

Sarah Katherine Wagner, PhD

Cornell Lab of Ornithology
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Education

2015	PhD	University of Colorado, Boulder, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Advisor: Dr. Alexander Cruz “Foraging behavior, behavioral flexibility, and range size of Australian honeyeaters (Meliphagidae)”
2010	MA1	University of Colorado, Boulder, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Advisor: Dr. Alexander Cruz “Trends in avian community structure across a gradient of native to invasive vegetation in northwest New Mexico”
2002	BA	Earlham College, Biology Advisor: Dr. Bill Buskirk

Teaching and Mentoring

2015-present	Course Developer for: <i>Ornithology: Comprehensive Bird Biology</i> , <i>Be a Better Birder: How to Identify Bird Song</i> , and <i>Be a Better Birder: Feeder Birds: Identification and Behavior</i> for Bird Academy at The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY
2015-2017	Assisted with curriculum development and teaching the <i>Kid’s Discover The Trail!</i> Program at The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY
2017	Cornell Adult University Instructor for <i>Cape May Spring Migration – Birds and Their Habitats</i>
2015-2016	Visitor’s Center Assistant at The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY
Summer 2015	Guest lecturer at Washington State University, Upward Bound program, topic: <i>Why do we study birds and how do we go about it?</i>
Summer 2014	Designer and instructor for Science Content Workshops for teachers: <i>Birds, Beaks, Feathers and Forensics</i> , Biological Sciences Initiative, University of Colorado, Boulder
2012-2014	Lesson designer and instructor on Science Squad, Biological Sciences Initiative, University of Colorado, Boulder
2012-2014	Lesson designer and instructor, Pre-Collegiate Development Program (PCDP), University of Colorado, Boulder
Summer 2013	Course designer and instructor for Science Discovery, University of Colorado, Boulder
2012-2013	Mentored an honors student at University of Western Sydney, Hawkesbury, topic: <i>Seasonal Variation in Honeyeater (Meliphagidae) foraging ecology</i>
Spring 2012	Guest lecturer in Avian Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder, topic: <i>Avian Evolution</i>

Publications

Miller, E. T., S.K. Wagner, L. J. Harmon, R.E. Ricklefs. 2016. Radiating despite a lack of character: closely related, morphologically similar, co-occurring honeyeaters have diverged ecologically. *Accepted*

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Miller, E.T., S. K. Wagner. 2015. The ecology of the Australian sandstone *Meliphaga* species. *Australian Field Ornithology* 32: 38-52.

Miller, E. T., S. K. Wagner. 2014. The vocalizations of the Australian sandstone *Meliphaga* and the species status of the Kimberley Honeyeater. *Emu* 114.2: 116-120

Miller, E. T., S. K. Wagner, J. Klavins, T. Brush, and H. F. Greeney. 2015. Striking Courtship Displays in the Becard Clade *Platypsaris*. *The Wilson Bulletin* 127:123-126

Publications in Prep

Wagner, S.K., C. P. Ortega, A. Cruz. Avian community response to an invasive index of riparian vegetation in northwest New Mexico. *In prep* *Southwest Naturalist*.

Wagner, S.K., A. Cruz, E. T. Miller. A quantitative summary of foraging behavior of a continental radiation: Australian Meliphagidae. *In prep* *The AUK*.

Fellowships, Grants, and Awards

2014 University of Colorado, Boulder Graduate School Summer Fellowship (\$6,000)
2011 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Teaching Excellence Award (\$200)
2008 & 2009 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Grant (\$2,500)
2008 Boulder County Nature Association (\$1,000)
2008 Colorado Weed Management Association (\$500)

Presentations

2013 Boulder, CO. 50th Annual Animal Behavior Society Conference.
Title: The relationship between foraging behavior, behavioral flexibility, and range size of Australian honeyeaters (*Meliphagidae*). (poster)
2010 Cooper Ornithology Society, American Ornithology Union, and Society of Canadian Ornithologists Joint Meeting, San Diego, California
Title: Trends in avian community structure across a gradient of native to invasive riparian vegetation.

