmail.com



Sethu Parvathy is a wildlife conservationist hailing from Kerala, India. Holding a Master of Science degree in Ecology and Environmental Sciences from Pondicherry University. Throughout her career, Parvathy has undertaken a series of community-related conservation projects that have had a profound impact on wildlife and local communities. She delved into the intricate dynamics of wild meat utilization by indigenous communities, seeking to strike a balance between cultural practices and conservation imperatives. Her efforts extended to the Anamalai corridor, where she worked diligently to enhance biodiversity conservation and local livelihoods by promoting sustainable non-timber forest produce collection and ecotourism initiatives.

Togarasei Fakaryi - togarasei.clpalumreview@gmail.com



Togarasei Fakaryi works for BirdLife Zimbabwe as the Program Manager- Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs). He has sixteen years' experience in project design, planning and management in bird and biodiversity conservation working with a different stakeholders and communities. Application of Protected Area Management Effectiveness (PAME) tools in assessing management effectiveness of protected areas forms part of the skills for Togarasei Fakaryi. He is currently one of the certified Integrated Management Effectiveness Tool (IMET) coaches in Southern Africa. Togarasei has great passion in connecting people with biodiversity for a sustainable development and long-term biodiversity conservation. He holds a BSc in Environmental Science Honours Degree in Wildlife and Rangeland Management, and a Master of Science in Tropical Resource Ecology.

Zoya Tyabji – zoya.CLPalumReview@gmail.com



I am currently a PhD candidate with the Integrated Fisheries lab at Dalhousie University, Canada, where I am part of a multiyear project that aims to unravel the global shark meat trade. My PhD within this project involves studying the shark and ray trade in India through social science lens, encompassing network analysis and bayesian statistics. My past work experiences have included working on coral reef resilience, sea krait behaviour on intertidal region, and fisheries management and conservation of sharks and rays.

Jose Manuel Serrano – serrano.clpalumreview@gmail.com



I am a biologist fascinated by evolution and ecology. The scope of my research combines three main areas of interest: evolutionary ecology, animal behavior, and biodiversity studies. In particular, I am interested in understanding how social cues are integrated in environments where more than one sex produces acoustic cues in frogs and toads. A second line of research interest is related to the investigation of the communication of threatened species, using bioacoustics to generate tools for their evaluation and population management. In this sense, I have developed conservation projects with the great peeping frog *Eleutherodactylus grandis* in Mexico (sponsored by CLP), and with the passive search using playbacks for the missing Northern Darwin's frog *Rhinoderma rufum* in Chile (sponsored by Stiftung Artenschutz). To develop my research, I use tools

provided by acoustic remote sensing, playback experiments and social media analysis. In current projects, I am integrating multimodal communication to better understand the complexity of communication in amphibians, as well as time series analysis to identify how frogs and insects interact in the same acoustic community. From June 2019 to January 2020, I did a postdoc in the Animal Communication Lab and the Research Center for Advanced Studies of the Universidad Católica Maule (CIEAM - UCM) in Talca, Chile. Currently, I am a postdoc researcher at the Alfonso L. Herrera Museum of Zoology in the School of Sciences at UNAM, Mexico, and researcher associated to the NGO Ranita de Darwin.