Teaching Assistantships, University of Colorado, Boulder with evaluation scores out of 6pts

General Biology Lab I

Fall 2014 040 (5.4), 044 (5.2), 048 (5.3)
Summer A term 2013 100 (5.3), 101 (5.5)
Fall 2007 009 (4.9), 012 (5.3)
Summer A term 2012 100 (5.5), 101 (5.5)
Fall 2011 001 (4.8), 002 (5.5), 005 (4.8), 006 (5.0)

General Biology Lab II

Spring 2012 004(5.7), 005 (5.8)
Spring 2010 008 (5.0), 009 (5.7), 011(5.6), 012(5.3)
Spring 2008 002 (5.1), 007 (4.7)

Principals of Ecology Lab

Summer 2011 202 (5.5)

Animal Behavior Lab

Fall 2010 015(5.5), 016(5.7)

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Fall 2009 013 (5.9), 014(5.6)

Fall 2008 014 (5.4), 015 (5.5)

Service

2012 General Biology Revision Committee, University of Colorado, Boulder

2008, 2009, & 2010 Spring Symposium Committee, University of Colorado, Boulder

2009 & 2010 Colloquium Committee, University of Colorado, Boulder

Research Experience

2008-2010 Collaborative Forestry Restoration Project, Shiprock, NM

- Conducted avian Distance point counts for baseline data and continued monitoring.
- Used a modified Breeding Bird (BBIRD field protocol to monitor vegetation community and structure (Martin et al. 1997)
- Analyzed data and wrote reports.
- Worked with Diné College students on stewardship monitoring protocol on the Navajo reservation.

2009 Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS) Specialty Course: Ecology and Conservation of Neotropical Birds, Costa Rica

- Researched diverse avian assemblages at contrasting sites including Pacific dry forest at Palo Verde, old growth, high elevation forests at Cuerici, and Atlantic rain forests of La Selva Biological Station.
- Conducted two research projects and presented the results at Palo Verde and La Selva.

2007 Colorado State Parks, Biology and GIS Technician, Denver, Colorado

- Wrote BMP (Best Management Plans) for State Parks
- Organized and participated in training workshops and conferences in Colorado on invasive weeds, GIS training, volunteer raptor monitoring programs, and aquatic invasive species.
- GPS mapping, and ARCGIS map making for BMPs,
- Developed a protocol for Ovenbird surveys

2006 University of Colorado, Field Technician, Boulder, Colorado

- Monitored and searched for Plumbeous Vireo and Western Wood-Pewee nests along the Front Range in the Boulder area.
- Measured nestlings of both species.

2005 University of Tennessee, Forest Songbird Technician, Tennessee

- Developed 50 acre spot maps, nest searched and monitored nests, conducted radio telemetry on juvenile Wood thrush, classified and recorded habitat measurements, video taped Acadian Flycatcher nests, and data entry.

2005 Kirtland's Warbler Research and Training Program, Field Assistant, Eleuthera, Bahamas

- Mist netted, banded, processed, radio tracked, and re-sighted migrant and resident species.
- Assisted in the training of Bahamian undergraduate students in field ornithology techniques.
- Helped to collect and process vegetation and invertebrate samples.

2004 Archbold Biological Station Research Internship, Florida

- Nest searched, monitored, territory mapped, and surveyed the Florida Scrub-Jay. Assisted in measuring, banding, and bleeding of FSJ nestlings.
- Designed and carried out an independent project.

2003 USGS-BRD Palila Restoration Project Internship, Hawaii

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- Performed mist netting, bird banding, nest searching, radio tracking, and resighting color-banded birds on Mauna Kea.

5/02 Marine Biology May Term, Andros, Bahamas

- Studied at the International Field Station on Andros and the Exuma Islands of the Bahamas.
- Used knowledge developed during the semester seminar to conduct field research there on sea grass beds, coral reefs, and rocky intertidal zones.

2002 Ford/Knight Ornithology Research, Indiana

- Researched the history of bird populations in eastern Indiana during the last 150 years, which contributed to Bill Buskirk and Jim Cope's book, *Birds of the Whitewater Valley* (not yet published).
- Presented the research at a Biology Colloquium at Earlham College.

2001 Field Ornithology May Term, Indiana

- Designed and conducted an independent study using statistical analysis.
- Collected data by mist netting and bird banding.
- Identified bird species by sight and sound.
- Assisted on point counts.

2000 Southwest Field Studies off-campus Program, Southwest US

- Organized and completed an independent study on shorebird populations near Tiburon Island in the Sea of Cortez, which included stewardship work with the indigenous Seri people.
- Developed experimental design of botanical studies throughout the southwest.
- Maintained a highly rigorous education structure while working with a group and individually in the field for three months.